

MAASS001

10 October 2012

This report covers the
period 1 January 2012 to
31 June 2012



*Volunteers performing a drama on
HIV/AIDS - Photo IFRC*

Overview

Since the independence of the Republic of South Sudan on July 9 2011, the process towards recognition of the South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC) has seen remarkable progress with the adoption of the “Red Cross Act” by the National Assembly in January 2012 and the formal signature into law by President Salva Kiir in April 2012. A membership drive launched in January 2012 brought the remarkable recruitment of over 2,000 persons of all ages, origins and walks of life and the organization of assemblies by July 2012 in all but one of the ten branches to elect governing bodies, thus preparing for a very first national General Assembly planned for October 2012. At the same time, the recruitment for key positions to strengthen the National Society headquarters’ structure progressed well albeit slowly due to difficulties in identifying suitable and competent candidates among the many applicants.

The decision by South Sudan in January 2012 to halt all oil production and export through Sudan due to an unbridgeable gap in the positions on transit fees for the use of Sudan’s pipelines and Port Sudan brought a significant cut of government income (approximately 90%) in an already very dire economic situation. The consequences were increasingly felt towards mid-year and the third quarter.

In April 2012, heavy fighting broke out around one of the most important oilfields of Sudan. Presently, a cessation of hostilities holds in a generally volatile atmosphere between the two countries. Other remaining contentious issues such as border demarcation, Abyei and the status of southerners in the North contributed further to uncertain and a generally tense environment. Although slower than initially feared, the arrival of tens of thousands of people originating from the South of Sudan brought additional pressure on already vulnerable communities in the bigger urban agglomerations. In May 2012, IFRC decided to launch an [Emergency Appeal](#) for “Returnee and Host Communities” and as a result shifted most of the activities and resources planned in the Long Term Planning Framework (LTPF) to the Appeal.

Working in partnership

The tripartite Memorandum of Understanding on Movement Cooperation signed at the end of August 2011, lays the framework for functioning coordination mechanisms at the strategic, operational and technical levels between SSRC and its partners. As the seven Partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country are integrated with the Host National Society and not with the IFRC, there are no direct agreements between these PNS and the IFRC Country Representation which provides a number of administrative services, attracting a service fee since the beginning of 2012.

In the first half of 2012, a clear trend towards rallying the partners behind a more programmatic as opposed to a purely project approach emerged. This was clear in Disaster Management/Disaster Risk Reduction (DM/DRR) with a lead initiative from the Danish and Netherlands Red Cross societies as well as for Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) with the Finnish and Norwegian RC. A similar trend was observed in relation to general and financial management issues. The value role of IFRC in facilitating and promoting these processes in accordance with its coordination role is widely accepted and solicited. As SSRC progresses towards developing its full Strategic Plan (in the course of 2013), the possibility of formalizing this constructive cooperation and partnership into overall programme agreements is growing.

Table 1: Breakdown of Current Partners

Partners	Agreement				
	Disaster response	DM / DRR	Health & Care	OD	Principles & Values
IFRC (Finnish RC)	✓		✓		
IFRC (Swedish RC)			✓	✓	
IFRC (others)			✓		
IFRC Emergency Appeal	✓	✓	✓		
Austrian RC		✓	✓		
British RC				✓	
Canadian RC		✓	✓		
Danish RC		✓	✓	✓	
German RC			✓		
Netherlands RC		✓	✓	✓	
Norwegian RC		✓	✓	✓	
Swiss RC		✓	✓		
ICRC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

In addition, the Swedish Red Cross will be present in Juba as of mid-September 2012 with a Country Representation cum Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) Delegate. While in principle the relationship is bilateral with SSRC, financial arrangements for in-country and work budget as well as administrative services are handled through the IFRC Country Office.

Progress towards outcomes

Business Line I: To Raise Humanitarian Standards

Outcomes

- A Zone regional trend report on key humanitarian and development issues is developed and kept updated
- A databank of objectively-analyzed National Society capacities is established that creates greater self-awareness of their profile at all levels, services, strengths, gaps, and their future potential for boosting their own development

Measurement			
Indicators/Outputs	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
South Sudan Red Cross contributes and utilizes information on regional humanitarian trends, and good practices			
South Sudan Red Cross contributes information annually to the databank with support of the IFRC country office.			
Comment on progress towards outcomes			
The first months of 2012 were very much focused on the recruitment of members as SSRC did not have membership before. Little progress has been made on the above outputs since the National Society is going through a recognition process. However, SSRC regularly contributes information on trends and shares with the IFRC regional and Zone office for consolidation and distribution			

