



WINTER 2024

Rebuilding a new oil country,
the imprints of President Salva
Kiir Mayardit

Oil a catalyst for Energy
Transition in South Sudan -
Petroleum Minister

South Sudan set for Oil &
Power 2024 Summit in Juba.

Germany commits additional
€20m for community resilience
in South Sudan

Minister of Finance signs \$11
million agreement with AFDB
and UNESCO to support TVET
programme



FROM OIL TO HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT, THE TASK BEFORE PRESIDENT KIIR

FIN GLOBAL CONSULTING AND PUBLISHING FIRM

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FROM THE EDITOR

Foreign Investment Network (FIN) - A UK-Based FDI Consultancy Paving the Way for Investment in Emerging Economies

With a stellar track record spanning over two decades, Foreign Investment Network (FIN) stands as a renowned consultancy firm headquartered in the United Kingdom. Specializing in facilitating Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Africa and other developing economies, FIN operates across a diverse array of sectors, including Oil and Gas, Agriculture, Telecommunications, Metallurgical & Engineering Industries, Infrastructure, and Maritime.

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FIN's core mission revolves around offering comprehensive consulting services tailored to financing, project assessment, and risk analysis. The ultimate goal is to attract high-quality FDI and promote sustainable economic development. Over the years, FIN has cultivated a robust global network, fostering partnerships with international stakeholders. This extensive network empowers them to connect investors with highly lucrative opportunities, fostering the expansion of businesses on a global scale.

Africa: A Continent of Promise

Africa, with its diverse landscape, burgeoning population, abundant natural resources, and rapidly expanding consumer market, remains a central focus for FIN. The continent offers a myriad of investment prospects, making it an attractive destination for global investors.

South Sudan: A Thriving Investment Destination

In recent times, South Sudan has emerged as a promising investment destination, thanks to a flourishing

peace process, rising literacy rates, and expanding business horizons. As the world's youngest nation, South Sudan actively seeks partnerships with corporations, organizations, and enterprises aiming to tap into the potential of an emerging African market.

The country boasts a wealth of natural resources, including oil, precious metals, and gum arabica. Beyond its economic prospects, South Sudan is rich in cultural heritage and offers an array of natural attractions, such as the majestic White Nile. Exploring the country provides a unique opportunity to delve into its diverse and captivating cultures, offering boundless possibilities for investors.

FIN Magazine: A Platform for Insights and Expertise

In addition to their consultancy services, FIN extends its reach through FIN Magazine. Published in multiple languages and circulated globally, the magazine serves as a platform to share insights, promote investment opportunities, and showcase expertise across various industries.

Engagement on the Global Stage

FIN actively engages on the global stage through international conferences, business meetings, advocacy visits, investment fora, and exhibitions. Their presence at major events attracts world leaders, policymakers, and industry professionals. Their overarching goal is to elevate the international profile of African countries and other developing economies.

Collaborative Opportunities Ahead

Looking ahead, FIN is eager to collaborate with South Sudan, Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Zambia, and Libya. Their aim is to facilitate investment opportunities, offer specialized consultancy services, and promote sustainable and responsible investments. Drawing from their extensive industry knowledge,

network of international partners, and wealth of experience, FIN is dedicated to enhancing the business environment, attracting top-tier FDI, and driving economic transformation in these nations.

These collaborations underscore FIN's unwavering commitment to establishing strategic partnerships, bridging the gap between investors and opportunities, and contributing to the sustainable development of these countries. Through mutual cooperation and shared objectives, FIN seeks to unlock the vast potential that South Sudan, Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Zambia, and Libya hold for investors and businesses alike.

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From Oil to Human Capital Development, The task before President Kiir

South Sudan is one of the most promising countries in East Central Africa. Despite years of economic and social instability, the population recorded a 1.61% increase from 10,913,164 in 2022 to 11,088,796 in 2023.

International experience with development of low-income economies such as South Sudan indicate that the essential ingredients for a successful transition to middle income depends on the following:

- (i) Well-functioning public and private institutions;
- (ii) Well developed basic infrastructure;
- (iii) A stable macroeconomic framework;
- (iv) A healthy and literate labour force.

The manpower challenges

Political instability and security concerns have continued to impact on the utilization of indigenous manpower for economic development. It has disrupted livelihoods, displaced families and hinder investments in human capital development.

The country faces challenges in retaining skilled professionals and preventing brain drain. Many educated and talented individuals have left the country in search of better opportunities abroad, depriving the nation of valuable human capital. Creating an enabling environment for professionals to thrive, including competitive salaries, career development opportunities, and a conducive work environment, can help retain talent and harness indigenous manpower for economic advancement.

Tehmina Khan, Lead Economist, World Bank South Sudan stressed

that "With an illiteracy rate of 70 percent and around 60 percent of school-aged children being out of school, South Sudan needs to make a serious turnaround in its human capital outcomes".

However, ensuring peace, security, and stability in the country are essential prerequisites for unlocking the full potential of indigenous manpower to drive the economy.

A nation with inexhaustible natural resources.

South Sudan is rich in natural resources, particularly oil. Several other minerals deposits are buried beneath her ground including gold, copper, iron ore, chromium, zinc, tungsten, mica, and silver. But due to limited exploration and infrastructure, the full extent of the country's mineral wealth is not yet fully understood or exploited.

South Sudan is home to extensive water resources, including the White Nile, the Sobat River, and numerous other rivers and wetlands. These waterways support agriculture and fishing.

The country has significant hydropower potentials due to its numerous rivers and waterways. With appropriate infrastructure development, South Sudan could harness its hydropower resources to meet domestic energy needs and potentially export electricity to neighboring countries.

Implementing effective water management and conservation strategies is crucial for sustaining water resources and supporting long-term economic prosperity. This includes promoting water-saving technologies, protecting watersheds and ecosystems, and mitigating the impacts of climate change on water availability.

Encouraging investment and

fostering partnerships between the government, private sector, and civil society can help realize the potentials of South Sudan's water resources. Public-private partnerships can mobilize resources, leverage expertise, and promote innovation in water infrastructure development and service delivery.

Strengthening institutional capacity and governance frameworks is essential for effective water resource management. This includes establishing clear regulations, enforcing water rights, promoting community participation, and building technical expertise in water management and governance.

By adopting a holistic approach that integrates water resources management with broader economic and social development goals, South Sudan can harness the gift of water to improve livelihoods, promote sustainable growth, and enhance resilience to environmental and economic challenges.

Oil production has been a significant driver of the country's economy, accounting for the majority of government revenue. However, fluctuations in global oil prices and disputes over oil revenue sharing with Sudan have impacted the stability of South Sudan's economy.

The country also has a rich deposit of gold. Gold mining activities have been reported in various parts of the country, particularly in areas such as Kapoeta, Nanakanak, and Budi.

A thriving mining sector

Artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) operations are prevalent in South Sudan, with individuals and small engaging in gold extraction using rudimentary methods and equipment. These informal mining activities often operate outside formal



regulatory frameworks and may face challenges related to safety, environmental sustainability, and revenue management.

President Salva Kiir Mayardit has on several occasions, expressed interest in developing the mining sector as part of his efforts to diversify the economy away from oil dependence.

However, challenges militating against this formalization include: poor infrastructure development, capacity building, regulatory reforms, and security improvements to support sustainable and inclusive growth of the mining industry. Additionally, addressing issues related to land rights, community engagement, environmental protection, and revenue management are essential for realizing the full potential of gold mining and other mineral resources in the country.

Sustainable Agriculture

South Sudan possesses vast fertile land suitable for agriculture, including crop cultivation and livestock grazing. The agriculture sector has the potential to contribute significantly to food security, employment generation, and economic development in the country.

The country is endowed with extensive forests, which provide timber and other forest products. Sustainable forestry management practices could help conserve biodiversity, mitigate climate change, and support local livelihoods.

South Sudan is home to diverse wildlife and ecosystems, including national parks and protected areas. The country's wildlife and biodiversity assets have tourism potential which can attract visitors interested in safaris, birdwatching, and eco-tourism activities.

Harnessing and managing South Sudan's natural resources in a sustainable and equitable manner could contribute to economic diversification, poverty reduction, and environmental conservation in the country. However, realizing this potential requires investment in infrastructure, capacity building, regulatory frameworks, and responsible governance practices.

The task before President Kiir

With an active growing population of 11 million; bordered by Sudan to the north, Ethiopia to the east, Kenya to the southeast, Uganda to the south, the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the southwest, and the Central African Republic to the west, South Sudan President Kiir must find a way of redirecting these energies into a national asset for economic development.

Addressing these challenges and leveraging the strengths and potential of the indigenous population are essential for building a sustainable and inclusive economy in South Sudan. It requires coordinated efforts from the government, private sector, civil society, and development partners to invest in human capital, create employment opportunities, and foster an enabling environment for economic growth and prosperity.

South Sudan faces significant challenges in education and skills development. Access to quality education is limited, particularly in rural areas, and literacy rates are low. Investing in education and vocational training programs can help build a skilled workforce capable of driving economic growth and development.

Building indigenous capacity and technical expertise across various sectors of the economy is crucial for sustainable development. This involves training and empowering local professionals, entrepreneurs, and leaders to contribute to economic diversification, innovation, and productivity enhancement.

Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment is vital for maximizing the contribution of indigenous manpower to the economy. Women constitute a significant portion of the workforce in South Sudan and play a crucial role in agriculture, trade, and informal sectors. Removing barriers to women's participation in the economy and promoting their access to education, resources, and economic opportunities can drive inclusive growth and development in the country.

Rebuilding a new oil country, the imprints of President Salva Kiir Mayardit

President Salva Kiir Mayardit has made efforts to address the complex challenges facing South Sudan even as rich oil nation continues to grapple with deep-rooted issues that require sustained political will, commitment, and collective action to resolve.

Since South Sudan gained her independence in 2011, she has faced significant challenges including political instability, economic difficulties, and internal conflicts, economic hardships, and humanitarian crises.

