COALITION FOR HUMANITY

Improving Community Resilience

OCTOBER
2020

POST DISTRIBUTION MONITORING REPORT

FOR THE EMERGENCY LIVELIHOODS RESPONSE PROGRAM
IN MAYENDIT COUNTY

Coalition for Humanity training enumerators in preparation for PDM survey Mayendit County

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ABOUT THE REPORT

Coalition for Humanity was engaged by the the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in April 2020 as an implementing partner in Unity State Mayendit County. The overall goal was to reduce chronic food insecurity and increase households' access to food. Under the FAO's Partnership for Recovery and Resilience initiative. Coalition for Humanity was mandated to provide services directly to the identified beneficiaries of Mayendit County in Unity State, South Sudan. Through the Emergency Livelihood and Response Program (ELRP), the agreement with Coalition for Humanity (CH) was centred on three priority areas;

1. Supporting increased agricultural production and productivity for food and nutrition security (including institutional capacity building to assure producers access to necessary inputs, equipment credit, knowledge and skills)
2. Supporting economic growth and income through agriculture: (crops, forestry, livestock and fisheries sectors) to contribute to the country's move from subsistence to commercial agriculture) and.
3. Increasing resilience of livelihoods to threats (helping the country better respond to multiple crises and threats, including conflict, instability, natural hazards, plant pests and animal diseases)

The Emergency Livelihood Response Programme (ELRP) was officially rolled out in May, 2020 for a 6-month period. Coalition for Humanity (CH) conducted; Safety Audits, formation and training of Accountability of Affected Populations (AAP) committees, Mobilization and sensitization of communities at county/Payam levels, identification/registration of target beneficiaries, Distribution of inputs, Technical Training in agriculture/crop production and Fisheries and Post Distribution Monitoring of distributed emergency Seeds and fishing kits in support of the conflict-affected and food-insecure families. This report therefore consolidates findings from the Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey that was conducted towards the end of the project to give an insight on the impact of the project interventions that targeted over 3000HHs/farmers.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A total of 900 beneficiaries were sampled, forming 30% of the target beneficiaries, 872 responses were valid and included in the analysis. Majority of the households, 67% are headed by females, and 33% by males. Awareness raising was well conducted, 90% of the beneficiaries sampled, received the information prior to distribution, while 91% participated in training. On crop seed, 63% were satisfied with timing, 37% were not, 66% were satisfied with crop seed, 34% preferred alternatives like beans, cassava and Banana. On vegetable seeds, 97% received the vegetable seed, 71% agreed that the timing was ok, 81% rated the vegetable seed poor quality. Similarly, 67% of the beneficiaries were ok with the type of vegetables, while 33% were not satisfied with the composition and preferred other types such as; kales, cabbages, eggplant, carrots, cucumber and pumpkins. On tools, 96% of the beneficiaries confirmed receipt from FAO/partners. Only 4% of the respondents did not receive. Beneficiaries, 52% were contented with the type of tools distributed while 48% were not. Based on this, 75% preferred if they could be provided with additional separate tools like; pangas, axes, sickles, rakes and hoes. An overwhelming number of respondents 93% received FAO/partners fishing kits with 80% confirming that the distributions were done in good time and 88% receiving awareness/training on utilization of the kits.

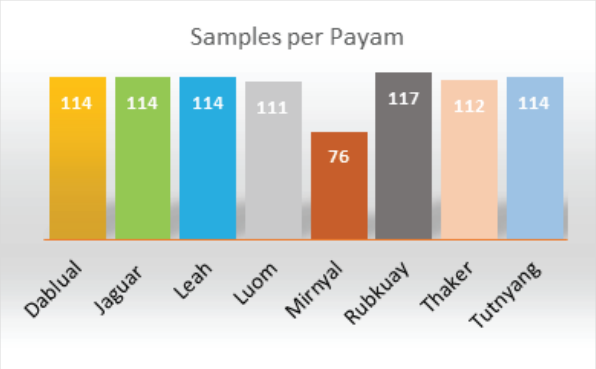
Generally, the seeds were distributed in time, awareness was raised before distribution and information reached beneficiaries. The beneficiaries were also trained. Beneficiaries have expressed dissatisfaction with the quality of vegetable seeds with a split in the quality of fishing kits. It's important that the quality is investigated. Women form majority of the household heads, with a very high dependency ratio, households having more than 6 members. Floods remain a major setback and a threat to food security in Mayendit County.

- There is need to investigate the quality of vegetable seed that was distributed.
- There is need to consider other sets of vegetables like kales, cabbages, eggplant, carrots, cucumber and pumpkins
- There is need to consider alternative crop seeds like beans, cassava and Banana.
- FAO and partners can consider other tools like pangas, axes, sickles, rakes and hoes

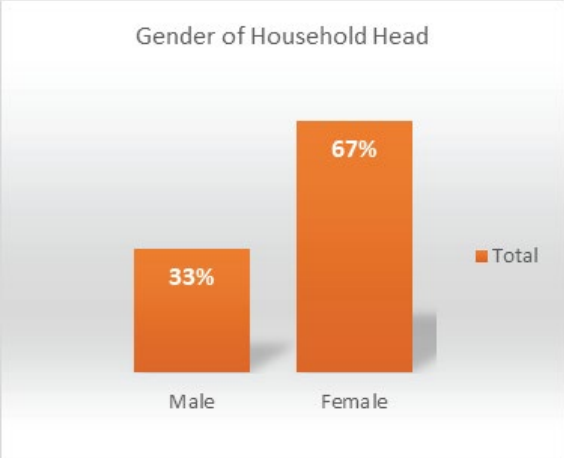
1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Sampling frame

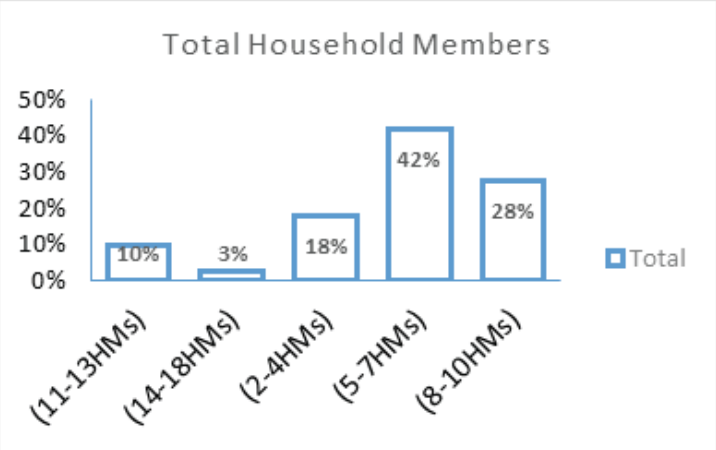
A total of 900 households were sampled from 8 Payams of Mayendit County i.e. Thaker, Dablual, Rubkuay, Luom, Mirnyal, Leah, Jaguar and Tutnyang. This sample size formed 30% of the total target beneficiaries who had directly benefitted from the agricultural inputs in the county. Out of this, 872 questionnaires were valid and were hence used to conduct data analysis.

