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**OFFICE OF DEPUTY SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL,
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**United Nations Cooperation Framework (UNCF)
2019 Annual Report
United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in South Sudan**

May 2020

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Preface

I am pleased to present this first report on implementation of the three-year UN Cooperation Framework (UNCF) that provides a summary of key achievements and challenges faced by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in 2019. The report documents UN support for recovery, resilience and development in the country which complements the significant UN support for humanitarian assistance under the Humanitarian Response Plan. It builds on the positive experiences and lessons learned from the 2016-2018 Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF) implementation to improve development programming with substantive results in building peace and resilience towards sustained development.

In 2019, the continued improvement in delivery was possible due to cooperation with partners including strengthened UNCT dialogue with government, roll-out of nine joint flagship programmes as part of the Core Contribution, increased donor funding for development programmes and relative stability ushered in by the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) in September 2018. The report shows that the UN support for recovery and resilience was instrumental in strengthening social services delivery, improving food security and recovering local economies albeit in an environment of climate extremes and increased communal conflicts. It also shows that more effort is needed in strengthening governance, building peace at both local and national levels and empowering women and youth.

With the formation of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU) in early 2020, UN support for recovery and resilience will enable communities to gradually rebuild their lives and livelihoods. This is equally important for the many internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees who are planning to return home when possible.

With the outbreak of COVID-19 and its associated impacts in the first part of 2020, the UNCT will also focus on new initiatives to support the National Response to address COVID-19. A response to the broader socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 is also under development.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our national as well as international partners for their support and collaboration in 2019, and I look forward to your continued cooperation under the UNCF in 2020 and 2021.



Alain Noudéhou

Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General,
UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator



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Overview

In January 2019, the Government and UN Country Team (UNCT¹) launched the new UN Cooperation Framework (UNCF) for South Sudan that outlines joint priorities in the next 3 years (2019-2021) in support of national priorities. The UNCF is aligned with the National Development Strategy (NDS) and builds on the positive experiences and lessons learned from the 2016-2018 Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF) implementation and corresponds to the transitional period of the Revitalized Agreement on Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS). It seeks to enhance and scale up the ICF's strategic approach to building resilience, capacities and institutions to achieve key outcomes across four priority areas: building peace and strengthening governance; improving food security and recovering local economies; strengthening social services; and empowering women and youth.

To kick-start the implementation of the UNCF, in 2019, the UNCT rolled out several activities clustered around the four priority areas under the first joint work plan including nine joint flagship programmes as part of its Core Contribution. This annual implementation report provides an overview of the UNCF financial report and key achievements at both outcome and output levels by the UNCT in 2019. The annual report measures progress at the outcome and output level against the targets set for 2019 for each individual outcome and output area.

In 2019, the socio-economic situation in South Sudan remained challenging despite the on-going Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) led peace process (R-ARCSS). The country remained in a precarious situation of cyclical violence and relative calm. Several years of conflict has destroyed people's livelihoods and displaced many people from their homes. The armed conflict also led to declining oil production and affected food production, exacerbated by the recent flooding. Food insecurity persisted across the country, with a huge number of people still requiring humanitarian assistance. The macro-economic context remained problematic with high inflation, instability, depreciating domestic currency, poor economic and public financial management. The oil sector remained the key supply-side driver of economic growth. On the demand side, public consumption remained high only eclipsed by government spending on security and defense operations. Nonetheless, the signing of the R-ARCSS in September 2018 has led to a considerable reduction in conflict-related violence throughout the country and created optimism for peace and prospects for better economic growth; now boosted by the formation of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU) in early 2020.

On the backdrop of gradual and cautious improvement and despite the remaining challenges including difficulty in collecting disaggregated data, positive progress was made by the UNCT in 2019 on UNCF implementation. This was attributed mainly to the improved operational context at the local level with relative stability and better access in many places created by the signing of the revitalized peace agreement and continued efforts to establish the R-TGoNU, cooperation with national partners including with communities at the local level and increased donor funding for development program delivery. With the formation of the R-TGoNU in early 2020, which is expected to further improve security and stability,

¹ Contributing UNCT members to UNCF implementation: FAO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNMAS, UNOPS, UN WOMEN, WFP, WHO. UNMISS contributes to UNCF priority area of building peace and strengthening governance as part of the Mission's mandate.

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there is now even greater prospect for recovery and resilience work for the remaining period of UNCF implementation; however, this will depend on how South Sudan manages, contains the spread and minimizes the impact of COVID-19.

Achievements of Results against UNCF indicators

Average achievement based on 2019 targets	Outcome	Output
Priority Area 1: Building Peace and Strengthening governance	66%	116%
Priority Area 2: Improving food security and recovering local economies	74%	125%
Priority Area 3: Strengthening Social Services	94%	92%
Priority Area 4: Empowering Women and Youth	63%	125%
Overall performance	74%	114%

Note:

Progress	Less than 50%: Off track	Between 50%-75%: Partially on track	More than 75%: On track
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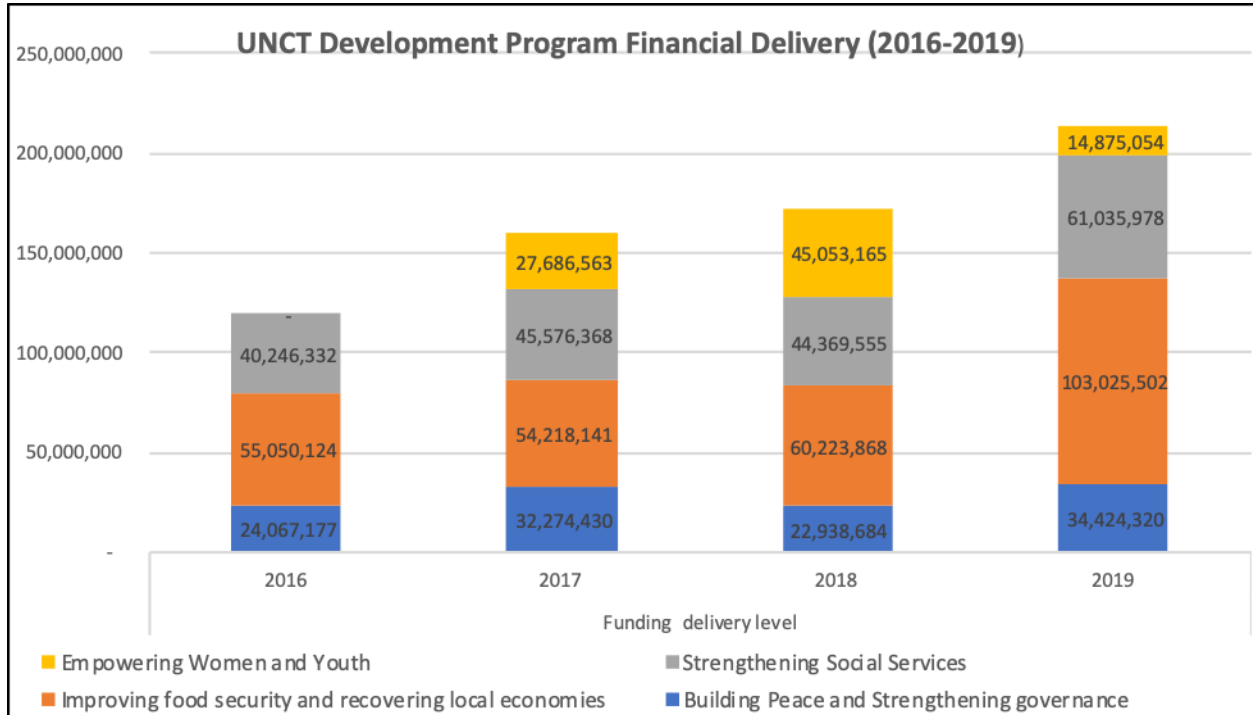
Based on the reporting by UNCT members, the overall achievement of UNCF output and outcome level targets by the UNCT at the end of 2019 is considered on track and partially on track respectively. With the formation of R-TGoNU in 2020, better progress can be achieved on outcome 1 (building peace and strengthening governance), outcome 2 (improving food security and recovering local economies) and outcome 4 (empowering women and youth) in the remaining years of the UNCF, as progress in 2019 on these outcomes was limited by the delayed implementation of the revitalized peace process and formation of R-TGoNU.

