

# IDDRSI COUNTRY PROGRESS SUMMARY REPORT SOUTH SUDAN



## IDDRSI

IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative



Photo courtesy of FAO South Sudan

The South Sudan Country Programming Paper (CPP) for ending drought emergencies was finalized in 2014.

The CPP is in line with the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) 15-year regional strategy to end drought emergencies.

## INTRODUCTION

The South Sudan CPP identifies areas of intervention at national and regional level to sustainably build resilience to drought, in line with the IDDRSI strategy. The CPP serves as a planning, coordination and resource mobilization tool for projects and investments required to contribute to ending drought emergencies in the region.

The design and implementation of the IDDRSI project revolved around seven Priority Intervention Areas (PIAs) that are aligned to the IDDRSI strategy as well as the

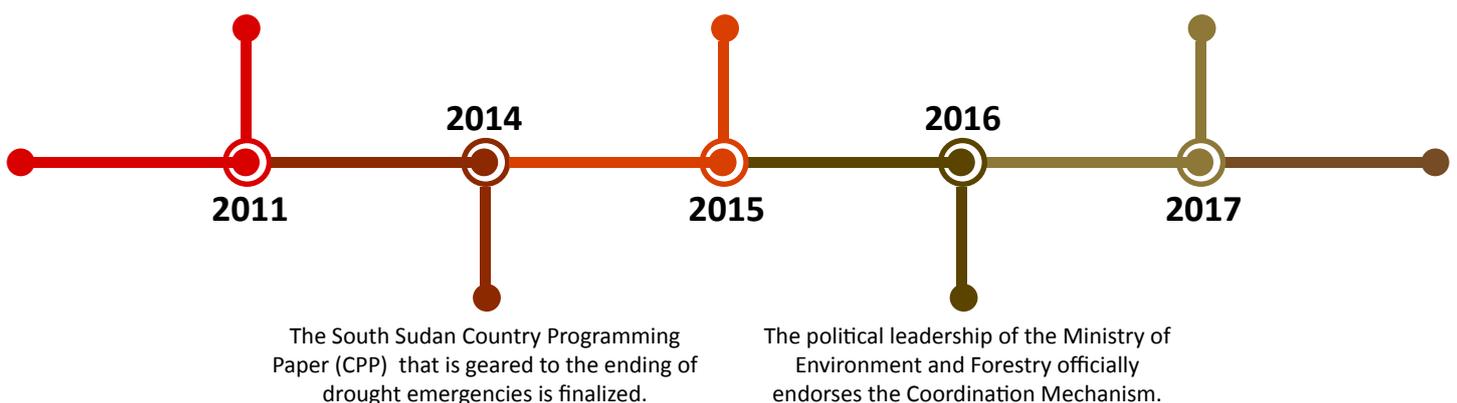
structure of the Government of South Sudan. The PIAs are: environment and natural resources management; livelihood support and basic services; market access, trade and financial services; disaster risk management, preparedness and effective response; research knowledge management and technology transfer; conflict prevention, resolution and peace building; and coordination, institutional strengthening and partnerships.

## KEY NATIONAL IDDRSI EVENTS

The historic Nairobi Summit is held, in which the Heads of State and Government from the IGAD region and the East African Community declare their pledge to end drought emergencies.

The South Sudan IDDRSI Platform Coordination Mechanism is created.

The Comprehensive Agriculture Master Plan (CAMP) and the Irrigation Development Master Plan (IDMP) are completed and approved by the Government of South Sudan.



## COUNTRY CONTEXT



Figure 1: Map of the 32 Federal States of the Republic of South Sudan (2018). The borders shown on the map are only indicative and do not represent the position of IGAD.

South Sudan emanated from Africa's most protracted war, with the signing of the comprehensive peace agreement in 2005, and thereafter transitioning from the status of autonomy to full independence in July 2011 following a referendum on self-determination.

