

RELUFA

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY PROGRAM

January-July 2007 Activity Report



RELUFA

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Introduction

The underlying report is developed in light of the partnership between the Network for the Fight against Hunger (**RELUFA**) and the Presbyterian Hunger Program of the Presbyterian Church USA in RELUFA's Food Sovereignty pilot program with the establishment of a Cooperative Grain Banking system s.

The intervention continues to be in the initial zone of the project, i.e. the Mayo Tsanaga Division, Far North Province of Cameroon. This report covers activities realized for the period from January to July 2007, with the objective to:

Which had as main objectives:

- Continue the acconiment and training close to the beneficiaries and other people around the initial intervention area of the project ;
- Ensure the capacity building of the management committees and the group members for a better understanding and assimilation of the objectives of the operation;
- Monitoring the restocking stage through in kind reimbursements or purchase of grain from the members during the harvest period;
- Follow the evolution of the cereals prices on the weekly markets;
- Ensure the follow up of food management by the granaries ;
- Supervise the group training activities in the framework of this operation ;
- Draw up detailed and regular reports about the follow up of the activities.

This first 2007 semester report assesses all activities carried out and the difficulties encountered in the context of RELUFA's Food Sovereignty program for the period from January to July 2007 as well as the prospects in light of its continuation.

1- Continued Sensitization and Training Activities

Information and training activities have been carried out since January 2007, involving the current beneficiary groups as well as new communities that have requested RELUFA's support in this program. Community workers have gone to villages and sit down with groups:

- Explaining the objectives of the project to the new communities to raise up their adhesion ;
- Identifying suitable people in each community and explain the project to them ;
- Identifying the ins and outs of the villages to better prepare the activities for in-the-field training.

As pointed out in earlier reports, training is preponderant for the operations of the cooperative grain banks. It is a continuously repeated activity in preparation of and during the purchasing time as well as when the granaries are cleared of their stocks. Clearly, training takes place over the entire stocking operation, when the following main activities are carried out:

- Identify and circumscribe new groups and communities to establish cooperative granaries ;
- Hold sensitization and training meetings in each group and community to explain the need for the village stocking (usage of comic strips, image boxes...);
- Organize the farmers into groups to establish a community grain bank;
- Arrange general assemblies for each group and community to validate their grain banking activity;
- Support the groups by helping them to establish a budget for the next stocking campaign and train for a reflexion on the costs involved in establishing the association;
- Support the groups with the drawing up of the internal regulations of the grain bank;
- Organize the constitution of a working capital at the level of each grouping;
- Prepare and explain the table for the purchasing stage;
- Prepare and explain the table of the marketing stage;

- Hold meetings at the level of each community granary to set up a management committee ;
- Support the groups with the elaboration of the balance sheet and activities report for the stocking campaign, and to evaluate the operation during the general assembly gathering all the members.

2 : Follow up of the restocking stage for the 2007 cycle

After evaluating the activities that took place between October and December 2006, i.e. the very end of the 2006 clearance cycle, community organizers have immediately encouraged the beneficiary groupings to launch the 2007 re-stocking campaign. The organizers, each one in his sector, have held first meetings with the members of the various management committees, then with all the members of each group to define in a concerted way, the methods of purchasing cereals. During each meeting, the organizer presented how in each of the different grain markets of the program's zone the prices had evolved, to help give the granaries' management committees an idea. Thus, the restocking operation for the 2007 campaign started from January and continued until May 2007.

The table below presents the assessment of the restocking stage for the 2007 campaign:

