



END OF PROJECT REPORT	
Project Name	Provision of Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to 265 households of most vulnerable Returnees displaced by Sudan Conflict in Gorom, Juba County, South Sudan
Project Period	1st October 2023 to 30th November 2023
Name of Implementing Partner:	Agency For Child Relief Aid (ACRA)
S/G Aggr. NO	SSD-00401
Country / State/County /Payam/Boma	Gorom Boma, Rejaf Payam, Juba County, Central Equatoria State- South Sudan
Total Beneficiaries	265 Households (1590 individuals) / 525 Girls, 375 Women, 510 Boys and 180 Men.
Total Project Cost	49,455 USD Amount Received: 50,000 USD
Reporting Date	24th November 2023
Reporting Focal Person	Name & Title: Jimmy Jamba, Head of programs Email: programs@acra-ssd Phone: 0920755012

I. Introduction

ACRA is a national Non-Profit, Non-Governmental Humanitarian Organization fully registered under the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), within the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management in accordance with NGO Act 2016 of the Republic of South Sudan. Our aim is to provide sustainable livelihoods opportunities to support and transform the lives of the vulnerable children and populations both in South Sudan's urban and rural areas and help them enjoy adequate access to essential services including; Child protection, Education, Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention and awareness, adequate and Safe Water Supply, Sanitation facilities, Sustainable Food Security & Livelihoods, Nutrition and Primary Health Care services in a manner that respects human rights principles while ensuring the peace and improved social well beings for all.

Gorom Boma is located in Rejaf Payam, Juba County, and was established in 2010 to house Returnees and refugees fleeing Sudan and Ethiopia. Due to the current Sudan crisis, there has been a large influx of South Sudanese Returnees into the Gorom Boma and other areas of Juba including Mangateen IDP settlement site. The current population is estimated to be over 9,300 Returnees, including over 4,000 new arrivals, with more arriving daily from Sudan. The MPCA project, supported by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) through the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), targetted 265 most vulnerable new-arrival South Sudanese returnee households from the ongoing Sudan conflict.

2. Implemented Activities

Launch of the MPCA emergency project with 20 Stakeholder Representatives.

ACRA, together with the Payam Authority and Boma Authority, mobilized key players from Gorom Boma, including security and leaders of returnees and refugees, for a one-day sensitization session.

Staff from ACRA shared the project details with stakeholders, informing them of the project's objectives, targets, budget, budget duration, and beneficiary type. As part of the project launch, the Gorom Boma Paramount Chief pledged his support for the project team, and assured the Gorom communities that ACRA was capable of achieving the project's goals. He also asked the community to continue participating in project activities when invited. In collaboration with the ACRA team, a joint project plan with monitoring and verification of targeted beneficiaries was developed, as well as a project management committee was formed to work alongside the ACRA team on the project.

Formed and trained MPCA Project Management Committee (PMC) members

The PMC committee consists of 7 members (3F; 4M) and 1 additional observer, an elderly person suggested by the community. An orientation on SEA, a discussion of the complaints handling mechanism, identifying beneficiary categories based on project selection criteria, and an understanding of the PMC's role during the implementation of each activity were all covered in the one-day training session that ACRA provided for the PMC. The PMC handles complaints, settles disputes, and continues to take part in ACRA project activities and link ACRA with beneficiaries.

Six enumerators were trained in the areas of beneficiary registration, market analysis, real cash distribution, and post-distribution monitoring.

The Six individuals (3F and 3M) received training in biometric registration, raw data collection, basic interpersonal communication skills, the ACRA PSEA policy and code of conduct, and how to file complaints. One PMC representative served as the officiant for the training, which ACRA and LEM jointly conducted.

An enumerator conducted a market assessment in Suk Anyuak using a questionnaire developed by ACRA. This information is used to inform returnees about the prices of goods and assist them in budgeting.

Additionally, the enumerators conducted household visits in Gorom Boma to assess the vulnerability status of returnees during the selection of beneficiaries and conducted awareness on the MPCA project process including important project timelines such as exact time and date of beneficiary registration.

