

South Sudan

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Results strategy for Sweden's international development cooperation in South Sudan 2014–2016

1. Expected results

This results strategy governs the use of funds allocated under appropriation item 9 Africa in Sida's appropriation directions for the relevant financial year. The strategy is to apply for the period 2014–2016. In all, the strategy comprises some SEK 525 million over the next three years.

The aim of Sweden's development cooperation commitment in South Sudan is to contribute to improved survival and health among women and children. Sweden's support is also intended to promote respect for human rights and thereby stronger democracy in South Sudan.

Projects will be implemented to achieve the following results.

- Increased access to fundamental health and medical care for women and children, including sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- Enhanced civil society capacity to promote increased respect for human rights and reconciliation among rival ethnic groups, and thereby contribute to stronger democracy.

2. Country context

South Sudan is one of the world's poorest countries. According to the UNDP (2009), half of the population lives on less than USD 0.50 per day. The country faces recurring humanitarian crises.

South Sudan is on the borderline between conflict and post-conflict. Since its independence in 2011, political developments in South Sudan remain uncertain and the security problems are extensive.

Armed conflicts and tribal clashes expose large parts of the population to the risk of violence. In recent years, hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to flee from fighting within the country and from conflicts in Sudan. Women and children have been hit hardest.

Infant and maternal mortality in South Sudan are among the highest in the world. One in nine children die before their fifth birthday. An estimated 200 000 children under the age of five are undernourished.

There are major shortcomings in respect for human rights in South Sudan. Independent organisations and the political opposition are harassed and freedom of expression is limited.

Sweden has a long-standing development cooperation commitment in southern Sudan, now the new state of South Sudan. Through this, Sweden has acquired a good reputation as a credible development cooperation actor, particularly in the health sector and in efforts for increased respect for human rights. In addition to this, extensive humanitarian support is provided.

3. Activities

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Sweden's development cooperation in South Sudan should be concentrated to a limited number of projects. As far as possible, support to state structures should be avoided.

Preparations should be in place for rapid, strategic projects of a limited nature to contribute to desired results at crucial stages.

Due to the unstable environment, Swedish development cooperation in South Sudan will be characterised by a high level of risk. Great emphasis will therefore be placed on identifying, evaluating and managing risks that may limit the opportunities to achieve expected results. Special attention will be given to risks linked to the widespread corruption in connection with preparations for and decisions concerning projects.

Where appropriate, activities conducted within this strategy should be coordinated with any future humanitarian support.

4. Follow-up

The forms of follow-up are indicated in the Government's guidelines for results strategies. In the follow-up of Swedish development cooperation in South Sudan, particular attention should be given to the indicators developed within the New Deal process.