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY OPERATION SUPPORTED BY RELUFA: 2007 RESTOCKING CAMPAIGN

<i>Organizer</i>	<i>N°</i>	<i>Groupings</i>	<i>First stock into bags of 100 kgs</i>	<i>Number of restocked 100kgs bags</i>	<i>Increase in 100 kgs bags</i>	<i>Total Quantity (in tons)</i>	<i>Increase (in tons)</i>	<i>Realization percentage</i>	<i>Observations</i>
<i>Konai Robert</i>	1	Djalingo	60	70	10	7	1	116,7	Restocking completed
	2	Mazlaguidey	62	73	11	7,3	1,1	117,7	Restocking completed
	3	Boudoum	60	68	8	6,8	0,8	113,3	Restocking completed
	4	Mbiga	60	66	6	6,6	0,6	110,0	Restocking completed
	5	Gouzlom	60	67	7	6,7	0,7	111,7	Restocking completed
	6	Melendou	60	70	10	7	1	116,7	Restocking completed
	7	Djamdoudi	60	65	5	6,5	0,5	108,3	Restocking completed
	8	Djeling	60	65	5	6,5	0,5	108,3	Restocking completed
	9	Mambaria	60	72	12	7,2	1,2	120,0	Restocking completed
	10	Zlakam	60	69	9	6,9	0,9	115,0	Restocking completed
<i>Gakola Moise</i>	11	Mowo	60	77	17	7,7	1,7	128,3	Restocking completed
	12	Tchembi	66	73	7	7,3	0,7	110,6	Restocking completed
	13	Gouloua	60	70	10	7	1	116,7	Restocking completed

	14	Guelling	60	61	1	6,1	0,1	101,7	Restocking completed
	15	Dimsak	60	73	13	7,3	1,3	121,7	Restocking completed
	16	Mandaya	60	65	5	6,5	0,5	108,3	Restocking completed
	17	Metchezleo	60	72	12	7,2	1,2	120,0	Restocking completed
	18	Gagala	60	77	17	7,7	1,7	128,3	Restocking completed
Total		18	1088	1253	165	125,3	16,5	115,2	

General remarks

Restocking was held in two ways. Members of groups that had marketed their stocks as in kind loan, had to pay back at the harvest period the quantity borrowed from the grain bank during the lean season with an additional amount of grain as agreed upon during the granary's general assembly of members before the granary's stocks were cleared.

Groups that had sold their stocks to members for cash had to buy the grains back from their at harvest time. They had preferred to sell some of their harvests to take care of their various needs, like health care issues in the family, traditional celebrations or end-of-the-year festivities. It is important to point it out here, that the only cash crop of the region is cotton, which is generally sold after the feasts, i.e. between February and May each year.

And so, the community organizers' work consisted of following all the stages of reconstitution of stocks in each group, according to the two methods.

Overall the restocking stage proceeded well in all the groupings. The initial stocks increased in a substantial way going from a total of 1088 bags to 1253 bags of 100 kilograms, i.e. an increase of 165 sacs or 16.5 tons in absolute value and 15.16% in relative value.

3: Capacity building of management committees and group members

Several meetings were organized to train the management committee members. However, it is important to mention here that the capacity building work remains permanent because of the complexity of the community granary operations.

To facilitate this activity, the community organizers first were trained to harmonize their training tools. Then the groups came together by the two intervention areas of each organizer. During these training sessions, several topics were addressed. They mainly dealt with the members' discipline, the organization of reflexion meetings and meetings of assessment of the activities, the store maintenance, the choice of cereals on the markets and the treatment of the food products during stocking, the warehouse management and the study of the strategies aiming at minimizing the costs of the food products to the purchase (overheads). The activities carried out within the framework of the capacity building are presented in the tables below:

**Report on monthly capacity building activities in groups accompanied by
KONAI Robert**

Dates	Groupings	People met	Themes of the meetings	Observations
January 2007				
10/01/2007	Zlakam	33	Training on the restocking	Members' active participation
10/01/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	31	Training on the restocking	Members' active participation
17/01/2007	Mazlaguidey	39	Training on the restocking	Members' active participation
20/01/2007	Mambaria	28	Training on the restocking	Members' active participation
22/01/2007	Djamdoudi	36	Training on the restocking	Nothing at all
26/01/2007	Gouzlom	35	Training on the restocking	Good participation in the meetings
28/01/2007	Mélioudou	28	Training on the restocking	Members' availability to participate in the meetings
30/01/2007	Boudoum	38	Training on the restocking	Women's active participation in the debates
30/01/2007	Dlalingo	36	Training on the restocking	Women's active participation

				in the debates
30/01/2007	Djéling	39	Training on the restocking	Participants aren't always lively during the meetings
February 2007				
02/02/2007	Djalingo	40	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	The restocking is slow but goes well
02/02/2007	Djéling	32	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	The restocking is slow
07/02/2007	Mambaria	39	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Good
07/02/2007	Djamdoudi	45	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Slow
14/02/2007	Boudoum	52	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Nothing at all
15/02/2007	Golzlom	41	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Nothing at all
20/02/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	33	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Nothing at all
22/02/2007	Mazlaguidey	48	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Nothing at all
24/02/2007	Zlakam	39	Monitoring and check of the number of the	Nothing at all

