

**South Sudan Recovery Fund
Round II: Small Grants Window
Quarter 2 2012 Report**

Recipient UN Organization:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	SSRF Priority Area:	Agriculture, Education, WATSAN and Capacity Building		
Implementing Partner(s):	NGO: BRAC South Sudan (Grants Coordinator) Government counterpart: SS Reconstruction & Development Fund (SSRDF)				
Project Number:	SRF-09/BRAC20				
Project Title:	SSRF Round II Small Grants Window				
Total Approved Project Budget	US\$3,019,621.32				
Funds Committed:	US\$ 3,019,621.32	Percentage of Approved:	100 %		
Funds Disbursed:	US\$ 3,019,621.32	Percentage of Approved:	100 %		
SC Approval Date:	07 October 2009				
Expected Project Duration:	36 Months	Forecast Final Date:	09-2012	Delay (Months):	Yes

1. Progress Towards Expected Results

This report covers the second quarter of project activities from April to June 2012. The South Sudan Recovery Fund (SSRF) Round II Small Grants Window is an initiative to build the capacity of local NGOs in delivering services to the people of South Sudan through quick and high impact services.

An extension of the small grants programme was granted by the SSRF to ensure that the communities in Jonglei and Northern Bahr el Ghazal benefit from the balance of funds following termination of AMURT in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Stromme Foundation in Jonglei under Round I of the SSRF. In making the decision to extend the project, the SSRF Steering Committee considered the duration, coverage of the project, and the modest fund balance, and thereby decided to reallocate the remaining balance of the closed projects to small grants for livelihoods through existing national NGOs with presence in those states, selected through a transparent grant making process.

1.1. Progress towards expected results

The following project activities were carried out during the reporting period, that benefited the communities' members, including; youth and women groups in the following livelihood areas:

State	NGO Name	Proposed activities (Full Project Period)	County	Project Achievement
1. Jonglei	Hope Yard for Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 children will be enrolled in schools 	Bor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 138 orphans and street children enrolled into four (4) schools: St. Andrews, Bor A, Bor B and Bor Public primary 1 to 8
2. Jonglei	Uror County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 youth and women 	Uror	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 have received training in

	Women Association	targeted on small scale business, carpentry and brick making		carpentry as part of small scale business development
3 Jonglei	Kongor Youth Association/Deng Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth centre for adult education and other cultural activities were proposed 120 youth to be trained in carpentry and brick laying 	Twic East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth centre and library for youth as part of adult education program is under construction 54 youth are in training for carpentry and brick making
4 Jonglei	Sudan Peace Education and Development Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 144 men and women will be trained Training on community microfinance groups 156 fishing materials will be purchased for selected groups 	Bor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 156 fishing net and ropes were distributed to selected beneficiaries 349 women and men were trained on community microfinance/income generating activities
5. NBG	Hope Agency for Relief and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 360 beneficiaries to be trained for the duration of the project Agricultural tools will be distributed to selected farmers 	Aweil Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 160 beneficiary youth received different tools and equipment for agricultural activities 60 beneficiaries received agricultural tools
6. NBG	Confident Relief and Rehabilitation Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 beneficiaries, both men and women will be targeted for agriculture support Training of the selected groups 	Aweil West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 beneficiaries (men and women) registered and in operation Three nursery beds of different vegetables have been planted 250 beneficiaries out of 500 have received training on vegetable cultivation
7. NBG	Famers Livelihood Development Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,000 beneficiaries, both men and women will be targeted for farming Training on modern farming technologies, apiary and agroforestry 	Aweil Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 600 beneficiaries reached during this quarter 20,000 assorted seedlings distributed to 4000 Households Training on modern crop production and agro forestry management conducted to farmers
8. NBG	Human Development Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilization of 240 women Training of women in small business management 	Aweil South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 240 women received a three-day training on small business management Grants distributed to the groups of farmers for their operation
s9. NBG	Child Advocacy Women Development Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 168 beneficiaries, mainly women will form an association Training will be conducted in tailoring and baking Identification of the baking site and construction of a bakery 	Aweil Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two women's associations formed of 168 participants and the two associations were trained on tailoring and baking Seven sewing machines were procured and distributed to the beneficiary groups. 35 trays prepared for baking and bread manufacturing Shelter constructed
10. NBG	Hope Restore Youth, South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 135 beneficiaries (men and women) Agricultural inputs for the project One-day training on vegetable growing and management 	Aweil South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 120 beneficiary groups Two acres of land cultivated and prepared for greenhouses 32 different sets of tools purchased for agriculture and distributed to farmers Three-day workshop conducted for each group on modern

