

Evidence for Economic and Social Transformation of South Sudan
 Project Number: 96148
 2016 Annual Report
 (January 2017)



Empowered lives.
 Resilient nations.



Project Summary

Country: South Sudan
 Project Duration: 6 Years
 Project Budget: US\$
 Annual Budget: US\$

Donor	Annual budget US\$
UNDP	
Kazakhstan	

Cumulative expenditure (including for the reporting period):

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Responsible Parties: *This section should include all counterparts involved in the implementation of the project.*

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Executive Summary

This marks the end of the project initiation phase of the “evidence for economic and social transformation of South Sudan” and the start of a fully-fledged project on “Managing Development for Peace and Prosperity in South Sudan”. The project document continues to be aligned to achieve “Output 2.2 National data collection, measurement and analytical systems are enabled to monitor and report on national development and sustainable development goals” of the Country Programme Document.

The main achievements of the project are clustered in 4 areas:

1. **National policy debates:** launched the national, continental and global human development reports together with policy dialogues attracting key policy makers. For example, the national human development focuses on pathways to peace and prosperity, while the Africa Human Development in partnership with UNWOMEN highlighted the need for sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis as a critical gap in articulating pathways to accelerating gender equality.
2. **UN System coherence:** The project initiated a UN task team and the UNCT agreed to jointly deliver an inaugural Sustainable Development Goals for South Sudan and allocated up to US\$30,000 to deliver it.
3. **Development cooperation effectiveness:** the project developed and rollout a course on Economics for Public Sector Managers as a tangible way to improve public service delivery in partnership with University of Juba.
4. **Thought leadership:** the completed 21 edited essays from university students on how the Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan will help achieve the global goals on Sustainable Development. In addition, the Weekly Media Digest and the Weekly Management Update continued. Furthermore, a thought leadership series was initiated as well as blogs on topical issues.

No new risks were identified in the conduct of the project and no changes made to the original design. The total expenses for the project in 2016 was US\$ 605,490.66 and the total so far is US\$ 885,490.66.

1. Situational background

The economic outlook remains difficult and the development narrative as reflected in the media rather negative. The economic outlook for the Country is largely due to fiscal challenges associated with a reduced oil revenues and the slow implementation of economic and fiscal reforms. The impact of this has been significant increases in commodity prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index with inflation in triple digits for the thirteenth month in December 2016 that is largely driven by changes in foreign exchange rate. The economy remains undiversified and the impact of thirteen months of triple digit inflation remains to be determined.

The purpose of this project is to make data and analysis available to inform policy dialogue that will shape the narrative in the nation towards peace and prosperity, and influence the design and implementation of policies. The strategy has three components. First, make available data and analysis to inform policy dialogue – while at the same time leveraging tools and systems designed within the framework of Sustainable Development Goals and Africa Agenda. Second, use the data and analysis to organize policy dialogues that will the narrative towards peace and prosperity. Lastly, strengthen the design and implementation of policies that create a predictable environment for the conduct of public and private business, as well as create incentives for peace. The ambition is to bring about transformation through evidence, conversation and positive influence respectively. This will facilitate the realization of peace dividends where the citizens conduct their business in a predictable manner and therefore creating disincentives for perpetuating conflict.

The key objectives of the project are to contribute to the following areas:

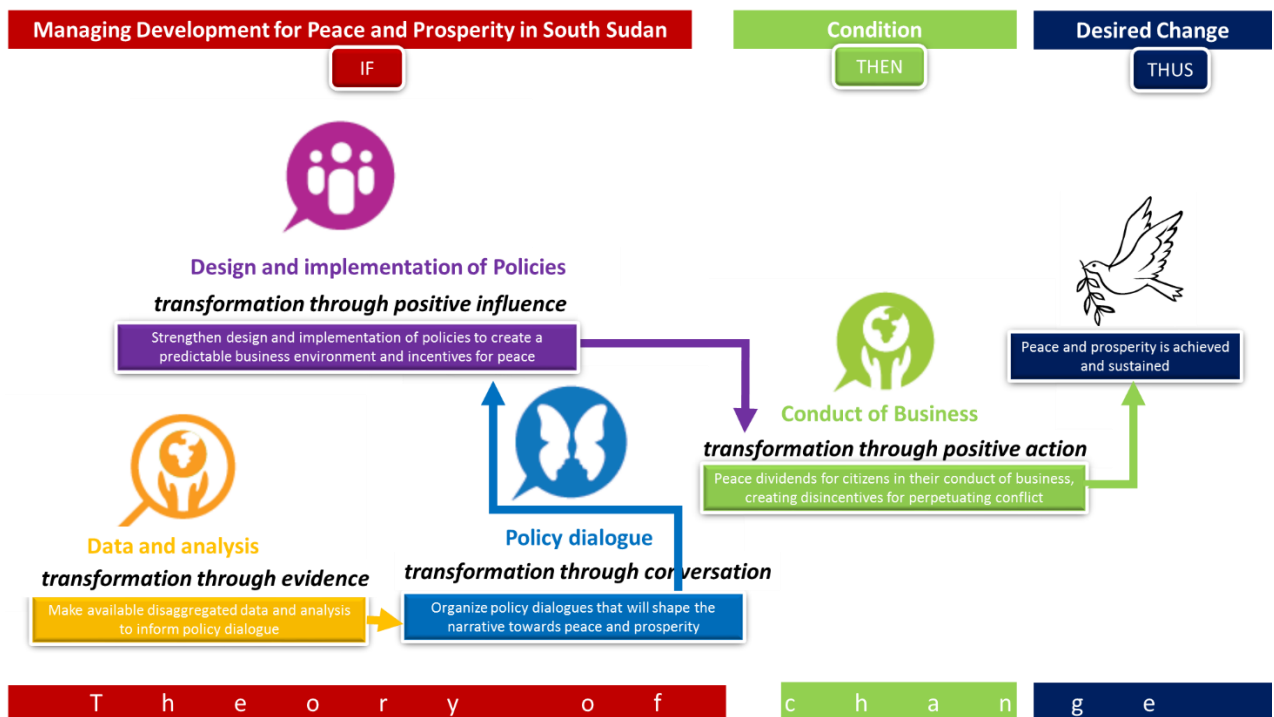
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Figure 1).

The key achievements to-date are clustered in 4 areas:

5. **National policy debates:** launched the national, continental and global human development reports together with policy dialogues attracting key policy makers. For example, the national human development focuses on pathways to peace and prosperity, while the Africa Human Development in partnership with UNWOMEN highlighted the need for sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis as a critical gap in articulating pathways to accelerating gender equality.
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Figure 1: Theory of Change



The strategy contributes to the realization of the UNDP Country Programme document and to the UNDP Strategic Plan. With regard to the Country Programme Document, the strategy address "Output 2.2: National

data collection, measurement and analytical systems are enabled to monitor and report on national development and sustainable development goals". The expectation is that the data used in national development reports meets the minimum standards of quality in terms of consistency, accuracy, timeliness and completeness; and the development reports (e.g. on human development, economic outlook, and sustainable development goals) inform policy dialogue and strengthen policy design and implementation. The project strategy also contribute to the realization of UNDP Strategic Plan - "*Outcome 7: Development debates and development actions at all levels prioritize poverty, inequality and exclusion, consistent with our engagement principles*". The outcome indicators of greatest relevance are: the number of countries integrating and adapting the post 2015 agenda and sustainable development goals into national development plans and budgets; and the number of countries with post-2015 poverty eradication commitments and targets (See Annex 1).

Data and analysis: The ultimate goal is transformation through evidence. Data disaggregated according to sex, age, time, and geography is assembled in an accessible format. It is then used to undertake analysis along the dimensions of gender analysis, intergenerational, temporal, and spatial. And finally, the focus will be on measuring and explaining outcomes the desired changes. The key deliverables will be:

- Weekly basis: Media Digest, and Development Updates,
- Monthly basis: Development statistics, and Public policies,
- Ad-hoc basis: vulnerability analysis, media content analysis, and fiscal space analysis
- Flagship: Development Pulse – a gauge of the development narrative