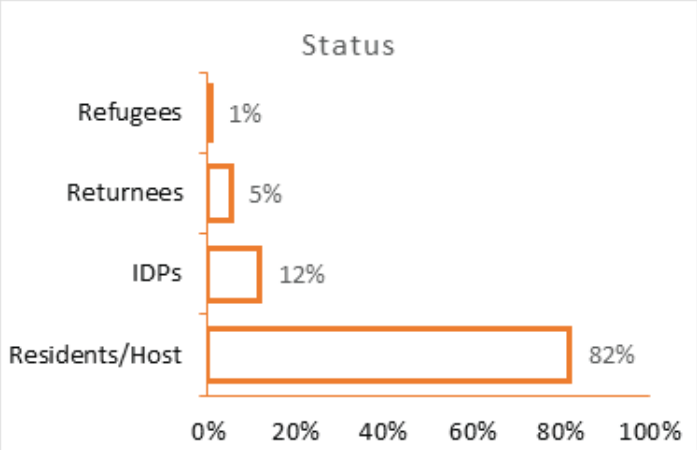


1.2 Demographic information



According to the findings, 67% of household heads were females while 33% were males, a sufficient evidence that there were more female headed households than male headed households in the county. Out of the households visited, the number of Household members varied significantly from one household to the other i.e. 42%, majority of the households had (5-7 HMs), 28% (8-10 HMs), 18% (2-4 HMs), 10% (11-13 HMs) and 3% of the households, the least category had (14-18 HMs) however, out of this population, 82% were Residents/hosts, 12% IDPs, 5% Returnees and 1% were Refugees.

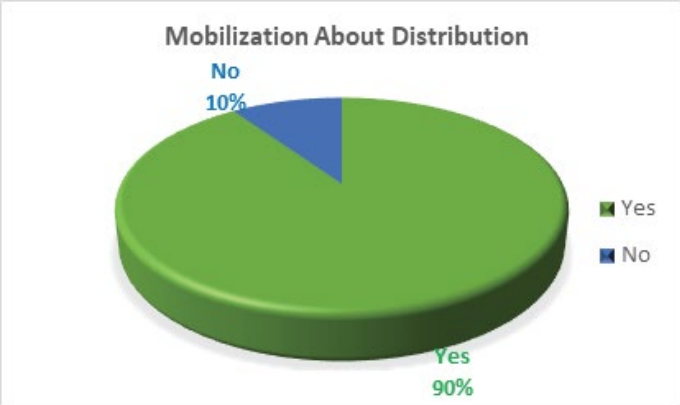




1.3 Awareness/Training

Respondents were asked if they received information prior, 91% of the beneficiaries received awareness/training information on the utilization of crop seeds, while 9% did not and this was attributed to several factors which included; sicknesses, long distances to the training venues, old age, onset of labor pains amongst expecting women, other family commitments, inaccessibility due to floods and lack of information prior to the training day. Other households however claimed to have purposefully missed the training because they had already planted the seeds and so they didn't see the need to attend the training.

1.4 Mobilization

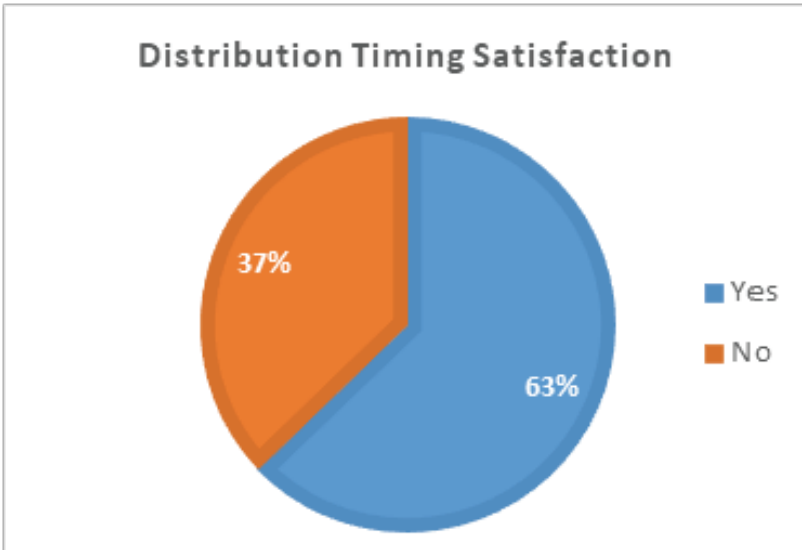


Respondents were asked if the received information in time about the planned distribution exercise. Mobilization was done prior to distribution and 90% of the households admitted to have received the information before the very day of inputs distribution. Only 10% claimed not to have received any information.

