Request for Proposals

Date of issue	31 May 2023
Project title	FCA South Sudan Context Analysis
Closing date	23rd June 2023
Contracting Authority	Finn Church Aid (FCA), South Sudan Country Office

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your interest in our request for Proposals for provision of consultancy services for FCA South Sudan Context Analysis.

Please find enclosed the following documents, which constitute the request for proposal and instructions on how to present your proposal.

Annex 1: **Terms of Reference**

Annex 2: **Methodology form** (to be completed by the Consultant)

Annex 3: **Proposal submission form** (to be completed by the Consultant)

Annex 4: **Budget format** (to be completed by the Consultant)

Annex 5: **FCA's format for Context Analysis**

Annex 6: **FCA's current Context Analysis, which is to be reviewed and updated.**

The Contracting Authority invites eligible consultants to submit proposals for the services.

Thank you,

 FCA South Sudan

1. **Requested documents and information.**

The consultant (or team of consultants) shall complete and submit the following documents with his proposal.

    a. Proposal Submission Form (Annex 3) duly completed and signed by the Consultant;
    b. Methodology to be drawn up using the format in Annex 2, including the outline of the assessment;
    c. Detailed budget breakdown (Annex 4) consisting of consultancy fees (per day), incidentals, materials etc.
    d. CV highlighting the Consultant's experience in the specific field of the services and his/her specific experience in the country/region where the services are to be performed.
    e. Two examples of previous work.

The Consultant shall also provide all relevant information that give evidence of his/her qualifications to carry out the services.

The Consultant whose proposal is accepted shall provide, if so requested by the Contracting Authority, copies of diplomas and employers' certificates or references proving his/her education, professional experience and language proficiency.

2. **Financial Proposal**

The financial proposal breakdown in USD dollars must be presented as in the template in Annex 4.

Fee/time-based price: The Consultant shall indicate in his/her proposal: (i) his/her proposed daily fee-rate (based on an eight-hour working day) and (ii) his/her **all-inclusive fees**, incidentals, materials, etc. The total financial proposal should include the withholding tax and therefore, it will be subject to deduction of withholding of tax of 20% based on the South Sudan's taxation regulations and laws.

FCA will not make reimbursements and expects the Consultant to factor in all costs required for this proposal.

3. **Validity of proposals**

Proposals shall remain valid and open for acceptance by the Contracting Authority within the proposals closing date. The Consultant shall guarantee his availability for the assignment in the proposal.

4. **Submission of proposals and closing date**

Proposals must be received by e-mail, no later than 23rd June 2023 at 5:00 pm ("the "Closing Date") to procurement.ssuco@kua.fi

5. **Evaluation of Proposals and award criteria**

The evaluation/selection method will be the *Quality and Cost Based Selection.* A two-stage procedure shall be utilised in evaluating the proposals, a technical evaluation and a financial evaluation.

Qualitative award criteria	Scoring
Skills / expertise of the consultant	40%
Methodology for structuring, data collection & analysis	30%
Organization of tasks and timetable	10%
Budget (Financial Proposal)	20%

6. Award notice and signature of contract

Prior to the expiration of the period of the validity of the proposals, the Contracting Authority will notify the successful Consultant in writing that his/her proposal has been accepted.

Within 2 days of receipt of the Contract, the successful Consultant must sign and date the contract and return it to the Contracting Authority.

7. Cancellation for convenience

The Contracting Authority may for its own convenience and without charge or liability cancel the present procedure at any stage.

ANNEX 1: TERMS OF REFERENCE
CONTEXT ANALYSIS IN SOUTH SUDAN

1. Introduction and background

Finn Church Aid (FCA) is an international organization working towards a world comprised of resilient and just societies where everyone's right to peace, quality education and sustainable livelihood has been fulfilled. FCA is a right-based actor, and its work is guided by international human rights standards and principles. Equality, non-discrimination, and accountability are at the core of all the actions. FCA contributes to positive change by supporting people in the most vulnerable situations within fragile and disaster-affected areas through development cooperation, humanitarian assistance and advocacy work. FCA considers three thematic areas as central to sustainable change: The right to peace (R2P), livelihood (R2L) and quality education (R2QE).

Since the start of its intervention FCA South Sudan has been implementing projects in all three thematic areas of R2P, R2L and R2QE. Currently, FCA implements its activities in in Western Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Lakes, Jonglei, Upper Nile, Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA), and Western Bahr El Ghazal States. Under the education theme, FCA concentrates on Education in Emergencies (EiE) and technical and vocational training (TVET). FCA has constructed several semi-permanent and temporary learning spaces, distributed scholastic materials, build the capacity of teachers, parent-teacher associations, school management committees, provided cash for education, and the necessary support to ensure a continued teaching and learning process in its target locations. Regarding its livelihood work, FCA has distributed unconditional cash, provided inputs for agriculture and fisheries and related trainings and provided small loans through village savings and loan associations (VSLA) for the right holders. In terms of peacebuilding, FCA has been supporting the implementation of the South Sudan Council of Churches led Action Plan for Peace. Along with this, FCA has been facilitating community-initiated peace process with your women and custodians of customary institutions, which are mainly the traditional community leaders and religious leaders. Increasingly, FCA has combined the activities in the three themes through of triple nexus approach.

FCA South Sudan is seeking a consultant to review and update its current country context analysis from 2018. FCA will align its programmatic interventions to the current context based on the analysis carried out by the Consultant.

2. Purpose of the Assignment

This review and update of the Context Analysis is carried out to collect information, analysis and recommendations that will help FCA South Sudan plan and implement a Country Programme that is relevant to today's context in South Sudan; have clear linkages to FCA's Global Strategy from 2023 onwards, FCA's Global Programme 2022-2025 and update its South Sudan Country Strategy from 2023 onwards. By compiling existing and new information on FCA's intervention's thematic areas, the analysis will guide the future development of an integrated and country context tailored systematic programming in the areas of R2P, R2L, R2QE and triple nexus.

The Context Analysis will help FCA to:

- understand the general Human Rights situation including discrimination based on gender and ethnicity, national development priorities, and main disaster risks in South Sudan
- identify root causes behind the non-realization of human rights and other challenges
- identify programmatic focus that would best support the country programme to respond to the root causes identified by the analysis
- identify relevant stakeholders and analyze their capacities for potential new partnerships and for collaboration.

3. Objectives of the assignment

The objective of the Context Analysis is to increase understanding or FCA South Sudan's operational context and the realities of South Sudan in relation to FCA's global strategy. It will help FCA South Sudan to revise its' country strategy and to also provide detailed analysis and recommendations that will enhance FCA South Sudan's capacity to make well-informed strategic decisions on programmatic focus to respond to the gaps in the fulfillment of the human rights in the programme areas.

The Context Analysis report will serve as a background document for FCA South Sudan's programming. In addition to an overview of the South Sudan context, it will give FCA

1) Clear recommendations for future strategic and programmatic direction in FCA's priority themes in South Sudan, considering the ongoing FCA's Global Programme 2022-2025 and beyond

2) To map out the overall human rights situation and the national development priorities

3) To provide an understanding of the linkages between peace, quality education and livelihood through the rights-based lenses in the context of South Sudan

4) Reliable findings and programmatic recommendations that serve as useful and relevant information for proposal development purposes towards identified priority donors

5) Recommendations for potential partnerships and networks including but not limited to government ministries and agencies, institutions, INGOs, NNGOs, CBOs and companies for future programmes, relevant for FCA's long term strategic planning.

4. Use of the Context Analysis results

The results of the analysis will be used primarily by program staff and management of FCA South Sudan, FCA Head Office and staff involved with programmatic work at FCA at large. The results may also be shared with partners.

The results will also support the development of FCA's future program work and new initiatives in South Sudan. They will also inform FCA and its partners' on-going program work leading to improved understanding, appropriateness and quality of current interventions.

5. Scope of the Context Analysis

The current context analysis, which is to be reviewed and updated is attached as Annex 6. FCA's Format for Context Analysis (annex 5) provides further guidance on FCA's context analysis.

6. Working modalities and methodology

While it is up to the consultant(s) to develop and discuss with FCA the precise methodology to be used for the assessment, the assessment should be carried out through a combination of:

1) Review of the current context analysis
2) Understanding of FCA's Global Strategy
3) Focus of the assessment on the desk study, which may include but not be limited to a review of
   o Relevant national laws and international commitments, development plans and policies, government initiatives and programmes, and other such documents of relevance
   o FCA's internal documents such as FCA Global Programme 2022-2025, South Sudan country programme documents (plans and reports 2019-2023)
   o Partners' strategies and programme plans
   o Relevant documents published by UN, international and national development actors
4) Analysis and a comprehensive report presenting the key findings, conclusions, and recommendations for FCA South Sudan.

7. Deliverables

The assignment will be made phases with the following deliverables

1) Inception report including a work plan with proposed methodology and tools after consultation with FCA South Sudan, 12 days after signing of the contract.

2) First draft report

   The consultant(s) is expected to send a first draft report by 31 July 2023, which will be checked and commented by FCA team. A presentation workshop may also be organized for key actors involved in the assessment. Feedback to the draft will be given at least 7 days after receiving the draft.

3) Final report and presentation workshop

   The final report of the whole assignment will be made available latest by 3 August 2023 followed by a workshop discussing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations in detail.

8. Payment to the Consultant

Payments to the consultant shall be made according to the following table:

Deliverables	Payment %
Upon approval of the inception report	30%
Upon approval of the draft report	30%
Upon Approval of the final report	40%

Note: The Total payment will be subject to the applicable Tax deduction as per South Sudan Tax laws and regulation.

9. Timing

The analysis will be carried out in July 2023. The final report will be made available on the first week of August 2023.

Deliverables	Duration
Kick-off meeting	0.5 days
Desk review and inception report	7.5 days
Analysis and drafting the key findings	3 days
Draft Context Analysis report	7 days
Final Context Analysis report	3 days
TOTAL DURATION	**21 days**

9. Reporting

The final report written **in English** should address the issues highlighted in Format for Context Analysis. The main text of the report should be max 30 pages in length. In addition, the report should have an executive summary (2 to 4 pages), containing the main findings, key conclusions drawn from analysis of the findings, and recommendations for FCA for planning future work in South Sudan.

The report should contain (but not be limited to) the following:

1. Executive Summary presenting the major findings and recommendations (2-4 pages)
2. A short description of the methodology used
3. A short description of the assessment context and process including its constraints and challenges
4. Detailed findings of the based on the study, following the Context Analysis format provided
5. Analysis of the findings
6. Conclusions and recommendations for FCA

The annexes of the report should contain (but may not be limited to)

- Overview of institutional frameworks (international commitments and obligations, regional commitments and national frameworks)
- Overview of key stakeholders on right to livelihood, right to quality education and right to peace
- ToR for the Assessment
- List of reference documents

10. Consultant's required qualifications and experience (Eligibility Criteria)

The consultant hired for the assignment should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Master's degree in social sciences or another relevant field.
- Minimum 10 years professional working experience in development cooperation and/or humanitarian aid.
- Must be registered with the Ministry of Taxation (individual or Firm) in South Sudan
- Must Submit the Tax clearance Certificate.

Additional information required
- In-depth knowledge on human rights-based approach and gender in development.

- Proven track record of producing clear written analysis and recommendations for further development of programme.
- Good knowledge of South Sudan context.
- Cultural sensitivity and inter-cultural communication skills.
- Fluent written and oral English.
- Along with proposal

ANNEX 2: METHODOLOGY

To be filled-in by the candidates, in compliance with the following instructions

Rationale

Any comments on the Terms of Reference of importance for the successful execution of activities, in particular its objectives and expected results, thus demonstrating the degree of understanding of the contract. Any comments contradicting the Terms of Reference or falling outside their scope will not form part of the final contract.

An opinion on the key issues related to the achievement of the contract objectives and expected results

(Optional: An explanation of the risks and assumptions affecting the execution of the contract)

Strategy

An outline of the approach proposed for contract implementation

A list of the proposed activities considered to be necessary to achieve the contract objectives

The related inputs and outputs

Timetable of activities

The timing, sequence, and duration of the proposed activities

The identification and timing of major milestones in execution of the contract, including an indication of how the achievement of these would be reflected in any reports, particularly those stipulated in the Terms of Reference

ANNEX 3: PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

To be completed by candidates:

To: Attention: Tel: E-mail:	
Project:	
Proposal submitted by: **Name:** **Address** **Telephone number:** **E-mail address:**	
Date of proposal:	

1. General

In submitting this proposal, I declare to accept in full and without restriction the special and general conditions governing the RFP.

2. Scope of services

I include my comments on the Terms of Reference, a description of my proposed strategy and approach, and an outline programme in the attached "Methodology".

3. Financial proposal

My proposal for remuneration of my services is as follows:

Proposed fee-Total	
Proposed number of <days><months>	
Total fees. N.B. These have to be all-inclusive (consultancy fees, incidentals, materials etc.)	

4. Validity of proposal

I acknowledge that the terms of the present proposal shall be binding upon me until the expiration of the validity period indicated in article 3 of the RFP, and I guarantee my availability for the assignment should the Contract be awarded to me within that period.

5. Information on the consultant(s)

(For a team of consultants, please copy and paste this table)

General Information	
Principal area of specialization	
Years of experience in principal area of sp.	
Last three assignments in the field of the contract	
Other service contracts in hand and/or future commitments	
Languages (Indicate level on a scale from 1 to 5, for understanding, speaking and writing)	
Membership in professional organizations	

6. Documents

Please find attached the following documents:

    a) Methodology document
    b) CV of consultant(s)
    c) Budget breakdown: Annex 4
    d) Two examples of previous work

Signature:

Signed by:

Date:

ANNEX 4: BUDGET

Budget breakdown

	Description	Units	Quantity		Rate (NPR)	Amount (NPR)	Remarks
A.	**Consultant Fees**						
1	Team Leader-1	Per day					
	Sub Total						
	Sub Total						
	Total Before Tax (A+B+C)	A+B+C					
	Tax (20%)						
	Total						

Guidelines on Budgeting

A. **Consultant Fees**: Should be clearly mentioned daily rate matching with the Total Man days calculation

B. **Filed Expenditure:** if required as per the technical proposal these should be budgeted within the reasonable budget. Please note that FCA will not take responsibility of general logistic support, for example Hotel or air ticketing.

