

Nordic Consulting Group A/S

# Impact study of the Budi Nexus Pilot, South Sudan

Annexes

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The views and interpretations expressed in this report are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect those of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida.

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# Annex 1: Details on Data and Methods

*This annex contains the original text from chapter 3 of the report. Due to its length, it is placed as an annex. The current Chapter 3 of the report is now a shortened version of the Annex text presented below.*

## Documents on the Resilience Pilot

No quantitative baseline data were collected for the *Strengthening Resilience Pilot* overall nor for the Nexus Pilot. Overall, there is an *absence of quantitative data* which is influencing the validity of the case study findings. The project documentation gives some indications and explanations for the lack of data for the project. The focus of Church of Sweden in the *Strengthening Resilience Pilot* was on the organisational and modality aspects of a nexus approach, and they commissioned a **Resilience Pilot Pre-Study in 2018** (Final report in April 2019) with organisational and modality aspects in mind. However, the Pre-Study report was apparently disappointing to the Church of Sweden. The Pre-Study hardly focused on the projects of local partners, including the Nexus Pilot in Budi, i.e. resulting in absence of data and links between the *Strengthening Resilience Pilot* and the local projects, and consequently limiting both results and learning of pilot implementation altogether.<sup>1</sup>

A **Mid-term Evaluation undertaken by Professional Management**<sup>2</sup> of the *Strengthening Resilience Pilot* was, like the Pre-Study, also largely qualitative and provided limited evidence to validate impact-level statements.<sup>3</sup> The focus of the Mid-term Evaluation was also on the capacities of Church of Sweden and organisational issues. Twenty persons were interviewed for the four projects selected in South Sudan (the Nexus Pilot being one of the projects), and the information at project level was general.<sup>4</sup>

## Documents on the Nexus Pilot

No project document, including results framework and ToC, for the Nexus Pilot has been prepared. With regards to baseline data, CDSS explained that they did not have the time, resources, and capacity to collect quantitative data. This information was only forthcoming after the evaluation had started. The reasons why data were not collected related to violence in the area. Moreover, the full project package was considerably

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<sup>1</sup> Niras (2019), "Pre-study:Nexus based resilience pilot South Sudan, Final report."

<sup>2</sup> Professional Management (June 17, 2022), "Evaluation of the Resilience Pilot for the period 2018-2021."  
- It is the understanding of the Evaluation team that the evaluation might have been delayed due to covid 19 and therefore became a final evaluation rather than a mid-term evaluation.

<sup>3</sup> For example, the Evaluation notes that violence against girls has been reduced, and that unruly and anti-social behaviour among youth has been reduced as impacts of the pilot; however, there are no concrete measures included, nor any indication of the scale of the impact, and it is unclear how the evaluation arrived at these conclusions.

<sup>4</sup> Professional Management (June 17, 2022), "Evaluation of the Resilience Pilot for the period 2018-2021".

delayed making CDSS uncertain that the project would go to scale. Finally, Covid-19 added to challenges of going in the field and collect data.

Initially CDSS had funding for six months, during which CDSS worked on a short qualitative assessment of the root causes of the local conflicts and violence. This assessment was used to prioritise the activities of the Nexus Pilot. A Narrative Report following the six-month inception phase described the rationale for the interventions, decided for the longer project, and provided an outline of the expected outcomes and outputs.<sup>5</sup> Unfortunately, this study was shared with the evaluation team after the fieldwork had been conducted (August 2024), complicating the work further.

