



# Lobby and Advocacy Strategy of

LEADERS OF PEACE (LOP) 2021-2025



LoP Consortium members after developing lobby & advocacy plan



## List of acronyms

ABC	The lowest court in The Republic of South Sudan headed by head chief.
AMA	Assistance Mission for Africa
AU	African Union
CEFM	Child Early and Forced Marriage
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
GE	Gender Equality
HNTPO	HealthNet TPO
L&A	Lobby and Advocacy
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Agency for Development
LoP	Leaders of Peace
MGCSW	Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Welfare
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Nongovernment Organization
OSC	One Stop Centre
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
ARCSS	Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan
RARCSS	Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan
RTGoNU	The Revitalization of the Transitional Government of National Unity
RTNLA	Revitalization Transitional National Legislative Assembly
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals



SOP            Standard Operating Procedures  
WPS            Women in Peace and Security



## Glossary of terms

**Advocacy:** There are many different ways to define advocacy. Put simply, advocacy is a way of influencing a process or outcome so that it reflects your priorities. Advocacy can be done by an individual or in a group, it can be grassroots or large-scale, and can be applied to many different areas (e.g., international processes, national laws and policies, a school board). Advocacy usually targets decision-makers, like politicians or heads of organizations, however, it can also be used to gain support more generally (like a public movement or campaign)

**Allies:** An ally is someone who supports a cause, even if they are not directly affected by it themselves.

**Lobby:** Lobbying is a specific type of advocacy focused on influencing policies or legislation. Lobbying may form part of an advocacy strategy, the difference here is really that lobbying is focused on policies and legislation while advocacy may be more general.

**Gender:** Roles, behaviour, activities, and attributes that a given society at a time considers appropriate for men and women.

**Gender equality:** Gender equality is a situation whereby everyone, regardless of their real or perceived gender identity and gender expression, has equal conditions for realizing their full potential and their human rights, and are able to contribute to, and benefit from, economic, social, cultural, and political development. Everyone is free to develop their personal abilities and to make choices without the constraints of stereotypes and prejudices.

**Gender Equity:** Gender equity, also referred to sometimes as substantive equality, moves beyond legal or formal gender equality by arguing that in order to reach a situation of true gender equity, certain marginalized groups may require temporary special measures to compensate for historical and/or systemic discrimination.

**Gender mainstreaming:** The process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies, or programs, in all areas and at all levels. It is a way to make women's, as well as men's, concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs in all political, civil, economic and social spheres so that women and men benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.

**Empowerment of women & girls:** Concerns their gaining power and control over their own lives, involves awareness – raising, building self-confidence, expansion of choices, increased access to and control over resources and actions to transform the structures and institutions, which reinforce and perpetuate gender discrimination and inequality.

**Gender budgeting:** A variety of processes and tools that attempt to assess the impact on women of government budgets at the national level. Gender or women's budget initiatives are not separate budgets for women. They include analysis of budgets and policy impacts based on gender and are also commonly referred to as gender-responsive/sensitive budgeting.

**Gender Discrimination:** Discrimination based on one's real or perceived gender. Gender discrimination can affect many different things, from the way a person is treated to the opportunities a person has.

**Gender analysis (gender sensitive, else):** Makes visible any fairness and justice in the distribution of opportunities, responsibilities, resources, benefits between women and men, boys and girls in all spheres of life.

**Affirmative action:** A practical policy to increase the diversity of organizations/institutions through human resources initiatives such as the 35% women representation in public life in South Sudan.

**Litigation:** Using the judicial system to move women's discriminatory policy by filing lawsuits, civil actions, and other advocacy tactics. Engaging in legal proceedings to challenge laws and institutional practices.

**Leadership development:** Increasing the capacity (through training, coaching, or mentoring) of individuals to lead others to act in support of an issue or position related to women's concerns, needs, issues, and priorities.

**Civil society:** Made up of citizens and organizations outside of government and business. NGOs are part of civil society.

**Policy:** A course or principle of action adopted or proposed by an organization or individual. This can include a plan, strategy, agenda, programme, human rights instrument, budget decision, piece of legislation, or set of regulations and/or protocols issued by a government, institution, etc.

**Policy makers:** Typically, government officials or individuals with formal political power (e.g., parliamentarians, law drafters, judges, ministers, etc.)

**Power Analysis:** An examination of who has the power to deliver the change you wish to see.

**Message:** A statement that aims to persuade others to support your solution to a problem through advocacy actions.

**Coalition:** A group of organizations working together to achieve a common goal.

**Target:** The person or group of people who can bring about the policy change that you hope to achieve, and upon whom your advocacy effort ultimately focuses.

**Opinion leaders:** Individuals who exert a significant amount of influence within their sector, and or in their role, and who can influence the opinions of connected individuals.

**Champion:** An advocate of a belief, practice, policy, advocacy with passion, persistence and persuasiveness e.g., influential opinion leader who promotes elimination of all forms of violence against women, gender responsive laws, etc.



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## 1.0 Introduction

Leaders of Peace (LoP) is a five-year programme under the Women, Peace, and Security (funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs). The grant instrument was provided under the Policy Framework for Strengthening Civil Society (2021-2025) approved in 2019. Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) grant instrument falls under the policy framework. The Leaders of Peace alliance is composed of Plan International (lead), HealthNet TPO (HNTPO), AMA (Assistance Mission for Africa), EVE, and PAX. The consortium has been granted a five-year Programme under this grant instrument running from January 2021 to December 2025 and is based on the (1) UNSCR 1325 and the nine resolutions that followed it, (2) the Theory of Change of the Dutch NAP 1325 (2016-2020) and (3) the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 5 and 16. The programme is geared towards achieving the following strategic objectives and results by end of 2025

### 1.1 Strategic Objectives and result areas

A more empowering and inclusive environment in South-Sudan, where women and girls feel safer and better enabled to realise their rights, so they can play an influential role towards conflict prevention and sustainable peace.

To achieve the overall strategic objective, three result areas have been developed, closely aligned to the three previously mentioned WPS grant instrument sub-objectives:

1. Improved implementation of policies and regulations on GBV and protection of women and girls including psychosocial support and self-care,
2. Changed attitudes and beliefs of civil society (CSO) to facilitate inclusion of women and girls and promote gender equality (GE),
3. Increased and effective participation of Women and Youth in leadership and peacebuilding

The three result areas are mutually reinforcing each other: Improving knowledge/uptake of GBV/ protection policies/regulations deters harmful gender norms; this is necessary to ensure that women and girls equally participate. Equal participation of women and girls in leadership and peacebuilding is key to sustainable/inclusive peace processes, and to protecting marginalised groups during post-conflict situations. In addition, the theory of change of Leaders of Peace is contributing to the overall theory of change of the policy framework ‘Strengthening Civil Society’. As the overall strategic objective of LoP is striving, to contribute to peaceful and just societies, where all people, especially marginalized groups, have equal access to rights, services and opportunities. Through our result area 1 and 2, LoP is working towards inclusive laws, policies and norms and practices, which is the medium-term impact level.

Although, the LoP L&A strategy is designed to maximum on lobby and advocacy goals by targeting primary targets to influence the Policies and Laws, however, it is worth mentioning the





important roles of incorporation of awareness-raising initiatives which are aimed at changing the behaviour at the individual level. This is particularly important for South Sudan which has a strong culture of traditional norms. Moreover, the existing conflicting views of the statutory and customary courts in which, more jurisdictions are held by traditional authorities in most of the country calls for more awareness raising at the grassroots.



## 2.0 Problem statement

South Sudan is dealing with enormous challenges and issues which are affecting women and young girls across the country. It is important to note that strong cultural norms and a patriarchal system creates a big disparity in the society, where boy education is favoured to girl education. The baseline study conducted in 2021 in the five states, summarily found out that GBV was still very high and prevalent in all five states. Moreover, there is a lack of government commitment to funding the GBV prevention and response framework has remained a significant barrier to the implementation of GBV policies and legal frameworks. Secondly, comprehensive laws addressing the rights of women lack organizational implementation structures, which culminates in limited protections for women and girls. Some of the different forms of GBV and the weakness in the institutional structures include the following amongst other,

- 1) High cases of early child marriages
- 2) Forced marriage of young girls
- 3) High cases of physical assault to women and young girls e.g., raping, beating,
- 4) Lack of implementation of the GBV laws, where traditional and local authorities do not seem to care much about GBV in their communities as the cases are handled in a traditional way at the disadvantage of women.
- 5) Inadequately trained law enforcement personnel e.g., police and justice stakeholders on GBV
- 6) Customary ABC courts are largely male, profoundly mirror the ingrained patriarchal customs of subjugation and disrespect towards women.
- 7) Inadequate detention for the perpetrators of GBV
- 8) Inadequate shelters for the protection of GBV Survivors
- 9) Lack of government commitment to funding the GBV prevention and response framework

On psychosocial support services, the states have not provided referral mechanisms for survivors to access psychosocial support services including counselling, shelters, food, legal services, and protection. The CSOs have stepped in to fill these gaps, however, due to the vast need for psychosocial support services needed, access to these services has remained largely insufficient, and sporadic particularly in remote areas. For instance,

- 1) Reproductive and mental health services are lacking in some states, as well as inadequate in some areas
- 2) GBV examination form for laboratory examination are lacking in some facilities, in certain incidences, some survivors are forced to pay for the forms
- 3) Inadequate specialised medical personnel, e.g., psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, and counsellors to offer the desired health requirements.
- 4) Lack of funding by government to public health sector