Policy dialogue: The ultimate goal of policy dialogue is transformation through conversation, and what systematic evidence-based dialogue does is enable conversation that shapes development narrative not just that one of today but of generations to come with a clear focus on shaping the narrative towards peace and prosperity. Specific aspirations will guide the policy dialogues, notably: Sustainable development, Human development, Economic prosperity, and Peace. The key deliverables will to the extent possible shape the narrative towards peace and prosperity. These include:

- Monthly basis: Policy Dialogue Forums,
- Quarterly basis: Thought Leadership Series
- Annual basis: Sustainable Development Report, African Economic Outlook Country Note
- Biennial basis: Human Development Report

Design and implementation of policies: Strengthening the design and implementation of policies is to create a predictable business environment as well as creating incentives for peace. It is about transformation through positive influence. Three elements guide this component:

- Integrated coaching for national institutions;
- Access to design and implementation of policies; and
- Critical knowledge and expertise.

Key deliverables include:

- Integrated Coaching in specific critical areas of national macroeconomic, development planning as well as foreign and domestic policy;
- Public Policy Dashboard focusing on the availability, design and extent of their implementation.
- Making available critical knowledge and expertise in creating and maintaining fiscal space, development effectiveness and the use of the economic language in the execution of public policy.

2. Progress towards development results

2.1 Contribution to longer term results

- a) Country Programme Document (CPD) Outcome 2: Local Economy Reinvigorated
- b) Related Strategic Plan Outcome 5: Growth and development are inclusive and sustainable, incorporating productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded
- c) Output 2.2 National data collection, measurement and analytical systems are enabled to monitor and report on national development and sustainable development goals

Summary achievements based on CPD Outcome 3 targets

2016 CPD outcome target	Summary achievement	Status <i>Delayed, Completed</i>
Indicator 3.1 : Number of value chain enabling strategies in agricultural and allied sectors Target: 6		
Indicator 3.2: Number of registered cooperatives and micro small and medium size enterprises Target: 130		
Overall		

CPD Output 2.2: National data collection, measurement and analytical systems are enabled to monitor and report on national development and sustainable development goals

Summary achievement based on 2016 CPD output targets

2016 CPD output targets	Summary achievement <i>(provide gender disaggregation)</i>	Status <i>Delayed, Completed</i>
Indicator 1: Number of national development progress reports developed. Target: 3	2 out of 3 achieved (HDR, AEO)	NSDGR delayed
Indicator 1: Data used in national development progress reports meet the minimum quality (consistency, accuracy, timeliness and completeness) criteria (Scale: 1: does not meet; 2: partly meets; 3: fully meets) Target: 2	Does not yet meet the quality criteria as no new data has been collected by the National Bureau of Statistics	Delayed
Overall status		Good progress

2.2 Progress towards project outputs

Project Output 1:

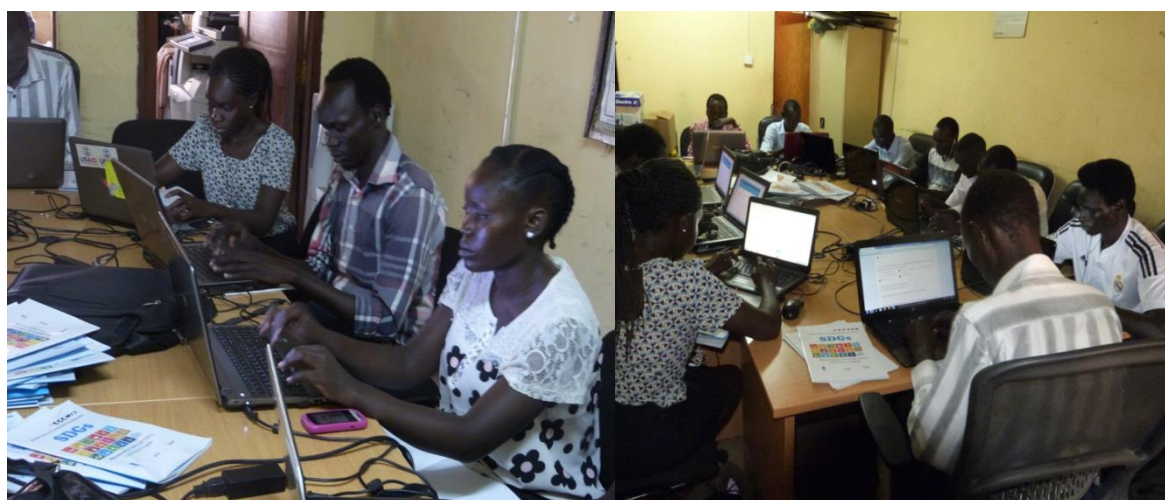
Summary achievement against 2016 Annual Work Plan (AWP) target