President Kiir's leadership and commitment to the aspirations of the South Sudanese people were instrumental in guiding the country through the process of independence and laying the foundations for the establishment of a sovereign state.

The making of a state

President Salva Kiir played a crucial role in South Sudan's journey to independence from Sudan. He actively participated in negotiations and peace talks, leading to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005, which set the stage for the referendum on self-determination. President Kiir oversaw the implementation of the CPA and ensured the smooth organization of the referendum in 2011, which resulted in an overwhelming vote for independence. On July 9, 2011, he presided over the declaration of South Sudan's independence, marking a historic moment for the nation. Post-independence, President Kiir focused on building state institutions and providing essential services to the population. While his leadership was instrumental in achieving independence, South Sudan has since faced significant challenges, including internal conflicts, political instability, economic difficulties, and



humanitarian crises, highlighting the ongoing need for sustained efforts to address these issues and secure a peaceful and prosperous future for the nation.

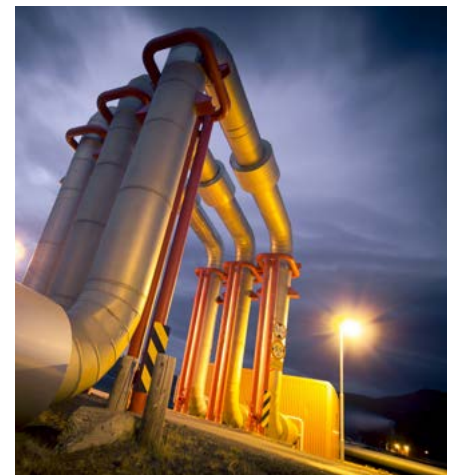
Peace Negotiations

Despite challenges, President Kiir continued his involvement in subsequent peace agreements and ceasefire deals aimed at fostering stability and reconciliation within the country. However, the implementation of these agreements has proven to be difficult, marked by persistent challenges and setbacks. Despite the signing of peace agreements, South Sudan has experienced recurrent bouts of violence and internal strife, highlighting the complexities of achieving lasting peace in the region. President Kiir's efforts in peace negotiations demonstrate his commitment to resolving conflicts and fostering stability in South Sudan. Yet, the road to peace remains fraught with obstacles, requiring sustained engagement, political will, and international support to address the root causes

of instability and achieve genuine reconciliation among the diverse ethnic and political factions within the country.

Oil Revenue Management

President Kiir has overseen efforts to enhance transparency and accountability in the management of oil revenues. He played a crucial role in initiating and supporting initiatives aimed at improving reporting and





auditing mechanisms to ensure that oil revenues are managed effectively and utilized for the benefit of the South Sudanese people.

President Kiir advocated for the establishment of regulatory frameworks and institutional mechanisms to govern the extraction, production, and revenue distribution processes within the oil sector. He has also been involved in negotiations with international partners and oil companies to secure fair and equitable agreements that maximize the benefits of oil extraction for South Sudan.

However, some of the challenges still facing his administration include issues related to revenue transparency, revenue-sharing arrangements with Sudan, and the overall management of oil revenues amid a volatile economic and political environment. President Kiir's role in addressing these challenges has been critical, as he continues to navigate the complexities of oil revenue management to promote economic stability and development in South Sudan.

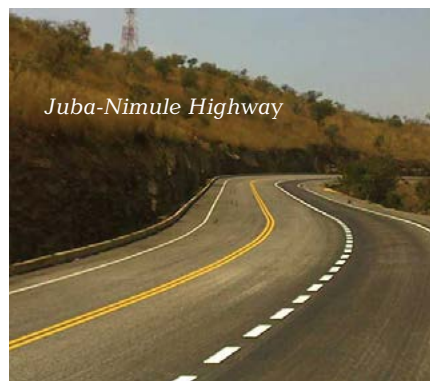
Infrastructure Development:

The construction and rehabilitation of the Juba-Nimule Highway, a vital transportation route linking the capital city, Juba, to the Ugandan

border at Nimule, facilitates trade and commerce between South Sudan and neighboring Uganda, enhancing regional connectivity and economic integration.

Several renewable energy projects, including hydroelectric power plants such as the Fula Rapids and Grand Fula projects, have increased electricity generation capacity and expanded access to electricity for communities across South Sudan.

President Kiir's administration supported the construction and renovation of healthcare facilities, including hospitals and clinics, to improve access to healthcare services for the population. These efforts are crucial for addressing public health challenges and promoting healthcare delivery in remote areas.



Initiatives to improve water supply and sanitation infrastructure, such as the construction of boreholes, wells, and water treatment facilities, have been undertaken to address water scarcity and improve public health outcomes.

Regional Diplomacy

President Kiir has engaged in regional diplomacy efforts to address regional conflicts and promote stability in South Sudan and neighboring countries. He has participated in regional forums and initiatives aimed at fostering dialogue, cooperation, and conflict resolution.

Political Reconciliation

President Kiir has advocated for political reconciliation and national unity in South Sudan, although achieving lasting peace and reconciliation has been elusive due to ongoing ethnic tensions and internal divisions.

While President Salva Kiir has made efforts to address the complex challenges facing South Sudan, there is a need to back up his utterances with sustained political will, commitment, and collective action to ensure that the country remains on a growth trajectory.

Investing in Humans Vital for Economic Development – SSEM.

The World Bank's latest South Sudan Economic Monitor (SSEM) revealed that the country's economy experienced stagnation in fiscal year 2023 (FY23) due to the lingering impacts of flooding on oil production. The SSEM report emphasizes the importance of investing in human capital development as a foundation for economic growth, particularly in light of the low literacy rate in South Sudan.

The SSEM estimates that South Sudan's economy contracted by 0.4 percent in FY23, less than the negative 2.3 percent growth out turn in FY22. Despite slower global growth and the lingering effects of recent catastrophic floods on domestic oil production, economic activity in South Sudan was supported by a stronger private sector, a return to relative peace, and increased government spending.

"The 2018 peace agreement, as well as macroeconomic, governance, and exchange rate reforms initiated since 2021 with the support of development partners, have helped to improve macroeconomic stability and curb hyperinflation. The subsequent economic recovery was disrupted by overlapping external shocks (COVID-19, war in Ukraine) and unprecedented flooding that affected both agricultural and oil production and added to pressing humanitarian needs," said Honorable Benjamin Ayali Koyongwa, Undersecretary for Planning, Ministry of Finance and Planning.

According to the SSEM, growth is projected to gradually rebound and reach over 2 percent in the medium term. This outlook is primarily due to an estimated 3 percent decline in oil sector growth in FY24, followed by a gradual stabilization and recovery as oil production and value-added investments gradually resume.

Growth in the non-oil sector is expected to remain relatively resilient at around 6 percent in FY24, supported by higher government wage outlays, expanding domestic credit, and moderate inflation. Farm output is also expected to improve as floods recede. Inflation is expected to be below 10 percent in the medium term as monetary policy remains tight.

"The gains in macroeconomic stability and the relative return to peace have had a positive impact on activities in the non-oil sector. This is a significant development as South Sudan, being a young country, relies on the non-oil sector to provide jobs and incomes for the majority of its population. Thus, diversifying towards the non-oil sector, improving productivity, and achieving higher growth in a sustainable and inclusive manner is critical, even more so because of the underlying challenges of fragility in the country," said Firas Raad, Country Manager, World Bank South Sudan.

In addition to reporting on recent economic developments and assessing the macro-fiscal outlook, this edition of the SSEM emphasizes the importance of investing in human capital as a foundation for economic growth and development. The

report argues that more progress in improving the coverage and quality of education, health, and social protection sectors in South Sudan will help lift the country out of its chronic state of fragility. It recommends that South Sudan places education, health, and social protection at the heart of its development priorities over the next decade. The report also highlights that learning poverty is driven by demand and supply side factors, and addressing both requires a comprehensive and multisectoral approach. Increasing financing for education, improving teachers' training, and combining social safety net programs with educational programs are critical to addressing learning poverty in South Sudan.

"With an illiteracy rate of 70 percent and around 60 percent of school-aged children being out of school, South Sudan needs to make a serious turnaround in its human capital outcomes. It also has one of the highest maternal mortality ratios in the world. Investing in the health and wealth of human beings, as captured in the title of the SSEM, is a fundamental element of the country's longer-term growth, development, and prosperity," said Tehmina Khan, Lead Economist, World Bank South Sudan.



Minister of Finance signs \$11 million agreement with AfDB and UNESCO to support TVET programmes

The Ministry of Finance and Planning, in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), has signed a significant Tripartite Funding and Implementation Agreement worth \$11.3 million.

This agreement aims to support Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes and value chain projects within three key ministries: General Education, Higher Education, and Labor and Industrial Relations.

The agreement, signed by Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol on behalf of the South Sudanese government, Mr. Themba Bhebhe representing the African Development Bank, and Dr. Tap Raj Pant representing UNESCO, underlines the commitment of all parties to collaborate on capacity building, manpower development, and the exchange of technological knowledge across various regions of South Sudan.

The funds will be utilized to initiate the agreed-upon projects, which are scheduled to commence this year. The primary focus will be on enhancing technical and vocational education, equipping individuals with the skills and knowledge necessary for sustainable economic development. Additionally, the projects aim to foster the development of value chains to create synergies between education and employment sectors.

Through this partnership, South Sudan aims to empower its citizens by providing them with quality TVET programs that align closely with market demand.

By bridging the gap between skills and industry needs, these initia-



tives will contribute to reducing unemployment, promoting entrepreneurship, and enhancing overall economic growth in the country.

The exchange of technological know-how and capacity-building initiatives will also play a crucial role in nurturing a skilled workforce capable of meeting the evolving demands of the labor market.

By investing in TVET programs, South Sudan aspires to unlock the potential of its citizens, enabling them to actively participate in the country's development and contribute to its socioeconomic progress.