On access to legal services, all the five states have a weak justice system that is complicated by plural legal orders from both the civil courts and customary/traditional courts. The ABC courts lack understanding of legal jurisprudence around GBV, nor appreciate the character and degree of women's rights, and the need to confer protection of these rights, which has made access for survivors of GBV and gender crimes extremely difficult. For instance,

- 1) Customary law continues to govern the use of land and other natural resources in South Sudan, with each ethnic group applying its laws relating to land and land rights within its territory in most states, traditional practices and customary practices still restrict women and girls' access to land and property
- 2) The absence of specific law on domestic violence
- 3) Rape within marriage is not illegal under the current statutory framework in which most marital cases are handled in the ABC court
- 4) There exist contradictions between statutory and customary law that reinforces GBV as normative practices

Moreover, that the current level of participation of women and youths in leadership and peacebuilding is minimal, and tokenism at best. The men and elders do not regard women and youth as able to contribute in any meaningful way. Lack of political good will undermine the realization of women and youth participation in decision-making processes both at the National and grassroots levels. Recognizing the historic inequalities between women and men in South Sudan, the government of South Sudan set a 25% Affirmative Action quota for women in legislative and executive bodies. However, the peace process increased this commitment to 35%. In spite of the proposed affirmative action, in the current RTNLA, women currently comprise 28.5% of the legislators. Thus, the government seems to face a capacity gap in the implementation of the agreed plan.

### 3.0 Context analysis

#### 3.1 Social context

South Sudan is characterised with a masculine and patriarchal society, where female bodies are perceived as an entitlement, as territory to use, control and own and trade for benefit. Through rape, women are controlled by fear, men dominate over women and so control over populations is exercised and the social fabric of communities. According to the report of the Human Rights Council, 21st March 2022, Perpetrators feel entitled to treat women as the spoils of war, as the perpetrators are frustrated due to lack of support from their leaders for their well-being. Acceptance of this sense of entitlement is rooted in the countries' patriarchal social and political beliefs and structures.

#### 3.2 Political and legal context

The political context of South Sudan remain fluid following the political conflicts of 2013 and 2016 which resulted into two peace agreements, The Agreement for Resolution of Conflicts in South Sudan (ARCSS) and The Revitalised Agreement for the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (RARCSS) respectively in 2015 and 2018. Despite the RARCSS holding, however, there still exists political rifts due to non-signatories to RARCSS, and thus leaving the rest of country to experience conflicts.

##### 3.2.1 Laws and policies

Consequently, the existing pockets of conflicts from the hold out groups results in negative impacts on women and young girls, as well as implementation of Government Laws. South Sudan enacted several Laws after gaining independence in 2011. Firstly, the until today, South Sudan is implementing Laws based on the Transitional Constitution of 2011, which is yet to be reviewed and updated. other Laws and Codes, include the Penal Code of 2008, The Child Act 2008.

Moreover, South Sudan is a party to four Geneva conventions of 1949 and additional Protocols II and II of the Geneva Conventions and domesticated these conventions into Laws. It is also a signatory Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Additionally, there exists procedures and policy frameworks, for example, The Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Welfare (MGCSW) developed policies and guidelines, including Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for GBV prevention and response. The National Gender Policy that went into effect in 2013 was also designed to serves as a framework and guideline for mainstreaming principles of gender equality. Even if the enacted Laws are designed to be enabling, however, these culture and norms renders their implementation challenging, in addition to being contradictory between statutory and customary courts. Some of the existing challenges are in the various Laws and Codes are as follows,

*The Penal Code Act 2008 Art. (223), the act of assault results to Imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or with a fine or with both, however, assault of women and children is prevalent, and considered as part of disciplining women and children*

*The Penal Code Act 2008 Art. (247), the act of rape results in Imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years, or both imprisonment and a fine, however, rape is still prevalent in South Sudan, with perpetrators hardly getting punished as per the law.*

*The Penal Code Act 2008 Art. (259), the act of female genital mutilation results into imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years or with a fine or with both, but A study by UNICEF 2015 noted that 1% of South Sudan (15-49y years) had undergone FGM, while in Bahr el Ghazal and Upper Nile, the prevalence of FGM is 86.6%, with no evidence of processions on the same*

*The Penal Code Act 2008 Art. (273), Kidnapping or Abducting a Woman to Compel her into Marriage, etc., results in Imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or with a fine or with both, however, Rebel activities of violence and abduction of women, rape, sexual abuse are still prevalent. Mechanisms for holding militia and rebels accountable are largely ineffective as they still control some regions and communities*

*The Child Act, 2008, states that Child Abuse Exploitation/sexual violence results into Imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years or with a fine or with both and may be liable to pay such compensation to the child as the Court deems fit and just.”, however, Early child marriage, physical and emotional violence is still prevalent*

*In, The Transitional Constitution of 2011, The Bill of Rights -guarantees equality and equity between women and men, but the Gender Equality is not realized. Women and girls do not enjoy equal rights to education, property, work. Art. (33) states: “Ethnic and cultural communities shall have the right to freely enjoy and develop their particular cultures”. This article renders equality clauses meaningless*

*The transitional government of 2011, Art. (31) states that all levels of government shall promote public health, establish, rehabilitate and develop basic medical and diagnostic institutions and provide free primary health care and emergency services to all. However, lack of funding by the government has inhibited full realization of the constitutional provision to safeguard health due to lack of adequate facilities, poor or lack of equipment, and unskilled health sector human resources.*

*The Child Act, 2008, Section 26 (2)(b): “Every female child has the following rights— (a) the right of equal participation on a non- discriminatory basis as partners with a male child in social, economic and political activities; (b) equal rights to succession and inheritance to property and reasonable provision out of the estate of a deceased parent without discrimination; and (c) the right to develop their full potential and skills through equal access to education and training.”,*

*however, the female child remains to be discriminated from access to social, economic and political activities e.g., access to education etc.*

*The Transitional Constitution and Bill of Rights (2011) provides guarantees for equality between women and men; however, South Sudan is yet fulfil its 35% affirmative action following the recent appointment of RTNLA*

### **3.2.2 National strategies and plans**

South Sudan has signed to The National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (2015-2020), the Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) on Ending Child Marriages in South Sudan (2017-2030); Girls Education Strategy (2018-2022); the Joint Programme on GBV (2017-2020) and the One-Stop Centres (OSC) for Integrated GBV Services are some of the policy frameworks in place to help prevent and respond to GBV. In The Ministry of Gender Child and Social welfare (MGCSW), there exists a Strategic Plan for 2013–2018 for the implementation of the National Gender Policy

### **3.2.3 Budgeting**

It is expected that each LoP partner will identify advocacy activities which will directly contribute towards the result area they are working on and within the allocated financial resources for activity implementation as per the contractual agreement.

### **3.2.4 Implementation practices**

While lobbying with legislatives reference will be made to some of the identified hinderances and gaps in the current Laws and policies in use. Moreover, legislatives will be influenced during the revision of some of the Laws, and well as lobby for the passing of the family Laws as there is an opportunity available for the review of the Transitional Constitution of 2011 for The Republic of South Sudan.

### **3.2.5 Monitoring and evaluation**

The lobby and advocacy strategy make use of the recommendations suggested in the baseline findings. Outcomes both intended and unintended shall be documented, specifically those pertaining to the identified gaps in some of the Laws and Codes. Moreover, close attention will be paid on hinderances, ambiguity and contradictions in implementation of the Laws and Codes in trying to address the existing challenges in the problem statement.

### 3.2.6 Responses

Evidence based accountability will be utilised especially for primary target who are influential. For example, data and statistics will be collected from the relevant ministries e.g., Ministry of Health on prevalence of mental health, Ministry of Education and General Instruction on enrolment rates as well as retention amongst other, Ministry of Gender, child and Social Welfare on GBV so that these are used for identifying the existing gaps. Moreover, the LoP consortium will engaged in its lobby and advocacy interventions based on the detail plan in section 4.0 (Outcome and activities).

### 3.2.7 Regional and international processes and accountability

LoP consortium will pay key focus on recommendations from the Human Rights Councils, specifically Committee on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) below,<sup>1</sup>

#### 3.2.7.1 Legal framework and definition of discrimination against women

1. The Committee welcomes the constitutional recognition of the principle of equality of women and men (article 16). It is concerned, however, about the absence of a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women in line with the Convention. It is further concerned that there is no timeline for the finalization of the permanent constitution and the enactment of critical draft laws to implement women's rights, including legislation on: combating gender-based violence; nurses and midwifery; a national family law; affirmative action; protection of survivors of trafficking in persons; combating HIV-related stigma and discrimination; and inheritance and succession.

2. Recalling articles 1 and 2 of the Convention and target 5.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals, on ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere, the Committee recommends that the State party.

(a) Adopt, without delay, legislation that includes a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women covering all internationally recognized prohibited grounds of discrimination and encompassing direct and indirect discrimination in both the public and private spheres, as well as intersecting forms of multiple and intersectional discrimination.

(b) Expedite the permanent constitution process and the adoption of draft laws critical to ensuring women's rights, such as the laws on combating gender-based violence, on nurses and midwifery, on a national family code, on affirmative action, on protection of survivors of trafficking in persons, on combating HIV-related stigma and discrimination, and on inheritance and succession,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://uhri.ohchr.org/en/search-human-rights-recommendations>



ensuring harmonization of their provisions with the Convention and that women represent a minimum of 35 per cent of delegates with voting rights in these processes.