			restocked bags in the store	
27/02/2007	Mélédou	40	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Nothing at all
March 2007				
05/03/2007	Mazlaguidey	52	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The management committee seems to assimilate the technique of disposition of bags in the store
07/03/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	34	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The management committee seems to assimilate the technique of disposition of bags in the store
07/03/2007	Zlakam	31	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The management committee seems to assimilate the technique of disposition of bags in the store
12/03/2007	Mambaria	36	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The restocking is completed

12/03/2007	Djamdoudi	33	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	Nothing at all
18/03/2007	Djalingo	39	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The restocking is completed
18/03/2007	Djéling	31	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	Nothing at all
22/03/2007	Méléudou	36	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	Nothing at all
22/03/2007	Boudoum	49	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	Nothing at all
26/03/2007	Golzlom	32	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the	Nothing at all

			bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	
April 2007				
04/04/2007	Djéling	26	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	Cereals are well treated and well kept in the store
04/04/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	29	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	All the cereals are already available and well kept
10/04/2007	Zlakam	25	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	All the cereals are already available and well kept
10/04/2007	Mazlaguidey	30	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	All the cereals are already available and well kept
15/04/2007	Mélédou	29	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	All the cereals are already available and well kept
15/04/2007	Gozlom	21	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	Cereals are well treated and well kept in the store

20/04/2007	Djamdoudi	30	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	Cereals are well treated and well kept in the store
20/04/2007	Mambaria	28	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	Cereals are well treated and well kept in the store
28/04/2007	Boudoum	32	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	Cereals are well treated and well kept in the store
28/04/2007	Djalingo	33	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
May 2007				
04/05/2007	Djéling	25	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
04/05/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	21	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions

10/05/2007	Zlakam	27	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
10/05/2007	Mazlaguidey	30	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
15/05/2007	Mélédou	31	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
15/05/2007	Gozlom	32	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
20/05/2007	Djamdoudi	25	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions

20/05/2007	Mambaria	26	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
28/05/2007	Boudoum	24	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
28/05/2007	Djalingo	31	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Request for multiplication of training sessions
June 2007				
03/06/2007	Djéling	23	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
06/06/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	32	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions

10/06/2007	Zlakam	31	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
10/06/2007	Mazlaguidey	20	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
16/06/2007	Mélédou	21	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
16/06/2007	Gozlom	18	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
21/06/2007	Djamdoudi	17	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions

22/06/2007	Mambaria	15	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
27/06/2007	Boudoum	25	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
28/06/2007	Djalingo	30	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
July 2007				
02/07/2007	Djéling	31	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting
04/07/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	33	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting
08/07/2007	Zlakam	30	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting

12/07/2007	Mazlaguidey	28	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting
16/07/2007	Mélédou	27	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
16/07/2007	Gozlom	20	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
20/05/2007	Djamdoudi	21	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
20/07/2007	Mambaria	32	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
27/07/2007	Boudoum	26	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
30/07/2007	Djalingo	23	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
August 2007				
01/08/2007	Djéling	13	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
04/08/2007	Mbiga-Zidim	20	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
10/08/2007	Zlakam	18	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
10/08/2007	Mazlaguidey	27	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all

15/08/2007	Mélédou	30	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Gozlom	31	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Djamdoudi	22	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Mambaria	21	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Boudoum	31	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Djalingo	18	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all

**Report on monthly capacity building activities in groups accompanied by
GAKOLA Moise**

Dates	Groupings	People met			Activities carried out	Observations
		Men	Women	Total		
January 2007						
07/01/2007	Gagala	9	12	21	Animation on the restocking	Some members went to the Karal field
07/01/2007	Méstésleo	7	25	32	Animation on the restocking	Active Participation of the participants
07/01/2007	Mandaya	11	17	28	Animation on the restocking	The store is out of condition ; sensitization for the fitting up of the store building
11/01/2007	Mowo	17	8	25	Animation on the restocking	No problem, because the restocking date is well respected
12/01/2007	Gueling	3	5	8	Animation on the restocking	No problem, because the restocking date is well respected
18/01/2007	Tchembi	3	16	19	Animation on the restocking	No problem, because everything is respected and well done
25/01/2007	Gouloua	12	17	29	Animation on the restocking	Ways should be fined to build one other

