



SOUTH SUDAN APRIL 2014

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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms:

CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
JAM	Joint assessment Mission
SPLM	Sudan People's Liberation Movement
SPLA	Sudan People's Liberation Army
NCP	National Congress Party
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.
AU	African Union
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development
NGP	National Gender Policy
MoGCSW	Ministry of Gender, child and social Welfare
SSDP	South Sudan Development Plan
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
DDR	Demobilization, disarmament and re-integration
SSNPS	South Sudan National Police Service
SGBV	Sexual Gender Base violent
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
SSTEP	South Sudan Teachers Education Program
NER	Net enrolment rate
GER	General Enrolment Rate
WFP	World Food Program
VSLA	Voluntary Saving and Loan Associations
CSSAC	Community Security and Small Arms Arm Control
BCSSAC	Bureau of Community Security and Small Arms Control
PWDs	Persons with Disability.
1325 NAP	National Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325
EVE	Empowering Village Education

MAP OF SOUTH SUDAN SHOWING STATE OVERVIEW



SUMMARY BACKGROUND ON SOUTH SUDAN

TABLE 1: GEOGRAPHY

Area Coverage	644,329 sq. km
Climate	(953.7 mm) Rainfalls, Average High temp of 94.1°F (34.5°C) Low of 70.9°F (21.6°C)
Terrain	South Sudan is bordered by Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, DRC, Sudan and CAR
Natural Resources	Oil, gold, Cement, Iron, Copper, Uranium, Timber, River among others.

TABLE 2: DEMOGRAPHY

Total Population	8.26 million (2008 Census). 3.9 million, 48% of the Population are Women (SSCCE, 2011).
Population Growth Rate	4.3%
Current Population Projection	10.84 million (2012)World Bank
% urban population	17%
% Rural Population	83%
Life Expectancy	54.05 years (Women 55.09 years and for men 53.05 years.)
Tribe	64
Ethnic Groups	200 Ethnic Groups
Religions	Christianity, Islam African and Traditional Religion

Table 3: SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Human Development Index	0.379
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Poverty Rate	50.6%
State Budget	2012-2013 was SSP 9bn (\$3bn)
HIV prevalence rate	3%
Gender Based Violence Incidence	40%
Under 5 mortality	105 (per 1,000 live births)
Maternal mortality ratio	2,054 per 100,000 births
Total fertility rate	3.85 Births Per woman
Access to safe drinking water	55%
Access to sanitation	13.8%
Literacy rate	27% for people above 15years
Gross Enrolment rate	54.5% for girls; 81.4 for boys (2010)

Source: South Sudan statistical Year Book (2011).

Table 4: WOMEN IN POLITICS AND DECISION MAKING REPRESENTATION

% Women National Legislative Assembly	29%. (With 95 in number)
% Women in the National Cabinet	10% (5 in number)
% Women State Parliament	25 % (with 120 in number)
% Women as Undersecretary	12% (with four 4 in number)
The Presidency	1 female Advisor out seven Presidential Advisors

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

South Sudan is a land locked country with a total area coverage of 644.329 sq. km and is neighboring Sudan from the north, Ethiopia from the East, Kenya and Uganda from the South, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) from the south East and Central African Republic (CAR) from the west. The Country has a total population of 8.26 million (2008 Sudan Population Census)¹ and with a current projection of 10.84 million people (2012 World Bank Projection)²

The country is comprised of ten states, namely Eastern Equatoria, Western Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Northern Bahr El Ghazel, Western Bahr El Ghazel, Unity and Upper Nile.

South Sudan is largely plains, marked by hilly regions and thick vegetation. The Nile is one of the major natural features of South Sudan. It traverses the entire country and flows through some of its major towns including Juba, the capital city. The Nile facilitates trade, administration and urbanization in most of the rural areas.

South Sudan holds other natural resources including oil, gold, and iron ore, copper among others. The country is very fertile for agriculture and main crops includes-sorghum, millet, Ground Nuts, Simsim, rice cassava etc. The country also provides attractive site for one of the world largest animal migration each year.

Historical Background.

The South Sudan two decades of civil wars (1955-1972) and (1983-2005) left the country devastated with ruined infrastructure, population displaced internally and externally as refugees in neighboring countries and beyond. This resulted into underdevelopment across all sectors; as in many other post conflicts situations, women and children have borne the brunt of these wars. During the struggle with a large number of men killed or absent for a long period of time, women stepped in to fill the roles that traditionally been reserved for the men. They become the backbone of community, taking care of homes and families, sick and wounded as well as managing agricultural food production.

During the struggle, women played a critical role in the war as combatants themselves or providing soldiers with vital logistical support. These increased responsibility and the critical role women played during the struggle, however have not reversed the entrenched patriarchal legacy of the patriarchy. The founder of the Sudan People's Liberation Struggle though in his leadership recognized women contribution in the struggle and nation building. Dr. John Garang has always recognized the plight of women of the Sudan by saying "women *are the marginalized of the marginalized*"³. Although the SPLM started recognizing the important role played by women since the **Chukudum convention** at which the department of women and child welfare was created within the SPLM and this was reaffirmed by the joint assessment

² 2012 World Bank Population Projection Report

³ Dr. John Garang Official Speech at the Signing of the 2005 Sudan Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)

mission (JAM) in 2004, which recognized the needs for progress towards Gender equality and whose recommendations were later captured in the CPA, including the 25% affirmative action clause. With the coming of peace and signing of the CPA, the majority of women, especially in the rural areas, have returned to their socially designated roles and to unequal power relations that excludes them from leadership and decision making

In 2005, the Sudan National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) signed the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) to end the Africa's longest civil war. The comprehensive peace agreement provided for the referendum for the southerners to determine whether they will become an independent country or remain under Sudan. Under the internationally monitored referendum in January 2011, Southerners opted to secede from the north by more than 98% of which over 50% was women contribution. The outcome paved way for the southern independence which South Sudan, led by the SPLM in Juba, seceded in July 2011.

These brought in, and created a window of opportunity for the Republic of South Sudan institutions to formulate new development framework and sets in standards for service delivery and accountability. The post-independence era ushered in an opportunity for the new government to rationalize institutions and align better structures with mandates to manage and deliver services to the people of South Sudan. The new nation was founded on justice, equality and respect for human dignity and fundamental freedom.

The declaration of South Sudan Independence on the 9th July 2011, which marked the birth of a new nation also witnessed the promulgation of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan in 2011, as the supreme law of the land. This was followed closely with the adoption of the first ever development plan, The South Sudan Development Plan of 2011-2013, a medium term development plan that would respond to the core development and state-building challenges during the first three years of independence.⁴ Fortunately, the Constitution on the face of it and through its adoption of the Internationally recognized Bill of Rights, makes provision for gender equality and gender mainstreaming including, elements of affirmative action to ensure representation of women in decision making positions in the public spheres which include cabinet, the legislatures at the national and state levels, the Judiciary and other public institutions. The South Sudan Development Plan too among other pillars has provision for cross cutting issues which also includes gender equality.

The 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

The period (1995-2005) that witnessed the holding of fourth world conference on women in Beijing, was the same period when South Sudan was still under one Sudan and still faced with conflict. Little or no achievements were achieved, in spite of some achievements registered under the Sudan People's Liberation Movement in their control areas. The Sudan by then was operating under the Sharia law which most of its national provisions under the law undermines the dignity and respect for women. Most international legal instruments that guarantee the promotion of gender equality and protection of the right of women including the CEDAW were not ratified. There was no policy and legal framework that supports and promote full

⁴ 2011 South Sudan Development Plan

participation of women; hence virtually there was little progress within this period of the Beijing declaration up to the signing of the comprehensive peace agreement. However from the interim period of the CPA and the post-independence period, South Sudan has witnessed progress in recognition of advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Purpose of this Report

This evaluation report critically assesses the progress made and challenges encountered in line with the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the 23 Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 2000. To this end, the evaluation will identify key overview of the achievements in line with the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, the challenges and suggested actions for future intervention in relation to the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women in South Sudan.

Methodology:

This report was realized as result of the intensive desk review of the existing literature and a participatory process involving the key line Government institutions, Development Partners and Civil Society Organization at the national and state level. Key references were made to relevant policy and legal frameworks, strategies and programmes that are intended to advance gender equality and women empowerment in South Sudan.

2. O. OVERVIEW OF THE ACHIEVMENTS AND CHALLENGES IN PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT.

South Sudan has so far made key achievements in line with the advancement of Gender equality and the empowerment of women. These achievements traces back from the pre-CPA period, CPA period and post CPA period. It is important to acknowledge that as a young nation, South Sudan has not achieved much compared to other nations that attained independence in the early 1960's. Below is an overview of achievements in line with the key critical areas provided in the guideline and format by the United Nations:

2.1. Achievements:

2.1.1 South Sudan was admitted as the 193rd member state of the United Nations by the General Assembly on 13 July 2011. It is also a member of the AU and IGAD. The country has both an international and regional obligation by default to respect and implement key international instruments that promotes gender equality and rights of women. The country signed the Geneva Convention binding it to uphold international humanitarian law. Although South Sudan has not yet ratified CEDAW and other important conventions that promote and protect gender equality, the principal tenets of these instruments are reflected in national legal instruments. The government of South Sudan has already ratified the United Nation convention on the right of Child. This is one achievement in as far as the implementation of the Beijing plat form and action is concern.