Funding Level and Delivery

Priority Areas (PA)	2019			2020
	Funding projection	Funding delivery	% delivered	Funding projection
PA1: Building Peace and Strengthening governance	31,069,801	34,424,320	111%	56,737,792
PA2: Improving food security and recovering local economies	116,757,101	103,025,502	88%	171,908,155
PA3: Strengthening Social Services	95,880,433	61,035,978	64%	94,245,021
PA4: Empowering Women and Youth	28,512,007	14,875,054	52%	9,456,175
Total	272,219,342	213,360,853	78%	332,347,142



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Funding level and delivery under the UNCF in 2019 has increased compared to ICF period (see above graph) due to increased donor funding and improved conditions for implementation attributed to better access and relative stability in the country with the signing of the revitalized peace agreement. In 2019, the overall funding and delivery stood at US\$213,360,853 against a target of US\$272,219,342 compared to US\$ 172,585,272 in 2018 during ICF. This represents a significant increase - 24% - in development program funding over the previous year in relative and absolute terms and is consistent with the improved operational context due to the improved security situation in many parts of the country.

This is a significant achievement for the UNCT in an environment where donors continued to remain skeptical to engage in development work due to the slow progress in the formation of R-TGoNU during 2019 and the continued armed and communal conflicts coupled with low confidence in government's capacity to prudently manage resources. With the formation of R-TGoNU in early 2020, the UNCT remains hopeful that the donor engagement in development work in the country will continue to improve.

Priority Area 1: Building Peace and strengthening governance

General context, constraints and challenges in achieving the planned results

The signing of the revitalized peace agreement (R-ARCSS) in September 2018 led to a considerable reduction in conflict-related violence and created optimism for peace and relative stability in the country; though the delay in the formation of the R-TGoNU continued to present political uncertainty in 2019. The country remained in a precarious situation of cyclical violence and relative calm. Violence at the grassroots attributed to cattle raiding and livelihood-based disputes, specifically among pastoralist communities and

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between agriculturalists and pastoralists over land rights, livestock grazing, and water access rights remained a threat. Also, the devastating impact of the 2013 and 2016 conflicts continued to haunt the country as many communities’ social infrastructure was shattered and broken during the conflict.

The delay in the formation of R-TGoNU impacted on the progress of building peace and strengthening governance including support for institutional reforms and capacity building in 2019. Also, weak institutional capacities and insecurity in some parts of the country hampered the achievement of planned results while inter-communal violence continued to pose significant challenges on advancing peace and community cohesion. Access to justice remains a challenge due to weak formal justice system as well as erosion of the role of traditional justice systems. In most conflict affected communities, there are no functional statutory courts. Traditional courts which are sometimes one of few, if not the only, remedies to redress victim’s rights, in most cases, make decision based on dominant patriarchal society views not necessarily in favor of women and other marginalized groups of communities. All this have impacted progress on rule of law, access to justice and human rights protection. Nevertheless, mobile courts and GBV one stop centers are helping to deepen access to justice and contribute to achieving peace, safety and security in the country.

Key results achieved during the reporting period

Despite the political uncertainty created by the delay in formation of R-TGoNU, weak institutional capacities and insecurity, the UNCT made some progress towards building peace and strengthening governance in the country. It made progress towards promotion of peace, reconciliation, democratic governance, rule of law and human rights by strengthening capacities of institutions and provided support for mitigation and resolving inter-communal and local resources-based conflicts, and established gender inclusive functional mechanisms to prevent and respond to conflict.

This contributed to increased confidence of people on safety and security in the country from 32.7% (30% female) in 2017 to 49.6% (56% female) in 2019 (UNDP perception survey in July 2019). In addition, 54.1% (55.1% female) of the people reported decrease in intercommunal conflict in 2018/19 compared to 22.7% (23.4% female) in 2017. Nevertheless, in 2019, limited progress was made on the support for constitutional and security reforms due to the delay in formation of R-TGoNU.

Priority Area 1: Building Peace and Strengthening governance				
Outcome indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Percentage of individual respondents with confidence in peace and security disaggregated by sex, age, and geography	47.4% (46.6% male and 48.7% female)	50% (50% male, 50% female)	49.6% (44% male; 56% female)	99%



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Number of HLRF-agreed governance and security reforms completed and implemented	The High-Level Revitalization Forum (HLRF) revitalized the 2015 peace agreement	1 (NPTC functioning and the R-TGONU established. NCAC functioning and Constitution Amendment completed)	0	0%
Number of national and sub-national development policies, plans, budgets and revenue management systems that are SDG aligned, inclusive and utilize gender disaggregated data.	1 National Development Strategy (NDS)	2	2	100%
Average Reach				66%

At the output level, on average, progress on building peace and strengthening governance is on track; though more effort is required to support CSO/media to promote peace, transitional justice and human rights. Due to the slow progress in the implementation of the revitalized peace process and delay in the formation of the revitalized transitional government, support towards political governance processes and transitional institutions and mechanisms for effective, transparent and responsive governance was off-track in 2019. Nevertheless, significant progress towards implementation of pre-transitional tasks of the revitalized peace process was made. The National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) was formed and operationalized; cessation of hostilities was largely observed in many parts of the country; cantonment sites identified, and forces started assembling at sites for training; etc. The R-TGoNU was formed in February 22, 2020, and parties to the conflict continue to work towards resolving the deadlock over outstanding issues including security arrangements and sharing of the state governments.

Output indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Output 1.1: Political Governance Processes and Transitional Institutions and Mechanisms supported for effective, transparent and responsive governance.				
1.1.1: Number of gender-sensitive reform policies frameworks designed, signed and established	N/A	4	2	50%
1.1.2: Number of national security institutions revitalized and strengthen to provide peace, justice and human rights	0	6	6	100%
1.1.3: Number of targeted R-TGoNU and/or NPTC institutions	0	12	0	0%



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with improved capacity to deliver on key mandates				
1.1.4: Permanent constitution in place	0	1	0	0%
Average Reach				38%
Output 1.2: Public Administration strengthened through institution building and reform				
1.2.1: Number of civil service institutions with capacities and independence to deliver reforms and core functions including basic services	1	2	6	300%
1.2.2: Number of institutional frameworks developed and implemented to promote the participation of women, youth and marginalized groups in reform processes	0	3	3	100%
1.2.3: Number of gender responsive, risk and data-informed development frameworks, including disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in place	0	3	3	100%
1.2.4: Number of states with unified tax systems and level and impact of public investments in social sector institutions	1	3	3	100%
Average Reach				150%
Output 1.3: Mechanisms for conflict management, community security and social cohesion strengthened				
1.3.1: Number of conflict management and reconciliation activities (dialogue forums, conferences, workshops) implemented at the national and subnational level	200	200	215	108%
1.3.2: Number of a functional multi-sectoral coordination mechanism that advocates for youth participation	2	5	6	120%
1.3.3: Number of communities (counties) with functional	35	40	45	113%



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mechanism for conflict prevention, dialogue and conflict resolution				
1.3.4: Number of national and subnational infrastructures for peace established or strengthened	4	4	3	75%
Average Reach				104%
Output 1.4: Access to Justice, Rule of Law, Transitional Justice and Human Rights protection supported				
1.4.1 Number of GBV cases reported to authorities receiving judgment in the formal justice system	1,324 (58% female)	1,500 (50% female, 50% male)	2,184 (79% female, 21% male)	146%
1.4.2 Number of police and community relationship committees established and operational at community level	5	8	12	150%
1.4.3 Number of individuals provided with legal aid services, capacity building and advocacy for a child friendly justice system disaggregated by gender.	220 (68 female, 152 male)	1,500 (450 female, 1,050 male)	2,103 (659 female, 1,444 male)	140%
1.4.4 Number of SGBV survivors benefitting from victim redress mechanisms, including on transitional justice	125 (50 female, 75 male)	500 (40 female, 460 male)	775 (422 female, 353 male)	155%
Average Reach				148%
Output 1.5: Support CSOs/Media to promote peace, reconciliation, democratic governance, rule of law and human rights				
1.5.1: Number of R-ARCSS aligned governance reforms and reconstitution of institutions undertaken with the participation of CSOs	0	5	3	60%
1.5.2: Number of national & subnational institutions and structures that engage youth in governance, rule of law, peacebuilding and human rights and decision-making processes.	0	1	1	100%

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1.5.3: Number of institutions that have strengthen capacities and policies for media diversity and pluralism including community media.	4	4	8	200%
1.5.4 Number of communities using radio communication to promote intercommunal peace and reconciliation	4	4	8	200%
Average Reach				140%
Overall Reach: Output 1.1-1.5				116%

Under output 1.1, with support from UNCT, a draft law incorporating gender aspects of land tenure and ownership has been revised and presented to parliament for approval. Also, in line with the institutional reforms provided for in the R-ARCSS, UNCT provided support to conduct gender sensitive reviews of the national security sector laws including Police Service Act 2009, SPLA Act 2009 (now SSDPF), National Security Service Act 2014, Prisons Service Act 2011 and Wildlife Service Act 2011 and Gender Based Violence Act 2019. It printed and distributed copies of the revitalized agreement in Juba, Bor, Aweil, Wau, Torit and Yambio.

