

Annual Review - Summary Sheet

PROGRAMME TITLE: South Sudan Sub-national Conflict Reduction Programme		
Country/Region:	South Sudan	
HMG Partners (LEAD in bold)	FCO (components 2-4) DFID (component 1)	
Total Budget:	ODA: £1.47m	Non-ODA: £0
Start Date: June 2016	End Date: March 2018	
Outputs		Score
Conflict Sensitivity Programme / Conflict Sensitivity Resource Facility		A
Conflict Early Warning and Early Response System (CEWERS)		A+
Preventing Violence and Building Safer Communities in Wau		N/A
Improving Reporting, Documentation and Prevention of Conflict Related Sexual Violence		N/A
Outcome: Progress against outputs 1 and 2 is balanced against significant delays to outputs 3 and 4.		
Outcome Score: B	Risk: Medium	

Summary of Programme Performance

Year	2016/17							
Programme Score	B							
Risk Rating	Medium							

What support is the UK providing?

Through the CSSF the UK Government is providing £1,47m to support the reduction and mitigation of violent conflict at a local level in South Sudan. Expected headline results at the start of the financial year were revised in January 2017, following a major crisis in South Sudan and evacuation of UK Government staff from Juba. Given the new context one component of the programme was dropped and two new components were added. The revised expected results of the programme are:

1. Donor supported programmes in South Sudan are conflict sensitive, support peace and contribute to the reduction of existing tensions and divisions;
2. Reduced violence and increased monitoring of conflict at community level in target states through an early warning and early response system;
3. Increased protection in Wau through support to community resilience, adaptive capacity and recovery from conflict and insecurity, including sexual and gender based violence (SGBV);
4. Strengthened national capacity for better protection from, and response to, conflict related sexual violence.

Summary of progress and lessons learnt/actions taken since last review

There has been excellent progress for the two projects under implementation, with delivery on track and results being achieved. One project has only just begun start up phase, and progress since start up is on track. The contract for the fourth project has not yet been signed. The crisis of 2016 and evacuation of UK Government staff has caused significant delays for three of the four projects in the portfolio.

Challenges to overall success of the programme exist in terms of scope and sustainability, raising a question as to the objective of the programme in the current context – should the programme aim to create sustainable structures, or is the prevention/mitigation of violence in the short term a more appropriate and sufficient objective? It would seem prudent to design the programme to work on both simultaneously. This question of contextual fit further relates to the relative emphasis on local/sub-national level conflict reduction/peace building vis-à-vis national level work, in a context where the national level track is failing. Another question is raised in the annual review is whether efforts to address sexual and gender based violence and conflict related sexual violence is adequately targeting the perpetrators.

These challenges, in conjunction with recognised questions over the coherence and vision of this programme, will begin to be addressed through a planned programme refresh process, although a wider overhaul is acknowledged to involve more thought and analysis.

Several challenges have been identified with governance and roles / responsibilities for the programme, which point to a re-think on what capacity is needed and where it should sit.

Summary of recommendations for the next year

1. Enhance policy and programme management support to this programme, consider both
 - a. Additional programme management support to the existing Programme Manager, either in Juba or with frequent on-the-ground support in Juba;
 - b. Increasing policy/technical support to the programme, potentially to consolidate the support from across three roles;
2. Establish clear processes for management for both Local Strategy Board and South Sudan Strand Boards, with specified roles and responsibilities;
3. Establish clear risk management processes;
4. Critically review the components and overall strategy of the programme, balancing short run vs. long run prevention, with a stronger theory of change as to the types of approaches which can reduce conflict at the sub-national level, which conflict drivers these address, and how this supports national level conflict reduction efforts;
5. Work with the implementing partners to find appropriate ways to consolidate programming within this financial year to mitigate the impact of the spread of the national level conflict. The main opportunity for greater impact lies with the Conflict Early Warning and Early Response System (CEWERS) project
6. Convene a fuller discussion on the idea of merging the National and Sub-National Programmes;
7. Align results frameworks across projects and the programme;
8. Determine how to best respond to the critical response gap of working with/on perpetrators of sexual and gender based violence/conflict related sexual violence.
9. Support greater lesson-learning and exchange between the different components of the programme, for example between the two projects which have an sexual and gender based violence dimension (one of which is more local and one more national), and also between the conflict sensitivity project and the three other current projects, to which it is well placed to provide expert guidance.