The total surface area of South Sudan is approximately 640,000 km<sup>2</sup> (excluding Abyei 18,000 km<sup>2</sup> and the population is 8,260,490 (2008 Census).

South Sudan has a tropical climate with wet and dry seasons. From the start of the rainy season in mid-April most of the country will receive 750–1,000 mm of rain annually although the south and west receives slightly more (1,000–1,500 mm), with areas of the north and south eastern regions less (500–750 mm) falling to less than 500 mm in the extreme southeast.

The terrain of South Sudan consists of plains in the north and centre and it rises to southern highlands along the border with Uganda and Kenya. The White Nile, flowing north out of the uplands of Central Africa, is the major geographic feature of the country. The Sudd (a name derived from floating vegetation that hinders navigation) is a large swampy area of more than 100,000 km<sup>2</sup> fed by the waters of the White Nile that dominates the centre of the country.

Since 2005, security, political and governance reforms have taken precedence as measures for consolidating peace, averting a return to conflict and creating an enabling environment for development and progress. The Government of South Sudan Growth Strategy 2010-2012 and the South Sudan Development Plan 2011-2013 recognized the need for concurrent and complementary political and economic reforms to stimulate and support broad based economic growth and democratic governance. The South Sudan Development Plan 2011-2013 was anchored in rapid

rural transformation to improve livelihoods and expand employment opportunities.

Data from the National Household Baseline Survey 2009 show drought and floods as pervading shocks that affect 56% of the population in South Sudan. The data indicates that drought and floods are the most common natural hazards in all zones other than the Greenbelt, with some zones more drought prone than others.

About 78% of the population of South Sudan is predominantly rural, and primarily dependent on subsistence farming or animal husbandry. The country is endowed with huge natural resources but the economy is underdeveloped, fragile and dominated by oil revenues. Other resources are gas, crops, livestock, fisheries, forests, and a variety of minerals.

## POLICY FRAMEWORK

In South Sudan, several policy documents have been developed to facilitate the implementation of the IDDRSI Strategy. Some of these are the Comprehensive Agricultural Master Plan (CAMP), the Irrigation Development Master Plan (IDMP) and the South Sudan National Development Strategy (2018-2021). The IDMP was tabled at the Cabinet and is awaiting approval and blessing by Cabinet and Parliament respectively as part of the adoption process. Absence of adoption of the CPP support documents can lead to limited translation of the strategy into well-defined strategic activities and programs.

## NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

The South Sudan IDDRSI Platform Coordination Mechanism was created in September, 2015 and endorsed officially by the political leadership of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in April, 2016. It is co-led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, with various levels of implementation of the strategy in South Sudan being co-shared.

The coordination mechanism is housed in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and it is headed by a national coordinator. The key principles of the Coordination Mechanism include government ownership, leadership, multi-sectoral representation and participation, and sustained technical assistance and capacity building.

The coordination mechanism includes an inter-ministerial steering committee constituted by all the relevant ministries. This is the highest decision making organ of IDDRSI coordination. The other important component is the technical committee that is constituted by the under-secretaries and heads of participating ministries and agencies, key technical development partners, civil society

