Agricultural Extension: update and perspective on EU funded food security programmes in South Sudan

Presented at Food Security and Livelihood Cluster Meeting,
11th July, 2018
Tayo Alabi_EU TA Agronomist Extension
Outline of Presentation

• Overview of EU Food Security and Rural Development Programmes
• Role of Technical Assistance
• Agricultural Extension: Common Understanding
• Extension issues identified and the basis
• Common approaches in use by EU Food Security funded partners
• Some of what we have done (Accomplishment)
• Upcoming Extension Support Activities
• Suggested new set of guidelines
• Suggestions for Agriculture Working Group
Overview Food Security and Rural Development Programmes EUD South Sudan

National
- National Effort for Agricultural Transformation (NEAT)

Regional
- EU Food Security and Rural Development Programmes in Greater Bahr el Gazal
- Greater Equatorial/Upper Nile

Actions
- FSTP
- SORUDEV
- Pro Act
- ZEAT BEAD
- ZEAT BEAD 2
- SORUDEV SSR
- FSTP + ProAct

New Actions

Funded by the European Union
Role of EU Technical Assistance (TA)

TA Role:
• Monitoring of the individual projects of the EU's rural development programmes is ensured.
• Overall coherence of all EU's Rural Development Programmes/ (Decisions) is ensured in line with overall programme objectives;
• Effective coordination of all activities, agencies and stakeholders involved is ensured, best practices are harmonised and promoted.

Team Leader. Agronomist Extension Services Specialist. M&E Specialist. IT Specialists and a host of ST Experts.
Agric Extension: Common Understanding

Traditional role of extension

• To take information (usually research findings) from Source (the research institutes and academic institutions) to the Users (Rural families)

• Is to be a bridge between the Source and the Users

The new understanding

• A systematic process of working with producers or communities to help them acquire relevant and useful agriculture or related knowledge and skills to increase farm productivity, competitiveness and sustainability...

Deliver the information in the best possible way (using different channels + Tech)

Develop the right messages and avoid noise

Make farmers active participants, persist and be consistent

Give feedback to researchers and to the general stakeholders

Funded by the European Union

AESA
Extension issues identified

The importance of enhancing and promoting agricultural extension in all EU funded food security projects are based on:

• Farmers capacity to produce sufficient food is weak and this in part contributed to the global food crisis of 2007-2008

• Poorly trained extension staff, insufficient and lack of the infrastructure to support extension delivery (including institutions of training and research)

• Technology and improve practices are needed to boast yield and productivity

• Introduction and proper use intermediate technologies to improve farmers production and productivity is needed

• A need for NALEP to be popularised (nationwide among state staff, among staff and farmers) in South Sudan
• The role of private or community based extension and the need for market oriented extension delivery service.
• Certification and licensing of extension practitioners
• Harmonization of all training manuals and materials in use by partners
• Need for introduction and adoption of approaches that will improve production, improve market, improve income, improve nutrition and sustainability which could also include innovations and addresses emerging issues
• The need to continue to monitor how the projects funded by the EU progress with their implementation approaches and methods
• The need for continuously think of approaches that responds to emerging issues such as climate smart agriculture, resilience (particularly resilience agriculture) etc.
Common approaches in use by EU Food Security funded partners

- Farmer Field School (FFS incorporated with VSLA), Agro Pastoralist Field School (APFS), Fisher Folk Field School (FFFS) Pastoralist Field School (PFS), Pastoralist Livelihood and Education Field School (PLEFS)
- Group approach (extension group/ production group /marketing group etc.)
- Outreach approach (with a whole range of methods like - lead farmers /farmer promoters; demo plots; farmer field days; farmer demonstrations, mass awareness campaign among others)
- Community Based Approach (Extension delivered by Community Based extension workers / Community Health Animal Workers)
- Farmer led extension approach (extension through lead farmers and collaboration between individual farmers)
- Block farm model (Blocks of often more than 100 farms having a central demo plot and being serviced by a Community Based Extension Worker)
## Extension approaches, and methods used in the studied EU funded food security projects

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### Perceived effectiveness of extension approaches used in EU funded food security projects

(For details see 2.4.1 and Annex 2.)

