

2020 - 2024

PEACE-WISE Program Report

This report is dedicated to Najat Mohamed from the PEACE-WISE Women Leader's Dilling Network and Bahja Abdallah from Thoury Association, who's lives were taken by the April 2023 Confilct. We carry forward their dreams and passions, committing to continue the change they inititated and evisioned.

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01

Introduction



In the heart of Sudan,

amidst the echoes of its vibrant pro-democracy movement of 2019, a powerful narrative unfolds—a tale of resilience, empowerment, and a relentless pursuit. This narrative not only encapsulates the spirit of the Sudanese revolution but also the continuous journey towards a more inclusive and democratic society. At the forefront of this movement were the women of Sudan, whose unparalleled courage and leadership catalyzed the formation of a democratic power-sharing government. In the aftermath, the Declaration of Freedom and Change emerged as a beacon of hope, heralding a new era that promised to empower Sudanese women and combat discrimination in all its forms. Yet, the path to equality and empowerment was fraught with challenges, particularly for the women in Sudan's most marginalized regions, such as South Darfur and South Kordofan.

Despite the progressive strides made by the new government, the voices of these women remained largely unheard, overshadowed by acute poverty and entrenched structural inequalities. Recognizing the urgent need to address these disparities, in September 2019, the University of Khartoum and the Overseas Development Institute convened a group of eminent Sudanese women advocates. This assembly of minds was tasked with developing a comprehensive list of policy priorities aimed at advancing women's equality across the nation. Their collective wisdom highlighted a pivotal truth: genuine equality can only be achieved through grassroots efforts that harness the power of labor unions and neighborhood committees. These platforms, they believed, held the key to enhancing women's visibility and autonomy, thus paving the way for a more equitable society.

The PEACE-WISE Program

Enter Mercy Corps and the PEACE-WISE program—a collaborative effort designed to ensure that women from Sudan's most marginalized and conflict-affected states play an active role in the country's political transition. By prioritizing the needs of women and girls affected by conflict, Mercy Corps, along with its partners, aimed to foster a sustainable, participatory democracy reflective of women's policy preferences.

PEACE - WISE Objectives



By empowering women's civil society networks in South Darfur, South Kordofan, Gedaref, and Khartoum, the initiative seeks to infuse the decision-making process with the needs and experiences of conflict-affected women. Through a series of training programs, women leaders and community organizations are equipped with the skills necessary for crisis mediation, dispute resolution, and political transitions.

Furthermore, PEACE-WISE champions collaborative efforts that transcend societal divisions, thereby amplifying the collective influence and capabilities of women's networks. By fostering connections across local, state, and national levels, the initiative ensures that women's voices are not only heard but also instrumental in shaping the future of Sudan. As this narrative unfolds, it serves as a testament to the indomitable spirit of Sudanese women. Their journey, marked by resilience, collaboration, and a steadfast commitment to equality, continues to inspire a vision of a Sudan where every woman has the power to shape her destiny and contribute to a peaceful, inclusive society.

Adaptation & Change | Political Instability & War

However, this journey took an unexpected turn in **October 2021**, when a coup threatened to reverse the progress made since the revolution. In the face of adversity, the program adapted, focusing more intently on grassroots changes and the construction of robust networks to support the political transition process and local leadership. In **April 2023**, Sudan was thrust into turmoil as war broke out across the nation, casting a long shadow over the hard-won progress towards democracy and women's empowerment.



I am Najwa from the IDP community of Murta-North. I was one of the women who participated in the workshop for women leaders organized by MC. The discussions in the workshop helped us to realize that women can, and should participate in decision-making in the community.

This wasn't the case in Murta-North, where women aren't used to speaking in public gatherings, and when they do, their voices are rarely heard by the men. Our group decided to change this situation, so we talked to the authorities in the Kadugli locality, and demanded that women should be represented in the neighborhood's civil administration (a council of traditional leaders).

Our demands have not yet been answered, but we will keep pressing. Since its formation, our group has sought to address the tensions in Murta, especially between the IDPs and the host community.

To do this, we sought to engage the women from the host community in the group. It wasn't easy at first (members of the two communities do not often socialize with each other), but now they participate in our gatherings and activities. The initiative we are currently undertaking, to promote peaceful coexistence, is the result of this joint effort between all women of Murta, IDPs and hosts.



IDP Community of Murta-North.

March 2024
End Of Program



July 2023
PEACE-WISE's
Expansion To Gedaref



2023
April Conflict



Paving The Way
Midline Evaluation



2021 - 2023
Post Coup



Deeper Grassroots Focus
Programme Adaptation
From Government
Engagement

2021
Military Coup



2020
PEACE - WISE Begins



2019
Transitional Period



2018 - 2019
Revolution



This conflict not only threatened the stability and safety of countless Sudanese but also posed a significant challenge to the ongoing efforts to advance women's rights and participation in the political landscape. Among these efforts, the PEACE-WISE initiative, dedicated to empowering women from Sudan's most marginalized communities, found itself at a critical juncture.

Conflict in Sudan - April, 2023

The outbreak of war necessitated a profound reassessment of the program's strategies and objectives. As the fabric of society was torn asunder by violence, the immediate and tangible achievements of women's advocacy and empowerment initiatives seemed at risk of unraveling. The aspirations for a participatory democracy, reflective of women's policy preferences, were suddenly overshadowed by the urgent need for survival and conflict resolution. Faced with these dire circumstances, the PEACE-WISE program, along with its dedicated partners and participants, demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability. Recognizing the new reality on the ground, the focus of the program underwent a significant shift towards strengthening grassroots leadership and mobilizing women to play pivotal roles within their communities amidst the crisis.

'A Strategic Reimagining'

This shift was not just a tactical response to the conflict but a strategic reimagining of how to continue the fight for women's empowerment under drastically changed conditions. Women's networks and organizations, initially formed to advocate for policy changes and gender equality, transformed into essential support systems for their communities. They leveraged their training in crisis mediation, community mobilization, and political transitions to address the immediate needs of their communities, while also laying the groundwork for peace and stability. The outbreak of war, while a setback, demonstrated the indispensable role of women in leading and healing their communities during times of conflict. Grassroots leadership and the mobilization of women emerged as critical components of Sudan's resilience, underscoring the importance of empowering women not only in times of peace but especially in moments of crisis.

As the PEACE-WISE initiative adapted to the new challenges presented by the war, it underscored the undeniable truth that women's leadership and active participation are crucial for Sudan's recovery and future prosperity.

The Narrative of Women's Empowerment in Sudan, therefore, took on a new dimension—one that highlighted the strength, courage, and ingenuity of women in the face of adversity. Through grassroots leadership and community mobilization, the women of Sudan continue to weave a tapestry of resilience and hope, reinforcing their role as pillars of a society striving for peace and equality amidst the turmoil of war.



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Partners

Mercy Corps, funded by the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues (S/GWI), facilitated the program's objectives through collaboration with a diverse group of partners. At the core of this collaboration are Local NGOs, designated as sub-awardees, which include **Sudanese Women Development Organization (SWDO)**, **Relief and Mediation Corps (REMCO)**, and **Al Twaki Development Organization**.

These organizations are the primary implementers on the ground, equipped with vital local expertise and a grassroots connection.