Safety Audit with Project Management Committees was conducted in Goom Boma.

The PMC, women representatives, people with disabilities, and elderly people representing returnees participated in a joint focus group discussion organized by ACRA. Among the key action points was that the Gorom Community Church was identified as the safest location for the project activities, particularly for the registration and cash distribution; key safety procedures were discussed and communicated to the beneficiaries through the enumerators. ACRA is also recommended to provide temporary shade for the most vulnerable beneficiaries with the support of local committee, since cash distribution will take a long time. Cash distribution will take place during the day between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. for the safety of beneficiaries who stay at distant places to reach home on time.

Registration of 265 Returnee Households from Sudan.

Households identified as most vulnerable during the project period were verified by PMCs for MPCA registration. The PMCs were able to verify that beneficiaries were eligible returnees from Sudan, and ACRA, the Gorom paramount chief and CRA, validated that list. ACRA conducted random household visits of the selected beneficiaries. Each beneficiary verified was given an identification. The biometric registration was conducted for two days, and the beneficiaries were given distribution cards, which will be used to receive one-off cash assistance from the MPCA project.

As suggested during the FGD session, enumerators informed verified returnees of the time, venue, and date of registration before registration took place. Beneficiaries were also informed about ACRA's Zero Tolerance to Sexual Exploitation policy and the complaint reporting procedure (which was through the committees). The beneficiaries were manually registered with details of their households and also biometrically registered with their photos and fingerprints (with breakdown numbers attached).

Distribution of Unconditional Cash

Upon the verification and registration of the 265 vulnerable returnee households, the multi-purpose cash was distributed to the beneficiaries at the Gorom Community Church. ACRA selected a third-party Financial Institution (FI) called LEM to distribute the cash. Through coordination between ACRA, PMC, Enumerators and LEM, the distribution process was completed within a day. The FI was authorized to pay each of the target beneficiaries US Dollars (USDs). 120 in South Sudanese Pounds (SSPs) through written notification (household lists with registration card information will be provided). Upon verification of households that received cash, the FI submitted an invoice equal to the amount paid to beneficiaries and the service charge rate as per the contract agreement between ACRA and the FI within the ACRA grants agreement with DRC.

3. Pending Activities.

- Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM)

4. Challenges

- Since the project's target population was smaller than the actual number of returnees, those who were not registered as beneficiaries felt excluded and disappointed.

5. Mitigation Measures to the Challenges

- ACRA consistently incorporated the important parties (local authorities, PMCs, and community leaders) in decision-making and feedback to affected returnees. They were able to interact with returnees who have not been part of the ongoing project and address their concerns.

6. Next Activities Planned

- Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM); currently ongoing and will be completed by the fourth week of November. 5 beneficiary households have been selected for the PDM.

7. Lessons Learnt

- Most of returnees who transition to Juba County are spread across the County particularly in urban areas such as Nyakuron and Mangaten.
- Due to limited access to humanitarian assistance in various sectors, the most vulnerable returnees at the Gorom Boma benefit from refugee assistance at the Gorom Refugee Settlement supported by Across South Sudan through UNHCR.

8. Needs Analysis

Beside the MPCA project, ACRA learnt that the returnees hosted by the the Gorom boma community face a myriad of challenges affecting their integration and settlement in to the community. The most common needs identified by the target beneficiaries included:

No.	Need	Comments
1	Protection	Among the returnees, there were cases of GBV such as early marriages and domestic violence.
2	Shelter	The returnees have exerted pressure on accommodation facilities in the host families and therefore stay in makeshift facilities. They can't afford the cost of construction materials
3	WASH	There is only one water point (a community borehole) serving Gorom Boma host community and returnees.

9. Recommendations

- The next MPCA project should target returnees who settle in the various areas of the County beside Gorom Boma.

10. Annexes

I. Success Story

A Returnee's Story of Resilience

Sule Augustino Charles, a 60-year-old blind man with a household of 10 members (a wife, 6 children and 3 grandchildren) is a returnee from Sudan who stays in Gorom Boma, Rajaf Payam. His family returned to South Sudan in June 2023 after being displaced from the ongoing Sudan conflict, using Renk as a transit point.