We have been attempted to trace relevant materials on the Nexus Pilot in the annual reports submitted by Church of Sweden to Sida.<sup>6</sup> These reports allude to the expected outcomes of the Resilience Pilot in general, but the reports also do not speak about results/outcomes of the specific projects under the *Strengthening Resilience Pilot*. The information about the Nexus Pilot is therefore found in mainly two documents:

Table A.1 - Project Documentation overview

Timeline	Nexus Pilot Report	Remarks
Reporting from the six months piloting (start-up). December 2020-May 2021.	<b>CDSS narrative report for ACOS funded nexus project 2020.</b>  The report was made available to the evaluation team in August 2024 (after the fieldwork). Referenced as CDSS: (19/7 2021) Updated narrative report for ACOS funded nexus project 2020.	This report describes the rationale for selection of sites for infrastructure installations, VSLAs and peace building activities. There is a description of the process of identifying project locations and a discussion on how to address root causes.
Reporting from 2020-2022 (27 months).	<b>End of Project Narrative Report, submitted by CDSS to ACoS (2020-2022).</b> The main report informing this case study. This report is the only document available to the evaluation team, which goes into some depth with the project. This report was shared by ACOS in August 2023.  Referenced as CDSS (March 2023): End of Project Narrative Report 2020-2022	This report refers to specific indicators and highlights achievements of the Nexus Pilot project, in terms of strengthening resilience and conflict prevention and resolution in Budi County. This is the main substantive report available regarding the Nexus Pilot. The data collected for the Narrative Report is qualitative.

### Other CDSS projects and other organisations

Roughly at the same time as the Nexus Pilot was implemented, Church of Sweden and CSDD also cooperated on a 12 month project: ***Supporting Gender Justice, Peace, Food Security and Livelihoods in Budi County***. This project supported awareness campaigns on gender equality including economic empowerment through VSLAs and a campaign against domestic violence. The project also addressed psycho-social counselling needed by survivors of violence, and trainings and workshops on

<sup>5</sup> CDSS (2021), “Updated narrative report for ACOS funded nexus project 2020.”

<sup>6</sup> We do not have the final annual report from 2021 (i.e., the desk review currently only covers the annual reports for 2019 & 2020).

peacebuilding. Some of the villages targeted seem to overlap with the Nexus pilot activities.<sup>7</sup>

Following on from the Nexus Pilot, CDSS currently implements a joint project with DanChurchAid and Church of Sweden called ***Promoting Resilience, Peace-building and Social Cohesion in Budi County, Eastern Equatoria State*** (PrePS). This project seems to combine elements from the earlier Nexus Pilot and the Gender Justice projects. We have been in contact with DanChurchAid to enquire about baseline data. As was the case of the Nexus Pilot, there has not been quantitative data collection for a baseline study, but a reliance on the contextual knowledge of CDSS. DanChurchAid alluded to some efforts to collect baseline data, but also noted that if such data would exist, they were not analysed.<sup>8</sup>

The Nexus Pilot, the Gender Justice Project, and the PRePS have all been implemented by CDSS in the last five years and they seemingly work in some of the same locations. There appears to be a flow and continuation of activities without a clear differentiation between the projects.<sup>9</sup> Other organisations seem to have (had) project with activities in Budi and Ikotos counties (according to CDSS staff), but it has not been possible for to locate and retrieve relevant data from these organisations.<sup>10</sup>

### **Data collection in Budi County**

We conducted fieldwork in Budi County for one week at the end of July 2024. Since the international consultants were not allowed to travel to the area due to travel advisory restrictions, it was only our South Sudanese team member who went to Budi, where he experienced security related delays and logistical challenges. He managed, however, to collect data in several communities and with different stakeholders.

We have used a qualitative data collection approach of contribution analysis to assess the impact/outcomes of the project with the caveat that it was not clear to what extent outcomes could be contributed to the Nexus Pilot alone or to related projects (as alluded to in the main report). The contribution analysis used the project's End of Project Narrative Report (2023) as its main reference point for the selection of indicators of the peace, development, and humanitarian outcomes. Sampling was originally - prior to the security related challenges in the field - determined by one or more of the following criteria:

- Geographical spread: Results from the areas in the project locations.
- Results linked to the anticipated outcome indicators of the projects as indicated in the end of project report.
- Outcomes that involved the collaboration of multiple partners.

