

**CHANGE STORIES:**  
**SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, WESTERN EQUATORIA, SOUTH SUDAN**



***Caesar Adriano, 46 years old, progressive farmer in Gitkiri Village, Western Equatoria***

Caesar Adriano, 46 years old is a progressive farmer from Gitkiri Village, Western Equatoria. He and his wife are taking care of 15 children in total – 9 his own and 6 orphans.



***Caesar, his wife and two of their children***

“Before the conflict started, I had 25 goats in total! It had taken quite a lot of time to raise so many goats. I used to sell them and using that money, I was able to construct a building at the roadside, which will be used for shops and accommodation. When the war started, all the goats were looted by some armed people! I have started keeping goats again but they are few.”



As a progressive farmer, Caesar uses more efficient agricultural techniques and has gained new knowledge on how to manage livestock plus how to plant and manage crops.

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"I had been keeping the goats so well because of the training that I got from Solidarity. I learned so much about animals that as farmers we did not know about before. For example, I did not know that animals can be treated, yet now I know. Sick animals should also be separated from other animals to prevent diseases from spreading; their environment also needs to be kept clean and they should be kept or restrained in a building to avoid them roaming and destroying crop fields. I also learned what to feed them and that all their food should be insect and disease free."



*Caesar, his family and their goats*

Apart from livestock keeping, Caesar grows crops such as maize, beans and cassava. "I learned when to plant, how to plant, when to weed and much more. In past seasons, I harvested 50 bags of maize from land 4 fedans big and yet nowadays I harvest 76 bags of maize from the same size of land. Star Trust on behalf of World Food Programme bought the maize at SSP 2,500 per bag. Apart from the livestock and the crops, I am also doing bee keeping and hope to get new kinds of beehives from Solidarity."



*Caesar and his son checking the cassava he harvested*

**THIS STORY IS SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE** capacity building has been done through workshops and further support has been given through community extension workers and extension officers, enabling farmers to move from being normal farmers to being progressive farmers. Progressive farmers may practice diversification in agriculture, are able to do farming at a greater capacity and due to their increased knowledge, they pass it on to other farmers therefore increasing agricultural production.