C. You can add *as many rows as required in the table but please do not add or remove the columns.*

Finn Church Aid
Guidance and Format for Context Analysis

Introduction

The context analysis format is a tool for a comprehensive rights based analysis of FCA's program countries. It provides in-depth understanding of the operational context, supports country office team's reflections towards programming and strengthens FCA's informed decision-making both at country level as well as in the Head Office.

The context analysis provides a basis for planning FCA's programme on the country level, contributes to define and revise country strategies and to plan the implementation Global Program and beyond. The identification of the main causes of vulnerability and non-realization of rights enables us to make well-informed strategic decisions about programmatic focus and to tackle the underlying causes of the non-realization of human rights, especially defined under FCA's strategic priorities on right to quality education, right to livelihood and right to peace. In addition, it supports the Country Offices' capacities to respond emerging issues and reflect global challenges.

The analysis format is based on rights-based approach to development and utilizes guidance from several sources, in particular the UNDP's Institutional and context analysis guidance note (2012) and its revised guidance note revised to response to Sustainable Development Goals (2017). Gender, conflict sensitivity, climate action and environmental protection (with elements of the disaster risk reduction) framework are integrated into the format.

This format is primarily intended for the analysis of a country context. The basic model can also be applied for the analysis of a smaller area within a country programme or even for analyzing a region cutting across the territories of two or more countries. In these cases, some of the questions guiding the analysis will be changed to reflect the correct programmatic level.

This document is arranged into five parts. It starts out by providing a list of guiding principles that are to be kept in mind during the entire process of data collection and analysis.

- Section 1 gives instructions on defining the geographical area of the analysis.
- Section 2 provides a framework with which to map out the overall situation in the context being studied. Information is collected along four lines: the general human rights situation, national development priorities, FCA's priorities and the main disaster risks.
- Section 3 provides analysis of the main problems relevant to FCA's work
- Section 4 provides guidance on identifying the duty-bearers and rights-holders relevant to FCA's work and analyzing their capacities and challenges.
- The last section provides a holistic analysis of the context FCA is, or plans to operate along with FCA's strategic choices, and offers recommendations for FCA's programmatic focus.

Guiding Principles for Context Analysis

The guiding principles below inform the approach and methods of the context analysis process.

a. Context analysis is not a neutral activity. Depending on how it is carried out, it may be seen as an intervention in itself. Analysis of the human right situation, development priorities and main disaster risks is often a contested issue. A data collection and analysis process has potential for exacerbating existing tensions. Therefore, the principles of conflict

sensitivity and do no harm should be followed in minimum by considering the potential negative effects of the process on existing latent or open conflicts.

c. *Who* performs data collection and analysis has a direct impact on the credibility and reliability of the resulting analysis as an end product. It is important to pay attention to gender-related aspects when deciding who (one person or a team) will undertake the context analysis. Pay attention to gender-related aspects in deciding the team, the division of tasks and possible challenges prevalent in the given context. All team members should have at least a basic level of understanding of gender-related issues and dynamics. In addition, In order to ensure conflict sensitivity of the analysis process in itself, consider how the analysis team composition might affect existing open or latent conflict dynamics in the context.

d. The *how* of carrying out analysis is equally important. **Triangulation** is a process of using different methods to investigate the same issue in order to check and validate the results. Common methods of research are desk reviews of secondary sources, interviews with experts and key informants, participatory methods such as focus group discussions and in-depth interviews. Use of several methods and sources will guarantee the credibility and reliability of the information and data. In the context analysis[1], recent official documents (e.g. reports produced by UN or governmental organizations) should be used, and they should be complemented with other sources such as interviews or reports produced by variety of civil society groups. As a conflict sensitivity consideration, think about the groups and documents that you necessarily need to consult. Are there groups or documents that you should not use? Why?

e. Analysis must be founded on information gathered from a wide range of stakeholders. It is important that efforts are made to seek information from all perspectives. Rights-holders should be given priority in defining development priorities, as a way of not only enhancing the analysis but also as a means of empowerment. Involving duty-bearers can improve their knowledge about their obligations. In addition, interviews with e.g. program staff, representatives of partner organizations, other NGOs or intergovernmental organizations can provide useful information. Remember to be transparent about who/what category of informants is telling us what. Consider what might be the consequences of including/excluding specific stakeholders.

f. Data gathering and the analysis must be disaggregated by sex and age paying attention to any other relevant factors of the country in question such as ethnicity, religion, caste and disability. This means that when carrying out the context analysis, all questions are posed and answered in a way that reflects the differences between the various groups of people as well as identifies possible gabs between women and men. This allows us to reveal inequalities between these groups, and to design a program in a way that places priority on the challenges faced by the most vulnerable and promotes gender equality.

g. It is crucial that gender and human rights perspectives are integrated into the context analysis throughout the process. In addition to using disaggregated data, this requires
   o   Engaging women and men, as well as different vulnerable groups in data gathering and its analysis, and eliciting the views of both.

o   Interviewing organizations promoting women's or minority rights, and/or using their reports.

o   Having both men and women, as well as vulnerable groups validate the resulting context analysis. This means that, whenever possible, the accuracy of the analysis should be checked together with these groups.

o   Making sure that the person/s carrying out the context analysis have sufficient understanding of gender and human rights issues.

h. The environmental impacts of the analysis process should be taken into account in planning for a context analysis and all activities should be in line with FCA's commitment to Green Office (the guidance document Reduce, Reuse, Recycle [Green Office 1-pager REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE](#). Consideration should be paid e.g., on issues regarding the need to use external consultants flying long distances to and from the programme contexts to do the analysis.

i. Context analysis is not a one-off activity to be completed during the programme development phase and then forgotten. The context changes constantly and the understanding of it develops over time. Therefore, the **documented analysis should be updated regularly** as an integral part of programme work. In general, it should be updated on an annual basis or whenever there is a considerable change (internal or external) of situation or a chance towards turbulence.

j. Context analysis is not an end in itself. It is only worth the effort and useful when it serves as the actual basis for programme design.

1. DEFINING THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Define the geographical area that the context analysis concerns: Is it a whole country, a certain area within a country, or a region crossing the borders of one or more countries?
Give a brief justification and background to the chosen geographical focus.

Recommended length: max. 100 words

2. MAPPING OUT THE OVERALL SITUATION

The rights-based approach uses human rights standards and principles to place seemingly local problems in a wider framework. After defining the geographical area and boundaries of the analysis, it is important to map out the overall situation with reference to international human rights standards as well as national development priorities, FCA's priorities and primary risks. It is important to assess what national policies exist in relation to FCA's strategic themes and cross-cutting issues, what the authorities, civil society and donors are doing (or not doing) and what international actors such as the UN have highlighted or recommended.

General Human Rights situation

Describe briefly the human rights situation in the country, based on the international human rights standards.

- Has the country ratified the relevant international and/or regional human rights treaties? Consider briefly, how they are reflected in the Constitution and national legislation. What remedies are available to an individual? This information can be found in FCA's Program countries specific documents: Country Strategy, Country Program Annual Plan and Report and other related country specific documents found in the FCA Intranet and its workspaces. You should also utilize the webpage of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; www.ohchr.org and its country specific documentation.

- The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) reports of the country and the follow up of the recommendations give to the country during the UPR cycles. For the OHCHR official documents on UPR look at http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/Documentation.aspx. The UPR Info https://www.upr-info.org/en, is a non-profit, non-governmental organization based in Geneva which offers excellent databank on all UPR reviews and recommendations give to all UN member countries including national reports, compilation of the UN Information, civil society and other stakeholders information.
- Look at the latest recommendations of UN Treaty Body Reports and other Special HR instruments as well as other relevant country and regional specific human rights institutions (Treaty Body reports, Special Mechanisms, Regional Human rights institutions) http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/HumanRightsintheWorld.aspx

- For the regional mechanisms, look at the regional HR Instruments for African countries: African Commission on Human Rights, http://www.achpr.org/search/. Unlike Europe, Africa and the Americas, the Asia-Pacific does not have a region-wide inter-governmental system including a treaty mechanism, courts, commissions or other institutions. A sub-regional mechanism was established in 2009 as ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and has had the HR Declaration since 2012, see: http://aichr.org/s see country-related statements and related documents.

Recommended length: max. 500 words

> *If the analysis concerns an area within a country:*
> - *Give an additional account of the specific human rights situation in the area.*
>
> *If the analysis concerns a region that cuts across the borders of two or more countries:*
> - *Describe the human rights situation in each of the countries in the region according to the country level analysis instructions above*
> - *Describe any human rights issues that exist between /among the countries in the region, as well as the regional dynamics.*

National development priorities

Describe briefly the national development priorities of the area being analyzed, as stated in:
- National development programs and guidelines. Note shortly which SDGs are prioritized within national development programs and strategies.

- Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers. You should also pay attention to the dependency of foreign aid (e.g. percentage of aid in the overall budget) and the influence external actors, e.g. donors, and what kind of role they have in the country's development policy.
- Who are the main development actors in the country/region?
- Describe how climate change is perceived on the country-level and what is its importance (adaptation and mitigation strategies) in relation to other development priorities[2]. Complement this section by consulting the latest National Communication Report on Climate Change[3]. It is advised to consult the Climate section on the intranet (Country-specific climate change information document)

Recommended length: max. 300-400 words

If the analysis concerns an area within a country:
- *Give an additional account of the specific development priorities of the focus area.*

If the analysis concerns a region that cuts across the borders of two or more countries:
- *Describe the development priorities in each of the countries in the region according to the country level analysis instructions above*
- *Describe the development priorities that exist between /among the countries in the region, as well as the regional dynamics.*

FCA's priorities in the country/area

- Describe briefly the possible ongoing thematic focus areas and programmes in the area (e.g. past 5 years), how has the FCA focus been changed, what are the main achievements reached. If a new area, brief justification of FCA's interest to the area
- Who are FCA's partners in the country/area and how the partnership contributes to FCA' priorities and the overall development objective

Main disaster risks

Identify the main disaster risks and describe on a general level the main vulnerabilities existing in the context, according to the following list:

- Exposure to environmental risks and natural hazards (climate and non-climate induced) and vulnerability level
  - o Ecosystem degradation (including deforestation), biodiversity loss.
  - o Accentuated climate variability (including unpredictability and changes in seasonal calendar) and advancing climate change (current and projected changes in rainfall, droughts, weather extremes, sea-level rise, melting of glaciers)
  - o Current and potential natural hazards such as earthquakes, epidemics, hurricanes/typhoons, flooding, heatwaves, landslides, tsunamis, wildfires and volcanic eruptions)
  - o Are there clear interconnected risks that can increase the likelihood of a disaster? (e.g. deforestation + heavy rains = landslides)

For a general/broad perspective, consult http://thinkhazard.org/en/ to identify risks and https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings/ to determine the vulnerability level. Corroborate and complement the findings using the latest National Communication Report on Climate Change

- Man-made hazards / Conflicts
  - Recent history of open violent conflict?
  - Are there on-going open or latent conflicts in the context?
  - What are the dividing factors in the context/situation? What are the connecting factors?
  - What are the current threats to peace and stability? What are the preconditions for prevailing/current stability of the country/area?

Recommended length: max. 900 words

If the analysis concerns an area within a country:
- *Give an additional account of the main vulnerabilities within the focus area, according to the list above.*
If the analysis concerns a region that cuts across the borders of two or more countries:
- *Describe the main vulnerabilities in each of the countries in the region according to the country level analysis instructions above*
- *Describe the main vulnerabilities that exist between /among the countries in the region, as well as the regional dynamics.*

3. PROBLEM ANALYSIS

The purpose of this section analysis is to identify root causes behind the non-realization of human rights and other challenges established in the Section 2. The following list of questions is to be used as a reference and guidance in the analysis process, and in the Section 4 (identifying stakeholders and their capacities), but they need not to be followed strictly:

Legal and political framework
- What are the major political powers/key actors in the country? Does the state exercise control over its territory? Have there been events of violent conflict, of coups or other violent changes of power in the country and what have been the consequences on it?
- Is there political will to solve problems, for example, does the Government show leadership and how? Are there opposition, cross-border or other groups and do they have an impact on state stability? What kind of conflicting interests there are?
- How are the human rights recognized in the Constitution or the laws? (If the country has ratified an UN HR Treaty, it is legally boundary and must be applied to the national law)
- How can civil society function in the country/area? How does it represent different groups/interest groups of the society? What about marginalized/vulnerable groups of people? What about the relationship between Government and civil society actors? Are different groups of citizens able to make their voices heard? Is the

Government willing to listen to them and how this is enabled? In what way does the legal framework permit/limit civil society's action?

- Are there public policies that deal with the current challenges and if yes, how?
- Are the authorities capable of implementing and enforcing laws and policies?
- How does the electoral system function? What about other forms of accountability? How is the situation with media and journalism? Can it function freely and independent and if not, how it is limited?
- What is the corruption situation in the country? Does corruption or political violence disturb interaction between different groups of people and their relation to decision-making bodies? What are the effects? Are some groups particularly vulnerable in the face of open political violence and how? Do transnational criminal networks have presence or influence in the country and what kind of influence it has?
- What is the state of judicial system and how aware of its function and accessibility the citizens are?
- Does the law provide protection to its citizens? How about the most vulnerable groups? Does it promote gender equality? Are policies and services accessible to vulnerable groups?
- Do people, particularly vulnerable groups, have access to information about public policies and how to claim their rights?

Social and cultural practices

- How do cultural practices, social norms and customary laws affect the position of different groups in society (such as men/women, ethnic groups, different religions)? What is their impact on the roles of different groups?
- Are there other informal rules that seem to matter more than formal laws (structures of cultural or religious authority)? For example, do community or religious authorities have influence over state institutions?
- Are the groups that are particularly disadvantaged and what inequalities they suffer from? Who form the most marginalised/vulnerable groups of people based on gender, age, ethnicity, class, disability, religion or other factors?
- Do gender roles have an effect on decision-making bodies? For example, is there passive or active discrimination based on gender? What about discrimination based on age, ethnicity, caste, religion, disability etc.
- How do educational standards, health issues and socio-economic conditions affect the ability of different groups of people to claim their rights?

Economic trends and technological framework

- Are there and what kind of economic and technological factors that affect people's access to income and livelihood? Consider for instance the economic situation and trends, the conditions for job creation and entrepreneurship; unemployment/underemployment; opportunities for income generation. What about distribution of wealth in general?