2.1.2 Commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women are enshrined in provisions of the Transitional Constitution and Bill of Rights which guarantees for equality

and equity between women and men as well as a 25% Affirmative Action provision for women in all spheres as a temporary positive measure to redress past imbalances. A number of laws enacted including the Child Act (2008) and some sector specific policies further demonstrate the desire to redress past inequalities and violations of the rights of women, children, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

2.1.3 South Sudan developed a national Gender policy and its implementation strategy that came to effect in 2013. The policy came as a result of thorough consultation with different stakeholders in private, government at national and state levels, development partners, national and international organizations. The National Gender Policy serve as a framework and provide guidelines for mainstreaming principles of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the national development process with the ultimate goal of making gender equality an integral part of all laws, policies, programs and activities of all government institutions, the private sector and civil society.

2.1.4 Government has also provided fertile ground for Women’s political participation and representation at all level of government with an affirmative action of 25%. Women were encouraged to register, vote and run for election in the first multiparty election in 2010 as one provision of the 2005 Sudan CPA. With the support of development partners this led to unprecedented ,51(31%) women out of 170 members elected to South Sudan Legislative Assembly in April 2010 elections with 10 currently serving as members of the cabinet. In the national legislative assembly, women representation stands at 29% and they hold 27% of the cabinet position. In Addition, 120 (25%) women out of 480 members where elected to 10 state legislative assemblies.

Table 5: Composition of South Sudan State Assemblies by sex

State	Female	Male	Total	%Female	%Male
Central Equatoria	9	14	23	39.1	60.9
Eastern Equatoria	5	14	19	26.3	73.7
Jonglei	8	20	28	28.6	71.4
Lakes	7	7	14	50	50
Northern Bahr El Ghazal	14	11	25	56	44
Unity	4	8	12	33.3	66.6
Upper Nile	7	13	20	35	65
Warrap	8	12	10	40	60
Western Equatoria	1	5	6	16	84
Bahr El Ghazal	4	9	13	30.8	69.2

Source: Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (2011)

2.1.5 The establishment of institutional mechanism of governance to advance gender equality and promote women empowerment. The government established the National Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare in 2006, the Office of the Presidential Advisor on gender and human rights, the Specialized Parliamentary Committee on Gender and Social Welfare

and the women parliamentary caucus. All these have the mandate to promote and build a just and free society-a society free from all forms of discrimination and violence; promoting a country in which women, men and children enjoy their human rights on the basis of equality and non-discrimination. These institutional mechanisms also trickle down at sub national level. The establishment of the National Bureau of Statistics has also strengthened the mechanism of monitoring, collecting and generation of gender disaggregated data that is necessary for planning purpose.

2.1.6 Political will to advance gender equality has been demonstrated by the establishment of the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MGCSW) in October 2005 and the Office of the Adviser to the President on Gender and Human Rights. Both of these have the mandate to promote gender equality and to monitor progress in its implementation in all sectors of national life. South Sudan's first post-independence development plan (SSDP 2011-2013) recognizes the central role of gender equality in development and includes it among the nine cross-cutting issues which all sectors are required to mainstream in all policies, plans and programs. South Sudan Human Rights Commission and War Wounded, Widows and Orphans Commission establishment by the government is another commitment to further the equality of women.

2.1.7 South Sudan Development Plan 2011/13 now extended to 2016, provides an overarching vision for Southern Sudan's economic and social development priorities beyond the CPA interim period. It is a medium term framework for achieving security, development, economic growth and poverty reduction. It is a pro-poor and gender sensitive plan that has meaningful impact on the poor and vulnerable people especially women and children; and to make sure that public policies programmes and resource allocations are gender responsive. One aspect of these efforts has been advocacy for use of gender-disaggregated data and MDGs based indicators and mainstreaming of gender issues in all the four main pillars of the SSDP. The Plan also recognizes the gender equality and the empowerment of women as pre-requisites for sustainable peace and development and the National gender policy, as integral part of the national goal of building peaceful, inclusive and prosperous nations.

2.2 Challenges:

South Sudan still has considerable challenges remaining in spite of the achievements registered by the government and this calls for aggressive and holistic approach in promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women in South Sudan. These challenges are inter related and reinforce each other. For example issues of security and justice are closely related to the sexual Gender based violence, which have direct impacts on the health and livelihood of women, men and children. These affect the socio-economic status including the education, income, employment and representation in decision making process.

- 2.2.1 **Capacity Challenges;** Though South Sudan has registered some progress in the implementation of the Beijing declaration and platform for action, there is limited institutional framework to strengthen the good achievements, capacity of these institutions being weak and coupled with human resources capacity is one big challenges hindering the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment.
- 2.2.2 **Patriarchy:** With clear demonstrated political will and other national legal document guarantees, the attitudes toward Gender, equality and the rights of women are still predominantly strong in the patriarchal social systems which entrenches gender based discrimination and exposed women and other vulnerable groups to marginalization, violations and abuse of human rights especially of women and children. This patriarchal systems means that, men dominate most social spheres and are accorded most productive assets, powers, privileges and authority. The negative effect of this marginalization is witness always in all sectors both private and public, and this heavily impinges on the development of the country.
- 2.2.3 **Obstacle in political participation and governance:** South Sudan still experiences unbalanced power relations and opportunities between women and men at all level of government. While the 25% in the affirmative action are commendable and has brought increased political participation of women in the legislative assembly, differences and disparities are still evident and wide enough in legislative assemblies, executive level, in public administration. In Lakes state and Northern Bahr el Ghazal the disparities is 50% and 56% respectively. Great disparities exist in the Judiciary, Executives and also in the local government structures. The capacity of women to effectively participate and engage with their male counterpart in leadership and decision making is still limited
- 2.2.4 **The weak legal and justice sectors.** South Sudan legal systems is still facing a lot of challenges in terms of human resources to handle the many cases, the challenges to equity in accessing justice is one issue that affects women most especially in rural areas where cases are handle by customary court systems which are dominated by the deeply patriarchal beliefs and practices. There is therefore urgent needs to streamline and harmonizes the legal systems and judicial practices, and capacity improvement and development in the justice sectors to ensure that existing legislation within the country are properly used and are correctly enforced. Initiatives in the legal sectors like legal aid to be put in place especially in rural areas to cater for the disadvantage women/girls and men/boys more effort is also needed in the informal justice systems like the paralegals in the community and village mediators.
- 2.2.5 **Security.** South Sudan still grapples with the aftermaths of the conflicts before independence and the existing internal crisis, unresolved issues with the neighboring country, Sudan, inter communal violent cause by such practices like cattle raiding and other clashes over land issues. This has been made worse by the presence of small arms among the civilian. These leads to insecurity and soil problems in the community and has gender related dimension such as, increased incidence of rape, abduction of women and children,

disease and deprivation of human dignity. Gender equality interventions must take into consideration, not only the gender effects of insecurity, but also the role women can play in conflict prevention and peace building at national and community levels. This means, carefully scrutinizing the role of women in disarmament, demobilization and re-integration (DDR) process, mediation and peace building initiatives.

2.2.6 Poor retention, promotion and recruitment in security sector: Much as the security sector has demonstrated willingness and gender responsiveness by taking initiatives to train and raise gender awareness, there is need to focus and increased commitments on the retention, recruitment and promotion of women in the security sector including the South Sudan Liberation Army(SPLA), the South Sudan National Police Service (NSSPS)and other correctional and organized forces in South Sudan,

2.2.7 Harmful traditional practices and sexual violence: Civil war in South Sudan where marred by widespread forms of sexual gender based violence including rapes as weapon of war, abduction, force sexual favors and new risk and other forms of violence against women. In post war, South Sudan sexual gender based violence remains one the serious health and development indicator. Protection and response mechanism remains weak. Prevalent forms of SGBV include domestic's violence and wife battery, abduction of women and children during cattle raiding, rape and sexual assault, wife inheritance, forced and child marriages. Structural causes of SGBV and lack of access to justice especially to rural women and men are also manifested in the denial of women to inheritance of productive assets, lack of voice and decision making in family and community matters, denial of right of choice to found a family, all of which are common in rural areas. This however is positive in the transitional constitution of the republic of South Sudan and the bills of rights. However, there is serious challenge in the awareness and the under reporting and ignorance in understating whether they are being subjected to violence.

In adequate psychosocial support mechanism and other protection and medical services especially in conflict prone areas, provision means that, many do not seek protection or redress, even where the facilities are available and this calls for more multifaceted approach in making sure that the government together with development partners address the reporting and monitoring of such challenges especially in the rural settings.

3.0 THE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN TO THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION (1995) AND THE FURTHER INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE TWENTY-THIRD SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN BENERAL ASSEMBLY.

This section explores the progress made in the implementation of the critical areas of concerns as stated in the platform for action 1995 and further actions identified in the twenty third special session of the UN General Assembly, 2000.

The progress made are discussed under the different component including policy and legislatives changes, programme and projects undertaken, successful actions taken to

implement the policies, the commitments to further the implementation of the gender equality and women empowerment. This is in line with the guidelines provided by the United Nations. This section also discusses the challenges, experiences and lesson learned.

3.1. WOMEN AND POVERTY:

Policy and legislative changes: Despite being among the poorest nations in the world, South Sudan has committed to eradicating extreme poverty and to that end envisaged that the proportion of the population that would be living under the national poverty level by the year 2013 will have gone down to 46%. As a result the country has made significant stride at policy and strategic level by developing and adopting; Vision 2040, South Sudan Development Plan, the National Gender Policy, the Local Government Gender Policy Framework, the National Cooperative Strategy, National Agriculture Strategy, the Social Protection Policy (at final stage of adoption), South Sudan Development Initiative and South Sudan New Deal Compact 2013 (Final Stage of adoption). The implementation of some of these national policies and strategies provides opportunity for the extension of basic social service that has translated into improving the living conditions of the population. Specific actions including establishment of credit and micro finance facility for women and women cooperatives at the grass root level though weak, has alleviated women from the brink of poverty.