The Ministry of Finance and Planning, AfDB, and UNESCO express their shared commitment to the successful implementation of these projects that will uplift individuals, communities, and the nation as a whole.

This collaboration serves as a testament to the dedication of all parties involved to promote inclusive and sustainable development through the enhancement of TVET programs.

In 2021, with the support of UNESCO, 30 line ministries and government institutions were mandated to implement technical and vocational education training (TVET) in addition to the development partners and private and faith-based training centers.

However, due to the looming food insecurity in South Sudan, the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) granted \$ 8.1 million to support food production in South Sudan in July 2022. The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank Group approved a grant of \$ 8.1 million to South Sudan to fund its emergency food production program.

The grant was meant to constitute additional financing for the ongoing agricultural markets, value addition, and trade development projects seeking to contribute to the reduction of food insecurity, poverty reduction, economic growth, and the building of community and household resilience and social cohesion.

USAID Building Financial Resilience in South Sudan

South Sudan's economy is mired in a web of challenges that debilitate economic growth. While most South Sudanese communities rely on subsistence agriculture for their livelihoods, approximately 63 percent of the population require lifesaving food assistance. Displacement due to conflict and prolonged floods and droughts caused by climate change compound the worsening humanitarian crisis.

United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) mandate in South Sudan is to promote food security and strengthen livelihoods, particularly for women farmers. USAID provides farmers with basic tools and seeds and focuses on building agricultural skills and financial resilience through small-scale business development and community savings, banking, and lending programs.

While most of South Sudan's public revenue is spent on roads, South Sudanese are yet to benefit from this investment. With nearly 500 kilometers, or about 310 miles, of paved roads, South Sudan has the lowest level of rural accessibility to road networks in the world; about one quarter of the rural population has access to an all-season road and many roads are rendered impassable or difficult to travel on during the rainy season.

Similarly, government's failure to transparently allocate funds for public sector salaries, the health sector, and expanding humanitarian needs stifles potential benefits to the people.

USAID are of the view that government must demonstrate political will to meet its peace commitments, establish accountability for human rights violations, and take measures against corruption before responsible private investment and economic growth can

flourish. The government must also more effectively manage national income from oil - which accounts for about 98 percent of government revenue and substantially increase its financial contributions to support basic human needs.

Despite these significant economic challenges, USAID announced that it is building financial literacy in some of South Sudan's most remote communities by laying the groundwork for families to earn and save money.

Through USAID's Village Savings and Loan Associations, more than 3,000 people across nine counties have saved more than \$13,550 and loaned nearly \$2,150 since 2021, giving community members the financial means to start small at-home businesses and purchase farming equipment to grow food.

To help build small-scale private sector activities, USAID provides resources to women and youth in Western Equatoria and Lakes States to produce, process, and sell honey and shea butter. This spurs small business development, creates jobs for youth, reduces conflict over limited resources, and generates income, including for producers, processors, and exporters.

Building farmers' agricultural skills and strengthening livelihoods

Up to 95 percent of South Sudanese depend on subsistence farming, fishing, or herding for food and income, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization; yet, South Sudan faces one of the worst humanitarian and food security crises in the world.

An estimated 9 million South Sudanese - or about 75 percent of the population, are food insecure, facing crisis levels of hunger, and will need humanitarian assistance in 2024.



Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Hon. Josephine Joseph Lagu

Further, poor nutrition, combined with disease, unsanitary conditions, and limited access to basic services, exacerbates already-high malnutrition rates.

International observers estimate that nearly 2.2 million people, including 1.4 million children and 740,000 pregnant and lactating women, could soon face acute malnutrition. Making matters worse for South Sudanese families, the cost of fuel increased by more than 79 percent and food basket prices more than doubled nationwide between June 2022 and June 2023, according to the UN World Food Program. The crisis in Sudan which shutdown supply lines into South Sudan has further increased the cost of consumer goods.

USAID's interventions

USAID's economic growth portfolio aims to transition South Sudanese out of humanitarian assistance towards more sustainable livelihoods in more secure areas of the country.

Our work helps farmers grow food and increase their income—including through production and distribution

of honey and shea butter products—while reducing local conflict through economic cooperation.

Since 2021, nearly 30,000 South Sudanese, more than half of whom are women and nearly 80 percent between 15 and 29, have participated in USAID economic growth activities. Since then, USAID assistance

has provided nearly 13,000 farmers with machinery and climate-resistant seeds, improved nutrition for nearly 2,500 children under-five, spurred more than \$1 million in agricultural sales, and helped communities cultivate nearly 8,000 hectares of land - that's just over 11,200 soccer pitches.

World Bank pledges to back South Sudan's financial reforms

The World Bank has pledged to support South Sudan's ongoing financial reforms which aim to put the country on the path to economic growth and development.

World Bank Country Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, Mr. Osman Dione, made this commitment during a meeting with the Governor of the Bank of South Sudan, Dr. James Alic Garang, and Minister of Finance, Barnaba Bak Chol.

Discussions focused on critical issues within the country's financial sector, including strengthening financial inclusion and operationalizing payment systems.

The meeting also addressed the need to support the Financial Intelligence Unit and enhance the capacity building of banking staff.

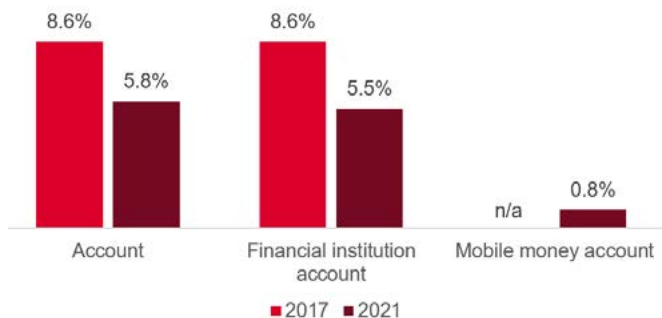
Mr. Dione reiterated his commitment to collaborating closely with stakeholders to accelerate financial reforms and restore economic growth.

"The World Bank recognizes the importance of a robust and inclusive financial sector in South Sudan's economic development," said Mr. Dione.

"We are committed to supporting the government's effort to improve financial inclusion, modernize payment



Access to accounts in South Sudan



systems strengthen the FIU and build capacity within the financial sector," he added.

For his part, Garang expressed his appreciation for the World Bank's support toward the financial reform agenda in the world's youngest country.

"We require support in gearing up our national payment system, expanding financial inclusion across the country and investing in capacity building for our financial institutions," said Dr. Garang.

Germany commits additional €20m for community resilience in South Sudan

The German Government has committed an additional contribution of €20 million for the Joint Resilience Project supporting the building of community resilience in South Sudan.

The generous contribution was channeled through the German KfW Development Bank to enable the extension and expansion of services to improve and build community resilience in targeted urban and semi-urban areas of the country.

Launched in December 2019, the project was designed to enhance community resilience to shocks and stressors through increasing access and use of a broad range of services. These include services like education, child protection, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, nutrition, food security as well as livelihoods services.

"Germany's financial contribution to the Joint Resilience Project now amounts to a total of €112 million making it one of the flagship projects of German development cooperation in South Sudan. Germany is proud to fund this project, which helps to improve the livelihoods of more than half a million South Sudanese people. Through the collaboration with our implementing partners UNICEF and WFP we are able to provide much needed basic services," said Christian Sedat, the German envoy in South Sudan.

Implemented in Juba, Torit, Yambio and Aweil, the project's activities involve the rehabilitation of schools, installation of water and sanitation facilities, provision of daily school meals, immunizations, training for teachers as well as health and nutrition workers.

"We are immensely thankful to the German Government for this



Deputy Minister of Finance and National Planning, Hon. Agok Makur

continued support. With these funds, UNICEF can further its efforts in providing vital services to children and families in South Sudan, ensuring they have the services and community resources and structures to cope with and adapt to various challenges," said UNICEF Representative, Hamida Lasseko.

WFP's Country Director in South Sudan Mary-Ellen McGroarty said "the programme is extremely important to build long term resilience and food security in South Sudan as it supports families through all their life stages. From malnourished children and students at schools through to working adults, the programme ensures no one is left behind".

The project has already supported over 51,000 school children for their

education through scholastic materials, teacher training and school meals. Almost 405,000 children and pregnant and breastfeeding mothers benefited from support to treat and prevent malnutrition, and nearly 48,000 farmers were supported with resilience-building activities.

Since its inception, the Joint Resilience Project has made significant progress in improving the living conditions and resilience of communities in the targeted areas, which are characterised by their potential for large-scale returns/relocations of internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees, relative stability, and the presence of complementary resilience projects with other UN agencies.

South Sudan to Leverage Oil as a Catalyst for Energy Transition, Says Petroleum Minister

As efforts to transition to a net-zero future intensify globally, South Sudan is implementing a strategic approach to developing its clean energy sector, using revenue generated from oil to harness renewable energy investment and facilitate country-wide electrification.

In an interview, South Sudan's Petroleum Minister, Puot Kang Chol, explained how the country's 3.5 billion barrels of proven oil reserves can serve as a catalyst for the development of other sectors.

According to Chol, the Government of South Sudan is inviting foreign investors to finance and engage in hydrocarbon exploration and production, as part of efforts to

support the growth of the country's wider economy.

"Our focus is on developing what we have at hand, and that is fossil fuels," Minister Chol stated. "We are cognizant of the fact that the world is transitioning from fossil fuels to cleaner and greener energy. We are not opposed to that; we are for it. For those who have the resources and have what it takes, come help us develop the resources we have at hand, so that we move with the world as it transitions."

As a country, South Sudan has endured some of the worst effects of climate change – including flooding, drought, disrupted crop cycles and food insecurity – while hardly contributing to global greenhouse gas emissions. Lack of new invest-

ment in energy and infrastructure development has resulted in an overreliance on petroleum imports and wood-fired power generation, leaving the country with a growing trade deficit and challenges associated with deforestation. Yet with increased investment in its vast hydrocarbon resources, South Sudan has the potential to reverse this trend.