2.0 CROP SEEDS RECEIVED

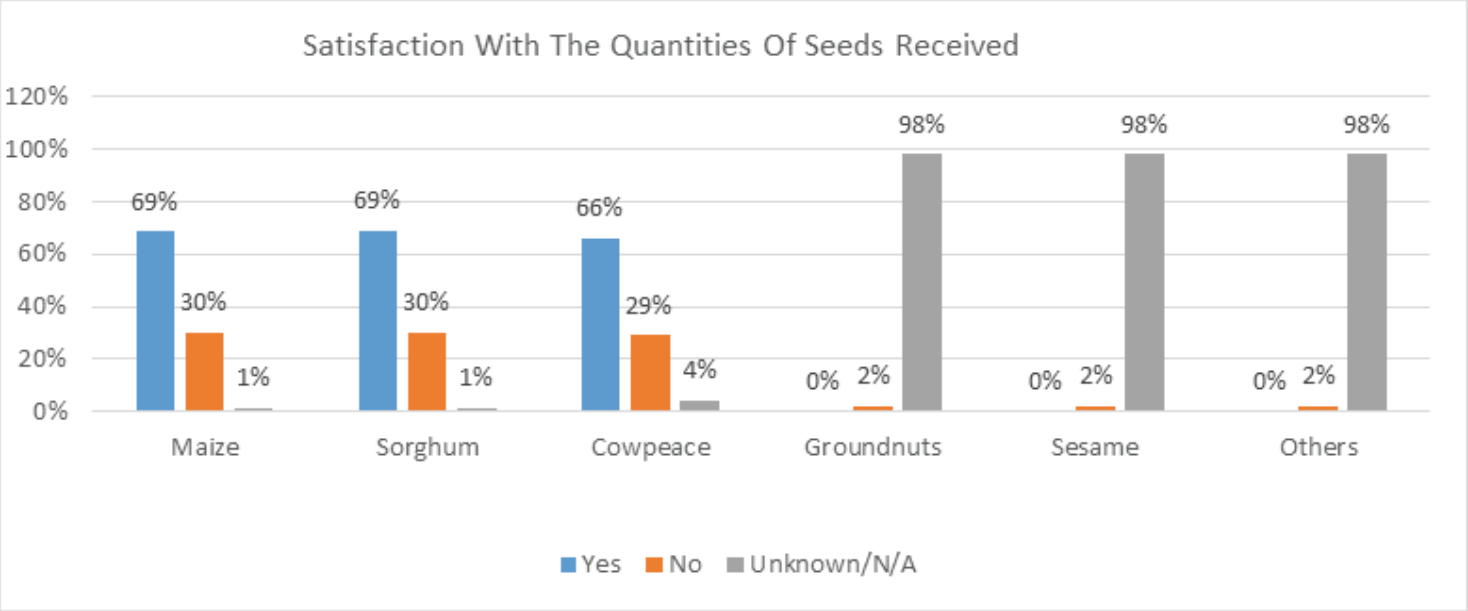
2.1 Distribution Timing

The project sought to find out if distribition was timely and satisfactory to beneficiaries, Majority of households felt distribution exercise of farm inputs was timely since 63% of the beneficiaries were satisfied with the period. 37% expressed dissatisfaction. The delay in reaching the 37% was caused by logistical challenges in the project area, delays in release of inputs from the warehouse, disagreements by community members on distribution sites that were resolved by changing venues



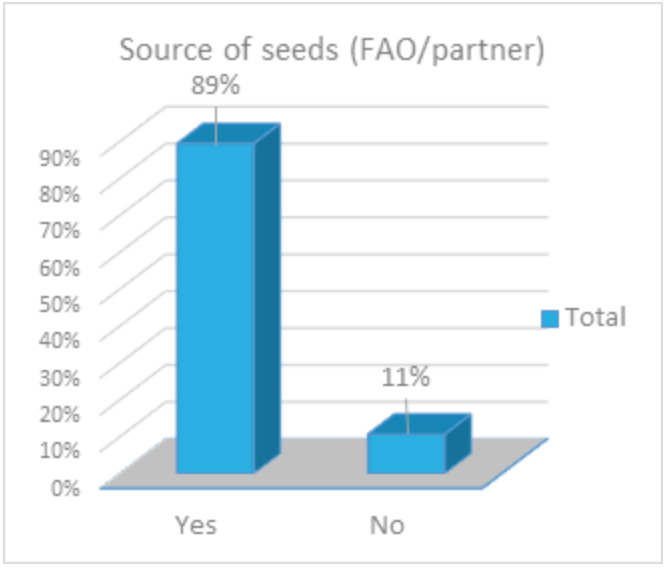
2.2 Quantity of crop seed received

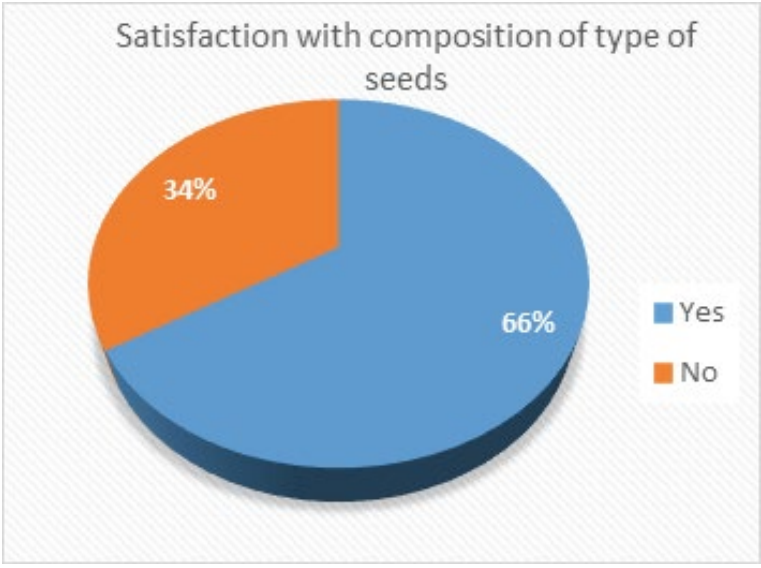
The evaluation sought to find out the level of satisfaction with type of seeds provided by FAO. Most beneficiaries were satisfied with the quantities of seeds distributed i.e. 69% were pleased with maize and Sorghum quantities while 66% expressed satisfaction with Cowpea quantities. 30% were however not contented with maize and sorghum quantities and 29% on Cowpea quantities.