Business Line II: To grow Red Cross Red Crescent Services for Vulnerable People

Outcomes

- Timely quality disaster relief assistance is delivered to people affected and to National Societies, mobilizing fully operational regional disaster response teams where required
- Comprehensive technical assistance is provided to National Societies on community level disaster management programming, incorporating disaster risk reduction

Measurement			
Indicators/Outputs	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
South Sudan Red Cross continues to develop its Emergency Action Teams with the support of ICRC	EAT in 8 Branches	EATs in 10 Branches	2 trained, 2 refresher training
South Sudan Red Cross is prepared to mobilize volunteers to be trained for RDRT assignments.			None

Sufficient NFI stocks are available to headquarters and all branches sufficient to immediately accommodate needs of 20,000 households in response to small scale disasters.		20,000 households	
South Sudan Red Cross aims to be the main community-based organization, enabling communities to be more resilient.			
South Sudan Red Cross is currently training VCA teams to be able to work with the community members to assess their priority risks and coping capacities	-	-	Over 2,500 trained

Comment on progress towards outcomes

While drafting the LTPF, the dimension of the return of people of southern origin from Sudan was not that clear. Eventually, response activities were integrated into the regular planning. With the cancellation of the residence status of southerners in the North and the deteriorating economic situation in both countries, it became obvious that returnees would mainly flock into already vulnerable urban or semi-urban agglomerations with little or no basic facilities. As a consequence, the launch an Emergency Appeal ([MDRSS001](#)) was decided as well as shifting most of the budget on the LTPF under DM to this Emergency Appeal. Thus additional NFI stocks have been planned for to reach an additional 14,000 households. Finnish Red Cross had already supported SSRC by providing the stock to meet the needs of 5,000 households incase of emergency. In total, the stock to be distributed to 19,000 households has been prepositioned in 7 branches. As at June 2012, 5,000 households in 5 branches had been provided with NFIs in response to the population movement operation. For more information on this operation, kindly refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/Appeals/12/MDRSS00101.pdf>

The Disaster Management Department of SSRC at headquarters level was established in December 2011. The current staff include a DM Coordinator, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Emergency Preparedness and Response Officers respectively. The Department was therefore gradually able to establish links with the branches and organize trainings in assessment, beneficiary selection and distribution. The significant capacity building components in the Emergency Appeal, however, will allow boosting of the capacities of SSRC in a broader comprehensive approach between relief, hygiene, sanitation and access to clean water.

The comprehensive DM programme supported by the Danish Red Cross was somehow interrupted due to the absence of a specialized Delegate for several months. However, a new delegate is expected by the end of September). Netherlands, British and Norwegian Red Cross societies have expressed their commitment to rallying their support behind this overall approach and by June 2012, a tendency to converge behind programme approaches rather than projects became tangible both for DM/DRR and Health including Water And Sanitation Hygiene (WASH). Partners and SSRC expressed their wish for the IFRC to assume a facilitation and coordination role particularly as several intend to channel their programme support multilaterally through the Federation.

Business Line III: To Strengthen the Specific Red Cross Red Crescent Contribution to Development

Outcomes:

- Strategy 2020 is rolled out throughout Africa, with support provided to National Societies for strategic planning based on S2010.
- Programmes and support mechanisms addressing health and care priorities are developed and improved, enhancing social mobilization and encouraging volunteering and engagement of youth in RC/RC activities.
- Social cohesion is promoted and situations of discrimination and exclusion are addressed
- NS capacities and internal development are strengthened by alignment of assistance to their self-determined needs
- The Federation Secretariat’s role as a lead in coordination of Movement support to South Sudan Red Cross is widely accepted and appreciated.

Measurement			
Indicators/Outputs	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
South Sudan Red Cross contributes to achieving the aims of Strategy 2020 by developing and implementing a new strategic plan within the first six months of its existence. The strategic planning will be done in a participatory way, involving all ten state branches.		Strategic Plan in Place	Work in progress
South Sudan Red Cross will revise the objectives of the current National Community Health Volunteer programme, renaming it to Community-based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) programme, increase coordination with bilateral health projects and expanding the programme coverage from four to all ten branches.		Revised objectives	Work in progress
South Sudan Red Cross expands its youth volunteer base by 10% per year			Unknown ¹
South Sudan Red Cross is effectively running an integration initiative programme advocating for greater understanding of the Humanitarian Principles and Values amongst the returnees and the host communities.			
South Sudan Red Cross is building up proper and effective financial procedures and guidelines and aims to have annually audited accounts.			