"Our budget depends on oil for 85%. So, we have to develop more and produce more so that we meet the needs of our people. Oil is keeping our people alive," Minister Chol remarked. "Our contribution is zero. We are not saying that we must not transition. We are saying that the transition must be just, it must be equitable and it must be inclusive. It must be justifiable to my people."





South Sudan set for Oil & Power 2024 Summit in Juba.

South Sudan's Ministry of Petroleum in collaboration with Energy Capital & Power have officially launched the South Sudan Oil & Power (SSOP) 2024 show in Vienna, Austria.

The seventh edition of South Sudan Oil & Power energy summit brings together all participants in the energy industry in East Africa's sole major oil producer.

The summit will comprise of two days of high-level conference; plus, two additional days of workshops, presentations and site visits; and a gala dinner and other networking functions. The event will take place at the Radisson Blu hotel and the Pyramid Continental Hotel.

Private sector, investors, regional leadership, high profile national delegations, national oil companies (including the NOC of South Sudan, Nilepet), and South Sudanese government ministries (petroleum, finance, energy and dams, mining and more) are expected to grace the South Sudan Oil & Power (SSOP 2024) that will take place in Juba from 25-28 June 2024.

As a member of OPEC+, South Sudan is increasingly positioning itself as a player in the international petroleum sector, and is emerging as a destination for renewed onshore oil and gas investment.

Speaking at the OPEC 8th International Seminar yesterday in Vienna, Hon. Minister Puot Kang Chol emphasized the importance of South Sudan's resources as a means of growth and energy security, and the need to work with partner nations and organizations to balance priorities and develop sustainably.

The Minister stated: "In forging new relationships and improving old ones with our partners, we see that South Sudan's resources provide great opportunities. We must develop these resources and move ahead with new partnerships always with the best long-term interests of South Sudan at heart. Discussions will take place at South Sudan Oil & Power 2024 that determine our future as a petroleum producer. This will be where sustainable partnerships are built."

He recalled that the sixth edition goes down in history as one of the most impactful platforms for deal-



Minister of Petroleum, Hon. Puot Kang Chol

making and decision-making in South Sudan at a pivotal moment in the country's growth.

During his panel discussion alongside H.E. Suhail Al Mazroui, Minister of Infrastructure and Energy of the UAE, and H.E. Bruno Jean-Richard Itoua, Minister of Hydrocarbons, Republic of the Congo, Minister Kang Chol invited delegates to experience South Sudan and to invest in its exploration, production, development, midstream and downstream projects.

South Sudan and Kenya to Boost Regional Integration

South Sudan and Kenya have agreed to pursuing joint infrastructure projects to enhance regional integration and boost trade. The announcement was made during talks between the Presidents of South Sudan, Salva Kiir, and Kenya, William Ruto at a meeting held at the State House in Namibia's capital city of Nairobi.

"This is instrumental in supporting bilateral trade," President Ruto stated, adding, "President Kiir and I had the opportunity to share ideas about collaborating to seize emerging opportunities to improve the trade balance between our two nations."

Poised to enhance connectivity, further integration, and enrich intra-regional trade within East Africa, the two countries agreed on implementing the infrastructural projects under the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia-Transport Corridor project. The project is expected to attract investment in sectors such as transportation, logistics, and trade-related services, while creating new business opportunities and promote economic development in the East African region.

Furthermore, the leaders signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of a fiber optic cable linking the town of Eldoret



South Sudan President Salva Kiir (left), Kenya's President William Ruto (Right) during a State House meeting in Nairobi-Kenya.

in northwest Kenya and Juba, the capital of South Sudan. President Ruto and President Kiir also agreed to complete construction of the 11km road from the village of Nadapal in Kenya to the town of Nakodok in South Sudan, both situated near the border between the two countries.

Meanwhile, the two countries are working to complete development of the Kenya-South Sudan Corridor Road Upgrading Project, which will link landlocked South Sudan to the Kenyan port of Mombasa. The Presidents have also agreed to take full advantage of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area Agreement to unlock the economic and social benefits of increased trade.

In addition to infrastructure, President Kiir and President Ruto also pledged to support efforts to de-escalate conflict in Sudan, where fighting between Sudanese armed forces and paramilitary forces has resulted in approximately 700,000 refugees seeking asylum in neighboring countries.





Egypt Supports Construction of 20 Solar Stations in South Sudan

Egypt has supported the construction of twenty solar-powered stations in South Sudan in order to meet the East African country's sustainability standards. The development projects serve to promote Egyptian-South Sudanese collaboration in various fields including electricity, health, education, transportation and local content development.

Announced by Egypt's Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Hani Sewilam, the development of solar power in South Sudan falls in line with Egypt's commitment towards participating in the country's energy and construction sectors.

Minister Sewilam called the development project a "model for cooperation," that serves to facilitate "further work on strengthening the bonds of cooperation, integration and investment in various fields."

Meanwhile, it was announced that eight further solar stations are being launched in the East African country to meet the energy needs of South Sudan's population.

Minister Sewilam also met with Egypt's Ambassador to South Sudan, Moatez Mostafa Abdelkader, to review joint water projects between the two countries, highlighting Egypt's interest in meeting South Sudan's sustainability and development goals through clean water schemes and renewable energy development.

STRENGTHENING WASTE MANAGEMENT IN JUBA CITY: Drastic Measures for a Cleaner and Sustainable South Sudan

By Martin Mabior Garang

Juba, the capital city of South Sudan, is facing significant challenges in waste management, impeding its efforts to maintain cleanliness and a healthy environment. To address this pressing issue, the Juba City Council must implement decisive measures to improve waste management practices and ensure the city remains clean and sustainable.

For example, Kenya has enacted the Waste Management Regulations under the Environmental Management and Coordination Act, which provides guidelines and requirements for waste management. The regulations include waste segregation, collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal provisions. Juba could study these regulations and consider adopting similar measures to improve waste management practices in the city.

Similarly, Uganda has the National Environment Act, a comprehensive legislation addressing various environmental issues, including waste management. The act establishes the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) for issuing waste management guidelines and regulations. Juba can also explore the practices implemented by NEMA and learn from Uganda's approach to waste management.

Therefore, the city council can take several measures to address waste management issues in Juba and promote a cleaner city. These include imposing penalties on restaurants that do not have waste pits and desk trash cans, mandating the digging of pits, toilets, and septic tanks for non-compliant establishments, closing non-compliant restau-

rants, providing large desk trash cans for shops, closing tea places without proper waste disposal, and imposing fines and imprisonment for improper disposal of dirty water from homes.

The government is responsible for protecting and managing the environment for present and future generations (Article 22). Environmental protection and conservation are fundamental principles enshrined in the Constitution. The city council needs to introduce penalties for non-compliance. Establishments found without waste pits and desk trash cans should face a significant fine of 500,000 South Sudanese Pounds (SSP) and a six-month imprisonment for the responsible parties.

These stringent penalties will act as a deterrent, highlighting the seriousness of adhering to waste management regulations and encouraging restaurants to prioritise waste disposal infrastructure.

To further emphasise the impor-

tance of responsible waste management, the city council should consider temporarily closing restaurants that persistently fail to comply with the directive to have waste pits and desk trash cans. This drastic measure will strongly convey that responsible waste management is non-negotiable.

By temporarily closing non-compliant restaurants, the city council will encourage these establishments to prioritise waste disposal infrastructure and practices, ensuring a cleaner and healthier dining environment for residents and visitors; this emphasises the importance of public health and promotes measures for preventive health care (Article 36) of South Sudan constitution.

To promote standardised waste management practices throughout Juba, the city council should take proactive steps to produce and provide large desk trash cans to all shops in the city, which is in line with the constitution of the Republic



of South Sudan, which guarantees the right to accessible and adequate health care services, including preventive measures, for every individual (Article 14).

These cans/bins can be made available at a reasonable cost to shop owners, ensuring widespread access to appropriate waste disposal facilities. By facilitating proper waste segregation and disposal, this measure will contribute to a cleaner and more organised shopping environment while also promoting responsible waste management practices.

Tea places and other establishments found discharging dirty water without proper waste management systems should face temporary closure. By swiftly acting against non-compliant businesses, the city council can emphasise the importance of preventing water pollution and encourage tea places to install appropriate wastewater disposal mechanisms.

The constitution recognises the right to a clean and healthy environment (Article 22). Acting against establishments that discharge dirty water without proper waste management systems aligns with the constitutional recognition of the right to a clean and healthy environment.

To discourage improper disposal of dirty water from homes, it is necessary to impose severe penalties. Homes found guilty of discharging dirty water from toilets and bathrooms should face a substantial fine of 1,000,000 SSP, and the person responsible should be subject to a six-month imprisonment; this



measure should be implemented immediately by the block leaders and the security organs.

This measure aims to instill a sense of accountability and encourage households to adopt responsible waste management practices. This measure will contribute to the overall well-being and health of the city's residents. South Sudan's constitution recognises the right to a clean and healthy environment and imposes a duty on the government to protect and manage the environment (Article 22).

The city council will undertake the task of digging waste pits and septic tanks for non-compliant establishments. The cost for this service will triple the normal cost of such services when done by the owners themselves. This additional cost aims to

emphasise the seriousness of waste management and act as a deterrent for non-compliance. These measures aim to burden non-compliant establishments with the financial implications of waste management that they should have taken care of themselves.

By doing so, the city council aims to enforce responsible waste management practices and create a cleaner and healthier environment for residents. (Article 22) recognises the government's duty to protect the environment. Undertaking the task of digging waste pits and septic tanks for non-compliant establishments could be seen as enforcing responsible waste management practices and fulfilling the government's duty to protect the environment.

The waste management challenges faced by Juba demand immediate and resolute action from the city council. By implementing these drastic measures, including penalties, closures, provision of desk trash cans, and enforcement of proper waste disposal, the city council can significantly improve waste management practices and maintain a clean and sustainable Juba.