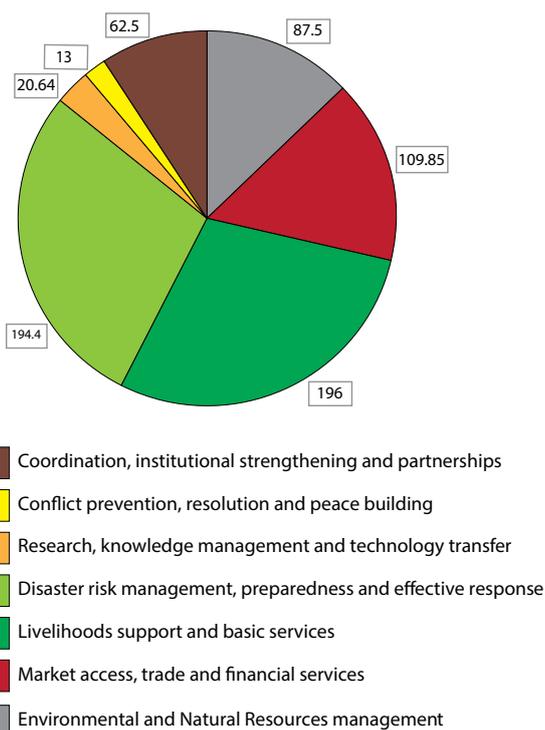
organizations, private sector and the head of secretariat within the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. The coordination mechanism also includes a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder team that is directly involved in the tasks related to the IDDRSI strategy. The team is made up of middle level/technical staff from government ministries and agencies, focal points from each state, expert(s) from IGAD and other Development Partners and technical representatives from civil society organizations and private sector.

## INVESTMENTS IN RESILIENCE BUILDING SINCE 2011

The funding for drought resilience projects comes from government sources (the exchequer) and donors. The funds mobilized so far have been used to realize some achievements in the implementation of South Sudan's CPP.

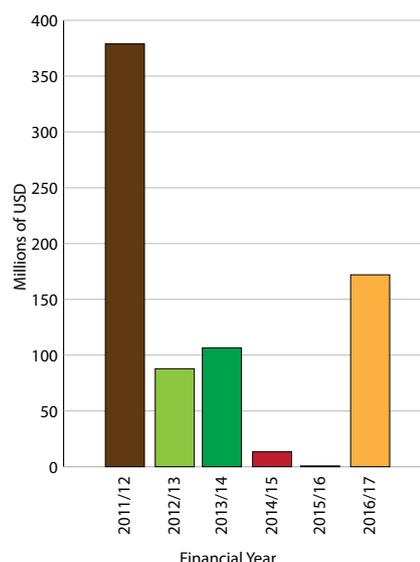
In the period 2011-2017, the government of South Sudan included both recurrent and capital funding streams. It is assumed that capital investments contribute to drought resilience in the various PIAs.

**Public Investment in PIAs linked to the CPP:** Between 2011 and 2017, the success in mobilizing funds for the seven PIAs was minimal, which affected the level of capital investment by the Government of South Sudan in these PIAs. Those with the least overall funding were conflict prevention, resolution and peace building; and research, knowledge management and technology transfer.

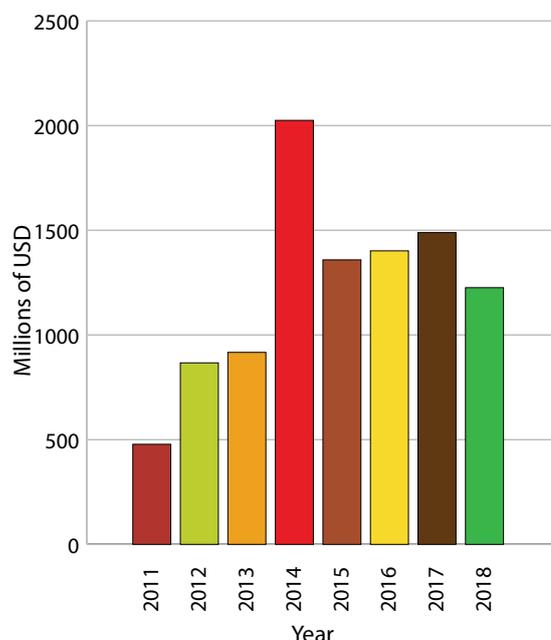


Total capital investments in millions of USD in Priority Intervention Areas by the Government of South Sudan 2011-2017. Source: Analysis of Government of South Sudan Budgets (MOFSS, 2016).