2.3 Type of crop seed received

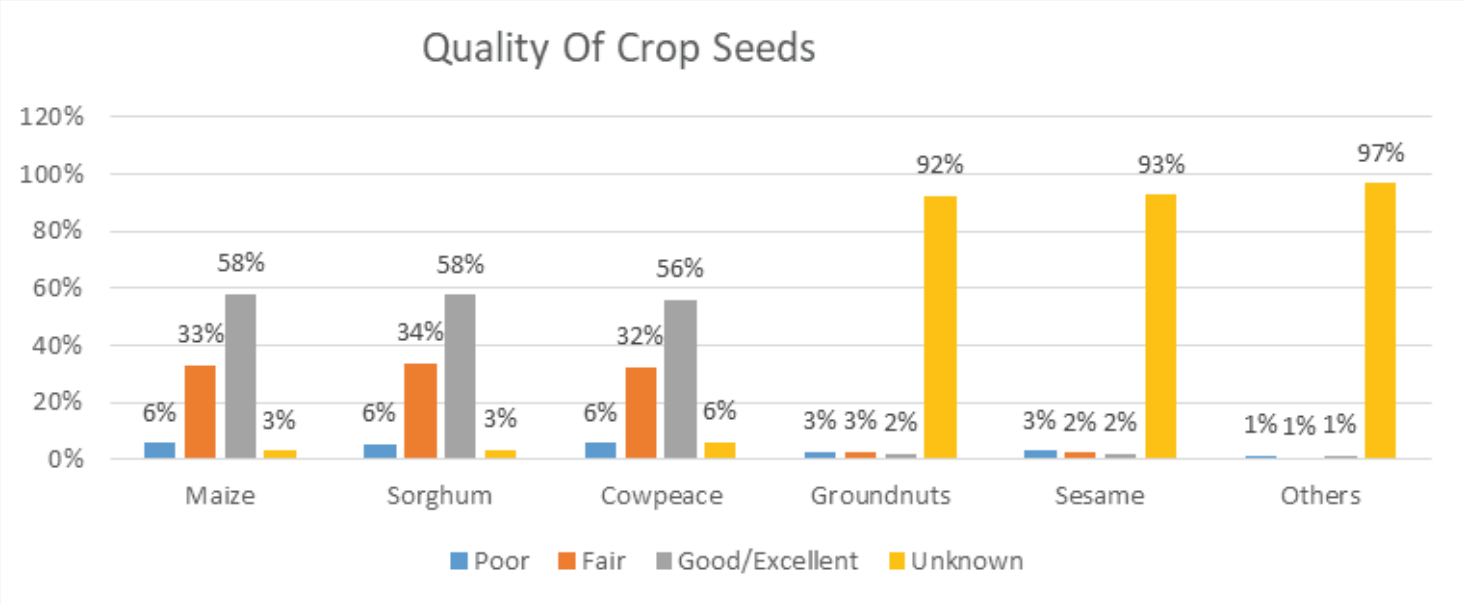
Besides quantities and quality, the project sought to understand beneficiary needs based on seeds composition. Most beneficiaries, 66% expressed satisfaction with seeds composition while 34% did not like the composition and hence preferred if the following types of seeds would be considered in the subsequent distributions; beans, cassava and Banana. FAO and partners should consider beans, cassava, and Banana in the next distribution





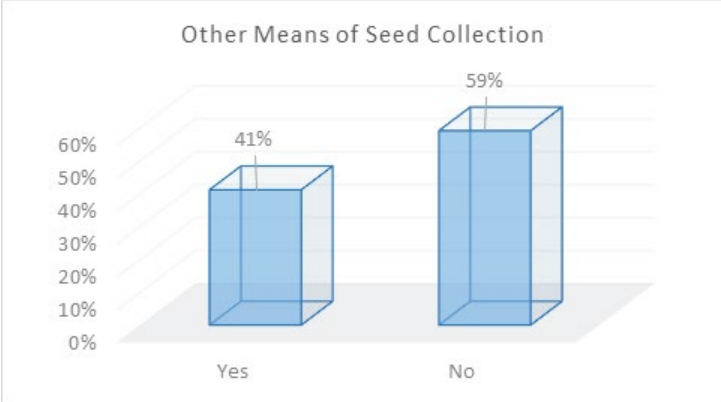
2.4 Quality of crop seed received

Beneficiaries were asked to rate the quality of seeds, quality of maize, sorghum and cowpea seeds was generally rated good/excellent as was evident from 58% of the beneficiaries who planted maize & Sorghum and 56% who had planted cowpeas. The quality was fair to 33%, 34% and 32% of beneficiaries who planted maize, sorghum and cowpeas respectively. Only 6% said the maize, sorghum and cowpea seeds qualities had been poor. This could have been affected by other factors like floods that affected germination and growth.



2.5 Other Means of Crop Seed Collection previously

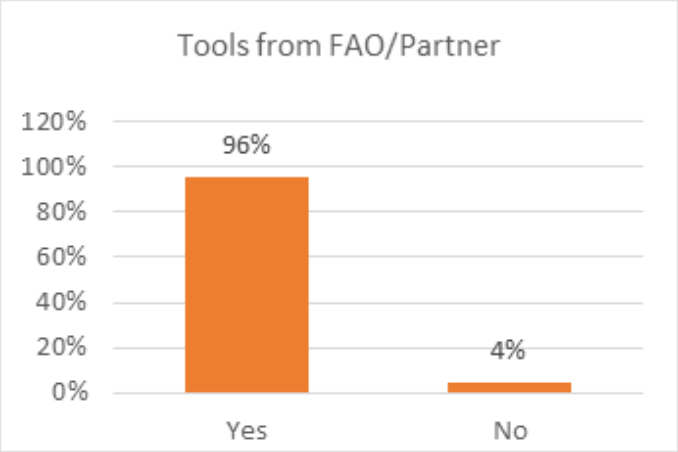
The respondents were asked if they had other means to access seeds, 59% of the beneficiaries did not collect seeds through other means apart from FAO/partner. While 41% had previously collected through other means which included; own production, purchasing, gifts, exchange with other items and by provision through other agencies (not FAO).