Indicator	Annual Output Target (2016)	Summary achievement	Status: <i>“Fully, Partially, Not</i>

			<i>Achieved¹</i>
Continous informed of and dialogue on development is achieved.	Compile a weekly digest; Development Update; Policy dialogue.	Consistently compiled a weekly digest; the development update weekly; and policy dialogues.	Fully Achieved
Knowledge products on development solutions are produced and used for policy and public engagement.	Coordinate the writing of thought leadership products (HDR, AEO, Thought leadership series)	HDR, AEO completed and launched	Partially achieved, NSDR delayed
The national conversation is shaped towards sustainable development pathways	Examine the possibility of introducing a training programme on Strategic Leadership and Human Development with modules for various levels of leaders	Course on Economics for Public Sector Managers completed	Fully achieved
Overall status			Partially Achieved

2.3 Human Interest Story

Students (mainly youth) from major universities in South Sudan have picked interest in promoting the SDGs in the country. A total of Five hundred and ten students who participated in the SDG awareness and engagement workshops registered with SSuNDE as volunteers to promote the SDGs and support SSuNDE's work on these global goals. About 30 of these Volunteers worked alongside SSuNDE program staff on data entry and analysis.



¹ Partially achieved means the achievement of 66%-99% of the output target

In South Sudan the youth have been used extensively as agents of violence. Inspiring students, who are mainly youth, to engage in such a development program is a success. It creates an opportunity for them to use their knowledge to contribute constructively to the development of the country and further reduce their chances of engaging in violent activities. Engaging these young intellectuals in this program presents a strong foundation for long term development of South Sudan.

3. Cross Cutting Issues

3.1 Gender results

Gender results	Evidence
Gender result 1: Women involvement and gender analysis.	Evidence 1: Analysis At the AfHDR Policy Dialogue in partnership with UN Women, ½ of those surveyed suggested “National capacities for women to participate in decision making in all spheres of life” as the critical pathway to gender equality and women empowerment.

3.2 Partnerships

The project partnered with UN WOMEN to identify pathways to gender equality and women empowerment, with South Sudan Network for Democracy and Election to roll out SDGs, and the UNCT to form the task team on Sustainable Development Goals.

3.3 Environmental Considerations

Not applicable

3.4 Sustainability

Results achieved	Sustainability
1. Course on economics for public sector managers	Future lecturer was part of the course participant.

3.5 South to South and Triangular Cooperation

Country	Type of cooperation
1. Uganda	Revenue Collection Coordination through the Ugandan Embassy and Uganda Revenue Authority

-
2. Uganda Makerere University in developing a course on economics for public sector managers.
-

3.6 Strengthening national capacity

Results achieved	Institution	National capacity strengthened
1) Developed a course on economics for public sector managers.	University of Juba	Economic tools

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E activity (monitoring visit, evaluation, review exercise)	Key outcomes/ observation	Recommendation	Action taken
M&E activity 1: Programme Spot checks	Modification of approach to deliver activities	Engage more with beneficiaries	Volunteers were hired to enter the data
M&E activity 2: Finance sport checks	All was well.	None	None required.

5. Risk management

Risks	Mitigation Measures
Conflict in July 2016	Reprogrammed

6. Challenges

Capacity limitations with implementing partners.

7. Lessons Learned

Limited capacity with implementing partners, capacity strengthening out to be part of the programming.

8. Conclusions and Ways Forward

Finalize the project document.

9. Financial Summary

Outputs / Activity Result	Annual Budget (US\$) (Jan – Dec 2016)	2016 Expenditures	% Expenditure (Cumulative)
	A	D	D/A*100
National data collection, measurement and analytical systems are enabled to monitor and report on national development and sustainable development goals	280,000	605,490.66	216.25 percent
Grand total	280,000	605,490.66	216.25 percent