- What are the key export/import products and who are the key export/import partners? How much the foreign investment does the country attract and is there a dependence on foreign countries?
- What kind of economic and financial resources are available, and are there limitations in availability towards different groups, such as women, or ethnic or sexual minorities? What about access to technology, raw materials and transportation systems?
- Do the authorities have access to resources for implementing policies? How is the situation at different levels of society (national, regional, local government/municipal)? Do they take account the needs of the most vulnerable and how?

Environmental and climate change aspects
- What are the main environmental and climate issues that can hamper or enable successful implementation of FCA interventions in this context?
- Are the livelihoods, peace and/or education interventions in this context sometimes or regularly threatened by challenges related for example to
  o lacking access to reliable, clean and affordable energy ?
  o lacking access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) ?
  o lacking access to fertile soil, natural resources and /or critical ecosystem services ?
  o poor and/or non-existent waste management (whether linked to pollution of water, air or land or to particular chemical and/or hazardous waste streams)?
  o increasing weather variability and/or weather extremes (droughts, floods, storms etc)?
- What are typical environmental impacts of the FCA livelihoods, peace and/or education interventions in this context that should be taken into account in more detailed planning and implementation, to prevent and mitigate negative impacts. Are they e.g. linked to
  o clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)?
  o land use and soil quality?
  o biodiversity and ecosystem use?
  o energy production and utilisation?
  o pollution to air, water and land?
  o greenhouse gas emissions, e.g. caused by fossil fuel use, logistics, deforestation?
  o waste production, wastewater?
- What is the capacity of society to prevent, mitigate, and manage main environmental and climate challenges and respond to disasters?
  o what is the level of knowledge and capacity of individuals, communities and regions in this context to prepare for and recover from different hazards?
  o what are the existing coping strategies and mechanisms and how well do they minimize the identified impacts as well as help recover and "bounce back and forward" from shocks?
- Management of key environmental and climate challenges offer opportunities for harnessing synergies between livelihoods, peace and/or education interventions and

between FCA modalities. Additionally, it can help to develop partnerships and to mobilize additional resources. Can you identify and describe some synergies, linkages or partnerships?

Recommended length: max. 2000 words

4. IDENTIFYING STAKEHOLDERS AND ANALYSING THEIR CAPACITIES

The purpose of rights-based programming is to support the capacities of rights-holders to realize and claim their rights, and respectively, to support duty-bearers to fulfill their obligations. A further goal is to improve the interaction between the two groups, enhancing the accountability of the duty-bearers towards the rights-holders. In order to identify the best ways to do this, the first step is to establish who the relevant actors are and secondly, to assess their roles and capacities.

1. Identification of Duty-Bearers and Rights-Holders

Who are the most important actors, i.e. who are the Duty-Bearers and Right-Holders? Focus on identifying the stakeholders that are relevant to the general human rights concerns, national development priorities, FCA's priorities and proactively identify risks (climate and non-climate induced) to prevent disasters and build resilience.

If the analysis concerns an area within a country, or a larger region, focus on the stakeholders at the relevant levels.

In general, the state is the primary legal duty-bearer. The duty of the state extends to all its bodies such as government, parliament, local and national authorities, the legal and the educational system, policy and many more. In addition, there are also moral duty bearers, i.e. individuals and institutions that have the power to affect other people's lives. Local leaders, companies and civil society organizations can be considered as secondary duty bearers, but they have to be regarded as right-holders in other respects[4] as the primary duty bearer is always the state.

Also in situations on a non-functioning of a state, e.g. fragile state, ongoing or post-conflict situation, the international organizations might have taken the role of main duty bearer but this cannot be regarded as a legal entity as such and, thus is not considered as a permanent solution with legal responsibilities within the framework of international human right law.

<u>The analysis of DBs must determine whether the duty bearers are able to meet these obligations and undertake these actions.</u>

- If the answer is yes, how do we get them to act?
- If the answer is no, why is this so and what should be done?[5]

- Duty-bearers
  - o Identify the legal duty-bearers related at different levels (national-local).
  - o Identify possible moral duty-bearers, such as international actors (IGOs, NGOS), religious or traditional leaders, companies etc.
  - o What are their responsibilities and obligations? What should they do to respect, protect and fulfill human rights?
  - o Do they have ownership/control of, and access to key resources required for building climate resilience and/or improving access to renewable energy?[6]

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<u>The analysis of RHs must determine whether the right holders can hold the duty bearers accountability and enjoy the realization of human rights.</u>

- Identify the right holders – what is the overall composition of the population of the country/region
- what are the criteria (ethnicity, religion, culture, social, economic, gender, etc.) that the different groups are based on
  - Identify the groups who are particularly deprived of their rights and in relation to FCA's strategic interest (justification of our interest to the particular groups) (vulnerable or marginalized groups).
  - In what ways are they vulnerable or excluded? How do gender roles affect the realization of rights? What about discrimination based on age, ethnic factors, rural-urban, religion, caste, IDP status, disability etc.
  - What are their immediate/practical and strategic needs? What about their (strategic) interests (related to improving their position in the society)?
  - Who has ownership of, and access to key resources required for building climate resilience and/or improving access to renewable energy? Do all groups in society, including women and vulnerable groups, have equal access to these resources?[6]

Recommended length: 600-800 words

2. *SWOT Analysis of the Capacities of Duty-Bearers and Rights-Holders (Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats)*

It is important to analyze both internal and external strengths and opportunities of both DBs and RHs. These questions guide to understand the relationships between them.

Duty-bearers' SWOT analysis:
What are the **duty-bearers' strengths** in respecting, promoting and protecting human rights?
What are their **weaknesses** in fulfilling their obligations?
How about **opportunities** that support them in this?
Are there any factors that pose a **threat t**o their role?

Right-holders' SWOT analysis:
What are the **rights-holders'** strengths in claiming their rights?
What are the weaknesses in claiming their rights, e.g. awareness of their rights and their ability to act collectively to advocate for them?
What opportunities/external factors they have?
What threatens their capacities?

In addition, it is important to consider the duty bearers and right holders **capacities, resources, skills and motivations** in more detail and pay attention to the different roles they have at different levels of society. Try to point out possible gaps that should be filled and factors that prevent the positive interaction between different stakeholders.

Duty-bearers and Right-holders should also be analyzed accordingly:
Capacities:

Resources:
Skills:
Motivations:

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FCA'S PRIORITIES IN THE COUNTRY/AREA

The final step of the context analysis process is to reflect the findings of the analysis to FCA's work and future programming.

Highlight the main findings of the analysis regarding the root causes of the non-realization of human rights, as well as duty-bearers' and rights-holders' capacities.

Briefly reflect how does the current programme reply to the needs raised by the context analysis? What revisions should be made?

Consider the findings against FCA's strategic themes, country strategy and related documents: What kind of programmatic focus would best support the country program to respond to the root causes identified by the analysis? What is the theory of change? Try to be as explicit as possible, linking the conclusions and recommendations to themes, to their interlinkages and FCA's holistic Global Program.

Recommended length: 600-1300 words.

Country Context Analysis

South Sudan

October- December 2018

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACHPR	-	African Charter on Human and People's Rights
AfDB	-	African Development Bank
CA	-	Context Analysis
CPA	-	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CRSV	-	Conflict Related Sexual Violence
DFID	-	Department for International Development
DRC	-	Democratic Republic of Congo
FAO	-	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCA	-	Finn Church Aid
FGDs	-	Focus Group Discussions
GESP	-	General Education Strategic Plan
HRBA	-	Human Rights- based Approach
IDPs	-	Internally Displaced Persons
IGAD	-	Intergovernmental Agency on Development
IMF	-	International Monetary Fund
KIIs	-	Key Informant Interviews
NGEP	-	National General Education Policy
ODA	-	Official Development Assistance
OHCHR	-	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PRA	-	Participatory Rapid Appraisal
PTSD	-	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
R-ARCSS	-	Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan
RRC	-	Relief and Rehabilitation Commission
R2L	-	Right to Livelihood
RPF	-	Regional Protection Force
R2P	-	Right to Peace
R2QE	-	Right to Quality Education

SALW	-	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SSDP	-	South Sudan Development Plan
SGBV	-	Sex and Gender-based Violence
SPLM/A	-	Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army
SSIs	-	Semi Structured Interviews
SSUCO	-	South Sudan Country Office
SPLM-IO	-	Sudan People's Liberation Movement-In Opposition
SWOT	-	Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats
TGNOU	-	Transitional Government of National Unity
TVET	-	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UN	-	United Nations
UNCRC	-	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNESCO	-	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme
UNMISS	-	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
UPR	-	Universal Periodic Review
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	-	World Food Programme

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction and context:

The Country context analysis (CA) was commissioned by Finn Church Aid (FCA) and conducted in the months of October and November 2018 focusing on the key thematic areas namely; Education, Livelihoods and Peacebuilding. The study covers the overall context of South Sudan with the four states; Jubek and Yei River States in the Greater Central Equatorial Region, Boma State in the Greater Upper Nile Region and Wau State in the Greater Bahr El Ghazal Region serving as sampled areas for data collection. Further discussions were also held with various organizations in Juba such as World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) among others to get a representative picture of the country context. The CA study aimed at mapping out the overall human rights situation and the national development priorities in South Sudan; establishing linkages between the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), Right to Peace (R2P), and Right to Livelihood (R2L) as well as providing guidance on identifying the duty-bearers and rights-holders relevant to FCA's priorities and interventions.

Study Approach: The study employed a mix research approaches entailing desk review, focus group discussions (FGD) with both secondary and primary beneficiaries and in-depth interviews with key informants drawn from various stakeholders in the capital, Juba and the states. The data gathered from different sources were analyzed and triangulated to generate the key study findings and recommendations.

Key Study Findings: The study findings are linked to key thematic areas of the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) with a nexus to the Right to Peace (R2P).
The study established that the human rights situation in South Sudan is still deplorable with worse violations meted out on vulnerable women, the elderly, persons with disabilities and children. In specific, findings from FDGs and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) in some states within the greater regions of Greater Upper Nile, Greater Equatoria, and the Greater Bahr El Ghazal show that the

areas are in dire need of national and international humanitarian and developmental interventions. For example, in Yei River State which has been an agricultural and food basket over the years, extension services are completely run down due to conflict thereby affecting household food security. While in Pibor, Yei and Wau, school infrastructure is completely run down due to conflicts affecting the realization of the Right to Quality Education (RQE) and FCA is responding to this through rehabilitation and building new schools to improve access to quality education, noticeably in Pibor. The conflict, falling oil revenues and rapidly depreciating currency have further exacerbated economic hardships and delivery of social services by the government in South Sudan. The study noted that the government of South Sudan has ratified several international and regional Human Rights treaties and protocols. However, lack of political will, awareness coupled with weak institutions and capacities of duty holders have hindered the realization of the rights enshrined in these regional and international bills. Thus, FCA should continue to play a role through its programming to intervene and contribute in strengthening the capacities of duty bearers in the areas relevant to the realization and upholding of these treaties and protocols for example, enhancing the capacities of the State ministries in the attainment of SDG number 4 and ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all.

It also became evident that in the absence of genuine peace, the Right to Quality Education and the Right to Livelihood of the citizens have been grossly devastated with women and children mostly affected and vulnerable.

Recommendations: The study recommends that FCA should continue to embrace and invest more on local peace building initiatives and creating more opportunities at community levels, adapting and complementing locally contextualized but integrated and coordinated approach to promote and strengthen national measures to prevent or mitigate, prohibit and eliminate root causes of conflict as well as strengthen social cohesion. Supporting sustainable peace will promote human rights and create a conducive peaceful environment for the realization of the Rights to Livelihood and Quality Education as envisaged by FCA. Similarly, improved livelihoods and access to quality education contributes to resilient, stable and peaceful communities. In pursuit of the Right to Quality Education, it is critical that FCA continues to work directly with the duty bearers/ government ministry of education, specifically at the state level. The Right to Peace requires complementing of the work of local actors and initiatives at the state level. The Right to Livelihood requires partnerships with the state ministries and local actors contributing to livelihood and food security initiatives. The attainment of the three rights advocated for by FCA entails close collaboration with the legal duty bearers particularly at the state level such as the state ministries of Education, Agriculture and Animal resources, the Local Government, local Peace Committees or Commissions and the moral duty bearers such as the Churches and Civil Society organizations. FCA can also contribute to making the voices of the right holders heard through supporting the opening of civil society space and civic engagement initiates to create awareness and advocacy. There should also be coherence and coordination with national and international partners focusing on FCA's thematic focus areas to maximize impact of interventions.

Conclusion: The study concludes that Conflict has blocked the path towards inclusive and sustainable growth, built on a diversified economy that would create employment and livelihoods for the poor and war-affected populations, especially in the rural remote areas of the country. The expectations of citizens for justice, rule of law, accountability, reconciliation, and healing has yet to be met.

1.   FRAMING THE CONTEXT ANALYSIS

1.1 Introduction and Rational

At the heart of the Country Context Analysis (CA) is the credibility and integrity of the data collected and the methodology used. This section provides a brief framework that guided this process. It provides an analysis of the thematic focus areas of Finn Church Aid (FCA) in South Sudan namely; Quality Education, Livelihood[1] and their synergies with Peacebuilding. The CA framework seeks to describe and analyze the socio-economic and political profile of the country focusing on the thematic areas linking to causes of fragility. This CA assesses the degree of vulnerability taking into consideration the ability to which a community and/or country can adequately respond and manage the risk factors, and develop resilience, peace and social cohesion strategies that re-build the socio-economic fabric. This study was sanctioned by the FCA's South Sudan Country Office (SUCCO) to better inform the FCA country level programming in its strategic priority areas. By compiling existing and new information on FCA interventions and thematic areas, the analysis will guide the future development of integrated and country context tailored systematic programming in the areas of Right to Quality Education (R2QE), Right to Livelihood (R2L), and Right to Peace (R2P)
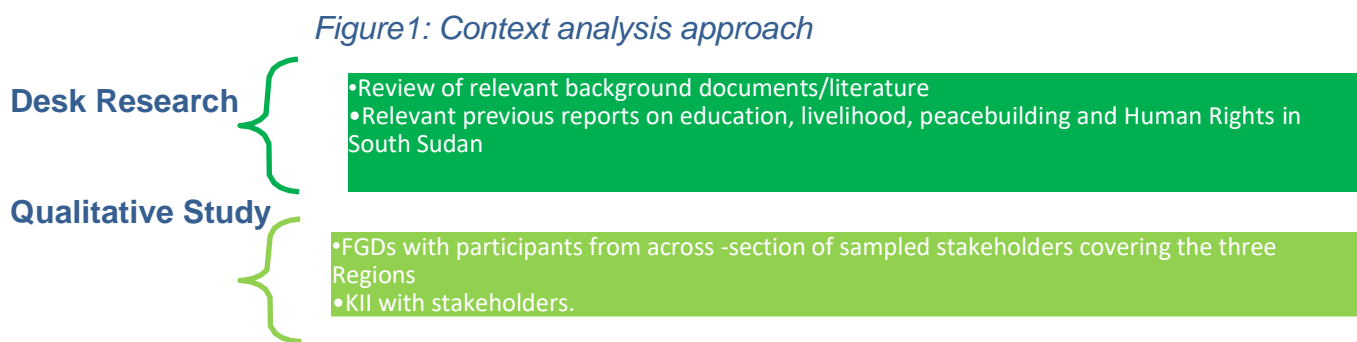
1.2. Objectives

The specific **objectives** of this CA are:
1. To map out the overall human rights situation and the national development priorities,
2. To provide an understanding of the linkages between peace, quality education, and livelihoods through a rights-based lens in the context of South Sudan.
3. To provide guidance on identifying the duty-bearers and rights-holders relevant to FCA's, ascertaining their capabilities and challenges.