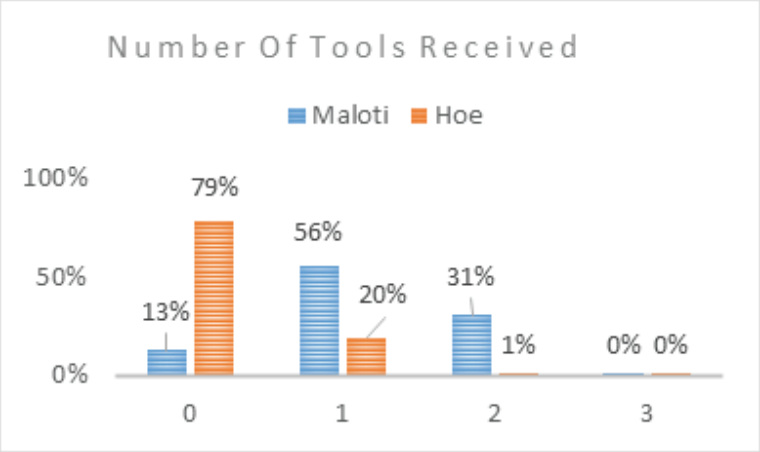


3.0 TOOLS RECEIVED

3.1 Source of Tools Used

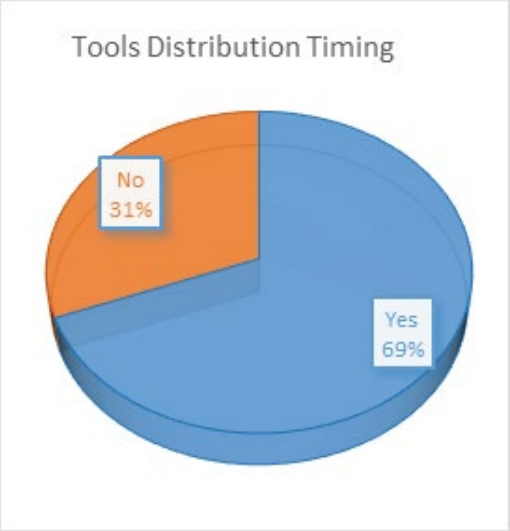
Tools were distributed with 96% of the beneficiaries confirming receipt from FAO/partner. Only 4% of the respondents did not to receive the tools from FAO/partner. The findings further indicated that 13% of the beneficiaries did not receive Maloti, 56% received 1 and 31% went home with 2 Maloti. On the other hand, 79% did not receive hoes, 20% received 1 each and 1% received 2. None of the beneficiaries received more than 2 of the tools.

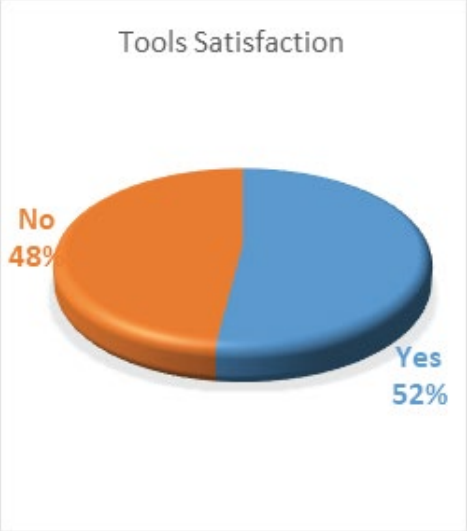


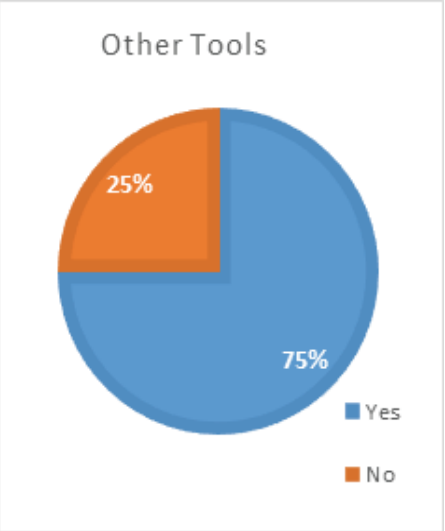


3.2 Distribution Timing and Type of Tools

The timing for tools distribution was convenient for 69% of the beneficiaries. While 31% indicated that the distribution was not timely. The survey sought to find out the satisfaction with tools, 52% were contented with the type of tools distributed while 48% were not. Based on this, 75% preferred if they could be provided with additional separate tools like; pangas, axes, sickles, rakes and hoes.



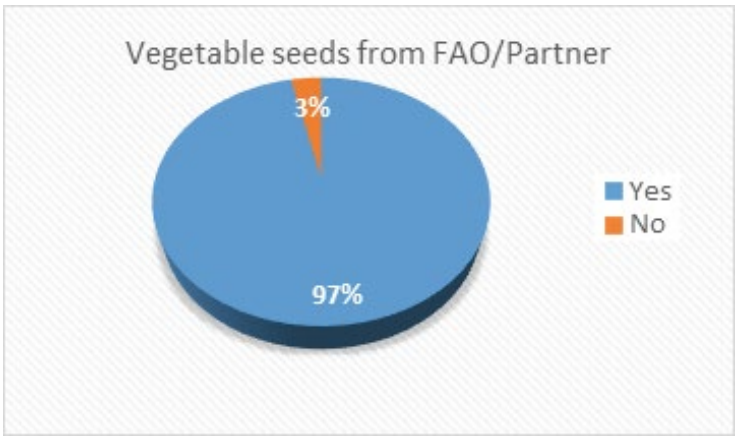


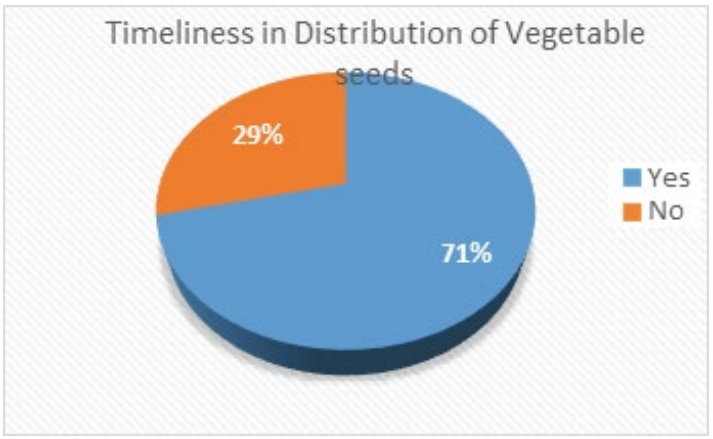


4.0 VEGETABLE SEEDS RECEIVED

4.1 Source of Seeds and Distribution

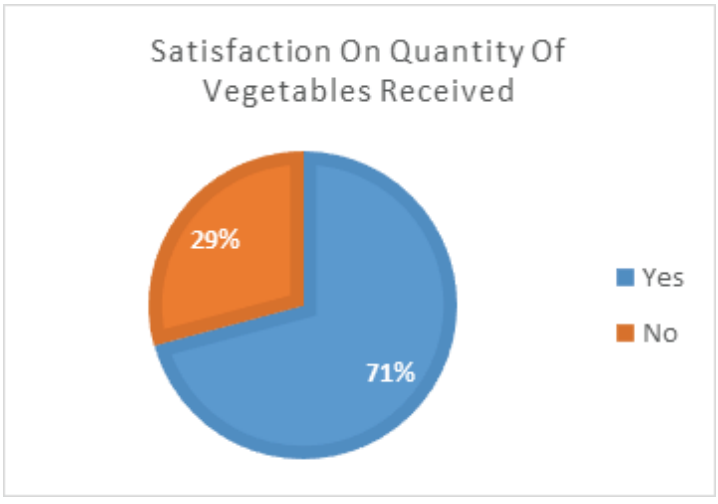
Vegetable seeds had been distributed by FAO/partner with 97% of the beneficiaries confirming receipt of the agricultural inputs. Only 3% claimed not to have received any vegetable seeds from FAO/Partner. Furthermore, 71% agreed that the distribution exercise of vegetable seed was timely though it was not the case as was found with 29% of the beneficiaries. This can be attributed to the nature od vegetables that can be planted any time and is not season bound, unlike crops.