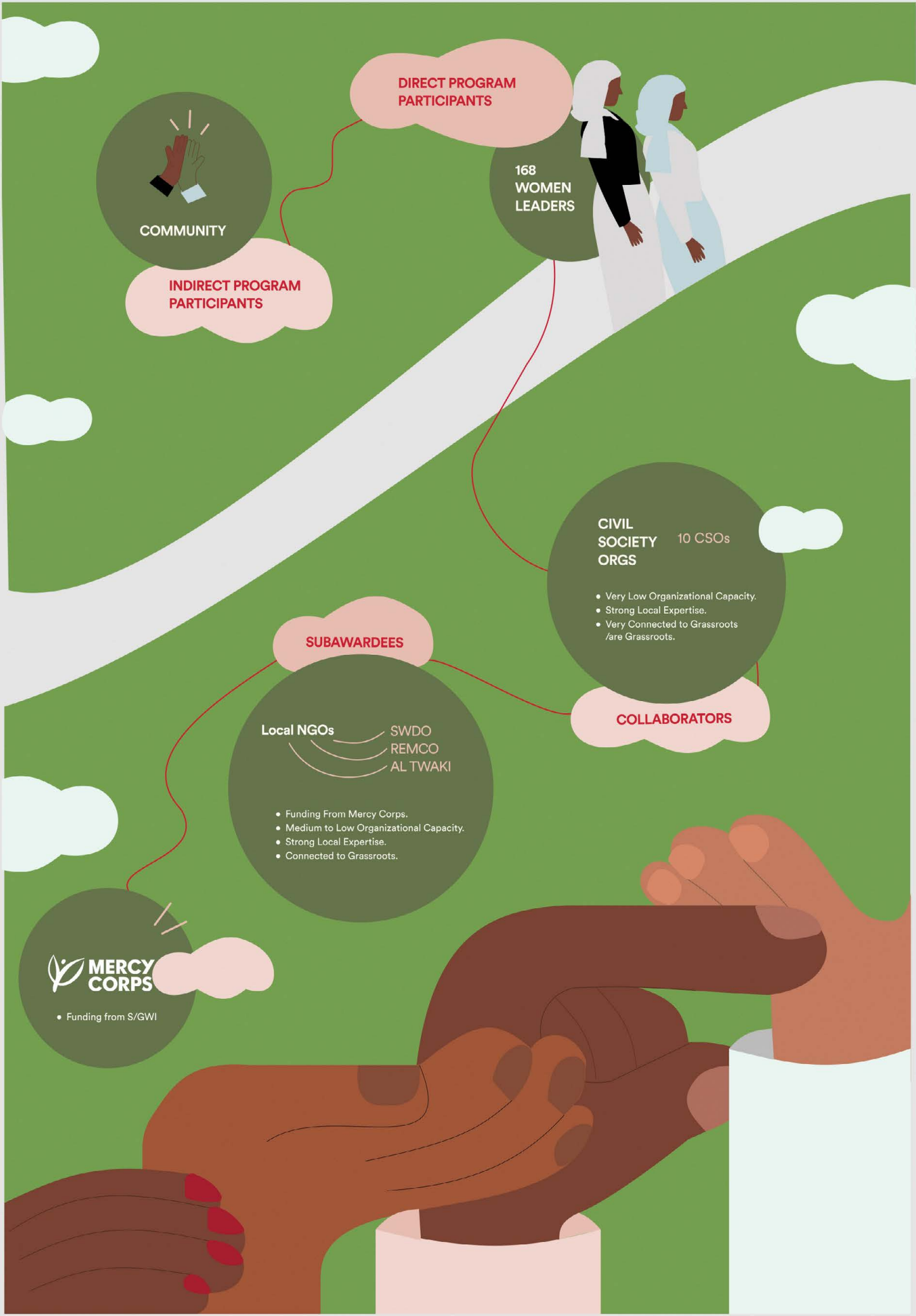
Collaborating closely are a **network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)**, characterized by their profound grassroots integration and local knowledge, though they possess a relatively lower organizational capacity.

The direct impact of the program is embodied by the **168 Women Leaders**, who are the direct program participants driving the initiative within their locales.

They serve as the critical link to the wider Community, who are the indirect beneficiaries of the program, reaping the benefits of enhanced leadership, advocacy, and community-driven development spearheaded by these empowered women.

This synergistic partnership model underscores the program's commitment to fostering sustainable, community-based change through women's empowerment and leadership.





COMMUNITY

INDIRECT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

DIRECT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

168 WOMEN LEADERS

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGS 10 CSOs

- Very Low Organizational Capacity.
- Strong Local Expertise.
- Very Connected to Grassroots /are Grassroots.

COLLABORATORS

SUBAWARDEES

Local NGOs

- SWDO
- REMCO
- AL TWAKI

- Funding From Mercy Corps.
- Medium to Low Organizational Capacity.
- Strong Local Expertise.
- Connected to Grassroots.

MERCY CORPS

- Funding from S/GWI

Key Objectives

Capacity Building for Women Leaders

Women's civil society networks in SDS, SKS, Khartoum and Gedaref will receive training in order to incorporate key the needs and experiences of women from conflict-affected areas into decision making processes. Both women-led implementing partners, women leaders and CSOs will receive capacity building training on leadership, crisis mediation and dispute resolution, community mobilization, political transitions, and policies to transform gender inequalities that drive and perpetuate conflict.

Collaborative Local Peacebuilding Initiatives

Strengthened and expanded women's networks collaborate on shared local peacebuilding initiatives to overcome divisions and build their collective influence and capabilities.

Representation - Local, State, National

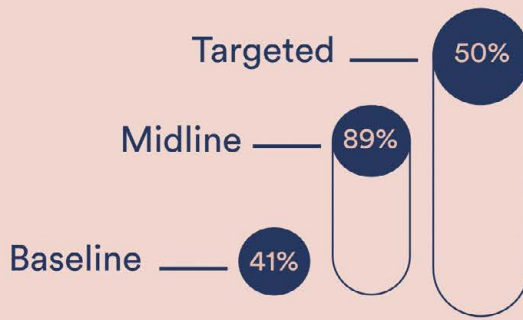
Women's networks in and across SDS, SKS, Khartoum and Gedaref will network with stakeholders on a local, state and national level and engage in peer-to-peer learning, benefitting existing and new women leaders, as well as male leaders. Women's civil society networks, young and old, learn and grow together as they are networked on a local, state and national level with relevant stakeholders on issues surrounding gender inequalities and conflict.



Women are always a source of inspiration for family and society

Confidence

Percentage of women in SDS, SKS and KRT who express increased confidence that they can play an active role in preventing and mitigating conflict and violence in their communities.

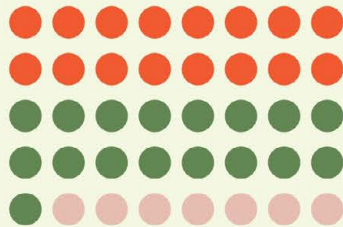


Outcome Indicators

Participation

Percentage of women reporting meaningful participation in decision-making bodies at all levels Community (local), State, National.

Targeted 40%
Midline 41%
Baseline 12%



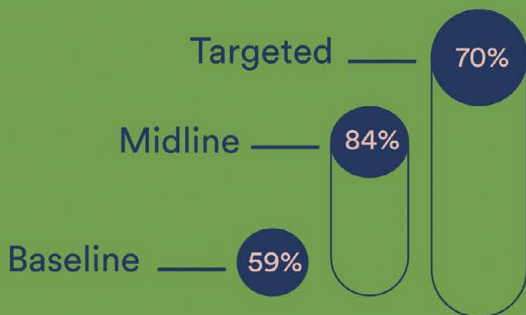
Collaboration

Percentage of participants in SDS, SKS and KRT reporting increased collaboration on women's issues and initiatives, within their groups and with other groups, as a result of the program.

90% Targeted
60% Midline
28% Baseline

Knowledge

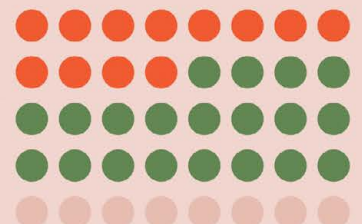
Percentage of participants in SDS, SKS and KRT reporting increased knowledge on, and enhanced capacity to champion, women-led peacebuilding initiatives as a result of the program.



Decision-Making

Percentage of participants in SDS, SKS and KRT women's networks who feel decision-making processes reflect the needs and experiences of women from conflict-affected areas.

Targeted 50%
Midline 67%
Baseline 44%



Direct Program Participants

In the tapestry of Sudan's diverse landscape, the PEACE-WISE program has woven a network of determined Women Leaders, each a thread strengthening the fabric of their communities.

In South Kordofan, a group of 40 women stands poised to become the champions of change. These women, selected for their potential to lead and represent the unique challenges of grassroots communities, hail from four different localities and fifteen villages across the state. Most of these villages are in very challenging states however they still act as hosts for IDPs.