Programs and Projects: South Sudan prioritized an integrated set of interventions to achieve economic prosperity. With the support of development partners, the government has taken measures to address the burden of poverty in various sector of the economy from agriculture, trade, infrastructure development in education roads and health sector. Emphasis is placed on private sector-led investments and ensuring that growth is pro-poor, equitable and diversified. The core target for economic development as stated in the country's development plan is "to sharply increase food security by lifting cereal production from 0.7 million Mt per year to 1.0 million Metric tons per year and increase meat, milk and fish production similarly. For example through the Multi Donor trust fund, the Ministry of Gender in 2009, supported rural women in ten states in agriculture and income generating activities that created employment and services for women in small and medium enterprises, particularly in the informal sector. The government also through the ministry of Agriculture, initiated projects geared towards the development and implementation of Gender responsive Agricultural policies and enhancements of economics livelihoods targeting a thousand women (1,000). The projects also aim at increasing rural women participation in agribusiness. The programs also catered for the training of gender to all extension workers and cooperatives officers in the country. In order to increase employment opportunities and income to rural women, the Government, has also extended credit facilities to 4,000 poor rural women in South Sudan with a cumulative disbursement of close to \$0.8 million this also covers over 500 benefiting from skills training, agriculture inputs and credit facility.

Challenges: There are several challenges that South Sudan women face in relation to abject poverty. One of them is the prolong conflict, the current internal crisis , lack of resources to implement sound poverty eradication measures due to the oil uncertain extraction, low literacy

rates among women to engage in productive activity, private, poor infrastructural facilities and inadequate market access. Poverty incidence continue to be higher among women than men, women constitute a larger proportion of the poor (51%) than men (48.4%); the poverty incidence is higher among females than males. This in turn affects their level of expenditure on food that was found to be much lower (2.40 SSP spent daily per person) compared to their male counterparts (2.76 SSP).⁵

Another major challenge is that market prices of major food and non-food commodities have been persistently rising. According to the NBS, the Inflation rate has increased by 57.1% in August 2011 when compared with August 2010.⁶ The North-South trade route blockade has contributed most for the high price increase, constraining movement of essential commodities such as wheat grain, wheat flour, sorghum and millet from North to South Sudan (Refer to Social Protection Policy).

Successful Actions: The Governments of the Republic of South Sudan with the dear financial support from development partners have put in programs that focus on fostering inclusive and pro-poor growth and reducing food insecurity –specifically supporting the initiatives that increase cereal production and improve on the livelihood of small scale farmers and conflict affected women. This has made the poor rural women and much conflict affected women to benefit from the harvest of the cereal crops.

Lesson learned: With poverty level more concentrated in rural areas (55.4%) than urban areas (24.4%), targeted interventions should be concentrated in the rural areas as opposed to urban. Improving livelihoods of the rural poor will synonymously address the key barriers faced by women, men, girls and boys in rural areas that deny them access to economic rights and opportunities. Secondly, encouraging the participation and engagement of the poor rural women in identification of the priority areas for investment has proved successful for example the livelihood projects for women, growing vegetable supported by Government in Eastern and Western Equatoria is making great impacts because of the ownership of the projects by women themselves and in identifying best area for investment.

3.2. WOMEN EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

Policy and Legislative Changes: The Republic of South Sudan recognizes the importance of education in the national development and has placed the sector among the top five priority programme areas in the Social and Human Development pillar of the SSDP. The country has also adopted policy measures to create and provide conducive environment to promote women and girls education. The adoption of the National Gender Policy, Education Policy, the Universal Primary Education in 2006, the Girl's Education Programme, promotion of private schools and university education, school feeding programme are some positive measures that uphold the level of gender equality reached in education in general. South Sudan education policy

⁵ Sudan National House Hold Survey 2009

⁶ Sudan National House Hold Survey 2009

recognizes basic education as a right, free and for all in South Sudan, as well as the promotion of the access to higher and general education opportunities, the policy also grounds education in local cultures and tradition, some of which are responsible for undermining equitable access to education opportunities, for example the practice of early marriage undermines girl child education and this is not addressed by the Policy in a more proactive manner.

Programs and Projects: The National Ministry of Education, Science and Technology with the support of partners has put in place programmes and a number of affirmative action in order to promote education for all and female education such as establishment of community girls' schools, girls' boarding schools and development of a policy paper on girl child education, girls incentive programme, School feeding programme. The education sector has been boosted by the South Sudan Teachers Education Programme (SSTEP) through the Global Partnership for education to address the issue of quality of teachers and enrolment levels. The programme aims to provide qualified teachers and academic staff in order to reduce the pupil-teacher ratio and produce a relevant curriculum for general education. With the approval of the General Education Bill 2012 by the National Legislative Assembly, the government plan to address issues of making primary school attendance compulsory and holding parents accountable for not sending their children to school and for absenteeism, increase provision for private schools to enable parents to have choices between taking their children to public or private schools. As a result of the government intervention, primary school enrolment increased from only 400, 000 in 2006 to 1.3 million in 2009 and number of primary schools has increased by 20%. Likewise, the literacy rate improved from 28% in 2006 to 40% in 2009; with males registering 37% compared to women, who were at 30%, by the year 2009. Only 28% of women are literate in comparison to 55% for men, implying a ratio of literate females to males of barely above half. Net Enrolment Rate (NER) in primary schools of South Sudan stood at 40% in 2009, and Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) was 65%. During the same year, the completion rate was 64.5%.

Challenges: The education sector suffer from inadequate budget allocation necessary for human resources and infrastructure development at all level of the education. The current statistics indicates that there are gender gaps in favor of males at all levels of education in South Sudan. This is the case at pre-primary, primary, secondary, alternative education and higher education. The gender gaps are widest at higher and secondary education. For instance females' enrolment into Universities was only 18% compared to 82% for males in 2010. Similarly, female enrolment into secondary schools was only 29% compared to 71% for males in 2010. The pastoralist communities in States like Lakes and Northern Bahr El Ghazal have the lowest female enrolment rates at all levels of education. This has been exacerbated by the long conflict. The low level of literacy among women implies that women are not able to effectively participate in socio-economic development. For instance they find it extremely hard to engage in income generating activities that require basic economic literacy, Lack of health facilities for young girls at school, harmful traditional practices like force marriage. It is therefore important that interventions aimed at promoting literacy and life skills pay special attention to the needs and interests of women and girls so that they can effectively participate in the development process. 91% of the population has no qualifications, 5% have primary qualifications and 4% have secondary qualifications.

Successful Actions: The Launching of the Go to school program by the government and its implementation by different state ministry has yielded fruits by increased in the school enrolment in South Sudan by 20% from 2006 to 2009; women registering 30% increase in literacy rate.

Lesson Learned: Intensifying vocational and skills training, improving on the accessibility of education facilities and school environment increases the enrolment, retention and completion rates within the formal and non-formal education systems especially of women

3.3. WOMEN AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT:

Policy and Legislative Changes: South Sudan has adopted legal frameworks and national strategies and programmes to empower women economically. The Land Act 2008, National Gender Policy, Agriculture Strategy, National Cooperative Strategy and South Sudan Development Plan lay down programme priorities that are very instrumental in promoting the economic empowerment of women. The National Gender Policy and the South Sudan Development Plan advocate for a pro-poor approach in delivery of basic services to meet the need of the most vulnerable group including the women. The Transitional Constitution and the Land Act singles out very clear the right of women to acquire property and land for economic development and right to equal opportunity by women and men, girls and boys.

Programs and Projects: Different sectors ranging from Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperative and Rural Development, Ministry of Gender, implementation range of economic empowerment programs. Through The Farm Sudan Project, the government has been able to reach out and empower a number of rural women in the agriculture sector. Through WFP local purchase programme, women farmers are being encouraged to produce and sale their products at more favorable price. Government is also building the capacity of women on adult functional literacy, poultry farming, entrepreneurship, computer, tailoring, and hand-craft through the established Women Empowerment Centers in selected states of Lakes, Western Equatoria and Jonglei With the support of State Ministry of Gender and Social Development, the women in Western Equatoria State are beginning to reap from the benefit of village saving programme (VSLA). The Government has also initiated Adolescent Girls Initiative (AGI) to support school dropout girls in business management skills. The programme is currently being implemented in three (3) States of Eastern, Central Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal.

Challenges: With the high rate of illiteracy in the country coupled with inadequate resources, poor infrastructure and rampant insecurity, most empowerment programmes for women could not take place or benefit the women and girls at the grass root level. There is also inequalities in access to economic and productive assets most especially land, disparities in skills and capacity, traditional and customary practices that assign women and men different gender roles, are some key issues that hinder full participation of women in economic empowerment initiatives. High defaulting rates in case of loan scheme in some States continue to affect the outcomes of the positive empowerment. Many women especially in loan scheme work hard to repay the loans.

Successful Actions: Government commitment to equip women with various skills through establishment of women empowerment centers in key States of Lakes, Western Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria and Jonglei is a very good practice that has gone long way to enabled women engage in economic activities that is improving their living conditions.