With collaboration between the city council, businesses, and residents, Juba can become a role model for effective waste management, ensuring a cleaner, healthier, and more vibrant environment for all its inhabitants. Let us work together to build a sustainable and thriving Juba city.



South Sudan and Russia Expanding Economic Opportunities

President Salva Kiir and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, have agreed to expand mutual relationship in areas of security, energy, agriculture, trade and other areas.

Kiir and Putin met in Moscow recently to discuss political and security matters as it affects the young democracy in South Sudan. The country won independence from Sudan in 2011, and Kiir, a first vice President of Sudan was elected as its first President.

Putin said the development of oil refineries in South Sudan with the participation of Russian companies would strengthen ties.

Speaking at the meeting, Putin noted that Russia was one of the first countries to recognise the sovereignty and independence of South Sudan.

"I must say we believe that we have a lot to do, primarily in the area of economic development.

"This is only the beginning. We have many good opportunities in a variety of fields, including energy," Putin said.

Russia's invitation to Kiir to visit came as global powers reach out to African nations for support regarding Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

South Sudan is under pressure from the United States and other allies to quickly implement a peace deal signed in 2018 to end a five-year civil war and prepare for the election in December, 2024.

On its part, South Sudan wants arms embargos removed from looks up to Russia, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.

Kiir said he was happy for the warm welcome he received and stressed that he was in Moscow "as



South Sudanese President Salva Kiir Mayardit and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

an opening for our long work in the future."

He said "the world dictates that no one can survive or succeed alone," and told Putin that the young country needs "strong friends and you are one of them."

Putin and Kiir also discussed peace and security in Africa and international affairs. The conflict in neighbouring Sudan has sent thousands of people into South Sudan, whose humanitarian and other resources were already badly strained.

Putin said Russia would assist South Sudan in handling its domestic political situation and ensuring security. "We will do our ultimate to support you in this domain," Putin said.

Putin and Kiir are also said to have discussed peace and security in Africa and wider international affairs.

Putin said Russia would assist South Sudan in handling its domestic political situation and ensuring security.

"We will do our ultimate [sic] to support you in this domain," Putin said, pledging the country's support to their newest allies.

This is the second time the South Sudanese president has visited Russia. Kiir attended the first Russia-Africa summit in 2019 at Petersburg.

Currently, Russia's oil company, Safinat Group is working on an oil refinery in South Sudan.

Sustaining the fight against neglected tropical diseases in South Sudan

In South Sudan, 19 of the 20 neglected tropical diseases are endemic, posing a huge health threat. More than 12 million people are at risk of infection from these diseases that can cause severe pain, disabilities and deformities among other devastating impacts.

The country, with support from the World Health Organization (WHO) and partners, has made efforts over the recent years to tackle the threat of neglected tropical diseases by providing drugs and bolstering preventive measures in a bid to accelerate progress towards ending these diseases.

Since 2021, nearly 17 million people in South Sudan have received treatment for river blindness, elephantiasis, bilharzia, trachoma and soil-transmitted worms. In a treatment drive in June 2023, health workers carried out a house-to-house mass drug administration against bilharzia, ensuring that eligible children received treatment regardless of whether they are infected or not.

Neglected tropical diseases are a set of 20 diseases or disease groups that occur predominantly in tropical and subtropical areas. They include lymphatic filariasis, more commonly known as elephantiasis, onchocerciasis or river blindness, schistosomiasis, or bilharzia, as well as human African trypanosomiasis, often called sleeping sickness, chronic ulcers and other skin infections.

"We are working hand in hand with our partners to reach communities across the country and ensure that populations at risk receive treatment and protection from these diseases," said Hon Ader Macar Aciek, Undersecretary in the Ministry of Health. "The journey to eliminating neglected tropical diseases is a long one and we're determined to finish the job by protecting everyone at risk so that they can live healthier lives."

WHO has supported the Ministry

of Health to develop and implement a Neglected Tropical Disease Master Plan 2023–2027. WHO has also supported the Ministry of Health to train health workers across the country in various aspects of neglected tropical diseases management, including treatment, diagnosis, mapping, mass drug administration, active case search and contact tracing.

The country's Master Plan aligns with the 2030 Neglected Tropical Diseases Global Roadmap for elimination. The roadmap aims, among other goals, to eliminate targeted diseases such as bilharzia, river blindness, elephantiasis, intestinal worms and trachoma by 2030.

South Sudan's master plan focuses on ensuring three fundamental shifts in the approach to tackling neglected tropical diseases, including increasing accountability for impact by using impact indicators, moving away from singular, disease-specific programmes and changing operating models and culture to facilitate greater ownership of the country.

"The medicine has helped us a lot. I no longer experience frequent sickness," said Ernesto Tombe Swaka, a resident of Gondokoro in

Juba County, who is benefitted from a recent mass drug administration campaign in his community. "The health workers educated us on the importance of taking the medicine, so I didn't hesitate to take the drug on the first day of the mass drug administration."

Several of South Sudan's counties have more than one endemic neglected tropical diseases. Elephantiasis and river blindness are endemic in 34 counties, while bilharzia and intestinal worms are endemic in 46 counties. Thirty-five counties have endemicity of elephantiasis and intestinal worms, and 36 counties have Loa Loa Filariasis co-endemicity. The recent mapping of leprosy endemicity status indicates that all regions in the country are endemic for leprosy.

"We're committed to supporting the Ministry of Health in the efforts to address the threat of neglected tropical diseases in the country," said Dr Fabian Ndenzako, Acting WHO Representative in South Sudan. "Together, we're working to ensure that the national plan is fully implemented to help end the threat of this disease and the suffering they cause."



Uplifting Vulnerable South Sudanese Households through Safety Net Assistance

The project successfully provided a total of \$23.486 million to 65,045 households, comprising 423,051 people, 52 percent of whom were female

Between 2020 and 2023, the South Sudan Safety Net Project (SSSNP) provided temporary income opportunities, benefiting 65,045 vulnerable households (423,051 people), of whom 52 percent were female. The project delivered cash transfers totaling \$23.5 million across 10 counties (out of 79 counties) in a very fragile context, while improving safety net delivery tools and strengthening local capacity for long-term development.

"I started this small business with the cash assistance I received from the project, and it has helped change my life and that of my family. I am now able to generate an income by

selling tea on daily basis to cater for my children's needs, including food, medication, and paying school fees." Eva Ituwa (a single mother with eight children)

Challenge

According to a new World Bank Systematic Country Diagnostic update (SCD), South Sudan has remained one of the world's poorest and most fragile countries since it attained independence in 2011, with worsening human development indicators from repeated cycles of conflict, violence, disasters, displacement, and trauma, especially among women and girls. Gender-based violence (GBV) has been a continual

problem. The Human Capital Index ranks the country 156 out of 157 countries; poverty climbed from 66 percent in 2015 to 89.6 percent in 2019. About 6.6 million people are facing high levels of acute food insecurity, making South Sudan one of the world's most food-insecure nations. South Sudan's humanitarian safety net was short-term and unpredictable, and limited institutional capacity hindered the government's ability to offer long-term income and livelihood opportunities to vulnerable households.

Approach

The South Sudan Safety Net Project (SSSNP), implemented between 2020 and 2023, aimed to bolster the resilience and livelihoods of vulnerable households by providing cash transfers through labor-intensive public works (LIPW) and direct income support. The project provided a blueprint for more efficient and effective benefit distribution through improving beneficiary outreach, harmonized with the needs of the local communities. Within a relatively short timeframe of three years, SSSNP delivered significant results, employing existing institutions of local governance and flexible community-based beneficiary targeting, strengthening women's inclusion and GBV prevention, and putting in place a digitized Management Information System (MIS). LIPW encouraged community infrastructure and agricultural services,



Eva Ituwa, a beneficiary operating a small business in Nyokurun residential area in Juba. Photo: John Lomoro Sindani

providing livelihoods for recipient households. A "Cash Plus" approach, which complemented cash transfers to also enhance beneficiaries' knowledge on financial literacy, early childhood development and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) improved cash transfer efficiency and household wellbeing.

Results

Between April 2020 and March 2023, the project achieved the following results:

Promoted welfare and resilience of vulnerable households: The project successfully provided a total of \$23.486 million to 65,045 households, comprising 423,051 people, 52 percent of whom were female. Through the cash transfers, the project improved 95 percent of households' standard of living; enabled over 77 percent of households to purchase assets, essential goods, and services; increased household savings by 26 percentage points; increased human capital expenditures on education (in 85 percent of households) and health (77 percent); and delivered 378 sub-projects based on community priorities. Sub-projects focused on small-scale food production yielded 1,300 tons of agricultural produce.

Bolstered safety net delivery tools: For more efficient service delivery, the project enabled use of the integrated Biometric Management Information System (MIS) for beneficiary registration, enrollment, and authentication for 100 percent of payments (exceeding its projected goal of 80 percent). To facilitate transparent and speedy responses to any concerns, the project also digitized its Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), with 100 percent of grievances resolved through the MIS. Geographic Information System-enabled and mobile-based real-time remote data tracking tools ensured efficiency in monitoring, accountability and transparency. The strengthened delivery tools were handed over to and managed by the government.

Gender empowerment, social inclusion and GBV risk mitigation: The project promoted gender equality and exceeded its gender-specific targets; 77 percent female participa-



tion in labor-intensive public works exceeds the 60 percent target, and GBV-specific risk mitigation was delivered through sensitization, capacity building, and deployment of GBV focal persons.

Pioneered innovations and good practices in use of safety nets: The project forged community engagement and capacity building to enable community cohesion, decision-making, and peacebuilding; integrated cash-plus approaches; and improved nutrition, saving, and hygiene practices. A behavioral-nudge intervention to encourage beneficiaries' priority setting, planning, and allocating cash to support long-term goals increased spending on priority items, such as food and medicine, by 6 percent and reduced food insecurity by 3 percent among pilot participants.

