Vacancy Announcement

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER (NON-RELOCATABLE)
Location: Yambio (Western Equatoria State).
Application Opening Date: October 21st, 2026.
Application Closing Date: November 10th, 2026.
Reporting Line: Senior Food Security & Livelihood Officer.
Position opened to: South Sudanese.

Organizational Context:

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is ministry of the Society of Jesus, incorporated as an international non-governmental organization with a mission to accompany, serve, and advocate for the rights of refugees and forcibly displaced people. The organization was founded in November 1980 and now has a presence in over 50 Countries. JRS undertakes services at national and regional levels with the support and guidance of an international office (IO) in Rome.

JRS started operating in South Sudan in 1997 in Central and Eastern Equatoria States, mainly focusing on Education. Following the secession of South Sudan from Sudan in July 2011, and in line with its mission, JRS phased out projects in this region during 2012. The post-independence war in 2013 encouraged JRS to restart large integrated programs in Maban County, Renk and Western Equatoria State. All along, JRS mission has been to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees, internally displaced persons and anyone obliged to leave their homes forcefully in South Sudan. JRS main focus areas include Education and Livelihoods, Mental Health and Psycho-social Support, peace building and Reconciliation.

Position Description:

The Community Engagement Officer in collaboration with other project team members, will support the implementation of community engagement, mobilization, and behaviour change activities under the school feeding project to promote community participation, strengthen local ownership, and ensure project sustainability. The post holder will work closely with school administrations, School Management Committees (SMCs), School Nutrition Committees, local authorities, farming groups, and humanitarian partners operating in the target project areas to foster effective coordination and community-driven implementation. The role requires a skilled facilitator with strong leadership, interpersonal, and communication skills, a sound understanding of local context and community dynamics, and proven experience in implementing community development initiatives linked to food security, nutrition, and education.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR
23 OCT 2026
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

23/10/2026

Key Responsibilities:

Project planning, implementation and coordination

- Lead the mobilization and sensitization of the communities, schools and relevant authorities about the project objectives, planned interventions and the respective roles of the relevant project stakeholders in the project implementation.
- Mobilize and organize beneficiaries to participate in relevant project group activities, including school gardens, kitchen gardening, Income Generation Activities and VSLA.
- Organize community meetings, dialogue sessions, sensitization campaigns, focus group discussions, and participatory planning activities with beneficiaries and local school feeding actors to promote community support for the School Feeding Project.
- Support the FSL, Assistant Nutrition Officer, Education Officer and MHPSS Officers in the organization of training activities and campaigns planned under the project.
- Works closely with the Senior FSL officer and Education Officer to support the establishment of community–school garden partnerships to sustainably produce and strengthen the community-led school feeding program (CBSFP).
- Support in the mobilization of school catchment communities to establish and operationalize the school-based food reserves project initiative through community-led contributions.
- Actively participates in the beneficiary's mobilization, identification, screening and selection in accordance with established project beneficiaries' selection criteria for various project activities.
- Facilitate the planning and distribution of project inputs to the targeted project beneficiaries and groups in the target school's catchment areas in accordance with the established standard operation procedures and best community of practices.
- Facilitate the mobilization and establishment of Women- and Youth-Led Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) within the target school catchment communities to enhance financial inclusion, promote a culture of savings, and improve access to locally managed credit for vulnerable households.
- Lead and coordinate community mobilization and engagement activities, working closely with the Community Engagement Officer, Assistant Nutrition Officer, and Education Officer to promote active community participation, strengthen local ownership, and support the effective implementation of project activities.
- With support from Education Officer, Senior FSL Officer and Assistant Nutrition Officer, organize gender-inclusive education and nutrition campaigns, community dialogues, and awareness-raising sessions across targeted school catchment areas, providing safe and inclusive platforms for parents, caregivers, teachers, school management committees, women, youth, and local leaders to meaningfully discuss issues affecting child education, protection and overall wellbeing to promote a shared understanding of the interconnected problems and identify locally driven solutions.
- Where delegated by the Senior FSL Officer, attend field level project coordination and review meetings at the community level.