Lessons Learned: The empowerment of women with various productive skills has always not been followed with start-up capital to enable them join the private sector especially in the agriculture sector. Stakeholders should develop exit and follow up strategies to support women graduate with start-up capital that will enable them invest their entrepreneur skills.

3.4. WOMEN AND DECISION MAKING:

Policy and Legislative Changes: Women participation in governance and leadership is fully provided for under the 2011 Transitional Constitution and re-echoed in the National Gender Policy. The constitution provide for 25% affirmative action for women and provided for an inclusive participation of both women and men to stand for political leadership, to vote and participate in decision making at all levels of government . This has been implemented in the Executive and the Legislature as provided for in the transitional constitution. The current representation stands at 33% which is above the constitutional provision of 25 %. The above success has been achieved because of the mechanism and policies put in place to promote women leadership. Other states like Lakes state elected more women beyond the required provision in the constitution.

Table 1: National Assembly and Decision Making Positions by Sex Representation in South Sudan.

Item	Female	%	Male	%	Total
National Legislative Assembly	95	29	237	71	332
Council of State Representative	5	10	45	90	50
Speaker	0	0	1	100	1
Deputy Speaker	1	100	1	100	1
Minister	5	17	24	83	29
Deputy Minister	10	37	17	63	27
Heads of Commissions	2	10	18	90	20
Deputy Heads of Commissions	4	20	16	80	20
Presidential Advisers	1	14	6	86	7
Undersecretaries	4	12	28	88	32
Total		24.90%		75.03%	

Source: Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (2011)

Programs and projects: Through the Electoral Support programme of 2010 and Referendum Support programme of 2011, the government promoted the participation and engagement of women as voters, candidates, decision makers to determine the outcome of elections and the referendum. With over 50% of the voters being Women, their participation had an impact in determining the outcome of the election and referendum that resulted into the secession of the South Sudan. Through the support of parliament programmes, the capacity of female and male legislatures has been strengthened on gender responsive legislation and budgeting. The legislative assemblies at both national and State level has also witnessed the establishment of key gender mechanism like the specialized committees, Women Caucus and election of female speakers.

Government has also initiated women transformative leadership programme for women leaders of South Sudan. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Gender, the leadership capacity of over 30 women leaders comprising of Presidential advisors, Cabinet Ministers, State Ministers, Parliamentarians, State Governors, Parliamentary Speakers have been enhanced. The objective of the programme is geared towards enhancing the leadership skills of South Sudan Women Leaders to be able to transform and influence their community towards nation building, peace building initiatives in South Sudan.

Table 6: Registered Voters by State and Sex:

State	No. Registered voters	Women %	Male %
Central Equatoria	537.054	56.9	43.1
Eastern Equatoria	636.774	56.3	43.7
Jonglei	556.980	51.4	48.6
Lakes	383.159	50.8	49.2
Northern Bahr el Gazel	457.789	49.1	50.9
Unity	522.196	64.9	35.1
Upper Nile	425.861	55.5	44.5
Warrap	636.741	50.2	49.5
Western Bahr El Gazel	213.151	57.3	42.7
Western Equatoria	321.183	54.5	45.5
Total		54.7	45.3

Source: StatisticalYearBookforSouthSudan2010:2011

Challenges: High level of illiteracy and lower social status of women in South Sudan reduces their voices and influence in the public decision making and makes them more dependent on decision by existing structures. Despite the presence of legal and policy environment, women voices are not hard as decision making is left under mercy of men or cultural leaders whose decisions are highly respected and play a vital role in conflict resolution, community

mobilization and development. Inadequate resources for political campaign, is another challenge that women continue to face in attempt to stand and compete for political leadership

Successful Actions: Transformational Leadership Initiative for the Women of South Sudan, is one of the successful initiative enhancing women leadership skills in governance and decision making. With the support of partners, the government has institutionalized the transformational leadership through the establishment of the National Transformational Leadership Institute at Juba University. The institute will serve as hub of knowledge and research on policies and programmes for Young women, Women in politics, Public Administration, CSO's and Private sector.

Lessons learned: Throughout the CPA and Post-independence period the role of women in influencing policy decision making has been minimal that women voices are less recognized or hard. With the support partners, the government will need to increase its investment to enhance the capacity of women leaders on governance and transformational leadership to equip women with skills that enable them influence their community with a focus on development and nation building.

3.5. WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT:

Policy and legislative changes: The government has taken positive steps towards developing policy and legal frameworks to protect its population especially women and children in the post conflict country. The transitional constitution, the Child Act, the Penal Code and the National Gender Policy South Sudan Development Programme are among the key national policy and legal instrument that define the commitment by government to address gender dimension in conflict and protection of women and children. The Government has also established institutional frameworks including the South Sudan Police Service, Ministry of Justice, Human Rights Commission, DDR Commission, the Bureau for Community Security and Arms Control, Ministry of Defense and Veteran Affairs, War and Widows Commission, Peace and Reconciliation Commission. The government has also finally developed the National Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325. The NAP is at the final stage of adoption by Council of ministers.

Program and projects: The Government of the Republic of South Sudan has one of the most comprehensive genders responsive Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Program in the region. The programme has been critical for security and stability in the post-conflict nation and opened the path to recovery and development. Reintegration is the main measure of success for DDR as it helps ex-combatants cultivate new economic livelihoods and ultimately builds new lives and communities. The programme has gender consideration catering for the needs of women combatants or women associated with the Armed Forces and children soldiers. In the 1st phases of the programme up to 12,525 combatants were demobilized and 10,926 registered in South Sudan.

The Government has also implemented Community Security and Arms Control (CSAC) Programmes in the ten States of South Sudan. The programme aims to address the root causes of armed violence, implement conflict-sensitive development projects and employ peace building measures at the county level. Following the establishment of the Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control (BCSSAC), the government implemented a number of conflict-sensitive development projects from Mechanized farming, through the provision of tractors, that helped increase the harvest during the first year by an estimated additional 3,000 feddans in two counties in Eastern Equatoria, reported a direct increase in household income and a reduction in sexual/gender-based violence amongst members of women's groups who now farm within the protection of their own community.

Challenges: Fragility of the peace due to external and internal unresolved differences, marginalization of some groups of women in DDR implementation and limitation of capacity and resource to support transaction from armed conflict to security and peace. The state level government also still lacks full presence in different parts of the counties and Payams, State institution like the police force, prisons and other services are largely only accessible in town and urban areas, leaving rural areas underserved.

Much as the government has made great strides in consolidating its authority in different parts of the country since attaining full independence, a lot of task is still required in remote areas within different states that are still remain inaccessible and fraught with insurgents'.

The Re-integration of the former SPLA soldiers and other combatants with proper needs assessment and screening into police force has proven a big challenge in the implementation of security and enforcement of law and order. This has widened the capacity gaps for human rights protection and gender responsiveness on the part of police and prisons agents. The enforcement of laws on women's and children's rights still remains particularly weak and this has had a very serious impact on rights and development opportunities for citizens particularly for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups like women, children and persons with disabilities (PWDs).

Successful Action: With support from development partners, the Government has developed the South Sudan National Action Plan UNSCR 1325 that will ensure the participation of women in the key decision making process particularly related to peace and security and in preventing, managing and resolving conflict and also contributing to state building. This has created an enabling environment for women to participate in leadership and political processes within the country.

Lessons Learned: The legacy of the past conflicts has left the country deeply hurt which requires a comprehensive and inclusive transitional justice and reconciliation mechanism to address existing grievances and reconcile the nation. This also calls for conflict sensitivity in governance, even while taking steps to restore the rule of law, achieve justice and ensure accountability for gender based violence and other violence.

3.6. WOMEN AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Policy and legislative changes: The Republic of South Sudan took the initiative to acknowledge and domesticate fundamental rights of women under the bill of rights in both the interim constitution and the transitional constitution. The young nation has ratified the United Nation Convention on the Right of Children (CRC) and adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The process of ratifying and domesticating some of the relevant international convention including the CEDAW is at the advanced stage. The implementation of some of these international and national instruments has provided opportunity for the adoption of polices that respect and advance the equality of women in South Sudan. Some of the international conventions that South Sudan is committed to ratify include; the Convention on The Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Conventions on Cultural and Civic Rights, The Convention on Social, Economic and Political Rights. Domestically we have; the Transitional Constitution, the Land Act, the General Education Act, and the Child Act (2008).

Programs and Projects: The government with the support of partners has implemented several rule of law projects with the goal of promoting good governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws of South Sudan and to ensure respect for the human rights of every individual, including women and marginalized groups. The government under the leadership of the Ministry of Justice has initiated the comprehensive rule of law programme covering institutional capacity building in the rule of law sector, including the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice, police and corrections and harmonization of customary law with statutory law and protection of human rights. The has opened National Customary Law Centre and completed ascertainment study of Customary Law in 14 Communities in South Sudan, established six Justice and Confidence Centers to increase citizens' access to justice and construction of the Juba University College of Law.

Successful Action: The government with support from development partners created in programs that addresses the capacity development by creating a special protection Unit within the South Sudan Police service and trained a number of personnel to be deployed in that Unit. In 2013 the special protection unit received 2,403 cases, 2,140 cases were effectively investigated and passed to court for redress. 423 women and 178 Juveniles were released from places of detention through the involvement of the Special protection Units.

