# IBSA Fund
# Annual Report 2025

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| **Project Title:** Empowering Women and Youth to drive Sustainable Agriculture in South Sudan | |
| **Country:** South Sudan | **Reporting Period:** January – December 2025 |
| **Project start date:** 01 November 2024 | **Project end date:** 30 October 2026 |
| **Donor:** IBSA FUND | |
| **Executing Agency:** Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare | |
| **Implementing Agency:** UNDP | |
| **Service Provider:** Oxfam South Sudan | |
| **Name & Email of Project Contact Person:** daniel.kir@undp.org | |
| **Report Review and Submitted by:** daniel.kir@undp.org | |

**Introduction:**
UNDP is the implementing agency for the Empowering Women and Youth to drive Sustainable Agriculture (EWYSA) project on behalf of the executing agency, Ministry of Gender and Social Welfare. The project is funded by total financing of US$ 1,082,00, including US$ 1,000,000 from IBSA FUND as the primary donor, US$ 82,000 from UNDP, and in-kind contributions from the Government of South Sudan. Oxfam South Sudan is a key implementing partner, responsible for key components of the project, including setting up irrigation system, provision of seeds, materials, and other inputs to produce groups, strengthening agricultural extension services, conducting gender action learning sessions and project inception, monitoring and supervision.

The general objective of the project is to enhance the capacity of women and youth in vegetable production in order to improve food security, increase income, and address unemployment in the Republic of South Sudan. Specifically, the project aims to contribute to the stabilization of food security across the country while promoting employment opportunities for women and youth. It also seeks to increase their income in the targeted County by strengthening agricultural productivity and market engagement. In addition, the project focuses on supporting women and youth to adapt to climate change through sustainable agricultural practices, while contributing to the broader attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The following section presents a summary of key achievements realized during the year 2025 across the project's five primary result outputs as outlined in the Annual Work Plan for 2025 achievements:

## 1. Setting Up Irrigation System

### 1.1. Boreholes drilled and solarized

A cumulative total of two (2) boreholes were successfully drilled and solarized in Rejaf and Luri Payams, representing 100% achievement of the end-of-project target. The intervention followed detailed hydrogeological assessments and water quality testing conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, confirming the availability of high-yield and safe water sources. The installation of solar-powered pumping systems provides a reliable, sustainable, and cost-efficient water supply for irrigation, significantly reducing dependence on rain-fed agriculture and fossil fuel-based systems. This strengthened year-round agricultural production, enhanced climate resilience, and directly contributed to improved food security and income generation for women and youth beneficiaries.

### 1.2. Surface water irrigation systems established

During the reporting period, with support from the IBSA Fund and oversight from UNDP, a total of two (2) surface water irrigation systems were established in Rejaf and Luri Payams, representing 100%

achievement of the end-of-project target. These systems form part of the project's integrated, climate-smart irrigation approach, complementing groundwater sources to ensure reliable and efficient water supply for vegetable production. The installations have strengthened year-round production capacity, reduced vulnerability to rainfall variability, and enhanced water use efficiency for the targeted farmer groups. This contributed to improved agricultural productivity, increased resilience to climate change, and sustainable livelihood opportunities for women and youth.

**2. Provision of seeds, materials, and other inputs to the producer groups:**

**2.1. Producer groups provided with vegetable seed, pesticide and farming implements**

A cumulative total of four (4) producer groups—Gbuduge, Kolye West, Kabu, and Ngongitajur vegetable producer groups were supported with a comprehensive package of improved vegetable seeds, pesticides, and farming implements, representing 100% achievement of the end-of-project target. The distribution included essential tools such as hoes, pangas, axes, rakes, spades, tape measures, knapsack sprayers, and watering cans, alongside improved seed varieties including cucumber and kale, to enhance productivity and promote climate-smart agricultural practices. To further strengthen diversification, nutrition, and income opportunities, additional seed varieties (tomato, watermelon, onion, carrot, green pepper, eggplant, and okra) have been identified for subsequent distribution.

