SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND

AGENCY FOR PEACEBUILDING

"Strengthening Young Women's Participation in Local and National Peace Processes in South Sudan"

OCTOBER 2021

Acknowledgments

Cover photo: Members of local peace network created by young women in Torit.

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Abbreviations

AP	Agency for Peacebuilding
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease
CRN	Catholic Radio Network
CRW	Crown the Woman
EM	Eye Media
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
KII	Key Informative Interview
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NCP	National Congress Party
NWERO	National women empowerment and rehabilitation organization
R-ARCSS	Revitalized Agreement on the resolution of conflict in South Sudan
R-JMEC	Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission
Search	Search for Common Ground
SPLM/A-IO	Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army-in-Opposition
UNPBF	United Nations Peacebuilding fund
VE	Violent Extremism
VP	Vice President

Executive Summary

This report presents and discusses the findings from the final external evaluation of the "Strengthening Young Women's Participation in Local and National Peace Processes in South Sudan" project (January 2020-September 2021), which was founded by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UNPF).

After ten years since its independence, South Sudan has continued to suffer the brunt of violent conflicts that have lasted until today. Tensions between President Salva Kiir and his Vice President Riek Machar erupted shortly after independence. The 2018 *Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS)* has offered a political resolution to the conflict, but the Agreement is far from being fully implemented. Against this backdrop, women, and young women in particular, play a central role because they are not only more likely to be victims of violence but are also connected to the mentioned drivers of inter-communal conflict.

In this framework, Search for Common Ground (Search) South Sudan, in partnership with Ana-Taban, Crown the Woman (CTW), National Women's Empowerment & Rehabilitation Organization (NWERO), Catholic Radio Network (CRN), and Eye Radio with funding from the UN Peacebuilding Fund (UNPBF) have been implementing the 18-month project aimed to equip and empower young South Sudanese women with knowledge, skills and opportunities to contribute to the peace process at the local and national level, reinforce their collective power, and challenge the social stereotypes and barriers that hinder their equal participation. The project seeks to achieve three main objectives: (1) To strengthen the ability of young women leaders and groups to lead local and national-level peace efforts collaboratively; (2) To transform attitudes and behaviors about women and youth (and young women in particular) and their role in peace and security; and (3) To contribute guidance, best practices, and lessons learned to the global field of youth engagement in peace and security.

This final evaluation was carried out by the Agency for Peacebuilding (AP) with the support of *Search's* South Sudan team. This study used a mixed approach that combined qualitative and quantitative data collection methods.

Quantitative tools included two surveys: one that targeted randomly selected beneficiaries in intervention areas (283 respondents overall); the other that targeted project participants (69 respondents). The qualitative tools consisted of desk review (approximately 40 documents), 32 key informative interviews and 16 focus group discussions.

Despite the excellent support of Search's team in South Sudan, the exercise encountered the following challenges and limitations. Firstly, floods and heavy rain affected the data collection of the beneficiary

survey and limited the numbers of the respondents. Yet, the overall number of respondents has allowed reliable quantitative analysis and statistics. Secondly, institutional changes created a high turnover in key institutions. Finally, some limitations affected the interviews (e.g. people not in the area of residence during the data collection) but were properly mitigated and the overall number of interviews was higher than planned.

Overall, the project was conducted in a context of massive needs and upheaval: the COVID-19 pandemic, multi-layered violent conflicts, floods in 2020 and 2021, and severe food insecurity in different regions of the country. The pandemic has particularly affected participants' mobility, the outreach activities and the overall project's timeline. In spite of the challenging situation in South Sudan, however, Search and its partners were able to adapt the project to the changing environment and achieve impressive results.

In terms of relevance, as widely presented the intervention's objectives and design fully responded to the young women's needs and priorities in terms of their role in peace and security matters in the country. This result was also possible because the activities were designed according to the needs collected in the baseline. Furthermore, NWERO, CRN, Eye Radio and other organizations were able to involve young women from different contexts and areas, also from remote ones and among IDPs. The activities remain relevant despite the COVID-19 challenges due to the ability of the project's partners to adapt and to transform constraints into opportunities. For instance, in addition to the original project locations, Search and its partners were successful in extending the implementation of the project to six relevant new locations.

Regarding effectiveness, the project's expected results have been achieved against almost all the ambitious indicators. The project's most positive results are represented by activities related to strengthening the ability of young women leaders and groups to collaboratively lead local and national-level peace efforts and young women-led mediation and peacebuilding initiatives. The increase in confidence experienced by participants attending training and mentorship activities is very clear and the follow-up local peacebuilding activities show increased self-confidence, knowledge and skills. The main challenges were represented by transforming attitudes and behaviors about women and youth (and young women in particular) and their role in peace and security, especially on a large scale and at the national level. Changing perceptions has emerged from this evaluation as a slow process that deserves specific programming and close attention to cultural dynamics and constraints. In order to finalize all the planned activities, a key factor was the ability of Search and partners to adapt the activities to the enormous ongoing challenges. For instance, COVID-19 has particularly affected the mobility of the participants, the outreach activities and the overall project's timeline. An important adaptation was to target the COVID-19 emergency itself through target initiatives led by young women to contain the pandemic.