Challenges: There are gaps in the transitional constitution, there is no Act in the parliament giving effect to the principles of marriageable age of men and women, legal gaps and influence of Islamic and cultural practices that perpetuates lower social status of women and girls, means they continue to face inequality in the right to marry and found a family. The transitional constitution stills does not have laws that combat harmful practices that undermines the dignity and status of women like marital rape, the polygamy, property and inheritance rights.

In adequate well trained and experienced judges, lawyers, police and prison staff is still major challenge in the rule of law sector. As a result the population has little confidence in these

institutions, and they have little information about the formal legal framework and rely instead on customary mechanisms.

3.7. WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENT:

Policy and legislative changes: In order to provide every citizens with the opportunity to participate in the protection of the environment and the decision makers and resources users to make correct choices from among viable option for sustainable utilization of the resources the Republic of South Sudan has adopted and implemented a National Environmental Policy, National Forestry Policy and established the Ministry of Petroleum, Mining and Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to oversee the implementation of the policy. The policy recognizes the important roles played by women in providing water, fuel, firewood, practicing subsistence farming and other vital services to their community and households.

Programs and Projects: Based on evolving environmental needs and priorities the Government with support of partners has developed priority pilot programmes including formulation, dissemination and implementation of critical policy guidance at the national and state level, such as the draft Environmental Bill, and on compliance with multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).The government has started the Integration of environmental impact assessments in humanitarian and development projects through capacity building and by including environmental concerns in development planning; Proper management of municipal waste in Juba and other major towns through the development of policy and regulatory frameworks and public-private partnership in waste management and recycling; Integrated water resource and wetlands management; Conservation of biodiversity by strengthening wildlife conservation programmes and strengthening protected area management initiatives. Currently piloting two 12-month community forestry projects in Central and Eastern Equatoria states engaging both women and men in the implementation of the project. The objective is to acquire hands-on experience in natural forest management with local communities. Solar Project

Challenges: However, in recent years an estimated 70 percent of forest cover has been lost throughout the country as a result of accelerating deforestation due to wood being collected for fuel, charcoal production, livestock, agriculture, bricks, and collection of construction materials.

Successful Actions: It's critical that women and girls are empowered to effective resource managers through capacity building and having access to both educational opportunities and information on environmental guidance and leadership roles in the community in managing of the environment.

3.8. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:

Policy and legislative changes: The construction efforts ensuing from the peace agreement offer a timely opportunity to apply international resources and local capacity in establishing SGBV prevention and response programming and policies. The Government has put in place

relevant national provisions and programs that relate to violence against women and girls. These provisions include; the Transitional Constitution, the Child Act, Penal Code, Police Code of Conduct, National Gender Policy and National GBV Operation Procedure. In order to enforce these policies, strategies and laws, the government has also established institutional arrangements like the Ministry of Interior (South Sudan Police Service), Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, Human Rights Commission to oversee the implementation and respond to violence against women. The transitional constitution for example under chapter 2 part 2 Article 19 prohibits forced marriage without the free and full consent of the man and woman intending to marry. The Child Act section 23 also provides for the protection of children from early marriage while the Penal Code section 237 makes forced marriages punishable by imprisonment up to 10 years, and/ or a fine.

Programs and projects: In order for the police to respond VAW, the Government has established the Police Special Protection Unit at the Directorate of Social Welfare in the SSPS at the national and State level to provide an enabling environment for the promotion and protection of victims of VAW, prosecute perpetrators of VAW, contribute to percentage reduction on the incidence of VAW, and increase police responsiveness to community concerns. With the support of the National SPU task force, the government has established 10 Special Protection Units across the ten States with existing police stations. The government also trained up 120 police officers to lead the initiative which as a consequence has led to a shift in percentage change in the investigation and report on VAW.

Since 2005, the Government has implemented a robust security sector reform within the various security sector institutions in the country ranging from the police, prison and the army. Since 2005, series of reform programmes to promote law enforcement targeting police and prisons to address standards, policies and capacity development including training and curricula development and law reforms, rehabilitation and construction to establish physical structures for the agencies. The establishment of Southern Sudan Police Training Academy (Dr. John Garang Unified Training Academy) has recruited an average of up to 10,000 police male and 2000 female officers since 2011, this has contributed to strong and professional police institutional as an effective tool for good governance and effective law enforcement.

Successful Actions: The establishment of SPU Unit across the ten State of South Sudan, National standard operating procedures (SOP) for Protection, Prevention and Response to GBV.

Challenges: Although these provisions would guarantee protection of children against early and forced marriages, their enforcement remains a challenge (as discussed under the Rule of Law). While the police and courts are the formal enforcement structures for social protection, the practice is different. Traditional justice mechanisms that are predominantly patriarchal are mainly used, contrary to the legal provisions relating to criminal justice. According to the Local Government Act, Customary courts are prohibited from handling criminal cases. Traditional methods are not supposed to be used in cases of forced marriage. Harmful traditional practices like child marriage and attitudes that stigmatizes the victims instead of the perpetrators are some of the challenges that need to be addressed.

Abuse by security forces is one major challenge on violence against women. 2011 survey carried out by one of the development partner on safety and access to justice, indicates that in the three of the six states surveyed, threats to women from SPLA were identified as a major concern and challenges with acts of assault and sexual assault.

While figures are unreliable, violence against women and girls is an endemic problem in South Sudan. Services for survivors of violence are severely lacking, women and girls have few ways to report violence, and even fewer options for care. These threats are rooted in women's lack of empowerment and economic independence, and are deeply embedded in cultural and customary practices.

Lesson Learned: For a long period of time, VAW and GBV in South Sudan are issues surrounded by silence and denial. Therefore additional investment must be made in prevention, without sacrificing programmes that provide essential services to survivors. This should be followed by developing longer-term initiatives that address deep-seated power inequalities in South Sudan. Such programmes should include livelihoods programming designed to reduce women's vulnerability to violence, as well as to cope with the social and economic consequences of such violence.

3.9. WOMEN AND HEALTH:

Policy and legislative changes: The right to health is guaranteed under the Transitional Constitution (Article 31). Through the National Health Policy, the government is addressing health pressing issues such as providing adequate ante-natal care and immunization services. The government of the Republic of South Sudan has developed health policies, health sector development plan (2011-2015) in fulfillment of its duty to address the health challenges that undermines women and men's right. Under the South Sudan development plan (SSDP) also needs to take concrete interventions on promoting reproductive health through birth control and child spacing. Critical issues that South Sudan is still grappling with in light of strong cultural practices and values.

Programs and projects: Since 2005, government has been committed to intensify investment in essential health care services including reduction of child mortality rate, immunization programs, family planning and primary health care, all these are to specifically improve the health of women and children in South Sudan so that they are rendered productive to the economy of the country. One key government programme is the Health System Strengthening with the support from the Global Fund; the government builds well equipped ten ante-natal clinics, eight laboratories, five maternity wards, five monitoring and evaluation facilities, four community resource centers, three blood banks and two teaching institutions in South Sudan. The programme further contributes to capacity building and deployment of medical personnel. Up to 500 staffs have been training in midwifery, nursing, blood safety, Universal Precautions and infection control and pharmaceutical management. Apart from benefiting women at service delivery level, the capacity building has consideration of gender dimension.

Government HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care programme has benefited the largest proportion of women living with HIV and pregnant mothers under the prevention of mother to child programme. Over 538 HIV positive pregnant mother are receiving a complete course of anti-retroviral prophylaxis to reduce the risk of mother to child transmission; Over 16,000 sex workers and over 160,000 people with high risk behaviors (members of uniformed services, women in informal trade activities, displaced persons, transport operators); and over 154,481 young people have been reached with HIV & AIDS prevention services.

Successful Action: The Government with the commitments and support from development partners have constructed, rehabilitated antenatal clinics/maternity wards, community health centers targeting mainly pregnant women in South Sudan, and besides also supported drug supply and diagnostics testing for TB and HIV/AIDS. According to International women's day, newsletter (**March 2014**). **566,000 pregnant mothers** who previously had no access to modern and improved are facilities benefited. This is just one successful action among others that the Government of the Republic of South Sudan has registered in regards to promoting Gender equality and women's empowerment in the health sector.

Challenges: In spite of these efforts, South Sudan has the worst health indicators due to the long period of protracted conflict. The rate of child mortality is one of the highest in the world at 150/1000; under-five mortality rate is at 250/1000, meaning that out of every four children born, one is likely to die before reaching the age of five. The maternal mortality rate is at 2054 per 100 000 live births and is considered to be the highest in Sub-Saharan Africa⁷. Contraceptive use is as low as 4.7% and family planning and child spacing are not considered

Poor and few health care facilities, shortage of specialized mother and child health workers including nurses and mid wives. This is aggravated by the long distance to health facilities and poor roads. Health infrastructures are among the poorest in region with few and inadequate health equipment. There is a general shortage and sometimes lack of specialized mother and child health workers, including nurses and midwives. This is made worse by lack of information and access by rural women on safe motherhood and child health services such as ante-natal care among others

3.10. THE GIRL CHILD GIRLDCHILD:

Policy and Legislative changes: South Sudan took various policy and programmatic steps since it gained semi-autonomy from Sudan in 2005 and independence in 2011 to increase school enrolment, including advancing the rights of girls to education. Promulgation and adoption of the transitional Constitution, the child Act (2008), General Education Bill (2012) and Education Policy are very positive commitment that the government has undertaken to promote the Girl Child education in South Sudan. Both the Child Act and Transitional

⁷ Southern Sudan Health Sector Development Plan (2011), as quoted in the CGA

Constitution provide for the right to free and compulsory primary education. The Child Act also explicitly states that no girl can be expelled from school due to pregnancy and that young mothers must be allowed to continue their education. To its credit, the government of South Sudan has identified education as a priority in its development plan.