### **3.2.7.2 Women, peace and security**

3. The Committee welcomes the provisions in the 2015 Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan and the 2018 Revitalized Agreement establishing important mechanisms to deal with human rights violations arising from the conflict as well as past abuses in South Sudan, namely: the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing, the Hybrid Court for South Sudan and the Compensation and Reparation Authority. It regrets, however, that to date none of these mechanisms has been established. It further notes with concern that.

(a) The participation of women in peace processes, reconstruction efforts and transitional justice mechanisms, including in the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement and in the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity, do not reach the minimum quota of 35 per cent established in the Revitalized Agreement for representation of women in governing bodies in the State party.

(b) The mechanism for the implementation of the national action plan for 2015–2021 on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security was never established due to insufficient resources, and that the national action plan has not been renewed following its expiry.

(c) Women and girls across the State party continue to suffer from the effects of conflict and are in need of humanitarian assistance.

(d) Organized gender-based violence and repressive public policy have reduced the space for women's participation in peace processes.

4. The Committee recalls its general recommendation No. 30(2013) on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations and urges the State party to:

(a) Ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction efforts, including in leadership positions, in line with Security Council resolution 1325(2000), and take into consideration the full spectrum of the women and peace and security agenda of the Security Council, as reflected in its resolutions 1820(2008), 1888(2009), 1889(2009), 1960(2010), 2106(2013), 2122(2013), 2331(2016) and 2467(2019).

(b) Ensure that its national action plan on women, peace and security is promptly renewed and fully implemented, including through the allocation of adequate human, technical and financial resources and through enhanced cooperation with civil society organizations, the international

community and relevant United Nations agencies, and include indicators for the regular monitoring of its implementation and reporting.

(c) Immediately operationalize the Hybrid Court and promptly establish the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing, ensuring that transitional justice processes effectively address the gendered causes of the conflict and its consequences for women and girls in the State party, and actively involve them in such processes, ensuring that they receive comprehensive reparations in line with international human rights standards.

(d) Continue to engage with the international community and United Nations agencies, in particular the United Nations Mission in South Sudan and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, particularly in the monitoring and documentation of human rights violations and in the provision of humanitarian assistance to women and girls, prioritizing provision to those in rural and remote areas.

(e) Create an enabling environment for women to freely express their views and to assemble without fear of persecution.

### **3.2.7.3 Conflict-related sexual violence against women**

5. The Committee welcomes the constructive measures taken by the State party in addressing conflict-related sexual violence, including the Action Plan for the Armed Forces on Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in South Sudan, launched in 2021, and the establishment of special emergency courts and court martials to expeditiously try cases of sexual and gender-based violence, including allegations against the armed forces. The Committee is deeply concerned, however, that women and girls continue to be subjected to rape and other forms of sexual violence, and to abductions, with a number of women and girls still being held captive, by all parties to the armed conflict in the State party, with widespread impunity. It is further concerned about the evasive tactics used to avoid paying court-ordered compensation to victims, including in the case of the Terrain Hotel (Juba) following the 2018 court-martial conviction of 10 soldiers for having committed sexual offences against civilians, notably women and girls.

6. In line with its general recommendations No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice and No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, the Committee recommends that the State party.

(a) Implement the standard operating procedures for prevention of, protection against and response to gender-based violence of 2014, to ensure access for victims of conflict-related sexual violence to shelters and legal, psychosocial and medical assistance, particularly emergency contraception and post-exposure prophylaxis.

(b) Facilitate the unrestricted access of the United Nations, ceasefire monitors and relevant humanitarian partners to all government and opposition cantonment sites and military bases where abducted civilians, including women and girls, might be held, ensuring the immediate release of women and girls abducted during hostilities and their provision with immediate medical and psychological support, as well as long-term livelihood support and comprehensive reparations in line with international human right standards.

(c) Strengthen the judicial system in order to implement article 2.1.10.2 of the Revitalized Agreement and article 3.2 of the agreement on cessation of hostilities of 2014, to prevent sexual and gender-based violence against women and combat impunity for perpetrators of such violence, particularly among members of the South Sudan People's Defence Forces and the security sector.

(d) Implement the 2014 joint communiqué, signed by the President of South Sudan and the United Nations, on addressing conflict-related sexual violence and avail itself of international assistance, including from the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, to promote zero tolerance of the commission of such acts through clear orders prohibiting sexual violence, as well as through reinforcement of the military justice system and training for military personnel.

#### **3.2.7.4 Discriminatory stereotypes and harmful practices**

7. The Committee welcomes the prohibition under article 16 (4) (b) of the Transitional Constitution of all harmful practices undermining the dignity and status of women. It also notes that the Child Act contains provisions to protect girls from sexual abuse, exploitation and gender-based violence. The Committee notes with concern, however, that harmful practices, such as child and forced marriage, "bride prices" and female genital mutilation, are deeply rooted in patriarchal attitudes and discriminatory stereotypes concerning the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society, which perpetuate the subordination of women in the State party. It is further concerned that cases of forced marriage are often relegated to customary courts.

#### **3.2.7.5 Gender-based violence against women**

8. The Committee welcomes measures taken to combat gender-based violence against women, such as the special protection units in police stations, the one-stop centres in all 10 states of the country providing rehabilitation services and shelter for survivors, and the specialized court in Juba to adjudicate cases of gender-based violence. It remains concerned, however, about the high prevalence of such violence in the State party, in particular domestic and sexual violence, including in educational institutions. It further notes with concern that limited operational funds, human capacity and technical skills, as well as reported mistrust in and the lack of accountability of the justice sector, compromise the effectiveness of measures in place to protect women, particularly outside of Juba. It is also concerned that marital rape has not been criminalized in the State party.

9. Recalling its general recommendation No. 35 (2017), the Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Give high priority to the adoption of the anti-gender-based-violence bill with a strategy and adequate resources for its implementation, and the systematic collection of data on the incidence and resolution of gender-based violence, disaggregated by sex, age and relationship between the victims and the perpetrator and in relation to intersecting forms of discrimination against women and other relevant sociodemographic characteristics, such as disability.
- (b) Amend the Penal Code to specifically criminalize marital rape, base the definition of rape on the absence of free consent and ensure that penalties for gender-based violence against women and girls are commensurate with the gravity of the offence.
- (c) Ensure that shelters and victim support services are adequately funded, accessible and inclusive, that staff are trained, and that the quality of services is regularly monitored.
- (d) Build the capacity of the judiciary, prosecutors, the police and other law enforcement officers to systematically investigate and prosecute all cases of gender-based violence, using gender-sensitive procedures, and adequately punish perpetrators, regardless of their social position, and provide appropriate remedies to victims.
- (e) Intensify efforts to raise awareness among both women and men, including through educational and media campaigns, of the criminal nature of gender-based violence against women in order to challenge its social acceptance, and destigmatize and protect women from reprisals to encourage them to report incidents of gender-based violence against women.

### **3.2.7.6 Women's access to justice**

10. The Committee notes with concern the lack of human, technical and financial resources allocated to the formal justice sector and to human rights and law enforcement agencies necessary to provide basic protection from and accountability for violations of women's rights at both the national and subnational levels. It also notes with concern reports that women are often discouraged by police from filing complaints, particularly against relatives, encounter due process violations in court hearings and are not afforded protection measures, including for witnesses. The Committee is particularly concerned about reports of gender bias within traditional justice mechanisms in the resolution of disputes, including for serious criminal offences, and that women or girls who are victims of sexual violence are frequently required to marry the rapist.

### **3.2.7.7 Education**

11. The Committee is alarmed by reports of attacks and occupation of schools by military and armed groups, noting that one third of all schools have been damaged, destroyed, occupied or

closed since 2013, and that an estimated 3 million school-aged children in South Sudan were out of school in 2020, representing the highest proportion globally. It notes with concern that the extremely low literacy rate of women in the State party is exacerbated by girls' non-completion of schooling due to child marriage, early pregnancy, the unaffordability and unavailability of hygiene products, the unavailability of separate sanitary facilities, poverty, and sexual violence and harassment in and on the way to and from school, as well as parents' prioritization of education for sons.

12. Recalling its general recommendation No. 36 (2017) on the right of girls and women to education, the Committee recommends that the State party promote the importance of girls' education at all levels as a basis for their empowerment, and:

(a) Take measures to prevent the occupation of schools by military and armed groups and implement the Safe Schools Declaration and the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict.

(b) Address the high illiteracy rate among women and girls in the State party, with a focus on girls living in poverty, rural girls, pregnant girls and young mothers, and girls with disabilities, through temporary special measures with time-bound targets to increase girls' enrolment, retention and completion rates in secondary education, and strengthen continuing education for women.

(c) Ensure safe educational environments that are free from gender-based violence, as well as safe transportation to and from schools, investigate, prosecute and adequately punish all cases of harassment and violence perpetrated against girls and women in educational institutions, ensuring immediate protection measures for victims.

(d) Ensure adequate infrastructure and the availability of hygiene products and accessible separate sanitary facilities for girls in all educational institutions, including in rural areas.

(e) Raise awareness among parents, teachers, traditional and religious leaders, women, men, girls and boys of the importance of girls' and women's education for their economic empowerment, personal development and autonomy.