Concerning impact, the project achieved several intended changes, as presented in this report. These

changes were present mainly at the local level, while achieving changes at the national level was more challenging, also due to mobility limitations. Some stories of change, partially reported in this document, deserve close attention and are to be shared in future activities. Young women-led mediation and peacebuilding initiatives had a significant impact because brave young women were able to implement initiatives rapidly in different locations, also involving men in their communities. Yet, the collaboration between young and older women is improved only in some locations and needs more nuanced and specific attention in the future. Significant examples of collaboration between young and older women were observed in Bor and Aweil. In Bor, the Jonglei State Women Association (JSWA) regularly convened trainings for the girls' network and women in the IDP camp and jointly participated in radio programmes aired by the Jonglei State radio. In Aweil, the membership of two radio listeners groups is composed of both young and older women. The intergenerational nature of the listeners' group demonstrates improved interactions between young and older women. In Juba, intergenerational bonds were established between older and younger women through initiatives implemented by NWERO and CROWN the WOMAN – as evidenced in the achievements of the mentorship programs between influential women drawn from NWERO and CROWN the WOMAN and the young mentees.

In terms of efficiency, the collaboration between project partners worked very well and involved new local organizations and informal groups. In some cases, CSOs are able to collaboratively work with the young women networks/youth groups to ensure equal participation in the peace processes in some locations, while in others the collaboration was limited or absent. The project was not fully able to create adequate advocacy platform(s). This was due to external conditions – especially due to COVID-19 limitations – but also because advocacy at the national level needs more specific attention and programming in the complex South Sudanese political landscape. Due to the fact that achieving advocacy objectives needs several follow-up activities, the project could be considered as a first step that needs several others to have an impact at the national level.

The overall sustainability of the project presents some limitations. While acquired skills and publications will last beyond the project itself, the monitoring of activities already captured that "though 80% of the respondents see added value when collaborating with young women in peacebuilding initiatives, only 62% still believe CSOs have plans to carry on and sustain the young women programs beyond the end of the project." Sustainability could also have been better built during the project. For instance, some participants were involved in a single activity, sometimes lasting just one day, without specific follow-up activities. Beyond these two components, the enmeshment of project activities within interventions of partner organizations could only materialize if they manage to mobilize external funding. It should be said that, while financial resource constraints appear to limit the overall sustainability of interventions beyond the lifespan of the project, the interventions were implemented in a context of massive needs and extreme economic vulnerabilities experienced by young women.

Based on these findings and analysis, we suggest further action in the following areas:

→ Target men specifically (young, but also fathers, local chiefs, etc.) to transform social attitudes and behaviors about young women.

→ Involve traditional authorities to understand the project's aspirations and objective of ensuring that women are also participating in the affairs of their country.

→ Capitalize the work done in this project with specific advocacy activities at the national level.

→ Consider translating some radio shows into the major native languages.

→ Consider engaging people with special needs, so they equally participate in different peace initiatives in their respective communities and/or at the national level.

→ Reconsider the validity and modality of listener groups.

→ Continue to reflect and connect GBV, early marriages and domestic violence to a broader picture of women exclusion and broader conflicts.

→ Dedicate more specific attention to local cultural norms shaped under patriarchism that impede women participation in peacebuilding.

→ Dedicate more attention to strengthening the local partners at the state levels with the needed capacity on peacebuilding initiatives so they would continue to engage and create awareness on the local community members.

→ Help women groups to develop their small economic activities so they can continue to finance their peacebuilding.

→ Avoid one-off activities and plan continuous engagement of youth women and other target groups.
Conduct specific analysis to inform future actions on intergenerational dialogue among women.

→ Target networking and/or coordination between CSOs as a direct objective with specific resources.

Introduction

This report presents and discusses the findings from the final external evaluation of the "Strengthening Young Women's Participation in Local and National Peace Processes in South Sudan" project, which has been founded by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UNPF).

The project – implemented by Search for Common Ground (Search) South Sudan in partnership with Ana-Taban, Crown the Woman (CTW), National Women's Empowerment & Rehabilitation Organization (NWERO), Catholic Radio Network (CRN), and Eye Radio – aimed to equip and empower young South Sudanese women with knowledge, skills and opportunities to contribute to the peace process at the local and national level, reinforce their collective power, and challenge the social stereotypes and barriers that hinder their equal participation.