In the shadows of the Nuba Mountains, some dwell in areas where traditions still tightly grip the freedom to participate openly in society. Yet, from the streets of Al Dilling to the agricultural heartlands of Habilla and Al Reef Al Shargi, these women are uniting to form a formidable force for communal advancement.

Amongst them, in South Darfur, another 88 women were chosen, embodying the diversity of age and profession, from farmers to educators and traders. They represent the agricultural pulse of the state, from the furrowed fields of Edelfursan to the market bustle of Beleil. Their voices are as varied as their vocations, including volunteers, housewives, and those leading from the frontlines of trade agencies.

Further to the east, in Gedaref, 40 women leaders emerge, after geographic shifts made following the outbreak of the war. This group represents a mosaic of ages, professions, and locations, drawn together by their shared vision for their communities. From the capital's villages to the active agricultural hubs and the eastern frontiers of Galabat, these women—housewives, activists, teachers, and lawyers—are now the architects of their own destiny, advocating for peace and security, with the soil of their homelands beneath their feet and the weight of leadership upon their shoulders.

Together, these program participants are the beating heart of their communities, chosen by their communities, not just for who they are, but for who they can become: leaders, visionaries, and the vanguard of a new era for Sudan. Their journey is marked by challenges, but also by the hope that from the fertile ground of today's Sudan, a more peaceful and equitable tomorrow can grow.



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Security is vital for the people in Al Mojamaa because we make a living by moving into the open lands beyond the city to collect wood and wild plants. We hope that the peacebuilding initiative organized by our group will draw the attention of decision makers, and will solidify the ties between community members.



I am one of the women, from Al Mojamma, who participated in the PEACE-WISE training for women leaders. Before the training, we didn't know much about the practice of peacemaking, so we didn't understand the importance of working with women from other tribes. All that changed after the training. After the workshop, we gathered in a groups of 22 women, who represent all the seven tribes in Al Mojamaa.

We began weekly meetings

at the school, to discuss and talk to people about women issues and tribal conflicts. Soon afterwards, we established a women committee to help promote peace within the community. Real improvement took place as a result, and many disagreements were resolved before turning into violent conflicts.

We sat with tribal leaders

(in the civil administration); we described the diversity of our group and explained its purpose. They listened to us and gave us their support. And now we coordinate with them in the mediation of disagreements.

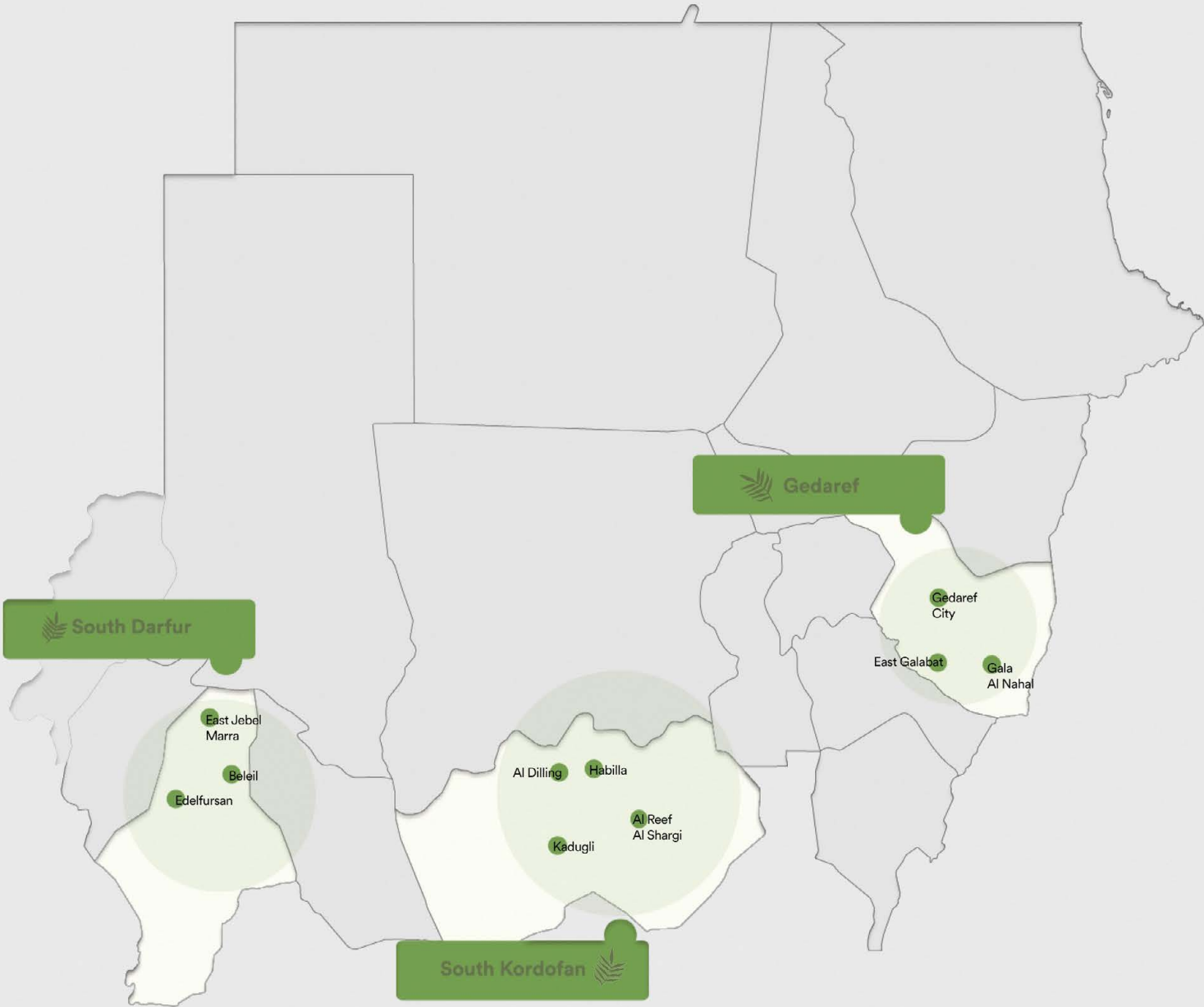
We plan to move a further step and reach for military authorities and the state government, to urge them to secure the city borders and surroundings. Security is vital for the people in Al Mojamaa because we make a living by moving into the open lands beyond the city to collect wood and wild plants.

We hope that the peacebuilding initiative organized by our group will draw the attention of decision makers, and will solidify the ties between community members.



05

Geographies



South Darfur State

Edelfursan
 Mabrouka
 Edelfursan Town
 Umganah

East Jebel Marra
 Tabaldiya Marra
 Derbat

Beileil
 Beileil IDP Camp
 Al-Sereif Settlement
 Omguna

South Kordofan State

Kadugli
 Murta
 Tilaw
 Al Samaa
 Al Mojamaa

Al Dilling
 Tomat
 Matar
 Radeef
 Torok

Al Reef Al Shargi
 Al Shaer, Barno
 Dameek
 Saraf al Dai

Habilla
 Hajar Al Jawad
 Al Kurgul
 Angarco

Gedaref State

Gedaref City
 Um Khangar
 Gergan

Gala Al Nahal
 Al Matna
 Gala Al Nahal City

East Galabat
 Rashid
 Doka City



Challenges



Challenges

Political Instability

In light of the political changes in Sudan, including a military coup and ongoing conflict, our program had to pause its engagement with the government.

This situation, while presenting challenges, especially in limiting women's direct interactions with government agencies, prompted us to adjust our focus toward grassroots involvement. This adjustment greatly strengthened local networks by fostering stronger resilience and deeper connections among community members.

This strategic shift not only underscored the importance of community-based initiatives in our program but also empowered women and communities to take greater control, ensuring their strength and autonomy remain steadfast, independent of the political landscape.