¹ A volunteer database system is being established and this indicator will be reported on in subsequent updates

South Sudan Red Cross will summon its 1st General Assembly (GA) before end of the first quarter 2012, electing a fully constituted board with fair representation of youth and women.	-	Branch assemblies in all 10 locations	GA shifted to October 2012
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Comment on progress towards outcomes

On the development of a new strategic plan for the National Society, the process is underway and the plan will be ready in 2013

In order to come up with a suitable Community-based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) programme. A baseline study was conducted between March/April 2012. Conclusions of the baseline study will be drawn by end 2012

Dissemination of Humanitarian Principles and Values is supported by ICRC in all branches. In addition, the National Society has been disseminating the same amongst the returnees and the host communities during the ongoing operation.

A new Finance Manager was recruited in the first half of 2012. However, due to increased financial in-flow as compared to pre-independence, SSRC has been overwhelmed. This has led to significant flaws in terms of procedures, guidelines and checks and balances mechanisms. In response to this challenge, IFRC is actively supporting the National Society as a “convenor” to ensure that all partners rally behind a concerted and systematic effort to build solid structures which will allow annual audited financial reports to the Governing Council and the partners.

The success of the inclusive and geographically diversified membership drive launched in January 2012 with over 2,000 members recruited in a short time (all paying their membership fee of 10 SSP) was seen as a great success. The branch assemblies were organized in all but one branch before the end of June 2012 and followed immediately by Governance trainings on roles and responsibilities, Fundamental Principles, the Movement, etc. These were conducted by the SSRC Organizational Development Coordinator and the IFRC National Society Development Delegate. The necessary work to prepare the General Assembly (revised Constitution, procedures, election modalities, etc.), led to the decision to shift this crucial event to early October 2012, two weeks before the Pan African Conference.

Business Line IV: To Heighten Red Cross Red Crescent Influence for Our Work

Outcomes

- National Societies are supported to adopt or amend NS legislation and further develop their auxiliary role, as well as promote and advocate for IDRL and risk reduction law
- Resource mobilisation capacities of NS are scaled up, diversifying income sources and expanding partnerships

Measurement			
Indicators/Outputs	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
South Sudan Red Cross’ auxiliary role is promoted			

through the adoption of the Red Cross law by the Government of the Republic of South Sudan			
IDRL guidelines are incorporated into country disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction policies.			
Complete funding of the core cost and basic infrastructure programme (CBP) with own resources.	100%	-	-
Ensure a strong positive projection of South Sudan Red Cross image, brand, and messaging that enables external partners to know the National Society better and allows an expansion of access, space, and market share for Red Cross Red Crescent actions in South Sudan through a concerted effort in coordination and networking with all key stakeholders.			
Gain greater access and resources from the national government through further development of the auxiliary partnership role of the National Society			
Comment on progress towards outcomes			
<p>The Red Cross Act was signed by the President in March 2012. In addition, regular communication has been established with the Ministry of Human Affairs and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.</p> <p>Interest shown to IDRL by Government representatives and one member of the Legislative Commission of Parliament gives positive prospects and need for immediate followed. SSRC and South Sudan's Members of Parliament participated in an IDRL workshop. As a way forward, a follow-up workshop with broad participation in Juba is planned in the fourth quarter</p> <p>On core funding, partners have expressed their willingness to support these costs in addition to the funding of projects.</p>			

Business Line V: To Deepen Our Togetherness through Joint Working and Accountability

Outcomes:

- Assistance is aligned among Movement components: National Societies (including PNS), ICRC and the Federation, to optimize the Movement's work and impact at country level
- International cooperation and coordination dialogue is enhanced through regular Africa Zone National Society leadership meetings, dialogue platform meetings and other National Society groupings and regional networks
- National Societies increase the quality and impact of their programmes through sound programme management, including timely and quality planning, monitoring and reporting