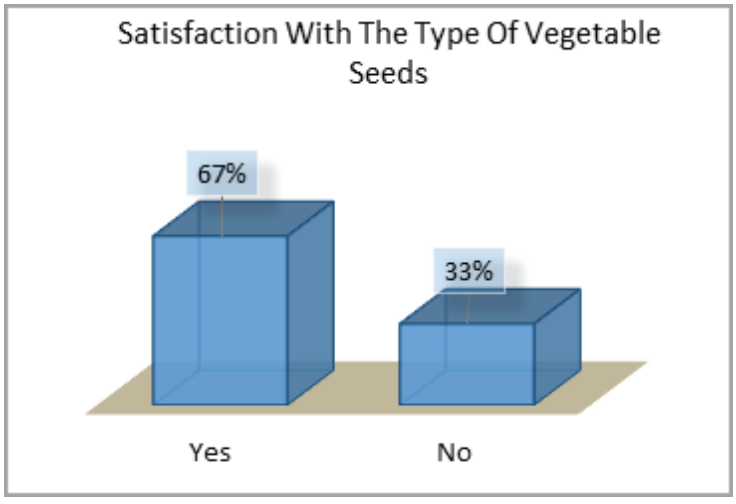




4.2 Quantity and Type of Vegetable Seeds

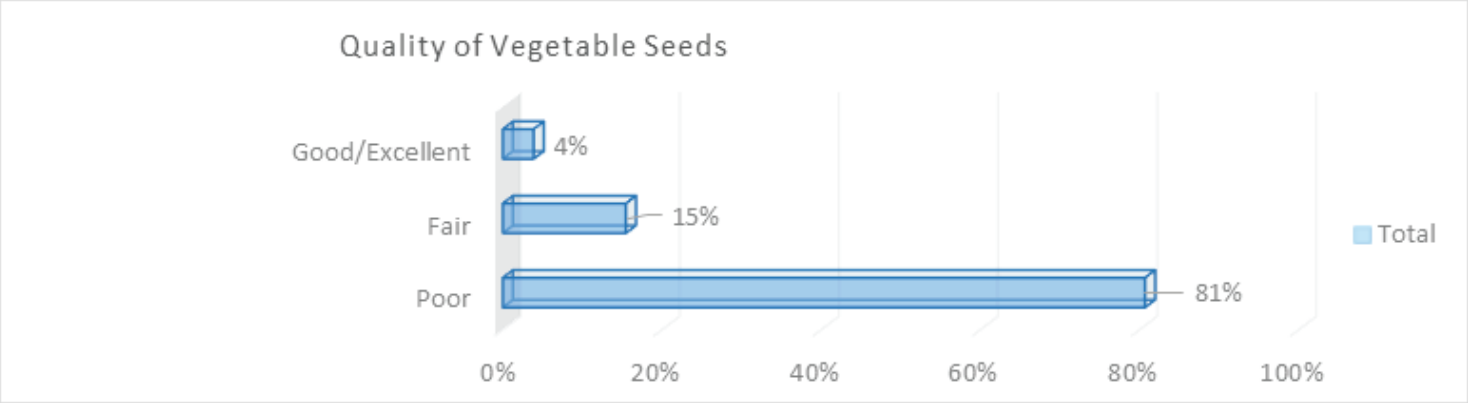
The quantity of vegetable seeds was sufficient according to 71% of the beneficiaries. However, 29% were not pleased with the quantities and suggested if additions could be considered in the next distributions. The type of vegetables was fine with 67% of the beneficiaries while 33% were not satisfied with the composition and preferred other types such as; kales, cabbages, eggplants, carrots, cucumber and pumpkins. FAO can consider including Kales, Cabbages, eggplants, carrots, cucumber and pumpkins in the next distribution.





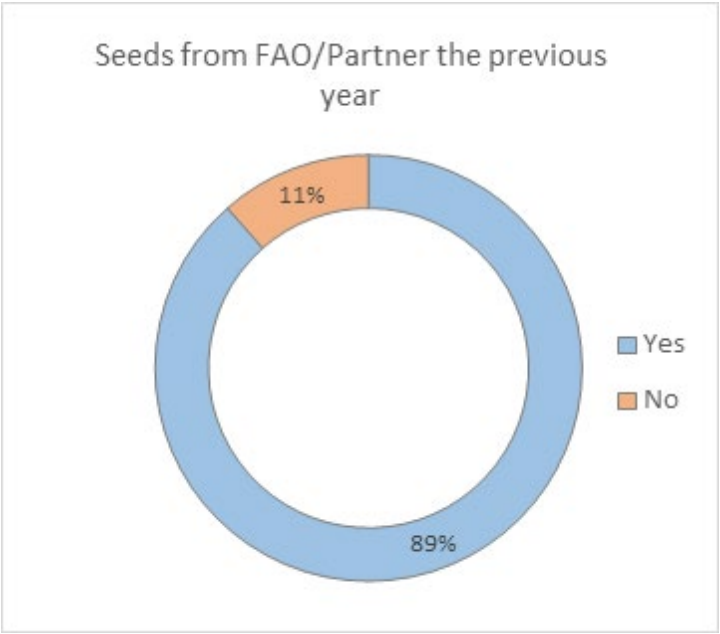
4.3 Quality of Vegetable Seeds

The quality of vegetable seeds was rated poor by 81% of the beneficiaries, 15% said the seeds were fair while 4% found the seeds to be of Good and/or Excellent quality. Poor germination could be attributed to having too much soaking of the soils due to flood water and heavy rains that might have possibly suffocated the vegetable seeds before germination. It could also mean the factory production process of the seeds was compromised and hence subsequent seed production would rather require more tests before being released to farmers. There is need to investigate vegetable seed that was provided.



