

CRS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Established in 1943, CRS is engaged in humanitarian relief and development efforts in nearly 100 countries throughout the world. We strive to assist impoverished and disadvantaged people overseas, promoting the sacredness of human life and the dignity of the human person. CRS acts to:

- promote human development by responding to major emergencies, fighting disease and poverty, and nurturing peaceful and just societies
- serve Catholics in the United States as they live their faith in solidarity with their brothers and sisters around the world

Although our mission is rooted in the Catholic faith, our operations serve people based solely on need, regardless of their race, religion or ethnicity.



CONTACT

South Sudan

Country Representative: Andrew Rosauer
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
Palica, Hai Jerusalem
Juba, South Sudan
Email: Andrew.Rosauer@crs.org

Headquarters

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
228 W. Lexington Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-3443 USA

Cover photo: Woman voting during referendum (photo by CRS staff)
Inside photo: Girls in traditional dress marching for peace on the opening day of the 101 Days of Prayers for a Peaceful Referendum. (photo: CRS staff)
Back photo: Soldiers making music and marching for peace on the opening day of the 101 Days of Prayers for a Peaceful Referendum (photo: CRS staff)

Copyright 2013 CRS

Peacebuilding in South Sudan

CRS' strategy
to support
peacebuilding
in South Sudan



GLOBALLY

CRS believes that justice and peace are the basis for integral human development. As a result, we allocated nearly 10% of our private funds in FY 2010 specifically for justice and peace work, supporting 85 projects in 35 countries around the world. The programs engage in peace building and conflict reduction standalone programs and integrate conflict sensitive approaches through our development projects in conflict prone areas.

SOUTH SUDAN OVERVIEW

After 40 years in Sudan CRS has close working relationships with local faith-based institutions. This enabled us to launch dedicated conflict mitigation initiatives in advance of the January 2011 referendum. Our willingness to remain at the side of our partners even in the most uncertain moments earned us the confidence and appreciation of South Sudan's government. As a result, CRS is accompanying both the government and the local church in implementing their shared mandate for peacebuilding.

OUR APPROACH: PARTNERSHIP & CROSS-SECTORAL INTEGRATION

Our goal in South Sudan is to support South Sudanese institutions to actively prepare for, prevent and respond to violent conflicts and natural disasters. To do so, we work closely with a wide array of partners including church institutions such as Caritas and Justice and Peace Commissions, as well as external organizations such as local NGOs, host governments and international agencies. Peacebuilding projects are, when possible, integrated with other CRS programs in water and sanitation, health and agriculture. Here are a few of our activities:

Conflict Early Warning Early Response System

Together with the Ministry of Peace and CPA Implementation CRS and its partners are developing a system to strengthen GOSS capabilities to identify conflict and respond to preempt or mitigate violence.

Peace from the Roots

In 2012, the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) launched this community-based peacebuilding initiative to



address violent conflict in Jonglei State. The "Peace from the Roots" project centers on the formation of teams of "peace mobilizers" from six priority counties in Jonglei state.

Youth LEAD

The goal of the Youth Leadership, Empowerment, Advocacy, and Development (YouthLEAD) project is to enhance the contribution of young people (aged 10-24) to promote social and economic development, and to push for peace in Upper Nile and Eastern Equatoria States.

Catholic Diocesan Justice and Peace Commissions

CRS' support for these commissions includes capacity building and technical assistance in program design; financial management; human resource management and administrative systems development. Strengthened commissions successfully mitigated violence around the elections and referendum by promoting non-violent approaches to managing conflict.

Opportunity Peace Fund

This fund supports the initiatives of civil society organizations and ecumenical partners in their conflict mitigation work. One example is the Greater Upper Nile Peace Initiative which successfully mediated a 100 years' dispute between two tribes in Jonglei State.

Social Marketing Campaign

Peacebuilding requires education for masses. CRS broadcast its peace building messages into a radio format in eleven languages across the country for the

elections and the referendum through its partner the Sudan Catholic Radio Network.

Advocacy

CRS approaches Conflict Mitigation at all levels. In advance of the referendum it linked members of the Sudanese ecumenical leaders with Universities and high level officials in the US government and church to generate awareness of key issues that required a more political response.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Going forward, CRS will continue to facilitate alongside its church partners to take a lead in the Jonglei peace process and expand such models to other states with similar conflict contexts. CRS will also building upon its successful early warning and early response mechanism to help the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and stakeholders anticipate and respond to crises in a manner which contributes to the transformation of conflict and consolidation of peace.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In September 2010, through the High Level Dialogues, Sudanese church leaders together with President Salva Kiir, Vice President Riak Machar, GOSS Ministers, Governors and Deputy Governors created a joint action plan on how to take their respective roles forward with regards to conflict mitigation.

Leading up to the referendum, the Opportunity Peace Fund supported a "101 Days of Prayer Towards a Peaceful Referendum" campaign with its partner Solidarity with South Sudan, uniting church, government, military and NGOs to approach the referendum period non-violently. The fund also fostered community dialogues among rival groups.

The Conflict Early Warning and Response System piloted in Eastern Equatoria State will expand to Upper Nile by 2012.