Measurement			
Indicators/Outputs	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
A memorandum of understanding and National Society-led coordination platform between South Sudan Red Cross and Movement partners exists		MoU exists and PNS have signed	Mou exists and few PNS have signed
South Sudan Red Cross actively participates in various regional networks with support from the IFRC East Africa regional office			
Provide quality reports, on time, to all major donors. As part of the CBP Programme, South Sudan Red Cross is seeking support for a PMER officer.			
Comment on progress towards outcomes			
<p>Since the signing of the Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in August 2011, only a few PNS have signed it. However, the Movement coordination mechanisms are generally functioning well.</p> <p>On participation in regional networks, SSRC is a member and participates actively in Red Cross-Network (RC-NET) meetings and discussions.</p> <p>To ensure quality reporting, the Swedish Red Cross will support the National Society by providing a PMER Delegate and an Officer. They will be charged with building the capacity of NS staff in planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting aspects. This will be through trainings, mentoring, and exchange of PMER experiences with other NSs among other initiatives.</p>			

Stakeholder participation and feedback

Generally, SSRC has good relations with various authorities and in particular the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC). A number of high/ranking government officials know the activities of Red Cross and ICRC especially during the war. They also express their satisfaction about the change in the Emblem. At state level, SSRC Branch Directors and Officers coordinate with SSRRC and participate actively in the clusters. Expectations from the commission towards the South Sudan Red Cross are, however, sometimes high and beyond the means of this new National Society. While SSRC Coordinators participate in the various concerned UN clusters, IFRC represents the Movement at the level of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and shares all information with SSRC and partners. The same goes for the daily security updates and advisories reaching through the NGO Forum.

The anchoring in and feedback from communities can still be improved, particularly through focusing the CBHFA and Hygiene/Sanitation more strongly on the beneficiaries. Efforts are also underway to strengthen the community-based assessment and beneficiary selection in the distribution of relief items. SSRC plans to include in the planning for 2013 a “beneficiary communication” component. As

this has been successfully implemented in other countries, learning and best practices will be sought for replication or adaptation.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
<p>Security/Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Sudan continues to experience wide range of security incidences in almost all states including the so called protocol areas (Abyei). These incidences range from inter-tribal conflicts, intra-tribal conflicts and security forces /civilian clashes. Continuing conflict will limit access for expatriate staff An increase in criminality is expected in the urban centres. This is linked to difficulties of the Government to continue to pay salaries as well as presence of some organized and armed gangs. 	<p>M</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To overcome this, flexibility clauses in partnership agreements will ensure alternative approaches to programme support as well as possibility for funding reallocations to support emergency response activities. Furthermore the South Sudan country office will put more emphasis in lobbying and advocating for support in developing the communication infrastructure of the National Society, particularly at branch and unit levels.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access can be further hindered during the rainy season when many roads are closed for months, rendering the positioning of relief items hazardous and tedious. 	<p>M</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking alternative accessible locations with similar needs.
<p>Infrastructure of the National Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSRC is currently in a build-up process which is challenging in many ways. It is time consuming, costly and requires an efficient staff induction and training programme. This may lead to less time to engage in strategic discussions with its various partners. 	<p>H</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To minimize any negative effect, the South Sudan country office will use its strategic presence to facilitate SSRC engagement both with Movement and external partners
<p>Infrastructure of IFRC Country Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The South Sudan country office has 4 expatriate and 4 National staff. However, the role of the country office is increasingly focused on coordination of planning, implementing and sharing of resources. This leaves the operational role to SSRC in cooperation with partner national societies and external actors. 	<p>M</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the IFRC country office is necessary. Funding commitments for the office need to be available in time to avoid interruptions in support delivery.

Lessons learned and looking ahead

- Even though the recognition process of SSRC appears to move ahead very fast, it is crucial that inclusive and geographically diversified steps are not by-passed or cut short in the building of a true broad-based State and National Governance structure. We can expect that SSRC will have to go through a number of phases in this.
- The process of membership, assemblies, general assembly absorbs huge human and financial resources drawing the attention somewhat away from the development of proper management and financial structures.

Financial situation

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **South Sudan Red Cross:** Arthur Poole, Secretary General: +211 912 146 506, email: info@southsudanredcross.org
- **IFRC Country Representation:** Peter Iseli, Country Representative: +211 955 977 258, email: peter.iseli@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Zone:** Daniel Bolaños, Disaster Management Coordinator, Nairobi: +254 731 067 489, email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Logistics Unit (RLU):** Ari Mäntyvaara, Logistics Coordinator, Dubai: +971 50 4584872, Fax +971.4.883.22.12, email: ari.mantyvaara@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Loïc de Bastier, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for Africa; Addis Ababa; phone: +251-93-003 4013; fax: +251-11-557 0799; email: loic.debastier@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting):

- **IFRC Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate, Nairobi; phone: +254.731.067.277; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org