

Success Story: LRRD in Action - Synergies between PRO-ACT and SHO Response

The civil population, including target beneficiaries of the Pro-Resilience Action (PRO-ACT) project has been displaced by the offensive civil war in the Upper Nile State on January and April 2017. Some of these people are now living as IDPs, though some have returned to government controlled villages / counties. They have limited assets or access to basic services and food. All livelihood assets, crops in the field, basic market infrastructure and household items were looted and destroyed. As people are slowly returning to their villages controlled by government, they need basics to survive and restore their livelihoods to continue their life and pick-up from where they stopped. Therefore, they deserve humanitarian assistance to save their life, restore assets and support to install back their resilience.

Since December 2016, Cordaid has been implementing the EU funded PRO-ACT Project with the aim of enhancing food security and resilience of communities in selected counties of Upper Nile State. With understanding of the volatile and unstable situation in Upper Nile State, one of the key implementation strategies of Cordaid is adaptive management of interventions and projects by ensuring linkage between relief, rehabilitation and development (so called LRRD), whilst most agencies including donors and international organizations in South Sudan are focusing on emergency response as standalone and neglect the need for development / resilience support for people of South Sudan. As long as disaster risks are not being reduced through resilience building programming, it will be difficult to attain to achieve poverty reduction, social equity, and sustainable development. We believe that the resilience and development support provided to the most vulnerable people, were destroyed by conflict; people run without any of their belongings except the cash saving under village saving and lending Association.

Cordaid's pioneering approach of linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD) through linking the emergency relief with resilience program (PRO-ACT project) is in action in Upper Nile State in order to help transform the lives of the communities while taking care of emergency needs. Cordaid through a Dutch humanitarian public appeal funding campaign has secured funding for integrated emergency response in South Sudan. Cordaid purposively, after assessment of the needs and gaps in Upper Nile State, selected Fashoda and Malakal Counties to significantly contribute to life saving interventions, quick recovery and to continue support with long terms resilience building and development actions. In those counties, Cordaid has been implementing the EU funded PRO-ACT project since December 2016, but all the efforts were gone as a result of the 2017 conflicts in Fashoda and Wau Shiluk. However, Cordaid exerted its full effort to bridge the hunger gaps and livelihood restoration by the emergency response funding, while already linking the interventions with the PRO-ACT development program by protecting community assets and livelihood means to be able to recover quickly and bounce back from the shocks.

Practically, during the reporting period 1,522 households of PRO-ACT project beneficiaries were targeted for unconditional and conditional cash transfers to increase their income sources and reduce their negative coping mechanisms such as selling livelihood assets and deforestation with charcoal burning. With the conditional cash transfer, beneficiaries engaged in rehabilitation and reconstruction of community assets built before, but destroyed by the conflict. These include rehabilitation of basic infrastructure, rehabilitation of market and cleaning of feed roads, cleaning of hospital / health centers, schools and airstrips, water points and removal of conflict debris. Moreover, the most vulnerable households have received fishing kits for immediately nutritious

food consumption and agricultural inputs such as tools and seeds to begin cultivation and restore their livelihoods.

Generally, 50% of the PRO-ACT beneficiaries in Malakal (Lelo and Ogot Payams) and Fashoda Counties (Kodok Town, Kodok Rural, Lul and Dethwok Payams) are benefited from this linkage of relief, recovery and development. Similarly, 400 households participated in conditional and unconditional cash transfer (cash for work) programming in Manyo County. This approach of LRRD in action, has momentarily supported target communities to bounce back to normality and smoothly participate in the PRO-ACT Resilience-project, without worrying for daily income and reverting to negative coping strategies. The case story below illustrates the situation and changes due to our interventions.

Mr. Nyatul Pipo Kak is a 45 years old man living in Kodok town of Fashoda County. He said “I’m a disabled man, victim of a landmine, missing one leg (cut). I used to take three meals only in a period of a week. I used to have no single way to earn a living or money and now Cordaid’s cash intervention programme happens to take place here in Fashoda. While my age mates involved in conditional transfer by rehabilitating their own assets, I received the unconditional cash on the 24th Aug 2017. Now, I at least will not send my cow and properties to the market for sale. I have planned to use this cash into two ways. First, I have already purchased and stocked food for a month period time. Secondly, I invested part of this cash in petty business of buying monofilaments (nylon fiber) for making animal tethering ropes and now sale it in Kodok town market. From the ropes sales I can now earn at least like 30 – 60 South Sudanese Pounds (SSP) on a daily average. I can also eat twice a day. Therefore, I may finally extend my sincere thanks to Cordaid and to Almighty GOD as the creator for having received this free and heartily great support from Cordaid.”



Figure 1: Mr. Nyatul receiving unconditional cash



Figure 2: Mr. Nyatul mending animal tethering ropes & selling

***Narrated by: Cordaid South Sudan, Resilience Unit
October 20, 2017***