The Child Act provides general principles related to right of a child, the right to education, health, social activity among others. This is because young girls in South Sudan faces extreme disadvantage in education, girls are less likely to enter schools and drop out of the school and also more likely die in early pregnancy. The ministry of Education, science and Technology has a policy framework (2006-2007) in place whose vision is to provide education for all. The policy recognizes basic education as a right, compulsory and free.

Programs and Projects: With the support of partners, Government has put in place institution strengthening programme to promote education including girl child in South Sudan. This has been achieved through building the Education Sector Policy and Planning which includes the passing and adoption of bills and policy in the education sector, improving evidence-based decision making, planning and budgeting through the strengthening of the Education Management Information System (EMIS). The second component is Improving Quality of Education through creation of safe space, inclusive and gender sensitive, protective and healthy environment conducive for education most especially girls. According to (NHHS), the ratio of girls to Boys in primary schools education in 2008 was 58.6% in 2009 and in 2010, there was increase of girls in primary education 59.30% registering an increase of 0.7 percent from 2009 to 2010.

The government has also adopted advocacy strategy under the *'Go to School'* initiative for children including girl to go to school in South Sudan. The *'Go to School'* initiative, launched by the government in April 2006, has been the biggest achievement to date, enabling the enrolment of more than 1.6 million, up from an estimated 343,000 before the signing of Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005 that ended decades of civil war. Various media campaign and awareness initiative involving young girls themselves on talk shows discussing issues affecting them. In western Equatorial state, state government has put up a campaign for advancing the girl child education by involving the local chiefs to move from village to village to spread the national message of educating the young girls. Chief's involvement is paramount in their state policy for education for young girls. Through the Alternative Education Programme, the government is offering opportunity citizens who have not had access to formal education, including pregnant girls and mothers, the opportunity to go to school. In 2011, close to 70,000 girls and women went to school under this programme.

Successful Actions: With support from part partners, Government of South Sudan (GoSS) and state Ministries have successfully introduced and implemented the Empowering Village Education (EVE) programme since 2008. The programme adopted a community-based approach to provide support for 100 of the most disadvantaged primary schools and communities in four of the ten states of South Sudan (Lakes, Central Equatoria, Western Equatoria and Jonglei). One key objective of the programme is to improve the

enrolment and retention of girls in the project schools. A number of project activities were designed to help achieve this objective including advocacy training, the development of relevant teaching and learning materials, community managed school development grants and an innovative “School Mother” scheme.

Western Equatoria

The percentage of girls enrolled in EVE schools in Western Equatoria increased from 38.7 % to 40.7% (Table 13). In comparison, state data showed the percentage of girls decreased by 0.2% between 2008 and 2010 for schools in the state as a whole. EVE schools were based in Yambio and Nzara counties. According to EMIS data, there was an increase of just 0.2% in the proportion of girls in primary schools in these two counties. In contrast, in EVE schools the proportion of girls has increased by 2%. EMIS data shows that Western Equatoria was the only one of the four states to record a decrease in total enrolment between 2008 and 2010. 14% fewer pupils were enrolled in the state in 2010 compared to 2008.

Central Equatoria

For EVE schools in Central Equatoria the percentage of girls as a proportion of total enrolment increased from 38.7 to 42.9% an increase of 4.2% (Table 10). In comparison, state data indicates that the percentage of girls in primary schools in Central Equatoria increased from 43.9 to 46.1%, an increase of just 2.2%. The EVE schools in Central Equatoria were all located in Juba County. EMIS data for Juba County shows that the percentage of girls in the county increased by 3.5% still below the increase in EVE schools.

Jonglei

In Jonglei, there was a 2.3% increase in the percentage of girls in EVE schools compared to 2.5% for schools in the state as a whole (Table 11). The increase in the percentage of girls for the state as a whole appears to be concentrated in four counties of the state: Akobo, Old Fangak, Pibor and Porchalla. EVE schools, however, were located in different counties: Bor, Twic East and Duk counties (counties that face some of the greatest challenges in education provision and hence why they were appointed to the EVE project). In these counties, there was an increase of just 1.1% in the percentage of girls in primary schools, compared to the 2.3% increase in EVE schools.

Lakes

In Lakes State, the percentage of girls in EVE schools increased from 22.2 to 25.5 % (Table 12) an increase of 3.3%. In comparison, state data shows that the proportion of girls enrolled within the state as a whole decreased by 1.3% between 2008 and 2010. EVE schools in Lakes State were based in five counties: Rumbek East, Rumbek Central, Wulu, Yirol West and Yirol East. Overall, the percentage of girls in primary schools in these counties decreased by 1.5%.

Challenges: Despite these efforts, providing quality education in South Sudan is not an easy task. Government statistics for 2011 show that only 39 percent of primary school students and

30 percent of secondary students are female. The new country faces substantial development and humanitarian challenges, and education is no exception. Internal insecurity and conflict also continue to disrupt education. School infrastructure is underdeveloped, and the country has few trained teachers. Young girl in South Sudan faces a lot of challenges, too much work at home which makes it hard for the young girls to concentrate at schools, in addition to that, parents go ahead arranging for the marriage of their daughter without their consent (*under the law, consent of a young girl which has not reach a marriageable age is considered immaterial and criminal*).

Sexual harassment by teachers and the community is another challenge to girls education, poor sanitation among girls undermine the retention of girl child especially, lack of sanitary facilities for girls and lack of water at schools. For example in 2009, 51% of the primary schools lacked water, while 52% had no toilet facilities and this affects young girls, especially when they are in their menstrual period and consequently discourages them from attending school regularly

According to government statistics, close to half – 48 percent – of South Sudanese girls ages 15 to 19 are married, with some marrying as young as 12. Many girls in South Sudan do not attend school at all or don't complete their education as they are married off by their families for a number of reasons including receiving cows, money and other gifts. Young girls are being used for selling food in the market and the street and as a result they are exposed to sexual exploitations and ends up not attending schools and early pregnancy.

Table 7: Essential Statistics

1	Gross primary enrolment rate	69% (boy's 82%/girls 55%)
2	Net primary enrolment rate	44% (boy's 51%/girls 37%)
3	Gender parity index (primary)	0.59
4	Gross pre-primary school enrolment rate	6% (boys' 5.5%/girls 5.7%)
5	Net pre-primary school enrolment rate	2% (boys' 2%/girls 2%)
6	Primary completion rate	10% (boys' 14%/girls 6%)
7	Children aged 6–11 out of school	1,022,100 (64%)

Source: Sudan Household and Health Survey 2010 and EMIS 2011

Lesson learned: As a young nation, strengthening girls' access to education requires positive steps to curb child marriage. This should include enforcing the existing laws on child marriage, and developing and carrying out comprehensive programmes that address the root causes of child marriage. South Sudan needs a national action plan on child marriage to ensure a coordinated and effective response.

Policy and Legislative changes: South Sudan recently endorsed three Media Bills 2013 marking important next steps in the countries nascent democratic development. The Bills makes important steps forward for press freedom and information in South Sudan. For long the media professional have been operating in a legal vacuum. The Bills are namely. The media authority bill, The Broadcasting and corporation Bill and the Access to information Bills. This created a good opportunity for disadvantage and vulnerable people in South Sudan among them the widows, orphan and other women and children to voice their say in the media on issues that touché their lives. Severely vulnerable and disadvantage groups appear to be hoping for good with the coming of this bills after a long marginalization during the civil wars that lasted for decades in South Sudan.

Programs and Projects: The Ministry of information has been involved in the capacity building programs targeting media organization like the Association of Media women in South Sudan (AMWSS), The Association of Media development in South Sudan (AMDISS) and other media institution by offering training to build their efforts and ensure their participation in media issues. The national organization for women, (AMWSS) benefited from this program. The United Nation Education , scientific and cultural organization (UNESCO) have supported the coordination efforts in the media field in South Sudan by bringing on board the media houses like the Foundation Hirondalle, BBC media actions, Inter News, AMDISS and AMWSS.

Successful Actions: The endorsement of the three media Bills has created an enabling environment for the people of south Sudan, especially the vulnerable groups including the women to voiced their concerns in the media and as a result increased in their participation in the media issues

Challenges: How journalists report and present social issues greatly influences public opinion and, by extension, national discourse. This is equally true of gender issues. Women in South Sudan are marginalized and experience discrimination in all aspects of life. Reflecting this, the portrayal of women in the media in South Sudan is generally limited to women as weak, victims and passive agents while men are depicted as proactive and strong leaders. Such gender stereotyping justifies gender discrimination more broadly and reinforces and perpetuates historical and structural patterns of discrimination. The absence of media programme at higher institutions of learning in South Sudan like in Juba University also limits the chance of women joining the profession and being involved in advancing their plight. In the word of the Executive Director of Association of Media women in South Sudan “ *That many times, especially in print media in South Sudan, you will find a picture of a woman on a front page of a newspaper when she is raped or butchered. But when she does good things, she is not recognized. This is typical marginalization*” (Appolina, Executive Director of AMWSS)

3.12. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM FOR ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN.

Policy and Legislative changes: The Government of the Republic of South Sudan has put in place institutional mechanism at both national and subnational level to lead, coordinate, provide strategic and oversight support and hold stakeholders accountable in advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women interventions in the country. At the national level they include; The Presidential Advisor on Gender and Human Rights in the Office of the President; Specialize Committee On Gender, Child, Social Welfare, Youth and Sports; National Women Parliamentary Caucus; Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, State Ministry of Gender and Social Development , State Women Parliamentary Caucus; national and gender focal persons.