Overall, the project was conducted in a context of massive needs and upheaval: the COVID-19 pandemic, multi-layered violent conflicts, floods in 2020 and 2021, and severe food insecurity in different regions of the country. The pandemic has particularly affected participants' mobility, the outreach activities and the overall project's timeline. In spite of the challenging situation in South Sudan, however, Search and its partners were able to adapt the project to the changing environment and achieve impressive results.

The report is structured in nine sections. Following this introduction, the next two sections provide a brief context analysis and background information on the project and an overview of the evaluation's methodology. The research findings are then structured under the three project's objectives: (i) To strengthen the ability of young women leaders and groups to collaboratively lead local and national-level peace efforts; (ii) To transform attitudes and behaviors about women and youth (and young women in particular) and their role in peace and security; and (iii) To contribute guidance, best practices, and lessons learned to the global field of youth engagement in peace and security. The report ends with the conclusions and recommendations. Two additional annexes are included, the first with a matrix with the project's indicators and the second with the evaluation's overall lines of inquiry.

1. Background Information

Context Background

The January 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Sudan ruling National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) paved the way to the South Sudan referendum in 2011 and the country's consequent independence from Sudan. Tensions between President Salva Kiir and his Vice President Riek Machar erupted shortly after independence. Yet, after ten years, South Sudan has continued to suffer the brunt of violent conflicts that have lasted until today.

Rising tensions within the South Sudan ruling party, the SPLM, were evident throughout 2013. In July 2013, Kiir dismissed his cabinet and unveiled his new cabinet without Riek Machar. After two years of violence and missing multiple deadlines set by regional leaders to sign a deal, and under threat of international sanctions, including a proposed arms embargo, the Government of South Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army-in-Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) signed the *Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ACRSS)* in August 2015. The power-sharing peace deal brokered by IGAD in August 2015 lasted, however, only until July 2016.

The youth, making about 70% of the total population, have not been spared the adverse effects of the recurrent conflicts, despite their role in the liberation struggle and leading the self-determination campaign that led to independence in 2011. After independence was attained, meager financial resources were allocated for youth. Platforms for youth to express themselves, make contributions in all sectors have equally shrunk. From 2013, political elites have increasingly exploited the vulnerability of the youth to further fuel political tensions to strengthen their political influence. As it stands now, the youth are divided along ethnic lines and often manipulated by the political elites to fight wars. They also have little to nothing opportunities to participate in peacemaking or peacebuilding. The situation is dire for young women and girls who have to deal with limited access to resources and are more often susceptible to physical and sexual violence, economic deprivation and customary norms that perpetuate inequality. Despite the effects of conflict on young women and girls, they have barely been accorded the chance to participate in both local and national peacebuilding processes.[1]

The 2018 *Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS)* has offered a political resolution to the conflict, but the Agreement is far from being fully implemented. Kiir and Machar failed to unify their forces and form a unity government by May 2019 as they had promised. They missed another deadline to form the unity government in November 2019, and a new power-sharing

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[1] Conciliation Resources, *Youth Perspectives on Peace and Security*, 2018.

agreement was reached only on February 22, 2020 with the *Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU)*.

Since then, while high-level negotiations continue, intercommunal conflict over access to land, grazing rights and water have been exacerbated by the mobilization of militias and organized forces. Increasing tensions along these lines are evident in the greater Bahr el Ghazal region with widespread availability of small arms and light weapons. While the conflicts do not threaten the transition, they are used to spread discord among communities and are also easily exploited by those with political interests.

At the same time, while the intensity of the conflict at the national level has been declining as a result of the signing of the Agreement, conflict at the community level has continued to contribute to gross violations of human rights, and created deep trauma for civilians, especially women and children, who are the main victims of the crisis.[2] Indeed, the current conflict has exacerbated the human rights situation in the country. The Parties have engaged in deliberate and targeted killings of civilians and extrajudicial and other unlawful killings, arbitrary arrests and detention, enforced disappearances, and ill-treatment and torture. Conflict-related sexual violence remains a key feature of the conflict. Similar grave violations against children continue, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, attacks on schools and abductions.[3] Women, and young women in particular, remain marginalized in social and political processes. Over 80% of women are illiterate and 52% of girls are married by the age of 18.

Furthermore, young women are excluded from spaces dominated by older women leaders. Overall, South Sudanese young women find themselves with few advocates to address their concerns and represent their perspectives in local and national spaces. Unfortunately, the nuances of their perspectives fail to be articulated throughout the R-ARCSS and its peripheral conversations, ultimately reducing young women's sense of agency and ownership of the peace process.

Project Background

Against this backdrop, women, and young women in particular, play a central role because they are not only more likely to be victims of violence but are also connected to the mentioned drivers of inter-communal conflict.

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[2] Mednick, S. (2021), "Floods, fighting, famine: Inside South Sudan's triple crisis", *The New Humanitarian*, 2 February, https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2021/2/8/floods-fighting-famine-south-sudan-crisis?
[3] Ibid.