Dormant Women's Groups

During the initial phase of the PEACE-WISE program, dedicated to setup, staffing, and partnership development, we faced a pivotal challenge: the discovery that many women's groups, identified a year before, were now inactive or disbanded. This unexpected obstacle, as our strategy relied on leveraging these pre-existing groups, compelled us to rethink our approach.

Yet, it also unveiled an avenue for growth. We seized the opportunity to diversify our network, engaging with a broader spectrum of civil society organizations (CSOs). These new partnerships brought forth a wealth of local expertise, insights, and extensive community networks.

In turn, these CSOs gained access to the vast resources, training, and networking opportunities PEACE-WISE had to offer, creating a symbiotic relationship that enriched both our program and the communities we aim to serve.

21

Rapid Adaptation

The PEACE-WISE program often had to quickly adapt due to the changing political situation. With the conflict erupting in April 2023, we halted our efforts in South Darfur and expanded our work into Gedaref. Despite the challenges of accessibility, time constraints, and adapting to a new community setting, PEACE-WISE successfully leveraged existing Mercy Corps networks of women's economic empowerment groups in Gedaref.

This move not only utilized an already thriving network but also addressed the frequently expressed need for integrating women's economic well-being with peacebuilding efforts. By building on this foundation, we enhanced our peace outcomes.

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07 Women Leaders

The foremost goal of PEACE-WISE has been the empowerment of women and the eradication of discrimination against them by fostering peace, with a particular emphasis on women as the central beneficiaries of the program. The initiative is dedicated to enhancing the comprehension of peacebuilding and women's empowerment among Sudanese women, bolstering their ability to lead initiatives that champion their rights and well-being.

Despite their significant roles, women in the most disenfranchised regions, especially those in the South Darfur and South Kordofan States (SDS and SKS), have historically been overlooked, contending with severe poverty and pervasive inequality. These challenges have placed the women of South Darfur and South Kordofan at the heart of the program's efforts. In the aftermath of the conflict, PEACE-WISE's attention has expanded to include the Gedaref state. Across these three states, PEACE-WISE has successfully engaged 168 women, supporting them in their quest to forge a path toward equality and peace through leadership.

Selection Process

The selection process within the PEACE-WISE program was designed to engage a diverse array of women leaders by considering a variety of criteria. These included age, profession, and geographical location, specifically aiming to include those who play an active role in women's movements within their communities and advocate for women, peace, and security. This approach ensured a wide-ranging representation to enrich the program's diversity. Selection was community-led. Extensive community consultations were crucial for grasping the distinct challenges faced by women in different regions, as well as being a tool for broader community buy-in.

These discussions highlighted the importance of age diversity within the program, resulting in a selection of women ranging from **19 to 60 years**, ensuring **multi-generational representation**. The professional backgrounds of these women are predominantly homemakers, but PEACE-WISE embodies a wide spectrum of vocations.

Activists, educators, legal professionals, entrepreneurs, and healthcare providers like midwives, alongside those in engineering, cleaning services, and the agricultural and trading sectors, were all integral to the inclusive nature of the program, thereby reflecting the multifaceted identities of the women it aims to empower.

Program Activities

Conduct regular training for national implementing partners and civil society organizations (CSOs).



Conduct a cascaded training programme for **168 Women Leaders**.



Facilitate women-led, peace-focused, local initiatives.



Conduct Local-level, State-level, National-level, Peace and Security agenda driven meetings.



Key Findings



1

Men's Engagement

Greater involvement from men at both the community and domestic spheres is essential - including the roles of husbands and local leaders.

Such widespread endorsement and multi-tiered backing enhance the efficacy and safety of women's participation.

2

Local Decision-making Exclusion

Women are largely excluded from the civil administrations; the local decision making bodies that are closely involved with reconciliation and peacebuilding.

Yet we found evidence for a growing collaboration between these men-dominated bodies and women groups.

3

Types of Governance Structures

Resistance Committees (as well as change and services committees during the period of the transitional government) and similar youth-led bodies are much more open, to women participation, than the civil administrations.

By contrast, relatively small villages, such as Mabruka in Edelfursan, retain old leadership structures, in which traditional leaders (Al-Shioukh), hold all power. Women participation in decision making is more difficult in these contexts.

4

Conflict Sources

Internal conflicts were described as arising from ordinary disputes within the community (e.g. over access to water sources).

Violent conflicts often involve disputes with other communities. In particular, tensions between farmers and nomads were cited as the typical cause for violent conflicts by both SDS and SKS respondents.

5

Women Want Collaboration

Women wanted more autonomous relations, mediated by regular meetings, between women groups from different villages or localities, and even states.

6

Men's Behaviours

The men leaders interviewed, during FGDs and KIs, have all welcomed a greater role for women in decision-making. This outcome, however, was not considered a priority by many of them, who advised that we should concentrate more on income generating activities.

Furthermore, in some communities, we were told that women are represented in public bodies only when the men leaders are explicitly required to include women (by NGOs or the government). These observations emphasize the importance of engaging men leaders, through training activities.

7

Economic Empowerment Needs

Throughout implementation, women leaders voiced a resounding need: economic empowerment stands as their most pressing and primary necessity.

They share a collective insight that economic strength is the bedrock of their capacity to effect change and engage more effectively in peace and conflict resolutions.

These women have expressed that with improved economic opportunities, they would be better positioned to advocate for peace, navigate societal challenges, and support their communities' stability.

Economic empowerment, they argue, is not merely about financial independence, but a cornerstone of dignity and agency that can elevate their roles in mediating and resolving conflicts. When women are economically fortified, they are empowered to contribute more significantly to peace processes and community decision-making.

This feedback underscores a vital link between economic resilience and the potency of peacebuilding efforts. It suggests that to galvanize women as pivotal peacebuilders, investment in their economic capabilities is not just beneficial, but essential.

8

Confidence

Women's confidence building is key to the development of the leadership and engagement.

Women sighted capacity building training and acknowledgment and learning of their rights as a key tool in their ability to engage, lead in their community and be heard and respected.

10

Representation Frustrations

Women were frustrated with inaccurate and lacking representation of women by 'Khartoum-elites'.

In transitional and democratic processes, the women at the table still made women leaders from South Darfur and South Kordofan feel misrepresented and ignored.

9

Dynamic Gender Relations

The power balance between men and women in the targeted communities was observed to be dynamic and variable. Dynamic, because it undergoes rapid changes, with women exercising an increasing influence over time. Some of these changes can be attributed to PEACE-WISE's support to women groups.

The power balance is also variable, depending on the socio-economic status of the community: larger communities (e.g. Derbat in East Jebel Marra), and those closer to urban centers (e.g. Beileil Camp), have modernized civil administrations, with women formally represented in the leadership structure.

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Key Successes

08

Partnership Models

A critical goal of the PEACE-WISE program was the deliberate inclusion and capacity enhancement of women-led organizations and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). By equipping these entities with comprehensive capacity-building training, the initiative aimed to fortify their ability to integrate the essential needs and experiences of marginalized women into decision-making frameworks. The training encompassed vital areas such as crisis mediation, conflict resolution, community mobilization, navigating political transitions, and strategies for addressing gender inequalities that fuel conflict.

Beyond addressing these immediate concerns, the program also focused on bolstering the organizational strength of these groups through sessions on project management, report and proposal writing. Additional training in organizational strategy, branding, public speaking, presentation skills, and facilitation techniques were aimed at enhancing their operational capacity. Furthermore, guidance on managing women's groups and forging effective partnerships at various governmental levels was provided to ensure their sustainable impact.

The engagement with women-led organizations and CSOs has been notably successful, bridging connections between them and the women leaders from marginalized areas. This facilitated a mutual comfort and understanding, reinforcing the organizations' commitment to prioritizing women's empowerment. The women leaders, in turn, felt a strong sense of support and alignment with these organizations, confident in their shared mission to uplift and empower women across their communities.

Men's Sensitization

PEACE-WISE successfully engaged and educated influential men within its operating communities which included husbands, leaders, and sheikhs—who play a critical role in supporting gender equality and women's empowerment. Educational sessions have been pivotal in deepening their understanding of gender issues, sensitivity, and the significant role of women in peacebuilding, encapsulated in Resolution 1325. The men's participation in these discussions was notably high, marked by active questioning and involvement in training activities. Post-training reflections revealed that the men not only recognized the importance of these issues for the community's well-being but also appreciated the crucial role they themselves play in empowering women and fostering peace.