Programs and Projects: The Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare is one key major institutions that is fulfilling its constitutional obligation to lead, coordinate, provide strategic oversight and hold stakeholders accountable on all gender interventions in South Sudan. The Ministry was founded with a vision of creating just and free society-a society free from all forms of discrimination and violence; promoting a country in which women, men and children enjoy their human rights on the basis of equality and non-discrimination. The Ministry has well developed functional structure consisting of five directorates; Directorate of Gender and Social Welfare, Directorate of Disability and Rehabilitation, Directorate of Planning, Research and Documentation and Directorate of Finance and Administration. With the technical assistance from partners, the Ministry leads the National Gender Coordination Forum and National Social Protection Working Group. The Ministry is also providing strategic and policy advice in the implementation of the National Gender Policy at National and Subnational level, mainstreaming gender into government strategy and programmes, provide technical assistance on gender related issues to all government institutions.

Challenges: The institutional mechanism still have weak institutional capacity to effectively fulfill their institutional mandate and implement their institutional programme. Unreliable institutional budget also hamper their performance.

Successful Actions: The effective coordination mechanisms put in place to effectively coordinate, lead, provider strategic policy advice and hold stakeholders accountable are key successful actions in advancing gender equality in South Sudan.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MEASURES ADOPTED TOPROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

South Sudan has put in place a number of measures and mechanism to promote Gender equality and the empowerment of women's at both national and sub national level.

National & Sub national Gender machinery: National Gender machinery is a set of coordinated structure that is engaged in the promotion of Gender equality. It's an important system that oversees the diverse interest of the women and men in the spheres of national life, political, social, and economic and cultural. The main function is to monitor and to ensure that Gender equality principles are mainstreamed in all legislations, policies and programs and projects. The machinery is composed of the following key stakeholders:-

Table 8: National &Sub national Gender Machinery

#	Designation	Mother Institution
1	Presidential advisor for Gender and human rights from the office of the president	Office of the President
2	Specialized Committee for Gender, Child, Social Welfare, Youth and Sports	National Legislative Assembly
3	National Women Parliamentary Caucus State Committee for Gender and Social Welfare	National Legislative Assembly
4	State Women Parliamentary Caucus,	State Legislative Assembly
5	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare.	Council of Ministers
6	Directorate of Gender and Child Welfare.	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare

Gender Management/Coordination Mechanism. This is to ensure coordination and monitoring of gender thematic programs and project activities being implemented for the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women and include the following:-

Table 9: Gender Management systems.

#	Designation	Mother Institution
	Social and Human Development Cluster	Council of Minister
1	National Gender Coordination Forum	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
2	National Social Protection Technical Working Group	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
3	National Special Protection Unit - Task Force National GBV Sub-Cluster	Ministry of Interior Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
4	National Steering Committee on the Implementation of 1325 NAP	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
5	Sexual Exploitation & Abuse Task Force	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
6	Social and Human Development cluster	Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare.

Gender coordination Forum (GCF), composed of the all thematic groups, meet quarterly and

4.0 MEASURES ADOPTED TO PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

chaired by the minister of Gender

GBV/sub cluster forum, composed of GBV stakeholders, meet twice a month, chaired by Minister of gender and co-chair by UNFPA

Sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) Task force composed of stakeholders and meet monthly, chaired by the minister, co-chair by UNMISS/ conduct and discipline unit

National steering committee established for developing South Sudan national action plan (SSNAP) for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325, women and peace and security, composed of key line ministry, UN agency and civil society.

<p>4.1 South Sudan Capacity Development Strategy</p>	<p>The SSCDS is a road map to capacity challenges for South Sudan. The strategy considers gender equality and gender mainstreaming as an integral part of its implementation. With over 80% of women illiterate in South Sudan, the strategy recognizes the need build the capacity of women at all level.</p>
<p>4.2 National Gender Policy and Strategic Plan</p>	<p>The policy commitment is to ensure that gender equality is an integral part of all policies, programs and activities of all government institutions and agencies, the private sector and civil society at all level of government.</p>
<p>4.3 National Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325</p>	<p>The implementation pf the NAP will ensure women’s participation in all levels of decision making and to address their gender specific security needs in South Sudan. Translating the NAP into practice will represent an important and ambitious task that could potentially have a strong impact to address and reduce SGBV and violence against women and girls (VAWG) and improvements to gender inclusive human security in South Sudan</p>
<p>4.4 South Sudan Development Plan 2014-2016</p>	<p>As medium term development plan, the SSDP is a pro-poor and gender sensitive plan that have commitment to ensure meaningful impact on the poor and vulnerable group especially women and children. To also make sure that public policies, programmes and resource allocations are gender responsive.</p>
<p>4.5 Establishment of Gender Focal Persons in Government Institutions</p>	<p>The Gender Focal Person play an advisory function in their respective institutions to mainstream gender in strategies and programmes</p>
<p>4.6 Gender Advisor in the Office of the President</p>	<p>Provide strategic policy advice to the President and the office of the President on human rights and gender equality. This office is continued commitment by the government leadership to embrace gender in all government leadership decision.</p>
<p>4.7 Specialized Committee for Gender, Child , Social Welfare, Youth and Sports</p>	<p>The Committee is mandated to monitor and promote measures designed to enhance equalization of opportunities and improvement in</p>

4.8 The National Women Parliamentary Caucus	<p>the quality of life and status of women and including marginalized groups on the basis of gender, age (elderly, youth, and children) disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them.</p> <p>The Caucus plays key role in ensuring that all female legislatures advocate and promote gender responsive legislation in all the specialized committees and other functions they play in the National Legislative Assembly.</p>
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5.0. KEY CHALLENGES REMAINING AND PLANS FOR FUTURE ACTIONS:

The section highlight the remaining challenges to be addressed for complete and full implementation of each of the priority areas as indicated in the Beijing platform for Action (1995) and other additional actions as highlighted in the Twenty-third Special sessions of the UN general assembly (2000).

#	KEY CHALLENGES	ACTION TO ADDRESS THEM.
5.1	Women and Illiteracy	Effective implementation and rolling out of Empowering Village Edu programmes to other state in South Sudan, will have substantive co reduce illiteracy of women in South Sudan. The GO TO SCHOOL p another proactive programme that government is implementing to res illiteracy rate of rural population including women in South Sudan. Th supplemented by the National Adult Literacy Function Skills training Alternative Education Programme and Girl Child Education Programme
5.2	Women and Abject Poverty	The continuous implementation of the South Sudan Development government and development partners will serve as key pro-p development strategy for the provision of basic services to wome government institutions including the ministry of Agriculture, Educati have successfully integrated the SSDP priorities into their sectoral prog
5.3	Maternal Health	The current health strengthening system being implemented across the South Sudan by the Ministry of health is having tremendous impact lives of mothers and children. This is being supplemented by HIV/ Preventive programmes.
5.4	Women, Peace and Security	The adoption and implementation of the NAP 1325 will provide an o promote women participation and meet the needs of women in confl and subnational level.

5.5	Under- Representation of Women	The adoption by government of Women Transformational leadership the women of South Sudan is very key important step in empowering a women participation in leadership and governance. With the support of national Ministry of Gender and Juba University is in the process of es National Transformational Leadership Institute (NLTI).
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6.0 NEW COMMITMENTS/KEY PRIORITY FOR ACTION:

	New Commitment	Priority Focus Areas
6.1	UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan	At the stage of
6.2	South Sudan Development Initiative (SSDI)	Capacity Development Action Plan Resource Mobilization Strategy Infrastructural Development Strategy Agriculture Development Strategy Micro- Economic Outlook
6.3	South Sudan New Deal Compact which is at the stage of adoption	Inclusive Politics, Security, Justice, Economic Foundation, Revenue and Services
6.4	South Sudan National Social Protection Policy which at the stage of adoption	Protecting Poor and Vulnerable People through Social Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Child Support Grant (CSG) ▪ School Feeding Programme (SFP) ▪ War Veterans Grant (WVG) ▪ Foster Family Grant (FFG) ▪ Scholarship Programme Promoting the Participation of Poor and Vulnerable People in National Economic Growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safety Net Programme: ▪ Vocational Skills Development Programme
6.5	Security Sector Reform (SSR)	In South Sudan National Police Service (NPS). Focuses on mainstreaming gender aspect in the security sector with emphasis on recruitment, retention and promotion of female officers in the sector.
6.6	South Sudan National Gender Policy	Focuses on mainstreaming gender in all programmes and strategies of government institutions with emphasis on governance and leadership, women economic empowerment and peace and security.
6.7	Ratification of the CEDAW	To be finally submitted to National Legislative Assembly for approval in order to effect its implementation

7.0. OPPORTUNITIES:

Following the declaration of Independence on the 11th July 2011, this marked an end to decades of conflicts as well as socio economic and political marginalization. The independence thus opened a windows of opportunities for women's political Socio- economic and cultural empowerment of women.

