

Summary Action Report

Reporting Period: 21 January – 28 February 2018

Greater Bahr el Ghazal Actions

Pastoral pre-migration conference between Dinka Malual and Rezeigat Nyamlel, Aweil East State, 2-3 February

Context: The international cattle migration mechanism in Northern Bahr El Ghazal (NBeG) between Sudan and South Sudan has resulted in relatively peaceful coexistence between pastoralists and host communities since 2008. Despite this, cross-border migration remains volatile and highly unpredictable. Drivers of conflict include destruction of host community farmland, theft of livestock, and periodic armed confrontations between pastoralists and host communities.

Action: CAD in partnership with FAO, UNDP, Aweil East State authorities, Joint Border Peace Committees representing Dinka Malual and Rezeigat and the South Sudan Peace and Reconciliation Organization, conducted a pre-migration peace conference in Nyamlel. 125 participants (10 women) including representatives of the two communities, government officials and peace actors attended the event. Participants reviewed previous resolutions, lessons learnt and matters that affected the last migration season, and recommended actions for ensuring the present migration season is peaceful.



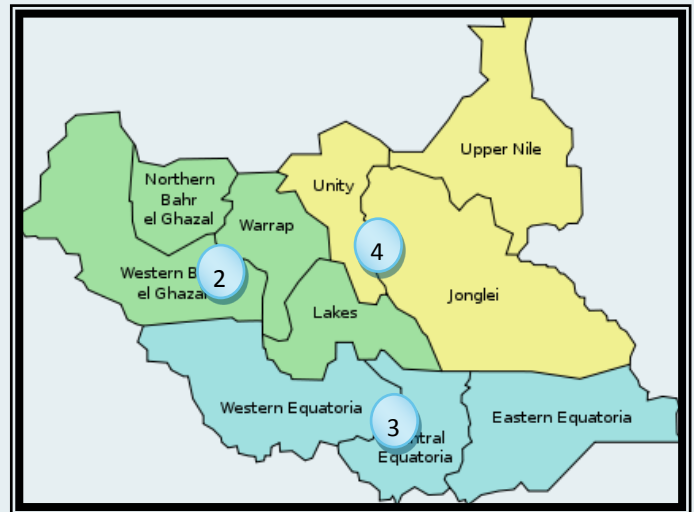
Impact: Both sides signed a conference resolution setting out migration norms. The resolution calls for referring the outstanding cases from previous migration season to Joint Border Peace Committees, setting compensation for the loss of life and destruction of property, construction of a joint peace hall and cooperation on not harbouring South Sudan opposition forces in Rezeigat areas of East Darfur.

Observations: VISTAS had sponsored migration conferences between Dinka Malual and Rezeigat in the past, however, CAD funded the event after the organisation discontinued its support due to lack of funding. The process has served as a model for peaceful coexistence and is being replicated in other states of South Sudan.

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Workshop on conflict management and peaceful coexistence Mbili, Kuajeina County, Wau State, 30 January

Context: Clashes between farmers and herders during the 2016-17



migration season resulted in the displacement of scores of people from Mbili Payam in Kuajeina County to IDP sites in Kuajeina, Mansa and other areas. Some displaced people have returned to the area while others resist based on security concerns.

Action: CAD conducted a workshop in Mbili to promote awareness regarding the importance of negotiated settlements of intercommunal disputes. The activity targeted 150 participants (35 women) including traditional leaders, returnees, county authorities, security officials and youth. Sessions discussed skills, approaches and techniques essential for peaceful conflict management. The ongoing tension between Kuajeina and Rocroc Dong counties over the use of the river was discussed as a case that requires the intervention of communities and state authorities for resolution through dialogue and negotiations. They discussed in detail the provisions of the Marial Bai cattle migration agreement and stressed the need for full implementation and compliance of the agreement.

Impact: The community members agreed to involve traditional leaders and state authorities to resolve disputes with herders and not to participate in fighting and revenge attacks. The state authorities committed to work with their counterparts in the neighbouring counties to resolve the dispute over the use of the river and to address insecurity related to cattle migration.

Observation: The Marial Bai Agreement on cattle migration sets norms for the resolution of disputes between farmers and herders; however, non-compliance often results in intercommunal disputes.

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Greater Upper Nile Actions:

Dialogue forum for Nuer and Dinka communities Gel Achel Payam, Baliet County, Central Upper Nile State, 3-4 February

Context: Dinka Ngok and Nuer (Jikany and Lou) communities coexisted in Gel Achel payam of Baliet County in Central Upper Nile State for decades in relative peace and harmony, sharing common values and traditions. However, the national conflict of 2013 severely affected the inter-communal relations resulting in mutual distrust and animosity. The government of Central Upper Nile and local chiefs, in partnership with CAD, have initiated efforts to promote reconciliation and peaceful coexistence.