The UNCT also provided advisory support to Key pre-transition and transitional institutions and mechanisms (National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC), National Constitutional Amendment Commission (NCAC), National Audit of Chamber, Anti-Corruption Commission, Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee); and in collaboration with female representatives of the National Constitutional Amendment Commission (NCAC), it supported women to engage and participate in high-level discussions on policy reforms for improved gender participation in political and peace processes in the country.

The UNCT also provided support to establish an Anti-trafficking Taskforce co-chaired by the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice, and is assisting the task force to produce evidence-based response to addressing Trafficking in Persons, started with conducting a nation-wide assessment on Trafficking in Persons situation in South Sudan; and finalized the migration policy proposal which includes elements of 1) free movement and border management, 2) labour migration, 3) forced migration and 4) migration and development. It supported the establishment of government's technical advisory working group on remittances and diasporas engagement whereby research on remittances and diasporas engagement is being produced to be used for creation of pro-gender policy on remittances and diasporas. The working group is co-chaired by Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It supported government institutions to improve their capacity to deliver on their mandates: Ministry of Labour, National Bureau of Statistics, Directorate General of Civil Registry, Nationality, Passport and Immigration (DCRNPI), Inspectorate General Police, and National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) Member Agencies. However, overall, output 1.1 is still off-track due to delay in formation of R-TGoNU without which most of planned support for policies and institutional reforms and capacity building could not take place. Also, the making of the permanent constitution is a process which will take time.

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Under output 1.2, UNCT facilitated the building of institutional capacity of national and sub-national institutions to provide improved services and restore core civil service functions by supporting the operationalization and development of internal policies, frameworks, standard operating procedures, guidelines, manuals and work plans. This included Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFP), Judiciary sector, National Peace and Reconciliation Commission, etc. It also supported the development of the strategic guidelines for women participation in public administration, leadership, health and education to mainstream gender in government programmes. This has resulted in the Ministry of health, Ministry of Education and MoFP providing disaggregated data to monitor progress towards the SDGs. It established GBV and Juvenile Court and a National Conflict Early Warning and Response system (CEWAR) for timely reporting, prevention and mitigation of community level conflicts.

In collaboration with MoFP, started implementation of joint workplans to prioritize a) evidence generation on budgets for advocating for improved budget allocations and expenditures for children; b) citizens' engagement around the national budget transparency agenda; and c) a national Public Financial Management (PFM) capacity building programme. This included the launch of the Public Finance for Children (PF4C) programme to strengthen the capacity of ministries at national and subnational levels to plan and implement child-responsive budgets. Also, the UNCT supported state governments to establish unified institutional tax structures and system through capacity building of commissioners, tax officers and board members of State Revenue Authorities (SRA) to ensure integrity, transparency, and accountability in public finance.

UNCT supported Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with women across South Sudan to determine the primary challenges and recommendations women note in accessing/utilizing land and property; and supported the Parliamentary Committee on Land and Physical Infrastructure to hold national-level workshops to strengthen the National Land Policy and formulate specific legislative protections for women and vulnerable individuals as they access their land and property. It also supported the development of the draft youth policy and youth participation guide in a consultative and participatory process with youth and other stakeholders. Supported the revision of the draft National Culture policy and provided capacity building to protect and promote diversity of cultural expressions and intercultural dialogue.

Under output 1.3, in 2019, across South Sudan, UNCT implemented activities in the priority areas of conflict management, reconciliation, social cohesion and support to the implementation of the peace agreement. Activities included pre- and post-migration conferences; support to peace structures and networks; support to local rapprochement and trust-building between government and opposition and communities; joint sports and awareness raising activities of refugees and host communities to enhance peaceful co-existence; enhancement of civil-military relations; reconciliation forums with IDPs and host communities; peace conference between pastoralists and agro-pastoral communities; conflict mitigation, management and transformation workshops/trainings; rehabilitation of boreholes to address conflicts related to water scarcity; construction of markets for joint community trade to build cohesion; and establishment/strengthening of community-based structures to identify and respond to protection risks

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and conflicts such as gender inclusive peace committees and peace clubs and integrated conflict sensitivity in programme delivery. These activities contributed to the reduction in local communal conflicts, cattle-raiding incidents, and enhanced freedom of movement, trade and humanitarian access. Overall, there was a reduction of about 8% civilian casualties from 2,372 in 2018 to 2,178 in 2019 attributed to communal violence and parties to the civil conflict.

UNCT also conducted risk education, survey, clearance and destruction of small arms ammunition and weapons stockpiles. Risk education was provided to 468,034 civilians (130,523 boys, 125,111 girls, 108,646 women, and 103,754 men) to enhance their awareness and ensure their ability to mitigate the threats of explosive hazards. Destroyed 28 stockpiles with 21,031 explosive items and 1,074,466 rounds of small arms ammunition enabling humanitarian and development actors to safely implement critical activities. Relatedly, in collaboration with the Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control (BCSSAC), public servants and community members were sensitized on the Firearms Act and the policy on the control of small arms and light weapons.

Also, supported the Ministry of Culture, Youth & Sports to advocate and establish functional government-led partners coordination forums in Juba, Torit, Maridi, Yambio, Kapoeta and Aweil to improve youth participation in conflict management and strengthened the capacity of ministries of youth at national and state levels. In collaboration with Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, supported the National Women Peace Campaign, National Mediation Training Workshop for Women Leaders and Regional Women Peace and Security Conference.

Under output 1.4, UNCT provided support for transitional justice awareness, access to SGBV services, victim support and legal aid; and capacity development for rule of law officials including handling of SGBV cases, investigation and prosecution, legal rights, women's rights, and trauma management and psychosocial support. It also partnered with CSOs to provide legal aid for GBV victims and dispatched mobile courts to resolve GBV cases. Strengthened GBV referral pathway to ensure access to critical health services through one stop centres; and trained traditional leaders on human rights and GBV issues as some cases are not reported to the formal justice systems due to stigmatization and harmful cultural norms. The traditional courts also resolve civil cases in the absence of statutory courts especially in the conflict-affected or hard to reach areas. Through concerted efforts, mobile courts in Ruweng State received 103 cases (67 host community cases, 36 refugee related cases), adjudicated 75 cases (43 host community cases and 32 refugee related cases). The cases included high-profile criminal cases. Overall, in 2019, there was an increase of about 64% of GBV cases reported to authorities in the formal justice system; more SGBV survivors benefitting from victim redress mechanisms; and more individuals provided with legal aid services, capacity building and advocacy for child friendly justice system.

UNCT also established and operationalized police and community relationship committees which has led to monthly community policing meetings and awareness programme with the women, youth, community leaders and police to discuss security related issues affecting their communities. Contributed technically and financially to develop and implement laws, regulatory frameworks and service delivery systems to adequately improve children's access to justice and birth registration services including the launch of the South Sudan Civil Registry Act 2018 and piloting the digital birth registration notification database.

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Under output 1.5, UNCT continued to support capacity building and empowerment of personnel and relevant media institutions to ensure sustainable implementation of media policies/laws. It supported community radio stations to increase access to communication channels by local communities for dialogue and reconciliation. Supported parliament and the ministry of youth to actively engage youth in the youth policy review process and organizing the youth conference.

Also, UNCT in collaboration with MoFP supported public engagements on the budgetary process, including through radio programmes around the theme of the national budget and supported civil society participation in the first parliamentary hearing on the 2019/20 budget. It is providing support to regularly publish government budget documents online to enable public finance partners and stakeholders, civil society organizations and the wider public to easily access public budget information including National Budget Briefs for the financial year 2018/19; a budget brief for the education sector; and two Citizens' Budgets for the financial year 2019/20. This commitment to transparency will improve the Open Budget Index for South Sudan. However, more effort should be made to ensure participation of CSOs in R-ARCSS and R-JMEC mechanisms on governance reforms and reconstitution of institutions.