As presented in the project proposal, in South Sudan young women fall in the nexus of UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 2250. Yet they are often forgotten within both the broader women's agenda, which tends to favor older women leaders, as well as the youth agenda, which has not really been operationalized at national level. The exclusion of young women and girls in both women and youth agendas is inextricably linked to customary norms that often place men and boys as leaders, decision-makers and in charge of all communal resources, while leaving young women and girls to take charge of domestic chores and other household tasks with no decision-making roles in the community. Some of these norms perpetuate inequalities affecting young women in social spheres and are seen in the way marriages are contracted, payment of dowry, and how women get treated. Adherence to these norms renders young women invisible at the family, community and national levels. These social and cultural dynamics underpin the current exclusion of young women in peacebuilding processes at both the local and national levels.[4]

For these reasons, Search for Common Ground (Search) South Sudan, in partnership with Ana-Taban, Crown the Woman (CTW), National Women's Empowerment & Rehabilitation Organization (NWERO), Catholic Radio Network (CRN), and Eye Radio with funding from the UN Peacebuilding Fund (UNPBF) have been implementing the 18-month project entitled *"Strengthening Young Women's Participation in Local and National Peace Processes in South Sudan"*, which aimed to equip and empower young South Sudanese women with knowledge, skills and opportunities to contribute to the peace process at the local and national level, reinforce their collective power, and challenge the social stereotypes and barriers that hinder their equal participation. The project has been implemented by Search and its partners in the four main locations foreseen by the project – Bor, Torit, Aweil and Juba – but also in other six locations: Yei, Maridi, Yambio, Rumbek, Wau and Bentiu.

The project seeks to achieve three main objectives: (1) To strengthen the ability of young women leaders and groups to lead local and national-level peace efforts collaboratively; (2) To transform attitudes and behaviors about women and youth (and young women in particular) and their role in peace and security; and (3) To contribute guidance, best practices, and lessons learned to the global field of youth engagement in peace and security.

The theory of change underpinning the logic of this project is that: if a diversity of young women have skills and opportunities to actively contribute to peacebuilding at the national and local levels, collaborating across gender and generational-based divides, and if young women's positive contributions are acknowledged, accepted, and celebrated by the community-at-large, *then* young women will play a more significant role in advancing the underlying peacebuilding principles of the R-ARCSS, solidifying their vested interest in upholding the peace agreement because they will have a greater sense of ownership of the peace process.

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[4] Edimond, J. (2015), *Analysing the South Sudan National Youth Development Policy 2013*, Okay, Africa Foundation

2. Methodology

2.1 EVALUATION OBJECTIVES

The terms of reference identify the following objectives for the evaluation:

→ To assess the project in accordance with the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, impact, efficiency and sustainability;

→ To assess the extent to which the project achieved its objectives with emphasis on the outcomes and impact, including the most significant and indirect changes attributable to the project; and

→ To extract critical lessons learned and best practices, as well as the intended and unintended positive and negative results to inform future programs.

Lines of inquiry guided all data collection and analysis, in line with the approach for the assessment, which is based on principles of action research (in annex II).

The overall purpose of the assignment has been to measure the extent to which the project has met its objectives, including the challenges that it faced, and identifying any lessons learned that could be used by Search and its partners to inform their work in the future.

2.2 DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

Data collection was carried out by the Agency for Peacebuilding (AP) with the support of *Search's* South Sudan team. This study used a mixed approach that combined qualitative and quantitative data collection methods.

Quantitative tools included two surveys: one that targeted randomly selected beneficiaries in intervention areas (283 respondents overall); the other that targeted project participants (69 respondents). The enumerator collected data in Juba (in the four project sites: Gumbo/Jondoru, Lologo, Kapuri and Mangateen) and in Bor from August 27 to September 6, 2021.

The **beneficiary survey** sought to reach a distribution of respondents by age, sex and geographic coverage that was balanced and consistent with population data, as indicated in the table on the following page.

RESPONDENT CATEGORY	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLE
Total	283	100,0%
Women	196	69,3%
Men	87	30,7%
Urban locations	224	79,2%
Rural locations	59	20,8%
Youth (15 to 35 y.o.)	104	36,7%
Non-youth (36 and older)	179	63,3%
Young women (15 to 35 y.o.)	81	28,6%

The **project participants' survey** reached a total of 69 respondents from different groups: religious leaders, civil society organizations, farmers, businesspersons, media, youth leaders and public officers. Below the respondents disaggregated by age, sex and geographic coverage. This survey allows some quantitative analysis as requested by the indicators.

RESPONDENT CATEGORY	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLE
Total	69	100%
Women	61	88%
Men	7	10%
Urban locations	57	83%
Rural locations	12	17%
Youth (15 to 35 y.o.)	30	43%
Non-youth (36 and older)	39	57%

The **qualitative tools** consisted of desk review, Key Informative Interviews (KIIs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs).