Pictures of project activities carried out, 2012 Quarter 2



Figure 1. Kongor Youth Association Expansion of Library and Youth Centre in Twic East, Jonglei 2012 Deng Foundation



Figure 2: Orphans and street children enrolled in school, Bor County 2012 Hope Yard for Charity



Figure 3: Vegetable producers and growers' association group receives seeds in Aweil West, NBG 2012 Confident Relief and Rehabilitation



Figure 4: Cooperative Group on Small scale income generating activities in Bor, Jonglei State 2012 Sudan Peace and Education Development Program.

2. Project Management

2.1. Audits

An annual audit of nationally implemented (NIM) projects executed by an NGO was carried out by Ernst and Young in April 2012. The report of the audit was submitted to UNDP in May 2012. The management letter shows an unqualified report with no follow-up issues for BRAC management.

2.2. Disbursement of funds

As reported in 2012, Quarter 1 update of SSRF Round II, the call for proposals to implement the balance of funds in Jonglei and Northern Bahr el Ghazal was for 14 days in March 2012. However, in absence of a sufficient number of adequate proposals for Northern Bahr el Ghazal, an extension was granted for the call for proposals until 13 April 2012, resulting in three additional approved

proposals. This delay further exacerbated the onward disbursement of funds to the selected ten NGOs/CBOs projects.

In view of the challenges, UNDP discussed with BRAC stop-gap measures to recover lost time. The plan was initiated and the heads/managers of 10 CBOs/NGOs were invited for training in Juba while fund transfers were being processed by UNDP to BRAC. The training programme focused on project management, financial management and reporting, including aspects of community managed income generation and alternative education.

2.3. Monitoring

During the reporting period, two monitoring activities were carried out in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Jonglei states. Despite nearly one-month delays in project commencement, the first phase of projects were successfully completed within a two-month time period. Additionally, beneficiaries continue to demonstrate strong demand for project activities. Moreover, communities are actively making contributions to complement project activities such as, allocation of land in project target sites.

3. Challenges and Mitigation Measures

Challenges	Mitigation Measures
<p>Project Start-Up Disbursement of funds from UNDP to BRAC's account took a full month, which further delayed the disbursement of funds to NGOs/CBOs and negatively affected the start-up of project activities as per the original schedule.</p>	<p>During the time lapse prior to disbursement of funds to NGOs/CBOs' accounts, BRAC conducted a training course for heads of CBOs/NGOs as a stop-gap measure.</p>
<p>Response to Call for Proposal (CFP) Response to the call for proposals from the applicants was low, which pushed the time schedule to another CFP.</p>	<p>BRAC initiated an additional CFP for one week to ensure the target number of the NGOs from NBG.</p>
<p>Market and Price High fluctuation in market prices e.g. fencing materials for vegetables, to delay the purchasing of materials needed to start the projects.</p>	<p>Fluctuations in prices will be considered in the planning phase of future projects and a contingency plan will be implemented.</p>

4. Lessons Learned

- Joint planning through the use of the State Steering Committees has helped identify any possible obstacles ahead of the project implementation and identify preventative actions to be taken by UNDP and BRAC. This has helped to ensure smooth project implementation within tight time constraints and operational challenges in the field.
- Creative stop-gap measures such as, the Management Training component that targeted the Project Managers of the 10 CBOs/NGOs, has helped keep stakeholders engaged in the process and sustain momentum of project outputs. Moreover, communities in both states were interested in the concept of a small grants project.

5. Financial Performance

During the reporting quarter, UNDP transferred USD 309,193.00 to BRAC as follows: USD 296,309.92 for grants and USD 12,883 for BRAC operations in Q2.

Total Budget	Expenditure by BRAC	Expenditure by UNDP	Balance	% Delivery
3,019,621.32	2,493,772.90	154,333.86	371,514.56	88%