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<sup>7</sup> CDSS (2021), Updated Narrative Report For Acos Funded Nexus Project 2020.

<sup>8</sup> We understood in a conversation with DanChurchAid that lack of resources and workload of practical implementation nature were found to be more important than data collection in a situation with overwhelming needs and scarce staff resources.

<sup>9</sup> This is our interpretation.

<sup>10</sup> Alright: South Sudan (wearealight.org), <https://www.crs.org/>, Sub-Saharan Africa · DAI: International Development implementing RASS on Behalf of USAID, Root of Generation - Nurturing Humanity (rog.org.ss) ALIGHT, Alright ; DAI ([s. d.]), Sub-Saharan Africa · DAI ; Root of Generations ([s. d.]), Root of Generation - Nurturing Humanity.

- Outcomes that the CDSS teams identified as having gaps in evidence.

The qualitative data were collected from open-ended questions, interviews, and FGDs and were analysed thematically. This involved transcribing the qualitative data, coding it into themes, and then categorising it according to the major themes of interest (see Annex 3).

The site locations pre-identified for visits included:

- **Lotome in Losite**, where a grinding mill has been installed, and where there are a Women for Peace group and an Anti-Cattle theft & Raiding Committee;
- **Monita in Homiri**, where the Lotak Community Water Supply System is located; and
- **Kibric in Homiri**, where there are VSLA Groups, kitchen gardening and peace committees.

Due to security and access constraints, not all planned locations could be visited. Table A.2 provides an overview of the locations visited.

**Table A.2 - Interviewees and location**

Name of interviewee and affiliation	County	Payam	Boma
CDSS Food Security Livelihoods Officer	Budi	Chukudum	Chukudum
CDSS Project Manager	Budi	Chukudum	Chukudum
Members Lotak Community Water Supply System	Budi	Homiri	Monita
VSLA group members women	Budi	Homiri	Kibric
VSLA group members men	Budi	Homiri	Kibric
Peace committee members	Budi	Homiri	Kibric
Grinding Mill committee members	Ikotos	Losite	Lotome
Members women for peace group	Ikotos	Losite	Lotome

### Open data sources

As an addition to the field study, we have utilised a series of open-source data sources to illuminate quantitative trends of relevance in the geographical area being evaluated. Budi and Ikotos counties were selected as the spatial units for aggregating data with a view to capture direct and indirect effects potentially related to the evaluated projects, and excluding non-related trends found in other parts of South Sudan. The following data sources have been used:

- The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) data. ACLED collects data on violent and non-violent conflict events worldwide, with a particular focus on Africa. It is generated using news sources, expert and NGO reports. Only events categorized by ACLED as either Battles or Violence against Civilians are included in the analysis.
- The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a data collection system initiated by the International Organisation for Migration to track and monitors Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Data is gathered primarily through key informant interviews, direct observation, group discussions, and household surveys. The system employs regular assessments and information triangulation to ensure data accuracy and reliability.

- The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) combines precipitation data with atmospheric evaporative demand to assess drought conditions in two counties. Unlike simpler indices that only consider precipitation, SPEI accounts for both water supply (precipitation) and water demand (evapotranspiration). A 6-month window is applied to capture agricultural drought. The SPEI index ranges from -2 to 2, where -2 is extreme drought and 2 is extremely wet.

### **Data reliability and credibility**

Besides the measure of violence, internally displaced refugees, and drought (see main report), there were no specific quantitative data available. With regards to qualitative data, the two CDSS reports are consistent in the reporting against outcomes to report progress. In some of the indicators in the reporting, there are numeric examples (for example on number of cattle stolen before and after the project intervention), but there have been no possibilities to verify these numbers. Likewise, it has not been possible to locate other studies related to the key indicators, and therefore triangulation and comparative analysis with research or other project data could not be conducted.