Action: CAD Malakal FO, in partnership with the state commissioner for peace and reconciliation in Central Upper Nile State, organised a two-day dialogue forum, which saw participation of 190 community members including traditional chiefs, women and youth from Ngok Dinka (Central Upper Nile State) Jikany Nuer (Latjor State) and Lou Nuer (Bieh State). Participants expressed appreciation for their historical ties that shaped a culture of peaceful coexistence and cultivated support mechanisms among them. The community leaders recognised that the crises, mainly for political reasons, has affected all sides equally and they were in need of humanitarian support, basic services and security.



Impact: The participants signed a call for action document agreeing to establish a monthly dialogue forum to identify risks and promote cooperation. The proposed actions include resolving disputes through traditional mechanisms, organising cultural and sports events and encouraging women participation in the local peace initiatives. Both communities called upon the government and other actors for humanitarian support, improved road connectivity, immediate disarmament, and strengthening of rule of law institutions.

Observations: CAD initiated efforts to facilitate negotiation between the two communities in March 2017.

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Workshop on promoting women participation in conflict management Bentiu, 5-6 February

Context: Ongoing tensions and conflict in the country continue to have an adverse effect on communal relations in the Bentiu PoC site, Bentiu town, Rubkona and beyond. Mutual distrust, polarisation along ethnic lines and occupation of IDP lands by other communities have adversely affected efforts by the state authorities and other peace partners to promote peace. Following continued engagements with CAD, women in the PoC site and Bentiu town expressed willingness to spearhead a campaign to promote intercommunal relations and requested that CAD provide necessary training and skills on negotiation and peacebuilding.

Action: CAD conducted a two-day forum for 89 women from the PoC site, Rubkona and Bentiu town, and surrounding villages of Juach, Dingding, Wichbar, Koat in greater Rubkona County. Participants reviewed existing collaboration mechanisms between various women groups and underscored the importance of collaboration in bridging the trust and communication gap between conflicting communities. CAD facilitated sessions

on conflict cycles and identified opportunities for women groups to contribute towards conflict resolution and peace promotion.



Impact: The participants formed peace committees to work towards reconciliation, sharing limited resources within communities and promoting peaceful coexistence between the residents of the PoC site, Rubkona and Bentiu towns and surrounding areas. The women from across ethnic divisions agreed to collaborate with each other and mobilise their efforts to design and implement joint peacebuilding initiatives, rally other women to encourage dialogue, unity and influence local authorities.

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Workshop on conflict management for the PoC site communities Bentiu, 25-26 January

Context: At Bentiu PoC site, relations between Mayom and other communities remain strained due to mutual distrust. The entrenched divisions flared up during the selection process of the community high committee (CHC) leadership structure in Sector 1 of the PoC site in late 2017. Despite their right to participate, other communities rejected the Mayom community's inclusion in the leadership structure. CAD helped the parties to resolve the matter; however, grievances among members of the Mayom community remained.

Action: CAD conducted a two-day conflict management workshop for 41 participants, representing various communities, CHC leadership, traditional leaders, women, youth and religious leaders. The action featured plenary discussions, presentations, brainstorming and group work as well as conflict analysis. Participants identified factors that create divisions and influence relations between the IDPs and reviewed the effectiveness and strength of traditional dispute resolution mechanisms.

Impact: The participants concluded that relations between various segments of IDPs were influenced by external actors for political reasons and undertook to resolve their differences through dialogue and cooperation. Women and youth pledged to promote social cohesion through peace clubs by organising social activities like music, drama and sports.

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Greater Upper Nile Actions:

Forum on the role of traditional chiefs in promoting social cohesion

Wau Shilluk, Ogod County, Central Upper Nile State, 23 February,

Context: In February 2017, an offensive by pro-Machar iO forces on Wau Shilluk area in Ogod County of Central Upper Nile State, resulted in the displacement of thousands of civilians to areas like Kodok and Aburoc. With relative peace maintained in the area, displaced communities have gradually started returning. However, absence of a functioning court and low capacity of the rule of law institutions remains an impediment in managing disputes over land ownership as well as boundary disputes with other counties.

Action: CAD organised a leadership forum to build the capacity of 70 community leaders and local authorities (26 women) from Wau Shilluk and surrounding villages on promoting peace and social cohesion. The forum was the first of its kind in the area since the outbreak of national crises in 2013. The participants recounted the instrumental role of traditional leaders in managing community disputes, and highlighted issues that impede their functions. CAD delivered sessions to enhance technical skills of the participants essential for efficient dispensation of their functions.

Impact: The county authorities promised to carry out further consultations to support and strengthen indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms and to mainstream such roles within the county's conflict management framework.

