

South Sudan Recovery Fund
Round II: Small Grants Window
Quarter 3, 2012 Report

Recipient UN Organization:	United Nation Development Programme	SRF Priority Area:	Agriculture, Education, WATSAN and Capacity Building.		
Implementing Partner(s):	NGO: BRAC South Sudan (Grants Coordinator) Government counterpart: Southern Sudan Reconstruction Fund (SSRDF)				
Project Number:	SRF-09/BRAC20				
Project Title:	SRF 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	(Months):	9months

1. Progress towards expected Results

The South Sudan Recovery Fund (SSRF) initiative is intended to build the capacity of local NGOs in delivering services to the people of South Sudan through quick and high impact services. The small grants extension was made to ensure that communities in Jonglei and Northern Bahr el Ghazal would benefit, following the termination of AMURT and the Stromme Foundation. In making the extension decision, the SSRF Steering Committee considered the duration and coverage of projects and the level of fund balance, deciding to continue similar arrangements for a livelihoods implementation model, where existing national community-based NGOs with a presence in the two states would be selected to implement the projects.

The international NGO BRAC South Sudan was selected to coordinate the grants and be responsible for the disbursement of funds, also taking responsibility for the capacity development of the ten selected national NGOs in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Jonglei states in project management and monitoring of activities in order to ensure effective utilization of the funds.

This report covers the third quarter of project activities, from 1 July to 30 September 2012.

1.1. Progress toward Expected Results

During the reporting period, BRAC completed the disbursement of grants to the ten selected national NGOs; six based in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State and four in Jonglei State. The NGOs completed a number of activities in the following areas: agricultural production, mainly by farmers and vegetable growers; completion of school libraries and youth cultural centres; enrollment of street children and orphans in schools; provision of vocational skills training; income generation activities; and healthcare services for children.

Beneficiaries targeted in the activities include children, youth, women, and men from disadvantaged backgrounds from those communities.

BRAC closely supervised activities through regular monitoring missions to each of the ten selected community-based NGOs. The first round of visits was conducted following the disbursement of funds in order to ensure proper utilization, while the second visit was conducted prior to reporting of activities.

Key Achievements I: Completed by BRAC

- **Grants Disbursement to NGOs:** BRAC disbursed a total of SSP 874,113.96 (equivalent to USD 296,309.82 at an exchange rate of 2.95). The level of grant disbursement to each national NGO varied, with a maximum amount of SSP 100,000 in various approved projects.
- **Capacity Building for NGOs:** The ten selected NGOs from the two states have received training on project management, report writing and microfinance/income generating activities.
- **Project Progress monitoring:** BRAC closely supervised the activities of the NGOs. The monitoring team conducted several monitoring visits to ensure proper and effective utilization of the funds provided.

Key Achievements II: Completed by NGOs

- **Capacity Development /Skills Training:**
A total of 50 young men were trained in brick-making, while 30 young women were trained in carpentry and joinery in Kongor youth centre and Uror, in Twic East County, Jonglei state. A total of 780 women were trained in small business management: 480 in Bahr el Ghazal State and 300 in Jonglei State. The training was followed by the disbursement of grants to the value of SSP 87,000 to participants to enable them to start small businesses: SSP 48,000 for women’s groups in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and SSP 39,000 for women’s groups in Jonglei. A further 200 men participated in skills training in Jonglei State and were supported with fishing nets and other fishing materials.
- **Agriculture/Vegetable production:**
During the period of project implementation, various types of agricultural tools and seeds were distributed to beneficiary farmers. More than 1,335 seedlings were distributed to 250 families in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, while in total at least 6,000 people benefited from agricultural support provided by the projects in the two states.
- **Education /Child Protection Support Areas:**
132 street children and orphans have been enrolled in primary school, levels one to eight, while 50 children have received health services.

Table I: Project achievements vs. Planned for the period ending 30 September 2012

State	NGO Name	Proposed activities for Project Period ending 30 September 2012	County	Cumulative Project Achievements since extension of Grants
1. Jonglei	Hope Yard for Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 children will be mobilized for two sectors education and health 	Bor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 270 (138 in Q2 & 132 in Q3) orphans and street children enrolled into four schools: St. Andrews, Bor A, Bor B and Bor Public primary 1 to 8

