

Project profile:

Peace and resilience in South Sudan

Introduction

Through this project, Saferworld and our partners Action for Children Development Foundation (ACDF), Community Initiative for Partnership and Development (CIPAD), Organization for Nonviolence and Development (ONAD), The Organization of Children Harmony (TOCH) and Women Development Group (WDG) work with communities, authorities, civil society organisations and UN agencies to enhance resilience and increase trust between and among communities. The project contributes to stability and an environment that allows service providers to extend their services to conflict-affected communities in inclusive, and conflict- and gender-sensitive ways, and contributes to durable peace and improved livelihoods.

Background

After the December 2013 and July 2016 crises in South Sudan, conflict and insecurity have remained an ever-present part of life for many. National-level tensions are paired with complex community dynamics characterised by violence against civilians, intra- and inter-community conflicts, cattle raiding, revenge killings, and the spread of small arms and light weapons. Entrenched gender inequalities lead to low participation of women in peacebuilding and other development initiatives at community, state and national levels, coupled with high cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Similarly, young women and men are very vulnerable to the conflicts, due to a lack of socio-economic opportunities, and as they are directly involved often as perpetrators and victims of armed violence. Young people continue to be marginalised, undervalued and excluded from participation in peacebuilding and conflict prevention work.

The project aims to contribute to lasting peace in South Sudan through supporting communities in Central Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal states, to mitigate and resolve grievances, emphasizing protection of and participation by women, young people and other marginalised groups. The project will bring the needs, hopes and aspirations of communities to the attention of state, national, regional and international decision-makers, and aims for these priorities to feed into national peacebuilding and conflict resolution processes.



Project

Peace and resilience in South Sudan

Project location

Aweil Centre, Aweil East, Juba, Kuajok, Tonj North, Tonj South, and Wau

Donors/project budget

European Commission

Project duration

March 2020 – August 2021

Saferworld thematic area

Security and justice

Partners

Action for Children Development Foundation (ACDF)
Community Initiative for Partnership and Development (CIPAD)
Organization for Nonviolence and Development (ONAD)
The Organization of Children Harmony (TOCH)
Women Development Group (WDG)

Project approach

Together with our five partners, ACDF, CIPAD, ONAD, TOCH and WDG, Saferworld will:

- Restructure 39 community action groups (CAGs), to include women and youth clusters across four states in South Sudan;
- Support CAGs and communities to address their safety and security concerns, and promote peace in a conflict- and gender-sensitive way;
- Support the CAGs to; analyse the causes of conflict and jointly plan responses to challenge gender inequalities, work with formal and informal authorities, and push for the adoption of responses that better address the needs identified and prioritised by communities;
- Link CAGs and community members to existing services, including providers of SGBV services, and help them gain an understanding of the referral pathways that they should follow to access them by involving the service providers in our meetings and activities;
- Mentor civil society organisations (CSOs) in networking and advocacy, providing support for them to counter divisive narratives;
- Provide analysis for national, regional and international authorities, and advocate for inclusive and sustainable peace processes;
- Gather stories of change to support national and international advocacy, and community learning, on people's needs and the ability of communities to respond to causes of conflict and insecurity.

Partners



Activities

- Conduct seven community security assessments and gender analyses, in the seven project locations, to better understand the drivers of insecurity.
- Re-structure and support up to 39 CAGs and facilitate monthly action planning meetings.
- Develop community action plans and provide grants to CAGs to implement actions plan addressing conflict and insecurity.
- Coordinate an exchange and learning event for CAGs to share experiences, exchange insights, strengthen their skills, collate evidence and to be able to use their knowledge for positive change in their communities.
- Support awareness-raising campaigns led by partners and CAGs on peace and conflict issues.
- Organise and conduct state-level roundtable meetings with authorities, CSOs and community representatives to discuss cross-community conflict and insecurity concerns.
- Convene dialogues to resolve conflicts and reconcile divided communities.
- Convene one regional or national-level roundtable with authorities, civil society and community members.

Anticipated outcomes

- The 39 restructured CAGs, including women and youth sub clusters have improved knowledge and skills to address peace, security and basic service concerns of their communities.
- CAGs identify, prioritise and address community peace and security issues in a coordinated and collaborative way.
- Formal and informal authorities, communities and CSOs jointly identify and respond to community peace and security issues.
- Civil society has increased its ability to work with relevant authorities to advocate on community peace, security and conflict issues.

Funded by



Funded by the European Union

Photo: Cattle presented for auction at Janeen Ayii dit traditional cattle market in Kuajok. © Marcus Perkins/Saferworld

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