



Together we make the difference

Organization for Women Development



Annual Report 2019

EVE ORGANIZATION

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POSITIONING EVE ORGANIZATION



The year 2019 started with the organization auditing its projects for the previous year and Eve was ready to continue with its clear vision and ambitions. Receiving funds from the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Global Fund for Women and Cordaid enabled the organization to have a strong and fantastic start of the year and to continue our partnership focusing on “Strengthening South Sudanese Women in Leadership and Political Participation” and “Strengthening advocacy efforts on women’s protection and participation through community and government institutions engagement”. These projects strengthened our interventions, capacities and expertise at regional, national and local arenas. Key areas of interventions include:

- Lobby and advocacy
- Young women leadership and mentorship
- Community mobilization and volunteerism
- Women leadership and political participation
- GBV and women economic empowerment

1. UNSCR1325 - WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY



Eve Organization has consistently prioritized and emphasized gender equality, women's empowerment and peace building in all its endeavors. Through activities and interventions that promote gender equality, sustainable peace, and women leadership and political participation, the organization has contributed to bridging the gender gap, by empowering women and promoting gender equality. Although the progress made in the area of women's participation in politics and decision making through the 35% representation of women is worth celebrating, the journey has not been without challenges, and there are still many obstacles to realizing women peace and security agenda in South Sudan.

Moving ahead, Eve continues to break barriers and building bridges between policy makers, stakeholders and beneficiaries as it adapts the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) specifically focusing on SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, demonstrates the importance of gender equality in development that is sustainable.

2. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) /DEVELOPING CAPACITIES FOR SOCIAL CHANGE: WORKING TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM SOCIETY



With funds from CORDAID, EVE Organization for Women Development has implemented its activities in the effort to “Strengthen advocacy on women’s protection and participation through community and government institution’s engagement”. This project was implemented fully between November and December 2019.

2.1. Training on effect of GBV on communities to male traditional leaders and faith-based groups in Wau

The two days training dialogue strengthened capacity of male community leaders, youth and faith-based groups to coordinate efforts and work together to raise awareness on the bad cultural practices and low level of education to address GBV issues and improve the problems faced by women and girls in Wau and the nation as a whole.

The leaders realized the importance of lobby and advocacy in influencing and changing attitude of stakeholders in Wau state to change policies and criminalize child marriage as one of the most prominent type of GVB and that to address these issues there is a need for continuous and long term awareness.

2.2. Focus Group Discussion (M&E).



The participants acknowledged the necessity to promote GBV awareness and conflict transformation as the best way to promote peace, democratic transformation and hence develop a mechanism to include individuals and organizations in supporting sustainable development.

They also acknowledged that Eve organization interventions increased the capacity of the people they trained in taking initiatives to make their communities more aware of GVB issues and their civic and political rights, this has shown in number of activities organized by youth, women and local authorities in different locations and actions taking to transform communal conflicts.

3. WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION



3.1. Training of Refugee Youth on leadership, peace and social cohesion in Kampala.

The training was conducted from 09 – 11 December 2019 in Kampala. It brought together over 30 young men and women from within Kampala and the Refugee settlements. The overall aim of the leadership training was to raise awareness on peace and social cohesion among South Sudanese Youth while instilling in them leadership skills to impart positive changes and values in their communities and transform them into agents of peace.

3.2. Leadership training on UNCR1325 SSNAP

The four days' leadership training was held under the theme "Rejuvenating the Women, Peace and Security Agenda: Towards participation and implementation of the UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan". The training took place from Monday 7th – Thursday 10th October 2019 at the Royal Palace Hotel in Juba - South Sudan.

The key objectives of the training were to evaluate the implementation of the National Action Plan, and also to advocate for and support reporting on the implementation of the South Sudan National Action Plan 2015-2010. The training was also to enhance women's

effective participation in leadership and peace building and strengthening gender perspectives in South Sudan's states building and reconstruction.

3.3. Young Women Leadership Program – The Incubator Second Cohort



This year's incubator has taken a different trend as the young women who successfully got prepared for leadership enthusiastically went out to their communities to begin transforming the acquired knowledge into a reality. The Young Women Leadership Training - Second Cohort 2019, is an initiative of EVE Organization for Women Development to strengthen South Sudanese Women Leadership and political participation for durable peace and stability which is funded by the Norwegian Government. The training started on the 17th June running through to the 27th June 2019 at the Nile Beach Hotel.