25/01/2007	Dimsak	9	2	11	Animation on the restocking	No problem, it's an exemplary store
February 2007						
04/02/2007	Mowo	10	4	17	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	No problem, because the restocking is at 60%
04/02/2007	Tchembi	3	12	15	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Very well, the restocking is at 80%
09/02/2007	Gouloua	11	14	25	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	Average, the restocking is at 55%
09/02/2007	Gueling	12	4	16	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	No problem, the restocking is at 40%
15/02/2007	Dimsak	8	13	21	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	No problem, the restocking is at 80%
18/02/2007	Mandaya	16	12	28	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	No problem, except the state of the store that makes it impossible to store there; this makes that one part is in the store and the second part in another place.
22/02/2007	Méstés léo	18	9	27	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	No problem, the store is clean
24/02/2007	Gagala	12	16	28	Monitoring and check of the number of the restocked bags in the store	No problem, the restocking is at 50%

March 2007						
03/03/2007	Gagala	10	15	25	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The management committee seems to assimilate how to arrange bags in the store
03/03/2007	Méstésleo	14	7	21	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The bags are in the classification process
03/03/2007	Mandaya	5	6	11	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The bags are arranged in disorder and the ASA has asked to put out all the stock and to restart the arrangement
12/03/2007	Dimsak	9	12	21	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The store is treated while the millet is well arranged
15/03/2007	Gueling	12	6	18	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The store is in order

17/03/2007	Goulwa	13	8	25	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	Bags are half arranged because the store is too narrow
22/03/2007	Tchembi	2	13	15	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The millet is well arranged and well treated
23/03/2007	Gueling	10	13	23	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The millet is well arranged and well treated
26/03/2007	Mowo	7	5	12	Training of the members of the management committees on the store maintenance, the bookkeeping and the way of arranging bags in the granary.	The millet is perfectly arranged and in order
April 2007						
05/04/2007	Gueling	5	10	15	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	All the cereals are already available
05/04/2007	Dimsak	4	7	11	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books	All the cereals are already available et well held

					of the granary.	
08/04/2007	Gouloua	7	6	13	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	The cereals are already well held in the store
08/04/2007	Tchembi	5	17	22	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	Cereals are well treated and well kept in the store
12/04/2007	Mowo	4	9	13	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	No problem, the bags are well arranged, held and treated
27/04/2007	Gagala	11	16	27	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	The millet is perfectly arranged and in order
27/04/2007	Méstésléo	10	24	34	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	The millet is well treated and held in the store
27/04/2007	Mandaya	7	18	25	Follow-up and finalization of the restocking stage and set up of the management books of the granary.	The millet is well treated and held in the store that is very clean
May 2007						

12/05/2007	Mowo	7	12	19	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	No problem
14/05/2007	Gouloua	4	10	14	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	No problem
17/05/2007	Gueling	12	9	21	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	No problem
17/05/2007	Dimsak	11	8	19	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	No problem
27/05/2007	Mandaya	-	-	-	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Absence of the delegate and the warehouseman due to mourning
27/05/2007	Méstés léo	7	9	16	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding	No problem

					of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	
27/05/2007	Gagala	13	18	31	Training of the members of the management committees on the technique and the holding of the management documents of the granary, store maintenance.	Two members of the COGE have travelled and will be back after 5 months
June 2007						
02/06/2007	Gueling	7	10	17	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
05/06/2007	Dimsak	3	8	11	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
08/06/2007	Gouloua	9	6	15	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions

09/06/2007	Tchembi	6	20	26	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
12/06/2007	Mowo	4	9	13	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
17/06/2007	Gagala	12	16	28	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
24/06/2007	Méstésleo	7	24	31	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions

28/06/2007	Mandaya	6	18	24	Training on the technique of holding general assemblies of the opening of granaries ; store management; techniques of markets study ; definition of the job of the warehouseman	Request for multiplication of training sessions
July 2007						
03/07/2007	Gueling	5	13	18	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting
07/07/2007	Dimsak	4	10	14	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting
08/07/2007	Gouloua	4	9	13	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting
10/07/2007	Tchembi	10	20	30	Monitoring of the general assembly holding of the opening of the granary; explanation of the management document.	Active participation of the groupings members to the meeting
15/07/2007	Mowo	12	14	26	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
19/07/2007	Gagala	13	18	31	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
25/07/2007	Méstés léo	12	13	25	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all