### **3.2.7.9 Employment**

13. The Committee welcomes the guarantees of equal employment opportunities for women and men in the Transitional Constitution and provisions for maternity leave, breastfeeding breaks, lactation facilities and paternity leave in the Labour Act. However, it notes with concern:

(a) That many provisions are not implemented, the unemployment rate for women remains high, women's domestic and care work remain unvalued and the gender wage gap remains wide.

(b) The lack of measures to achieve the quota of 35 per cent for women's employment in government institutions and in the public sector, as set out in the Revitalized Agreement, and that women remain concentrated in the informal sector in low-paid jobs or unpaid agriculture, without being covered by labour legislation and social protection.

(c) The lack of mechanisms to prevent sexual harassment, to raise awareness among workers and employers, for victims to safely complain in the workplace, and to address the impunity for perpetrators.

14. The Committee recommends that the State party.

(a) Intensify efforts to fully implement the existing laws and regulations on equal rights of women and men to, and in, employment and reduce unemployment among women by promoting their access to formal employment, including by improving access to all vocational training opportunities.

(b) Adopt legislation to specifically criminalize sexual harassment in the workplace, adequately punish perpetrators and establish accessible and safe complaint mechanisms to encourage the reporting of violations.

(c) Effectively enforce the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in order to narrow and close the gender pay gap by regularly reviewing wages in sectors in which women are concentrated, conducting regular labour inspections, applying analytical job classification and evaluation methods and conducting regular pay surveys.

(d) Establish policies and legislation to prevent sexual harassment at workplaces, build awareness among workers and employers, and establish safe spaces for victims to file complaints.

### **3.2.7.10 Women with disabilities**

15. The Committee notes with concern the prevalence of gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities in the State party, including torture and inhuman treatment, shackling, sexual exploitation, murder with impunity and arbitrary detention on grounds of their disability. It also notes with concern that women and girls with disabilities have very limited access to information relating to their rights, access to justice and available services for women, particularly about sexual and reproductive health and protection from gender-based violence.

16. The Committee recommends that the State party.

(a) Put an end to the arbitrary detention of women and girls with disabilities, including through the practice of shackling, and immediately release those who have been institutionalized or otherwise deprived of their liberty on grounds of their disability, ensuring full provision of redress and rehabilitation.



(b) Address intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities and ensure their inclusion and enjoyment of all rights under the Convention by eliminating restrictions on their legal capacity; ensuring their access to justice, protection from gender-based violence, and inclusive access to education, employment and health services, including with regard to sexual and reproductive rights; and accommodating their specific needs in line with the Committee's general recommendation No. 18 (1991) on disabled women.

(c) Expedite the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

17. The Committee recommends that the State party.

(a) Ensure that customary and ordinary courts fully respect and apply the 2013 moratorium on the death penalty and discontinue with immediate effect the execution of all women on death row.

(b) Improve the conditions in women's detention facilities in accordance with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non - custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) to address the problem of overcrowding in prisons and ensure the provision of adequate services, in particular for pregnant women and women detained with their children.

(c) Introduce independent monitoring of detention facilities and gender-sensitive complaint mechanisms for women in detention who are victims of gender-based violence and ill-treatment.

(d) Systematically collect and publish data on the number of women in detention, disaggregated by offence, length of pretrial detention, date of conviction, type of sentence, age, location and number and age of dependent children.

### **3.2.7.11 Discrimination against women in marriage and family relations**

18. The Committee is concerned that in the absence of a codified family law, customary and religious laws prevail in marriage and family relations, including in matters of divorce, inheritance, housing, land and property rights, and that in particular they allow the formalization of child and forced marriage and polygamy, in contravention of the Temporary Constitution and statutory law. It notes with concern the persistent practice of child marriage despite the adoption of the strategic national action plan to end child marriage (launched in 2018). It further notes with concern the absence of legislation setting the minimum age for marriage at 18 years for both women and men and that child marriage has increased since the start of the conflict as a negative coping strategy for families who perceive the practice as an opportunity to collect a "bride price". The Committee is also concerned that limited civil registration capacities and low birth certificate issuance present further barriers for victims of child and forced marriage in seeking judicial remedy in the State party, in the absence of proof of age.



19. In the context of the ongoing consultations in the State party to develop a family law that is in conformity with the Convention, the Committee, recalling its general recommendation No. 29 (2013) on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution and joint general recommendation No. 31/general comment No. 18 (2019) on harmful practices, recommends that the State party:

(a) Expedite the finalization and adoption of an inclusive and comprehensive family law, with the engagement of women's civil society groups and traditional and religious leaders, establishing the minimum age of marriage at 18 years for both women and men, prohibiting the harmful practices of "bride price" and polygamy, and ensuring equal rights of women and men to inheritance and as testators, heirs or beneficiaries, including in Muslim communities.

(b) Provide systematic capacity-building on women's equal rights in marriage and family relations and upon their dissolution, as well as on women's equal inheritance rights, for judiciary and traditional justice system actors, including the custodians of customary law, and women and girls themselves, especially in rural and remote areas of the country.

(c) Ensure access to justice and effective remedies for women who have been dispossessed of housing, land and property in divorce, inheritance and widowhood disputes, and provide legal aid and support programmes to the women concerned.

### 3.3 Target analysis

Although much focus for LoP advocacy will be majorly on primary targets, however, it will be to work and collaborate with secondary targets as much as possible. Common examples of primary targets are local politicians, Members of Parliament, Ministry officials or political parties, whereas secondary targets will include, journalists, religious or faith-based groups or leaders, NGOs, celebrities, influencers and public figures.

Target/Actors	Category of target
RTNLA	Primary
Ministry of Gender, Child and Social welfare	Primary
Ministry of Justice	Primary
Ministry of Health	Primary
Law enforcement agents e.g., Police	Primary
Radio stations	Secondary
Religious leaders	Secondary
African Union (AU)-GIMAC	Secondary
UNSCR	Secondary
IGAD	Secondary
News publication	Secondary

Women advocates	Secondary
Women activists	Secondary
Health practitioners on Clinical psychology/Mental health	Secondary
Traditional leaders	Secondary
Male champions	Secondary
Diplomatic missions	Secondary

### 3.4 Stakeholder analysis

A stakeholder's analysis was conducted to distinguish between allies and opponents. And each category has been listed so that collaborative approach can be created with those stakeholders who are supportive of the advocacy issues as well as having high influence on the issues.

#### 3.4.1 Influential

- a) Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare.
- b) The Judiciary
- c) Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- d) Faith Based Organization FBOs
- e) International Non-Governmental Organizations
- f) Embassies
- g) Parliamentarians
- h) Media houses (TV, Radio and new papers)
- i) Youths Groups
- j) Law enforcement Agent (police)
- k) UN Agencies (UNMISS, UNDP, UN Women etc)
- l) Male Champions.
- m) African Union

#### 3.4.2 Not influential

- a) Traditional leaders (chiefs)
- b) ABC Courts Judges
- c) Military personnel
- d) Militia Groups
- e) Youth in the cattle camps
- f) Spear masters (Magic leader)

#### 3.4.3 Supportive/Allies

- a) Inter-Agency Steering Committee /CSOs discussions,



- b) Humanitarian Actors Forum
- c) UNSCR 1325 Status Report (CSO Report)
- d) Donors /CSOs Round Table Discussions
- e) Peacebuilding Working Group Discussions
- f) GBV Sector Working Groups (National/State Level)
- g) Girl Education Challenge Forums (Donor/CSOs)
- h) establishment of UNMISS Protection
- i) Communities Interaction Forum.

#### **3.4.4 Negatives/Opponents**

- a) Traditional leaders (chiefs)
- b) ABC Courts Judges
- c) Military personnel
- d) Militia Groups
- e) Youth in the cattle camps
- f) Spear masters (Magic leader)

## 4.0 Outcomes and activities

<b>Impact: A more empowering and inclusive environment in South-Sudan, where W/G feel safer and better enabled to realise their rights, so they can play an influential role towards conflict prevention and</b>							
<b>Result area 1: Improved implementation of policies and regulations on GBV and protection of W/G including psychosocial support and self-care</b>							
<b>Outcome 1.1: Women, Girls and community (groups) make use of existing referral pathways and legal protection framework</b>							
	Desired Change	Actors/Target	Advocacy Message	Advocacy channel	Beneficiaries	Timeline	Implementing partner
1.1	Women and girls are aware of the rightful legal access and mental health psycho-social support	Women/Girls, S/GBV survivors, CSOs, Traditional authorities, Health personnel, Women advocates, Media social workers; police	Women and girls have the right to access legal and psycho-social support.	Training, campaigns, media, Meetings	Women and Girls	2021 -2025	LOP - consortium
1.2	Survivors are making use of the existing referral pathways and legal protection framework	Women Advocates, the police, NGOs within the referral pathways, Traditional authority, Health personnel, (social workers) women & girls.	Make use of the available support services within the referral pathway	Media, megaphones, campaigns, training, posters, drama, music	Survivors	2021 -2025	LOP - consortium
<b>Outcome. 1.2: Government issues laws, policies, regulations and protocols to prevent, combat and respond to (Sexual) Gender Based Violence.</b>							