This acknowledgment has been met with gratitude from women, who value this shared understanding and support in their empowerment journey.

Networking

Local, State, National

Networking emerged as a crucial catalyst for change within marginalized communities, enabling women to forge connections with influential figures capable of driving broader transformations. This dynamic played a pivotal role in amplifying the concerns and aspirations of women at local, state, and national levels. In South Kordofan, localized meetings provided a platform for Women Leaders to engage with community influencers and discuss the impact of the PEACE-WISE program, enhancing their public speaking abilities and confidence.

The progression to state-level advocacy offered Women Leaders an opportunity to engage with a diverse array of stakeholders, including UN and NGO professionals, political parties, activists and academics, allowing them to champion the causes of their communities. Selected representatives from each locality were tasked with presenting local peacebuilding initiatives and policy recommendations, fostering a collaborative environment for advocacy and change.

At the national level, the culmination of networking and skill development efforts was most evident. Women Leaders, having honed their advocacy and public speaking skills, participated in discussions on critical issues such as women's rights and political participation. This roundtable not only facilitated a dialogue on important policies and projects but also served as a repository of grassroots insights for policy formulation and program development by 'Khartoum-elites', often tucked away from the realities on the ground.



The overarching goal of these engagements was to empower Women Leaders from South Darfur and South Kordofan with knowledge on political participation and economic empowerment. The forums were marked by active participation, increasing confidence, and an eagerness to learn, demonstrating the effectiveness of the sessions in enhancing the women's understanding of crucial topics. Moreover, the cross-state interaction allowed Women Leaders to share experiences and achievements, fostering a sense of community and mutual support. Notably, Nagwa's testimony underscores the transformative impact of the program:



Before, I didn't even know right from wrong. Then I came and took part in the training and the workshops, and now that I know right from wrong, I can now advise others on that.

Now I can say Hey!

This is right and this is wrong.

Local Initiatives

A major triumph of the program has been providing a platform for women to articulate necessary community reforms to enhance peace and empowerment through implementation of women-led local initiatives. The PEACE-WISE Program's women leaders have led 40 initiatives across their communities. In South Kordofan, women leaders convened to identify and deliberate on critical issues such as child marriage, social cohesion, the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) and female genital mutilation (FGM), and raising awareness about internally displaced persons (IDPs). These collaborative sessions were vital for women across communities to connect and collectively decide on challenges they could jointly address to foster communal harmony.

Fostering collaboration was a deliberate goal of the program, recognizing that joint efforts by women from various communities would strengthen social bonds and contribute to social cohesion—this has been celebrated as a mark of the program's effectiveness. The initiatives that emerged focused on enhancing social unity,

amplifying calls for peace and justice, and integrating IDPs for peaceful cohabitation.

With the local initiatives chosen, the women felt acknowledged and invigorated to confront the challenges of initiative implementation. They were enthusiastic about starting to advocate for themselves, eager to expand their knowledge of their rights, and learn to assert their own voices. For many women in the community, this was a profound moment of feeling listened to and realizing the significance of their contributions.

1. Al-Sereif IDP Camp

South Darfur

In a powerful demonstration of advocacy and solidarity, Women Leaders from Al-Sereif Camp, in collaboration with the Darfur Women's Platform and various women's organizations, launched an impactful advocacy campaign on February 9, 2023. Titled "What Guilt She Was Killed," the campaign aimed to address and combat the disturbing trend of violence and murders against women and girls in South Darfur. Central to the campaign's success were the Women Leaders who played a pivotal role in highlighting the issue and denouncing harmful practices prevalent within their communities. Their efforts underscored a collective determination to challenge the societal norms and traditions that have historically condoned such violence, thereby contributing to a culture of impunity for perpetrators.

The Women Leaders team took a front-line position in advocating for women's rights, staging the campaign prominently in front of the state court from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. The event was marked by a dynamic mix of advocacy methods, including the broadcasting of a compelling radio recording, as well as the display of banners and images that voiced a collective rejection of violence against women and girls. A key focus was on challenging customs and traditions that enable murders, advocating for the enforcement of Article 130 to prevent impunity, and calling for stringent measures to protect women and girls. The urgency of this campaign was driven by a concerning social phenomenon that has significantly undermined women's confidence and safety within their families and broader society. This trend manifested in the tragic killings of 15 girls across various localities in the state over the past year, for reasons devoid of any justification. Through this campaign, the Women Leaders called upon the state government and all stakeholders within the justice system to strengthen mechanisms that ensure local-level justice, including enhanced police and prosecution court functions, to provide accessible justice services for all.

The campaign stands as a testament to the resilience and activism of women leaders and their allies in their ongoing struggle for justice and safety in South Darfur.

2. Trees For Peace

South Darfur & Gedaref

The Trees for Peace initiative strategically engaged a diverse group of stakeholders, including community sector representatives, local and women leaders, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), key community informants, faith-based actors, resistance committees, native administration, educators, and religious figures. This inclusive approach ensured broad-based community buy-in and participation.

The initiative has delivered notable successes, as evidenced during monitoring visits. A significant achievement was the establishment of robust connections among women leaders, community leaders, and community members at large. This collaboration was pivotal in the decision-making process for selecting tree planting sites, which included educational institutions, women's centers, government buildings, and main thoroughfares within the village.

The collective spirit of the initiative shone through during the planting phase, marked by a shared sense of enthusiasm and hope. Beyond planting, the initiative also promoted community engagement through the ongoing care of the trees. It led to the formation of committees tasked with regular watering, demonstrating a communal commitment to the initiative. Monthly reports on the trees' health and growth underscored the community's vested interest in the project's success.

These trees have grown to be more than just plant life; they are living symbols of peace, nurtured by collective effort and serving as focal points for community cohesion. The Trees for Peace initiative stands as a testament to the power of collaborative environmental stewardship in building and reinforcing communal bonds.



3. Inclusion of IDPs in Peaceful Coexistence

South Kordofan

In the heart of South Kordofan lies the village of Murta, traditionally home to the Murta tribe. Since the 1990s, however, Murta has welcomed internally displaced persons (IDPs), leading to the Murta tribe becoming a minority within their own ancestral lands. The influx of IDPs, coupled with recurrent inter-tribal conflicts, limited access to essential services, and scarcity of agricultural land, has fueled tensions between the original inhabitants and the newcomers. Recent calls from sections of the Murta community to the South Kordofan government, demanding the relocation of IDPs to their regions of origin, reflect the depth of these strains.

Moreover, divisions among the IDPs themselves, driven by tribal loyalties, further complicate the social fabric of Murta. In response to these challenges, women leaders have spearheaded an initiative aiming to bridge the divides within Murta. Their vision is for a community that transcends its current discord to forge a path towards safety, peace, and unity. This effort reflects a profound hope that, through collaboration and understanding, Murta can emerge as a cohesive and harmonious community, setting an example of resilience and coexistence.

The initiative in the Murta neighbourhood of Kadugli, South Kordofan, was designed to mitigate tensions between internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the host community, as well as among IDPs themselves, caused by land scarcity, limited services, and intertribal conflicts. Its core aim was to educate and empower women leaders to champion peaceful coexistence, conflict prevention, and resolution, underscoring the critical role of women in leadership and peacebuilding across all levels of decision-making. This initiative succeeded in bringing together a diverse group of 529 community members from various tribal backgrounds.

The program kicked off with a coffee session to strategize on implementation and scheduling. A lecture highlighted the need for social cohesion between the displaced and host communities. Following this, awareness sessions were conducted on gender-based violence (GBV), involving 13 men and 49 women and girls in open dialogues using real-life examples, focusing on domestic and economic violence. Peacebuilding workshops concentrated on bridging differences and exploring solutions, particularly among youth. These workshops covered a broad spectrum of topics, including conflict dynamics, communication, identity, hate speech, and the rights of displaced individuals. Engaging discussions with 17 men and 82 women and girls culminated in actionable recommendations for enhancing peace and coexistence.