The program mentored 43 young women and girls comprised majorly of university students and out of school girls plus a few from the secondary schools around Juba. The mentorship is to transform the young women from all over the country to effect positive changes and values in the communities, as agents of peace and as a preparation to participate in decision making at all levels of leadership.

3.4. Community Based Volunteerism Program.

In an initiative to strengthen the Organization's INCUBATOR – Young Women Leadership Program, Global Fund for Women in partnership with Eve Organization for women development, selected a group of 10 young South Sudanese women, to be trained and deployed to a number of identified organizations and schools within Juba.

The program covered the period of October – December 2019. Its objective was to empower and mentor the young women into strong and confident leaders who are ready to influence their community, through exposing them to managerial and administrative work, leadership skills development, critical thinking, reporting and mentorship among others.

Alumni of the YWLP – Volunteer Program



The Volunteer Program is a component of The Young Women Leadership Program – Incubator, a signature project of Eve Organization. The Volunteer program recruits young women that are university graduates to undergo two weeks training followed by three months individual or group community change projects and a report. Through the program, young women emerge as

confident, experienced leaders who are ready to influence both the private and public sectors in South Sudan.

***Bazilka Joan Lado** is an alumnus of the 2019 volunteer program. Prior to joining, she was focusing on boosting her self-confidence and figuring what direction to take with her life. “I had passion but I didn’t know how to apply it and how I could be of help to my community.”*

Joan applied for the program, underwent two weeks of training and was posted to EVE for the 12 weeks duration of the project. Through interaction with different people from different platforms, Joan saw her confidence grow. “Through the Volunteer Program I really got to realize that giving back to someone can grow you as a person, build your confidence and strength as well as help you work on your weaknesses.” She was able to gain the necessary skills and direction to begin her journey of bringing to life the changes she wanted to see in the community.

She is currently working with Children and Youth Empowerment South Sudan and is one of the 15 Representatives of the African Youth Advisory Board on DRR.

When asked what message she has for young women and girls in South Sudan and elsewhere, she said “Never let yourself be defined by a situation, you are beautiful, be strong and you can do great things.”

4. PEACE PROCESSES: PEACE WITH THE WOMEN, FOR THE WOMEN

4.1. Workshop to Advance the Status of Women and their effective participation in the peace process and the implementation of the R-ARCSS.

A one-day meeting which was held on Friday 12th July 2019 at the Royal Palace Hotel in Juba is an initiative to strengthen advocacy efforts on women's protection and participation through community and government institutions engagement. The implementation was done in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare.

The meeting brought together 120 women from all walks of life. They comprised of women from the communities, different religious sectors with a big attendance of the Muslim women, youths, CSOs, gender focal persons from the line ministries and members of parliament both from the state and national parliament.

4.2. Discussions on the implementation of the 35% women's quota provided for in R-ARCSS

This was a one-day event which was held on 1st December 2019. It brought together male traditional leaders, faith-based groups and youth, to sensitize them on the role of women in the peace processes, the gender aspects of R-ARCSS and the importance of local women involvement in decision making. The meeting increased knowledge and strengthened capacity of community leaders, youth and faith-based groups on the importance of women participation and their effective role raising awareness and practice the act of localizing 35% in the communities.

4.3. Review meeting on women's participation in the peace process

As one of the coordinators of the South Sudan Women's Coalition for Peace (SSWCP) Eve Organization held a two days meeting in Juba, South Sudan for the first time for its members from the diaspora and refugee populations in Uganda, Kenya and Egypt on December 13th-14th 2019. The two-day meeting was convened with three main objectives: to share the strength and weaknesses of the coalition and its members, Challenges, and opportunities in implementation mechanisms and to identify concrete issues that need to be addressed in the 100 days extension and beyond for the implementation of R-ARCSS. And the important outcome of the meeting is the development of a clear actionable points that the coalition will put in place for progress.

5. WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND PARTICIPATION

5.1. Training women on the use of social media to improve small Enterprises - Bidi bidi Refugee Settlement



The training was conducted from 29 November – 01 December 2019 in Bidi bidi refugee settlement -Uganda. The overall aim of the project was to give participants the general knowledge on the use of social media to develop and grow their enterprises/business, sales issues among South Sudanese communities in Bidi bidi, through building their capacity on the use of social media for business growth and development.

The project was also linked to economic empowerment as a means of addressing leadership issues affecting their communities by inspiring women/young girls /young mothers and the community leaders to take action in addressing business leadership issues in their communities after acquiring knowledge and skills through this training.