Priority Area 2: Improving Food Security and Recovering Local Economies

General context, constraints and challenges in achieving the planned results

The socio-economic situation in South Sudan remains challenging. Several years of conflict has destroyed people's livelihoods and displaced many people from their homes. The armed conflict has also led to declining oil and slight increase in food production, exacerbated by the recent flooding. Food insecurity persists across the country, with a huge number of people still requiring humanitarian assistance. The private sector remains under-developed. The macro-economic context remained problematic with high inflation, instability, depreciating domestic currency, poor economic and public financial management. At the community level, limited access due to insecurity including GBV, poor road conditions and limited road networks continue to present critical operational challenges for building resilience and strengthening food security in the country.

Key results achieved during the reporting period

Despite the limitations, UNCT made important progress in improving food security and recovering local economies in 2019. As part of the New Way of Working to build on the nexus between humanitarian response and development work for better service delivery and building resilience and recovery in the country, a set of HRP-UNCF collective outcomes for 2019-2021 on food security and GBV was agreed between HCT and UNCT to enable better coordination, planning, targeting, opportunities for co-location, sequencing and layering of HRP and UNCF activities in certain targeted locations. Joint efforts to achieve these collective outcomes is particularly important to support solutions to displacement/returns and strengthen people's resilience to acute and chronic stresses in the country considering the devastating effects of the armed conflict and localized community conflicts.

The UNCT in partnership with other stakeholders has also supported the Partnership for Resilience and Recovery (PfRR) that brings together both humanitarian and development actors in partnership areas to

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provide life-saving humanitarian support, while implementing programs to build resilience, recovery and development. Also, as part of the overall response to disasters (such as flooding) which raises both humanitarian concerns and development challenges, the UNCT through specialized agencies is supporting the government of South Sudan to develop an overarching Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) framework by preparing a comprehensive DRR strategy, building technical and institutional capacity and setting up early warning systems.

The UNCT established and strengthened capacities of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to produce and create value chain additions in agriculture, livestock and fisheries; enhanced agricultural production; diversified livelihoods through targeted vocational training; improved trade and access to markets; and improved security through the destruction of explosive remnants of war. These interventions paid special attention to the empowerment of youth and women by intentionally targeting them.

Priority Area 2: Improving food security and recovering local economies				
Outcome indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Average household level Consumption-based Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)	9.4	8.61	10.47	82%
Percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Scores (FCS)	20%	18%	31%	58%
Reduction in food production gap from national production	Food production gap is equivalent to 5.1 months of national cereal requirement	Food Production gap is equivalent to 3 months national cereal requirements	Food production gap is equivalent to 4.4 months of national cereal requirement	68%
Vulnerable communities have access to competitive and enabling private sector led initiatives and trade opportunities to increase production and promote markets integration	43%	50%	44%	88%
Average Reach				74%

At the output level, on average, progress on improving food security and recovering local economies is on-track; though the slow progress in the implementation of the revitalized peace processes and delay in the formation of R-TGoNU affected the meaningful engagement of vulnerable communities particularly displaced women and returnees (as most are still in the camps) in the development of functional and accountable policies, legislative frameworks and natural resource management practices to strengthen

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their livelihood recovery efforts. This also affected the planned allocation of land by local authorities/communities to support displaced women/returnees with economic recovery efforts.

Output indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Output 2.1: Vulnerable communities engage in development of and benefit from functional and accountable policy, legislative frameworks and natural resource management practices to improve the enabling environment and the right to adequate food.				
2.1.1 Amount of area (sqm) surveyed, cleared and released	26,213,725 sqm	9,000,000 sqm	8,470,070 sqm	94%
2.1.2 Number of national coordination mechanisms, policies, strategies, plans and programmes informed by project analytical products	6	9	11	122%
2.1.3 Number of women, men, boys and girls receiving capacity strengthening/training/technical support by type	426,708 and 500 CBPP exercises involving 9,000 people <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	470,370 and 550 CBPP exercise involving 10,000 people <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	77,268 and 451 CBPP exercises <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	49%
2.1.4 Number of acres allocated by local authorities/communities to support displaced women/returnees with economic recovery efforts	600	700	84	12%
Average Reach				69%
Output 2.2: Vulnerable communities are supported to enhance production, increase productivity, access and linkages to markets to strengthen resilience.				
2.2.1 Number of women, men, boys and girls receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers	1,104,408 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	1,148,000 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	1,138,133 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	99%
2.2.2 Number of assets built, restored or maintained, and livelihoods diversified by targeted households (by type and unit of measure)	0	37000 ha, 460km, 70 ponds, 400 wells, 3 million trees	37,656ha, 464km, 62 ponds, 424 wells, 2,178,724 trees	102%



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2.2.3 Number of smallholder farmers/Households/ cooperatives supported/trained disaggregated by sex and type of support/training	16,050	25,100	31,087	124%
2.2.4 Number of technical assistance/support activities provided (by type)	0	8	11	138%
Average Reach				116%
Output 2.3: Vulnerable communities and partners benefit from learning, knowledge, agricultural practices and skills development to improve their resilience.				
2.3.1 Number of women, men, boys and girls receiving capacity strengthening/training/technical support by type	0	102,466 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	101,722 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	99%
2.3.2 Number of tools, systems or products developed or revised to enhance national food security and nutrition systems as a result of capacity strengthening support	4	7	9	129%
2.3.3 Number of institutions benefitting from embedded or seconded expertise as a result of capacity strengthening support	11	25	35	140%
Average Reach				123%
Output 2.4: Vulnerable communities have access to competitive and enabling private-sector led initiatives and trade opportunities to increase production and promote markets integration.				
2.4.1 Number of women, men, boys and girls receiving capacity strengthening/training/technical support by type	18 RACs; 4630 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	28 RACs; 1400 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	23 RACs; 3,032 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	149%
2.4.2 Number of groups accessing private-sector jobs as a result of capacity strengthening support	300	600	614	102%
2.4.3 Number of women, men, boys and girls receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers	200 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	500 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	427 <i>(data not disaggregated)</i>	85%

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2.4.4 Number of targeted persons receiving agriculture production kits and market oriented agricultural training	65,887	135,000	575,813	427%
Average Reach				191%
Overall Reach				125%

Under output 2.1, due to increased accessibility particularly in Jonglei and Upper Nile, as well as the ability to utilize mechanical assets, over 8,000,000 sqm of land was surveyed, cleared and released. The land released included 650 agricultural areas, 22 markets, and 161 natural water points to support the resumption of livelihood activities. Supported the development of national strategies: National Livestock Development Strategy; United Nations strategy to mitigate conflict related to cattle raiding in South Sudan; Seed System Security Assessment (SSSA) and Fall Armyworm (FAW) Strategy.

Formed Food for Assets (FFA) steering committees and Resilience Platforms in Abyei, Wau, Greater Warrap, and Greater Western Lakes. Continued to strengthen the capacity of vulnerable communities through training and establishment of functional and accountable committees: Natural Resource Management committees, Water management committees, Women Associations, Cooperatives, County Crop Monitoring Committees. These have been trained on crop production, post-harvest practices, fisheries, vocational skills, integrated aquaculture practices, beekeeping, tree nursery and seedling production, intercropping, and participatory natural resource management. In Wau, as part of settlement programming, supported the training of community members on Housing, Land and Property rights. Engaged vulnerable communities in participatory planning mechanisms (CBPP) that linked communities to their landscapes and provided the entry point for scaling up resilience building activities through FFA and other complementary efforts. CBPP led community management structures to enhance ownership and sustainability of the assets created.

Supported the National Social Protection Working Group (NSPWG) including training of 33 members on the “TRANSFORM²” courses to build critical thinking and capacities of policy makers and practitioners at the national level to improve the design, effectiveness and efficiency of social protection systems. In addition, supported the government to conduct the first-ever national mapping of social protection initiatives using the Inter-agency Core Diagnostic Instrument (CODI) methodology. Conducted a study and a national conference on the barriers to women's access to land. The assessment findings and the conference resolutions were used by the drafting committee of the new Land Policy to ensure that gender and women issues are taken into consideration in the development of the new national land Policy.