For the **desk review**, the team reviewed approximately 40 documents, including those produced in the context of the program (proposal narrative, logframe, reports, evaluations, etc.) and those produced by other institutions, which are relevant to the project's focus issues.

The team conducted 32 **KIIs** (15 men and 17 women) in Juba (11) Bor (3), Aweil (8), Maridi (5) and Torit (5). Informants included: Search's staff in South Sudan, representatives from partners (Ana-Taban, Crown the Woman (CTW), National Women's Empowerment & Rehabilitation Organization (NWERO), Catholic Radio Network (CRN), and Eye Radio), national/state peace commissions and project participants. The large majority of interviews were conducted in person (27).

FGDs involved five distinct groups, as presented below. **16 FGDs** (13 female and 3 mixed groups with 86 women and 6 men in total) in Juba (4), Bor (3), Aweil (2), Maridi (2) and Torit (2). Participants were selected from the lists of project participants and stakeholders.

RESPONDENT CATEGORY	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLE
Total	86	100%
Women	80	93%
Men	6	7%

2.3 CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

Despite the excellent support of Search's team in South Sudan, the exercise encountered the following challenges and limitations.

Firstly, floods and heavy rain affected the data collection of the beneficiary survey and limited the numbers of the respondents. Yet, the overall number of respondents (288) has allowed reliable quantitative analysis and statistics.

Secondly, institutional changes – such as merging the states from 32 to 10 – created a high turnover in key institutions (e.g., the Relief and Rehabilitation and Commission and the state Ministry of Gender in Bor).

Yet, we had the opportunity to conduct both FGDs and KIIs with other institutional representatives both in Bor and other locations.

Thirdly, some limitations affected the interviews but were properly mitigated. Some of the key people were travelling during the data collection, but they were interviewed by phone. Some other people were not fully aware of the project and we asked the local focal points in Aweil and Bor to provide new contacts, as they did. However, the overall number of interviews was higher than planned and these limitations did not significantly affect the quality of findings.

3. Research Findings

This section presents the key findings of the final evaluation. The findings of the evaluation are organized around the project's three objectives. Overall, the project was conducted in a context of massive needs and upheaval: the COVID-19 pandemic, multi-layered violent conflicts, floods in 2020 and 2021, and severe food insecurity in different regions of the country.

Project's Adaptation

COVID-19 has particularly affected the mobility of the participants, the outreach activities and the overall project's timeline. In spite of this challenging situation, Search and its partners adapted the project to the challenging environment and delivered almost all activities as presented in the section below. For example, outreach activities were heavily affected by the pandemic. Search and its partners were able to adapt the project to bypass the mobility limitations supporting local groups or organizations such as Jonglei Women Association in Bor.

It should also be mentioned that in addition to the originally agreed project locations of Juba, Aweil, Bor and Torit, Search and its partners were successful in extending the implementation of the project to Yei, Maridi, Yambio, Rumbek, Wau and Bentiu towns – leading to the project being implemented in a total of ten locations in South Sudan.

3.1 OBJECTIVE 1: To strengthen the ability of young women leaders and groups to collaboratively lead local and national-level peace efforts

The information collected shows that the activities reached the expected target group. Young women were selected through the baseline on the basis of several criteria, including a balance between those who came from rural and urban areas. The target was also relevant because it was based on the needs highlighted in

the baseline assessment of the project, which was indeed used to shape all the main activities. In terms of inclusivity, a gap exists in terms of engaging the people with special needs, as identified by the last Monitoring Report in Juba, Torit and Yei.

In the original design of the project, three indicators were defined to measure progress under this objective, and the following table summarizes the measurements at baseline and endline.

INDICATOR	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	
		Baseline	*Endline*
Outcome Indicator 1a: % of participants who can cite one concrete example of how the project has improved their ability to lead peacebuilding	75%	0%	78%
Outcome Indicator 1b: % of participants who report participating in at least one women-led peacebuilding initiative as a result of this project	70%	0%	94%
Outcome Indicator 1c: % of participants who state that their role as peacebuilders has been strengthened as a result of project activities	80%	0%	94%