With regards to reliability and credibility of the qualitative field data collected, we made sure that all community members were carefully chosen to participate, ensuring that they were all beneficiaries. The CDSS team provided support in locating the communities for both KIIs and FGDs. The identification and selecting of participants for KIIs and FGDs in Lotome, Chukudum, and Lotak communities was done by the evaluation consultant, with support from the community leaders and not including CDSS. The CDSS team did not participate in the FGDs & KIIs with the beneficiaries. This was done intentionally to create an environment where the project beneficiaries could openly express their opinions and views about the project. The consultant made sure that CDSS staff were not present at the venues of the FGDs and KIIs during the exercise. A group of highly skilled enumerators assisted with language translations, ensuring effective communication with participants who spoke in their native Didinga and Lorwama dialects. Thus, the evaluation team can be seen as independent from the CDSS self-assessment, with the caveat that only a limited number of locations could be reached.

**Table A.3 - Reliability and credibility of the main impact evaluation data source**

Criteria	2023 End of Project Narrative Report
Usability:	Provides an overview of achievements of the Pilot Project.
Credibility:	The Report is written by the project staff, and it is not an independent source. It is therefore very positive but without rigorous findings based on data.
Results level:	The results are systematically reported based on indicators developed in a pilot phase I 2020 – again without data. Nevertheless, the report has a good analysis of the root causes of the conflicts and associated poverty in the county, and the project selectively addresses main issues (GBV, lack of grinding mill, lack of peace committees etc).
Data quality	The data are purely qualitative and not collected by an independent source. The fieldwork of the evaluation team however, confirmed the impact of the project but also that there are several projects working on similar and related issues, and the impact of the Nexus Pilot cannot be viewed independently. Likewise, CDSS does not see this project isolated, but as a part of several of its “own” projects together with the work of other organisations over time.
Quantitative/ qualitative evidence:	Qualitative.

## ANNEX 1 DETAILS ON DATA AND METHOD

Reliability:	Despite the shortcomings listed above there is a high degree of reliability, on some of the outcomes. However, the project addresses long term systemic issues which are not solved by a project or projects, and generally the outcomes are painted in a very positive light.
Conclusion	<b>Limited confidence:</b> The evidence obtained is not sufficient. Looking at the challenges, i.e. limited resources of the local organisations and lack of support from ACoS in data collection, the ET still finds that there is a degree of credibility in the case reporting, but the confidence level is limited.

High confidence	Sufficient confidence	Limited confidence	Insufficient evidence
Based on usability, addresses impact level, identified bias mitigated, good data quality	Confidence reduced by shortcomings to usability, indications of bias not mitigated, less convincing data quality	Low confidence due to lack of usability, clear bias not mitigated, poor data quality	Insufficient evidence to support a contribution judgement

Table A.4 - Assessment of the reliability and credibility of the fieldwork

Criteria	Fieldwork July 2024
Usability:	As a means of verification for existing qualitative reporting, the fieldwork provided a relevant approach to assess the validity of the CDSS narrative.
Credibility:	The research methodology was rigorously developed, with extensive pilot testing of field protocols and comprehensive enumerator training. Interview participants were strategically selected to ensure diversity in terms of project affiliation, gender, and geographical representation, enhancing the study's representativeness. Three factors should be seen as influencing the quality of responses. First, CDSS personnel did not participate in the interviews, thereby reducing the possibility that beneficiaries would alter their answers to become more socially acceptable or avoid criticism of the CDSS system/personnel. Second, the FGD format potentially introduced social desirability bias, where participants may have been reluctant to express views that contradicted community opinions. Third, in one location, security concerns necessitated the presence of a local government official and security personnel during interviews, which may have constrained participants' willingness to speak openly.
Results level:	On-site visits to project locations and direct interactions with beneficiaries enabled the collection of project-specific data. This first-hand observation allowed for a detailed assessment of each components specific impact.
Data quality:	Our fieldwork was short and with considerable challenges of access and conflict in some locations and car breakdown. Nevertheless, data were collected and households benefitting from the pilot projects were interviewed or took part in FGDs, and interviews were conducted with local authorities.
Quantitative/qualitative evidence:	Qualitative.
Reliability:	Due to the careful development of the questionnaire and training of enumerators, the field study had a high degree of reliability. However, variations in interview conditions, such as the presence of security personnel in certain locations and group interview dynamics, may have affected the consistency of responses.
Conclusion	<b>Sufficient confidence:</b> While the study benefits from representative sampling and direct field observations, certain methodological limitations and potential biases were identified. Therefore, the findings from the field study should be interpreted with moderate confidence. The results provide reliable insights but should be considered within the context of these acknowledged limitations.