	<b>Desired Change</b>	<b>Actor/Targets</b>	<b>Advocacy Message</b>	<b>Advocacy Channel</b>			<b>Implementing partner</b>
1.3	Communities make use of the existing legal protection frameworks, that protect W/G including GBV survivors' rights	S/GBV Court Judges, ABC Court chiefs, CSOs, law enforcement agents (Police) FBOs, male allies/ Male champions	Implement the existing legal protection framework for W/G	Trainings, media, consultative meetings and advocacy round tables, campaigns.	Women, Girls and SGBV & CRSV survivors	2021 -2025	LOP consortium
1.4	Legal frameworks and policies are gender sensitive.	The Director General Ministry of Gender, activists, CSOs, ABC court Chiefs, Leaders of FBOs, DG in the Minister for justice and constitutional affairs.	Pass the family law for women to access legal justice. Implement the legal framework to ensure South Sudanese women are accessing legal rights and justice, Women's rights are protected i.e., Right to own land, housing and other property.	Trainings, media, consultative meetings and advocacy round tables, campaigns.	Women, Girls and Boys	2021 -2025	LOP consortium
1.5	South Sudanese women are accessing legal rights and justice.	Minister of Justice, gender, Parliamentarians, chairpersons of the specialized	Implement the family law for women to access justice.	Consultative meeting with the ministers and MP's, Radio talk show, workshops (to discuss on family law)	Women, Girls and Boys	2021 -2025	LOP consortium

		committees for gender in the parliament. chairperson and secretary general for women caucus & egal affairs					
1.4	Legal structures are in place to implement GBV policy at all levels	Minister of Gender, Judges, parliamentarians, ABC Court Chiefs and Commissioners and Governors, CSOs, the police and prisons, FBOs leaders, male allies	Implement the GBV policy. Enact the GBV policy into a law	Consultative meeting with policy makers and survivors, media platforms	Women, Girls, boy and SGBV survivors	2021 -2025	LOP consortium
1.5	Existing laws and policies are implemented.	Minister of Gender, Judges, parliamentarians, ABC Court Chiefs and Commissioners and Governors, CSOs, law enforcement agents, FBOs, male allies	Establish mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the existing GBV Policy.	Follow up meetings with policy makers and survivors, media platforms	Women, Girls and SGBV survivors	2021 -2025	

1.6	Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) survivors have the legal, judiciary and social protection they need	Minister of Gender, Judges, ABC Court Chiefs and Commissioners and Governors, CSOs, police and prisons, FBOs leaders.	CRSV survivors have a right to legal, judicial and social protection	Meetings, Awareness through media, campaign	CRSV survivors	2021 -2025	LOP consortium
				Meeting to discuss SGBV/CRSV findings and challenges of pathways/social protection			
1.7	Customary laws are gender sensitive for the protection of women, Girls and boys rights	ABC-courts, Chiefs & Elders	Revise and amend customary laws to protect the rights of W/G and Boys.	Training to ABC-court on the Local Government Act, Meetings, Campaigns, Media	Women, Girls and Boys	2021 -2025	LOP consortium
1.8	Judges at the GBV court are effectively making use of the GBV policy.	GBV and juvenile-court judges, Judiciary judges, Legal aid officers at the ministry of justice, the police, investigators	Increase the number of female judges within the GBV /juvenile Court.	Petition the office of the Chief Justice to appoint more female Judges to GBV/Juvenile Court, follow up meetings, media campaign	Women, SGBV survivors and juvenile	2021 -2025	LOP consortium.
Result area 2: Changed attitudes and beliefs of civil society (CS) to facilitate inclusion of W/G and promote gender equality (GE),							
<b>Outcome 2.0: Government recognizes and integrates efficiently and effectively gender equality into the government structure</b>							



	<b>Desired Change</b>	<b>Actor/Targets</b>	<b>Advocacy Message</b>	<b>Advocacy channel</b>			<b>Implementing partner</b>
2.1	Men and boys are freely influencing the WPS agenda for equal participation and Gender equality.	Men and boys, CSOs, FBOs, CYPP	Change negative attitudes and beliefs towards women inclusion and promote gender equality	Training, media, dialogues, meetings, campaigns	Women and Girls	2021 -2025	LoP Consortium
2.2	Policy makers are spearheading Gender Equality to ensure accountability on UNSCR 1325/WPS agenda.	CBOs/ CSOs, Youth Groups, Business community, Women groups, law makers, Minister of gender, UN Agencies and International communities.	Implement South Sudan NAP 1325 to achieve Gender Equality.	Campaigns, Media, Training, media, dialogues, meetings, campaigns	Women, Girls, Men and Boys	2021 -2025	LoP Consortium
<b>Outcome 2.0: Government recognizes and integrates efficiently and effectively gender equality into the government structure</b>							
3.1	<b>Desired Change</b>	<b>Actor</b>	<b>*Advocacy Message</b>	<b>Advocacy Channel</b>		2021 -2025	<b>Implementing partner</b>
	Gender mainstreaming is realized across all Government Structures.	CSOs, Chairperson of the specialized committees (TNLA), Ministers of Gender at State and National	Promote Gender Mainstreaming for effective Gender Equality.	Meetings, media campaign, Publications	Women, Girls, Men & Boys	2021 -2025	LOP Consortium

		Government levels, Governors.					
3.2	Funds are allocated in the National Budget to monitor Gender mainstreaming for Gender Equality at all levels	Parliament, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Gender, CSO's	Ensure funding for gender equality. Gender mainstreaming for equal opportunity.	Meetings, media campaign, Publications	Women, Girls Men and Boys	2021 -2025	LOP consortium

**Result area 3: Increased an effective participation of W/Y in leadership and peacebuilding.**

	<b>Desired Change</b>	<b>Actor/Targets</b>	<b>*Advocacy Message</b>	<b>Advocacy Channel</b>			<b>Implementing partner</b>
4.1	Women and youth carryout leadership roles and effectively participate in decision making positions and peace building process.	CSOs/CBOs, FBOs, Ministers of gender (National and state levels), Ministers of peace building (National & State levels)	Inclusive participation of women and youth in leadership roles and decision making for sustainable peace.	Media, Campaigns, Meetings,	Women and youth	2021 -2025	Lop Consortium

4.2	Platforms are available for women and youth to effectively and freely participate in peacebuilding processes.	Local Authorities, media outlets, CSOs, CBOs, FBOs & Ministries	Create safe civic space for the participation of Women and youth in peacebuilding	Meetings, Dialogues, media, Campaigns	Women & Youth	2021 -2025	LOP consortium
4.3	Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) ensures at least 35% participation of women to promote peace through reconciliation and healing.	Commission of peace and Reconciliation, R-JMEC, AU, IGAD, FBO's, CSO's, Law enforcement. (Director in the CTRH &PR Commission Office;	Inclusion and participation of women in the CTRH. Ensure the grievances of victims/survivors of atrocities are addressed	Meetings, Dialogues, media, Campaigns	Women Leaders	2021 -2025	Lop Consortium
4.5	Enhanced capacity of women leaders (Counselors, Lawyers and judges) to effectively participate in leadership roles	Embassies, UNDP, Government, UN WOMEN, Academic Institutions, African Union	Provide funds for capacity building programs for women leaders.	Meetings, Media, Fundraising	Women leaders, women activist and Youth	2021 -2025	Lop Consortium

4.6	Women rights activist are effectively participating in the UN Human Right Council & South Sudan Human rights Commission meetings.	UN Human Rights Council, Human Right Commission - SS, Judiciary, human rights defenders, UNSC (The chairperson for the HRC, Chief justice judiciary .)	Avail safe space for women right activists to freely advocate for protection of women and girls.	Meetings, Media, Publications, Press Releases, Petitions.	Women right activists, Women	2021 -2025	Lop Consortium
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## 5.0 Risk analysis and management

A detailed risk assessment and mitigation strategy will be updated by each consortium partner based on their area of implementation and what they anticipate to encounter in the period and updated during the annual reflection work. The risk analysis and management will be based on the consortia risk matrix below.

### Contextual risks (Described per targeted state)

Location	Risks	Which mitigation measures taken?	Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.	Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.
<b>Security risks described per state</b>				
Eastern Equatoria	Increased movement of soldiers/armed groups to designated cantonment areas passing through program locations	Liaise with security chiefs, local governor and other relevant local authorities to reduce the risk of harm to local populations, especially physical and sexual harm to women and girls.		
	Hijacking/ theft/ robbery, random gunfire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Cooperate/ coordinate with local authorities, medical facilities, evac options, UN Security Focal Points.</li> <li>-Monitor security dynamics; contingency plans developed and in place. Staff trained on security and when (not) to negotiate.</li> <li>-Use air transport when roads become inaccessible/ too risky.</li> <li>-First aid kits in vehicles &amp; compounds.</li> </ul>		
	Abduction and killing of staff by armed groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adhere to partner's Safety &amp; Security protocols, SoPs and guidelines.</li> <li>-Train staff on Safety &amp; Security .</li> <li>-Share security updates daily with the Safety and Security Manager at Juba and</li> </ul>		

		Nimule level.		
	Increase of crimes/violence because of political differences between NAS and SSDP.	Adhere to safety and security protocols and procedures; close monitoring of the security situation.		
Central, Eastern, and Western Equatoria	Situation is precarious with ceasefire holding among parties to the R-ARCSS, slow execution of agreement with power vacuum at state's levels. NAS poses security threat in the Equatorias with displacement in Yei, Lobonok and parts of WE. Continuous influx of cattle from Jonglei state into Equatoria causes disputes over agricultural land & cattle grazing	Flexibility in the project implementation, taking into account the contextual situation.		
	<p>In EE and CE, the major security risks include intercommunal violence between armed pastoralists from Jonglei and the local communities, and the presence of NAS.</p> <p>Attacks on civilians on Juba-Nimule-Torit road and Juba Yei by bandits.</p> <p>In WE, the threats of NAS</p>	<p>-Have staff in the targeted states to enhance coordination.</p> <p>-Continuous situation monitoring through following news/updates on local media and the NGO forum</p> <p>-All travel to be subject to a thorough localized threat assessment &amp; coordinated with a trusted security provider. Travelers are advised to subject all travel to strict management protocols. Avoid travel at night, vary routines, and maintain a heightened sense of situational awareness. Use air transport to minimize road risks. Monitor local media sources to remain apprised of security-related developments and adhere to any directives issued by local authorities.</p>		
Unity state (Payinjiar)	The <u>Nyoung Community</u> of Payinjiar county are a patriarchal society. It's expected that gender norms and cultural practices will resist changes which do not conform with their believes and practices.	Continuous engagement with gatekeepers and accompaniment with women and girls.		