Key Activities Overview

Initial Coffee Session A kick-off meeting for in-depth reflection and strategic consultation.

Gender-Based Violence Awareness Sessions Educational sessions aimed at raising awareness about gender-based violence and its impact on communities.

Peacebuilding and Coexistence Workshops Interactive training sessions focused on fostering peacebuilding skills and promoting coexistence among community members.

Dynamic Discussions and Recommendations Development Engaging dialogues that led to the collective formulation of actionable recommendations for future initiatives.

Strategic Recommendations

Enhance Initiative Impact Strengthen and broaden the scope of initiatives to more effectively meet their objectives and address community needs.

Continuous Community Training Implement ongoing educational programs for the local community to encourage behavioural change and alignment with peace and security objectives.

Expand Water and Agriculture Interventions Increase efforts in water and agriculture sectors, with a special emphasis on involving women to enhance their role in community development.

Integration of IDPs Promote the inclusion of internally displaced persons in programs that benefit the community, ensuring they are integral to development efforts.



4. Peace Enhancement and Conflict Resolution Committee

South Darfur

In the heart of South Darfur State, in the community of Beleil, the Sudanese Women Development Organization (SWDO), with the support of the PEACE-WISE team, embarked on a transformative journey towards peace and reconciliation. Spearheaded by the visionary leadership of Sana, the Peace Enhancement & Conflict Resolution Committee initiative began its mission in late October 2022. This initiative, born out of a collective brainstorming session with local Women Leaders (WLs), was recognized as a critical step towards addressing the pressing issues of conflict and gender disparities within their community.

Guided by the expertise of two facilitators from the Peace Studies Centre at the University of Nyala, the program embarked on a holistic approach to understanding the intricacies of conflict, its root causes, and its pervasive effects on community dynamics. Importantly, it explored the pivotal role women play in peacebuilding efforts. Through group activities, participants shared experiences and gained new insights into conflict management and peacebuilding strategies, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

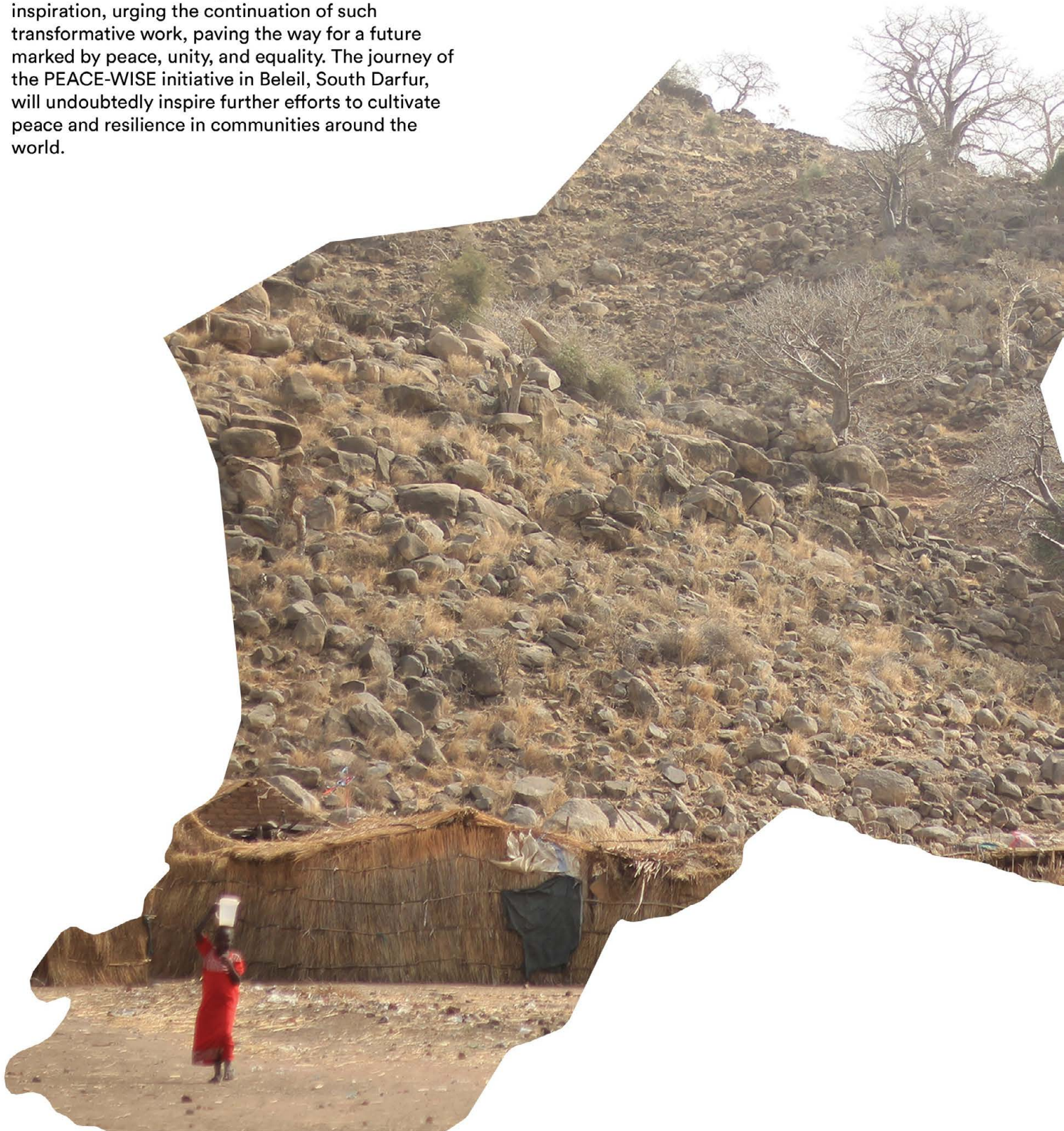
A notable achievement of the initiative was the establishment of the Peace Enhancement and Conflict Resolution Committee. This committee stands as a beacon of hope and an effective mechanism for fostering peace within the Darfur context. To ensure the initiative's progress was measurable, the project team developed comprehensive tracking tools, further supported by a training manual tailored to the Darfur context, facilitated by esteemed experts.

The initiative, proved to be a monumental success, displaying behavioral and societal change that catalyzed community development. Highlighting the program's impact were activities such as exchange visits among women leaders from diverse regions, national-level meetings that bridged activists and peacebuilders, and localized peacebuilding initiatives. These activities not only strengthened relationships among participants but also promoted peace, acceptance, and unity within the community.

During times of crisis, the committee, under Sana's leadership, showcased remarkable resilience and dedication. They conducted assessment visits to displaced persons' shelters, providing psychological support, organizing social activities, and distributing aid to those most in need. These efforts underscored the committee's commitment to fostering peace, coexistence, and social cohesion amidst adversity.

Although the project faced challenges due to the ongoing crisis in South Darfur, the spirit of the women leaders and all members of the initiative remained unbroken. They continue to provide unwavering support and strive for positive social change, emphasizing the importance of peacebuilding, women's empowerment, and societal enhancement.

As the initiative draws to a close, its legacy is one of resilience, empowerment, and hope. The Peace Enhancement & Conflict Resolution Committee, led by the indomitable spirit of women like Sana, stands as a testament to the power of community-led initiatives in transforming societies. It's a beacon of inspiration, urging the continuation of such transformative work, paving the way for a future marked by peace, unity, and equality. The journey of the PEACE-WISE initiative in Beileil, South Darfur, will undoubtedly inspire further efforts to cultivate peace and resilience in communities around the world.



SOUTH DARFUR STATE

Fatima, originating from the Al-Sereif IDP camp in the Beleil locality, embodies the spirit of resilience and advocacy as both a homemaker and a fervent gender activist. Her commitment to gender equality has not only established her as a beacon of hope within the camp but also as a formidable force in broader advocacy circles. With an exceptional ability to mobilize and organize the women of her community, Fatima has taken her cause beyond the confines of the camp, elevating the voices of her peers at state-level stakeholder forums with remarkable poise and determination.

