



Context for operational challenges

- Difficulties faced accessing money in the field as banks are closing owing to insecurity and the deteriorating economic situation. The innovations put in place by remaining banks are costing the programme considerably.
- Increased security incidents against UN staff in Lakes and Unity.
- Reported lootings of partner warehouses in Greater Upper Nile and a smaller incident reported in Juba.
- Ongoing fighting in Greater Equatoria and Greater Upper Nile restricting pre-positioning and distributions.

Highlights

- FAO led monitoring assessments of crop, rainfall, market price and livestock conditions ongoing.
- Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System Round 20 is underway targeting all counties in preparation for next IPC release (planned for September).
- Preparation is underway for 50 Farmer Field Schools, and Junior Farmer Field Schools to take place in Eastern Equatoria throughout July and August.
- Fall armyworm (FAW) cases confirmed in Central Equatoria, Western Equatoria, Jonglei and Northern Bahr el Ghazal. FAO is monitoring these cases and the formulation of a Technical Cooperation Programme with the Ministry of Agriculture and food security is underway.

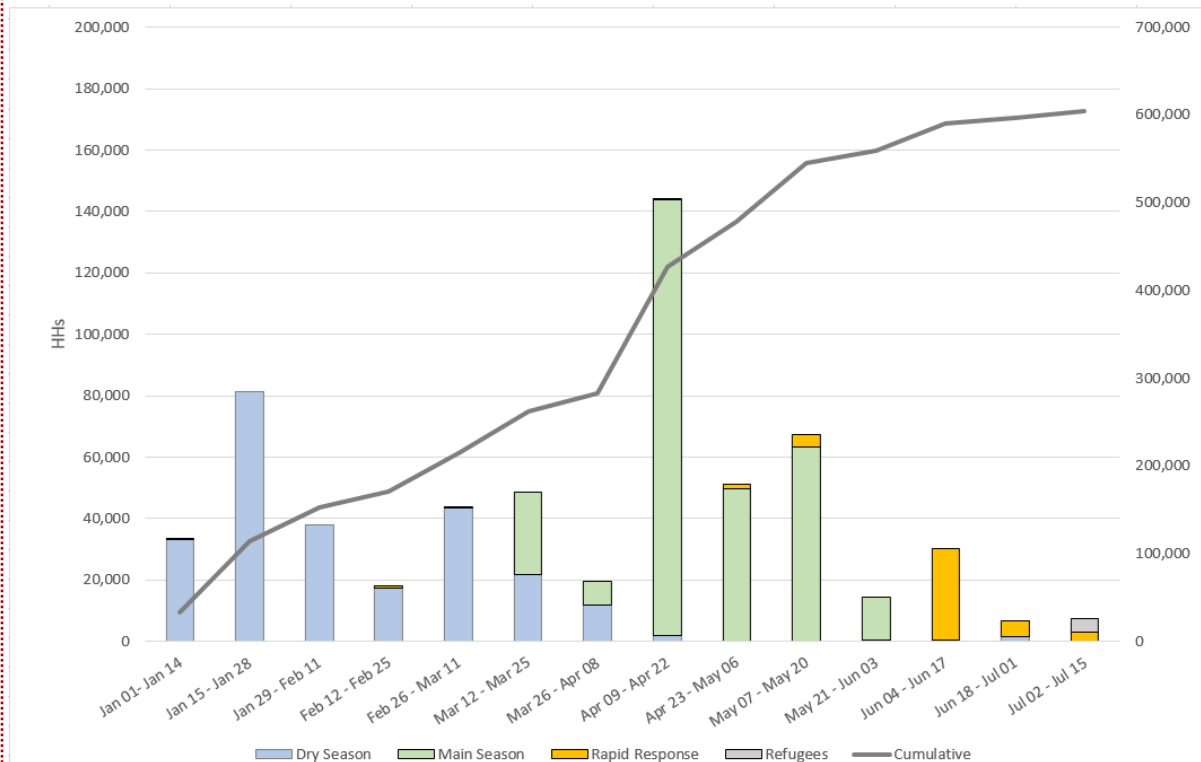
Case study: Inter Cluster Response Mission (ICRM) in Padding, Jonglei

ICRM is a multi-sectoral, inter-agency humanitarian response led by OCHA aiming to reach vulnerable communities in given locations. As part of the ICRM, **FAO distributed 3 000 fishing and vegetable kits** in Padding between the 30 June and the 5 July.



June 2017, Padding, Jonglei State
FAO rapid response distribution
Photo by Albert Gonzalez Farran

Distribution overview



FAO supported seed fairs

Seed fairs are a special type of voucher system, whereby a temporary market is set up to allow for small-scale farmers to access quality seeds at subsidized prices through the exchange of vouchers. The main objective of seed fairs, or for other types of agricultural inputs, is to ensure access to agricultural inputs for vulnerable, food-insecure or crisis-affected farmers and seed producers.