These interventions have already yielded tangible results, with all four groups completing initial harvest cycles. By December 2025, the supported groups collectively generated SSP 7,529,000 in income from the sale of produce including kale, okra, eggplant, tomato, cowpea, purslane, jute mallow, amaranthus, and cucumber, while an estimated 898 kilograms of vegetables were consumed at household level, contributing directly to improved food and nutrition security, increased income, enhanced resilience to climate shocks, and transition from subsistence to market-oriented production.

**3. Strengthened Agricultural Extension Services, Trained in Safe Programming and Gender Mainstreaming:**

**3.1. Farmers trained in improved agronomic practices, group dynamics, and post-harvest handling.**

A cumulative total of 200 (male:42; female:158) farmers, representing 100% achievement of the end-of-project target, received on-farm training sessions focused on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP). The training covered key areas including pest and disease management, soil fertility improvement, and enhanced crop production techniques, equipping beneficiaries with practical skills to increase productivity and adopt climate-resilient farming practices. This intervention has strengthened farmers' technical capacity to improve yields, reduce post-harvest losses, and sustainably manage natural resources, thereby contributing to increased agricultural productivity and resilience. The training further supports the project's objective of transitioning beneficiaries from subsistence to market-oriented production while enhancing food security and income generation, consistent with the project's design and expected outcomes

**3.2. Extension agents capacitated to deliver extension services to farmers**

In collaboration with the State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Environment (SMoAF), a total of four (4) agricultural extension workers (100% of the end-of-project target) were trained and equipped to provide sustained technical support to vegetable farmer groups. The training package included Good Agronomic Practices (GAP), as well as gender and safeguarding principles, ensuring that extension agents are better prepared to engage communities in a safe, inclusive, and gender-responsive manner.

To further strengthen service delivery and field outreach, the project procured and officially handed over four (4) motorbikes to SMoAF to support extension agents' mobility and regular engagement with beneficiary groups. This investment significantly enhanced last-mile service delivery, supervision,

and continuous technical backstopping to farmers and contributed to improved quality and reach of extension services, institutional strengthening of government systems, and sustainability of project results beyond the implementation period.

### 3.3. Rapid value studies selected vegetables conducted to inform the sector

A Rapid value chain on selected vegetables study was conducted. The study provided critical insights into the structure and performance of vegetable value chains in Central Equatoria State, identifying key actors, market dynamics, and systemic constraints affecting productivity and profitability. The analysis highlighted major crops with strong market demand, including tomatoes, onions, okra, and leafy vegetables such as kale, and underscored key bottlenecks such as limited access to quality inputs, weak extension services, high post-harvest losses, and inefficient market linkages. It further revealed structural challenges related to transport, price volatility, and limited bargaining power of smallholder farmers, particularly women and youth. The findings from this study have informed targeted interventions under the project, including strengthening market linkages, improving production practices, and enhancing access to inputs and extension services. This evidence-based approach supported the transition of beneficiary groups toward more market-oriented production systems, contributing to increased income, reduced losses, and improved resilience across the vegetable value chain.

## 4. Access to Markets and Credit

During the reporting period, the terms of reference (TORs) for the engagement of national non-governmental organization (NNGO) are under development. The NNGO will implement output four (4) of the project, including training on e-commerce and digital market; micro and small enterprise (MSE) development; business-to-business linkages; provision of business development support services, and access to finance.

## 5. Conduct Gender action learning sessions (GALs):

### 5.1. Gender action learning system GALs roll out with different vegetable groups.

During the reporting period, the project successfully rolled out the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) across the targeted vegetable farmer groups. The rollout included facilitated “tea talk” sessions and participatory dialogues that created safe spaces for women and men to reflect on gender roles, power dynamics, access to resources, and decision-making within households and communities. Through GALS, beneficiaries were equipped with practical tools to analyze and address gender-based constraints affecting agricultural productivity and livelihoods. The approach strengthened inclusive participation, enhanced joint decision-making, and promoted equitable sharing of benefits from agricultural activities. As a result, women and youth are increasingly empowered to actively engage in production, leadership, and income-generating activities, contributing to improved household well-being and social cohesion. This intervention reinforces the project’s commitment to gender equality and transformative change, ensuring that agricultural development outcomes are inclusive, sustainable.