1.3. Context Analysis Methodology

The study used exploratory design premised on the fluidity of the issue under investigation. Thus, an exploratory research design anchored on Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) provided the analytical framework for examining the context. Discussion and interview guides were developed and used for FDGs and KIIs respectively to generate qualitative date from the study. In executing the context analysis, the consultants employed a two (2) pronged approach that comprised of Desk research and Qualitative study. It is presented in Figure 1 below:

Figure1: Context analysis approach

Desk Research
- Review of relevant background documents/literature
- Relevant previous reports on education, livelihood, peacebuilding and Human Rights in South Sudan

Qualitative Study
- FGDs with participants from across -section of sampled stakeholders covering the three Regions
- KII with stakeholders.

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[1]Livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and strategies used by a household for means of living. while livelihood group is a collection of people who share the same food and income sources, share access to the same livelihood assets and are subject to similar risks

The criteria for selection of FGD participants and KII respondents among other aspects were as follows:
  i.   Knowledgeable about conflict, human rights, livelihood, education sector (including TVET) and developmental issues.
  i.   Works on peace-building, human rights and developmental themes.
  ii. Supports or collaborates on peace-building, human rights and developmental work.
  iii. Inclusivity–the selected stakeholders represented aspects of ethno-cultural, social, political, gender, youth, the disabled, government, private sector, and geographical distribution among others.
  iv. Deliberate gender consideration and sensitivity was taken into account during the formation of FGDs to ensure that at least 30% of participants were women. Some of these participants were specifically from gender-focused organizations.

Secondary data: Data was rapidly 'mined' and 'extracted' from useful updated information that largely came from a series of reports, project documents and other related literature. FCAs South Sudan global and Country Strategies 2018-2023 and Global Results Framework documents, provided an outlook of FCA's institutional goals and objectives in South Sudan. Information on South Sudan's development priorities, economic and governance outlook were retrieved from the South Sudan National Development Plan, UNICEF's South Sudan National Budget Brief for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and the World Bank's 2017 South Sudan Governance Analysis. To understand the challenges and progress towards the Right to Quality Education, the following documents were consulted: UNESCO's Rapid Assessment of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Sector in South Sudan, and the Joint Study with the National Ministry of General Education and Instruction on the Global Initiative on Out-of-School Children, South Sudan Country Study. UNDP's 2018 Needs Assessment on Peacebuilding and Stabilization in Greater Jonglei and the document of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan provided information on the challenges and goals towards the Right to Peace. Project documents such as the FAO's 2018 Emergency Livelihood Response Programme and the World Food Program's monthly reports provided a national outlook on the Right to Livelihood in the backdrop of the conflict and natural disasters. The Human Rights Situation in South Sudan was assessed based on the latest 2016 UPR on South Sudan; and other related human rights documents such as UNMISS/OHCHR Human Rights Situation Report for 2018; the Amnesty International UPR Report (October-November 2018); and the US State Department for Human Rights Report on South Sudan (2017) among many other reports.

Primary Data: Focused Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews were used to collect primary data from the research sites. The process used PRA techniques guided by Semi Structured Interviews (SSIs) and discussions.[2]

Data analysis: Key to the CA process was the collation and analysis of largely qualitative data from the field. The data was analyzed through the Framework Analysis method which involved systematic procedures: preliminary data involved sorting and grouping into thematic areas; familiarization(transcribing and reading the data); identifying thematic framework (initial coding framework which was developed from priority and emergent issues);coding(using textual codes to identify specific piece of data corresponding to different themes; charting(charts created using heading from thematic framework-thematic or by case);and mapping &interpretation searching for patterns, associations, concepts and explanations in data. This helped in minimizing inconsistencies such as skip patterns and coherence of the responses. It also assisted the

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[2] See annex 3 on Research Sites and sources of Primary Data

consultant to grasp the trends, similarities and differences in the data in order to draw informed conclusions and recommendations. Finally, data analysis was done in such a way to ensure that gender perspectives and dimensions were reflected in the context analysis document. Gender gaps identified were flagged out as a way of ensuring that they were captured in recommendations as action points for programming.

Learning for future CA in South Sudan: The big plus is the speed and rapidity with which a limited amount of secondary and primary data and a considerable number of places visited, and persons met can be accomplished within a short period. The main positive consideration was the participatory nature of the process, which allowed input from a cross-section of stakeholders. In addition, an entry meeting with state authorities such as Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) and the National Security Service made the processes somewhat smooth, especially access to stakeholders in government and the communities. Other points to note include the need for a thorough preparation and orientation at Juba level of the operational environment in the research sites, as well as early synchronization of work-plan with the, deployment plan and travel arrangements to avoid disruption of the agreed work-plan. Finally, the issue of organizing FGDs is not an easy task in the Context of South Sudan if the sites visited are to be used as a measuring rod since there is always an expectation of financial remuneration for any group of people convened for an FGD. Furthermore, the security and political context sensitivities does not make it easy to sit for a big FGD in open places – such meetings often have to be in closed areas. KII on the other hand were much smoother.

2. DEFINING THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

The Context Analysis (CA) covers South Sudan in general with the four states namely; Jubek and Yei River States in the Greater Central Equatorial Region, Boma State in the Greater Upper Nile Region and Wau State in the Greater Bahr El Ghazal Region serving as sampled areas for data collection. The study assessed the broader country context focusing on the FCA's thematic areas of interest.

South Sudan is a land-linked[3] country located in eastern Africa. It shares borders with Sudan in the North, Kenya in the South East, Uganda in the South, DRC in the South-West, Central Africa Republic in the West and Ethiopia in the East. It has a land surface of 644,329 sq. km. with unpredictable rainfall patterns only heaviest in the upland areas of the South and persistent drought in the Northern regions. The Nile River that cuts through the country is a major geographical feature and source of water for the country. Though accurate statistics are hard to come by, a 2008 census showed that the population of South Sudan was 8,260,490 people. In 2014, the population was estimated to be 11.3 million people. The population distribution by age shows a country with extremely high dependency on its youth. The population under 30 years comprises 72% of the total population, with 66% under 15 years[4]. The country is divided in 32 states spread across the three main Greater Regions of Greater Upper Nile, the Greater Equatoria and the Greater Bahr El Ghazal. The CA involved four field visits to four states outlined below as determined by the FCA South Sudan Country Office:

1. The Greater Equatoria (Yei town, in Yei River State and Juba in Jubek State);

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[3]The concept of a land linked-country speaks to the potential and opportunities a country has in terms of providing linkages to other countries.
[4] OCHA 2018: South Sudan Humanitarian Needs Assessment Report

2. The Greater Upper Nile (former Greater Pibor administrative area headquarter, Pibor town in Boma State);

3. The Greater Bar El Ghazal Region (Wau town, Wau State).

2. 0 MAPING OUT THE GENERAL SITUATION

2.1 General Human Rights Situation: The Human Rights situation in South Sudan is dire with violations of rights of civilians mainly committed by armed groups acting with impunity. The government has been stretched and failing in carrying out its Responsibility to Protect prompting the introduction of the Regional Protection force (RPF) in the UN Peacekeeping Mission. Urban centers such as Juba, Yei and Wau which were considered relatively peaceful still witness cases of violence against women including rape, violent robberies at night with reported fatalities, kidnappings and arbitrary arrests while perpetrators of these vices go unpunished. The Human Rights Division of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in its May 2018 report highlights continued violence marked by forced displacement and killings of civilians by armed groups, mainly in the former Unity and Upper Nile states where the perpetrators deploy the scorched-earth policy destroying homes, health and education facilities, crops and cattle with the intention to frustrate civilian settlements[5]. In Yei town, Yei River State, Greater Equatoria region, civilians interminably continue to flee into town from its surrounding villages because of clashes between armed groups. Areas South and Southwest of Wau State, in the Greater Bahr El Ghazal region, continue to witness clashes between the government and opposition forces despite the signing of the Revitalized Agreement of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCISS) in September 2018. Such actions deprive the affected populations of their right to livelihood; adequate food and housing; access to basic health services and denying children the right to quality education. Humanitarian access to the affected communities is also challenged by bureaucratic barriers such as slow airport clearances for airlifting NGO staff and relief items or impediments at road checkpoints. Furthermore, the already fragile humanitarian situation is challenged by the rising cases of attacks on humanitarian workers since the 2016 eruption of violence which split the SPLM/A- in Opposition[6] expanding the conflict to the Greater Equatoria and Western Bahr El Ghazal regions.

UNMISS Human Rights Division painted a grim picture of the state of freedom of expression in South Sudan highlighting a shrinking of civil society space since July 2016 marked with increased censorship or closure of media houses, detention of journalists under the National Security Service Act (2014) and the Media Authority Act (2013) highlighting the need for a review of the domestic legal framework pertaining the exercise of freedom of expression as enshrined in the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan (2011)[7]. These restrictions on freedom of expression have had a profound negative impact on the independent media houses and the

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[5]OHCHR (2018). Indiscriminate Attacks against Civilians in southern Unity April. Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/SS/UNMISSReportApril_May2018.pdf
[6] The SPLM-IO Group came to Juba under Riek Machar to implement the 2015 peace agreement but later split into two factions after the eruption of violence in 2016
[7] UNMISS Human Rights Division (2018). Report on The Right to Freedom of Opinion And Expression in South Sudan Since July 2016 Crisis. Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/SS/UNMISSFeb2018.pdf

work of national civil society organizations, especially those working on peacebuilding. For example, some national NGOs in Wau and Jubek States reported confiscation of assets, harassment of staff and interruption of training or dialogue activities by national security personnel. This not only specific to Wau and Jubek, it is also applies for the SPLM-IO controlled locations, Fangak in Jonglei.

In response to the reports of violations of International Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, the government of South Sudan was recommended by the UN to conduct investigations and prosecute those bearing command responsibility. Unfortunately, the political will of Government is weak, and the situation has been complicated by the status of South Sudan in relation to the International Human Rights instruments[8]. According to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), South Sudan has not acceded to the critical Human Rights instruments namely, the Covenant on Political and Civil Rights and the Covenant on Economic and Social Rights. Furthermore, South Sudan is yet to sign or ratify the African Charter on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR), which has provisions on the right to life and integrity of persons, the prohibition on cruel and inhuman treatment, and freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention. In addition, the ACHPR recognizes the right to receive information and the right to express and disseminate opinions within the law (Article 9). On a positive note, South Sudan has acceded to five United Nations Human Rights treaties. The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (ratified in 2015) and its Optional Protocol. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (ratified in 2015) and its Optional Protocol. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (ratified in 2015)[9]. Domestically, the right to life and physical integrity is protected by the Constitution and the Penal Code Act 2008.

Most key informants shared views on the human rights situation in the country. Table below highlights a summary of their human rights concerns with 74% of the KIIs categorizing the human rights status as poor:

Table 1: Field Perspectives on General Human Rights Situation

CONTEXT	STATUS	KEY POINTERS OF STATUS
General Human Rights Situation		• Government critics are still being detained and tortured amid narrowing political space. • There are still unresolved cases of politically motivated arrests and enforced disappearances. • Restrictions on peaceful protests, civil society work, and independent journalism and media activities still exist. • Reported continued armed attacks on remote villages. Particularly in Yei and Wau states • Conflicted Related Sexual violence (CRSV) against women and girls with little

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[8] UNMISS Human Rights Division (2018). Human Rights Status Report.
[9]OHCHR (2018). Retrieved from ohchr.org

| | | or no action against suspected perpetrators. |
| | | • All above concerns are highlighted in human rights documents such as UNMISS/OHCHR Human Rights Situation Report for 2018; the Amnesty International UPR Report (October-November 2018); and the US State Department for Human Rights Report on South Sudan (2017); Médecins Sans Frontiers (2018) and the AU Commission of Inquiry on South Sudan 2015. |

Based on the forgoing, several recommendations on South Sudan have been floated by various human rights Treat Body reports, Special Mechanisms, and Human Rights Institutions, including the 2016 Universal Periodic Review (UPR) report[10], the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and Amnesty International. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-sixth session from 31st October to 11 November 2016. The review of South Sudan was held at the 12th meeting on 7 November 2016. South Sudan received 233 recommendations in total out of which 77 recommendations enjoy Government support while 43 recommendations were considered by Government to be under implementation or being implemented. A further 97 recommendations were placed for further consultations and 16 recommendations only got noted. Below are some of the key recommendations accepted by GRSS[11]:

- o Continue ratifying the remaining international human rights instruments
- o Recommendations related to removing from its laws provisions that discriminate against women and girls
- o Actions to prevent SGBV
- o Take necessary measures against ethnic intolerance
- o Strengthen national reconciliation
- o Strengthen the capacity of the South Sudan Human Rights Institutions
- o Take further steps to improve the humanitarian situation
- o Cease the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict
- o Ensure impartial and comprehensive investigation of all reported cases of human rights violations and bring perpetrators to justice.
- o Ensure access to justice to victims of sexual violence
- o Work with the African Union to establish the Hybrid Court set out in the August 2015 Peace Agreement
- o Take measures to ensure the freedom of expression
- o Continue to seek support to address the issue of internally displaced persons
- o Reinforce policies to protect the fundamental rights of internally displaced persons

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[10] South Sudan's next review will be in November 2021. Retrieved from https://www.upr-info.org/en/review/South-Sudan
[11] The full list is available on www.ohchr.org

- Recommendations related to economic, social and cultural rights like food, education, health, water and sanitation were accepted after consultations but GRSS called on international community for assistance to have them fulfilled.
- Allow Deployment of Regional Protection Force as per the 2015 peace agreement.