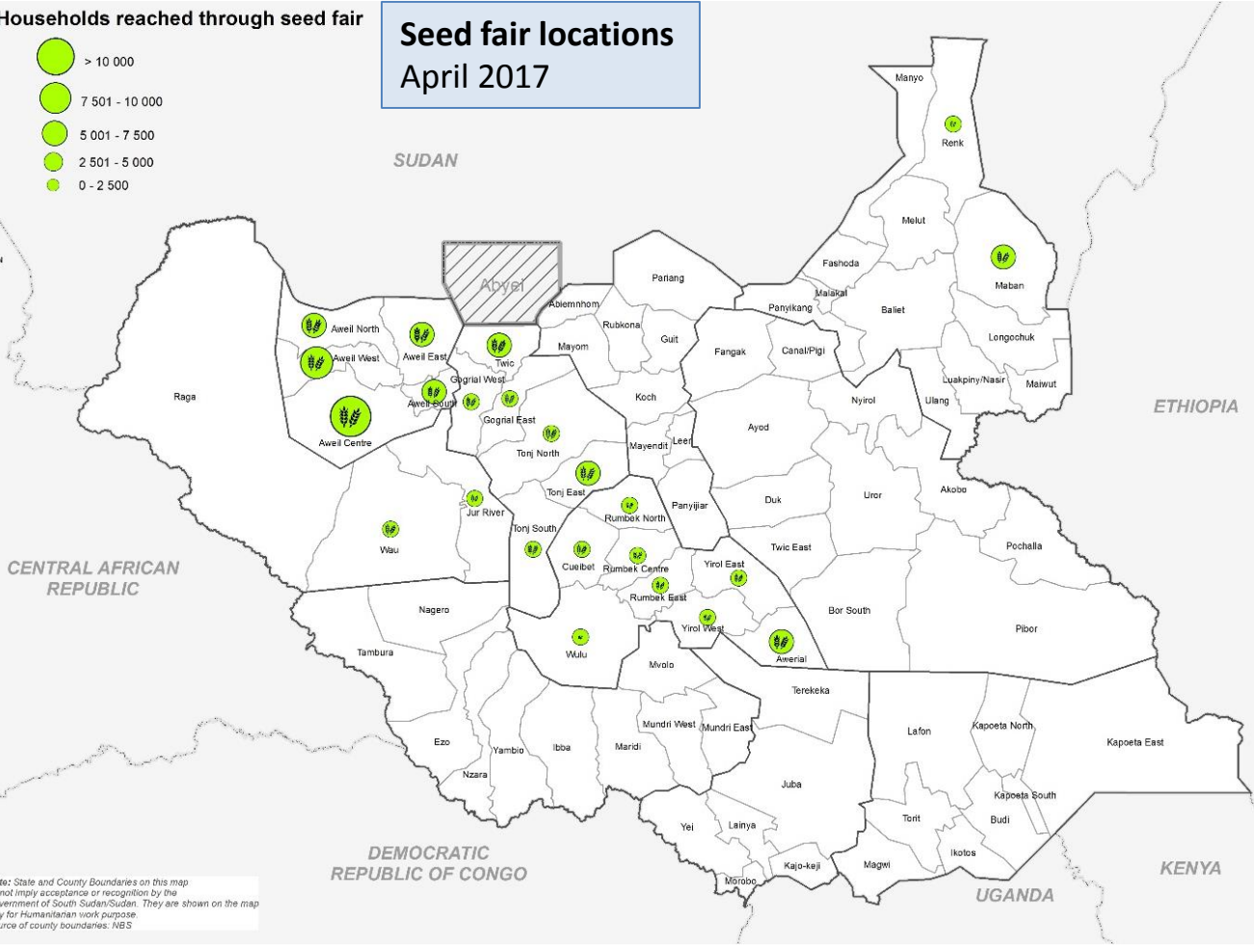
In order to avoid market distortion, FAO is developing multilayered quality control to guarantee price and quality.

Since April 2017, more than 60 000 households have been reached through FAO conducted seed fairs in Lakes, Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap and Westen Bahr el-Ghazal.

Households reached through seed fair

Seed fair locations April 2017

- > 10 000
- 7 501 - 10 000
- 5 001 - 7 500
- 2 501 - 5 000
- 0 - 2 500



Note: State and County Boundaries on this map do not imply acceptance or recognition by the Government of South Sudan/Sudan. They are shown on the map only for humanitarian work purpose. Source of county boundaries: NBS

Beneficiary stories

Ding Diju – 40 years old, one daughter

“Last year I was sick during the planting season, so I was not able to plant and life has been very tough. I am able to get some money by going out early in the morning and cutting grass to sell at the market. It is a very tough job since many people are doing it, so you need to get up very early in the morning and get to the place before the others. [...] Sometimes you find soldiers waiting for you, it is not safe! I don’t have any food to eat, so I have to collect what I can from what is around me. There are wildfoods that I eat and bring back for my child, but sorghum is the most important thing. With these seeds I’ve received I’ll plant 1.5 *feddans* this year.”



9 April 2017, Akot, Lakes State
Photo by Albert Gonzalez Farran

Isaac Makuei – trader at the seed fair

“Today I am selling the extra seeds that we have at the seed fair like we did last year. From our income of the seed fairs last year, we were able to expand on our business and plant more *feddans*. The FAO representatives come to us and we negotiated on the price, and we actually wanted a bit more money but in the end agreed it is fair price! [...] We never have hunger in our family because of these seeds, so we are lucky.”



9 April 2017, Akot, Lakes State
Photo by Albert Gonzalez Farran