### 5.2. Gender Analysis Conducted

A Gender Analysis was conducted. The analysis involved systematic data collection, rigorous assessment, and synthesis into an evidence-based report, which has since been widely disseminated among project stakeholders to guide programme planning, implementation, and monitoring. The findings generated critical insights into gender dynamics, including roles and responsibilities, access to productive resources, decision-making power, and prevailing social norms affecting women’s and youth participation in agriculture and community development. These insights have informed the integration of gender-responsive and inclusive approaches across project interventions, strengthening the design of targeted activities that address identified barriers and promote equitable participation. This contributed to enhanced programme effectiveness, accountability, and alignment with gender equality objectives, ensuring that project outcomes are both inclusive and sustainable.

### 5.3. Staff and Extension Agents trained on Safe Programming and Gender Mainstreaming

A total of 15 participants, including project staff, extension agents, government officials, local leaders, and farmer representatives (4 women and 11 men), were trained on Safe Programming and Gender Mainstreaming. These stakeholders have actively integrated gender-sensitive and safeguarding approaches into their respective roles, contributing to more equitable participation, safer community engagement, and improved responsiveness to the needs of women and vulnerable groups. This strengthened institutional and community-level capacity to mainstream gender equality and "do no harm" principles within agricultural programming. It further empowered women and youth by addressing social barriers and promoting inclusive decision-making.

### 6. Inception, Monitoring and supervision of project:

UNDP and OXFAM South Sudan institutionalized regular field monitoring, supervision, and coaching as a core component of project implementation, in alignment with IBSA Fund results-based management and reporting standards. This systematic and continuous oversight ensured that project activities remained aligned with the approved scope, timelines, and budget, while strengthening accountability and quality assurance mechanisms. The approach enabled early identification of operational bottlenecks, implementation gaps, and emerging risks, allowing for timely corrective actions and targeted mitigation measures. In addition, it facilitated real-time learning and adaptive management, ensuring that lessons learned were continuously integrated into ongoing interventions. This strengthened programme efficiency, improved delivery performance, and enhanced the likelihood of achieving intended outputs and outcomes, while reinforcing transparency, coordination, and evidence-based decision-making across project partners.

UNDP, in partnership with OXFAM South Sudan, convened a high-level Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting chaired by the Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Welfare to assess progress, address challenges, strengthen coordination and provide strategic guidance. The meeting emphasized women's economic empowerment through improved market access, including engagement with South Sudan Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (SSCCIA) and the South Sudan Bureau of Standards to enhance product quality and competitiveness. Strategies were discussed to eliminate intermediaries and promote direct farmer-to-market linkages, while strengthening value addition through UNDP-supported iHubs and local market access. The PSC also highlighted the importance of sustainability through skills transfer, mentorship, and community-based replication models. In addition, youth engagement was reinforced through structured groups with governance frameworks to enhance ownership and long-term impact.

**2) Direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project**

The project mobilized 200 (42 male and 158 female) direct beneficiaries in Rejaf and Luri Payam of Juba County. The indirect beneficiaries are 1,000 across the entire juba county.

**2.1- <u>Direct beneficiaries:</u>**

Below is the disaggregation of direct beneficiaries in terms of gender as 2025.

| Disaggregation | Cumulative Q3, 2025 |
|---|---|
| Number of men | **42** |
| Number of women | **158** |

**2.2- <u>Indirect beneficiaries:</u>** See attached instructions on approach for direct and indirect beneficiaries.

Below is the disaggregation of indirect beneficiaries in terms of gender as 2025.

| Disaggregation | Cumulative Q3, 2025 |
|---|---|
| Number of men | **540** |
| Number of women | **660** |

