Food assistance for assets (FFA) is one of the World Food Programme’s (WFP) key initiatives aimed at addressing the most vulnerable people’s immediate food needs with cash or food transfers and improving communities’ long-term food security and resilience.

Despite ongoing fighting and insecurity across South Sudan, some locations remain stable and provide an opportunity for WFP to work with communities to rebuild their livelihoods through a more sustainable approach. The combination of conditional food assistance and asset creation helps food insecure communities to shift away from reliance on humanitarian assistance to achieve more sustainable food security.

For rural communities in South Sudan a road is not simply a way of getting somewhere, it is a life changer

In 2017, WFP aims to assist around 500,000 people through FFA, including around 265,000 women and girls, in Abyei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, Lakes and Western Equatoria States. Out of these, 350,000 people will receive in-kind food assistance of 16,000mt and 150,000 people will receive cash based transfers amounting to over USD 19 million.*

Participants receive WFP assistance over a six month period for 15 days of work per month on asset creation projects. In exchange, WFP provides a monthly half ration of cereals, pulses, fortified oil and salt or its equivalent in cash. Often this assistance is complemented by the provision of seeds, tools and training from WFP and FAO.

Combined with Food for Education (FFE) and Purchase for Progress (P4P), FFA activities form part of WFP’s resilience strategy for South Sudan. This broad range of support, including asset creation, safety nets, and sustainable livelihoods programmes, assist communities to recover and increase their resilience to future shocks related to extreme weather spells as well as localized resource conflicts.

**FFA activities**

FFA activities in South Sudan are based on four pillars:
1) the restoration of productive capacity of arable land;
2) the construction of community infrastructure;
3) environment, natural resource management and climate adaptation; and
4) skill development.

As part of the project planning cycle (see page 2), FFA participants through their project management committee are engaged in a community based participatory planning process (CBPP). This process allows households to jointly identify their priorities for asset creation activities ensuring that the assets meet critical needs and encourage greater ownership.

The creation of 12,200ha of farming land provides maize and/or sorghum to about 144,000 people for an entire year

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2016 Achievements

- **405,000** people received food assistance in exchange for participation in community asset creation activities
- Construction of **100 km** flood control dykes,
  **19** multipurpose water ponds, **375 km** of community access roads, and **114** shallow wells
- Creation of **12,200 ha** for group crop farming in addition to **200 ha** for vegetable farming and production of **780,000** tree seedlings

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World Food Programme

Photo: WFP/George Fominyen  * figures according to project plan
**FFA Project Aweil West County**  
(Northern Bahr El Ghazal state)

Before the WFP project started, connection to neighbouring towns was impossible for residents during the rainy season when widespread flooding occurs. “This is the only road that we have to access markets and a health center, but when the rain starts it becomes impassable for any vehicle and very challenging for those walking on foot,” explained Ajok Agar, one of WFP’s FFA participants, at the start of the project. This new 1.7 km dyke-road covers the most flooded area which now allows community members access to markets, schools and health centers. A further 8 km of community access road has also been constructed through FFA programmes.

“Life will be much easier once the project is completed”
Kuach Dhol, Project Participant

1. **Restoration of Productive Capacity of Arable Land**

   WFP supports food insecure communities to clear their land and diversify their crop production to improve their food and nutrition security. WFP provides food assistance for labor intensive activities such as land clearing and preparation as well as land management and post harvesting activities.

2. **Construction of Community Infrastructure**

   FFA project participants engage in the construction of road dykes, community access roads, schools, health clinics as well as in developing water points. These assets provide greater access to social services, such as health care and education, improve water access and coverage as well as promote local economy.

3. **Environment, Natural Resource Management and Climate Adaptation**

   In order to reduce the hazard effect of flooding and improve natural resource management and adapt to changing climate, FFA activities include the creation of flood control dykes, as well as the production, plantation and management of tree seedlings.

4. **Skill Development**

   WFP enhances the skills of FFA participants through trainings on agriculture, infrastructure development and natural resource management as well as cross cutting topics such as nutrition, HIV/Aids, gender and protection. These trainings enhance local knowledge and skills on agriculture and ensure improved quality and greater sustainability of the created community assets.

**WFP FFA project increased groundnut yields from 37mt in 2015 to 42.5mt in 2016**

**FFA Project Cycle**

1. **Identification of Assets, Project Sites and Stakeholders**

   External Evaluation, Project Report, Scale Up of Strategies Developed

2. **Planning**

   Sensitization meetings and establishment of project management structure

3. **Implementation**

   Creation of Assets, Payment of Workers and Inspection of Work

4. **Monitoring**

   Post-distribution Monitoring, Regular Site Visits, Technical Input Support

5. **Evaluation and Learning**

   Evaluation of Assets, Project Sites and Stakeholders through Community Consultation

**Photos (L - R):** WFP/George Fominyen
WFP South Sudan
Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)

South Sudan Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

WFP’s FFA activities directly contribute to the objectives of the UN Country Team in South Sudan’s Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF) which supports targeted humanitarian assistance, recovery, and resilience. Specifically, FFA supports Outcomes 1 and 4 of the ICF which focus on enhancing the resilience of communities and reinvigorating the local economy.

FFA specifically supports WFP’s work in realizing Sustainable Development Goal 2 to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”.

Partnerships

WFP works in close collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders in order to implement and maximize effectiveness and impact of its activities. These stakeholders include WFP’s cooperating partners (CP), local government line ministries, and UN agencies.

WFP, UNICEF, FAO and UNDP collaborate on a joint recovery and stabilization pilot in Northern Bahr el Ghazal through which a more comprehensive package of assistance will be provided to vulnerable communities. Complementary activities by these UN agencies in the same locations seek to build community resilience by combining the delivery of life-sustaining services with activities to strengthen food production, delivery of basic services, and improved livelihoods.

On the government level, WFP works in partnership with the ministries of health, education, agriculture, animal resource and physical infrastructure as well as with county, boma and payam authorities and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

FFA activities are made possible with the support of Canada, Germany and the UK.

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory, city or sea, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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