

RESCUE LIFE OF CHILDREN



QUICK IMPACT PROJECT

Final Narrative Report



Submitted to

UNMISS SOUTH SUDAN

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GENERAL INFORMATION

PROJECT NUMBER QIP:

PROJECT TITLE: **Construction of Akobo women association Centre**

PROJECT DURATION: **6 Months (JANUARY 2020 – JUNE, 2020)**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: **Rescue Life of Children**

Rescue life of children (RLC) is a national non-profit organization whose operations focus on improving the lives of vulnerable children and communities affected by conflict and natural disasters in South Sudan. Rescue life of children is legally registered with ministry of justice with registration number of 2,508 and registered at SSRRC, registration number 328. RLC offices are located in Muniki area, Juba. We also have liaison offices in Akobo, Northern Bhar el Ghazal and Nyirol counties in Jonglei State

The organization is working in the thematic areas of Education, Protection, Health & Nutrition, WASH, FSL and peace building as well as Trauma Awareness. We target the most vulnerable persons in the country especially in conflict-affected areas, displaced persons and most underserved population. RLC is currently operating in former states of Jonglei, Upper Nile and Northern Bhar el Ghazal.

The organization was formed in the year 2014 and was established in 2015 by group of health professional volunteers who had identified major gaps in provision of services to vulnerable children and families in South Sudan.

NARRATIVE REPORT

LOCATION: Akobo, Jonglei State, South Sudan

Source: UNMISS 2007



Akobo County is located in Jonglei State, in eastern South Sudan, bordering the country of Ethiopia.

Fig: Map of South Sudan

OBJECTIVES: Whenever there has been conflict, women and children have been known to receive the hard end of the stick. Women and children are often the most vulnerable and prone to being hit the hardest. Women who survive these atrocities often have to live with the vivid and terrifying images of rape, war and death for the rest of their lives. Women also suffer from sexually transmitted diseases, stigmatization and sometimes unwanted pregnancies. They are faced with the daunting task of keeping families together after displacement, providing food, clothing and shelter in what is in most instances, destroyed infrastructure, for their children and their families. To increase and encourage women's participation in decision-making, promoting the use of gender perspectives in policy development, strengthening the protection of women affected by conflict, countering conflict-related sexual violence, equipping them with skills and knowledge in vocational training was the motivation that encouraged Rescue life of children (RLC) to initiate this project

Construction of the women association centre in Akobo is to foster positive relationships in communities from Akobo West to Akobo East and support them in building networks of support and good relationships. In particular, they develop opportunities for peer-led and mutual self-help in a safe, trusted environment.

Specific Objectives of the Project

The Akobo Women Association Centre was constructed in order to help in:

- Women empowerment in creation of Income Generating Activities (Nuer art-facts, embroidery, weaving, tailoring etc.)
- Improved living standards in terms of sanitation, antenatal and post natal care training.
- Shared skills and counselling sessions for victims of rape, Gender based Violence and human rights abuse and psychosocial support
- Rental services for seminars, workshops and conferences.
- Teaching and learning centre for young mothers on literacy skills, and food security.

OUTPUT OF PROJECT

As RLC we are happy to have finished this project within the time frame. At one time there were worries that we were behind schedule but we worked tirelessly to catch up and finally the structure is finished for use by the Akobo women association.

Main Structure

Toilets

Fence

Walk way

Gate

DEVIATION FROM PLANNED OBJECTIVES/OUTPUT (IF ANY)

NONE

PROBLEM ENCOUNTERED/CHALLENGES

RLC encountered several bottlenecks during the period of construction but by Grace of God we made it at last.

- 1) **Safety and Security** - Undertaking significant reconstruction of infrastructure before Cessation of hostilities is almost invariably counterproductive. Standards of work cannot be maintained and the new construction facilities can become new targets. Technical staff providers were often placed in vulnerable scenarios and exposed to risks such as kidnapping and even death, but our Casual labourers had to come in and act as shield. These scenarios delayed and took considerable part of the construction time.
- 2) **The Corona Virus** pandemic scare delayed the construction as casual labourers had to work in shifts to maintain the social distancing protocol of 1Metre
- 3) **The Absence** of getting some of the materials in Gambella, forced us to get materials form Juba and charter them to Akobo on several times. This overstretched the Overhead costs.
- 4) **Unexpected increase in Material costs**
- 5) The belief by the community that Organizations have so much money on many occasions delayed work by the casual labourers. At times they were incited to demand more than we could manage.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Construction in Akobo is very difficult and expensive. Even the sand you expect to be the cheapest is not the case as the women who scoop sand from the river have a bucket of 16kg as a unit of measurement for as high as 800 SSP

CONCLUSION/ COMMENTS

The Structural construction of the building is fully completed, we would like to Thank UNMISS SOUTHSUDAN for supporting this project to its completion. The challenge at hand is equipping the building with the physical hardware and equipment's. RLC desire is to see the Akobo women association centre equipped for it to be functional.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Project pictures:
2. Project documents: (Project proposal, work plan, MoU)

Submitted by: Rescue Life of Children

Functional title:

Signature, date and stamp of implementing partner