	In Payinjar county of Unity state, the security situation is fluid; influential spear masters are always encouraging youth to attack neighboring communities and to raid cattle which creates a serious security threat to the Nyoung community and to the neighbors, affecting community development, including implementation of WPS	The AMA Portals to Peace project is working in partnership with other actors to mount peace advocacy campaigns (i.e. radio talk shows) and engaging different actors to mitigate the problem. There is mass drive to supply HIV testing in collaboration with Doctors Without Borders to reduce the conflict.		
Lakes State (Yirol east County)	The <u>Agar Community</u> of Yirol east county are a patriarchal society, it's expected that gender norms and cultural practices will resist changes which do not conform with their beliefs and practices.	Complementing projects for peace. The Action-plan for peace and Portals to peace projects implemented by AMA engage the actors, including youth, spear masters and the local government authorities to reduce the risk of insecurity created by the youth alliance with the spear masters.		
	In Yirol East of Lakes state, the situation is similar as in Unity but worse because of the readiness of the youth to use their guns, and compounded by the forced and early marriage of girls, wife inheritance and HIV pandemic. So GBV is critical and fuels conflict in families and in communities.	The AMA Portals to Peace project is working in partnership with other actors to mount peace advocacy campaigns (i.e. radio talk shows) and engaging different actors. There is a mass drive to supply HIV testing in collaboration with Doctors Without Borders to reduce conflict. There are plans to make peace caravan campaigns to increase peaceful coexistence between the Yirol East communities and neighbors, link peace actors to mount conflict early warning systems and response.		
<b>Political Risks</b>				
Eastern Equatoria (Pageri & Torit)	Political Risks (regarding positions of governments, elections, formation of state governors etc).	Partners continue to work with traditional authorities and local government to support programme for effective lobby to implement R-ARCSS and WPS NAP1325. Emphasis on <u>humanitarian</u> neutrality during discussions with authorities; continuous coordination with all stakeholders including government, opposition leaders (gov.) and		



		local authorities; monitor political situation closely;		
	Revitalized Peace Agreement not implemented within the agreed timeframe (3 years) resulting in deterioration of the security situation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Continuous coordination with government, local authorities, partners, stakeholders to monitor situation.</li> <li>-Work together with UN and INGOs</li> <li>-Security support in place</li> <li>-Regular context/ conflict analysis</li> <li>-Continue to update contingency plans</li> <li>-Temporarily suspend or withdraw staff for security reasons, in line w/ UNMISS.</li> </ul>		
	With the formation of the new transitional government, there may be new people at various positions at the national, state and county level, who might not be familiar with humanitarian work and agencies. (Affecting the working relationship with local authorities and NGOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Already good relationships with current local authorities in the diverse areas.</li> <li>-Mainly a risk when authorities are changed, but then continue to develop relationships with new officers.</li> <li>-Involve relevant authorities in project implementation.</li> <li>-Give regular updates through cluster meetings and informal meetings.</li> </ul>		
	Legal and regulatory environmental complications due to the confirmation of 10 states, bills, regulations, administrative divisions and institutions that impact NGO operations.	Emphasis on <u>humanitarian</u> neutrality during discussions with authorities; continuous coordination with all stakeholders including government, opposition leaders (government) and local authorities; monitor political situation closely; work with UNOCHA & INGOs; ensure requirements such as custom clearances, visas, and access to affected population, in line with local authorities, are clear to all stakeholders.		
Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria	The on-going delay in the formation of state governance structure left power vacuum that resulted in the insecurities in the targeted states.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Risks related to formation of state governments, state legislative assemblies and the cabinet can be handled by advocating for the full implementation of the R-ARCSS by the parties to the agreement.</li> <li>-Advocate that R-TGoNU continue engaging the leadership of the National Salvation Front to resolve issues through dialogue</li> </ul>		

Lakes State (Yirol east County)	Despite steps taken by the R-ARCCS government to have a more stable South Sudan, there are still major gaps in implementation, including the vacancy of many government posts and power vacuums at all levels of political power. The ToGNU has been slow-forming, resulting in delayed formation of State government all the way to grassroots administration; county commissioners and their structures are still not formed.	-Partners will work closely with the caretaker government officials at both state and grass-root levels. They will also maintain strong communication and coordination with community groups and good relationships with the national government authorities. -The risk can be avoided by working with caretaker government officials and traditional leaders in the implementation of the project. -Despite mitigation measures, this risk may delay some activities involving government bodies.		
<b>Risks related to climate</b>				
<b>Location</b>	<b>Risks</b>	<b>Which mitigation measures taken?</b>	<b>Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.</b>	<b>Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.</b>
Eastern Equatoria	Seasonal risks and access constraints during rainy season, including floods	Work closely with Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction Committees; coordinate w/ UN Clusters. Consortium and local partners have long been operating in the chosen areas; know how to adjust to the rainy season.		
Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria	-Environmental threats have affected some counties in the green belt region. Deforestation and illegal logging in EES and CES have left open grounds, resulting in land degradation. -Risk of floods in the three states due to heavy rainfall.	Continuous advocacy and awareness on the impact of deforestation to climate.  Monitor the floods situation across the country.		

Unity state (Payinjiar county)	Payinjiar county is at particular risk due to the flat terrain and proximity to the Nile. Due to climate change and poor preparedness there is always flooding during the rainy season; crops are destroyed and livestock die. This also makes mobility & logistics difficult & expensive.	Prepositioning project supplies and materials during the dry season and implementing as many of the project activities as possible during the dry season will mitigate this problem as much as possible.		
Lakes State (Yirol east County)	Though Yirol east is slightly better than Payinjiar county, flooding along the way to the county also makes access very difficult.	Prepositioning project supplies and Materials during the dry season and implementing as many of the project activities as possible during the dry season will mitigate this problem as much as possible		

## Programme risks

Programme risks related to WPS/ NAP 1325				
Location	Risks	Which mitigation measures taken?	Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.	Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.
Eastern Equatoria (Pageri & Torit Counties)	NAP1325 group in country remains inactive and NAP is ending 2020	-Continue involving EVE and invite them to join the coordination meetings to ensure appropriate alignment with the 1325 group in-country. -Engage EVE with other partners to draft and Evaluate NAP with government		
	Overlap with other gender/ peacebuilding programmes	Consortium partners and local agencies exchange information on programmes in coordination networks		

Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria	UNSCR 1325 as well as gender equality are seen as the western agenda by some communities and hence there is some level of resistance.	Engage gatekeepers and involving local government in some of the interventions can reduce the negativity.		
Unity state (Payinjiar county)	The <u>Nyoung Community</u> of Payinjiar county are patriarchal. Gender norms and cultural practices may resist changes that do not conform with their beliefs.	The project will continuously advocate for women's emancipation through direct lobby with key leaders, through media advocacy to change the firmly held social and gender norms in the Nyoung community of Payinjiar county.		
Lakes State (Yirol east County)	The <u>Ciec Community</u> of Yirol East are a patriarchal society. It's expected that gender norms and cultural practices will resist changes which do not conform with their beliefs and practices.	The project will continuously advocate for women's emancipation through direct lobbying with key leaders, through media advocacy to change the firmly held social and gender norms in the Nyoung community of Payinjiar county.		
<b>Fraud and corruption risks</b>				
<b>Location</b>	<b>Risks</b>	<b>Which mitigation measures taken?</b>	<b>Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.</b>	<b>Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.</b>
Eastern Equatoria	Carrier delays due to bad roads, non-performance and money transfer difficulties. This includes the newly-introduced 20% tax law.	-Due diligence assessment before giving contracts to (transport) partners; liaise with cash transfer agents in areas where there are no banks; ensure coordination with local communities and identify the key logistical requirement when transporting to remote areas. -Activities will be conducted during dry season including purchases and transportation of materials.		
Central, Eastern	There is increasing discontent from NGOs not having local representation in states' operations. This could lead to plans to sabotage	Ensure local authorities & gatekeepers are briefed and part of the programme. To avoid fraud, all staff shall be briefed on partners' anti-corruption and anti-bribery		

	activity implementation.	<p>policies, safeguarding and the whistleblower policy among others.</p> <p>Partners organizations prohibit their employees from engaging in acts of corruption, and from paying bribes or accepting bribes from public officials and private individuals with which the organization does business.</p>		
	New staff not complying with rules and regulations of the organization	All staff will sign the Code of conduct, as well as anticorruption, anti-bribery and all other related forms and policies.		
Lakes State, Unity state, Central, Eastern and	Due to poor salaries and lack of payment of many government staff, including soldiers, it has become a habit for officers to seek bribes from people seeking services from government offices, including those driving around the project areas. In these times of COVID-19 and poor connectivity, it's possible that corruption can increase due to impaired connectivity and infrequent monitoring travel.	<p>-Always put anticorruption sticker in vehicles and offices</p> <p>-Implement anti-corruption and bribery policy. Zero tolerance approach.</p> <p>-To avoid fraud, all staff shall be briefed on partners' anti-corruption and anti-bribery policies, safeguarding and the whistleblower policy among others.</p> <p>-All partners prohibit their employees from engaging in acts of corruption, and from paying bribes or accepting bribes from public officials and private individuals.</p>		

### Relevant to all states

Risks related to availability of materials and resources			
Risk	Which mitigation measures taken?	Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.	Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.
Drastic increase in number of returnees to their original area which is currently being occupied by IDPs	Monitor situation regularly; close coordination with other agencies, UNOCHA, NGO Security Forum.		
Drastic increase in returnees creating conflict between returnees and host communities over land, borders and resources.	Liaise with local government to prepare communities and recognise land and property rights of returnees to reduce likelihood of conflict.		