The measurements suggest strong project performance and effectiveness. For all three, the project exceeded its targets, significantly in the case of indicators 1b and 1c. The disaggregation of data provides additional positive findings. For example, the measurement for indicator 1a is even higher (97%) if one considers only young respondents (15 to 35 years old). The same is true for indicator 1c, where the measurement is 100% for young respondents. This, however, also highlights a difference with the responses from non-youth respondents (36 or older), which was 90%—still overwhelmingly positive, but lower than what was recorded for youth respondents and, as such, indicative of intergenerational differences in the perception of the project's effectiveness.
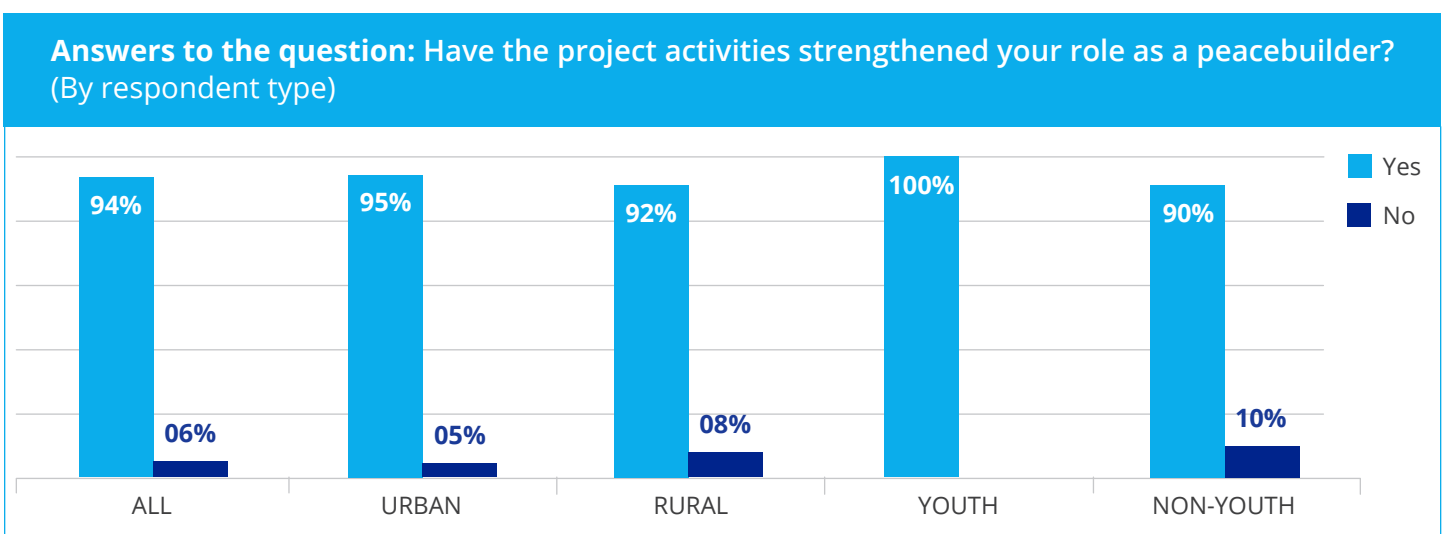
Output 1.1: Targeted young women have the skills to lead peace efforts at the local and national levels

Under this output, the project had identified two indicators to track and understand progress towards success. These were measured both for the project's baseline and for the final evaluation, and the measurements are presented in the table on the following page.

INDICATOR	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	
		Baseline	*Endline*
Output Indicator 1.1.1: % of participants who can explain at least two specific peacebuilding concepts they learned as a result of project trainings	65%	0%	80%
Output Indicator 1.1.2: % of participants who describe themselves as confident in their ability to lead peace-building efforts as a result of project trainings	75%	0%	91%

The measurements show that the project was effective in delivering the planned training and mentorship activities: from March 2020 to February 2021, Search and partners conducted peacebuilding skills training and mentorship for over 240 young women leaders in the ten project locations. Notably, the project also involved joint activities with IDPs and participants from other groups.. As described by a facilitator in Bor, this choice worked very well: "Some of the women participants were from the IDP camp and when they came out they were afraid and they were not mixing freely, after the first day of the training, they started to interact freely."

Indeed, under both indicators, targets were comfortably exceeded, with a preponderant number of respondents to the endline survey indicating that they felt more knowledgeable about peacebuilding and confident in taking part in such efforts. The endline survey provides additional data in support of the success achieved by the project under this output. The endline participants' survey found, for example, that the work done with young women specifically was effective in increasing their capacity and confidence to lead peacebuilding efforts, as shown in the graph below, where, notably, all youth respondents (100%) answered yes.

Answers to the question: Have the project activities strengthened your role as a peacebuilder? (By respondent type)

Similarly, in relation to output indicator 1.1.2, the increase in confidence experienced by participants is very clear, as shown in the graph below. Asked, "Do you feel confident about leading peacebuilding efforts as a result of project trainings?", nearly all respondents answered either "very confident" or "confident." As for other indicators, the number is highest for young people aged 18 to 35 (97%)—and in fact significantly higher than that recorded for non-youth respondents (87%). It is also worth noting how the highest level of "not confident" responses was recorded among respondents from rural areas (17%).