High confidence	Sufficient confidence	Limited confidence	Insufficient evidence
Based on usability, addresses impact level, identified bias	Confidence reduced by shortcomings to usability, indications of	Low confidence due to lack of usability, clear	Insufficient evidence to support a

mitigated, good data quality	bias not mitigated, less convincing data quality	bias not mitigated, poor data quality	contribution judgement
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## Limitations

### General points

A general point regarding data limitations is illustrated by ODW, an international non-profit that provides in-depth country-level assessment of data coverage and openness. ODW ranks South Sudan 193rd out of 195 countries and territories regarding openness. In terms of data coverage – i.e., availability of national and subnational data on population dynamics, health, education, food security etc. – South Sudan scored 3 out of 100.<sup>11</sup>

### Specific limitations

As described above from a different perspective, several key limitations were identified for the fieldwork implementation. First, security concerns restricted the field study's ability to thoroughly investigate all selected study areas, while also potentially introducing biases in the results. Additionally, although participants were selected to be as representative of the beneficiary population as possible, the absence of random sampling methods limited the study's generalisability.

### Specific limitations of the use of quantitative data sources

Despite the merits of applying the ACLED data source in the studied area, it has to be acknowledged that ACLED does only capture a partial picture of the broad range of violence taking place. This is because a case of violence must be reported, before it can become a part of the dataset. Thus, events that have not been observed by, for instance, local media sources or NGOs will not be included in the ACLED data. Thus, the data source is likely to underestimate the true number and characteristic of the events and therefore should only be used to assess trends in violence.

### Data collection (July 2024)

Data collected may be attributed both to the Nexus Pilot and to outcomes from the related projects (as discussed above). The limitations can be narrated as follows:

- “There was a sense of unease in Lotome and along the road from Kikilai in Didinga area to Lotome Logir/Lorwama community. Due to a tragic incident involving the Didinga and Logir/Lorwama communities, the field data collection trip to Lotome was impacted. The incident involved cattle raiding, the loss of a young life, and a gruesome act of violence. Additionally, the Budi County Commissioner and his team embarked on a peace meeting trip to Lotome. Their purpose was to engage in peaceful dialogues with the Ikwoto/Ikotos County Commissioner.

The CDSS team organised a joint trip with the Budi County Commissioner's armed escort team to ensure safety along the road, which had been affected by insecurity due to a recent cattle raid incident in the Kikilai and Lotome communities. There was however a limited amount of time available for data collection in Lotome. Their presence in Lotome was solely determined by the

<sup>11</sup> Open Data Watch (2023), “South Sudan Open Data Inventory Profile.”

decision of the Budi County Commissioner, who had an armed escort and ordered them to leave for Chukudum after the completion of the peace meeting with the Lotome community members.

- The Budi County commissioner's peace team, CDSS team, and the evaluation consultant dedicated approximately 2 hours to visit Kikilai to meet with the Didinga community. This meeting was necessary due to the recent incident where cattle were raided from the Lorwama/Logir community. After the meeting, the team proceeded to Lotome but encountered a delay in data collection due to the incident. Additionally, the vehicles got stuck on the muddy road and had to be pulled, further prolonging the travel time”.
- A puncture and road access issues led to delays in reaching the destinations.

