

# Localization In South Sudan

NNGOs Story In South Sudan

Presentation

3<sup>rd</sup> April

By RUCAPD & CMD on behalf of NNGOs  
in South Sudan

1

# Content

- Introduction (background of localization)
- Where NNGOs came from
- NNGOs values, Motivation and organizational Culture
- The Support and Advise received
- L/NNGOs and Localization
- Challenges of Localization in South Sudan
- Way Forward
- Conclusion

# Introduction

**Localization : the** international federation of red cross (IFRC) defined it as “ a process of recognizing , respecting, and strengthening the independence of leadership and decision making by national actors in humanitarian action, in order to better address the needs of affected populations.”

- Valuing, supporting and recognizing the work of local humanitarian actors through strengthening their capacity, management, coordination
- The WHS recognizes the primary role of national and local authorities of affected countries to meet the needs of their populations.

# Where we came from?

- After decades of armed conflicts and deteriorating humanitarian situation especially devastating Crisis caused by war-induced displacement coupled with long spells of drought and destruction of livelihoods.
- A UN-coordinated operation lifeline Sudan-OLS (with an annual budget of about \$100 million)
- Then in the 1990s a few Sudanese NGOs emerged, they were mostly viewed as an external creation by INGOs

- Most of the NNGOs started at different level(CBOS/national, counties and States ); they were need driven.
- Then NGO Forum was established in Nairobi in the early 1990's as a coordination mechanism for NGOs under OLS. After the signing of the CPA in 2005, many organisations relocated from Nairobi to Juba in 2006, and the NGO Forum began to meet monthly growing to include a wider number of INGOs and NNGOs.

# L/NNGOs and Localization trend

6

The OLS legacy did not leave behind a strong national capacity to tackle humanitarian challenges that face South Sudan in the interim period after 2005 Peace agreement and the current crisis that broke out in 2013.

During the internal armed conflict that erupted in Juba in December 2013, the majority of South Sudanese NGOs were relatively localized in their reach and thus limited in their ability to scale up. However, they played a crucial and complementary role in improving coverage of hard-to-access areas and in reaching remote communities.

Localized response remains a rhetoric owing to multiple factors including inadequate funding mechanisms, coordination that prioritizes UN agencies and INGO and sidelines local actors, a narrow focus of capacity building, asymmetrical power relationship between national actors and international aid agencies.

# Our values, Motivation and organizational culture.

- Most of the NNGOS as were need driven.
- The essence of the NNGOs organizational values has been:
- Service, respect, integrity, Professionalism, Transparency and Accountability, Equity and Equality.
- Most NNGOs have lean and flexible structures; enabling us to respond rapidly to changing conditions.
- Continuous learning and knowledge management help NNGOs gain the capacity to continually learn from our actions thus effective use of knowledge. Such learning capability has been key and essential to our continual change and renewal. Providing strong competitive advantage in this complex, changing environment.

# The Support NNGOs received

- ▶ Statistics of a research done by *Henri Nzeyimana*, show that NNGOS have been supported since the OLS period by UN agencies, Donors, Government agencies and INGOs.
- ▶ NNGOs are also able to access the pooled funds channeled through the Central Emergency Response Fund and Response Funds
- ▶ South Sudan Humanitarian response is primarily funded through the common humanitarian fund-the multi donor pooled fund established in 2012 to meet critical needs on the ground.
- ▶ Dependence of some of the NNGOs on SSHF is a challenge on its own. This is because SSHF accounts for only 5% of the total funding in South Sudan. What are the chances of NNGOS accessing other available funding opportunities? Need to develop capacity of accessing other source of funding .
- ▶ Since the beginning of the crisis in Dec 2013 it has allocated \$194.5 million to south Sudan(OCHA, response Plan 2015).
- ▶ The recognition of the fact that NNGOs do access the hardest to reach areas in South Sudan to deliver the life saving services to the community.



# SUPPORT AND ADVICE TO NNGOs IN THE FSL-C

9

## ➤ **Be open minded**

➤ Be open minded and ready to learn. Because there is no end to learning and no one has the monopoly of knowledge.

## ➤ **Please implement!**

➤ It is of utmost importance to ensure implementation of projects won. This goes a long way to win the trust of the community and the donor partners. It is one aspect of AAP.

## ➤ **Ask!**

➤ If there are things you do not understand, do not shy off. Ask. ;

➤ Most donor partners are open to reference and technical backstopping unless tied down by their policies.

## ➤ **Have competent staff**

- Try as much as possible to have Qualified staff for all the programmes running. This will go a long way to producing quality service. Cutting down on cost in terms of maybe one having to redo something if it was done to a substandard level.
- **Stick to your organizational values**
- Temptations to be swayed from what you believe in as an organization are high, it is a choice you make to stick to your values.
- **Never give up**
- There are times when giving up seems to be the only option. Do not give up. Do not throw in the towel. Hold on. Keep moving.
- Often times, when you are about to have a breakthrough, giving up beckons.
- **Get involved in Cluster Issues**
- Attend meetings, read and submit the reports and try as much as possible to be actively involved.

# Challenges of Localization in South Sudan

## **What are the key challenges that hinder the localization of humanitarian response in the current humanitarian system and South Sudan political landscape?**

- - The need to have increase involvement of the local partners by the Major humanitarian stake holders :UN and the International NGOs in order to have local context and realities shared.
- - Short term funding.
- Who are we in the funding and humanitarian aid chain?
- - Whose priority counts ? : The type of donor client relationships between aid recipients and international donors and humanitarian agencies stands contrast with shared responsibility, equality and long term partnership relationship that effective humanitarian response requires.

# Contin...

12

## **How much is being invested in empowerment and capacity building of the local staff?**

- There is need for the local partners to increase /place investment in capacity building of the local staff on managerial and implementation areas to increase performance and morale and competitiveness. This can also be enhance by the cluster and partnering INNGOs to ensure competence of all partners are up to standard.
- Trend shows that INGOs on the other hand have a tendency of pulling qualified , competent staff working off the local NGOs thus rendering them incapable of performing .
- Exclusion in the Coordination mechanism. In south Sudan still priorities the UN system and cluster functions. Under the leadership of the humanitarian Coordinator; coordination is done through the ICWG and then the OWG which coordinates implementation of the responses with actors on the ground.
- Whose priority counts: The element of Complementarity where the NNGOs and the INGOs is not adhered to given the varied capabilities that either of them are able to offer in during partnerships and Response to Humanitarian needs in a location .

# Way Forward

13

- The international humanitarian agencies should support local actors by building their operational capacities rather than taking over operations. basically assuming new supportive role without doing themselves out of business.
- Diversification- Accessibility of funding opportunities for NNGOS.
- There is need to encourage democratic decision making process in bodies like clusters and HCT that includes NNGOs members in terms of numbers.
- Push for inclusion of more local and national NGOs representation in humanitarian coordination bodies.
- Partnerships projects for advocating for localization should include NNGOS as principle partners
- Major donors should ensure partnership with local NGOs is a must and support both INGO and NNGOS equally in terms of Support cost allocation
- The implementation of the grand bargain.

# Thank You!