**3. South-South cooperation**

*This section monitors and reports the progress made towards South-South cooperation elements through the project to ensure result orientation.*

**3.1- South-South cooperation indicators**

| Indicator | Actual achievement in reporting quarter | Comments if applicable |
|---|---|---|
| Number of examples of good practices in South-South cooperation transferred to developing countries with support by the IBSA Fund project | Through South–South Cooperation and funds from IBSA, drip irrigation system is being piloted in South Sudan to enable small-holder farmers in South Sudan to improve water-use efficiency and increase crop yields. This good practice demonstrates if adopted it can benefit the country to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change, whilst utilizing cheap green energy.<br>These green energy innovations ensure cheap, clean, and sustainable operationalization of irrigation and food production. | |
| Number of South-South cooperation knowledge exchanges supported/facilitated by the IBSA Fund project | The project did not allocate resources for exchange in 2025 and therefore, there was no such activity done. | |
| *Number of evidence*-based good practices documented *based on the achievements* of the IBSA Fund projects | The project adopted a widely recommended gender action learning session (GALS) methodology to tackle deeply gender disparities in highly patriarchal societies as those of South Sudan, as highlighted by the Gender Analysis completed. The trainings that followed were meant to enhance participation of women and men in food security and incomes generation activities and improve decision making of women.<br>Two boreholes were drilled, submersible pumps installed with solar powered irrigation system supporting vegetable farmers groups in Kabo, and Ngongitajur to produce vegetables throughout the year. An achievement that enhances climate-resilient agricultural production and sustainable water resource utilization. The project designed the training programme for extension workers that was delivered by South Sudanese staff from the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. This ensures that there is ownership of the project by the government and that the local contexts are observed and respected. | |

**3.2- Description of achievements related to South-South cooperation**

Under the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Fund, the project has advanced the principles of South-South Cooperation (SSC) by facilitating knowledge exchange, technology transfer, and capacity development among rural communities. These interventions promote peer learning, local innovation, and the adaptation of proven technologies to strengthen climate-resilient agricultural systems and inclusive economic growth.

**Knowledge and Skills Transfer**: More training was conducted in quarter three in Good Agronomic Practices (GAPs) among the beneficiaries in which 90 farmers were engaged. Inline, with the principle of creating ownership, the trainings were jointly delivered by Oxfam and extension workers seconded by the SMoAF. This is ensuring continuity of technical support beyond the project lifespan and strengthening partnership with the government counterpart.

**Technology Innovation and Climate Resilience**: A key technological advancement introduced under the project is the drip irrigation system, a climate-smart and labor-saving innovation designed to enable year-round vegetable production while mitigating the impacts of erratic rainfall and climate variability. As a new system that is being piloted, it needs to be redesigned and offers more capacity training to the farmers to adapt to and make proper use of the drip system. Thus, the system will be able to reduces manual labor burdens, particularly for women farmers, enabling them to balance productive and domestic responsibilities more efficiently. This innovation directly contributes to enhanced food security, water-use efficiency, and women's economic empowerment, aligning strongly with South-South Cooperation objectives on climate adaptation and sustainable agricultural transformation.

**Gender-Transformative Learning and Inclusive Governance:** 12 Gender Action Learning System (GALS) sessions were delivered to the project beneficiaries to promote equitable at the household and in the community. Oxfam with the support of the Agricultural Extension Workers continued supporting the project beneficiaries.

**Institutional Strengthening and Sustainability:** The secondment of government extension workers has strengthened the link between the project, government institutions, and local communities, ensuring sustainability of technical support. These officers have benefited from capacity development programs facilitated by Oxfam and the Ministry of Agriculture, equipping them with enhanced skills to provide ongoing advisory services and technical assistance to beneficiary farmers. This institutional embedding reinforces local ownership and ensures that the gains achieved through the project are sustained and scaled through government systems.

