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Sudan

Southern Sudan Recovery and Development Fund

The Southern Sudan Reconstruction and Development Fund (SSRDF) was established by the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) to oversee a

structures to facilitate efficient service delivery, socio-economic recovery, and growth.

In order to achieve its wide-ranging mandate, which cuts across all sections of the economy, the Fund has various innovative programmes in place. *Taking Towns to the People* is one of these. By citing schools, hospitals and agricultural programmes in central locations, which can be accessed by multiple villages, this programme is envisaged to be a tool for integrated and equitable rural development in Southern Sudan.

plementation and provide feedback and support.

SSRDF will be coordinating socio-economic planning activities so that it can prioritize where aid should be channelled and how it should be managed. It believes livelihoods projects, income generating activities and eco-

"Without skilled labor, our institutions will not thrive."

Dr. David Mayo, Chairman of Southern Sudan Reconstruction and Development Fund



SSRDF knows that a thriving economy is one of the pillars of sustainable recovery and development in Southern Sudan.

number of rebuilding and development activities in the region. According to Article 200 of the Interim National Constitution, the fund is mandated to "solicit, raise and collect funds from domestic and international donors and disburse such funds for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and construction of the infrastructure of Southern Sudan."

Dr. David Mayo, a member of Parliament and a trained political economist, is the Chairman of the SSRDF, which is laying down governance

"SSRDF projects will be implemented at the state and county level, which is key to fostering sustainable peace and community participation," said Dr. Mayo when he visited UNDP earlier this month. "Our aim is to be an 'engine of development' in every activity we sponsor." The Fund is particularly focused on facilitating the local delivery of peace dividends.

It plans to have Development Officers stationed in the states to oversee project im-

plimentary growth programmes are vital for reconciling recovery and development at the local level.

SSRDF is also keen to establish a skill-transfer scheme with India in order to boost the limited labor pool in Southern Sudan. These professionals would work closely with the Ministries and would also be expected to train and empower young Sudanese people seeking jobs in the public sector. Health and education projects are a particular priority.

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Winnie Byanyima Visits UNDP Southern Sudan



In July 2009, UNDP Southern Sudan had the honor of hosting one of the most respected and distinguished women in East African politics, Ms. Winnie Byanyima, when she toured Juba as part of an assessment mission. Ms. Byanyima, the Director of UNDP's Gender Team at the Bureau for Development Policy in New York, examined the key role that UNDP can play in gender mainstreaming in Southern Sudan. She also looked at how to build capacity within partner institutions to address gender issues.

A native of Uganda, Ms. Byanyima was elected three times to the Ugandan legislature and was a

founding member of the Assembly's women's caucus. Before joining UNDP, Ms. Byanyima served as Director of the Women, Gender, and Development Directorate of the African Union Commission. She was also a founding member and the first chair of the Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE), a national NGO in Uganda. She is currently a member of the Executive Board of the African Capacity Building Foundation and the International Center for Research on Women. She also participates in the UN Millennium Development Goals Task Force on Education and Gender Equality.

During her trip, Ms. Byanyima met with the Undersecretary for Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, the Specialized Committee on Gender, the Minis-

ter for Gender, Social Welfare and Religious Affairs, and the Chairperson for the Human Rights Commission. Ms. Byanyima also visited Juba's Justice and Confidence Center (JCC), where she discussed human rights initiatives and the ability of Sudanese communities to access justice options and alternatives. She also offered suggestions on identifying regional gender experts to support gender mainstreaming.

As an expert on political processes in an East African context, Ms. Byanyima also discussed the forthcoming elections with UNDP partners and the challenges surrounding elections processes in post-conflict environments.

Women's Conference Gears Up for Elections



Dr. Miria Matembe discusses development and popularization of the women's agenda.

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) brought the end to war in Sudan, and also introduced new roles for women in politics. But four years after the signing of the CPA's, women are still struggling to take advantage their rights—particularly in terms of political engagement.

In effort address this issue, political parties in Southern Sudan met in Juba in July to develop a set of recommendations for the 2010 elec-

tions. Participants produced the 'Juba Declaration by Southern Sudan Women in Political Parties on a Women's Common Agenda for the 2010 Elections'. This document outlines the necessary steps to be followed by political parties, the National Elections Commission, the Political Parties Affairs Council, and the media to ensure the effective participation of women in the elections.

Political parties are urged to develop gender sensitive manifestos, to raise the visibility of women in their parties, to support female candidates and their capacity development, and to take measures to avoid electoral violence. It also recommends that the National Elections Commission

develop gender sensitive electoral guidelines and to conduct gender responsive voter education. Approximately 100 participants attended the three day conference, which was organized by UNIFEM and the International Republican Institute with the support of UNDP, USAID and others. Presenters from Uganda, Kenya and Rwanda were on hand to share their experiences.