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<th>Extension APPROACH</th>
<th>Group empowerment</th>
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<th>Level of outreach</th>
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| Extension METHOD             |                  |                |                   |                           |                          |                           |
| Field day                    | x                | XXX            | x                 | XXX                       | x                        | x                         |
| Demonstration                | x                | XXX            | x                 | xx                        | xx                       | xx                       |
| Demo farm                    | x                | XXX            | x                 | xx                        | x                        | x                         |
| Exhibition                   | x                | xx             | x                 | xxx                       | x                        | x                         |
| Farmer training centre       | x                | XXX            | x                 | xx                        | x                        | x                         |
| Radio listening              | x                | xx             | x                 | xxx                       | x                        | xxx                      |
| Mass awareness campaign      | x                | xx             | x                 | xxx                       | x                        | xxx                      |

| Frontline extension personnel|                  |                |                   |                           |                          |                           |
| Public                       | XXX              | XXX            | x                 | XXX                       | x                        | xx                       |
| NGO                          | XXX              | XXX            | x                 | XXX                       | x                        | x                         |
| CBAHW                        | xx               | XXX            | x                 | XXX                       | xx                       | xxx                      |
| COTs                         | xx               | XXX            | x                 | XXX                       | xx                       | xxx                      |
| CBEW                         | xx               | XXX            | x                 | XXX                       | xx                       | xxx                      |
| Private                      | x                | xxx            | x                 | xxx                       | x                        | xx                       |

**Legend:**
- **XXX** - High
- **XX** - Medium
- **X** - Low
Some of what we have done

• Monitor implementation of partner projects and the delivery of extension and general agronomic practices (ongoing)
• Organise quarterly reviews meeting for partners
• Harmonised training manuals and produced a set of extension guides for Crops, for livestock production and a general guidelines for FFS, VSLA, Agrodealership, Ox ploughing and community mobilization.
• PLEF training in the cattle camp communities are ongoing
• Popularize, summarise, publish and distribute the NALEP documents
• Study of agricultural extension components of EU-funded rural development projects in South Sudan
Guides and Guidelines Published

See links for downloading the guides below


Funded by the European Union
Printing and Distribution of booklets
Launch of Extension Day and SoSFAAS

June 15, 2016 in Juba South Sudan

Funded by the European Union

AESA
• Trainings are already undertaken for FFS and VSLA
• Support the functioning of CTC and YATC by asking partners to send and sponsor government officials for courses (now moribund again)
• Created the [www.capacity4dev.eu](http://www.capacity4dev.eu) webpage of the EU website for sharing project documents and materials
• Support the reactivation of South Sudan Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (SoSFAAS)
• In the process of producing new guidelines to support the delivery of extension. For this write shops and validation sessions will be organised
https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/sorudev

South Sudan Rural Development Group

Funded by the European Union
Community Intervention Information System for South Sudan

http://ciissouthsudan.org/

This data base for community resilience and food security intervention is now opened for use. Register your projects.
Upcoming Extension Support Activities

- Extension Monitoring visits to FAO Cross Border project (July), FAO PLEF and Cordaid (August, September) during which assessment of use of guides and guidelines will take place. All implementing partners already.
- Revision of the current guides and guideline and possible production of 2nd edition
- Development/ Harmonization of and printing of extension approaches - through write shops again to encourage ownership of the materials
- Training on use of training manuals
- Distribution of printed booklets
Suggested new set of guidelines

- Seed Production Techniques
- Participatory planning methods
- Participatory extension approaches and methods
- Training manual on leadership, group dynamics and group management
- Value chain assessment
- Small business management
- Record keeping and simple bookkeeping
- Milk handling
- Vegetable gardening
- Water for production
- Post-harvest and storage
- Any other emerging enterprises/technologies
Examples of training manuals produced ZEAT BEAD Partner
Suggestions for Agriculture Working Group

- Distribution of the current Extension Guidelines
- Involvement of the working group members in the validation and review of current and new guidelines
- Hold policy dialogues and awareness
- Task force on specific issues Support the South Sudan Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (SoSFAAS)
- Active participation of members at the Agriculture Extension Day Events including Seminars and presentation of research works (June 16)
Suggestions contd.

- Commemoration of the World Food Day Programme (October 16)
- Commemoration of the World Environment Day with emphasis on Tree planting activities (June 6)
- Capacity building training for member partners on areas of interest
  - Market Information System
  - Climate Smart Agriculture techniques
  - REFLECT training to enhance literacy and numeracy
  - Yield Assessment Techniques

Funded by the European Union
Thank you for your attention