**Overall indication of humanitarian donor funding for drought resilience:** During the period 2012-2018, the largest proportion of humanitarian support was in food security. The amount of humanitarian funding has been increasing since 2011. During this period, government funding for resilience has been on the decline. The humanitarian agencies were able to an extent to fill in for the government in terms of mobilization of resources for drought resilience. This possibly ensured that the pursuit of successful implementation of the CPP and the resultant realization of drought resilience continued.



Total capital investments in millions of USD by the Government of South Sudan 2011-2017. Source: Analysis of Government of South Sudan Budgets (MOFSS, 2016).



Total reported humanitarian funding per year (USD) in South Sudan 2011-2018. Source: UNOCHA Funds Tracking System

NOTE: The amount per year might change based on daily reports received and processed in the system. The data shown in the tables and graphs is purely from secondary sources. It is simply indicative, based on accessible information, and not a full representation of the situation.

## RESPONDING DIFFERENTLY TO DROUGHT

Monitoring of food security is done twice a year by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), which is a national multi-stakeholder forum. It helps stakeholders to know areas where there are chronic or acute shocks as a result of the drought or floods situation, including of hazards affecting humans and crops. IPC is initiated at the beginning of every quarter. This is a tool for M&E cutting across the PIAs and supplements the national coordination mechanism for CPP as well as the national M&E system.

As an achievement over this period, the IPC was formed and it is now in its third round in 2017. The institutions involved are release regular reports. In addition, over the period, the early warning system bulletin has been released three times. The releases use information from the meteorological department. The bulletin is released by the Early Warning Technical Working Group and it is produced quarterly. The bulletin is funded by the World Food Programme (WFP).

Implementation of IDDRSI was hampered by challenges like insecurity and violent cattle rustling and political conflicts of 2013 and 2016, high food prices and economic shocks, and natural shocks including floods, drought, animal and crop disease outbreaks, and inadequate human resource capacity.

## KEY MESSAGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS) provides a conducive environment for the realization of South Sudan Vision 2040 that contains elements of a multi-dimensional and integrated resilience building agenda. Top Government priorities are peace-building and actions that enhance security; improving and expanding social services; and rural development built on infrastructure expansion. The IDDRSI strategy is timely and relevant to South Sudan's needs, and is one of the most important initiatives currently. The strategy has registered some achievements, but more work is needed in order to realize successful implementation of the CPP.

- The Government should increase funding for resilience activities and projects as outlined in the CPP. Human resource capacity building should be supported

### Contacts

IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI)  
Platform Coordination Unit (PCU)  
Avenue Georges Clemenceau  
P.O. Box 2653 Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti  
info@igad.int  
Tel: +253-21354050  
Fax: +253-21356994

through sharing knowledge and expertise with other IGAD countries on how they implemented their CPPs.

- The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management should implement and enhance mechanisms for tracking the progress and impact of CPP projects on building drought resilience. This will require an improvement of the technical and financial capacity for data collection, analysis, reporting and decision making.
- The use of market information systems as part of continuous market price surveys should be encouraged. This information needs to be packaged in forms that can be easily used by the traders and consumers among pastoralists and agriculturalists.
- The Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs should increase the level of scrutiny of non-governmental partners to ensure that they are registered and align their activities to the goals of the national, regional, state and county governments the government. Coordination should be improved through mapping, tracking and monitoring of interventions by PIA and by stakeholders.
- A stronger link should be created between humanitarian responses and longer term development, in line with the proposal made in the CPP.
- There is need for the institutionalization of the M&E system by developing a policy to guide its implementation and function as a way of supporting the implementation of the CPP.
- The IDDRSI structure and coordination in South Sudan should be improved and expanded to involve a wider range of stakeholders with specific terms of reference. The coordination mechanism should be devolved to sub-national levels and operationalized. The IDDRSI secretariat at the national level should be strengthened in terms of personnel and resources to enable it carry out its mandate.
- The capacity of relevant institutions that implement CPP-related projects and programs under the various ministries charged should be strengthened.

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