Answers to the question: Do you feel confident about leading peacebuilding efforts as a result of project trainings? (By respondent type)
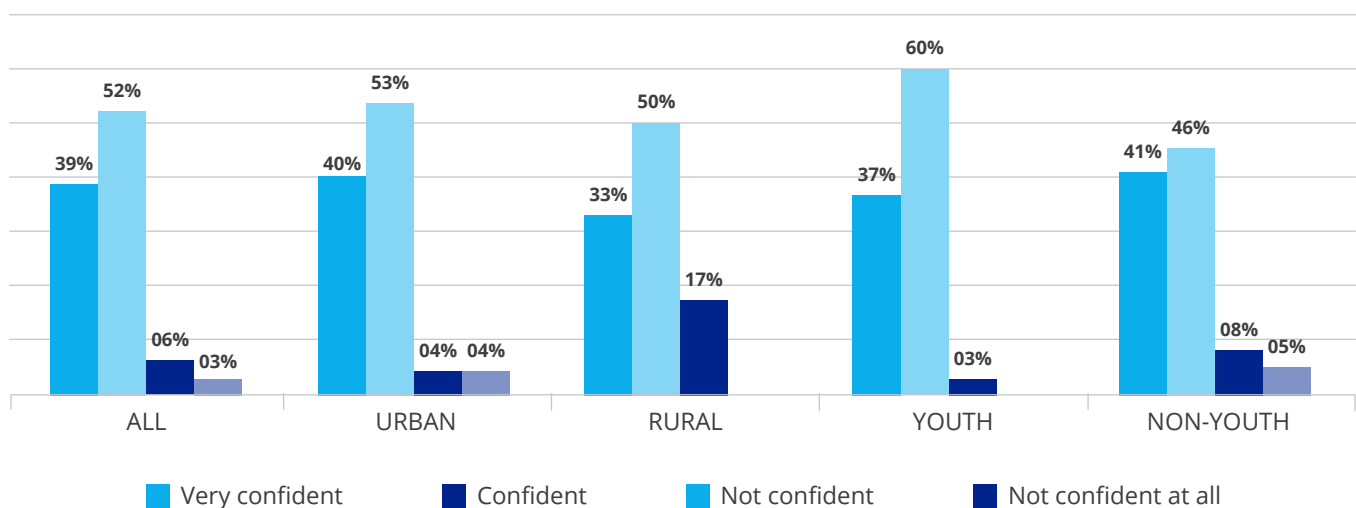
This result is also confirmed through qualitative evidence. All the participants interviewed declared that training and mentorship activities strengthened their skills. Many of them declared that they felt "empowered" by the program. Or, as shared by a woman in Juba, "Crown the Woman taught us about our rights". Some of the participants also had the opportunity to implement the acquired skills straight after the program. The project therefore had a rapid impact, chiefly at the local level. A young woman trained by NWERO in Juba, for instance, completed her mentorship and then became a mentor herself, speaking to young women at the university and in the community:

> "I had no space to engage in peacebuilding and I had no space to discuss my problems at the community level especially before the men. After the training and mentorship, I was able to speak about issues that affect young women in the community, followed by an outreach session for other young women in Rumbek

and later at Juba Grand Hotel" and also: "before that I was shy and could not speak in public. Now I am able to." An officer in Bor collaborating with the project noticed that "before the intervention of the project, women did not see themselves as human beings. Now women know they can do better and their families are beginning to know the same."

A touching reflection on acquired confidence was shared during a focus group with young women in Bor: "for the first time, we were told that we have a role to play in peace processes. Before that, we had no idea also because we were not consulted and we never participated in any peace event in the state. We are usually the victims in times of conflict, but we do not participate. One of the girls in this state killed herself yesterday because her family was too tough regarding the dowry negotiations and her fiancé walked away. She could not speak to anybody, she felt she had no voice and the best way was for her to kill herself."

Mixed results emerged from the analysis in terms of **sustainability** and enduring change among the target groups and communities. On the one hand, many participants highlighted that the acquired skills and knowledge will always be with them for future actions. However, at the same time, several – especially from IDPs groups and remote areas – mentioned limitations related to financial constraints, lack of logistics support, difficulties related to mobility and limited connections with other civil society organizations (CSOs).

Finally, from the interviews and focus groups, it emerged that the involved young women have **acquired skills to lead peace efforts** more at the local than at the national level. In the majority of the interviews and FGDs, the participants presented their skills in a family or community context and their aspirations and first actions seem indeed to have targeted those levels. In several interviews, women shared that the project helped them in dealing with GBV. For instance, a woman in Juba declared: "Actually girls fear to report cases, but they [NWERO] encouraged the young women to report. If one is raped, it's not her choice; it was a force used. Every survivor of GBV has the right to seek justice. If it's reported, or a court case opened, organizations, particularly those implementing human rights programs can support with treatment and the perpetrators will be punished. The rapists will fear to rape." Again, this finding is well supported by the quantitative data presented earlier.

Output 1.2: Targeted young women have increased opportunities to advocate for their inclusion in local and national level discussions on the R-ARCSS and other peace efforts

Under this output, the project had identified four indicators, two of which were measured both for the project's baseline and for the final evaluation. All measurements are presented in the table on the following page.

