



Figure 1: Rural farmer receives a new storage unit for grains as part of the project Photo Credit: F. Taassobshirazi

**Project Name:** Enhanced Local Value Addition and Strengthening Value Chains

**Donor:** European Union

**Implementing Partner:** UNIDO

**Country:** Republic of South Sudan

**Region:** Greater Bahr el Ghazal (States of Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap and Lakes)

**Host-Country Government Partner:**  
Ministry of Agriculture

**Total Budget:** € 3.1 Million

**Duration:** February 2015 – Ongoing

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# Enhanced Local Value Addition and Strengthening Value Chains in South Sudan

## Context

Many years of conflict in South Sudan have displaced communities, disrupted livelihoods, and left the country facing severe food shortages. As of March 2020, approximately half of the South Sudanese population suffers from severe food insecurity and this number is projected to increase in the coming months. More than 90 percent of the population of South Sudan depends on agriculture and fishing for food and income. However, erratic rains, pest infestations, and post-harvest losses are worsening the food security situation across the country. Even in a good year, at least one in three people are affected by hunger. The South Sudan government development plans underline the importance of a thriving agricultural sector for improving food security and expanding economic opportunities.

## Our Response

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), with funding from the European Union (EU) is working with the Government of South Sudan to support its efforts to transition from food assistance to food security in the region of Bahr el Ghazal with the Enhanced Local Value Addition and Strengthening Value Chains project. The project focuses on enhancing value addition opportunities for smallholder farmers and producer groups and upgrading the value chains of five important commodities: sorghum,

groundnut, hides and skins, dried fish, and rice (with a focus on the first three in the current phase). UNIDO's efforts are part of an integrated program launched by the EU entitled "Zonal Effort for Agricultural Transformation – Bahr el Ghazal Effort for Agricultural Development (ZEAT-BEAD)".

The current addendum aims to enhance value addition and strengthen local value chains of rural small holders in Bahr el Ghazal region by improving access to value chain technology through strengthened agro-processing centers and slaughterhouses; and building the capacity of value chain operators through skills training programs including occupational health and hygiene standards, business management and agro-machinery maintenance skills.