**Economic Empowerment and Financial Literacy:** In alignment with SSC's focus on inclusive economic growth, the project will continue to train farmers' groups in financial literacy, simple bookkeeping, savings, and marketing skills. These trainings aim to strengthen entrepreneurial capacity, improve household incomes, and ensure that producer groups can operate sustainably and competitively in local markets.

**Contribution to South-South Cooperation Objectives:** Through these integrated interventions—combining technology transfer, institutional capacity development, gender-transformative approaches, and climate resilience, the IBSA-funded project exemplifies the core values of South-South Cooperation. It demonstrates how locally adapted innovations and shared learning among developing countries can lead to sustainable agricultural productivity, gender equality, and community empowerment.

**4) Progress on Project Log-frame outcome and output indicators**

Provide performance data on **outcome and output level log-frame indictors of your Project.** Provide self- assessed color coding [Red-Amber-Green (RAG)] on the suggested column in line with a

RAG ‘Traffic Light’ rating. Performance data on outcome indicators to be reported once in a year during annual report.

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| GREEN | On track – 85%+ progress towards achievement of planned target for the year. |
| AMBER | At risk – 65-84% progress towards achievement of planned target for the year. Project team needs to identify particular measure(s) to overcome the low performance. |
| RED | Off track – progress below 65% towards achievement of planned target for the year. If two or more indicators are at risk, this scenario comes under serious concerns, and it should be escalated to the Management. This needs immediate attention with an action plan. |

| Result statements | Indicators | Baseline | Overall Project Target | Target for Reporting Year | Progress on Reporting Year | RAG Rating | Comments on variations |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Objective**<br><br>**Outcome Indicator 1**<br><br>Improved agricultural resilience to climate for increased productivity and increased income | **Sustainable agricultural production for food and income security for vulnerable women and youths in South Sudan** | | | | | | |
| | % women and youths are adjusting to adopt to the drip irrigation. | 30% | 70% | 50% | As of 31 December 2025, four vegetable farmer groups generated SSP 7,529,000 from the sale of diverse crops including kale, okra, eggplant, tomato, and cucumber. Additionally, 898 kilograms of produce were consumed at household level, contributing to improved food and nutrition security. | A | |
| | % increase of yields per feddan | 42% | 60% | 45% | In December 2025, the four vegetable farmer groups recorded strong initial market performance, with Kolye West earning SSP 350,000 and consuming 51 kg, Ngongitajur earning SSP 2,842,000 and consuming 440 kg, Kabu earning SSP 3,837,000 and consuming 347 kg, and Gbuduge earning SSP 500,000 and consuming 60 kg. Although this represents the first sales from the harvest, the results indicate a notable increase in yield and productivity compared to baseline levels, demonstrating early gains in income generation and household food consumption. | A | |
| | % of women and youths reporting increased income from the sale of vegetable produce. | | 50% | 20% | This will be measured during end of project evaluation. | A | |

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| | % of women generating their own income who decide on its use | 46% | 60% | 40% | This will be measured during end of project evaluation. | A | |
| **Output 1**: Setting up an Irrigation system | 1.1 Number of boreholes drilled and solarize | | 2 | 2 | Two (2) high-yielding boreholes were successfully drilled and fully mechanized to support irrigation systems for Kolye West and Gbuduge Vegetable Farmer Groups. The systems are now operational, ensuring reliable water supply and enabling consistent, year-round agricultural production. | A | |
| | 1.2 Number of surface water irrigation systems established | | 2 | 2 | Two (2) surface water irrigation systems were successfully installed and are now fully operational. The systems are actively supporting agricultural production, enabling reliable water access and improved cultivation capacity. | G | |
| | **Indicators** | **Baseline** | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for Reporting Year** | **Progress on Reporting Year** | **RAG Rating** | **Comments on variations** |
| **Output 2**-Provision of seeds, materials, and other inputs to the producer groups | **2.1** Number of producer groups provided with vegetable seed, and pesticide and farming implements | | 4 | 4 | A cumulative total of four (4) producer groups—Gbuduge, Kolye West, Kabu, and Ngongitajur vegetable producer groups were supported with a comprehensive package of improved vegetable seeds, pesticides, and farming implements, representing 100% achievement of the end-of-project target. | G | |
| **Output 3**- Strengthened agricultural extension services | **3.1** Number of farmers trained on improved agronomic practices, group dynamics, and post-harvest handling. | | 200 | 200 | A cumulative total of 200 (male:42; female:158) farmers, representing 100% achievement of the end-of-project target, received on-farm training sessions | G | |