28/06/2007	Mandaya	7	20	27	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
August 2007						
04/08/2007	Gueling	5	13	18	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
08/08/2007	Dimsak	4	10	14	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
10/08/2007	Gouloua	4	9	13	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
11/08/2007	Tchembi	10	20	30	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Mowo	12	14	26	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Gagala	13	18	31	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Méstésleo	12	13	25	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all
15/08/2007	Mandaya	7	20	27	Monitoring of the marketing stage	Nothing at all

3.1: Follow-up of the preservation and management of the stocks

In addition to the activities described above, the community organizers also had to carry out the activities of follow-up of the granaries. They are mainly the weekly discussion meetings with the storekeepers on the inventory position, the difficulties they had met, and the physical visits to the granaries to inspect the stocks. The community organizers note down any difficulty encountered by the storekeepers, and then transmit them to the Food Sovereignty Program Coordinator of GIE ADERSA for the concerted search of a possible solution.

3.2: Continuation of the training for the emergence of women's groups

In light of expanding the number community grain banks, in particular at the level of the women groups, the organizers continued their regular sensitization activities. They identified new women's groups to heighten their interest and prepare them for community development programs, in particular cooperative grain banks. The women of the northern part of Cameroun are very implied in the handling of their family's daily food needs. However, due to customary restrictions, they lack the true management skills to deal with larger supplies. From this very interesting work, it can now be concluded that when training new women's groups, holding the experiences of already participating women's groups up as example makes it very possible to work in our traditional environments to instigate the development of women's granaries without too much fear for the weight of traditions. Several new women's groups have already been identified and will be the programming object for the next phase of extension.

4: Monitoring of local grain markets prices

The cereal prices are monitored in the local markets and in those located around the project area in a radius of approximately 25 Kilometres. It is a matter of going every week to each market to note down the prices the main food products, in particular the prices of the red (rainy season) sorghum, commonly called the *ndjigaari*, the prices of the yellow (counter-season) sorghum, called *muskwaari* and the prices of corn. This work makes it possible for the community organizers to inform the granary management committees about the course of the market prices for them to either maximize revenues at the time the granaries are cleared, or to minimize any additional expenses at the time stocks are reconstituted for the new cycle.

In a general way, this work of follow-up of the prices allowed for the following observations and recommendations:

- ◆ Prices stayed at a reasonable level during the harvest period (November-December) for the *ndjigaari*. They fluctuated between 6500 and 8000 Cfa francs. This gave the possibility for a great number of grain banks to reconstitute their stocks by buying grain from their group members who wanted to sell some of their harvests for family needs.
- ◆ From January, instead of increasing slightly as usual because the harvests of the rainy season are completed, these prices rather remained on the same level as that of the harvest period;
- ◆ Curiously, from March, when the counter seasonal yellow sorghum, *muskwaari*, is harvested, and cereal prices normally drop a little, we noted this year a stagnation of the prices.
- ◆ From mid-July, corresponding to the lean season, the prices remained the entire period at the same level as those of the purchasing stage. However by this time, the groupings have committed additional expenses e.g. overhead costs of the store and the purchase of pesticides for the stocks. This situation made it difficult for the management committee members to decide on the clearance period as they had wanted to wait for a notable rise in grain prices to be able to recover the additional expenses made during to the stocking operation.

The observation made on grain prices are in fact a sign of two years of good harvests (2006 and 2007). Besides, a contribution of about 1000 tons (i.e. 10.000 bags) of grains by World Food Program to village grain bank operations in the Far North Province absorbed for a great deal the food deficits in the area. And so, taking the current evolution of the cereal courses on the local markets into consideration we can say that generally spoken we see this year a situation of food self-sufficiency.

Looking at this situation, and taking into account the complaints expressed by the various management committees, the Program Coordinator and Community Organizers have suggested to the groups to give the bags on loan with a small profit (interest) margin, rather than to sell them in cash. The profit margin (interest) was to be fixed by the general assembly of the members. The table hereafter presents the development state of the prices on the various weekly markets in and around the intervention area of the project.