More than 45 participants attended the training. Eve Organization assessed and identified disadvantaged women and formed 5 women enterprise groups – each group composed of 6 members and some individuals. At the end a total of 16 grants were disbursed through mobile money to the women groups who are all running small enterprise business. A total of 50 women in total benefited from the training as well as business and savings opportunities.

6. ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



6.1. Documentary on the voices and views of South Sudan refugees

As a consortium - AIR, Eve Organization and CEFoRD produced a documentary on the voices and views of south Sudanese refugees. The documentary was filmed from 30 June to 07 July 2019 in Bidi-bidi refugee settlement in Uganda after approvals were received from the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the Media Council of Uganda. Other video footages of Eve's work in the camp including women farmers, those who have benefited from the Eve's socio-economic initiatives was also reviewed and some were added to the documentary. Elements of the documentary included interviews with Eve focal person, OPM, village/community leaders, a girl and boy former child soldier.

6.2. Experience sharing and learning event in Denmark

Eve Organization shared its experience in lobby and advocacy based on the extensive work it does on WPS in South Sudan. The learning event in Copenhagen brought partners of Oxfam IBIS from South Sudan, Afghanistan, Liberia, Yemen, and Western Sahara. It was an opportunity for Eve to share and reflect on its pragmatic experience relating to women peace and security agenda and explore good practices and lessons learned from other countries in the context of their National Action Plans to Identify key priorities and opportunities for strengthening work on the local levels and globally.

6.3. Advocacy meeting with foreign missions in New York- USA

In July 2019 EVE Organization for Women Development in South Sudan was in New York for the open debate on Sexual Violence in Conflict in reference to its work on women empowerment and SGBV. In the context of this debate, one member of Eve Organization and two members of Cordaid from The Hague met with several missions in New York and discussed The current situation in South Sudan, specifically on sexual and gender-based violence, Updates on the peace agreement implementation, specifically the role of women and recommendations for the way forward and With Eve being part of a story collection process that Cordaid has led in South Sudan on the impact of sexual and gender based violence, share the preliminary results that give some interesting insights on the situation in various communities spread over South Sudan.

Non-confrontational advocacy

A participant gave an example of advocacy that they used during the long civil war in the then semi-autonomous region of the Southern Sudan. Hon. Joy Kwaje Eluzai explains as to how they had to advocate for peace in the Sudan addressing political issues within the church context.

In her own words she says. “It was in 2002 when the issue of self-determination of Southern Sudan was to be included in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement which culminated into the end of the 21 years of the struggle for the liberation of the people of the Sudan from non-equal rights.



We travelled to Britain for a meeting about the issues of the independence of Southern Sudan, but the partners to this dialogue said John Garang was a unionist and how comes we talked about self-determination of the people of South Sudan. And indeed most of the Southern Sudanese were supporting Dr. John Garang’s vision of having a united Sudan.

We had to get scriptural references from the Holy Bible for self-determination. We shared with them the story of Abraham and his nephew Lot when they decided to separate and choose a place to go so that they should not continue fighting.

The partners were seated on one side facing the church representatives who sat on the opposite side. They never wanted the church to be involved but insisted that we were speaking

for the rights of the common people until the partners admitted the biblical scripture to the theme; “Let my people choose”.

Another participant spoke about the lobbying corridors during the High Level Revitalized Forum (HLRF) in Addis Ababa. Women had to lobby from outside the main hall, going through newspapers getting what people had to say and what they wanted to have. At the end they WhatsApp it to the representatives in the peace talks. Other were researching on ground in South Sudan. They would divide themselves up to go to the government side while others would go to the opposition and at the end the conflicting parties would realize that they had commonalities and hence have got to agree.