Important also to note some recommendations that were not accepted by the GRSS. Below are some of the key ones rejected and reasons provided for that[12]:

Table 2: Rejected UPR Recommendations

NO.	RECOMMENDATION	REASONS FOR REJECTION GOVERNMENT
1	Amend the National Security Service (NSS) Law	Too general. Does not mention which section of the law is in violation of human rights and therefore to be amended
2	Amend NGO Act	Too general. Does not mention which section of the law is in violation of human rights and therefore to be amended
3	Establish an independent Children Commission	There is already a Ministry in charge of this. Establish another institution would conflict with existing institution.
4	Cease rape, attacks on civilians, extrajudicial killings and unlawful detention	South Sudan has no plan or policy to attack, rape, arbitrarily detain or extra-judicially execute its citizens. Any attack, rape or unlawful detention or killings is an offence under South Sudan penal law. Accepting the recommendation would be tacit acceptance that the contents of the recommendations are true. But the spirit of the recommendation is understood.
	Take measures to end the use of children in armed conflict	South Sudan has commitment to protect children; acceded without reservation to CRC and the Optional Protocol on Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. The SPLA Act, 2008 prohibits recruitment and use of child soldiers. The Child Act, 2008 prohibits recruitment of any person into the army under the age of 18 years. South Sudan signed a Re-Commitment to Action Plan with UN which resulted in identification, demobilisation and reunification of children associated with various militia groups which accepted peace.
	Take measures to protect IDPs in POCs from attacks	Protection of civilians currently living in the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) Protection of Civilian Sites (PoCs) is the responsibility of United Nations and therefore any security breaches taking place within the PoCs cannot be attributed to South Sudan security personnel because our security personnel cannot have access to the PoCs.
	Stop intimidation and attacks on CSOs, human rights defenders and journalists	South Sudan has many registered civil society organisations, media outlets and there are laws in place governing their work. Any case of detention or arrest of any member of the civil society or journalist is always due to violation of the media laws or Non-Governmental Organisation Act.

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[12] Human Rights Council (2017): Advance Version: Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. Derived from Agenda item 6. A/HRC/34/13/Add.1

	Ratify regional instruments	The recommendations never provided specifically which are the main regional and international or human rights instruments that South Sudan has not acceded.
	Abolish death penalty of put a moratorium (temporary stop of death penalty)	The recommendations are in conflict with national laws and policies. South Sudan does not impose death penalty except under rare situations after exhaustion of all steps laid down by the Constitution and not on the persons under 18, over 70 years. Therefore, abolition of death penalty is not a priority. Also, South Sudan has Supreme Court which protects human rights stipulated in the Transitional Constitution, 2011 and International Conventions to which South Sudan is party. Finally, death penalty is still part of the domestic law punishment policy in accordance with South Sudan current penal laws.
	Ratify the ICC Statute	Government does not accept the word ratify without limiting it because South Sudan as a country has the right to accede or not accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court base on the national interest and priority. Therefore, Government does see the ratification of Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as its priority, especially that the crimes triable by ICC are offences even punishable by death under South Sudan penal laws.

On a positive note, the Government has accepted recommendations that relate to the realization of the Right to Quality education, the Right to Livelihood and generally most of them, which support the realization of the Right to Peace and improving human rights situation. FCA programming can enhance maximum impact in its focus areas by leveraging on Government support and political will as demonstrated by its call for the international community to support realization of these rights.

2.2. National Development Priorities

South Sudan's economy is dependent on oil revenues which covers nearly 60% of the budget and the rest is mostly covered by external support from international financial institutions and bilateral donors.[13] Following independence in 2011, the government of South Sudan formulated the South Sudan Development Plan (SSDP) 2011-2013- later extended to 2016, as the country's guiding framework for development to improve human development and security, socio-economic progress and conflict prevention in the country. The co-chairs of the SSDP working groups were representatives of international development partners from the African Development Bank (AfDB); the UK Department for International Development (DFID); the Joint Donor Team, Norway, United Nations; the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the World Bank. [14] The SSDP, though criticized for being donor-driven[15], aimed at: improving governance; achieving rapid rural transformation to improve livelihoods and expand employment opportunities;
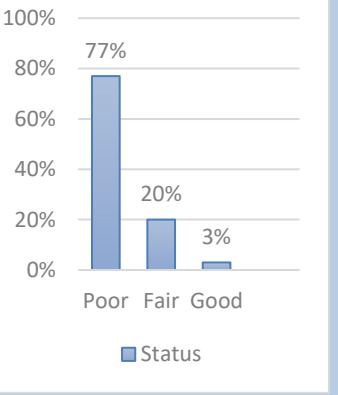
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[13] UNICEF South Sudan (2017). National Budget Brief: Fiscal Year 2017/2018.
[14] Republic of South Sudan (2011). South Sudan Development Plan. Retrieved from http://www.grss-mof.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/RSS_SSDP.pdf
[15] The World Bank Group (2017). South Sudan Governance Analysis: Building sustainable public-sector capacity in a challenging context.

improving and expanding education and health services; and deepening peacebuilding and improving security[16]. However, the 2012 drop in global oil prices and the dispute with the Sudan forced the government to adopt some economic austerity measures. The subsequent eruption of the civil wars in 2013 and 2016 further challenged the implementation of the SSDP. The government reoriented expenditures towards the security/defense sectors whereas the donors channeled their aid support towards emergencies and humanitarian relief in the country through the UN and non-governmental organizations. In the budget speech on the fiscal year 2017/2018 at parliament, the South Sudan Minister of Finance, reported that the budget would be entirely funded by national resources prioritizing efforts to consolidate peace through the national dialogue and security sector reform, and provision of basic social services in the areas of education and health.[17]The security and public sectors were allocated the largest share of the budget with the least going towards the social services. 15% was allocated to Peace building efforts with only 5% allocated to the provision of social services such as health and education, which is far below the global benchmarks.[18]

The IMF estimates that the total South Sudan budget in the fiscal year 2017/2018 was less than US$1.0 billion, whereas official development assistance (ODA) was projected to be around US$1.75 billion[19]. Although public financing is committed by the government, it is still limited and prone to shocks of the global oil prices and conflicts. Moreover, the ODA is channeled towards humanitarian support efforts, implying foreign support is still required to provide social services. Thus, the need for partners like FCA to continue their interventions in support of the realization of the critical Rights to Peace, Quality Education and Livelihood, especially at the local/grassroots which do not often get a fair share from the national budget.

During the field visits, KII and FGDs also brought out perspectives with regards to national development priorities. 77% of them highlighted that the status of national development is very poor as summarized below:

Table 3: Field Perspectives on National Development

CONTEXT	STATUS	KEY POINTERS OF STATUS
National Development	Poor 77%, Fair 20%, Good 3%	• The county's GDP has been falling over the years • Heavy dependency on oil sector revenue. Most of the states have not been able to sufficiently generate their own revenues due to the conflict • Prolonged conflict affects potential Foreign Direct Investments which could boost businesses, trade, employment opportunities • Lack of roads and infrastructure continue to affect access to certain parts of the country

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[16]Republic of South Sudan (2011). South Sudan Development Plan. Retrieved from http://www.grss-mof.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/RSS_SSDP.pdf

[17]Republic of South Sudan (2017). 2017/18 Fiscal Year Budget speech by the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning

[18] UNICEF South Sudan (2017). National Budget Brief: Fiscal Year 2017/2018.

[19]UNICEF South Sudan (2017). National Budget Brief: Fiscal Year 2017/2018. Retrieved from

		• Non-functional government institutions/ ministries, especially at the level of the states and local government. This was observed in all visited field locations where some government officials arrived late to work, and others never returned to office after lunch. This shows regression in development • There is no clear national development plan since 2016. Moreover, the previous South Sudan Development Plan was hardly synchronized with local level development objectives • Respondents have expressed hope that the September 2018 peace deal will result in an increase in oil production and improve the economy

2.3. FCA's priorities in the country/area

Finn Church Aid has long-term partnership with faith-based organizations in fragile environments[20], including South Sudan. The thematic focus areas of FCA in South Sudan are the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P). FCA established an office in Juba in 2010 and has mainly been working through churches in South Sudan to facilitate community dialogues to ensure peaceful coexistence and conflict prevention and resolution between communities[21]. The organization has been engaging actors at the grassroots/rural areas to improve the quality of education through construction of schools to provide safe study environments and teacher trainings to raise the standard of teaching in areas affected by conflicts. For instance, in the Greater Pibor area affected by the Murle- Dinka, Bor-Nuer conflicts and Murle age-sets fights, FCA in collaboration with the local authorities constructed schools and established Parent-Teacher Associations to foster the parents' interest in ensuring collective responsibility in managing the schools and their children's education. In Yei, Yei River State, FCA worked with faith-based partners such as Reconcile[22] to conduct peacebuilding and reconciliation initiatives. By 2017, FCA had implemented projects and programmes in the former Lakes State, former Jonglei State and former Central Equatorial State[23]. FCA is also an active player in the provision of vocational training and education in South Sudan[24] In light of the recently signed Revitalized Peace Agreement, this role will be more in support of the national development policies and objectives pivotal in equipping youths, women and communities with education and livelihood skills to cement peace building efforts in the states most affected by the current conflict.

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[20]Finn Church Aid South Sudan (2017). Finn Church Aid South Sudan Country Strategy 2018-2023

[21] https://www.kirkonulkomaanapu.fi/en/work/africa/south-sudan/

[22] Reconcile is a faith based national non-governmental organization based in Yei but operates all over South Sudan

[23] From fca.org

[24] UNESCO (2018). Rapid Assessment of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Sector in South Sudan: Responding to TVET and Vocational Provision in Crisis

2.4. Main Disaster Risks

Communities in South Sudan are vulnerable to climate change and depleting natural resources. South Sudan is prone to seasonal floods and drought. The country receives most of its rains between April and September. Heavy rains cause floods in the low-lying areas of the country from late April, affecting agriculture and making most roads impassable whereas below average rainfall causes poor harvests, livestock losses and water shortages[25]. The heavy rains in some areas destroy homes, schools and crops leading to food insecurity in the affected households.

For instance, some counties in the Greater Pibor area of Boma State witness flooding because of rivers bursting their banks. In 2017, in the town of Pibor, the floods destroyed homes, swept away crops, pupils were cut off from their schools and access to the area was affected.[26] The prevalence of waterborne disease such as Cholera is common during the rainy seasons throughout the country. Environmental hazards as a result of oil drilling in the Greater Upper Nile region have affected communities manifested in health risks and water contamination[27]. In the future, due to climate change, rainfall patterns are expected to become increasingly erratic, increasing the incidences of both floods and droughts. Future occurrences in terms of the frequency and severity of extreme climate events and depletion of natural resources will likely lead to: a) food insecurity through failed crop yields and loss of livestock thus further exacerbating the food security issue; b) internal conflict among communities as a result of competition over scarce natural resources will increase in certain parts of the country; c) water flow in major rivers is reducing and small streams in parts of South Sudan are drying up, thus causing water scarcity; d) higher incidences of disease spread such as cholera, typhoid and dysentery as a result of droughts and floods; e) prolonged droughts in addition to human starvation are causing food crises, loss of livestock, internal displacement and migration of people to neighboring countries. Findings during FGDs and KII in all the sites visited reveal impact of climate change on households. For example, in Pibor, the women interviewed and an official in the ministry of Agriculture and Livestock gave examples of how the flooding of the rivers has affected agriculture and livestock activities. A local government official in Yei and an RRC official in Wau expressed concern on impact of climate change related conflicts over water resources between pastoralists and farming communities on food security in some parts of their states.

However, the leading risk to livelihood in South Sudan has been armed conflicts between government and opposition or amongst ethnic groups. As a result of the conflict, it was reported that trees in Yei River State were cut down for wood and charcoal in large scale and sold in the absence of government's regulatory authorities. The IDPs are straining limited natural resources since trees around the protection camps are cut for fuel[28]. For example, in Wau State, some schools request students to cut trees to provide firewood for the cooking of their school meals. However, the signing of the Revitalized Peace Agreement, if successfully implemented is expected to lead to a reduction in conflict and provide the space and peaceful environment necessary to support programming aimed at realization of the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P).