Under output 2.2, supported the establishment of enterprise groups, marketing groups, agro-based dealer groups, crop production groups, fishing groups, livestock groups, pastoral associations, tree nursery groups, bee keeping groups, fuel-efficient stove groups, etc. Also, supported households with provision of seeds and complimentary trainings; and provided multipurpose cash assistance to individuals to supplement their household income. Trained farmers and extension workers on improved post-harvest

² an innovative UNICEF, ILO and UNDP learning package on social protection

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practices to reduce post-harvest losses. Trained IDPs and host communities on agro-processing and entrepreneurship skills; and provided grinding mills and supported small-scale production of locally manufactured chalk. Women were also supported with agronomic skills in climate smart agriculture, tailoring, hair dressing saloons, ICT and mechanics, adult literacy and numeracy and savings and management of village saving and loan associations.

Relatedly, in collaboration with Urban Water Corporation, vulnerable families/households have been provided with safe water through water voucher systems at kiosks. Also, through the Inter-Agency Joint Market Monitoring Initiative, efforts have been made to provide timely market information to stakeholders. Provided training to IDPs and host communities on basic food safety and hygiene practices; and supported food and cash assistance through the FFA programme and temporary employment in public works (e.g. construction of feeder roads).

These interventions and support enabled individuals, households and communities to create or restore or maintain or diversify their livelihoods; though this progress was negatively impacted by the floods/heavy rains towards the end of 2019.

Under output 2.3, several institutions involved in the implementation of the integrated pastoral service delivery system received support including government line ministries (Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of Environment and NGOs. Relatedly, provided support (capacity building, workshops and training) towards women empowerment through Parliamentary Land Committee, Parliamentary Committee for Gender and Social Welfare, the Women's Parliamentary Caucus, and the Ministry of Gender. Also, supported the regular release of IPC and Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring reports to inform planning and programming.

Trained FFA participants on asset creation, maintenance, and utilization. Provided training on modern vegetable growing techniques and provided seeds and start-up kits for returnees and surrounding areas. Trained fisher folks on improved fish smoking technology, constructed improved fish smoking ovens, and provided fishing gears and canoes to fisher folk groups on cost-recovery basis. Provided TOT on good practices for quality and safety of food and jointly with the Department of Food Control Authority and South Sudan National Bureau of Standards identified testing priority areas: heavy metals analysis, sugar analysis and aflatoxins. Organized several capacity building training and policy dialogues on strengthening Technical and Vocation Education and Training (TVET) coordination and government mechanism and harmonized the national TVET policy. A national Ad-hoc TVET Coordination Committee has been formed chaired by the Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MoGEI). A piloted mobile TVET in agriculture and livestock sector is under implementation targeting youth, specifically girls of pastoralist communities.

Under output 2.4, trained farmers on post-harvest management and established Rural Aggregation Centers (RACs) in different locations to provide marketing and extension opportunities for small holder farmers to sell their commodities in the local markets and to WFP. Constructed local markets to provide opportunity for the local communities to easily access and sell their goods to improve their livelihoods. Formed village saving loans associations and provided savings kits and technical support for financial literacy, savings and loans as well as accompanying life skills training on conflict management, basic

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entrepreneurship skills and leadership. In 2019, the UNCT supported more people/households with agriculture kits (comprising assortment of farming tools, crop and vegetable kits) due to improved access to many locations as a result of the relative stability ushered in by the signing of the revitalized peace agreement.

Priority Area 3: Strengthening Social Services

General context, constraints and challenges in achieving the planned results

The impact of the 2013 and 2016 crisis continues to affect the operations, quality and delivery of social services in the country. In many parts, many people remained displaced; schools and health facilities looted or destroyed; teachers and health workers have not returned after fleeing for their safety; and children remain out of school. Also, the government continues to struggle with payment of salaries of civil servants including for teachers and health workers, thereby impacting on deployment, retention and motivation of teachers and health care professionals, as well as exit of teachers and health workers from the public health sector. This is exacerbated by the general low government budget allocation to the social services sector. For instance, the combined allocations on health, education and social and humanitarian affairs fell to 9% in the 2019/2020 fiscal year, down from 12% in the 2018/2019 budget. While the health sector registered an increment of 31% in monetary terms, its proportion reduced to 1% of the national budget. The education sector registered an increment of 54%, however, its proportion reduced to 5% of the national budget.

Key results achieved during the reporting period

In 2019, UNCT continued to provide a wide range of social services to both displaced and host communities in the country. UNCT deployed midwives in health facilities to provide reproductive health services including skilled birth attendance, thereby increasing the proportion of births attended by skilled health professionals to 15.7% from 14.7%. Relatedly, UNCT continued to support the training of nurses and midwives and provided in-service training on midwifery, gender mainstreaming in sexual and reproductive health (SRH) programmes and HIV/SRH/GBV linkages. Also, it supported the training of clinical officers and medical doctors in emergency obstetric care and surgery. It expanded the sites for treatment of acute malnutrition leading to increase treatment and recovery of children (6-59) months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM)/ moderate acute malnutrition (MAM); expanded households with basic water services to 54% from 50%; and enrolled over 600,000 children, youth and adults in formal and non-formal education. It expanded HIV testing, scaled up HIV treatment, distribution of condoms, and awareness creation and behavior change outreach activities in schools, public gatherings, military barracks and prisons, and radio talk shows; and supported advocacy workshops addressing stigma and discrimination in States, refugee camps and Protection of Civilians sites (POCs).

Priority Area 3: Strengthening Social Services				
Outcome indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Proportion of births attended by skilled health professionals, disaggregated by geography	14.70%	18%	15.7%	87%



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Number of people newly infected with HIV in the reporting period.	All Ages: 14,000; Adults 15+: 12,000; Women: 7000; Children 0-14 = 1,800	All Ages:13,906; Adults 15+:12,293; Women:7829; Children 0-14:1,613	All ages; 19,000 Adults 15+: 17,000 Women 15+:9,500 Children <15 years: 2,000	73%
% of children 6-59 months with SAM/MAM who are admitted for treatment and recover, disaggregated by sex and geography.	SAM: 87%; MAM: 85% (data not disaggregated)	SAM: 90%, MAM: 87% (data not disaggregated)	SAM:98%, MAM:96% (data not disaggregated)	110%
% of children, youth and adults enrolled in formal and non-formal education (sex and age-disaggregated)	ECDE 10% (9% female, 10% male); primary 57% (48 female, 64% male); secondary 7% (4% female, 8% male); Out of school children and youth (aged 6-17) enrolled in Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP), Community Girls School (CGS) and Pastoralist Education Program (PEP) 6% (2015) - percentage of female 42%	ECDE 13% (13% female, 13% male); primary 67% (60 female, 74% male); secondary 9% (6% female, 11% male);	Overall 615,840 children (84.6%) o/w Pre-primary: 50,239 (22,065 girls); Primary: 542,429 (227,926 girls); Accelerated Learning Programmes (ALPs): 19,662 (8,750 girls); secondary 2,307 (661 girls); Training for life skills: 1,203 (525 girls); 126,804 out-of-school children (OOSC) accessed learning opportunities	95%
% of households with basic water services, disaggregated by sex	50%	52%	54%	104%
Average Reach				94%

At the output level, on average, progress on strengthening social services is on track; though challenges of access, logistical/supplies and funding (with funding for some activities only available towards the end

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of the year) still affect effective delivery of social services in the country. UNCT provided support for increased capacity for effective emergency preparedness, response and recovery services that included developing guidelines and response plans for Ebola and Cholera. Continued to provide WASH services to host committees, IDPs, refugees and returnees across the country by drilling, repairing, rehabilitating boreholes and construction of solar powered water infrastructure. Construction of Water and Sanitation infrastructure was complemented by participatory and interactive hygiene promotion and behavior change approaches, combining mass media strategies with interpersonal techniques to reach the target population at the community, household and school levels. However, funding constraint limited progress made in establishing community-based centers or education hubs to provide second chance education (SCE) opportunities for women, adolescents and young girls.