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Greater Equatoria Actions:

Five-state conference on cattle migration Tali, Terekeka, 23-26 February

Context: The cattle migration season in South Sudan brings conflicts between farmers and pastoralists resulting in loss of life and property. To address migration related tensions in five states of Amadi, Terekeka, Eastern and Western Lakes and Gok, CAD initiated efforts in partnership with VISTAS. At a conference in Mvolo in May 2017, a baseline agreement for managing cattle migration between the five states was signed. A second conference in Rumbek in August 2017 saw official formulation of the Joint Border Peace Committee (JBPC) and drafting of roles and responsibilities. At a third conference in Yirol, Eastern Lakes State, in October 2017, training was delivered to JBPC members to help build technical skills in carrying out their functions.

resale of weapons to the civilians.

Impact: The forum concluded with the signing of an agreement between the communities of the five states to abide by the process initiated in Mvolo in May 2017, and to manage cattle migration within the parameters established by the JBPC. The governors of five states endorsed the outcome and assured that full support will be provided to the JBPC.

Observations: The governors pledged to contribute 30,000 SSP per month to their respective JBPC members and to request the national Ministry of the Interior to provide vehicles. They also agreed to dedicate seven police officers in each state to support the work of JBPC.

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Workshop to promote Civil-Military relations Nimule, Pageri County, Imatong State, 6-8 February

Context: The national political crises of July 2016 displaced scores of civilians from Pageri County to refugee camps in Uganda as well as to other parts of South Sudan. Some displaced communities have returned to the area while others are yet to return, despite repeated calls by the government. Communities report harassment, arbitrary arrests, looting, occupation and vandalizing of houses and public facilities perpetrated by the



Action: CAD in partnership with VISTAS organized a four day conference at Tali, Terekeka State for 450 participant including governors of five states, members of Transitional National Legislative Assembly, cattle keepers, farmers and other stakeholder. For the first time since its formation, the JBPC led all the proceedings and deliberations. Participants reviewed the provisions and norms of cattle migration set in Mvolo conference as well as highlighted root causes that effect intercommunal relations. They expressed strong support to implement the conference outcomes. The stakeholders expressed their desire to comply with the ongoing disarmament process and called for government's intervention to stop



armed groups as well as SPLA soldiers. Another matter of contention is the presence of cattle from Jonglei area.

Action: CAD in collaboration with the Peace Commission of Imatong State Government organised a three-day workshop to provide a platform to address the issues preventing citizens from returning home from refugee camps in Uganda and locations within South Sudan. The activity saw the attendance of 150 participants (50 women) including the state governor, senior government officials, members of state and national parliaments, SPLA officers, community chiefs, and youth and women from Pageri and refugee camps in Uganda. The cordial discussions provided the community and SPLA officials the opportunity to express their grievances freely and identify issues that negatively affect mutual relations and social cohesion.

Impact: At the conclusion of the conference, a resolution was adopted. Among others, it calls for the deployment of police forces to areas of return and relocation of SPLA to designated barracks, return of Dinka Bor cattle keepers to Jonglei State within 14 days, training of security personnel on effective conflict management skills and ensuring adherence of SPLA soldiers to military code of discipline. State authorities and SPLA commanders committed to make necessary arrangements for the implementation of the resolution.

Observations: Both sides are optimistic that the forum and the concurrence of stakeholders on key issues will improve conditions for the return of displaced people. The SPLA has committed to work with the community to identify all of those arrested and kept in the SPLA detention facilities and facilitate their release.

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Conflict management workshops for Amadi State authorities and affected communities Mundri, Amadi state, 23 -24 January

Context: Since the national crises of 2013, security situation in Amadi State remains fluid, characterised by clashes between government and opposition forces. Some areas remain under control of the government while others are controlled by opposition forces. The conflict has displaced thousands of civilians to government-controlled areas. A significant number of government appointed commissioners remain confined to Mundari town for fear of insecurity in their respective constituencies.

Action: CAD organised two separate daylong workshops to enhance capacity of 54 state government officials (ministers, advisors, commissioners and state assembly members) as well as 50 host and displaced communities (19 women) on effective conflict management and resolution. The sessions discussed skills related to identifying the root causes, sources, management, and methods of resolving conflicts. Training was also delivered on negotiation and mediation techniques. Key issues raised by participants included political power struggles, ethnic division, injustice, and limited access to basic services.

Impact: Community members recommended open dialogue between government and armed oppositions. The state authorities called for an inclusive peace process for addressing local conflicts and suggested reaching out to the opposition controlled areas with similar training. They also agreed to coordinate with bordering state governments to improve security and prevent migration-related crop destruction. Both state authorities and displaced communities called for youth empowerment as a viable supplement to government efforts in addressing intercommunal conflict.

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Civil Affairs Division