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[25] World Food Programme, South Sudan Strategic Plan 2018-2020.
[26] Relief web (2017). South Sudan floods- September 2017. Retrieved from https://reliefweb.int/disaster/fl-2017-000137-ssd
[27] World Health Organization (2017). Retrieved from https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/who-and-partners-respond-flood-crises-former-northern-bahr-el-ghazal-and-upper
[28] Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (2018). Emergency Livelihood Response Programme Emergency.
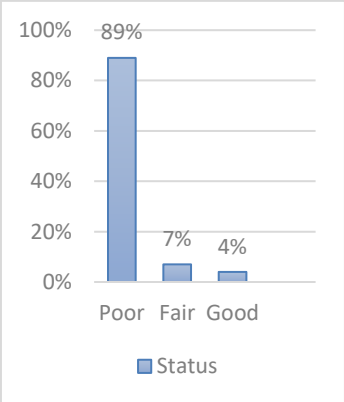
3.0 PROBLEM ANALYSIS

3.1 RESULTS AND FINDINGS:

From the findings and analysis of data provided by KIIs and FGDs, the study brought out evidence of the understanding2 by respondents on the context of South Sudan with regards to the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P using data from the four sampled areas namely: Juba, Yei, Pibor and Wau. The analysis also highlights the prominent pointers that attribute to the respondent's understanding of the situation or context. The summary of this understanding of the context is categorized into three broad areas of good, fair and poor. From these findings, there was an overwhelming evidence by respondents (75% average) that the general context in South Sudan is poor as summarized below:
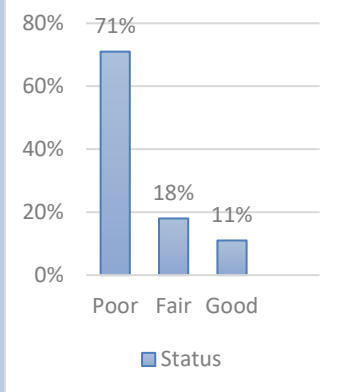
Table 4: Key Pointers of Status of the Context

CONTEXT	STATUS	KEY POINTERS OF STATUS
The Right to Quality Education (R2QE)		• High illiteracy levels. According to UNESCO, the number of illiterate people above the age of 15yrs is 70% • Inadequate funding of education from the government resulting in weak education institutions and deficient services. • Low morale of Education Ministry officials and teachers at the national and state levels due to unpaid and low salaries. For example, senior state education ministry officials in Yei, Pibor and Wau bemoaned the poor working conditions. • School infrastructure destroyed by the fighting remain in ruins. Others are still occupied by armed actors. This was evident in Yei River and Wau states • Low school attendance and progression rates due to conflict and long distances to schools. This was expressed by respondents in Yei, Pibor, Boma State and Wau State. • Inadequate qualified teaching staff due to high staff turnover. Most qualified teachers move to other professions due to low teacher salaries. • English language barrier among teachers is a challenge in teaching. Most qualified teachers graduated from Sudanese institutes and universities where Arabic

		was language of instruction. For instance, majority of teachers in Boma and Wau states requested basic English training to mitigate the challenge.
		• Slow roll out of the new national education curriculum in the states since its launch in 2015 has impacted the reform process of the education system there by affecting quality
		• Inadequate learning materials and learning spaces occasioned by the conflict.
		• Hunger has contributed to high absenteeism, especially in many rural areas across the country as evidenced by the sites visited during the study. According to a state ministry official in Wau, pupils prefer schools in town where food is provided to learners.
		• Existence of negative cultural practices affects girls access to education.
		• TVET services have collapsed due to lack funding and the conflict
The Right to Livelihood (R2L)		• Unemployment of youths in South Sudan is on the rise amidst a deteriorating economy. Many respondents informed that high unemployment and idleness is a driver of conflict among the youths. For example, respondents in Pibor attributed age-sets fights to unemployment and idleness.
		• Disruption of crop and livestock farming due to conflict was raised across all sites. This finding from respondents is backed by FAO 2018 data which indicate that the main food and income generating activities -crop, livestock and fisheries - for at least 85% of the South Sudanese population has been affected by the current conflict[29].

[29]Interview with FAO, Juba.

		• Access to land by IDPs. This was most evident in Yei • Disasters such as drought and occasional floods negatively impact crop and livestock farming. Lack of awareness and sensitization on the impact of climate change on livelihoods further compounds the situation. • Poor agriculture extension services including lack of qualified extension officers contribute to poor agriculture output. • Lack of infrastructure and roads, especially to the marginalized communities in the rural remote areas entails that service delivery in all sectors remain poor. • Citizens skeptical about resuming livelihood activities such as farming or businesses due to constant fear about resurgence of conflict. Though they remain doubtful about implementation of the 2018 peace agreement, they are hopeful that if implemented it would boost their livelihood opportunities.
The Right to Peace (R2P)		• Prolonged conflict since 2013 causing death of civilians, humanitarian catastrophe, loss of livelihoods and disruption of services such as education, agriculture and health. • Grievances and the politicization of ethnicity. Political and economic exclusion is increasingly manifest in the country. For example, in Wau and Yei, respondents informed that their communities that were once ethnically homogenous are now strongly mobilized along ethnic lines. • Weakened social cohesion resulting into raptured community relationships, growing intolerance and revenge killings. This is a result of conflict, politicization of ethnicity and a general lack of justice, law

		and order services due to the weak State authority at county, payam and boma levels [30].
		• High prevalence of trauma as a result of conflict.
		• Women and children are increasingly becoming victims and vulnerable due to the displacements caused by the violence. Mostly these were some of the outcomes from women FGDs in all the sites.
		• Lack of meaningful progress in the implementation of the September 2018 signed peace agreement. Many respondents remained doubtful if this will be implemented and appear not to know what really this agreement is all about and its implications.
		• Weak institutions at the state level contribute to protracted conflict and lack of domestic accountability. For example, institutions such as judiciary, security and rule of law sector are weak and politicized while conflict early warning mechanisms remain weak. This finding closely mirror a UNDP report (2018) on Needs Assessment on Peacebuilding and Stabilization in Greater Jonglei.
		• High presence of Small and Light Weapons (SALWs) in civilians' hands is heightening insecurity and fueling conflicts (these are used in revenge attacks cattle raiding and armed robberies). This finding from respondents is backed by UN Report which indicates that South Sudan has an estimated 720,000 to 3 million guns. The estimated rate of private gun ownership (both licit and illicit) is 28.23 firearms per 100 people. 55.3% of deaths in South Sudan have been attributed to firearms[31].
		• There is still a large section of the population who are either internally

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[30] Lowest administrative locality/ villages
[31] UN (2017): Perception survey on Small arms and light weapons

displaced or refugees. Large numbers still in UNMISS Protection of Civilian Camps (POCs) and in need of humanitarian assistance. This was particularly evident in Wau and Jubek states. This assertion by respondents is backed by UNHCR 2018 data which projects that there are nearly 2.4 million South Sudanese seeking protection and shelter in neighboring countries- 85% are women and children, and 1.85 million internally displaced. [32]

The study also identified the most prominent interventions by various actors on the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P) and their impact as highlighted by respondents during fieldwork. This is summarized in the table below:

Table 5: Context Interventions and Impacts

CONTEXT	INTERVENTION	IMPACT
The Right to Quality Education (R2QE)	• NGOs support to the education sector to improve access and quality. For example, in Pibor, the FCA: provides support to the Ministry of Education in terms of stationary and office furniture; contributes to teachers' salaries; rehabilitates schools and building new learning centers and provision of scholastic materials. On the other hand, partners such as Nile Hope run campaigns to encourage school enrollment and attendance, especially the Girl Child; while ACROSS focuses its support to secondary schools' teachers in terms of monthly stipend • WFP has been providing school feeding under the MEALS Program • UN through the UNMISS Quick Impact Projects rehabilitates	• The education sector continues to provide minimal services • An improved access and attendance by leaners • The external support from development partners has cushioned the collapse of the sector • Improved motivation and retention rates amongst teachers • Some schools have been vacated by armed actors

[32] UNHCR (2018). Supplementary Appeal: Responding to the Needs of Displaced South Sudanese and Refugees. Retrieved from https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UNHCR%20South%20Sudan%202018%20Supplementary%20Appeal_March%202018.pdf

	schools damaged by conflict in various states • Government has been facilitating the army to vacate the occupied schools in war theatres around Yei River and Wau states	
The Right to Livelihood (R2L)	• Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to support women socio-economic empowerment through projects such as making cooking stoves and soap with the women groups in Yei and Wau as some of cases in point • FCA built women and youth centers to support skills enhancement in business to expand the scope of opportunities • Distribution of agriculture starter packs such as seeds, agriculture tools, fishing nets and livestock drug kits by NGOs such as the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)	• Improved income in several households, especially among women as a result of the business skills training • Expected improvement in house hold food security as a result of the agriculture start packs
The Right to Peace (R2P)	• The Peace partners (government and opposition) have started to implement some provisions of the Revitalized 2018 Peace Agreement, especially the security arrangements in areas under their control. • Dissemination of the Revitalized 2018 Peace agreement to the rural areas through the media and parliamentarians to rebuild trust as directed by the government supported by partners such as UN and other NGOs. • UNMISS continues to support Protection of Civilians through keeping some of its sites open for IDPs • Government through RRC, in collaboration with partners, supports return and reintegration of IDPs and refugees • Promoting women in peace building including sensitization of	• There has been improved security in urban centers like Juba, Yei, Pibor and Wau • Reduction in fighting • Improved number of returnees as evidenced in Yei and Wau. However, the recent resurgence in fighting undermines the return process. • Expected improved social cohesion resulting from initiatives such as the women and youth centers being constructed by partners such as FCA in Pibor • Expected improvement in the civil-military relations • Strengthened skills of local peace actors in conflict management

	women on the gender provisions of the agreement by government supported by partners such as UN and NGOs.	
	• Trust building measures between the citizenry and the security sector. This has been successful in Wau town undertaken by local NGO CEPO as expressed by its official.	
	• Peacebuilding interventions by NGOs and the UN to strengthen social cohesion all over the country. Case in point FCA is building a youth and women centers in Pibor to improve peaceful co-existence and active citizenship. FCA has been promoting and supporting community dialogue process, training and supporting of peace committees	

Furthermore, the study also brought out key informants' knowledge on the existing strategies towards realization of the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P) and identified the challenges/ gaps in the strategies:

Table 6: Context Strategies and Gaps

| CONTEXT	STRATEGIES	CHALLENGES/ GAPS
The Right to Quality Education(RQE)	• NGOs support to the education sector to improve access and quality. For example, in Pibor, the FCA: provides support to the Ministry of Education in terms of stationary and office furniture; contributes to teachers' salaries; rehabilitates schools and building new learning centers and provision of scholastic materials. On the other hand, partners such as Nile Hope run campaigns to encourage school enrollment and attendance, especially the Girl Child; while ACROSS focuses its support to secondary schools' teachers in terms of monthly stipend	• Service delivery in education is still challenged by corruption especially in the remote areas such as embezzlement of teachers' salaries • Delay in teacher salaries • Education services are often centered in the headquarters at the disadvantage of the remote and outlying areas • Over reliance on partners by government which is not sustainable • Persistent retrogressive social and cultural

	• WFP has been providing school feeding under the MEALS Program • UN through the UNMISS Quick Impact Projects rehabilitates schools damaged by conflict in various states Government has been facilitating the army to vacate the occupied schools in war theatres around Yei River and Wau states	practices still devalue the education of the child, specially the girl child • Non- sustainability of the school feeding programme • Challenges of integration of IDPs children in schools of host communities • Most schools are still in ruins others occupied by fighters. Moreover, some of the vacated schools are in areas where civilians still fear to return
The Right to Livelihood (R2L)	• Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to support women socio-economic empowerment through projects such as making cooking stoves and soap with the women groups in Yei and Wau as some of cases in point • FCA built women and youth centers to support skills enhancement in business to expand the scope of opportunities • Distribution of agriculture starter packs such as seeds, agriculture tools, fishing nets and livestock drug kits by NGOs such as the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)	• There is still little done in terms of revitalizing TVET initiatives, especially in the states • Continued political uncertainty and the conflict discourages would-be funders towards TVET initiatives • TVET activities are often centered in the headquarters at the disadvantage of the remote and outlying areas • Difficulties to access micro finance • Lack of trained agriculture extension officers, especially to the rural populations who are heavily dependent on agriculture • Access to most parts of the country becomes a challenge in the rainy season
The Right to Peace (R2)	• The Peace partners (government and opposition) have started to implement some provisions of the Revitalized 2018 Peace Agreement, especially the security arrangements in areas under their control. • Dissemination of the Revitalized 2018 Peace agreement to the rural	• Slow implementation of the peace agreement. • Not all guns have been silenced. • Lack of clear reintegration plans for IDPs and refugees at the state level which affects sustainable return

areas through the media and parliamentarians to rebuild trust as directed by the government supported by partners such as the UN and NGOs. • UNMISS continues to support Protection of Civilians through keeping some of its sites open for IDPs • Government through RRC, in collaboration with partners, supports return and reintegration of IDPs and refugees • Promoting women in peace building including sensitization of women on the gender provisions of the agreement by government supported by partners such as UN and NGOs. • Trust building measures between the citizenry and the security sector. This has been successful in Wau town undertaken by local NGO CEPO as expressed by its official. • Peacebuilding interventions by NGOs and the UN to strengthen social cohesion all over the country. Case in point FCA is building a youth and women centers in Pibor to improve peaceful co-existence and active citizenship. FCA has been promoting and supporting community dialogue process, training and supporting of peace committees	• Lack of comprehensive disarmament to curb Proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW). • Weak community conflict early warning mechanisms. • Inadequate trauma healing support • Deep mistrust amongst communities/ ethnic groups still exist further weakening social cohesion initiatives • Lack of reforms to strengthen the judiciary, security and rule of law institutions. • Constrained space for peacebuilding work due to the National Security Service Act (2014), the Media Authority Act (2013) and the NGO act

From the above analysis on the status of the context, existing strategies, identified challenges and gaps in these strategies towards the realization of the Rights to Quality Education, Right to Livelihood, and Right to Peace the study indicates that South Sudan is prone to high **risks and vulnerability**. Data gathered through FDGs and KIIs as evidenced in analysis above indicate that a large number of households in South Sudan is vulnerable to extreme poor social-economic and political conditions and that this trend is on an upward trajectory. This is as a result of conflict, weak governance systems, a non-performing economy, unfavorable weather patterns and lack of awareness on the impact of climate change on their livelihood. Respondents noted that people from such poor households have a low resilience to shocks and stresses. The other associated risk to livelihood is sickness resulting in increased morbidity rates from malaria (dry season but also year-round) and diarrhea/ cholera especially (rainy season) reducing people's ability to work

earn eat when dependent on a daily hand to mouth existence. For example, according to most respondents from Yei, Pibor and Wau, the common coping strategies at times of shock are to reduce expenditure and consumption (eat less); collect wild foods, sleep without eating, increasing malnutrition rates especially amongst children and for women either female head household, daughters or wife, whilst husband is away engaging in conflict. Major shocks like this disproportionately affect especially: children, orphans, women headed households, the elderly, disabled and chronically sick who already with very precarious safety net support mechanisms. The cycle of vulnerability resulting from conflict, poverty and climate change as a result has led to high prevalence of extreme poor households. The Conceptual Model of Extreme Poverty provides a good summary of the above narrative about South Sudan and is presented in Figure 3 below:

Figure 2: Conceptual Model of Extreme Poverty
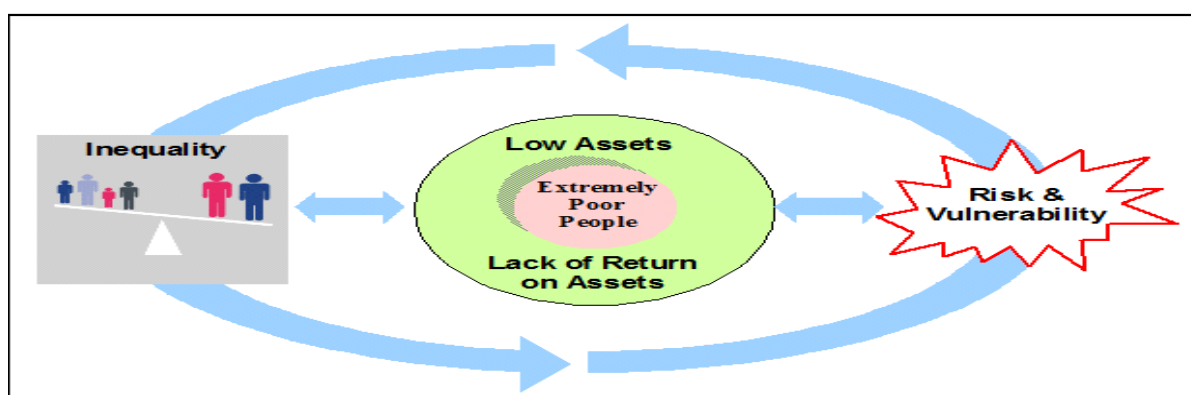
Note: Consultant's Conceptualization

Meanwhile, in line with figure 2 above, table 7 below presents a three dimension of vulnerability in the South Sudan context against the backdrop of the peace and development nexus.