Increased program costs due to high inflation/ financial instability/ exchange rate fluctuations	-Budgeting and large transactions in USD or Euro's, negotiate favorable exchange rates with banks; identify alternative sources of supplies; closely monitor monthly expenses and reports and revise (or reduce/combine activities) as necessary -The project is budgeted in hard currency the project will not be badly affected because of changes in the exchange rate		
Border closures due to COVID-19 creates a supply problem for markets, resulting in higher prices and product shortages/delay in procurement.	-Anticipate change of modality of intervention, prepositioning of supplies. -Advocacy towards the Government to ensure the supply not only of urban centers but also of rural and remote areas. exceptions of NGOs supplies		
Many organisations in South Sudan face high staff turnover due to burnout and lack of human resource capacity	Partners always try to retain staff by making their working conditions better and providing development opportunities.		
The majority of the electricity grid in South Sudan runs off generators and is unreliable, leaving many with uncertain supply or facing routine outages. Network coverage is scarce and can be quite expensive.	Partners will aim to work during hours where power is best available and seek to capitalise on alternative sources of energy, such as solar banks and power banks to mitigate loss of working hours.		
<b>Risks related to COVID-19</b>			
<b>Risks</b>	<b>Which mitigation measures taken?</b>	<b>Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.</b>	<b>Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.</b>
Schools remain closed due to COVID-19 risks (impacting Champions of Change activities)	-Change youth sessions to online and small groups with social distancing. -Create youth advocacy WhatsApp groups for lesson sharing		
Safeguarding and PSEA increased vulnerability due to COVID-19 pandemic (i.e. people taking advantage of the vulnerability of beneficiaries, especially girls and the sick and who may be harassed, exploited or abused).	Training on Child Protection, Safeguarding and PSEA will include specific risks related to COVID-19 and how to mitigate them.		
Lack of access to complaints	Updating referral pathways and disseminating them in		

mechanisms, response options or referral and support pathways due to COVID-19 restrictive measures, hindering communities' ability to raise safeguarding and PSEA complaints with Plan.	public locations where communities have access. Use of megaphones to inform communities where they can access services during COVID-19.		
Delayed response to Safeguarding and PSEA complaints due to COVID-19 restrictions on staff and community movement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishment of a hotline, and sharing the existing safeguarding focal point numbers in the community to ensure a quick response once a case is reported.</li> <li>- Work closely with the health workers and keep updated details of hospital contacts and maintain updated referral pathways.</li> <li>- Training and awareness raising on the importance of prompt (24 hrs) reporting on safeguarding concerns.</li> </ul>		
Staff trainings, awareness sessions and other meetings with beneficiaries relating to Safeguarding and PSEA cannot be held due to COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings.	Partners will hold smaller meetings, across multiple days if possible, to ensure messages are received by communities. Where meetings are not possible, partners will use other methods of communication (such as leaflets, radio, online etc.)		
LoP staff or volunteers become sick with COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All the phases of the project cycle need to be done remotely. Social distancing must be practiced when in the office.</li> <li>- Staff work on a rotational basis from office and home; flexible work conditions address family needs due to school closures and distancing measures.</li> <li>- Staff should not use public transport.</li> </ul>		
<b>Alliance</b> staff pass COVID-19 on to beneficiaries during project activities and community engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Observe WHO and Government guides.</li> <li>-Provision of PPE (masks, sanitizers and soap) to staff and volunteers.</li> <li>-Temperature checks of staff in the office</li> <li>-COVID-19 training for staff (including field staff), volunteers &amp; beneficiaries.</li> </ul>		
Increased spread of COVID-19 among the community after participating in the project's group activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practice social distancing</li> </ul>		



## Risks related to the implementing organisations

Risks	Which mitigation measures taken?	Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.	Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.
Financial mismanagement by partners	Awareness raising on Fraud and Corruption Policy Partners to be investigated and if it is true then funding to be discontinued		
Risks related to chain of responsibility, continuity, expertise, degree of independence, internal control	Risk and Compliance department will train project staff on fraud and risk management. Continuous coordination meetings to be held to identify issues and develop mitigation measures.		
Denials/breaches of humanitarian access due to the conflict including changes in flight patterns.	Regular communication/ coordination with UN and governmental stakeholders, advocacy on NGO forum. Adaptation of programme planning to reduce impact. Regular monitoring of conflict.		
In the times of economic crisis in the country, NGOs including the implementing partners are assumed to have a lot of funds. This leads to insecurities such as office burglaries, attacks on staff.	At the Juba Level, partners will ensure that the office is secured at all times, and will strictly adhere to policies and SOPs that govern finance and cash handling. As much as possible we shall use bank transfers to avoid risk.		
During the organisational self-assessment some gaps were identified in partners' internal systems that may affect the project delivery	Partners will update their systems, including safeguarding policies. Plan International will support this process to ensure systems are updated, operational and in line with global standards.		
Threats in relation to the recruitment of national staff	-Early start a gender-balanced recruitment process; give opportunities to the most qualified candidates; involvement of partner organisations in recruitment. Introduce new staff to all relevant authorities and community leaders. -adverts will be placed at the project location to provide opportunity for locals		
Limited understanding of safeguarding by new staff, contractors, beneficiaries or third parties, leading to safeguarding issues.	-Mandatory training for staff and orientation of third parties working for Plan on safeguarding. -Signing of the safeguarding policy by staff, partners, and third parties before any engagement with Plan.		
Increase in S/GBV for women who	Work with men's community groups for positive		

are part of community groups due to toxic masculinity	masculinity and create conducive environment for women's meaningful participation and leadership in peace process.		
Inadequate reporting of safeguarding issues by both consortium partners and community members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Continue to build staff and community capacity on safeguarding concerns and the reporting procedures through training and open dialogues with community members.</li> <li>-Dissemination of the Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct to all stakeholders.</li> <li>-provision of hotline for reporting.</li> </ul>		
Lack of support from the community due to cultural practices resulting in resistance to enforcing good safeguarding policies and practices (e.g. Around children and early forced marriage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Increased community understanding about safeguarding children and young people (including government policy framework).</li> <li>-Training and awareness raising on the impacts of abuse on children and young people, including mental health issues.</li> </ul>		
The security of the teams decreases when they enter the communities or when they have to organise meetings - seeing the organisations going from house to house with limited personnel could generate violent movements towards the teams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Build acceptance within the community by working with local partners, staff and volunteers from the same community.</li> <li>-Follow the security procedures with no exceptions.</li> <li>-Coordinate with other agencies working in the area to understand context.</li> <li>-Conduct risk assessment before working in new areas.</li> </ul>		

### Risks relating to the use of technology and data

Risks	Which mitigation measures taken?		
Risks to the safety, privacy and inclusion of target groups, programme staff and others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify the risk and coordinate with the local government authorities to put in measures to protect staff &amp; beneficiaries.</li> <li>- Develop inclusion criteria and ensure it is followed when targeting beneficiaries</li> <li>- Putting in a policy to protect data privacy</li> </ul>		
Breaches of confidentiality placing whistleblowers and their families at risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Anonymous reporting procedures are shared with all community members</li> <li>-Encourage the use of SafeCall and explain risks of</li> </ul>		

	using other informal reporting measures. -Staff are regularly trained on reporting processes and Whistleblower Policy.		
Data protection of sensitive beneficiary details is compromised.	-Train staff on data sharing protocols as well as principles of data protection. -Ensure staff adhere to the confidentiality clause - whom to share, when, how -Have a lockable cabinet for paper files/hard copies that is only accessible to appropriate staff.		
Risk of hacking and loss of data due to poor storage or technology failure.	-Save documents on Google drive, train staff in digital security.		
Risks to the safety, privacy and inclusion of target groups, programme staff and others (accountability to the affected community/ relations)	-Ensure feedback mechanisms are in place including accountability to affected population		