Institutionalized local governance structures: The project mobilized and raised awareness among project oversight committees. Including a representative for local community members on these committees enabled local governance mechanisms to function for greater engagement and accountability. For instance, Appeals Committees at the Boma (village) level provided a community interface to resolve project-related complaints and grievances, enhancing social accountability.

Bank Group Contribution

The SSSNP was financed by an International Development Association (IDA) grant of \$40 million.

Partners

The United Nations Office for Project

Services (UNOPS) was the main implementing agency of the project, while the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare provided strategic guidance throughout project implementation. Furthermore, the project sought close partnerships with key partners in the social protection sector in South Sudan, including the World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Collaboration with WFP, which included joint sensitization and beneficiary de-duplication exercises in some geographical locations, led to deepening synergies between SSSNP and WFP-implemented safety net programs.

Looking Ahead

The successful implementation of SSSNP paved the way for the subsequent Productive Safety Net for Socio economic Opportunities Project (SNSOP), a \$129 million IDA-financed project, which provides safety net assistance to vulnerable households and strengthens the government's safety net delivery system. Based on the results and lessons from SSSNP, SNSOP will scale up safety net assistance to 96,000 households, spanning the 10 counties that were originally targeted. It will also add five newly targeted counties, while enhancing complementary social measures aimed at human capital development and introducing economic inclusion interventions targeting youth. The project also shifted from third-party implementation to a government-led implementation modality, further enhancing the government-led safety net system.

Social safety nets uplift over 400,000 people in South Sudan

Nyayom Lual, a resident of the Gogrial West County of South Sudan, has a compelling story to tell. Since joining the Labor Intensive Public Works (LIPW) component of the World Bank's South Sudan Safety Net Project (SSSNP), her family's welfare has improved. Nyayom's strength of character and determination to see her family through adversity have finally paid off, and things are looking up for them as of late.



Nyayom Lual, a resident of the Gogrial West County of South Sudan. Photo: UNOPS

"From the money I received, I baked cookies and processed peanut butter for sale. I also used some of the money to buy seeds for cultivation and bought three goats, which will produce milk and, once sold, will bring my family more money."

Nyayom Lual, a resident of the Gogrial West County of South Sudan

In South Sudan's inherently unstable and fragile economy, poverty is endemic. In the wake of the recent pandemic and global economic downturn, food insecurity, natural calamities, and persistent economic instability have all left a vast majority of the population on the brink of a humanitarian crisis.

What sets Nyayom apart is her resolve and resilience; despite

extreme hardships, her family's situation is gradually improving. There are 423,051 South Sudanese people, like Nyayom, across 10 counties in South Sudan, whose lives have been changed for the better thanks to cash transfers totaling \$23.5 million from the SSSNP. Beyond the facts and figures, the stories of these people provide valuable insights, underscoring that it is not just the construction of roads and community infrastructure that brings out the real value and human face of safety net projects, but rather people's intense determination and resolve.

These stories are collected in a photobook titled 'Against All Odds: South Sudan Safety Net Project.' Its narrative tells the story of the resilience and welfare of impoverished and vulnerable South Sudanese by combining the lessons and innovations of the project with a rich collage of stunning imagery and the testimonies of people. For instance, it discusses the success of SSSNP's Cash 'Plus' trainings, which were delivered to promote healthy behaviors in nutrition, early childhood development, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) among communities. Recipients also reported that the financial inclusion training enabled them to better plan and save for unexpected events.



Photo: UNOPS

According to another beneficiary, Micheal Maluk Kuol, "At first we were not good at financial management. Through the training, we have learned a lot about how to better manage money. I used the cash to buy seeds and started this vegetable garden."

The SSSNP has also paved the way to adapt social safety nets to promote gender-transformative behaviors, social cohesion, and sensitivity to preventing and reducing gender-based violence in settings impacted by fragility, conflict, and violence.



Mary Nyalang from Gogrial West shares, "I was registered by the project because I am a widow with children in school who need tuition. From the money I received, I expanded my field like never before and harvested four sacks of groundnuts, seven sacks of simsim and four sacks of Sorghum."

In March of 2023, the SSSNP officially ended. The project's successor, the South Sudan Productive Safety Net for Socioeconomic Opportunities Project (SNSOP), will continue the joint efforts of the World Bank, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan, and the implementing partners to improve the lives and livelihoods of more than 96,000 vulnerable South Sudanese households. The SNSOP is directly implemented by the government and will provide critical cash assistance through both direct income support and labor-in-

tensive public works, in addition to the provision of other economic opportunities. It will not only continue to uplift the poor South Sudanese but also aims to strengthen the government's institutional capacity to develop a national social protection system. Both projects are financed by the International Development Association (IDA)—the part of the World Bank that helps the poorest countries.



93% of project beneficiaries say that SSSNP enhanced their quality of life.

Over 77% of households report that the cash transfer enabled them to purchase assets, essential goods, and services that they would have been unable to access without it.

Almost 98% of households spent most of their cash transfers on food, education (85% of households) and health (77%), indicating that they prioritize human capital investments.

Resilience Agricultural Projects Boost Livelihoods of Vulnerable Communities in South Sudan

{More than 52,000 households facing acute food insecurity are benefiting from climate-smart agricultural and technology. Over 184,000 vulnerable households are receiving assistance to protect and restore livelihoods and food security. Project support is also strengthening systems for preparedness against challenges such as desert locusts.}

In South Sudan, multiple shocks such as food insecurity, excessive floods, economic volatility, and sub-national conflict continue to affect the livelihoods of vulnerable communities. But some communities can see a ray of hope and a chance to transform their livelihoods. Amid growing poverty and food insecurity in South Sudan, the Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Project (RALP) and Emergency Locust Response Project (ELRP) are addressing immediate and long term development needs.

Both projects focus on strengthening the capacity of farmers and their organizations with emphasis on improving agricultural productivity through promoting knowledge, skills, access to inputs and other solutions for enhancing agricultural production and resilience.

The Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Project (RALP)

Achol Akueth Deng, age 45, is one of the beneficiaries of RALP. According to Achol, a resident of Kolnyang Payam in Bor County,

and a member of the Tuidu farmers' group, the project has improved her life and that of her family.

"With the support we received from the project, I am now living a happy life since I started growing some



Achol Akueth Deng waters her vegetable garden in Bor County, Jonglei state. Photo: FAO / World Bank.

vegetables for household consumption and selling the excess for money to buy some basic needs for my family and to pay the school fees of my children," recounted Achol.

Sowila Mangu Ali, age 38, a mother of five children, is a progressive farmer and a member of the Momoi Seed Production for Market Cooperative in Wau County. She is among those benefiting from foundation seeds provided by the RALP Project.

"With the seeds we are producing, farmers will be ready to cultivate large farms/lands and plant crops and vegetables in both dry and main seasons at the right time and produce larger quantities for both home consumption and markets because there is a ready market," Sowila said.

Some of the results from the project so far include:

- Provision of climate-smart agricultural inputs (seeds, maize, sorghum, groundnuts, cowpeas, vegetables) and technology to increase production to 52,224 farming households facing acute food insecurity (33,595 female and 18,629 male).
- Support to 281 farmer's groups of 8,813 farmers (4,035 females and 4,778 males), trained them on extension methodologies and communication skills, climate-smart agriculture, tree planting and agroforestry, and seed production.
- Decentralized training of farmers with 191 farmers' garden demonstration plots developed.
- Enrollment of 72 farmer groups with a total membership of 2,187 individuals (1,014 females and 1,173 males) in tree planting and agroforestry activities.
- 1,700 households (1,065 female and 635 males) received small ruminants.
- Formation of 63 seed producer groups of 1,890 members (1,346 females and 544 males) and support to reduce dependency on imported seeds.

The Emergency Locust Response Project (ELRP)

On the other hand, the Emergency Locust Response Project focuses on responding to threats posed by the desert locust outbreak, protecting, and restoring livelihoods and food security, and strengthening systems for preparedness. The project supports a total of 184,176 vulnerable households in nine counties in the five states of Eastern Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, and Northern Bahr el Ghazal.

Awel Borong Deng, a 45-year-old woman with six children is among the Labour-Intensive Public Works (LIPW) beneficiaries of the project. She works to help rehabilitate roads, such as the three-kilometer Ritnhom access road in Bor County. Awel works for 15 days a month and through the program receives a cash payment of \$40.5 per month.

"I appreciate the World Bank, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, and FAO for this project because the project came during serious hunger times. I have used the cash I received to buy food, pay medical bills, and send my children to school," Awel explained.

The Ritnhom access road leads to a seasonal cattle camp, which is of major economic and social value to the community. With more than

500 households residing in the area along the access road, the maintenance and availability of this road provides convenient access to farming communities, and an additional 62 hectares of land in the area will be cleared for cultivation of crops and vegetables.



Kiden Juan waters some seedlings in the community nursery bed in Kapoeta East. Photo: FAO

The project has so far achieved the following results since the start of activities in August 2022:

- The project strengthened South Sudan's surveillance and monitoring systems by training a total of 200 state and county officials (22% women) on pest surveillance in nine counties, in addition to 14 (11 male, 3 female) national task force members trained in pest surveillance.
- 15,375 Ha of farmland affected by locust and other pests were surveyed and a total of 7,546 (1,509 female and 6,037 male) affected livestock-holding households received emergency fodder/feed.



LIPW beneficiaries at the Ritnhom access road in Bor County. This road connects farmers to market opportunities in Bor County and beyond. Photo: Janet Maya Logo / Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security.

In addition, 124 Ha of affected pasture and rangeland area were restored.

