



Policy Brief – April 2022

“Policy Dialogue: Peace & Security Key to addressing Justice and Protection needs of Survivors in Jondoru, Juba – South Sudan”.

Executive Summary.

This policy brief is designed to highlight and address the justice and protection needs of survivors in Jondoru. Survivors noted that peace and security in South Sudan as a whole has the effect of strengthening the resilience of survivors to report violent incidences and seek timely medical, psychosocial and legal protection services, thus creating an enabling environment to address the justice and protection needs of survivors.

Introduction.

Jondoru is an IDP settlement on the Western part of Juba near Eye Radio and behind POC 3 in Juba. Key laws and policies on the pertinent issues of justice and survivor protection mechanisms in South Sudan remain under implemented due to the lack of knowledge on these mechanisms and the daily changes in context in the country coupled with the weak protection institutions and conflict. For instance, the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan in February 2022 said that lack of progress in implementing key provisions of the 2018 peace deal contributes to the persistent insecurity and impunity which allows violations to occur. Adding that violence remains

Pervasive at the subnational level, and are characterized by displacement, and gross human rights violation, including sexual violence. The UNSCR 1325 recognizes ‘the need to take special measures to protect women and girls from particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict’ and after.

With intercommunal divisions and tensions between groups becoming the major conflict drivers and a hindrance to enduring peace and reconciliation among and between communities across South Sudan. The situation is exacerbated by economic hardships leading to increased criminality, such as killings, looting by armed groups, robberies and bag snatching, especially in Juba, with women particularly affected by bag snatching along roads and in market places.

GBV remains one of the most pressing security issues in South Sudan, with high numbers of cases of rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, early and forced marriages and early pregnancies. STEWARDWOMEN together with partners has combined efforts to strengthen prevention and protection of women and girls

Against any form of violence hence peace and security is key to addressing the justice and protection needs of survivors of SGBV in all parts of South Sudan.

Some interventions to address the justice and protection needs of survivors include;

1. 24/7 free telephone help lines to provide information, support and counselling;
2. Provision of immediate points of contact and mobility so that survivors can easily access medical and legal services;
3. Provision of safe accommodation, for example: safe houses and shelters, opportunities for survivors to keep using their home, with continual assessment of risk, relocation support for long term needs, etc.;
4. Access to gender sensitive primary health care and specialist GBV Services;
5. Advocacy and legal support, including free legal assistance, advice, advocacy, and court support services for survivors; access to qualified and impartial interpreters and the translation of legal document,

Where necessary or where requested;

6. Emergency barring court orders in cases of domestic violence;
7. Access to counselling, both short and long term, including access to support groups;
8. Facilitating the economic independence of survivors from their abusers;
9. Support for the professional and social reintegration of survivors, focusing on ensuring their capacity to make decisions about their lives. This may include training, support finding work, support finding long-term accommodation, and assistance building a social network of support.
10. Prosecution of perpetrators needs to be built into policy measures to address gender violence. Where appropriate – work with the perpetrators to help reduce the chances of their returning to patterns of violence. Where survivors choose to return home and resume relationships, in such cases, it is important that there are services available for perpetrators such as provision of counselling to address the accessible information about rights and entitlements, including free root causes of violence, or training and education on gender-based violence which work to reduce violent behaviours. Work with men only groups is often helpful. [*council of Europe: protecting victims & victims & survivors*].

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS AS PER DISCUSSIONS WITH SURVIVORS IN JONDORU

A. TO STEWARDWOMEN

Survivors need schools. Health centres, adult education and more income generating activities (IGAs) to reach more survivors e.g. for domestic violence & increase medical- support even for survivors' domestic violence & **Peace and security to end violence against women and girls.**

B. TO UN Trust Fund

- Survivors need a borehole within the community walking long distances for water for fear of further violation, provide gender disaggregated latrines, provide improved infrastructure (sources of water, hospital, education) & **help to implement peace and security**, and provide food rations.

C. TO THE GOVERNMENT

- They need **peace and security to conduct their businesses**, infrastructure (hospital, electricity, water taps, good roads), protection with the presence of a police post and food rations, government schools, government hospitals, vocational schools for youth to keep them engaged and be more resourceful to their families and communities and improvement in community leadership such as the need for an organized administrator/block leader.

D. COMMUNITY LEADERS

- They need land for settlement because community leaders are busy selling land, strong community leaders, **peace and security**, encourage community engagement activities, encourage community leaders to be on their side, saving groups, trauma healing programmes and counselling.

Besides other services and interventions in the lives of survivors, if peace and security in the country is not implemented and maintained, justice and protection needs of survivors will not fully be realized.

CONTACT INFORMATION

STEWARDWOMEN
+211-920-008-537
stewardwomen@gmail.com
www.stewardwomen.org