Output Indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Output 3.1 Health: People in South Sudan, particularly children, women, youth and people living with chronic illnesses have increased access to and utilization of quality essential health services				
3.1.1 % of pregnant women attending at least 4 antenatal care visits(ANC coverage)	17%	21%	23%	110%
3.1.2 Coverage of DPT3-Hib-Hep(Pentavalent vaccine) among children under 1 year	26%	40%	43%	108%
3.1.3 Number of outpatient department consultations.	0.6 per capita/year	1	0.8	80%
3.1.4 Percentage of service delivery points that have reported no stock-out of essential medicines/ vaccines in last 3 months	40%	50%	46%	92%
3.1.5 Maternal death review coverage (%)	No data	5%	4%	80%
Average Reach				94%
Output 3.2 HIV: Population in South Sudan particularly youth, key population and people living with HIV have increased access to and utilization of quality HIV services				
3.2.1 # of adults and children on ART	Adults: 22, 793 PMTCT: 5,358 Children:1,205	Adults : 31,768, PMTCT: 7,468, Children: 1,679	Adults: 30,693 PMTCT: 1,653 Children: 1,558	71%
3.2.2 # of people reached with HIV combination prevention services	All: 180,757; M = 96966, F=83,791	All: 205,512; M = 110,246, F=95,266	253,303	123%



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3.2.3 # of adolescents, girls, young women, men and boys accessing integrated HIV and GBV services	1,584,500	1,711,000	1,698,732	99%
Average Reach				98%
Output 3.3 Nutrition: Girls and boys under age five, adolescent girls and women in South Sudan increasingly access more equitable and better-quality nutrition services by 2021				
3.3.1 Number of children aged 6-59 months with SAM who are admitted for treatment	210,689	220,680	240,893	109%
3.3.2 Number of children aged 6-59 months with MAM who are admitted for treatment	512,941 (M: 246,212 F:266,729)	486,821 (M: 233,674 F: 253,147)	524,254 (M: 244,026 F: 279,494)	108%
3.3.3 Number of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with acute malnutrition who are admitted for treatment	F: 356,458	F: 316,762	F: 426,346	135%
3.3.4 Number of primary caregivers of children aged 0-23 months who received IYCF counselling	607,539	984,701	1,684,987	171%
3.3.5 Number of under-five children & PLW enrolled in BSFP in targeted locations/counties	995,322 (U5 M: 334,428 U5 F: 362,297 and PLW: 298,597)	742,560 (U5 M: 260,467 U5 F: 282,173 and PLW: 199,920)	865,479 (U5: 524,354 PLW: 341, 125)	117%
Average Reach				128%
Output 3.4 WASH: Vulnerable and emergency-affected people in South Sudan including children and women have access to basic drinking water, sanitation facilities and increased the capacity for effective emergency preparedness, response and recovery for WASH services.				
3.4.1 Number of people (including host communities, IDPs and Refugees) who access and use safe drinking water with minimum quality and quantity as agreed with cluster	982,659	1,410,965	1,085,823	77%
3.4.2 Number of people (including host communities, IDPs, refugees) who access and use adequate sanitation with minimum quality and quantity as agreed with cluster	498,750	830,957	836,815	101%
3.4.3 % of health facilities with functional WASH facilities	36%	40%	36%	90%



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3.4.4 Number of guidelines, policy, contingency, cholera and Ebola preparedness and response plan reviewed/developed	0	1	1	100%
Average Reach				92%
Output 3.5 Education: Children, adolescents, youth and adults have increased and equitable access to lifesaving quality education with improved learning outcomes and essential life skills.				
3.5.1 # of boys and girls aged 3-18 accessing basic education services through formal ECD, primary or alternative education system	ECD: 150,769; Primary:467,57; Total: 618,369	ECD: 216,369; Primary: 623,173; Total: 839,569	ECD: 84,385; Primary: 618852; Total: 703,237	84%
3.5.2 # of adolescent and youth in school and out of schools provided with life skills and livelihood.	3,017 (M=2,096 F=921)	50,000 (M=30,000 F=20,000)	18,939 (M=10,440 F=8,499)	38%
3.5.3 # of children and youth of pastoralist communities provided education services through formal ECD, primary or alternative education system	1,514	2,500	1,890	76%
3.5.4 # of boys and girls receiving school feeding assistance, disaggregated by activity (On-site meals or Vulnerability Incentive (Take-home ration) (output)	(2018): 16,000 (Vulnerability Incentive) and 364,000 (On- site Meals)	(2019): 60,000 (Vulnerability Incentive) and 400,000 (On- site Meals)	Total =431,045; On-Site = 396,561, Take- Home Ration= 34,484	94%
3.5.5 # of community-based centres or education hubs established to provide second chance education (SCE) opportunities are provided to women, adolescents and young girls.	0	2	0	0%
3.5.6 # of graduates from functional adult literacy and second chance education (SCE) program are equipped with resilience and empowerment skills.	0	500 (women, adolescents and young girls)	50	10%
Average Reach				50%
Overall Reach				92%

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Under output 3.1, the UNCT supported the development of guidelines and response plans for Ebola and Cholera, and Infection Prevention and Control measures against Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) was intensified in all high-risk states. These included prepositioning of personal protective equipment and infection prevention and control supplies, establishment of rapid response teams and safe and dignified burial teams, and construction of Ebola treatment center in Juba and isolation units in Nimule, Yambio and Yei. Also, UNCT continued to support midwifery education by strengthening system for provision of pre-service training of midwives and nurses at Health Sciences Institutes (e.g. Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery, Kajo Keji, Wau and Maridi) that act as models for pre-service education in nursing and midwifery training based on the standards of the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and World Health Organization- 111 nurses and mid-wives graduated with diploma in nursing. Improved access for SRH/GBV services by training 1,184 service providers on the Minimum Initial Services Package for Reproductive Health including Clinical Management of Rape (CMR), Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care, Post Abortion Care and post abortion family planning. A total of 754,796 people was provided with SRH/GBV services at the targeted health facilities both in the POCs, displacement sites, temporary settlement areas and hosting communities. Supported health facilities to establish and provide Adolescent and Youth Friendly Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) services reaching 229,630 young people including procuring and distributing 15,000 dignity kits and 2,500 reproductive health Kits; and supported the Ministry of Health to strengthen technical capacity for provision of Maternal Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) and Emergency Obstetric and NewBorn Care (EmONC) .

The UNCT continued to play a significant role in building the national capacity for Supply Chain Management with a focus on integrating contraceptives and Reproductive Health commodities in the national supply management and essential medicines programme, improvement of storage conditions at the Central Medical Stores and distribution to hospitals and county health departments. Reproductive health commodities worth \$1.8 million were procured and distributed to all health facilities in the country, including 10 million male condoms and 100,000 female condoms. This has contributed significantly to last mile delivery and minimizing stock out risks. Continued to support routine and supplementary immunization services nationwide by ensuring uninterrupted availability of vaccines and injection devices, strengthening immunization supply chain, and enhancing access through outreach and mobile strategies. Supported an agile mix of essential health services, regular outreach and community-based approaches to increase and expand equitable coverage and access for health services, especially for mobile or hard to reach populations with intermittent periods of stability and weather-constrained access.

Overall, in 2019, UNCT support improved access to health services through strengthening infrastructure, improving capacity of the Health Care providers as well as increasing demand through social mobilization and communication activities. SMS played a significant factor in increasing antenatal care visits coupled with the deployment of midwives in targeted facilities, and equipping facilities with maternal health equipment and supplies, and refurbishing EmONC facilities. Also, facilitation of training of midwives in the country is improving ANC coverage. Nevertheless, lengthy customs clearance processes, supplies and logistical constraints and difficulty in accessing some locations continue to affect access to and utilization of quality essential health services.

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Under output 3.2, the UN Joint Team on AIDS supported several key initiatives to increase HIV testing and linking to treatment. Special initiatives included reaching out to organized forces, adolescents and young women on HIV; held a youth conference where a “Youth Compact”- an action plan for advancing youth participation in SRHR/HIV and gender equality programming was developed; developed the Condom strategy and launched the “*Condomize*” Campaign; trained teachers on Comprehensive Sexuality Education; integrated GBV and HIV awareness in the one stop GBV centers; sensitized government officials on how to address stigma and discrimination of key populations; provided nutritional support to people living with HIV and pregnant women on prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT); and integrated antiretroviral therapy (ART) service provision within the existing Primary Health Care services (PHC). Special psychosocial support groups have been created for teenage mothers and persons living with HIV as a supportive mechanism. The main outlet for HIV prevention messages remains health facilities and awareness raising through community health workers/health promoters and mother-mother-support groups. Referral systems have been established in identified ART sites to support PMTCT and PEP kits provided. In partnership with the Ministry of Education and General Instruction, teachers drawn from 30 secondary schools were trained on how to better deliver Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) to encourage health-seeking behavior such as HIV testing, ending child marriage and reducing GBV.