## Annex 2: Case indicators and MDPA dimensions

Table A.5 - Overview of the Nexus Pilot and the SIDA MDPA

Component	Indicators (full list)	Poverty dimension
<b>Specific Objective 1:</b> <i>Strengthened inclusive mechanisms and processes for conflict prevention and resolution.</i>	Behaviors and mindsets of men towards gender equality and equal participation in decision making processes by women positively changed	Power and voice
	Increased awareness and knowledge among the communities on the Conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms and processes	Power and voice, human security
	Increased knowledge and positive attitude by community of gender equality and participation of women and youth in decision making processes	Power and voice
	Reduction in cattle raiding and rustling among the cattle keepers	Opportunities and choice, resources
	Increased sense of local ownership over peace process, identification of problems and search for solutions	Power and voice
	Increased community safety and security	Human security
	Increased trading activities and movement between and among the formerly conflicting communities	Opportunities and choice, resources
	Increased capacity of the communities in production, management, and marketing of agricultural and non-agricultural products, including micro-enterprises, due to inclusive mechanisms and processes for conflict prevention and resolution	Opportunities and choice, resources, power and voice
<b>Specific Objective 2:</b> <i>Improved socio-economic well-being of the most vulnerable and marginalized communities of Budi County through strengthening their capacities and resources.</i>	% of the VSLAs established and providing loans to the members (small, or medium-sized enterprises established/ expanded by women and men; operational and profitable)	Resources
	Reduced incidence of GBV at the family level and the community	Power and voice, human security
	Increased capacity of the communities in production, management, and marketing of agricultural and non-agricultural products	Resources, opportunities and choice
	Increased awareness and knowledge among the communities on the impact of savings on economic sustainability	Resources, opportunities and choice
	Improved household income and diet of the VSLA groups' members	Resources
	Increased trading activities and reduction of the imported foodstuff	Resources, opportunities and choice
<b>Specific Objective 3:</b> <i>Facilitated the</i>	Improved understanding of men and women leading to reduced incidents of GBV related to grinding problem in the project areas	Power and voice, human security

## ANNEX 2 CASE INDICATORS AND MDPA DIMENSIONS

<i>Integration of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Returnees into the host community.</i>	Men and women realized, promoted, protected, and uphold women's human rights and equality	Power and voice
	Improved psychosocial well-being of women in the community (IDPs/Returnees and Host Community)	Power and voice, human security
	A well protected, preserved, and sustainable environment	Resources, opportunities and choice
	Decreased rate of deforestation in the area	Resources, opportunities and choice

## Annex 3: Findings shown in Tables

In Table A.6, Table A.7 and Table A.8 are shown indicators identified during the six-month inception phase of the project in 2020 (left column), the results reported at the end of the project, i.e. end of 2022 (middle column), and the findings from our fieldwork in July 2024 (right column). The project has identified a long list of indicators, and we have combined those to avoid overlaps and improve the readability of the report the left column shows which indicators have been combined and the numbers refer to the original documentation).

**Table A.6 – Results Peace component**

N	Outcome indicators (identified 2020)	Results according to End of Narrative Project Report (March 2023) <sup>12</sup>	Fieldwork July 2024
1,3	a. Behaviours and mindsets of men towards gender equality and equal participation in decision making processes by women positively changed.  b. Increased knowledge and positive attitude by community of gender equality and participation of women and youth in decision making processes.	a. Reduction of deviant behaviours Changes in the mind-sets of men both in family and community.  b. Women have a say in family issues related to access, control and usage of the land. Women participate in schooling decisions.	There has been a noticeable decrease in anti-social behaviour among the youth, which has had a positive impact on both security and food security. Men's behaviours and mindsets have shifted towards supporting gender equality, as evidenced by women's increased participation in family decisions, such as early pregnancy cases and divorce proceedings where women can now voice their concerns about property inheritance (statements by: CDSS FSL officer; Grinding mill committee members; Peace committee members).
2,5, 6	a. Increased awareness and knowledge among the communities on the conflict prevention and	Communities handle and respond differently after awareness raising, (dialogue and negotiation). Fewer revenge and counter revenge killings.	The establishment of peace dialogues, trainings, and peace committees by CDSS has played a pivotal role in reducing ethnic conflicts (statements by: CDSS FSL