7. OUR CHARITY EVENT

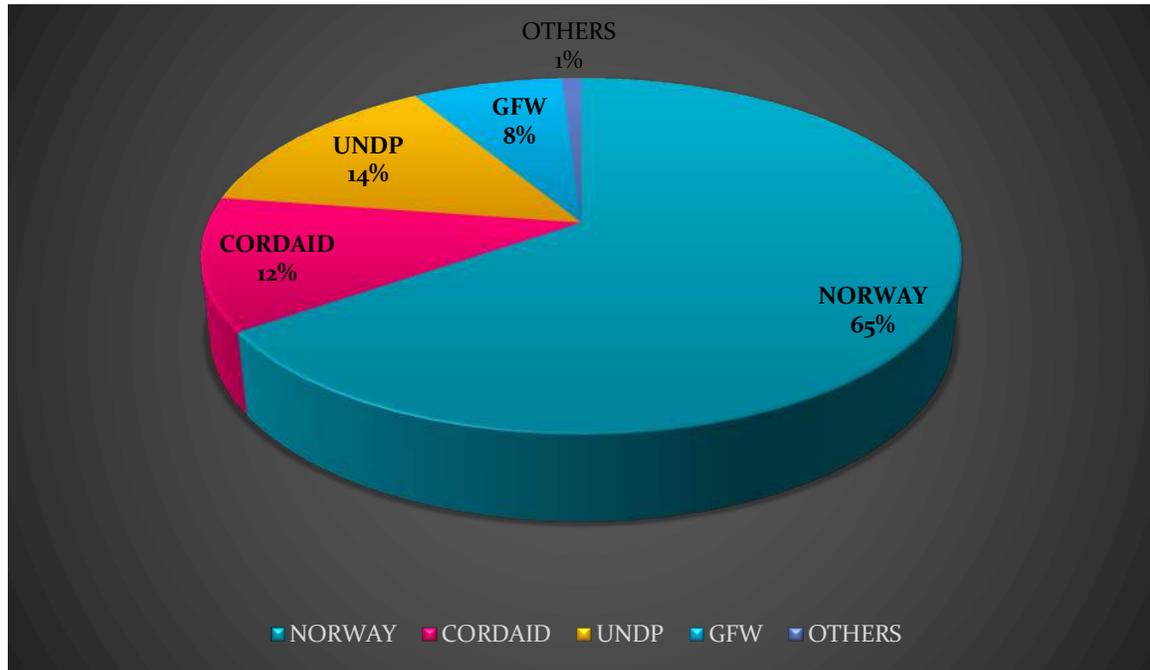


EVE Organization has visited areas like Ngangala, Bongu, Nesitu, and Terekeka County in the past years as part of its charity project. In December 2019, Eve charity event took place in the main prison in Juba.



The women inmates (some with their young children) are living in a dire and difficult situation they lack basic necessities such as soap, sugar, dippers for their kids and sanitary pads. It's in this context Eve started a fundraising and shared with them four boxes of soap, two sacks of sugar (100kgs), four packages of diapers for the kids, and five packages of sanitary pads

8. PROGRAM BUDGET



9. CONCLUSION

In this period the organization have managed to set solid foundations for progress in the field of mainstreaming, protecting and promoting gender equality in the country, and had a better understanding of the underpinnings of gender equality, including the role of men in ensuring gender parity and promoting women's empowerment.

Whilst EVE has excellent project implementation capacities on the national and states levels in the field of peacebuilding, GBV and leadership and is unique in developing intervention methods for better empowerment of women and girls, the organization does not have fundraising capabilities nor the significant means to build these capabilities. This is a structural weakness and one of the challenges the organization is looking forward to address next.

10. OUR PARTNERS



We acknowledge that we cannot achieve our vision without partners in every aspect of our work. On this page are the logos of all the partners with whom we have worked in 2019.

We value all our partners, although the list isn't complete, this page is our tribute to you.

Thank you for the trust you have shown and for supporting Eve's work to provide long-term support to women and girls in South Sudan.



ABOUT US

EVE's Mission

We strive to improve the quality of life of South Sudanese women and girls through processes and interventions that help them realize their full potential and effect positive changes and values in the communities through:

1. Enhancing and developing capacities of young women leaders to effectively participate in decision making and nation building processes
2. Promoting cultural and socio – economic abilities of women to enable them to contribute towards the development of South Sudan
3. Promoting the rights and interests of women
4. Promoting Health and Education of Women and Girls
5. Enabling environment for women to realize their full potential
6. Promoting the culture of peace

Core Values

Inclusivity: create opportunities and a conducive environment for all interested stakeholders to participate in improving the overall situation of women in South Sudan.

Transparency: a vital value for enhancing mutual trust and building healthy partnerships.

EVE Organization's pursuit for transparency ensures integrity in all aspects, promotes professionalism and ethics in the Organization and in addressing women issues in South Sudan

Accountability: promotes the principle of value-for-money in resource allocation, utilization and reporting.

Excellence: The organization continues to pursue excellence and design modalities to ensure that diversity accentuate advocacy efforts and outputs.