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| | | | | | focused on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP). | | |
| | **3.2** Number of extension agents capacitated to deliver extension services to farmers | | 4 | 4 | The State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Environment facilitated training for four (4) extension workers, thereby improving local capacity to provide technical support to farmer groups. | G | |
| | **3.3** Number of rapid value studies selected vegetables conducted to inform the sector | 0 | 1 | 1 | The rapid value chain studies were done and completed with the recommendation to connect farmers' group with the larger market in Konyokonyo and Gudele markets. | G | |
| **Outcome Statement 4** | **"Enhanced market access and financial inclusion for smallholder farmers through digital engagement, and improved access to micro and small enterprise (MSE) financing.** | | | | | | |
| **Outcome 4** | 4.0 Proportion of trained farmers who report increased income or market access through digital platforms | | | | UNDP will implement it in 2026. | | |
| **Output 4:** Access to Markets and Credit<br><br>**UNDP Output** | 4.1. Number of farmers trained on e-commerce and digital market | | | | UNDP will implement it in 2026. | | |
| | 4.2. Number of farmers registered and engaged in the digital marketplace | | | | UNDP will implement it in 2026. | | |
| | 4.3. Number of farmers who received business development services | | | | UNDP will implement it in 2026. | | |
| | 4.4. Number of business-to-business linkages established | | | | UNDP will implement it in 2026. | | |

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| | 4.5. Number of farmers who accessed MSE financing | | | | UNDP will implement it in 2026. | | |
| **Output 5:** Conduct Gender action learning sessions (GALs) | 5.1. Number of Gender action learning system GALs rollout with different vegetable groups | 0 | 1 | 1 | The Gender action learning system was rolled out in June 2025. | G | |
| | 5.2 Number of gender analysis conducted | 0 | 1 | 1 | The gender analysis study was completed in June 2025. | G | |
| | 5.3 Number of staff, partners, and other stakeholders trained on gender and safe programming | 0 | 10 | 14 | A total of 14 staff (4 females and 10 males) drawn from Oxfam, extension agents, farmer representative and payam agricultural directors) were trained on gender and safe programming. | G | |
| Assessments/Evaluations | Baseline Survey | 0 | 1 | 1 | The report was completed in April 2025. | G | |
| | Endline Survey | 0 | 1 | 1 | To be completed by end of project | A | |

**5) Annual Work Plan (AWP) Activities implementation status – in over the reporting period***

| SN | Activity (*please list all activities from AWP*) | Status (not implemented; partially completed; completed) | Brief explanation on implementation status/achievements (*upto100 words per activity*) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | Irrigation set up | Partially completed | 2 sites have been completed with a solar powered irrigation system in place drawing water from the Nile River. Production has started. |
| 1.2 | Tank stand installation | Completed | Tank stand installation is part of the irrigation system, and these have been erected, other works of the irrigation system need to be concluded. The metal signages were also erected at all 4 sites. |
| 1.3 | Garden fencing | Completed | Fencing of 4 gardens was done and completed |
| 1.4 | Land preparation | Completed | Nursery bed established |
| 2.1 | Seed distribution | Partially (continuous) | The first consignment of seeds and fertilizer was distributed; the other seeds will be distributed in 2026. |
| 2.2 | Farm implements | Completed | All groups received tools for use in their gardens |
| 2,3 | Programme activities | Partially | -The construction of VIP latrines was completed.<br>-The soil testing vendor was identified who will also provide kits for use by the Ministry of Agriculture-<br>-Training of farmer groups in financial literacy to be done next year. |
| 3 | 3.1 Refresher training for extension workers | Partially | The training, which was originally scheduled for mid-September, due to delays in onboarding the Facilitator endorsed by the State Ministry was postponed to 30 November 2025 of Agriculture, Forestry, and Environment. |
| | 3.2 Capacity building of farmer groups on good agricultural practices (GAP) | Partially (On going) | Trainings sessions were conducted on ridging and nursery making. |
| 5. | 5.1 Gender action learning sessions (GALS) | Completed | Several participatory GALs sessions were conducted with 200 farmers, and a comprehensive report was compiled to document key insights and outcomes. The sessions engaged both farmers and local leadership, emphasizing the importance of equitable participation in community development initiatives and addressing harmful masculinity norms and behaviors that limit women's empowerment. Additional refresher "tea sessions" are planned for next year to reinforce learning and support continued positive behavior change. |