### Risk analysis adjusted to the COVID-19 context

Risks related to COVID-19	Which mitigation measures are you taking?	Did the risk materialize? Explain briefly how (and if) it has affected programme implementation.	Briefly elaborate on the planned mitigation measures: Have they proven effective? Please Explain.
<b>Contextual risks due to COVID-19</b>			
Breach of directives from the Ministry of Health on COVID-19 by the beneficiaries (travel bans, mass gathering restrictions, curfews, social distancing, hand washing)	Use of media platforms to pass more awareness the linkages between COVID-Gender-Peace and safety measures regarding spread of COVID-19 and other project related activities		
Total lockdown when number of cases will increase	Programme implementation will be flexible to accommodate policy decisions that may be triggered as the COVID-19 context changes. Sponsoring radio programmes to carry out awareness both on COVID-19 and the projects implications including prevention of GBV. Provision of sufficient airtime for volunteers and field staffs for reporting.		
The COVID-19 risk is higher in the country due to a fragile health system,	Making sure our awareness raising is targeting women and girls, by working with women groups/ youth groups, CBOs, CSOs.		

which puts an extra risk to women and girls as they usually take care of the sick.	Agents of change are promoting gender equality, based on male engagement strategy to change discriminating gender norms. E.g. divide care taking tasks more equally in households.		
Increased intercommunal violence delaying the peace process	Ensure strong community ties so when incidents occur that can trigger intercommunal violence LoP staff can immediately engage with the capacitated peace structures in the communities. Engaging gatekeepers including peace committees to reduce tensions. Strengthening CSOs/CBOs with resources and capacity to improve legal protection and L&A for inclusive peacebuilding.		
Delay by the Unity Government partners to agree upon new legislature and to establish the leadership structures at state and local levels creates larger power vacuums.	International lobby and advocacy efforts through AU/EU/ Dutch embassy. Linking local, state and national level policy makers to influence WPS/NAP1325 agenda, creating space for women in peace process		
Women and girls are less represented in leadership positions, and therefore risk to lack information on the prevention measures and spread of the virus	Our COVID -19 response will initially target vulnerable communities from our existing intervention areas with preventive and awareness focused interventions, with a special focus on women and children as a key target group. Communication channels will be chosen based on the specific needs of women and girls, to ensure information is accessible. Gatekeepers, incl. policy makers are influenced to create space for women and female youth in leadership positions.		
<b>Risks relating to the implementing organisations due to COVID-19</b>			
Staff could risks exposure to the virus due to movement and interaction with multiple people.	Making sure precautionary measures are always in place during implementation.  Remaining updated on COVID-19 status in respective areas of implementation.		
Remote working may limit supervision and monitoring of activities	A hotline and whistle blowing mechanism will be established. All policy documents will be duly explained to all parties whether involved directly or indirectly so as to consent to them. Awareness raising and trainings will be incorporated as part of activities to key stakeholders on key risks		

Physical group meetings may not take place as a result of the need to isolate if numbers of COVID-19 increase	Online platforms will be used to engage members		
Delay in procurement of programme supplies due to scarcity of commodities in the local markets	Prioritization of procurements and prepositioning of supplies for routine and running activities	No	
Cash flow to the field locations may be affected due to evolving context, which will limit human and goods movements across the Country	Quarterly spending plans/cash forecasts and request, and work with money transfer agents so as to transfer funds in a timely manner to the fields for program activities		
<b>Programme risks due to COVID</b>			
GBV and violence against children/ girls will likely increase due to loss of income and livelihoods leading to heightened tensions in the household exposing the adolescent girls to sexual violence, unwanted pregnancy and further placing women, girls and children at greater risk of exploitation and sexual violence.	The focus will be on preventing further marginalization of women and girls due to COVID-19 as well as prevent and respond to SGBV. SGBV referral pathways will be updated and disseminated. To cope with potential lockdowns, young women's and youth networks will be engaged to support connectivity and the flow of vital information through peer-to-peer support and dissemination of key messages radio. Awareness campaigns on SGBV risk / intimate partner violence exploitation and abuse that can heighten in crisis will be done using innovative platforms to reach people, including engaging males/boys as change agents (male engagement). MHPSS and case management is provided to survivors of SGBV affected by COVID -19 outbreak.		
MPHSS (PSS distress) needs caused by COVID-19	Girls and young women affected by domestic violence or SGBV will be linked with available PSS support services. PFP will be supported to facilitate survivors of GBV's access to health, PSS, security and legal services (service provision through mobile phones (referral & Psychosocial support).		
Trainings may be affected since having many people at the same time in the same location may not be acceptable in the face of rising COVID-19 cases	Online platforms for will be used if gatherings in person will not be accepted		
Increased integrity and safeguarding risks due to COVID-19	Based on the principle of 'zero tolerance for inaction', all partners and their staff have signed the partnership agreement to adhere to their		

	<p>policies on sexual harassment and inappropriate behavior, while responding to COVID -19. All partners should collaborate and have effective reporting mechanisms in prevention of fraud and corruption as well as sexual exploitation and abuses (PSEA) through joint collaboration in meetings to report inappropriate behavior. Any abuses or fraud related concerns must be reported to minimize further harm from happening. Reporting mechanisms will be put in place and known by all the staff reporting to prevent harassment and inappropriate behavior. Strategies to conduct awareness raising at all level to ensure the beneficiaries and the staffs understand the importance of reporting and consequences of not reporting.</p>		
<b>Risks related to the use of technology and data due to COVID</b>			
Low or weak network coverage as well as limited technological advancement limiting the access to digital information sharing by beneficiaries and partners	<p>Using wider coverage messaging and outreach channels like radio stations to engage beneficiaries.</p> <p>Partners plan meetings when internet is available, use skype for better connection, plan frequently shorter online meetings</p>		
Network is unstable and unreliable in some locations that it is preferred to gather in small groups through platforms complying to social distancing	When it is allowed to meet in person measurements as physical distancing, putting on masks and hand washing will be instituted at the meeting places to protect the group of participants		
Delay of timely reporting due to poor internet services	<p>Provision of modem for field staff to use for sending reports.</p> <p>Coordination and collaboration with other partners working in the same location to ease communication</p>		
Inadequate computers for field staff available	<p>Purchase of desktop computer to be shared among the staff.</p> <p>Sanitize the shared computers and installation of anti-virus.</p> <p>Regular updates of the computer to reduce viruses</p> <p>Use of smartphones for sending reports.</p>		

## 6.0 Annual reflection

At the end of every year, the LoP partners will be meeting annual to reflect on the milestone of advocacy activities implement during the implementation period from 2021 to 2025. Every LoP partner will make use of the advocacy monitoring tool shared by the PMEL working group. However, prior to undertaking advocacy initiatives and interventions, every partner in the consortium will conduct an Advocacy capacity assessment.



## 7.0 Annexes

### 7.1 International calendar of events

There are important events on the international calendar related to gender equality, gender equity, human rights, prevention of GBV against women and girls, as well as a series of “commemorative days” that can be used as occasions for advocacy: international, regional, and domestic, in-country/national calendar days.

These events and special days from calendar can be used for awareness raising opportunities, while you can check on Internet for exhaustive list, here are some of examples for the use as some of advocacy tools and resources e.g., for awareness raising campaign, issue Policy Brief on situation related to the topic of “marked” day, else:

19 June	International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in conflict
6 February	International day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
8 March	International Women's Day
15 May	International Day of Families
23 May	International Day to end obstetric fistula
16 June	International Day of the Africa Child
26 June	United Nations International Day in support of victims of torture
October	Annual Debate on Women, Peace and Security in the UN Security Council (annually)
April	Annual Security Council Open Debate on Sexual Violence in Conflict in the UN Security Council (annually)
1 October	International Day of Older Persons
2 October	International Day of Non-violence
11 October	International Day of the Girl Child
13 October	International Day for Disaster Reduction
25 November	International Day for the Elimination of violence against women
29 Nov.	International day honoring women's human rights defenders
3 Dec.	International Day of persons with disabilities
6 Dec.	White Ribbon Campaign (Men taking action against violence towards women)
7 July	South Sudanese national girls' education day
20 Feb.	World Day of Social Justice
17 July	World Day for International Justice
10 Oct.	World Mental Health Day
22 March	World Water Day
7 April	World Health Day
22 April	International Earth Day
1 May	Labour Day

3 May	World Press Freedom Day
16 May	International Day of Living Together in Peace
May Annually	Regular sessions of the UN Human Rights Council
17 May	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day
29 May	International Day of UN Peacekeepers
1 June	Global Day of Parents
5 June	World Environment Day
12 June	World Day against Child Labour
23 June	International Widow's Day
11 July	World Population Day
12 August	Anniversary of the Geneva Conventions
12 August	International Youth Day
19 August	World Humanitarian Day
8 September	International Literacy Day
15 Sept.	International Day of Democracy
21 Sept.	International Day of Peace
28 Sept.	International Day for Universal Access to Information
1 Oct.	International Day of Older Persons
2 Oct.	International Day of Non-Violence
5 Oct.	World Teachers' Day
11 Oct.	International Day of the Girl Child
15 Oct.	International Day of Rural Women
16 October	World Food Day
24 Oct.	United Nations Day
2 November	International Day to end Impunity for crimes against journalists
6 November	International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict
10 November	World Science Day for Peace and Development
16 November	International Day for Tolerance
16 November	Universal Children's Day
25 November	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
3 December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
5 December	World Soil Day
10 December	International Human Rights Day
20 December	International Human Solidarity Day
25 <sup>th</sup> January	Orange day to end violence against women and girls
6 February	International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
1 March	Zero Discrimination Day
11 February	International Day of Women and girls in science
March Annually	The UN Commission sessions on the Status of Women
6 April	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace

15 July	World Youth Skills Day
	South Sudanese national calendar days identified by South Sudanese government for celebration, marking that directly and indirectly related to women and girls.