<sup>12</sup> ACoS and CDSS (2023), “End of Project Narrative Report 2021-2022 - Strengthening Community Resilience of the most vulnerable right holders in Eastern Equatoria State through Peace Building Initiatives, Development and CBPS approach – Piloting Nexus in Budi County.”

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	<p>resolution mechanisms and processes.</p> <p>b. Increased sense of local ownership over peace process, identification of problems and search for solutions.</p> <p>c. Increased community safety and security</p>	<p>More safety for women and children (collection of firewood, water etc).</p> <p>Communities dialogue initiatives. Peace Committees and Rescue Committees (RCs) trained. Taking lead in community security, safety resolved inter-communal violence.</p>	<p>officer; Community members Lotak water supply).</p>
4	Reduction in cattle raiding and rustling among the cattle keepers	<p>Cases of cattle raiding have drastically reduced, between Didinga of Budi County and Communities in Kidepo Valley of Ikwoto County.</p> <p>Only one raid “registered over the years of the project” (i.e. 2020-2022)<sup>13</sup>.</p>	<p>Cattle raiding has significantly decreased in the community, particularly at the foothills of Lotak where members have settled.</p> <p>Through peace dialogues facilitated by CDSS between the Logir and Didinga communities, a notorious hotspot for cattle raiding has transformed into a peaceful area.</p> <p>(statements by: Members from the Lotak Community Water Supply System; CDSS FSL officer)</p>
7,8	<p>Increased trading activities and movement between and among the formerly conflicting communities.</p> <p>Increased capacity of the communities in production, management, and marketing of agricultural and non-agricultural products,</p>	<p>Boosted food security in the county and trading between Didinga of Budi County and other communities (Kapoeta, Torit, Juba and Uganda). The marketing of both agricultural and non-agricultural products has further improved social relations.</p> <p>Increased trading and movement of people between communities (inter-community peace dialogues, involvement of women and youth).</p>	<p>Trading in agricultural goods between Logir and the Didinga communities was reported.</p> <p>However, the scale of these activities is minuscule (statements by: VSLA group members women).</p> <p>It was also reported that communities of Logir/Lorwama and Didinga now move freely and engage in inter-community market transaction trade due to the peace dialogue of CDSS (statements by: VSLA group members men).</p>

<sup>13</sup> This low level of killings is contradicted by ACLED Data, and it appears that in 2021 there was a major incident, but apparently not in the CDSS project locations.

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	including micro-enterprises, due to inclusive mechanisms and processes for conflict prevention and resolution		
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**Table A.7 - Results Development Component**