Table 7: Paradigms of Vulnerability

Few assets & low returns on those assets: • Low return from agriculture • Low return from markets (labor/ product/ input) • Poor access to savings &credit • High prevalence of diseases • High levels of malnutrition • Lack of quality education	**Inequalities**: • Male dominant society • Low skill set & education • Poor access to health & WASH facilities • Lack of representation & 'voice' • Social, economic & political exclusion
	Risk & vulnerability: • High prevalence of intra and inter-communal conflict • Low resilience to shocks • Displacement • Drought • High disease burden

Issues of **inequality** abound in the communities visited. **Access to services:** many of the issues faced by the community revolve around access to education, healthcare, livelihood sources/agriculture, and WASH facilities as has been highlighted above. As the conflict in South Sudan enters its sixth year in 2019, the humanitarian crisis has continued to intensify and expand, on a costly trajectory for the country's people and their outlook on the future. The cumulative effects of four years of conflict and multiple, inter-related crises grow ever more debilitating. The compounding effects of widespread violence and sustained economic decline have further diminished the capacity of people to face threats to their health, safety and livelihoods resulting in shocks such as disease outbreaks and the collapse of markets.

3.2. Synergies among the FCA Focus Programme Areas: The Peace and Development Nexus

Conflict has blocked the path towards inclusive and sustainable growth, built on a diversified economy that would create employment and livelihoods for the poor and war-affected populations. The expectations of citizens for justice, rule of law, accountability, reconciliation, and healing has yet to be met. Years of protracted violence, resulting mass displacement and sustained economic decline have triggered an escalating humanitarian crisis in South Sudan. More than half of the population need lifesaving assistance and protection. As the gap between needs and resources widens, the reality of escalating needs and an inevitable decrease in resources will exacerbate the humanitarian crisis in South Sudan and likely result in increased loss of life. Consequently, humanitarian and development actors, including FCA are increasingly looking to bridge the divide between meeting emergency needs and achieving development goals, with a focus on reducing vulnerability and building resilient communities. As discovered during field visits to Wau, Pibor and Yei, respondents bemoaned how conflict has affected their communities and that this constrains their ability to build capacity to become self-reliant in the current insecure environment. Sustained violence along political, ethnic, and communal lines has heightened instability and overwhelmed efforts to develop or maintain coping capacities. Respondents are of the view that building community resilience and reducing long-term dependency on an external finite pool of emergency aid cannot be achieved unless the political, peace and security environment is also transformed to foster sustained community-owned recovery and development.

Despite the many challenges, there are opportunities where context specific strategic planning and alignment of resources can bring about meaningful changes in the short and medium term. The interlinked, mutually reinforcing notion of peace and development has been promoted since the 2005 UN World Summit. Addressing the trajectory of escalating humanitarian requirements – saving lives sustainably – while building the foundations to reduce fragility and vulnerability in the long term is achievable in South Sudan if pursued through a more integrated response across development, humanitarian and peacebuilding entities. The approach of the FCA is therefore, closely aligned with the principles of the New Way of Working[33], creating synergies between its focus areas of education, livelihoods and peace thereby supporting the realization of collective outcomes that reduce risk, vulnerability and overall levels of humanitarian need over time.

Respondents informed that efforts to promote reconciliation, create stability and strengthen resilience through education and livelihood support are critical in equal measure and are also mutually-reinforcing. The respondents view that as standalone initiatives, each adds value to potentially elicit short-term results and changes to people's lives. However, when harnessed

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[33] The objective is to enable activities that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability by working together towards collective outcomes over multiple-year time frames and based on comparative advantage in each context. The New Way of Working falls within the Agenda 2030 commitment to "leave no one behind".

together the chance of success to build peace and self-reliance over a medium / longer period is significantly enhanced. The figure below is the consultant's conceptualization of linkages between the three focus areas as visualized from perspectives the respondents.

Figure 3: Peace and Development Nexus Model
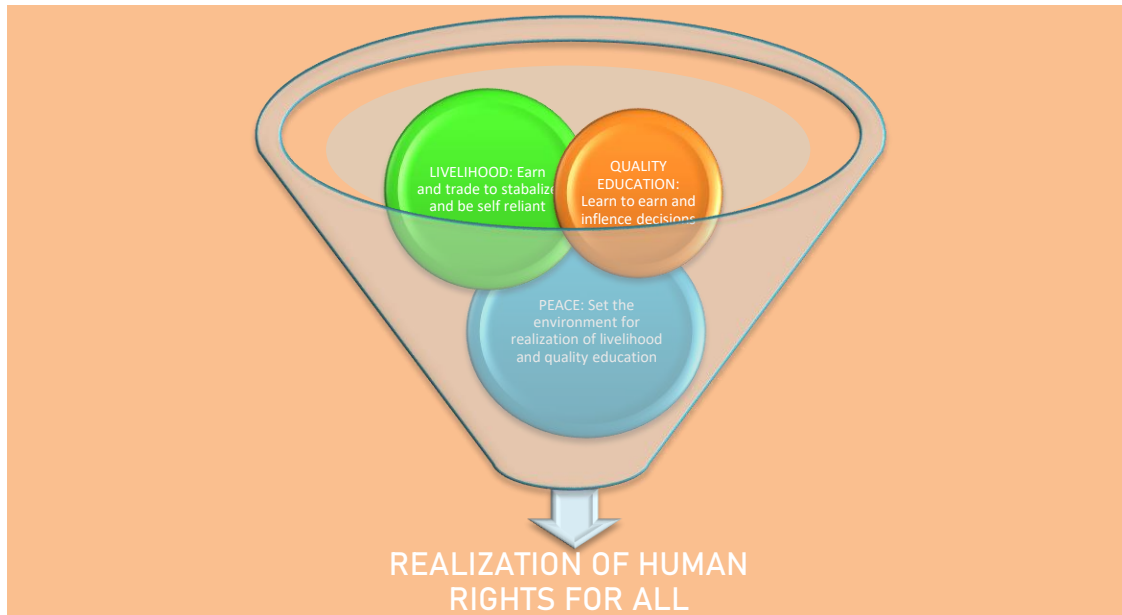
Note: Consultant's Conceptualization based on respondent's perspectives.

4.0 IDENTIFYING STAKEHOLDERS, ANALYSIS OF THEIR CAPABILITIES AND CHALLENGES

As part of service delivery in South Sudan, there exists a wide range of stakeholders who are mandated as duty bearers in ensuring this is done. On the other hand, the citizens are identified as rights-holders who have a legal right to claim these rights and ensure domestic accountability on the part of the duty bearers in the provision of the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P). The study generated key informants 'opinion on who are the most influential duty bearers in effort to improve the rights in the context and their roles and limitations as given below:

Table 8: Stakeholder Mapping

DUTY BEARERS	INFLUENCE	ROLES	LIMITATIONS
Government/ politicians	23%	Make key decisions on programming and development priorities in their constituencies. Can play a positive or negative role in the success of any	• The central government is faced with funding challenges to pay civil servants and deliver services.

		programmatic intervention	• The state or local government often gets very small budget from the national budget to finance its own initiatives. • Limited capacity of civil servants to effectively execute service delivery, especially at state level
Religious Leaders	19%	Play an important role in national cohesion. Very well respected	• Limited capacity in terms of funding for country outreach programs
Community Elders	16%	Play a unifying role in communities. Administration of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms.	• Diminishing respect to their traditional roles due to urbanization and modernization, especially by the youths. • Politicization of traditional leadership • Limited skills in conflict resolution
Security personnel	13%	Are key to providing security in NGO intervention areas.	• Undisciplined personnel who create deep mistrust of security personnel amongst civilians • Can also play a negative role and compromise humanitarian principles.
Humanitarian Aid/ Development Partners	15%	Very critical in provision of life saving services	• Limited access to remote/ marginalized communities due to poor roads or insecurity. • Government outsourcing of service delivery responsibility • Government compromise of humanitarian principles
Civil Society	9%	Enhance domestic accountability	• Inadequate funding • Lack of proper financial accountability to donors • Limited capacity to effectively carry out functions • Constrained or restricted operational spaces
Private Sector	5%	Stimulate economic growth. Support to community through social corporate responsibility	• Stagnating economy • Constrained operational environment

4.1. SWOT Analysis of the Capacities of Duty-Bearers and Rights-Holders

4.1.1. Analysis of Duty-Bearers: Capacities, Resources, Skills and Motivations

In executing their mandate towards the realization of these Rights, the duty bearers are confronted by various factors that contribute to or limit the level of impact achieved. The duty bearers identified by the study are the government, national and international NGOs and the faith-based groups and CSOs. During FGDs and KIIs in all the sites visited, several factors were identified that present existing strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of the duty bearers in executing their mandate. The matrix below presents a summary analysis of these capacities, resources, skills and motivations of the duty bearers in South Sudan in the realization of the Right to Quality Education, the Right to Peace and the Right to Livelihoods. The observations and findings in the matrix are derived from the literature review and consultations and observations during the field visits.

Table 9: Duty Bearers SWOT Matrix

SWOT Matrix One: Duty Bearers	
Strengths	**Weakness**
- Existence of legal mandate by Government to formulate policies and implement programmes - High expertise among INGOs and National NGOs to support implementation - Better understanding of the context by Government and National NGOs - Easy access to right bearers by Government and national NGOs - Positive role of religion in national cohesion	- Weak under resourced Government Institutions which affects service delivery - Lack of political will to implement certain programmes - Weak CSO institutions and co-ordination - Lack of democratic space - Weak rule of law and judicial systems - Weak systems of accountability - Aid dependency syndrome - Poor economic and fiscal management - Weak nationalism - Demoralized and Unmotivated civil servants due to unpaid and delayed salaries and poor work conditions - Inadequate human resource capacity and institutional capacity
Opportunities	**Threats**
- Presence of large number of international partners supporting, education, livelihood and peacebuilding programmes - Availability of resources by partners - Citizens fatigue towards war - Abundance of natural resources Revitalized	- High insecurity - Militarization of the state - Restriction of the NGO operating space - Climate change (Flood, deforestation and droughts) that affect food security - High corruption - Negative politicization of ethnicity & Nepotism - Marginalization - Donor fatigue

Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCISS)	• Youth Bulge • Uncertainty in the political order • High illiteracy • High unemployment rates • High presence of Small Arms and Light Weapons(SALW) in the rural remote areas • History of failed peace agreements in South Sudan • Rising inflation rate

From the SWOT analysis above, it is clear that great opportunities are available for leveraging the realization of the Right to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P). However, a plethora of entrenched factors under threats and weaknesses such as high insecurity resulting from conflict, negative ethnicity and weak Government Institutions have severely and negatively impacted programming in other sectors such as education and livelihood leading to high illiteracy levels and food insecurity among other things in the country.

4.1.2. Analysis of Right-Holders: Capacities, Resources, Skills and Motivations

In terms of the Rights-Holders, the biggest opportunity available for ensuring that the Right to Quality Education, the Right to Peace, and the Right to Livelihood is realized is that there is generally fatigue by ordinary citizens towards war and have remained resilient over the years despite the many threats confronting them. A sultan/ chief in Pibor expressed how he does not wish the current and coming generations to go through what they endured during the Sudan civil wars. The Right-Holders, although very vulnerable, remain resilient and willing to claim their rights to improve their livelihoods. However, the high illiteracy levels and ignorance remain major barrier for the Right-Holders to know their rights and claim from the duty barriers, especially in the rural communities. In addition to illiteracy, economic and cultural barriers have also contributed to the weak capacities of the Right-Holders to claim Quality Education and Livelihood. Nevertheless, civil society groups (community and faith-based organizations) and traditional leaders provide an opportunity and give voice to the marginalized Right-Holders and act as their mouthpiece. For example, at the height of the 2016 conflict in Juba, Yei and Wau towns, the churches often preached messages of peace and reconciliation expressing the suffering of the people in the presence of senior decision makers from the government and the military at a time when very few people dared to speak on the conflict out of fear In Wau, some women formed groups from across the ethnic divide to visit each other to rebuild peaceful co-existence. The Pibor Women Peace committee members also speak for their communities on issues that affect women and children. Finn Church can build partnerships with such local and national actors to advocate for the rights of the holders by developing the partner's capacities to do local awareness and sensitization campaigns on issues of livelihood, climate change, human rights, quality education and child rights, especially the girl child. Below is a matrix that summarizes their capacities, resources, skills and motivations.

Table 10: Rights Holders SWOT Matrix

SWOT Matrix Two: Rights Bearers	
Strengths	**Weakness**
- Existence of legal right as a citizen - The politicians heavily relay on their community support to retain positions in government or parliament - Their vote in an event of a democratic process - High resilience to external shocks such as conflict and climate change effects - Better knowledge of their context to support implementation - Best suited to understand their culture and norms of community	- High Illiteracy levels - Lack of knowledge on their rights and citizens accountability - Weak nationalism - Negative traditional practices and beliefs - Relief aid dependency syndrome - Failure to hold duty bearers accountable
Opportunities	**Threats**
- Presence of large number of international partners, international NGOs, national NGOs, FBOs and CBOs supporting, education, livelihood and peacebuilding programmes - The church has been a mouthpiece for the oppressed and marginalized - Traditional chiefs, at least in the rural/ remote areas, still play a role in key community decisions and dispute resolution - Availability of resources by partners - Citizens fatigue towards war - Abundance of natural resources - Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCISS)	- High insecurity - Militarized society - Restricted democratic space to engage on rights - Climate change (Flood, deforestation and droughts) that affect household food security - High disease burden and morbidity rates resulting from poor medical services - High corruption - Negative ethnicity & Nepotism - Youth Bulge - Uncertainly of political order - High illiteracy - High unemployment rates - High presence of Small Arms and light Weapons (SALW)

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FCA'S PRIORITIES IN THE COUNTRY

This section of the context analysis provides a conclusion and recommendations.