Under output 3.3, through collaborative partnership with over 40 implementing partners and government authorities, the nutrition programme coverage significantly improved from 77% in 2018 to 92% in 2019. Similarly, there was an increase in the number of functional Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) treatment sites from 858 in 2018 to 1,145 in 2019 attributed to improved access especially in Jonglei, Unity, Lakes and Western Equatoria which provided room for community screening and active case finding for early detection and referral. Dry season pre-positioning of essential nutrition supplies eliminated stock out bottlenecks at the OTP treatment sites, hence continuity of service delivery without disruption. To improve the quality of community-based management of acute malnutrition services and adherence to the national protocol for treatment of children with SAM, health and nutrition workers providing nutrition treatment services were trained. Also, a team of dedicated nutrition monitors was employed across the ten states to conduct programme monitoring, on-the-job mentorship and supportive supervision, which significantly improved quality of SAM treatment and increased coverage. Furthermore, Simplified Approach to treatment of wasting has been applied where Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) was provided to both SAM and MAM cases in the absence of Ready-to-Use supplementary food (RUSF) due to logistics constraints. Also, provided Specialized Nutritious Foods (SNFs) with nutrition counseling and messaging. Also, supported 3 medical schools and 4 health science training institutes to integrate management of SAM guidelines into their lesson plans for pre-service training of health care workers. Provided SAM kits for management of SAM with medical complications, trained health care workers on case management, and provided reporting tools to the stabilization centers to improve follow up and reporting.

Under output 3.4, people were provided with sustained access to safe water through construction and rehabilitation of non-functional water facilities (drilling/rehabilitation/maintenance of boreholes), as well as construction of solarized water yard system. The construction of the water supply systems for urban and peri-urban communities of Juba is currently at 50% completion. The water supply system

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is designed to serve a population of 70,000 living in Juba and 33,000 vulnerable people living in the PoC sites. An additional 87,824 individuals living in Juba, Magwi, Twic and Wau and 91,206 vulnerable people living in the PoC sites also benefitted from water services through gender sensitive, low-carbon and climate smart solutions (including solar-powered technologies and flood resilient infrastructure). Support for increasing safe water supply in major towns of Yei, Torit and Yambio continued through construction and upgrading of urban water systems. Water quality testing for major towns particularly Juba and POC sites is regularly conducted and result shared with WASH partners. UNCT supported the construction and rehabilitation of communal latrines, construction of household latrines through Community Led Total Sanitation, as well as institutional latrines (at schools and health centers). Solid waste management and sewage desludging services were also maintained, and in Malakal PoC biogas was piloted. Started the process of building a river barge to enhance water transport in South Sudan. To ensure sustainability of WASH services, WASH committees were established in beneficiary communities and pump mechanics were trained widely to support prompt repairs; whilst ensuring GBV mainstreaming and accountability to affected populations throughout. UNCT also supported the distribution of hygiene/dignity kits in schools and disseminated hygiene promotion and behavioral change messages. Further UNCT supported ICP/WASH and Risk Communication at Points of Entries to prevent EVD.

Under output 3.5, over 600,000 children and young people (from IDPs, refugee camps and host communities) have been provided access to protective quality education services in pre-primary, primary, Accelerated Learning Programme, and secondary school services; and provided women with Second Chance Education (SCE) opportunities. The Early childhood education intervention continues to contribute to school readiness and will ultimately impact the national net enrolment rates. More integrated and consistent teacher trainings, and higher quality teaching and learning materials have contributed to improved competency in early grade reading. Tools and processes to gather Education Management Information System, census, and out-of-school children data were tested and are being expanded. The National girls' strategy which promotes girls' education was revised. However, the prevailing negative cultural practices among communities coupled with insecurity in some parts of the country continues to negatively impact on the enrollment and retention of children particularly girls in school. Further, more effort is needed to set-up community-based centers or education hubs to provide SCE opportunities to women, adolescents and young girls. Also, more support is needed to better equip adolescent and youth in school and out of schools with TVET, livelihood, life and empowerment skills.

Priority Area 4: Empowering women and youth

General context, constraints and challenges in achieving the planned results

With Gender Development Index (GDI) of 0.839 and ranked 186 out of 189 countries on the 2019 Human Development Index, gender disparities remain pervasive in South Sudan, negatively affecting the full constructive participation of both men and women, and other vulnerable groups like youth and disabled people in public discourses. Women exercise limited decision-making at household and community levels; partly due to cultural norms about the roles and abilities of women and men, exacerbated by women's lack of access to education, information, training and employment opportunities. Also, women and girls continue to be subjected to gender-based physical and psychological violence including rape; and bear the brunt of cultural beliefs and customs that restrict their access and ownership of productive resources.

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Child marriages and teenage pregnancies are prevalent. At the same time, boys and young men remain at the receiving end of gender-based discrimination in pastoralist communities, as many are denied educational opportunities and are often exposed to acute insecurity while serving as cattle herders.

Key results achieved during the reporting period

At the outcome level, UNCT made limited progress on empowering women and youth in 2019. Affirmative action regarding the percentage of women in parliament saw a small increase from 27.25 % in 2018 to 27.75% in 2019 (against the 2019 UNCF target of 30%). In the same period, the percentage of women in cabinet ministerial positions rose marginally from 16.13% to 16.67%. Though UNCT supported the drafting of the National Youth Policy in 2019, this has not yet translated into a Youth Act that institutionalizes youth leadership and participation at national and state level as the policy is yet to approved by parliament. Also, little progress was made in reducing the percentage of women who get married before 18 years.

Priority Area 4: Empowering women and youth				
Outcome indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Percentage of Women in leadership position both at National, state level	26.25% NLA, 10% Ministries NG	30% NLA; 18% Ministries NG	27.75% NLA; 16.67% Ministries NG	93%
Existence of youth act that institutionalize youth leadership and participation at national and state level	No	Yes	No	0%
Percentage of women aged 20-24 years married before 18 years.	45	43	45	96%
Average Reach				63%

At the output level, on average, progress on empowering women and youth is on track, though some specific output indicators are either partially on track or off-track due to delays in activity roll-out or processes still on-going. This relates particularly to support towards development of policies and frameworks.

Output indicators	Baseline	2019 Target	2019 Achievement	% Reach
Output 4.1: Strengthened capacities of women of all ages to participate, engage and lead in political, governance, social and economic institutions at national and state level.				
4.1.1 # of women organizations that are capacitated to advocate for women's participation in	70	80	46	58%



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national and state level political and governance discourse				
4.1.2 # of women trained in effective leadership, mediation and peace-building skills to facilitate their engagement in decision making processes at national, state level and interface with the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS).	195	495	1,608	325%
4.1.3 % of women position in government structures and parliament	27%	30%	23.5%	78%
4.1.4 # of community engagement platforms established to promote positive social norms on gender equality and women empowerment.	4	5	8	160%
Average Reach				155%
Output 4.2: Strengthened capacities of multi-sectoral services providers and community-based support to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV) including violence against women & girls (VAWG), harmful practices and child marriage.				
4.2.1 # of capacity strengthening opportunities and awareness raising designed and delivered to relevant target groups for GBV prevention and response.	10	20	35	175%
4.2.2 # of common charted of demands and public declarations developed and endorsed on elimination child, forced marriages and harmful traditional practices.	1	10	8	80%
4.2.3 # of GBV one stop center, women empowerment center and women and girls space established to provide services to women and girls including survivors.	4	10	9	90%



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4.2.4 # of community support groups formed/strengthened, self-sustained and mainstreamed within existing protection structure.	5	15	15	100%
Average Reach				111%
Output 4.3: Youth and young women are empowered and informed to participate in humanitarian – development and peace nexuses planning, programming, implementation and evaluation.				
4.3.1 # of operational multi-sectorial youth coordination mechanism established to coordinate and report on youth engagement in humanitarian development and peace nexuses.	3	19	8	42%
4.3.2 # of youth and young women engaged in humanitarian development and peace nexuses at national and state level.	805	980	1,542	157%
4.3.3 # of programmes designed to empower youth and young women as a standalone pillar.	5	10	20	200%
4.3.4 # of laws, policies or procedures adopted and implemented to promote and improve youth participation at the national and state level.	4	10	4	40%
Average Reach				110%
Output 4.4: The government of South Sudan and partners are capacitated to systematically assess progress on implementation of CEDAW, Beijing Platform for Action, UNSCR 1325, UNSCR 2250, Maputo Plan of Action and SDGs.				
4.4.1 # of situational analysis conducted or progress reports produced on CEDAW/Beijing Platform for Action/UNSCR 1325/ UNSCR 2250/ Maputo Plan of Action and SDGs by partners.	1	2	3	150%
4.4.2 # of Ministries/CSOs actively participated/involved in national reporting processes (CEDAW, Maputo, UNSCR 1325,	2	11	31	282%