- 7.1 The Post-2015 Development Agenda also presents an opportunity for the government of South Sudan to be able to further advocate for advancement of gender equality and women empowerment with the country just three years old after independence. The government has an opportunity.
- 7.2 The ratification of key international instrument including the CEDAW which is yet to be approved by parliament presents a key opportunity for the government and key stakeholders to advocate for gender equality and promote the rights of women.
- 7.3 The adoption of 1325 NAP will promote and ensure women's participation in all levels of decision making and to address their gender specific security needs.
- 7.4 The ongoing conflict ushers an opportunity for advancing the voice of women currently affected by conflict. The current engagement of South Sudan Women in the negotiation process, national peace and reconciliation process is a positive step in promoting women participation peace process.
- 7.5 The adoption of the National Social Protection Policy framework will provide a guiding framework to implement various social protection programmes that will address efforts by the Government to reduce poverty and the vulnerability of the population to economic, social, and natural shocks and stresses. It will play an important role in increasing access to social welfare services – not only for those with no predictable income but also for those in employment and the self-employed who need a financial cushion against future risks such as loss of employment, injury at work, loss of assets, or sickness.
- 7.6 Effective utilization of the existing Gender machinery at national and subnational level would strengthen the operationalization of national policies, laws, strategies and programmes for gender interventions.
- 7.7 The effective institutionalization and operationalization of National GBV Standard Operation Procedures at national and subnational.

Annex 1. Key statistics:

ANNEXES TO REPORT:

- 3.9 million, 48% of the population in South Sudan are women (**SSCCSE, 2011**)
- While global gender parity in primary school has been officially achieved in South Sudan, only 37.1% of the enrolled students are girls (SSSY, 2011).
- Risk of pregnancy and child birth is the leading cause of death for girls aged 15-19 in developing countries (WHO, MAY 2012). South Sudan has the highest maternal mortality rate in the world at **2,054** per 100,000 live births (SSHHS, 2006).
- Morality, gender and Marriage related crimes constitute the third highest reported crimes in South Sudan (**SSNPS, CSR 2012-2013**).

Table 1. Education variable by sex:

Literate by sex	Male	Female
Literate	59.8	40.2
Illiterate	44.2	55.8
Currently attending	59.8	40.5
Previously attending	60.4	39.6
Never attended	44.2	55.8
No qualification	44.6	55.4
Primary qualification	59.9	40.1
Secondary qualification	67.7	32.3
Tertiary Qualification	72.9	29.1
Total	48.5	51.5

Source: NBS (Department of social and demographic statistics, 2013)

2008	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	Total
Boys	5,806	3,043	2,456	1,580	1,118	760	435	248	15,446
Girls	3,524	1,545	1,107	808	437	269	78	31	7,799
Total	9,330	4,588	3,563	2,388	1,555	1,029	513	279	23,245
% Girls	37.8	33.7	31.1	33.8	28.1 %	26.1	15.2	11.1	33.6 %

TABLE 4: Total enrolment in EVE schools by grade and gender in 2008

2008	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8
Boys	5,806	3,043	2,456	1,580	1,118	760	435	248

Girls	3,524	1,545	1,107	808	437	269	78	31
Total	9,330	4,588	3,563	2,388	1,555	1,029	513	279
% Girls	37.8 %	33.7 %	31.1 %	33.8 %	28.1 %	26.1 %	15.2 %	11.1 %

TABLE 5: Total enrolment in EVE schools by grade and gender in 2010

2010	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8
Boys	4,824	2,929	2,553	2,038	1,414	969	638	215
Girls	3,270	1,770	1,405	1,055	704	416	210	91
Total	8,094	4,699	3,958	3,093	2,118	1,385	848	306
% Girls	40.4 %	37.7 %	35.5 %	34.1 %	33.2 %	30.0%	24.8 %	29.7%

Girls enrolment as a of total enrolment	EVE Schools	EMIS school data	Non-EVE schools
2008	33.6 %	38.5 %	38.7 %
2010	36.4 %	39.4 %	39.5 %
Change 2008 - 2010	+ 2.8 %	+ 0.9 %	+ 0.8 %

Poverty profile by age and gender

	Percentage of the population			Percentage of the poor			Poverty incidence		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Southern Sudan	100.0	48.9	51.1	100.0	48.4	51.6	50.6	50.1	51.0
Less than 15	47.8	24.2	23.6	49.2	25.0	24.3	52.1	52.3	51.9
15-24	17.7	8.3	9.4	17.1	8.0	9.1	48.9	48.9	49.0
25-34	13.2	5.7	7.5	12.3	5.1	7.3	47.5	44.9	49.4
35-44	9.1	4.2	5.0	8.9	3.8	5.0	49.1	46.7	51.1

45-60	8.8	4.8	4.0	8.9	4.8	4.1	51.2	50.6	51.8
More than 60	3.5	1.9	1.7	3.6	1.8	1.8	52.3	50.0	54.8

Source: National Baseline Household Survey, 2009.

Total number of pupils of all ages in secondary school as a percentage of the Population of ages 14-17 children

State	Total 14-17 Pop	Total Secondary Enrolment '09	GER ¹	Male 14-17 Pop	Male 14-17 Enrolled '09	Male GER ¹	Female 14-17 Pop	Female 14-17 Enrolled '09	Female GER ¹
C. Equatoria	98,534	15,880	16%	52,012	10,254	20%	46,522	5,626	12%
E. Equatoria	94,495	3,627	4%	51,090	2,720	5%	43,405	907	2%
W. Equatoria	52,801	3,072	6%	27,806	2,220	8%	24,995	852	3%
Jonglei	118,556	2,593	2%	66,975	1,930	3%	51,581	663	1%
Unity	48,719	1,196	2%	25,337	1,083	4%	23,382	113	0%
Upper Nile	85,569	5,826	7%	48,187	4,080	8%	37,382	1,746	5%
Lakes	55,542	1,686	3%	29,797	1,588	5%	25,745	98	0%
Warrap	76,975	1,346	2%	38,019	1,205	3%	38,956	141	0%
Western BG	24,829	7,735	31%	13,450	5,923	44%	11,379	1,812	16%
Northern BG	50,388	1,066	2%	24,744	974	4%	25,644	92	0%
Southern Sudan	706,408	44,027	6%	377,417	31,977	8%	328,991	12,050	4%

Source: EMIS, Ministry of Education

Annex: 3.

Road Map for the Compilation of the National Comprehensive Review Report on the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

	Action Point	Responsible Institution	Time line
1	Preliminary meeting	Ministry Of Gender, Child and social Welfare	Thur. April 10 th 2014, 12-1pm

2	Stakeholders Meeting	Ministry of Gender, child and social Welfare	Thur. 17 th April 2014, 10-12pm
3	Request for short term consultant	Ministry of Gender, UNWOMEN	16 th -29 th April 2014.
4	1 ST Review of the Draft Report	Ministry of Gender and All key stakeholders	Thur. 24 th April 2014
5	Final Review of the Draft Report	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social welfare.	Wed. 30 th April 2014
6	Printing and Submission of the Report	Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare, UNWOMEN	1 ST May 2014.

LIST OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

	CRITICAL AREAS	STAKEHOLDERS
1	Women and Poverty	-Ministry of Finance and Economic planning -Ministry of cooperatives and rural development -Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare -National Bureau of Statistics -UNDP -Relevant state ministry.
2	Education and training of women	-Ministry of Education science and Technology -Juba University
3	Women and health	-Ministry of health -Relevant state Ministry -UNICEF -UNFPA -UNDP -WHO
4	Violence against women	-Ministry of interior -Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare -Ministry of Health -UNFPA -Relevant state ministry -UNICEF -UNWOMEN -ARC -IRC
5	Women and armed conflict	-Ministry of Defense -Ministry of veteran affairs -War Heroes and Widows commission -Ministry of interior -Relevant state ministry
6	Women and Economy	-Ministry of Finance and economic planning -Ministry of commerce and investment -Ministry of mining and petroleum -SS National Bureau of Statistics -UNDP -UNWOMEN

		-Relevant state ministry
7	Women in power and decision making	-Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare -Ministry of parliamentary affairs -Women parliamentary caucus -Specialized committee on Gender and social welfare -UNWOMEN -UNDP -Relevant state ministry
8	Institutional Mechanism for advancement of women	-Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare -National Women parliamentary caucus -Specialized committee on Gender and social welfare
9	Human rights and women	-South Sudan Human rights commission -Ministry of Justice -Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare UNWOMEN Relevant state ministry
10	Women and Media	-Ministry of information and broadcasting -South Sudan Media Association -Association of Media women in South Sudan
11	Women and environment	-Ministry of environment and Natural resources -Ministry of Agriculture and forestry -UNEP -UNDP -Relevant state ministry
12	The Young Girl	-Ministry of Education, science and technology -Ministry of Gender, child and social welfare -Relevant state ministry -DFID -Plan International

Higher Institution enrolment by Gender (%) 2009-2010.

Year	University		Teachers Training institute		Technical and vocational institute	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
2008	75	25	87	13	76	24
2009	78	22	76	24	73	27
2010	82	18	80	20	73	27

Source: Education statistics for South Sudan (2008, 2009, 2010)

KEY REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:

1. South Sudan National Gender Policy (2013).
2. South Sudan Development Plan (2011-2013).
3. National Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Year Book, (2010, 2011)
4. Gender Policy Framework for Local Government (2012).
5. Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan.

6. The Child Act, (2008)
7. The Comprehensive Country Gender Assessment for South Sudan (July 2012)
8. Basic Education and Gender and Equality Book let, (UNICEF, South Sudan).
9. South Sudan Household and Health Survey (2010 and EMIS 2011).
10. South Sudan Country Situational Report presented to IGAD (March 2014).
11. Special Report 298, on Gender and State Building in South Sudan (United State Institute of Peace).