Local Food Systems Resilience dialogues & pathway development

Building the resilience of local food systems in South Sudan

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Goals & intended impact

- **Primary goals and objectives of the innovation**
  - Act upon South Sudan's national Food Systems Transformation priorities
  - Facilitate state level dialogues involving key food system actors
    that develops a vision and pathways to building the resilience of local food systems

- **Targeted regime / food system level: local food systems at state level**
  - Focus on transitioning humanitarian aid architecture towards food systems transformation
  - Take a systems approach to co-create shared understanding of local food systems' behaviour & performance: developing vision and pathways to building FSR
  - Provide and demonstrate scope for HDP-Nexus programming, Localisation Agenda and local food systems governance

https://www.nfpconnects.com/conversations/reports-out-food-systems-resilience-pathways-for-two-states-in-south-sudan

Connecting to South Sudan's needs

- **What needs in South Sudan's food or aid system does your innovation intend to address?**
  - The initiative acts upon South Sudans national FST priorities – and put these to practice at state / county / payam level
  - ➢ Develops a vision and pathways based on local context and dynamics
  - ➢ Builds resilience of food systems in face of climate shocks; develops food systems for peace; ensures food systems based on proper NRM and producing variety of foods; strengthens resilience of food systems through value chain/agrifood enterprise development
  - ➢ Engages with local and central government
  - ➢ Invests in developing food sysmtes governance

- **Initiative brings the agenda from 'policy' to 'practice' (local/national/regional/global)**
  - Position the dialogues in the public domain
  - Hosted by important actors: GoSS, UNMISS, PfPRR, ARG
  - Places 'peace' at the centre of the FST dialogue – nexus programming
  - Promotes important role for knowledge organisations and different types of knowledge

Results & impacts

- **Positive Outcomes: What good results or breakthroughs have we seen?**
  - Buy-in by key stakeholders including government (UNFSS+2)
  - Shared vision providing alignment of current projects &longer-term programming framework
  - Learning/knowledge agenda provides space for evidence based adaptive programming , and developing 'principled approaches' based on field realities informing national policies and FST approaches

- **Challenges: What difficulties or barriers are faced?**
  - Agencies still operate in 'humanitarian domain': silos – competition
  - Develop FSR literacy is key – importance of the dialogues!
  - Donors are yet to develop funding strategies in support of FST

- **Changing the System: How is it altering the current way of doing things?**
  - Increased awareness amongst key FS actors for need&opportunity to take food systems lens in FS analysis and programming - GoSS, FAO, WFP
  - Development and acting upon longer term pathways to build FSR – evidence based adaptive programming
  - Informing national/global agenda: FST that builds resilience

- **Positive Forces: What existing trends are supported**
  - Need to operationalise the FST agenda by setting practival examples - GNAFC / FS Co-ordination Hub / Fighting Food Crises along the Nexus Coalition
  - Realisation that current 'humanitarian' engagement is not going to end food crises – focus on FST agenda: SDGs and beyond (Africa's position on food systems)
  - Increased pressure by donors to taking a food systems approach - transitioning away from humanitarian assistance
  - Strong interest by local government to act upon the needs&ambitions of local pupulations – decentralised food systens governance
  - Local populations to have 'voice' – multiple realities

- **Alignment: How to connect with these trends?**
  - Setting practival examples in the field
  - Networking, lobby & advocacy at local and national level
  - Engagement at IGAD – African food systems agenda ~ food crises
  - Engagement global bodies such as the GNAFC – need for practical approaches / actionability

THANK YOU

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