Her advocacy extends to the airwaves, where her compelling discourse on Nyala Radio FM has captivated listeners. Fatima has underscored the need for sweeping reforms in Sudanese legislation that fails to protect women's rights, particularly in instances of gender-based violence (GBV). She has stressed the critical importance of ensuring justice for young girls who are victims of violence, pushing these pivotal issues into the spotlight of societal discourse. Her eloquence and informed perspectives underscore the significant impact that educated women from civil society can have in shaping discussions and driving change in Nyala.

The engagement of the Al-Sereif Women Leaders in advocacy campaigns under Fatima's guidance stands as a powerful demonstration of what can be accomplished when determined women unite for a cause.

Through their united efforts, they have not only heightened awareness but also laid the groundwork for meaningful improvements in the lives they advocate for, establishing support networks for those who have survived abuse. This represents a motivating phase in the continuous chapter for gender equality and justice.



Amal, hailing from the vibrant locality of Edelfursan, stands as a beacon of commitment and initiative. As a high school teacher with a rich history of creating small social organizations, she embodies the spirit of community engagement and leadership. Her active participation in various programs is complemented by her adeptness in organizing events, a skill that positioned her at the helm of scheduling pivotal PEACE-WISE meetings and visits within her community.

Renowned for her ability to manage and facilitate discussions, Amal has effectively conveyed ideas and has made significant strides in fostering dialogue and collaboration. Despite her long standing passion for empowering the women of Edelfursan, she encountered obstacles due to limited resources, which restrained her aspirations. Her path significantly changed after she became involved with the PEACE-WISE program, where her aspirations were not only rekindled but also realized.

Amal's journey culminated in her representation of Edelfursan at a PEACE-WISE organized, National Women Peace & Security Roundtable Event in Khartoum, where she delivered an impassioned speech underscoring her gratitude for the program but also highlighted her pivotal role in advancing the cause of women's empowerment in her locality. Through the PEACE-WISE program, Amal's vision for her community transformed into actionable reality, marking her as an instrumental figure in the movement towards gender equality and social change.

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SOUTH KORDOFAN STATE



Nagwa, at 28, stands as a beacon of hope and leadership within her community. With an unwavering commitment to women's empowerment, she is actively involved with the Murta Women's Association, championing the cause even before the advent of the PEACE-WISE program. From the onset, Nagwa immersed herself in every training and meeting offered by the program, embracing the opportunity to enhance her skills and deepen her understanding of what it means to be a community champion.

35 Representing the Murta Community from Kadugli, Nagwa's engagement is set against the backdrop of a district enriched by the diversity of 13 tribes and marked by its long-standing role as a host for IDPs since the 1980s. In a community where over half of the population consists of IDPs, making the original inhabitants a minority in their own land, Nagwa's experiences as an IDP herself have profoundly shaped her advocacy efforts. She has made it her mission to voice the challenges and injustices faced by IDPs, particularly highlighting the issues of safety, respect, and integration. Despite intermarriages among community members, Nagwa points out the persistent disparities in treatment and resource allocation for IDPs.

Nagwa's confidence and inquisitiveness shine through in every setting, ensuring her voice is heard and her quest for knowledge is relentless. She is particularly focused on areas where she feels her understanding is lacking, always eager to learn more to strengthen her advocacy. Her participation in the National Women Peace & Security Roundtable Event was a turning point, where she reflected on her journey of enlightenment through the program's training and workshops. In her own words, "Before, I didn't even know right from wrong. Then I came and took part in the training and the workshops, and now that I know right from wrong, I can now advise others on that. Now I can say Hey! This is right and this is wrong." This statement encapsulates Nagwa's transformation into a knowledgeable and empowered advocate, ready to lead her community towards a more inclusive and respectful future.

Maha, from the bustling town of Al Dilling in South Kordofan State, we had the privilege of meeting the extraordinary Maha, a devoted housewife whose passion for women's empowerment and peace advocacy knows no bounds. Involved with the Al Amal group and the Child Protection Association, Maha has been exemplary in utilizing her time to foster peace and advocacy, making significant contributions to these causes.

Maha has consistently emphasized a critical gap in her community: many women are unaware of their rights, leading to a widespread reluctance to voice their concerns. She has also championed the cause of social cohesion and the need for initiatives that bring women together. Maha believes in the power of communal activities to bridge divides and ease tensions, advocating for more shared endeavors to cultivate peace and unity among the women of her community.

Her dedication to women's empowerment and peace was evident from the outset, making her a key representative for her community at the National Women Peace & Security Roundtable Event in Khartoum. Hailing from the rural area of Matar within the Dilling locality, Maha has been outspoken about the challenges posed by the country's economic conditions, particularly their impact on women in rural areas. She poignantly notes, "One of the challenges that the women in rural areas face, is the economical situation right now, it is a very big challenge for the woman."

Maha's commitment to learning and leading within her community is unwavering. She attends every meeting and training, driven by a desire to ensure that the community grasps the significance of these initiatives for peace and security. Reflecting on the PEACE-WISE program, Maha articulated the transformative power of such activities, stating,

"Such activities will push towards peace, it also gives us the courage to reflect our issues in the places we come from, it gives the drive to showcase our issues in the right way."

Through her actions and words, Maha embodies the spirit of advocacy and empowerment, tirelessly working to illuminate and address the issues facing her community.

GEDAREF

Wejdan, a 37-year-old mother, stands as a leading figure among the women of PEACE-WISE. She lives in East Galabat and is renowned for her active community engagement. Wejdan plays a pivotal role in several development and community service committees, where her leadership skills shine, particularly in the execution of PEACE-WISE initiatives. Committed to voluntary work, she consistently aids the PEACE-WISE team by working alongside local leaders and stakeholders to efficiently organize meetings. Wejdan's involvement extends to participating in cascade training sessions and local gatherings, where she emphasizes the challenges women face in the Doka community. Under her direction, other women leaders deliberate and suggest solutions for local peacebuilding efforts. Moreover, Wejdan disseminates the insights from her leadership training to other women's associations, positioning her as a key agent of positive transformation within her community.

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Atyaf, a 38-year-old housewife from Gala Al Nahal in Gedaref State, has distinguished herself as a Women Leader since 2012. Her extensive involvement in social initiatives, including the Social Services Committee and Women's Charity Group, highlights her strong leadership skills and commitment to volunteering. Atyaf's dedication to making a positive difference in her community is evident through her coordination of women's activities within the PEACE-WISE field operations. She adeptly organizes gatherings, facilitates internal communications, and conducts meetings with efficiency. Leading the women's committee in Gala Al Nahal, Atyaf focuses on supporting women-headed households and vulnerable individuals. She ensures equitable aid distribution by maintaining up-to-date beneficiary lists and directly engaging with recipients. Atyaf's advocacy efforts have yielded tangible results, such as the improvement of the village's electricity supply in 2020. She also actively addresses gender-based violence issues and empowers women in the community, earning widespread respect and admiration for her dedication and drive. Atyaf's leadership is characterized by adaptability, attentiveness, active participation, and ambition, positioning her as a beacon of inspiration for other Women Leaders. Her efforts demonstrate a profound impact on the community, underscoring the critical role of women leaders in grassroots initiatives.



I am Laila from Al Samma, Kadugli. With MC support, we established a group of 15 women from the neighborhood. Our group convenes weekly, in simple coffee gatherings. Every Friday, we meet in a members' home, to drink coffee and discuss women issues and community concerns. Our group has a representative in the neighborhood committee for conflict resolution. Often, small clashes, such as those between young boys, can turn into serious conflicts when families intervene. We prevent this by resolving individual clashes (especially those between boys and women) as soon as they arise, before escalating into family conflicts. And when serious incidents occur, we prevent further violence by mediating between the families involved.

We Have Learnt

that the economic empowerment of women and the fulfillment of their livelihood needs are crucial for their effective participation in peacebuilding and conflict resolution activities.