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| | 5.2 Gender Analysis | Completed | A gender analysis was completed during the reporting period. The assessment highlighted persistent gender inequalities, including limited decision-making power for women regarding land ownership and control over income, as well as the presence of harmful masculinity norms affecting equitable participation. The final report, outlining key findings and recommendations, was disseminated in Q2. |
| | 5.3 Training staff and extension workers on gender and safeguarding | Completed | 14 (4 female and 10 males) were trained. These included extension workers, farmer representatives, government payam stakeholders and Oxfam staff. The training sought to sensitive participants how gender dynamics may affect project success and assist participants to ensure gender equality at both project participation and decision making. Lessons on sexual harassment, exploitation were discussed and the importance of safeguarding people's dignity and avoid abuse of aid for sexual gain. A report was shared in Q2. |
| | Assessments/Evaluations | Completed | -A baseline survey was carried out in April 2025, which provided critical insights to inform project implementation. The findings underscored a significant need to strengthen the capacity of communal farmers in order to advance food security outcomes. In addition, the survey identified a notable shortage of quality seeds and appropriate farming tools as a barrier to improved production.<br><br>In response to these findings, the project adopted targeted recommendations aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity. This included delivering short, practical, and easy-to-apply training sessions for farmer groups, as well as providing tested seed varieties and essential farming implements to support immediate adoption of improved practices in the field.<br><br>Endline evaluation will be conducted at end of project. |

**This table should provide cumulative update on each planned AWP activity in consistent manner.*

**6) Risk and Challenges**

| SN | Risk/Challenges | Internal/External | Measures taken or planned |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | Insecurity and unstable political situation may | External | UNDP applies a conflict-sensitive and decentralized approach, working through |

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|---|---|---|---|
| | affect completion of activities on time. | | local partners and state-level oversight mechanisms to ensure continuity of operations and enable rapid response to risks arising from insecurity. |
| 1.2 | Emerging liquidity challenges in the market | External | The project promotes use of electronic transactions to mitigate liquidity constraints and ensure smooth financial operations. |
| 1.3 | Severe SSP depreciation has sharply raised import costs, threatening the profitability of micro and small enterprises | External | Farmer resilience is enhanced through Business Development Services (BDS) advisory support on pricing strategies, and cost control measures |

**Annex:**

1) **Photographs in action**. **The Fund needs plenty of engaging high-resolution, action-driven photographs** for its communication and outreach activities**. Do not attach pictures to the report**. **Kindly utilize the link UNOSSC already shared with you through the Q3 2023 reporting period email. Please note that you can access this folder and upload photographs, videos, or other communication materials throughout the full project cycle**. If you'd like a copy of the link, kindly contact gentiana.xhavara@unossc.org

Attached separately via a link

2) Human-interest story (at least one) (*If any produced during the reporting period*) None

3) Project activities reports/description, project publications, meeting/workshop proceedings, steering committee minutes, reports, communications materials, or similar writings.

EWYSA GENDER ANALYSIS REPORT JU

Baseline Report for EWYSA July 2025.doc

GENDER AND SAFEGUARDING TRAI

FINAL Report - Vegetable Value Chai