- 23,779 (80% female) households were provided with direct income support and 22,156 (62% female) households with able-bodied members were assisted through Labor-Intensive Public Works (LIPW). 166 LIPW sub-projects contributed to building community assets, such as community access roads, tree nurseries, and schools among others.
- Distribution of 12,000 tree seedlings (2,000 guava, 3,000 mango, 1,500 grevillea, 2,000 orange, 1,500 pine, 2,000 moringa) to farmers. 38 community nurseries were established through LIPW activities in 10 counties, in addition to 7 central tree nurseries already constructed and handed over to the County Agriculture Department (CAD).
- 8,117 households were provided with seeds and tools and 31,830 (25,118 female and 6,712 male) farmers with vegetable kits for dry season cultivation. 43 demonstration plots for pest management were established and 6,500 (4,550 female and 1,950 male) households trained on good agronomic practices, integrated pest management and post-harvest monitoring. To improve pest surveillance and monitoring, the project provided 30 motorbikes, 50 bicycles and 5 vehicles at the national, state and county level for easy mobility.

Key to the achievement of the development goals, the project has invested in building the capacity of government, both at the national and state level in pest surveillance and control operation measures. As a result, 10 (2 female, 8 male) national officials were trained as trainers on pest surveillance, 14 (3 female, 11 male) national task force were trained on pest surveillance, 90 (30 female, 60 male) state and county officials were trained on pest surveillance, 30 national task force members received training of trainers on pest control operation measures, and 160 pest control operation Staff (55 female, 105 male) received training.



(L-R) Hon. Josephine Joseph Lagu, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Victoria Kwakwa, World Bank Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa, Ousmane Dione, World Bank Country Director and Holger Kray, World Bank Practice Manager for Agriculture inspect a vegetable garden in Bor Town in Jonglei State. Photo: Janet Maya Logo / MoAFS.

"The agriculture sector is the backbone of South Sudan. It contributes significantly to the Gross Domestic Product of this country and employs over 80% of this country's population. To this effect, the government has declared a country-wide war against hunger and poverty by developing the Comprehensive Agriculture Master Plan (CAMP) and Irrigation Development Master Plan (IDMP), which outline the priority investment areas and roadmap to agriculture sector transformation in South Sudan," said Honorable Josephine Joseph Lagu, South Sudan's national Minister of Agriculture and Food Security.

In her first visit to South Sudan in March 2023, the World Bank Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa, Victoria Kwakwa had an opportunity to visit Bor town in Jonglei State to assess and get firsthand information on the World Bank resilient agricultural project sites. She was accompanied by key ministers from the economic cluster, the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Honorable Josephine Joseph Lagu, Minister of Livestock and Fisheries, Honorable Onyoti Adigo Nyikech, and the former Minister of Finance and Planning, Honorable Dier Tong Ngor.

"This access road is highly valued because it provides the community with access to their farms and the markets. Women also appreciate the access road as it will allow them to collect firewood with less risk of sexual assault and harassment," Awel said.

In Kapoeta East, Kiden Juan, a mother of eight received training on seedling and vegetable production.

"With the knowledge from the training, I will also train other members of my community who have not been fortunate enough to receive these skills I have acquired," said Kiden.

The RALP has received an additional financing of \$30 million from IDA that will be channeled towards fighting the food insecurity generated by the four years of devastating, record floods in South Sudan. Part of the additional financing will also fund livestock and fisheries projects in targeted areas in South Sudan.

Two Million People to be Protected from Water-Related Climate Shocks and Flooding in Eastern and Southern Africa

Nearly two million people will be protected from exposure to water-related climate shocks, including flooding, thanks to protective and resilient infrastructure, improved disaster risk management, and social protection systems supported by the Regional Climate Resilience Program for Eastern and Southern Africa 2 (RCRP-2).

RCRP-2 is the second phase in a 10-year series of projects in Eastern and Southern Africa aimed at strengthening the resilience to water-related climate impacts. It provides a \$240 million grant to Malawi and a \$10 million grant to the African Union (AU) from the International Development Association* (IDA) in order to scale up RCRP-1 which is currently being implemented in Comoros, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Sudan, the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), and the Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO).

Countries in Eastern and Southern Africa continue to grapple with climate-related shocks, and climate-exacerbated disasters are increasing in frequency and recurrence, leading to reactive responses that do not address the root cause of vulnerability. Chronic underfunding for climate adaptation investments further exacerbates the situation.

"Malawi has experienced 19 major floods and eight catastrophic droughts in the last five decades that have rolled back development progress and pushed more Malawians into poverty. The establishment of stronger structures supported by the recently approved Disaster Risk Management Act (2023) presents an opportunity to support the coun-

try's shift from a disaster response approach to preparedness, risk reduction, and sustainable post disaster recovery, which RCRP-2 aims to focus on," says Hugh Riddell, World Bank Country Manager for Malawi.

In Malawi, the project will prioritize the management of the trans-boundary Shire River Basin, which is significant for the region, particularly for Malawi and Mozambique. It will also enhance coordination between Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, and Mozambique in improving early warning systems and sharing information, as these countries are often affected by the same tropical cyclones. The participation of the AU will support the coordination among all five countries and three regional organizations involved in RCRP-1 and RCRP-2, and advance knowledge sharing and promote a harmonized approach to addressing climate change in a gender equitable and inclusive manner.

"Climate change related natural disasters do not respect national boundaries, and single events can have cascading impacts across the region. Regional projects play a crucial role in fostering greater partnership to tackle these common challenges and facilitate knowledge exchange among member countries, which is critical in accelerating action against climate change," says Iain Shuker, Regional Director for Sustainable Development for Eastern and Southern Africa.

Partnerships are an important aspect of the World Bank's Evolution Roadmap and the institution's mission to end extreme poverty on a livable planet. RCRP-2 will join forces with the AU to maximize impact and harmonize support. RCRP-2 fully aligns with the African Union's Climate Change and Resil-



ience Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032), which aims to provide a roadmap for member states to achieve their climate change commitments and promote sustainable economic growth.

"Partnering with the African Union is key to mobilizing more funds for climate finance on the continent, fostering cooperation on climate strategies, and improving collaboration on water resources," said Boutheina Guerhazi, World Bank Director for Regional Integration for Africa and the Middle East. "As climate impacts expand across borders, increased regional knowledge, information sharing, and enhanced early warning systems are crucial to build the region's resilience to climate change."

The project's five components integrate regional and national dimensions and include promoting policy harmonization, knowledge generation, capacity development, and coordination across RCRP countries. The 10-year SOPs plans to address the challenges of climate change shocks by creating an enabling environment for capacity building, infrastructure reconstruction, and landscape management with benefits that go beyond borders.

Minister sets benchmarks for National Youth Convention

National ministry of youth and sports with youth union steering committee, has set benchmarks for national convention to elect new youth leadership in the country.

The national minister of youth and sports, Joseph Geng Akech said that the convention, with its date yet to be communicated, will include the election of a new body of the union.

"The national ministry of youth and sports is planning to convene its 3rd national youth convention pursuant to ministerial order No. 3/2023.

The minister stated that there will be nomination criteria set to identify the selection of members to participate in the congress across South Sudan.

"I enclose a set of guidelines to facilitate the nomination process of the delegates for the avoidance of doubts and other uncertainties," he stated.

Geng stated in his encyclical that there will be 10 youth representatives and 5 from the administrative areas.

"At least 4 of the 10 and 2 of the 5 delegates must be females from states and administrative areas," the minister stated.

Furthermore, the Minister also limited the age requirement of participants to only those falling under the youth category and not beyond.

"A youth is anybody between the ages of 18 and 35, and the nomination of the delegates is to be done by a state youth body or state ministry of youth and sports, which such body does not exist," he noted.

Never the less, Geng further emphasized that the nomination of the participants ought to be through proper consultations to mitigate passive outcomes.



Minister of youth and sports, Joseph Geng Akech

The process of the nomination must be consultative, inclusive, fair, and transparent; the list will be jointly endorsed by the state minister of youth and sports and the governor or chiefs of the three administrative areas, respectively," he stated.

According to the minister, the necessary requirements needed for the success of the convention have already been met.

He stated that the committee has tabled the budget and other key areas needed for the implementation of the initiative.

Moreover, he also warned the committee against crossing the boundary lines of selection criteria, tasking them with in-depth endorsement.

Meanwhile, Gabriel Mading, the chairperson of the convention preparatory committee, noted that they only wait for the budget to be released to fix the timetable.

He worries that the preparatory committee was mandated for a dura-

tion of 90 days and was left with 60 days to accomplish their task.

"There is nothing in the Union's account, and we are not mandated to mobilize anywhere apart from the funding from the ministry," Mading said

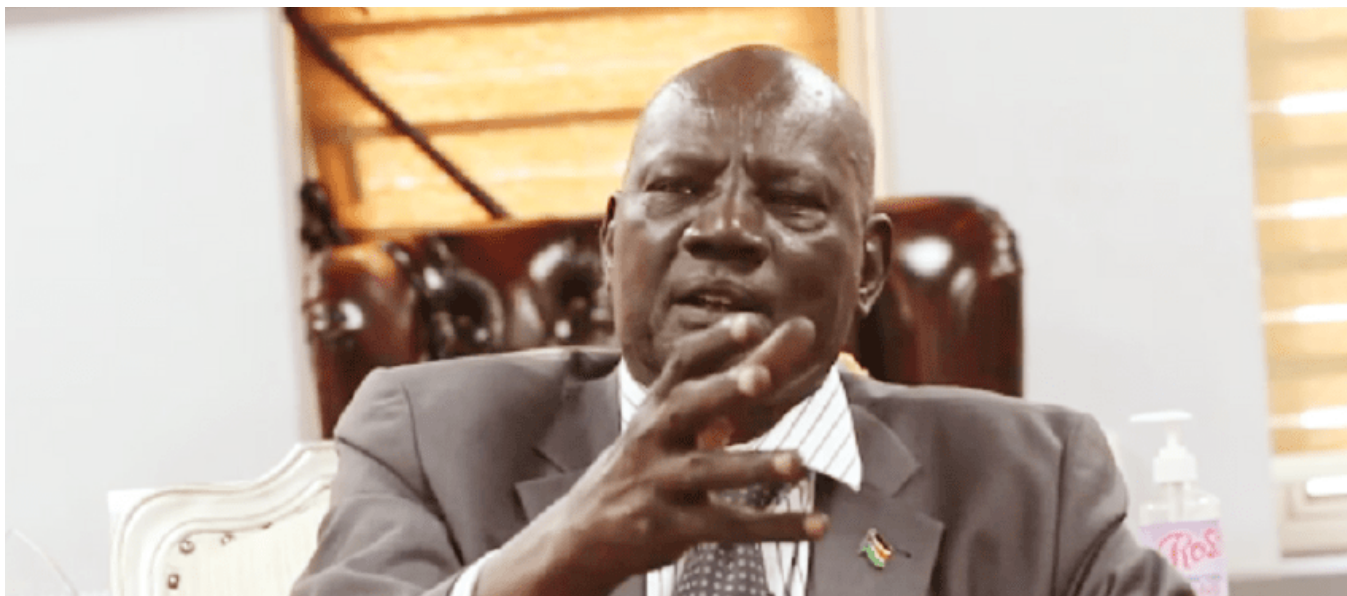
He reiterated that financial constraints were one of the major factors hindering the facilitation of the upcoming national youth convention.