Evolution of cereal prices on the weekly local markets 2007

Villages	Varieties	01-07 Jan	08-14 Jan	15-21 Feb	22-28 Jan	29Jan-04 Feb	05-11 Feb	12-18 Feb	19-25 Feb	26Feb-04 March	05-11 March	12-18 March
Mofou- Sud	Ndjigaari	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500
	Mais	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	7000	7000
	Muskwaari	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000
Gawel	Ndjigaari	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6500	6500	6500	6500	7000	7000
	Mais	5500	5500	5500	5000	5000	5500	6000	6000	6500	7000	7000
	Muskwaari	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000
Gazawa	Ndjigaari	7500	7500	7500	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500
	Mais	7500	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500
	Muskwaari	8500	8500	8500	8500	8000	8500	8500	8500	8500	8500	8500
Mokong	Ndjigaari	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000
	Mais	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	7000	7000
	Muskwaari	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8500
Salak	Ndjigaari	7500	7500	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500
	Mais	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500
	Muskwaari	8500	8500	8500	8500	8500	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000	8000

19-25 March	26 March-01 April	02-08 April	09-15 April	16-22 April	23-29 April	30 avril-06 May	07-13 May	14-20 May	21-27 May	28 May-03 June
7500	7500	7000	7500	7000	7000	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000
7000	7000	7000	7000	6500	6500	6500	6000	6000	6000	6000
8000	8000	8000	8500	8500	8000	8000	8500	8500	8500	8000
7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	6500	6500
7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	6500	6500	6500	6500
7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7000	7500	7500	7500	7500
7500	7500	7500	7000	7000	7500	7000	7500	7500	7500	7500
7500	7500	7000	7000	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500
8500	8500	8000	8000	8500	8500	8500	8000	8500	8500	8500
7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500
7000	7000	7000	7500	7000	7500	7000	6000	6500	6000	6000
8500	8500	8500	8000	8000	8000	8000	8500	8500	8000	8000
7500	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000
7500	7500	7500	7000	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500
8000	8000	8000	8500	8500	8000	8000		8500	8500	8500

04-10 June	11-17 June	18-24 June	25 June- 01 July	02-08 July	09-15 July	16-22 July	23-29 July	30 July-05 Aug	06-12 Aug
7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500	7500	7000	7000	6500
6000	7000	7000	6500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	6500
8000	8000	8500	8000	8500	8500	8500	7500	7500	8000
6500	6500	6000	6000	6500	6500	6500	7000	7000	7000
6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	6500	7500	7500	7500
7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	8500	8500	8500
7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500
7500	7500	7000	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500
8000	8000	8000	8000	8500	8500	8500	8500	8500	8500
7000	7500	7500	7500	7500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000
6500	6500	6500	6500	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000
8500	8500	8500	8000	8000	8500	8500	8000	8000	8000
7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7000	7500	7500
7000	7000	7000	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500
8500	8500	8000	8000	8500	8500	8500	8500	8500	8500

5- Encountered Difficulties

Overall, the activities proceed normally in the field. There are no major difficulties likely to compromise the good course of the activities. However, the programs Community Organizers as well as all of the groupings expressed the concern that the grain market prices could eventually affect the volume of recuperated stocks if the groups at some point have to sell in cash and at the cost price. Hence the recommendation by the Program Coordinator for the community workers to work very closely with their trained groups to avoid malfunctioning of the granaries.

6- Perspectives

During the next quarter, our working program will be essentially centred on the following points:

- Continuation of the capacity building of the members of the management committees;
- Follow up of the clearing stage;
- Monitoring of cereal prices on the various markets for all the trained groupings ;
- Continuation of the training for the creation of exclusively female groups;
- Extend the training towards Meri or the Ndoukoula District for the extension of the operation towards other administrative units, and later towards the North Province to include a third network member organization.

Conclusion

In general the various activities, as earlier proposed to RELUFA's partners of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the United Methodist Community on Relief, proceed normally in spite of the difficulties raised in this report with the main objectives being achieved.

Moreover, it is important to mention the need for continued support of training activities and accompaniment, without which the follow up of the field activities would have been difficult if not impossible.

Lastly, given the great enthusiasm among the population about this program, it is desirable to extend the operations towards other areas, taking into account the specifics of food shortages for each area for the program to have an even greater impact.