4.4 Source of Vegetable Seeds previous year

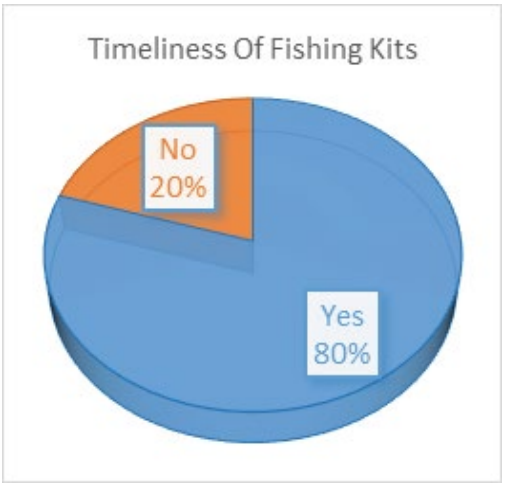
The survey sought to find out how many beneficiaries were repeat beneficiaries. Respondents were asked their source of seed in the previous year, 89% of the farmers had planted seeds that FAO/Partner had distributed. Only 11% of respondents acknowledged other sources of seed that were not from FAO, or FAO partner.

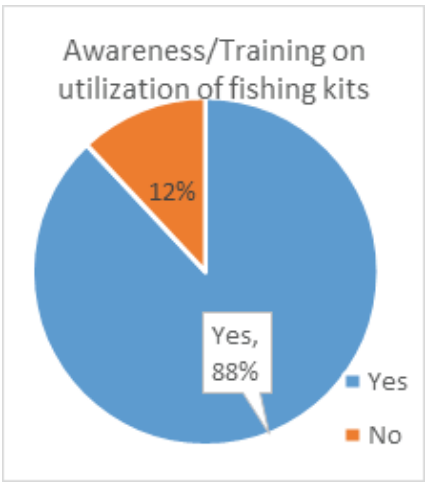


5.0 FISHING KITS RECEIVED

5.1 Source of fishing kits, distribution and awareness creation on Utilization

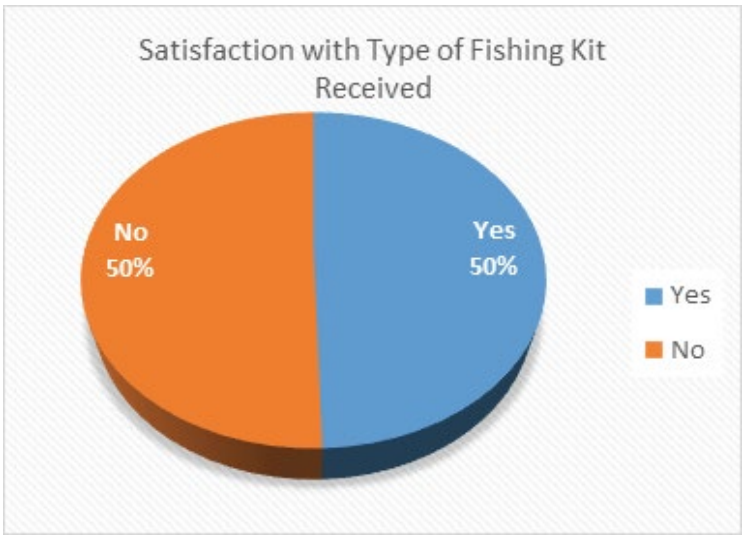
Respondents were asked if they received fishing kits, whether the distribution was timely, and whether they received any training. An overwhelming number of respondents 93% received FAO/partner fishing kits with 80% confirming that the distributions were done in good time and 88% receiving awareness/training on utilization of the kits.





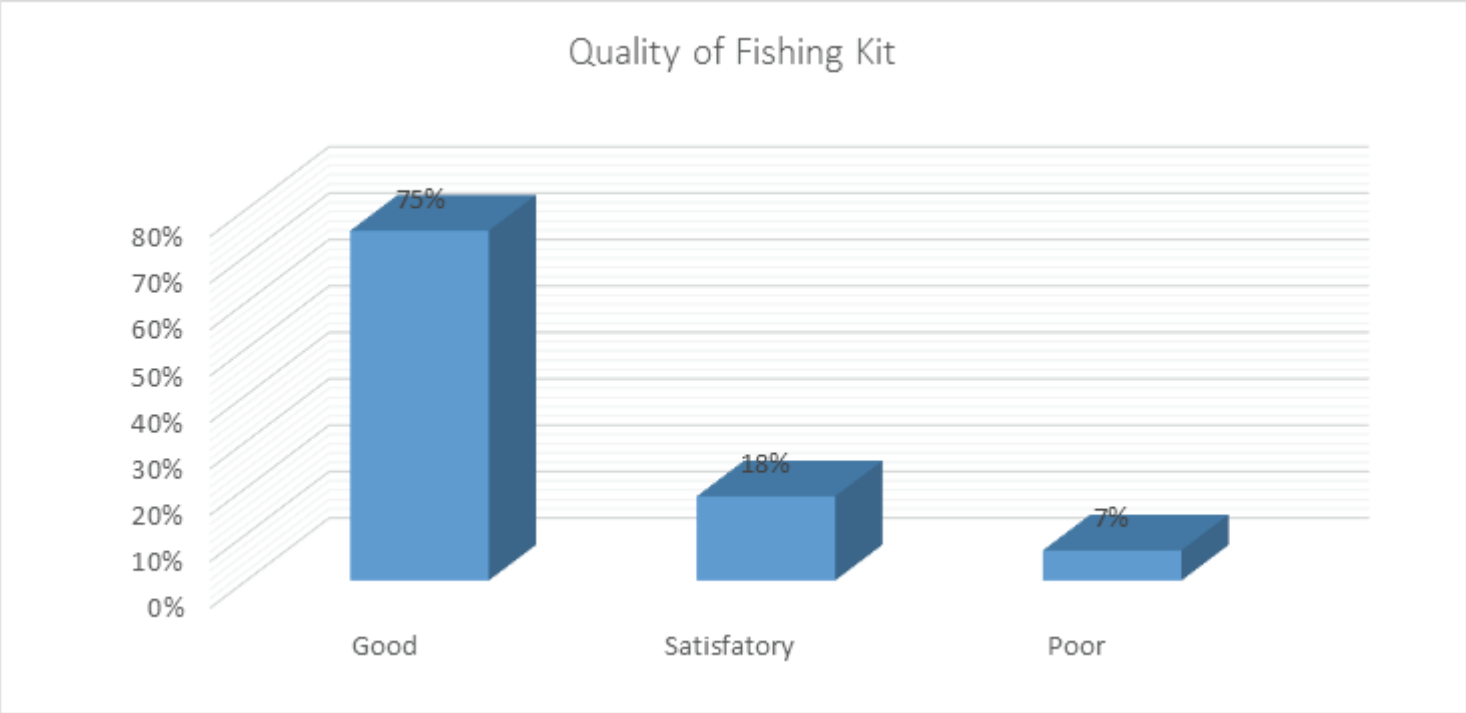
5.2 Quantity, Type and Quality of Fishing Kits Received

The quantities were generally sufficient as was found from 59% of beneficiaries though this was not the case with 41% of the beneficiaries feeling dissatisfied. The satisfaction with the type of fishing kits was split, 50% liked the type of fishing kits that had been distributed while the other 50% did not.