With support from ACRA's Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) Project funded by SIDA through the DRC, Augustino is among the 265 South Sudanese returnee beneficiaries whose households received USD. 120 each to enhance their livelihoods and protect them from the shocks of displacement from the Sudan conflict. He was identified, screened and registered by the ACRA team in conjunction with the returnee community leadership through Project Management Committee (PMC)

'We had to return back home to South Sudan because of the war outbreak. I had a comfortable life with the support of my family but life has become unbearable since we arrived here in Gorom. I had to depend on my relatives here to support my family. Through this support from ACRA, my life and that of my family has undergone a remarkable transformation. I was able to build small houses for my family, providing them with a shelter that offered a sense of security and belonging was priceless; from this support I could buy food for my family, ensuring a relief from hunger. It was joy to see my loved ones eat with contentment, knowing that we wouldn't have to worry about where our next meal would come from,' says Augustino.

ACRA's support has improved different family's living conditions but has also given a sense of hope and resilience. With the continued influx of returnees to Gorom and other areas of Juba County, families like that of Augustino look forward to continued support from the government and other partners.

He adds, *'This support stands as a testament to the power of compassion and assistance. With ACRA's help, I have transcended the harsh realities of my circumstances and embraced a life filled with gratitude and determination. I can only hope that this support continues to support us to rebuild our lives.'*



Figure 1: ACRA and DRC team visiting Mr. Augustino in his house at Gorom Boma



Figure 2: Mr. Augustino receiving cash on the distribution day

II. Activity Photos



Elderly women who are South Sudanese Returnees from Sudan during a biometric registration session in Gorom Boma.



An elderly man with disability who is a South Sudanese returnee from Sudan participating in a biometric registration session in Gorom Boma,



Staff from DRC and ACRA at a committee member-manned help desk as part of Gorom Boma's complaints reporting system



ACRA community mobilizer and trained community volunteer enumerator collecting data during market assessment in Suk Anyuak, Gorom Boma.



A male South Sudanese returnee who is blind and lives in Gorom



A widowed female beneficiary receives cash assistance during the distribution process.

A Focused Group Discussion Session with Project management Committee and enumerators and Paramount chief and security representative in Gorom Boma. The Gorom Church was chosen as a secure location for distribution and registration.



DRC, ACRA and PMC leaders meeting two beneficiaries on the distribution day.

ANNEX III: INDICATOR TRUCKING MATRIX

Project Title:	Provision of Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to 265 households of most vulnerable Returnees displaced by Sudan Conflict in Gorom, Juba County, South Sudan
----------------	--

Reporting Month	NOVEMBER
Location of the project	JUBA COUNTY
Project Start	01.10.2023
Project End	30.11.2023

NGO Name	ACRA
Grant Code	SSD-00401
Budget	50,000 USD

Key Findings for the Month: 265 returnee HHs registered for MPCA in Gorom Boma.

							Monthly Achievement						
Objective	Indicators	Location	Baseline	Target	Monitoring Frequency	Tools	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Overall Summation
The overall project objective is to provide Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to meet the basic needs of 265 households of vulnerable Returnees displaced by ongoing conflicts in Sudan.	The number Project Management Committee formed and trained	Gorom Boma, Rejaf Payam, Juba County	0	1	Weekly		1						1
	The number of enumerators identified and trained	Gorom Boma, Rejaf Payam, Juba County	0	6	Weekly		6						6

	The number of safety audits conducted with PMCs and representatives of returnees in Gorom Boma	Gorom Boma, Rejaf Payam, Juba County	0	1	Weekly		1						1
	The number of most vulnerable households identified, verified and registered into the project	Gorom Boma, Rejaf Payam, Juba County	0	265	Weekly		265						265
	The number of most vulnerable household receiving unconditional cash value of \$120/HH to meet their basic needs	Gorom Boma, Rejaf Payam, Juba County	0	265	Weekly		0						265
	The number of Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) conducted	Maiwut	0	1	Weekly		0						0