We Recommend

adopting an integrated approach to programming that intersects livelihood and peace initiatives, or employing a multi-tiered strategy that focuses on engaging the same communities through various interventions, encompassing peacebuilding, humanitarian aid, and livelihood support.

We Have Learnt

that bolstering women's confidence and knowledge equips them more effectively to assume leadership roles within their communities, often leading to self-initiated actions.

We Recommend

investing in training programs aimed at enhancing women's capacities, focusing on leadership and various soft skills, as well as integrating them into technical discussions and contemporary themes to ensure they remain informed.

We Have Learnt

that involving marginalized women in policy and programming conversations enriches the discourse in a way that has been both missing and desired. However, stakeholders frequently face challenges in accessing these women.

We Recommend

deliberate actions to connect with local grassroots and civil society organizations that either consist of these women or possess more substantial access and insights into local women leaders. Additionally, we encourage intensified efforts to expand networks with organizations active in the peacebuilding sector.

Our

We Have Learnt

that issues related to women, peace, and security cannot be isolated; they mirror other needs, which disproportionately impact women in conflict-affected regions

We Recommend

involving grassroots women in wider policy debates that cover health, education, employment, and beyond, rather than limiting their participation to discussions on political transitions and representation alone.

We Have Learnt

that involving men from various societal strata is essential to fostering an environment conducive to behavioral change, challenging restrictive societal norms, and empowering women.

We Recommend

that efforts should be made deliberately to raise awareness among men within civil administrations, governance frameworks, political parties, and wider communities.

We Have Learnt

that while attempts are made to involve women in political processes, transitions, and discussions, it frequently results in the selection of the same individuals, often referred to as 'Khartoum Elites'.

We Recommend

broadening the scope of women you engage with, seeking wider representation beyond the uniform category of 'women'. Aim for inclusivity from across the various states of Sudan, reaching beyond capital cities and those with direct access to current discussions, to include a diverse range of voices.

Recommendations

We Have Learnt

that women leaders in marginalized regions are in search of peer support and opportunities for development. They express a desire to connect with other women who are addressing similar issues and encountering comparable challenges.

We Recommend

incorporating engagement opportunities that span across communities, localities, or states for women participants within programs.

We Have Learnt

the significance of establishing positive power dynamics between donors and grantees, allowing the implementing organizations to guide their efforts with local insights and expertise, backed by the donor's support, confidence and curiosity to learn.

We Recommend

prioritizing the cultivation of trust and allowing for flexibility in response to often challenging circumstances.

We Have Repeatedly Learnt

that conflict has a disproportionate impact on women and individuals in marginalized communities.

We Recommend

striking a balance between essential needs and desirable additions. In times of conflict and war, there's a tendency to scale back and reduce development efforts, yet maintaining these initiatives is crucial for ensuring the voices of marginalized women remain heard, especially during recovery. It's important to find this equilibrium.

Gratitude



The success of the PEACE-WISE Program is attributable to the vast network of our partners. Each has contributed from various perspectives to the Women, Peace, and Security agenda.

Our gratitude extends to the implementing partners who have been pivotal throughout the program

The Sudanese Women Development Organization Siddig Osman - Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Officer, Abdalla Hassan - Program Manager and Razan Adam - Gender Officer, under the leadership of Magda Hassan.
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The program's richness is significantly enhanced by the contributions of our collaborating civil society organization (CSO) partners. These include the **Terryag Association**, both branches of **Gender Equality Network** in Kadugli and Dilling, **Umdorain Association**, **Babiker Badri Association**, the **Al Behair Group**, **Women for Change**, **Youth for Peace**, **Amani Reenas Group**, and **Thoury Association**. Their dynamic involvement has been indispensable.

The PEACE-WISE Program's success would have been unattainable without our invaluable staff. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for their unwavering dedication amidst incredibly challenging conditions. This team, characterized by commitment, brilliance, agility, compassion, and a collaborative spirit, truly embodies the ideal of a dream team:

Nusaiba Idriss - Peacebuilding & Advocacy Coordinator (SDS & Gedaref), Raduan Abdellah M. Ali - Peacebuilding & Advocacy Coordinator (SDS), Wisal Hamed - Senior Gender Officer (SDS), Mohamed Tigani - Community Mobilization Officer (SDS), Airazy Adam - Community Mobilization Officer (SDS), Mahgoub Abdalla Ibrahim - Senior Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Officer (SDS & Gedaref), Malaz Abdalmonem - Gender Officer (SDS & Gedaref), Shaza Mohammed Abaker - Program Assistant (SKS & Gedaref), Elgidel Saeed - Peacebuilding & Advocacy Coordinator (SKS), Butheina Elzubeir - Peacebuilding & Advocacy Coordinator (SKS), Hiba Sadah - Program Officer (Khartoum), May Tawfik - Program Officer (Khartoum), Shahd Hammou - Programme Lead & Gender Advisor (Khartoum).

We express our sincere gratitude to the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues (S/GWI) for their steadfast support, adaptability, and eagerness to understand and adjust to the Sudanese context. S/GWI has set a remarkable example of a collaborative and positive donor-grantee relationship. The mutual empathy and trust we share have allowed us to establish an environment where our work faces no boundaries, enabling the necessary creativity and adaptability for the Sudanese context.

In closing, we extend our most heartfelt thanks to the **Women Leaders of the PEACE-WISE Program**. Your resilience, leadership, and strength are truly awe-inspiring, often defying measure. It is through your tireless efforts that your communities—and indeed, our entire Sudan—become places of hope and progress. We wish you nothing but the best as you move forward, knowing well that you carry not just our support, but our deepest faith in all that you do. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for the invaluable lessons and insights you've imparted.

Fathia, Fatima, Hikma, Samaya, Aisha, Kaltama, Tasabeeh, Kawsar, Rogala, Aziza, Adala, Maisoon, Ellaf, Alzohar, Marim, Ighal, Fatoma, Khadiga, Awatif, Amani, Mahasin, Zahra, Amal, Fadila, Maka, Asha, Naeema, Mariam, Sida, Saleema, Ameena, Daralsalam, Nagwa, Adla, Hawa, Alradio, Rahma, Khadiga, Rashida, Hawaya, Nadia, Alawia, Awatif, Fawzia, Fatima, Rowda, Jadaa, Aziza, Kaltaum, Hiba, Nawal, Saan, Hanan, Ikhlas, Zahra, Sadia, Gisma, Hadia, Eman, Enam, Lila, Hassanila, Jawahir, Faiza, Halima, Umaima, Hassna, Jamila, Hawa, Tayseer, Sakina, Halima, Somaliya, Nagat, Khadija, Maha, Mandhil, Zainab, Aisha, Awadiya, Sara, Dawu, Allia, Geblla, Nadia, Kaltaum, Zahra, Muna, Halima, Butheina, Fatma, Karima, Zaraga, Mona, Fatuma, Namarag, Asia, Halima, Awatif, Sumaya, Rowda, Um Hageen, Jawahir, Alresala, Umjema, Najwa, Lailla, Bedour, Somaliya, Hawa, Butheina, Faiza, Hawaida, Alzamaan, Hager, Tahani, Fatima, Haleema, Maria, Amani, Khadeega, Zuhar, Sawson, Zulaikha, Kawakib, Hadeya, Fatima, Alraah, Amna, Thuraya, Ibtisam, Huyam, Ahlam, Fatima, Rafeesa, Atyaaf, Manal, Hanan, Amal, Muna, Hana, Hanadi, Rowda, Wigdan, Habiba, Rasha, Rugaya, Manahil, Manasik.

MC	Mercy Corps
PEACE-WISE	Peace Enhancement for Community Empowerment through Women Investing in more Secure Environments
SDS	South Darfur State
SKS	South Kordofan State
NGOs	Non-governmental Organisations
S/GWI	The Secretary's office of Global Women Issues
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
SWDO	Sudanese Women Development Organisation
Local-level Meeting	Convening of Local-level Stakeholders
State-level Meeting	Convening of State-level Stakeholders
National-level Meeting	Convening of National-Level Stakeholders
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews

GLOSSARY