Program monitoring, accountability and learning

- Organize frequent field visits to monitor the community engagement activities implementation and generate reports to inform project management decision making processes.
- Establish and strengthen community complaint and feedback mechanisms in the target

MINISTRY OF LABOUR
23 OCT 2026
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

23/10/2026

project areas to strengthen accountability, project learning and improvement.

- Actively participate in relevant project assessments and documentation as organized during the project implementation.
- Support the Senior FSL Officer to establish an up-to-date beneficiary's database for the project, by providing clerical and date entry support.
- Support the Senior FSL Officer and Assistant Nutrition Officer in preparation of monthly project reports.

Education qualifications, Experience & Skills required:

- **Education:** A minimum of a university diploma in Social Sciences, Rural Development, or a related field.
- **Professional Experience:** At least 3 years of relevant professional experience working with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), preferably in a similar community engagement or community development role. Demonstrated experience in community engagement, mobilization, and the implementation of community development initiatives and social change program in South Sudan.
- **Participatory Approaches:** Strong practical knowledge and experience in applying participatory tools and methodologies for community mobilization, needs assessments, beneficiary identification and selection, program planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- **Communication and Facilitation Skills:** Excellent facilitation, interpersonal, and verbal and written communication skills, with the ability to engage effectively with diverse community groups and stakeholders.
- **Contextual knowledge:** Good understanding of the local context, community dynamics, cultural practices, and social issues affecting communities in Western Equatoria State and South Sudan as a whole.
- **Personal Attributes:** Ability to work effectively under pressure, demonstrate initiative, work independently with minimal supervision, and collaborate effectively within a multidisciplinary team.
- **Language skills:** Proficiency in English (both written and spoken) and ability to communicate fluently in the local language (Pazande) will be a plus.
- **Computer literacy skills** – MS Office applications, word and excel.
- **Commitment to JRS's mission, vision and values**: the ability to convey with enthusiasm JRS's role in accompanying and serving forcibly displaced people and to advocate for their right to protection and a life in dignity.
- **Accountability:** Hold self-accountable for making decisions, managing resources efficiently, achieving and role modelling JRS values.
- **Collaboration:** Build and maintains effective relationships with team members, partners' staff and other stakeholders in the field.
- **Creativity:** Develops and encourages new and innovative solutions.
- **Integrity:** Honest, encourages openness and transparency in day-to-day work.

MINISTRY OF LABOR
23 OCT 2024
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

23/10
2024

How to apply:

Interested candidates should submit their applications online through sds.recruit@jrs.net or drop hard copy to JRS South Sudan Field Office in Yambio located opposite Seventh Day Adventist Compound near Usumo Primary School in Hai Kisanga, please indicate the Job title clearly on the email subject or the cover of your envelop addressing to HR Department, JRS South Sudan, application deadline is as indicated above (**November 10th, 2026) at 5:00 PM.** The documents required are the following: -

1. An updated cover letter demonstrating your suitability against your ideal profile outlined above.
2. A current Curriculum Vitae (CV) with three Professional Referees.
3. A copy of National ID.
4. A Labour Card obtained from State Ministry of Labour in Yambio.

PLEASE NOTE: Application screening will be on daily basis due to the urgent need to fill the position and only candidates who meet the Job requirements will be considered, shortlisted candidates will tentatively be contacted before the deadline date for a first phase of Interview which will be a Written Interview and those successful during the Written Interview shall be invited for Oral Interview in which case is the second phase. **Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.**

Commitment to Child Safeguarding

JRS is committed to safeguarding of children **(under 18 years)** who encounter with JRS South Sudan personnel and volunteers in all JRS South Sudan works. All JRS South Sudan Staff are expected to comply with JRS Child safeguarding Policy and Procedures in this regard and to sign a declaration of commitment to this effect.

Commitment to Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH)

JRS South Sudan takes the protection from sexual exploitation, abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) serious, and all JRS South Sudan personnel and volunteers are expected to comply with JRS' PSEAH policy and are to sign declaration of commitment.

