

## STRATEGIC PAPER

Covering basic needs of the vulnerable populations  
exposed to natural hazards, in an uncertain future



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## Humanitarian context

Years of conflict, violence and destroyed livelihoods have left 7 millions people in dire need of humanitarian assistance in 2019. However, the Revitalized Peace Agreement brought hope to the population. SI will enhance its efforts to develop significant support to the vulnerable population in view of the uncertain context.

### POPULATION MOVEMENTS REMAIN FLUID AND DISPLACEMENTS ARE WIDESPREAD

2.2 million South Sudanese are hosted in neighboring countries and 1.5 million are internally displaced in the country. South Sudan hosts also more than 300,000 refugees and asylum seekers mostly from Sudan. The return movements started in 2019 are expected to increase with the peace agreement, and will put a higher pressure on the already limited resources. Thus it will be important to support the households directly impacted by the movements, but the host community as well who are in dire situation, and who will be temporarily impacted by the moments of returns. The increase of the services in the return areas will be paramount to this aspect.

### HIGH FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION INCREASING

Across the country, the average IPC is at level 4 (emergency) and the situation will remain dramatic due to the limited means of production, lack of resources, very weak means of communication, inflation, population movements, skepticism from foreign investors and climate shocks.

In total in 2019, 6.35 million people face severe food insecurity (54% of the total population) and undernutrition affects more than 1,300,000 children under five years old.

Failure to restore agricultural production is not only driven by conflict-related displacements but also by disruptions of markets, as well as restricted trade due to roads made inaccessible by insecurity or the rainy season.

Climate shocks are likely to intensify with climate change and thousands of people are at risk of being affected by heavy rains and flash floods, leading to homes destruction, loss of livelihood and movements of population.

### HIGH OUTBREAK RISKS (CHOLERA, EBOLA) WITH ROOT CAUSES STILL EXISTING

Additionally, health risks remain high, with the State still struggling to supply basic health services and infrastructures. South Sudan is unable to cope with respiratory infections, diarrhea and other widespread diseases due to limited health services.

While there has been no cholera and ebola outbreaks reported in 2019, it is important to remain vigilant due to the ongoing crises in Democratic Republic of Congo (ebola, cholera) and Sudan (cholera) because the porosity of the borders. A case of such diseases can be dramatic because the access to clean water and sanitation both for urban and rural populations are very low and limited, and thus, the diseased and the mortality would spread all over the country.

### LOW LEVEL OF BASIC SERVICE DUE TO THE LIMITED CAPACITY OF THE STATE

Since the country gained independence in 2011, the state has struggled to provide basic services. Indeed, years of civil war have destroyed the existing services: medical services, markets, water network, etc. The lack of adequate infrastructures has led to an explosion of the mortality rates. Unfortunately, the State is currently unable to restore the services, and thus, even less ready to adapt these services to the increased pressure caused by the beginning of the return of the population.



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## Strategic programs

### 1 Preparedness and response to acute multisectorial needs, through an integrated approach

Through this strategic axis, SI will ensure the preparedness and response to urgent WaSH and FSL related needs, with an integrated Nutritional and Health approach.

It will focus on life-saving intervention (vulnerability) and the preparation of the population and the humanitarian actors (through partnership with local NGOs) to the response in case of crisis.

SI aims at responding to the malnutrition and health issues, in partnership with a health and nutrition actor, through prevention, referral and improvement of the basic services of the other sectors.

While SI will focus its efforts on the two main epidemic threats (cholera/ebola), the mission will build up an epidemiological capacity in order to be able to propose responses to other diseases.

#### Beneficiary population

- IDPs, recently returned, host, etc. This axis will target the most vulnerable populations without considering their statute

#### Proposed activities

- **WASH** Emergency Package, including WaSH in health and WaSH in Nut
- **FSL** Emergency Package, in IPC 4 areas
- **NFI/SHELTER** Emergency Package, with a protection mainstreaming orientation
- Rapid Multi-Sectorial Assessments and response (RRM), with protection mainstreaming and conflict sensitive approach

#### Areas of intervention

- The program will target the most vulnerable populations, wherever they are located (camps, informal camps, area of origin, etc)

#### Intervention modalities

- SI will respond to the most urgent needs with multi-sectorial responses, in partnership with other actors in order to take in account a strong protection component, and to include a Do No Harm approach
- The response to the population displaced will be focused on food, shelter and basic WaSH needs when necessary. The response will aim at being more flexible, geographically and in terms of response modalities (in kind, cash, etc)
- Re-focusing the response on hot spots, and on an improvement of the RRM's governance system
- Capitalization strategy and lessons learned, with Key partners, in order to feed the global RRM reflection

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## Improvement of the basic services in light of the movements of population and creation of livelihood opportunities

This axis will contribute to rebuilding and strengthening the FSL resilience capacities of agro and agro pastoral communities affected by conflict and climate events. This axis is relevant in light of the stabilisation of the context and the movement returns.

In parallel, SI will continue to develop the WaSH in Health approach to improve the health services. Likewise, cooperation with the nutrition actors to target the most impacted areas, with a solid inclusion of the FSL, NFI and WASH aspects. SI will aim at supporting the reconstruction of the basic services and the creation and strengthening of livelihood opportunities, allowed by the stabilisation of the context.

### Beneficiary population

- Population in transition/return and not stabilized yet as well as the vulnerable host communities

### Proposed activities

- Support the reconstruction, including shelter.
- Support the recovery of the existing livelihood activities and creation of new opportunities (Cash for work, cash for assets, IGA, vocational training).
- Support the rehabilitation of the services, such as markets.
- Reinforce the Community and institutional capacity.
- Opportunities to link the improvement of the water supply services with the improvement of the irrigation, in a multi sectorial approach.
- Support the definition of community risk reduction action plans and contribute to a more sustainable natural resources management

### Areas of intervention

- In any area where there are massive returnees to support the population in transition and host communities

### Intervention modalities

- In each activity, the DRR approach should be mainstreamed as much as possible to ensure sustainability of the infrastructures rehabilitated and the livelihood activities supported
- This axis will aim at starting to reinforce the local community and institutional capacity. This will be key as this will be one of the main pillar of the strategy 2021-2023



## Key numbers

**BUDGET**   
**\$2,874,175** (2019)

**STAFF**   
**45** (national)  
**11** (international)

**BENEFICIARIES**   
**90,000** (2019)

**MISSION OPENED SINCE**   
**2006**

## Partners

GIZ, OFDA, SSHF, CDC, DG ECHO, UNICEF, The ELMA Foundation, Fondation de Lille, SmartPharma, WFP, CDCS

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