H.E. Mohammad Bushara Dosa, Chairperson of the Political Parties Affairs Council added to the discussion.

UNDP Retreat Looks To “The Day After”

Last month, UNDP Southern Sudan held a retreat which brought together over 200 participants from across the 10 southern states. The aim of the event was to reiterate UNDP’s mandate in the region – namely, strengthening state institutions and structures – and to clarify its objectives for the post referendum period.

“We are not here to build schools and hospitals. Nor are we here to pay teachers and police. UNDP is about strengthening government structures and this thinking must infuse everything we do here in Southern Sudan.”

Joe Feeney, UNDP Head of Office

Ferdinand von Hapsburg, UNDP’s Technical Advisor for Peace and Development, set the scene for the day. He gave a short history of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and said that local communities were eager to see how this ‘peace’ would affect their lives in both the

short and the long term. Many communities in Southern Sudan haven’t seen the benefits of peace yet, and some question what good it has done for them. More public information is needed to educate people about the key tenets of the CPA agreement and their own rights and responsibilities in creating a stable and peaceful Sudan.

A key presentation at the retreat focused on the story of East Timor – a country that went through an independence referendum back in August 1999. Joanne Cheah and Chikka Onaka, who worked in East Timor during that period, talked about the process of preparing and implementing a referendum. They also outlined the key challenges they experienced as well as the huge rewards gained by the Timorese people.

Widespread insecurity was, by far, the most difficult issue they encountered during the referendum period in East Timor. As soon as the results of the independence vote were announced, the military went into the offensive. “Indonesian security forces were everywhere”, said Cheah. “Wherever we went, we had to be careful what we said because we were being monitored.” Even several years



United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) peacekeeper plays with a young child in Hera.

after independence, villagers continued to be intimidated by Indonesia rebel leaders and the UN was forced to evacuate briefly on one occasion.

Many obvious parallels can be drawn between East Timor and the current situation in Southern Sudan—particularly when one looks at the security dimensions of both conflicts.

What separates these two cases, however, is that in East Timor government structures had to be built from scratch *after* independence. So, even though UN agencies were well supported by NGOs, the task of providing services – be it healthcare, access to justice, or education – was immense. In Southern Sudan, on the hand, UNDP has already dedicated substantial resources to building national capacity through technical and advisory support to key ministries *well in advance* of the 2011 referendum vote.



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Knowledge Corner:

DFID's Four Pillars for Post-Conflict State-Building

The UK's Department for International Development (DFID) recently published a policy paper on development programming in post-conflict contexts. They identified 'four key pillars' for post-conflict development to take hold.

The first, building a **political settlement**, establishes the "rules of the game". Political settlement can be defined as "the forging of a common understanding, usually between elites, that their best interests or beliefs are served by a particular way of organising political power." Over time, political settlements tend to broaden beyond elites to develop a common understanding with wider society. This engagement with societal groups—to win and maintain their consent—is a crucial part of responsive state-building.

Political settlements have different origins, take different forms, and are not static. They can be formalised through elections, or within a peace agreement and/or constitution. Underlying the formal agreement is a continuous process of negotiation. In some cases, these settlements may undergo a step-change or renegotiation, in which different actors aim to transform the nature of political power or structures of the state.

The second element of post-conflict

development involves **addressing the causes of conflict**, to reduce the risk of violence. There are some basic structural conditions (including weak economic and social development, poor governance and insecurity) which make fragility and conflict more likely. Conflict itself also hinders economic and social development, resulting in a vicious cycle of conflict and poverty – the so called "conflict trap". Proximity to conflict in neighbouring countries also increases the risk of instability. As well as factors directly causing conflict, there are *conditions for positive peace* which should be supported as part of peace-building approaches. Programming responses should focus on addressing the critical weaknesses in peace conditions.

The third element is developing **survival functions** which consolidate the authority of the state. A basic level of functionality is required to secure the survival of the state and the incumbent regime. Without accountability, there is a risk that such functions may exert state control without protecting or responding to the population. Deciding which functions are most crucial is context specific, but evidence suggests:

Security – without security for the state and the people, the economy

and public services cannot function and peace cannot be achieved. *Revenue* – states need access to revenue sources (e.g., taxation, aid, natural resources) to pay for key functions, and to create confidence in the financial viability of the state. *Rule of law* – states establish the conditions under which security enforcement or other sanctions might be used, to engender some predictability and control within society.

The last element involves delivering **expected functions** which are not essential for the state's survival, but which are expected by the population. This includes delivery of public services, governance arrangements or other actions by the state which help to build its legitimacy among the population. Priorities vary according to context and are closely linked to citizens' awareness of their rights and entitlements.

Examples of expected functions or actions might include: economic management; public service delivery (health, education, water) and infrastructure; employment programmes; personal safety and access to justice (beyond what is required for state survival); social protection; anti-corruption measures; and voice and accountability (fair elections, free media, etc).