5.1. CONCLUSION

Since independence, South Sudan has been engaged in cycles of political and communal violence which have tremendously affected its development trajectory. The war weary but resilient population's rights to peace, access to quality education and livelihood have been negatively impacted by environmental hazards and climate change. However, man-made conflicts have been the most devastating marked with massive human rights violations and displacement of civilians. The government on the other hand has been facing economic and security challenges restraining it from executing its legal duties towards the population, especially the marginalized rural communities. The government's weakness and failure as duty bearer have been the subject of various regional and international human rights reports. Recommendations were issued in response to the poor human rights reports urging the government to address the concerns of its stakeholders and development partners but its political will to act to improve the situation has been very weak. Nevertheless, stakeholders such as the FCA has embraced the moral duty to support and empower some of the marginalised populations towards the realisation of their rights to peace, quality education and livelihood. In pursuit of these objectives, FCA should continue to ensure that its operational environment remains conducive and adheres to local context needs in line with national policies and legislations and recognized international best practices and principles. Thus, in its approach, FCA should continue to abide by these set of principle enablers of success:

➢ All actions/activities should adopt a conflict sensitive approach/ do no harm, that is, adopt an approach that seeks to reduce existing or potential tensions among communities in targeted intervention areas. This should include periodic updating of the context analysis to ensure close monitoring of the interaction between the context of the operational environment and FCA interventions. In addition, ensure the continued consultation of beneficiary in identification and implementation of interventions to ensure community ownership with Pibor being a good case in point.

➢ Continue to integrate the four principles of the Human Rights- based Approach (HRBA) in the programming: non-discriminatory, transparency, participation and accountability in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes. Human Rights should always be a centerpiece in program design.

➢ Inclusive program planning and implementation through modalities that are rooted in extensive consultations with the Government at the national and state levels a

➢ The New Way of working which falls within the Agenda 2030 commitment to "leave no one behind. The objective is to enable activities that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability by working together towards collective outcomes over multiple-year periods and based on comparative advantage in each context.

➢ Coherence and coordination in the implementation of future activities to provide and ensure a platform for synergy among all stakeholders and a coherent

mechanism for support and complementarity to the existing peacebuilding efforts through other FCA program interventions in livelihood support and education. Some of the suggested steps include continued partnerships within the ACT Alliance Partners as well the strengthening FCA role in the Livelihood, and Food Security Cluster at national level. While at the state levels, FCA to continue actively participate in State Peace Actors Working Group Meetings and the Humanitarian Forums.

➢ Implementation should draw the positives and build on the achievements and lessons learnt from existing programs.

➢ There should be a clear exit strategy if project comes to an end or field office is to leave operation location due to insecurity. One such way of ensuring this is the continued strengthening local capacity of state level institutions and community groups as is the case of what FCA is doing in Pibor in terms of enhancing the capacity of State Ministry of Education and support to women and youth groups. This builds the resilience of communities and ensures sustainability of projects in the long term.

➢ Gender equality and the empowerment of youths and women to become constructively engaged in livelihood activities for peace building is central to the mandate of FCA and intrinsic to its development approach. More critically the empowerment of the youths who represent almost 70% of the population to prevent this youth bulge from being negatively utilized politically along ethnic lines at the current juncture of the history of South Sudan which is detrimental to state and nation building[34].

5.2. RECOMENDATIONS

Based on the current context in South Sudan, the short to medium term programmatic success of FCA in the realization of the Rights to Quality Education (R2QE), the Right to Livelihood (R2L) and the Right to Peace (R2P) will entail peace consolidation and strengthening social cohesion and resilience of communities. This can be achieved through a set of recommendation covering the three focus areas as follows:

5.2.1 The Right to Peace

o Provide support to community capacity on psychosocial and trauma healing for victims of war especially victims of gender-based violence as recommended in the Human Rights reports and field visit consultations. Wau which has been severely affected during the 2016 eruption of violence is a proposed site for a center on trauma healing.[35]

o Support local peace committees in facilitating community dialogues on truth telling/trauma healing sessions to promote reconciliation. Most respondents in Yei and Wau recommended a reconciliation process involving different ethnic groups, which had co-existed peacefully in the areas before the 2016 conflict.

o Capacity building through training on conflict management and mediation for local actors and local peace committees such as the Boma Peace Commission and women clubs spearheading peace initiatives[36]. For example, an FGD with a

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[35] Meeting with national NGO in Wau on 2 November 2018

[36] According to the mapping and assessment report by UNDP (2018), the need for such committees is so high and the available ones definitely cannot accommodate the continuously increasing local issues. Furthermore, there are other forms of local peace mechanisms that might be

women's club in Pibor revealed that they are doing a lot in terms of communal conflict management with support from FCA but the group expressed interest in additional skills training in business. Ultimately, this would not only build local capacities in terms of conflict management but also ensure sustainability of initiatives.

- o Support locally initiated political engagements, reconciliation, and traditional mechanisms between communities to regulate cattle migration and cattle rustling, encourage communities and authorities to mitigate intercommunal conflict and revenge killings. For instance, extend support to pre, during and post pastoral migration dialogues for pastoralists and host communities on peaceful migration processes through conduct of meetings, dialogues, migration conferences.
- o Conduct conflict mapping of major communal conflicts along with details of key interlocutors at local and national level, existing structures and ad hoc mechanisms. Analysis / mapping on inter section collaboration should be strongly considered to inform clear entry points for programming going forward.
- o Contribute to strengthening of community early warning and early response through (1) continued frequent engagements and information sharing with State, County and Payam level authorities, community leaders and other key stakeholders in all areas of operation; (2) field missions for mapping of risks and threats to civilian populations and conflict situational awareness, including at the IDPs sites.
- o Support development of an indicator-based grassroots community early warning system and building of local capacities for its implementation. Indictors could be drawn from baseline data collected through the conflict analysis, as mentioned above.
- o Support to improving social accountability at the local level through capacity building training of Local Government Staff in the Local Government Act and participatory development planning. Findings in UNDP's 2018 report on Needs Assessment on Peacebuilding and Stabilization in Greater Jonglei and field data revealed that the capacity of Local government officials is extremely very weak to support effective service delivery. A strong and accountable local government contributes to building the confidence and resilience of the people[37]
- o Support to social cohesion and trust-building initiatives through sports for peace, creative arts and connector projects that strengthen social cohesion. FCA's building of community centers is one example of such initiatives.

5.2.2 Right to Quality Education
- o Support to rehabilitation and construction of schools in the rural areas mainly the remote villages (away from headquarters) areas affected by conflict.
- o Continue construction of new schools in areas that have no schools to improve access to quality education remain paramount as is the case in Pibor where FCA support in this regard is much appreciated by the community. Support to setting up schools in many remote areas should be encouraged, as schools are socialization spaces for the community and children and an important institution

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useful to explore in order to be used in South Sudan. The existing operational peace committees complain of shortage of financial support and work spaces

[37] Meeting with Local Government in Yei and Wau

for value and culture transmission, essential for the re-crafting of the extra-curricular activities to encourage inter communal activities and value transmission.

- o Majority of teachers are competent mostly in Arabic and local dialects, as a result, FCA should consider supporting training in basic English communication skills for teachers and education administrators.
- o The paying of teachers' salaries and provision of scholastic materials in Boma State have been a success and instrumental in ensuring uninterrupted education in schools. A continuation or extension of this program to other areas is highly recommended beyond Boma state.
- o Support to the school feeding program is very critical for the schools to improve attendance rates. FCA through the livelihood and food security sub-cluster should advocate to partners such as WFP for continuation of this.
- o FCA through Government and the Church to advocate for the integration of IDP children of school going age in host community schools.
- o Support to establishment of small scale crop farming or income generating initiatives for teachers, especially in rural areas to supplement meager teacher salaries to improve teacher retention rates.
- o Mobilize local volunteers to work as teachers, especially those with basic education skills such as secondary school leavers. This would mitigate on the problem of teacher shortages and improve the pupil- teacher ratio.
- o Rejuvenate and support TVET initiatives, including support to existing ones that are currently not operating at optimal levels.
- o Provide training and support packages to community radio stations to produce and deliver education related programmes. Distribution of cheap solar powered radio sets would prove crucial in implementing this strategy. Such education radio packages can include mainstreaming of peace education to ensure that children and communities appreciate the need to peaceful-co-existence[38].
- o Support to establishment of environment and climate change clubs in schools to mainstream climate change education and create awareness in the communities on the importance of environment, climate change and how this has a bearing on migration, conflict and impacts livelihood sources.

5.2.3 The Right to Livelihood

- o Livelihood interventions such as social cash transfer schemes, livestock pass-on initiatives[39] and market access programs are strongly recommended especially by women to stabilize households.
- o Support to Government in the reintegration of returnees from the IDP and refugee camps through development of a clear reintegration strategies and provision of as start-up packs that include; early maturity seeds, tools for cultivation, fishing equipment among others.
- o Materials and social support for IDPs should be equitably extended to the host communities to prevent them from withholding material access to the IDPs such

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[38] A similar initiative in Rumbek, Western Lakes supported by UNMISS Civil Affairs, USAID and State Ministry of Education using local FM radio stations has proved successful in improving literacy levels and inculcating a culture of peace

[39] This refers to the concept of small community co-operatives, given a loan of small number of cattle or goats and repay through passing on off-springs to another group of communities and the same is replicated. This snow balling approach eveually gets to empower a wider section of communities and has been very successfully supported by world Vision in parts of South Sudan such as Yei.

as land, grass, water, grazing/farm land and general services. In doing so, it encourages joint participation between host communities and IDPs in conflict sensitive recovery and development plans that motivate and sustain mutual co-existence.

o FCA to consider supporting training of agricultural extension officers to educate the people on best agricultural practices, strengthen agricultural and livestock services aimed at sustaining household food security. This can be done in collaboration with State Ministries of Local Government as well as Agriculture.

o FCA to support building the capacity of land traditional dispute resolution mechanisms through training and sharing of best practices from other contexts.

o Building resilience through establishing climate related early warning systems, preparedness planning (with associated capacity building of key institutions such as the County Peace Response Mechanism[40]) and ensuring an effective emergency response in collaboration with community, State, County and Payam level structures.

o Support to training of local farmers in crop diversification and other forms of agriculture such as fish farming to enhance food security and resilience of house-holds.[41]

o Provide training and support packages to community radio stations to produce and deliver environment and climate change programmes. This has a potential to create an awareness and appreciation by the communities on the importance of environment, climate change and how this has a bearing on migration, conflict and impacts livelihood sources. Such an approach would not only give wider coverage in terms of dissemination, but also contributes to good visibility to FCA interventions in the communities.

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[40] Meeting with the Conflict Early Warning Coordinator, Peace and Reconciliation Commission Juba,16 October 2018
[41] Similarly, good lessons could be drawn similar initiatives being done by FAO in the Bahr-naam cattle camps in the Greater Lakes Region

Annex 1
Table Indicating Research Sites and Sources of Primary Data

Location		Methodology of Primary Data Collection	
Regions	**Research Sites, State and why selected for field work**	**Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)**	**Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)**
Greater Equatoria	**Juba, Jubek State** Jubek State is where the capital Juba is located. Hosts national government institutions and the FCA South Sudan Country Office	None	<u>7 KIIs:</u> 1. The WFP: Lead Coordinator Food Security and Livelihood Sub-cluster 2. WFP School meals Programme Officer 3. FAO 4. National NGO (CEPO); 5. South Sudan Peace and Reconciliation Commission (Coordinator for Conflict Early Warning) 6. Relief and Rehabilitation Commission official 7. UNMISS Human Rights Section
	Yei, Yei River State Yei is the capital of Yei River state. It was affected by the 2016 conflict witnessing massive population movements from the outskirts into the town and out of the town to Juba, Uganda and DRC	<u>5 FGDs:</u> 1. IDPs leaders at the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS) Reception Center 2. Youths at the IDPs Reception Center 3. Women in Yei near hotel 4. Youths at a Kiosk (small shop) near the hotel 5. Community elders at tea place	<u>11 KIIs:</u> 1. Local Government Ministry; 2. State Relief and Rehabilitation Commission 3. Civil Society (CEPO) & Reconcile International; 4. Deaconess at the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS), Yei Diocese; 5. ECSS IDPs Reception Center Coordinator 6. Ministry of Education 7. Ministry of agriculture 8. A local sub-chief 9. Agricultural trader (sells agricultural produce in Yei town market) 10. Police Officer 11. UNICEF Staff
Greater Upper Nile	Pibor, Boma State Is the capital of Boma state and former administrative headquarters of the Greater Pibor Administrative	<u>3 FGDs:</u> 1. Women Peace Committee members at FCA offices 2. Youth Peace Committee members at FCA offices 3. State Ministry of Education (the Director General and three other Directors);	<u>7 KIIs:</u> 1. Murle Traditional Leader/ Sultan; 2. Minister of Livestock and the Deputy for Agriculture; 3. State Peace Commissioner; 4. Youth 5. FCA Field staff 6. Trader at the market (male) 7. Female Tea seller near market

	Authority (GPAA). Pibor town has witnessed several clashes between armed groups within the town. FCA has a field office in Pibor.		
Greater Bahr El Ghazal	Wau, Wau State Wau is the capital of Wau state. Wau is home to several ethnic groups. It witnessed fighting with reports of massive human rights violations in the 2016 conflict forcing civilians to UN protection of Civilian camps. Civilians also fled fighting in the outskirts into the town	<u>3 FGD:</u> 1. State Relief and Rehabilitation Commission members (including DG, 2 Directors and a Field Officer)- all males 2. Women traders 3. Youths mostly local businessmen/marketeers (including boda-boda drivers)	<u>6 KIIs:</u> 1. State Ministry of General Education and Instruction (DG and a Director); 2. Ministry of Local Government 3. Ministry of Agriculture 4. Civil Society (CEPO); 5. UNICEF Staff 6. Local elders