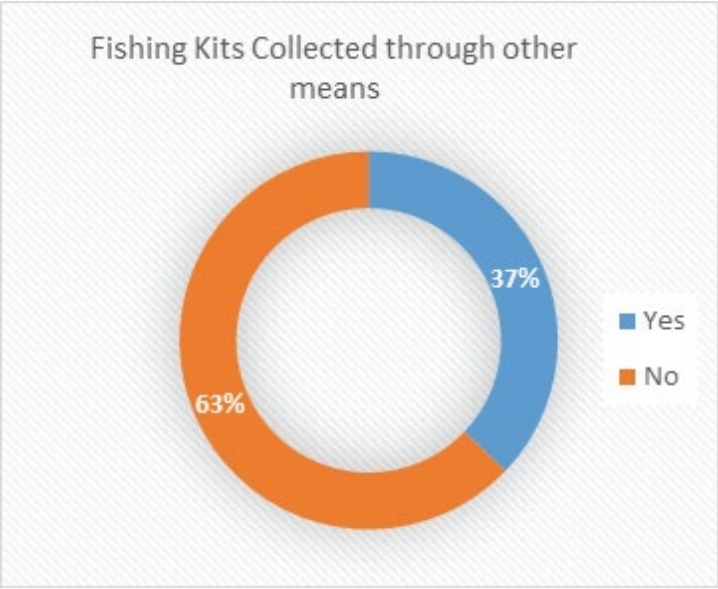
5.3 Quality of Fishing Kits Received

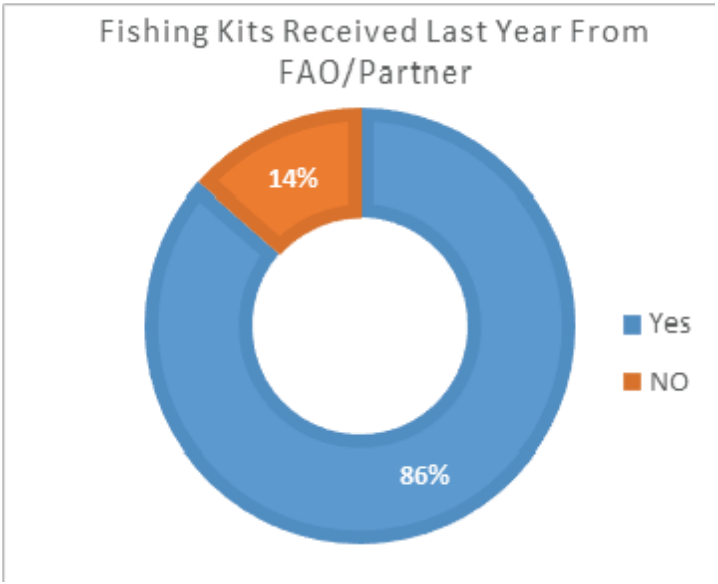
Of those who received the kits, 75% of them felt the quality was good, 18% found it satisfactory while 7% found the tools to be of poor quality



5.4 Other Means of getting fishing kits apart from FAO/partner

Apart from 63% of beneficiaries who had specifically benefitted from fishing kits that were directly distributed by FAO/partner, there were 37% who had collected extra kits through other means. It was also found that from the previous year, 86% benefitted from the FAO distributions while 14% did not.





6.0 CONCLUSIONS

Generally, the seeds were distributed in time, awareness was raised before distribution and information reached beneficiaries. The beneficiaries were also trained. Beneficiaries have expressed dissatisfaction with the quality of vegetable seeds with a split in the quality of fishing kits. Its important that the quality is investigated. Women form majority of the household heads, with a very high dependency ratio, households having more than 6 members. Floods remain a major setback and a threat to food security in Mayendit County.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is need to investigate the quality of vegetable seed that was distributed.
- There is need to consider other sets of vegetables like kales, cabbages, eggplant, carrots, cucumber and pumpkins
- There is need to consider alternative crop seeds like beans, cassava and Banana.
- FAO and partners can consider other tools like pangas, axes, sickles, rakes and hoes
- There would be need to plan for an early response before onset of the rains so as to ensure that beneficiaries get the inputs in good time considering the logistical constraints. It is important to note that lots of benefits come along early planting of crops and vegetables e.g. plants attain the right soil temperatures and moisture necessary for good plant germination and growth which lead to attainment of maximum plant population and yields
- There would be need also to increase the quantity of crop and fishing kits in the subsequent responses so as to meet the growing needs of the community especially those who would wish to go to scale with farming as a means of livelihood
- Frequent technical trainings and follow ups on agricultural production would be key in ensuring that farmers consistently practise modern methods of farming rather than their usual traditional ways of farming. This would help maximize on crop production.
- Due to floods that devastated Mayendit County, there would be need to follow up and find out the exact number of farmers who lost their produce and livelihoods including their current status in terms of readiness to prepare for the dry season. This would help determine the best strategies to be used in the next engagements.
- There is need for an assessment focusing on the long-term solutions to mitigating floods in the county.
- Women do not feel safe when activities such as distribution of agricultural inputs and other trainings are scheduled far from home. As a result, these activities should be conducted early morning starting 8:00 am and ending by 3:00 pm within the Payams where the women come from
- Due to security reasons, there would be need to ensure that key activities such as distribution of farm inputs and trainings are done closer to the beneficiaries in their respective Payams. This would ensure maximum participation/attendance of the target beneficiaries and also help reduce associated safety risks for women and girls. Full participation of the local authorities would also be necessary to guarantee this security both at the distribution points and along the roads

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