2. Jonglei	Uror County Women Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 youth and women targeted on small scale business, carpentry and brick making 	Uror	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 72 trained in VTC (25 in Q2 & 50 in Q3) have received training on carpentry
3 Jonglei	Kongor Youth Association/Deng Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth centre for adult education and other cultural activities proposed. 120 youth to be training on carpentry and brick making. 	Twic East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed construction of Youth centre and library for youth as part of adult education program. 104 (54 in Q2 & 50 in Q3) youth undertaking training on carpentry and brick making
4 Jonglei	Sudan Peace Education and Development Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 144 men and women will be mobilized Training on community micro finance groups 156 fishing materials will be purchased for selected groups 	Bor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 980 men and women have been mobilized during the project period by the education and development programme. 780 have been mobilized and trained on community micro finance/income generating activities. 156 fishing nets and ropes have been distributed to group of 200 selected beneficiaries
5. NBG	Hope Agency for Relief and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 360 beneficiaries to be mobilized in the duration of the project. Agricultural tools will be distributes to selected farmers 	Aweil Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 160 beneficiary youth received different tools and equipment for agricultural use was distributed to two groups. 60 children beneficiaries have been mobilized.
6. NBG	Confident Relief and Rehabilitation, Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 beneficiaries both male 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 engaged in support. All 500 (250 in Q2 & 250 in Q3) beneficiaries registered have received training on vegetable management
7. NBG	Famers Livelihood Development Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1000 beneficiaries both male and female will be mobilized in group for farming. Support in modern farming technologies, apiary and agro forestry 	Aweil Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 1000 beneficiaries group reached and supported with farming inputs. 21,335 assorted seedlings distributed to 4,250 families.
8. NBG	Humane Development Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilization of 240 women Training of women on small business management skills 	Aweil South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 240 women mobilized for three days of training on Small Business management. Grants distributed to the groups for their operation.
9. 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 bakery Identification of the bakery site and construction of bakery 	Aweil Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two women's associations formed with 168 participants. The two womens' associations were trained on tailoring and bakery. 7 sewing machines were procured and distributed to the beneficiary groups. 35 trays prepared for bakery and bread manufacturing. Site identified and Bakery Shelter

		house		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 beneficiaries identified. • Two acres of land cultivated and allocated for green house • 32 different sets of tools purchased for agriculture and were distributed to the group of farmers. • Three-day workshop conducted for each of the groups on modern vegetable management.

2. Project Management

2.1. Audits

The 2011 annual NGO audit carried out by Ernst and Young in April 2012 did not result in any follow up issues for BRAC for the third quarter of 2013.

2.2. Monitoring

During the reporting period, two monitoring visits were carried out in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Jonglei States. The national NGOs were observed as continuing to demonstrate strong project management, while communities are actively making personal contributions to complement project allocation, such as providing land for project sites.

3. Challenges and Mitigation Measures

Challenges	Mitigation Measures
<p>Capacity of Implementing Partners</p> <p>Several monitoring visits were conducted by BRAC in different project locations, and findings were well-documented. Although internal management of NGOs was generally positive, it was uneven between organizations, with some exhibiting strong management processes and others exhibiting average processes in one aspect of management. Financial information/books of accounts were available and verified in most cases.</p>	BRAC as grants coordinator is working closely with implementing partners to devise a system to improve project management, monitoring and reporting.
<p>Logistical Challenges</p> <p>The Small Grants Window projects in Round 2 dealt with very remote communities, some of which had not been reached before. As a result, the logistical costs were high.</p>	With the experience from this round of intervention, basic systems have been devised to improve logistics management in the future in the very remote communities.
<p>Market and Price</p> <p>High fluctuation in market prices hampered the smooth implementation of the project, sometimes resulting in the lack of availability of necessary project inputs such as fencing materials for vegetables and seeds. This in turn resulted in delayed implementation of some activities. Some inputs were procured from Juba increasing cost of transportation.</p>	In the planning phase of future BRAC projects, these unexpected fluctuations in prices or lack of inputs in local market will be factored in.

4. Lessons Learned

As discussed during Q2 reporting, involvement of the State Steering Committees in joint planning has continue to helped identify obstacles in Q3 ahead of project implementation, enabling preventative actions to be taken by BRAC.

5. Sustainability

In order to encourage project sustainability, BRAC trained the selected NGOs/CBOs in project management, report writing, microfinance and income generating activities. The NGOs/CBOs have carried out several small projects over the past six months and have been able to develop their project management skills and techniques. Training in project implementation has increased their capacity in efficient management as well as in conducting project activities. This improved efficiency will help the NGOs/CBOs sustain their work in long-term, ultimately contributing to positive change in the two states.

6. Financial Performance for Q3 (to 30 September 2012)

Total Budget	Expenditure by BRAC	Expenditure by UNDP	Balance	% Delivery
3,019,621.32	2,808,964.46	154,333.86	56,323	98%

Annex I: Photos of project activities from Quarter 3, 2012



Improving dietary consumption through small scale income generating activities offered by SSRF in Bor

NGO: Sudan Peace Education and Development Programme



Orphans and street children able to benefit from healthcare offered by SSRF Small Grants in Bor

NGO: Hope Yard for Charity



Small changes: selling vegetables could have a big impact on family lifestyle in Aweil West

NGO: Confident Relief and Rehabilitation



Aweil women's groups received SSRF grants to support and grow their business

NGO: Humane Development Council



Vegetable farm established in Aweil West

NGO: Hope Agency for Relief and Development



Working towards change through tailoring in Aweil Centre

NGO: Child Advocacy and Women Development