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Beijing Platform for Action, SDGs).				
4.4.3 # of position papers on the status of South Sudanese women and girls are drafted and presented at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).	1	2	1	50%
4.4.4.# of gender/GBV related policies and legislation developed and adopted	1	10	1	10%
Average Reach				123%
Overall Reach				125%

Under [output 4.1](#), UNCT provided capacity support to several organizations to advocate for women's participation in national and state level political and governance discourse, namely: Network of Empowered Women Peace Actors in South Sudan (NEWPASS), Women's Bloc, South Sudan Women Peace Network (SSWPN), Initiative for Peace Communication Association (IPCA), Stewardwomen, Charity Aid Foundation (CAF), Whitaker Foundation; Community Youth for Development Aid (CYDA), South Sudan Democratic Engagement, Monitoring and Observation Programme (SSuDEMOP), Self Help Women Development Organization (SHWDO), Samaritan Mission Aid (SMA), Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO), Upper Nile Women Welfare Association (UNWWA), South Sudan Women Coalition For Peace and Development, etc. This included training women leaders (including women with disabilities) on transformational leadership, conflict management, advocacy, mediation and peacebuilding skills, and economic empowerment. Supported the Women National Peace Campaign with a highlight of the meeting between the women leaders and President Salva Kiir to promote women's participation in the implementation and monitoring of the Revitalized Peace Agreement at national level as well as various peace dialogues at community levels. Also, supported women in the land allocation processes, with vocational training and provided business start-up kits.

Also, UNCT supported reduction of gender-based violence including sexual violence and harmful social norms through reinforcing community-based mechanisms including training partners and communities on social norms. It also implemented GBV prevention and response programme as part of empowering women to participate in peace building processes as well as ending child marriage through awareness-raising and social norms transformation; response services including specialized GBV case management, psychosocial support, skills building courses, access to women- and girl-friendly services; risk mitigation information; and referrals to other specialized services. It also conducted community awareness raising conversations between refugees/IDPs and host communities to ensure peaceful co-existence. Refugee and IDP women leaders were sensitized on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and its reporting mechanisms.

Under [output 4.2](#), as part of the efforts towards GBV prevention and response, UNCT supported and conducted awareness raising events and trainings on GBV risk mitigation, case management, counselling,

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psychosocial support activities for GBV survivors, community care model, engaging men through accountable practice (EMAP), clinical management of rape as well as raising awareness on social norms transformation in different locations. It established 9 GBV One Stop Centers (OSCs) at Juba, Rumbek, Maluakon, Yambio, Malakal, Bor, Wau, Kapoeta and Torit hospitals that provided integrated GBV case management services and women empowerment centers and women and girls' friendly spaces to provide services to women and girls including survivors. Law-enforcement officers and health workers were trained on identification of GBV cases/survivors and further investigation/referrals. Further, it established community structures and action groups in different locations to implement community care programmes and engage youth on social norms transformation. This included establishing male champion networks to address discriminatory social norms. These support groups are linked to existing community systems like associations or committees in those different areas. These interventions have strengthened capacities of community-based support to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV).

Also, the UNCT supported building the capacity and resilience of community members to effectively protect and care for children through training community-based child protection committees, school management committee and parent teacher association members about child rights, child protection and psychosocial support. This included family tracing and reunification by facilitating the identification and registration of children who are unaccompanied or separated, tracing their families, managing their cases and reunifying them with their primary caregivers. Following the launch of the Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) for Ending Child Marriage developed by the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, the UNCT supported the establishment of a national multi-sector task force for ending child marriage; and supported eight states to establish coordination and community mobilization mechanisms and pass state resolutions for ending child marriage. Overall, this has strengthened capacities of multi-sectoral services providers to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, harmful practices and child marriage.

Under output 4.3, the planned support for establishing youth coordination mechanisms for engaging youth in humanitarian-development and peace nexus was delayed due to lack of information and data on youth-led organizations. As such, only 8 new coordination mechanisms were set up in 2019 but UNCT continued to support existing coordination mechanisms and strengthen youth committees in different locations. Overall, 1,542 youth and young women were engaged in humanitarian -development and peace nexuses at national and state level through programmes designed to empower youth and young women, namely: peace building project; pastoralists on move project; sustainable agriculture for economic resilience; youth engagement to create conducive environment for sustainable return of displaced communities; supporting establishment and operationalization of peace clubs in schools in South Sudan; livelihood component for women and girls who are survivors of GBV and those vulnerable or at risk of GBV; livelihoods and vocational support to girls formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups; engagement of refugee and IDP women and girls on peaceful co-existence, self-reliance and livelihood initiatives; women empowerment via youth clubs and small business startup projects; reintegration programme (education, business and life skills, psychosocial support, resilience building and vocational training) with former children associated with armed forces and groups and the communities into which they return; training of women groups on association and cooperative management, business management, hospitality skills, fish processing and value addition, packaging and labelling of products;

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etc. However, with the delay in the peace process, limited progress was made on the adoption and implementation of laws and policies to promote and improve youth participation at the national and state level; with only progress made in developing the national land policy, national youth development policy, national Anti-GBV policy and Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) for Ending Child Marriage.

Under output 4.4, support was provided to the Ministry of Gender in the preparation and review of the progress reports on Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Beijing platform for action and United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325. The drafting of the CEDAW and Beijing reports was an inclusive and consultative process involving CSO, Ministries and UN Agencies. Also, support was extended to the Ministry of Gender to participate in the 63rd Session on Commission of Status of Women (CSW) in New York by developing a position paper on the status of women in South Sudan. Relatedly, support was provided for drafting the Anti-GBV policy that is now waiting to be tabled to the council of Ministers. Also, in 2019, a Knowledge Attitudes and Perceptions (KAP) assessment on child marriage was conducted.

Conclusion

The signing of the revitalized peace agreement in September 2018 led to a considerable reduction in conflict-related violence throughout the country and created relative stability and improved access for implementation of activities in 2019. This has favored implementation of the UNCF in its first year, which overall is on-track at output level and partially on-track at outcome level despite persistent challenges such as access to some locations, capacity gaps in service delivery units, delays in supplies, logistics difficulty and funding constraints.

The UNCT delivery supported and contributed to critical national priorities as the country prepares for peace and recovery. With the formation of R-TGoNU on February 22, 2020 and the possibility of strengthening dialogue between government and development partners on joint development priorities through the NDS review process and reviving the development architecture, there is now an even greater need to continue to strengthen development efforts. Implementation of joint programming approaches should be promoted to transition communities from reliance on humanitarian assistance to greater self-sufficiency and ability to productively engage in sustainable development activities.

The need for quality health care and educational services and improved livelihoods will increase with the impact of COVID-19, as well as the expected return of IDPs, POCs and refugees after the formation of the R-TGoNU. The UNCT working with its national partners should continue to build productive capacities and strengthen the weak social services sector and expand delivery of quality services, even in hard to reach areas.

Further, although the political situation in the country remains fragile as the parties are yet to fully implement the R-ARCSS, the formation of R-TGoNU has provided UNCT the opportunity to support the building of peace and good governance including support for institutional reforms and capacity building. The R-ARCSS also provides an opportunity for women's participation and increased role of civil society in the peace, recovery and resilience processes. In addition, the relative stability ushered in by the revitalized

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peace agreement presents an opportunity to clear explosive hazards in previously conflict-affected or hard to reach areas to release more land for production.

The UNCT should also continue to focus on empowering women and youth to improve their economic and social standing. This should include provision of technical and financial support to increase national and multi-sectoral capacity to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and harmful practices, including child marriage.

Also, there is need to continue to improve indicator data tracking, monitoring and reporting to fully flesh out the impacts of the UNCF implementation. This should include appropriate disaggregation of the data to see the impacts of these activities on the different target groups such as by age and gender.

Finally, with the COVID-19 pandemic hitting the globe, the UNCT will need to address the negative impacts of COVID-19 in South Sudan besides the immediate health impact, including the macro-economic and socio-economic impacts, impacts on security, peacebuilding, food security, social services delivery, trade, private sector, employment, humanitarian needs, and implementation of the revitalized peace process. This should entail building resilience towards the impacts of COVID-19 and supporting quick and effective recovery that can provide a basis for achieving national development aspirations and the Sustainable Development Goals.