N	Outcome indicators	Results according to End of Narrative Project Report (March 2023)	Fieldwork July 2024
1.	Reduced incidence of GBV at the family level and the community	As a result of family life seminars and continued family life sessions with various groups in the target area incidents of sexual and gender based violence have drastically reduced since the project intervened.	A reduction in the number of cases GBV and rape have been observed (statements by: Peace committee members).
2.	Increased capacity of the communities in production, management, and marketing of agricultural and non-agricultural products	The result is increased production, management and marketing of agricultural and non-agricultural products in Budi through continued engagement and dialogues between conflicting communities. Increase in acreage of land reclaimed and cultivated both in Budi County and Ikwoto County. Inter-communal peace dialogues have included women and youth. With production taking place, people market their agricultural and non-agricultural products within Budi County, Ikwotos, Kapoeta and Uganda.	The grinding mill has lowered production time of goods. Moreover, agricultural production in communities has increased due to VSLA loans has made it possible to acquire an ox plough (statements by: Grinding mill committee members; VSLA group members women).
3.	Increased awareness and knowledge among the communities on the impact of savings on economic sustainability	VSLA group participants, especially women and girls have reported that savings in VSLA groups helped communities and groups to meet unmet financial demands for financial services, which ensured financial sustainability and the use credits. Members can better cope with unforeseen shocks and uncertainties and improve households' food security. VSLA group savings render women and girls more powerful within the households and increased their involvement and influence within their communities.	The communities demonstrate awareness of savings' impact through VSLA groups, where members save amounts and provide loans for emergencies and business development. However, three out of five VSLA groups had ceased their lending operations because members were not repaying their loans (statements by: VSLA group members women; VSLA group members men).
4.	Improved household income and diet of the VSLA groups' members	VSLA's reported improvement in household incomes and new opportunities to many households (families): access to loans, increased income, improved social cohesion and income generating activities. They can send their	The improved income has directly impacted diet quality - members can now afford to buy meat more frequently and maintain a more balanced diet. Members can also better afford basic necessities, with one woman noting she can now

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		<p>children to school, meet the medical bills. Families were able to buy solar panels and batteries to power their houses. Some families have seen a drastic reduction in the rate of malnutrition among the infants and young children. On part of peace building and social cohesion, groups' members were able to interact and united in the groups.</p>	<p>independently purchase mosquito nets rather than relying on hospital distributions (statements by: VSLA group members women).</p>
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Table A.8 - Results Humanitarian Component

N	Outcome indicators	Results according to End of Narrative Project Report (March 2023)	Fieldwork July 2024
1	Improved understanding of men and women leading to reduced incidents of GBV related to grinding problem in the project areas	<p>Serious mistreatment and high incidents of GBV included cases of suicides and women and girls left Lotome to settle in Budi County. The communities lacked a grinding machine (distance was 47 km). The project procured and installed grinding machines, which render services. Awareness raising on women human rights and domestic violence in the families.</p>	<p>Men's behaviour has changed notably since the installation of grinding mills: Previously, husbands would beat their partner when meals were delayed, because women had to use traditional grinding stones. However, after installation of the grinding mill the number of beatings has decreased (statements by: Grinding mill committee members).</p>
2	Men and women realized, promoted, protected, and uphold women's human rights and equality	<p>Women and girls are given due respect and position in society and allowed to go to school and supported to study like boys. Norms that discriminated against women and girls are slowly dropped. Girl child/blood compensation has decreasing and a gradual reduction of forced marriages.</p>	No reporting
3	Improved psychosocial well-being of women in the community (IDPs/Returnees and Host Community)	<p>Improved psychosocial well-being in the community especially in Lotome Payam in Ikwoto County where women and girls have been subjected to domestic violence. The project worked with families and communities by strengthening family and community supports systems.</p>	<p>The psychosocial well-being of women shows mixed results across different community groups. Many returnees find their homes destroyed and have nowhere to settle. Some discover their lands have been grabbed or sold in their absence (statements by: Peace committee members; VSLA group members Women).</p>
4.	A well protected, preserved, and sustainable environment	No reporting	No reporting
5	Decreased rate of deforestation in the area	<p>As a result of continued sensitization on the importance of conserving and protecting the</p>	<p>The community members now recognise the importance of environmental protection and</p>

## ANNEX 6 LIST OF DOCUMENTS

		<p>environment, the rate of deforestation in the project decreased. The local government has passed local by-laws and put a ban on logging and cutting trees in Budi County.</p>	<p>actively avoid deforestation, understanding that trees help attract rainfall. Logging and charcoal production have decreased significantly due to CDSS awareness campaigns that helped communities value their environment (statements by: VSLA group members Women; VSLA group members Men; Peace committee members).</p>
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This annex contains the original text from chapter 3 of the report. Due to its length, it is placed as an annex. The current Chapter 3 of the report is now a shortened version of the Annex text presented in this document.



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