



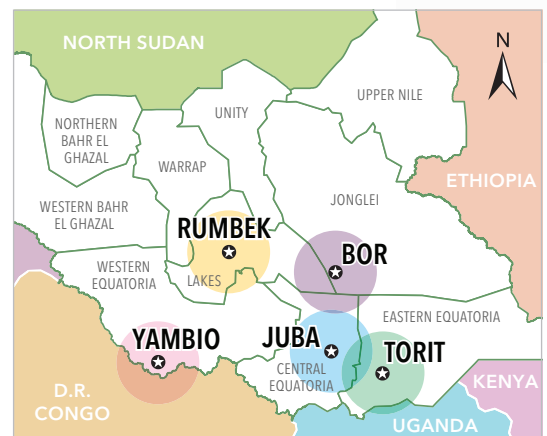
ACCELERATING AGRICULTURE & AGRIBUSINESS IN SOUTH SUDAN

A sustainable agricultural sector is critical for South Sudan’s conflict-sensitive development. This is dependent, in part, on an effective seed system that ensures the availability of, and access to, diverse quality seed of market-desired varieties, adapted to the country’s various climatic conditions.

South Sudan has prioritized **seed value chain improvements** to boost the agricultural productivity of its smallholder farmers, particularly women and youth. This will also increase income and reduce poverty in South Sudan by promoting the development of a seed system that will deliver **new crop technologies** to farmers in an efficient, equitable, and sustainable manner.

Accelerating Agriculture & Agribusiness in South Sudan for Enhanced Economic Development (A3-SEED) is a 5-year project that started in December 2020 with funding by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in South Sudan (EKN). The project is implemented by IFDC together with the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT). It follows the **Seed Sector Development for South Sudan (SSDSS)** project that was implemented by AGRA up to June 2020.

The main premise of A3SEED is that agricultural livelihoods are the people’s best defence against hunger and malnutrition: people with resilient livelihoods are better prepared and can better cope with shocks and crises. In this situation, the distribution of food and farm inputs not only distort local markets but represent a missed opportunity



A3-SEED targets 5 areas in South Sudan called “Hubs of Stability”: Yambio, Torit, Bor, Rumbek and Juba-outskirts.

A3-SEED QUICK FACTS

PERIOD: December 2020-2025

BUDGET: € 8.5 million

GOALS & MILESTONES:

- ✓ 100,000 farmers double production
- ✓ 20,000 farmers improve nutrition
- ✓ 42,000 hectares under sustainable agriculture
- ✓ 5,300 farmers trained
- ✓ 2,400 outgrowers
- ✓ 40 agrodealer businesses and 10 seed companies
- ✓ 4,500 mt (estimated) of seeds produced in season 2022A



to stimulate local agricultural development. In addition, the effort to upgrade local quality seed availability can address how the seed saved by farmers over years have become prone to effects of droughts, pests, and diseases, exposing farmers to poor yields and hence driving the country into food insecurity.

DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE SEEDS SYSTEMS IN SOUTH SUDAN

To mitigate these factors, EKN and other stakeholders have invested in seed sector and market development project A3SEED to support existing private sector seed companies and individual commercial seed producers who produce for the local market or as out-growers for a seed company, or both. Improving physical and financial access to quality seed is achieved through specially-adapted strategies that include **last-mile distribution** and **innovative packaging**.

The project aims to train **100 agro-dealers**, and realize **200 new businesses owned or managed by women** and **200 new businesses owned or managed by youth**.

Adopting a unique approach to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, the program incorporates a robust **learning and knowledge agenda**. For smallholder farmers, micro-demonstration plots and extension services encourage farmers to adopt **best agricultural practices** including **integrated soil fertility management** and **climate smart agriculture**. This agenda will inform policy dialogue and practice for improved food system resilience and targets local communities and institutions as active participants in designing and implementing project interventions. The project is also strengthening the national seed trade association and promoting domestic seed procurement by humanitarian and relief organizations. ■

A3-SEED IS FUNDED BY EKN & IMPLEMENTED BY IFDC IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KIT & MAFS:



Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



KIT Royal Tropical Institute



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY OF SOUTH SUDAN



The **International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC)** is a nonprofit public international organization which helps developing countries increase food security through the development and dissemination of fertilizers and application practices that meet the needs of farmers worldwide. For more information, contact us directly at +1 (256) 381-6600 / +211 925 572 000, or by email at ifdcsouthsudan@ifdc.org.

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