"There are outstanding issues with the convention, and for these reasons, we have attached here to the plan, which contains all guidelines for their priorities," he said.

However, the committee's chair urged the minister to push stakeholders towards the selection of participants for the congress.

"Write to all stakeholders that will participate in the convention to fulfil their obligation in terms of delegates' selection and strict adherent to the time line frame and guidelines," Mading urged.

South Sudan Govt, SPLM Ready For Elections – Minister



South Sudan information minister and government spokesman Michael Makuei Lueth

South Sudan government has said that it will hold elections in December 2024 as planned whether internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees are repatriated or not.

In statements to journalists, information minister and government spokesman Michael Makuei Lueth said the repatriation of IDPs, and refugees is a voluntary process and cannot be forced if they are not willing to.

"There are people who say unless the displaced people and refugees are repatriated. Repatriation is a voluntary work it is not compulsory. The government cannot go and tell the refugees in all the refugee camps 'come here, go home'. That is not the case it is the refugee who would say I want to be repatriated, then we would repatriate him," Makuei said.

"Even the displaced here in these camps, here in Juba, we cannot force

them to go home if they don't want [to], so that condition is not in place," he added.

The senior government official said that Sudanese citizens were not forced to return to the country following the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005 and that the 2010 elections were conducted without any impact.

Makuei said that the ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) under President Salva Kiir Mayardit is ready for elections and that other political groups and individuals who are not willing to join it is up to them.

"But for us as government and as SPLM in particular, we are going for an election; anybody who does not want to go is up to him or her," he said.

The decision to hold elections without the repatriation of IDPs and refugees has been met with criticism from some quarters. The opposition

has previously argued that the elections will be unfair if not all eligible voters are able to participate.

South Sudan is a young country that has been marred by conflict since its independence in 2011. A civil war broke out in 2013 and lasted for five years, displacing millions of people and causing widespread suffering. A peace agreement was signed in 2018, but the country remains fragile.

The 2024 elections are seen as a key test of the peace agreement. If the elections are held successfully, it will be a major step forward for the country. However, if the elections are marred by violence or irregularities, it could lead to a return to conflict.

The repatriation of IDPs and refugees is a complex issue. There are many factors that need to be considered, including security, the availability of resources, and the willingness of IDPs and refugees to return home. It is unclear how the government plans to address these issues.



FIN Oil and Gas Conference and Award Ceremony, 2023

The FIN Oil and Gas Conference and Award Reception took place on the 18th of July, 2023 under the theme: "Enabling LNG Energy Transition".

The event united private and government investors, community leaders, established businesses, potential investors in South Sudan, and professionals from the South Sudanese UK Diaspora.

The Honorable Puot Kang Chol, Minister of Petroleum, was honored with the "FIN Award of Excellence" in 2023. In his keynote address, he dedicated the award to the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity, led by H.E. Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan. Hon. Puot Kang Chol expressed heartfelt gratitude to his team at the Ministry of Petroleum, acknowledging their dedication, drive, and professionalism as key factors in their success.

The Hon. Minister in his keynote address said, "The Republic of South Sudan needs and ready for investor to come and invest in all sectors. We

are thankful for the Aid that comes from all the well-wishers and good friends of South Sudan, but we need investors to come and invest in the Agriculture sector, Extractive Industries, Tourism, Health, Infrastructure, Education, Power Generation, and Renewable energy Sector."

Honorable Engineer Awow Daniel Chuang, serving as the Technical

Advisor for the Ministry of Petroleum, took part in the Market Stability and Energy Security Panel, while Mr. Oliver Denis Pamba, the National Consultant, contributed to the Investments, Finance, and Inclusive Petroleum Growth Strategies panel.

During the session's opening, H.E. Ambassador Agnes Oswaha highlighted South Sudan's significant



Participants at the FIN Oil and Gas Conference and Award Reception

strides in leveraging its abundant natural resources, particularly in the oil industry. She emphasized South Sudan's aim, with the support of the International Community and the Region, to realize its national aspirations for a brighter future for its people and the African Continent. Addition-

ally, she commended H.E. The President's steadfast dedication to fostering peace and stability in South Sudan and the wider region. She acknowledged his determined efforts in implementing the Revitalised Peace Agreement and his pivotal role in addressing the ongoing crisis in Sudan.

She urges investors to consider opportunities in Education, Agriculture, Clean Energy, and other sectors in South Sudan, concluding with the inspiring words of H.E. Nelson Mandela: "It always seems impossible until it is done."



H.E Mrs Olayinka Fayomi, Chairman of FIN and a board member of FIN, Presenting the FIN Award of Excellence to Dr. Josephine Nwaeze, MD WIRE Energy Company.



H.E Mrs Olayinka Fayomi, Chairman of FIN presenting the FIN Award of Excellence to H.E Laila Rahhall, Founder of I am Africa



Nic Careem, Founder of Blue Sky Network, H.E Laila Rahhall, Founder of I am Africa and some recipients of the FIN Award of Excellence.

South Sudan Economic Forum 2023

The Embassy hosted the South Sudan Economic Forum in collaboration with the Foreign Investment Network, focusing on "Driving FDI For South Sudan Economic Development." Hon. Pout Kang Chol, Minister of Petroleum, patronized the event. Guests included H.E. Dr. Anna Butchart, Interim Special Envoy of Sudan and South Sudan, along with Ms. Anna Parry. Diplomatic attendees featured H.E. Amb. Gibson Schwarz of Liberia, H.E. Amb. Amani Sara of Côte d'Ivoire who encouraged investment in South Sudan and Africa, and Deputy High Commissioner Rita Tani Iddi of Ghana. Representatives from



L-R H.E. Amb. Agnes Oswaha, Hon. Pout Kang Chol, Minister of Petroleum, South Sudan at the South Sudan Economic Forum

Sudan, Kenya, Libya, Nigeria, Madagascar, and Malawi were also present, alongside investors and professionals worldwide, including the South Sudanese UK Diaspora.

Honorable Pout Kang Chol delivered a keynote urging direct investment in the Republic of South Sudan. The minister emphasized the divergent priorities between the United Kingdom, the wider world, and South Sudan, underscoring the need for investment to narrow this gap. He highlighted the transformation of challenges into opportunities and emphasized the untapped potential of resources beyond oil and gas, including agriculture, minerals, animal resources, and fisheries. Additionally, he pointed out the legal instruments available to facilitate and safeguard investments.

Hon. Eng. Awow Daniel Chaung, serving as the Technical Advisor for the Ministry of Petroleum, alongside Dr. William Anyak Deng, Director General for Petroleum Authority, and National Consultant Eng. Oliver Denise, convened a panel session titled "Addressing Current Social Vulnerabilities in the Context of a New System for Work, Skill, and Care," as well as "Addressing Current Geopolitical Risks in the Context of a New System for Dialogue and Cooperation in a Multipolar World." Their collective expertise in the oil industry, environmental concerns, and employment opportunities was prominently showcased during the session.



Presentation of FIN Award

The interactive forum commenced with an opening address by H.E. Amb. Agnes Oswaha, focusing on "Delivering Macroeconomic Stability for Shared Prosperity." Her speech underscored South Sudan's historical journey, its governance structure, security measures, the judicial system, and economic trajectory. She reiterated the steadfast commitment to fostering peace and stability in South Sudan and the broader region, echoing the sentiments of H.E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit, the President of the Republic of South Sudan. Additionally, she appealed to well-wishers and the South Sudanese diaspora for support amid the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Sudan.

The Forum showcased various presentations and panel sessions by



L-R H.E. Amb. Agnes Oswaha, Hon. Pout Kang Chol, Minister of Petroleum, South Sudan and H.E Mrs Olayinka Fayomi, Chairman of FIN during the South Sudan Economic Forum, 2023



L-R H.E. Amb. Agnes Oswaha, Hon. Pout Kang Chol, Minister of Petroleum, South Sudan and Ha Group photo of Hon. Pout Kang Chol, Minister of Petroleum, South Sudan, H.E. Amb. Agnes Oswaha, H.E Mrs Olayinka Fayomi, Chairman of FIN with some participants from South Sudan at the South Sudan Economic Forum, 2023. E Mrs Olayinka Fayomi, Chairman of FIN during the South Sudan Economic Forum, 2023

global experts, including topics like "Learning from Nigeria's Development Infrastructure," "Investment Strategies for South Sudan," "Promoting Private Sector Engagement and Ethical Business Practices," insights from the Arab Network, and discussions on Investments, Finance, Policies, and Energy Growth. Pastor Samuel Nhial Luak, Founder and CEO of the Nile Centre for Biblical Studies, and H.E. Laila Rahhall ElAtfani, Goodwill Ambassador, opened and closed the event with prayers, reflecting the cultural and religious unity in South Sudan.











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