INDICATOR	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	
		Baseline	*Endline*
Output Indicator 1.2.1: % of target participants who report increased access to platforms which link local and national-level women-led peace efforts	60%	51%	78%
Output Indicator 1.2.2: % target participants who report improved collaboration between younger and older women involved in peacebuilding	65%	84%	54%
Output Indicator 1.2.3: # of mentorship sessions conducted	10	NA	10
Output Indicator 1.2.4: # of women mediators trained (disaggregated by sex, location, stakeholder	50	NA	55

The quantitative data under this outcome provides mixed information. The target under indicator 1.2.1 has clearly been achieved and exceeded. In this regard, it should be noted that when the same question was put to respondents who did not participate in the project, only 53% said that they had access, compared to 78% among participants. Data under indicator 1.2.2, however, could not yield insight into progress: the endline measurement is, in fact, lower than the one at baseline (54% vs. 84%), which could be attributed to differences in the methods or samples used for the two surveys.

Qualitative data confirm that the collaboration between younger and older women involved in peacebuilding is still limited. Against this backdrop, the project had a limited impact in supporting intergenerational dialogue among women. During the interviews, only a few of them declared that the perception of elderly women toward young women has changed. As shared by a public officer in Aweil, "The older women are so engrossed in themselves and think that the younger women have no role to play because they are young. This is one of the biggest problems – the older women think that if they engage the young women, the young ones will take their places." Yet, as shared by a young woman in Juba, "this project is creating that awareness and the significance of collaborations between young and older women". A few examples of positive collaborations were found, for instance in Jonglei state, as an informant said: "There is a good collaboration here and before this project the former minister of gender, who is a woman, was helping to mentor the girls." More on local dynamics, a student in Juba shared that "Women and young girls fought at water points and sometimes the conflicts escalated to levels that police and the army had to be called in. After receiving the knowledge and skills, I was able to speak with the older women about the skills in

addressing the conflicts at the water points. They agreed with the suggestion that we should volunteer as supervisors to ensure that there is order at the water points. The plan is now working well because of the training we received from NWERO."

Concerning the **mentorship programs**, they were implemented and have largely been appreciated by the CSO partners and the mentees of both Crown the Woman (CTW) and NWERO. Both project partners demonstrated significant capacities to mentor and empower young women. Some sessions took place online due to mobility restrictions or to the presence of mentees abroad. Mentorship was fully relevant because it allowed the young women peace builders to connect the skills and knowledge learned during the trainings to their desired implementation for each participant. This connection between training sessions and the implementation of the acquired skills and knowledge also increased the sustainability of the project.

Several participants declared to have learned a lot on the R-ARCSS and some of them made efforts to reach out on it at the local level or on social media. During a FGD in an IDP camp, participants shared their appreciation: "we have gained a lot and we have understood the provisions of the peace agreement. We have learnt about peace building and women's participation in governance. We are also able to resolve the little conflicts that occur at the family level in the IDP camp". However, at the same time, cultural and social constraints and perceptions limited their actions significantly, especially outside of Juba. This limitation was due, for instance, to restrictions from their husbands or by the negative consideration of older women. A student in Juba highlighted during a FGD the relevance of meeting stakeholders: "The mentorship was so great, because we were able to meet with influential women who told us how they were able to influence both governance and peacebuilding processes in the country".

A very positive example of reaching out on the R-ARCSS and related peace efforts was represented by Alith Cyer Mayar, a writer and a poet mentored by CTW. She created a series of online videos on the R-ARCSS to generate discussions around governance issues addressed by the Agreement and the youth and women-specific roles in it. The short videos (each three- to ten minutes long) are informal and effective and were watched by hundreds of people and shared by dozens of fellows.[5] Among the ten videos, one is dedicated explicitly to the Covid-19 implication on the R-ARCSS.

Overall, **reaching the national level was also complex** in these activities. This limitation was firstly due to Covid-19 limitations to bring participants to Juba and to organize meetings throughout the whole project. The limited trust in young women and the limited space for political participation was mentioned during the data collection as a significant barrier for the project's participants, especially if combined with other financial and mobility constraints. More specific work on the national level could be the objective of a follow-up project capitalizing on the work done during this project.

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[5] The videos are available here: https://www.facebook.com/people/Alith-Cyer-Mayar/100063589666149/?sk=videos

Another factor that might help to explain findings under this output is about the trust that communities have for women and young people as agents for peace. Despite some progress on this front, the evaluation also found that there still exist doubts, among community members, for the role that women and young people can play as "valued contributors to peace and security". These findings are further discussed under Objective 2 below.

Output 1.3: Targeted young women collaborate with diverse CSO groups to implement initiatives promoting peace

Under this output, Search and partners implemented four activities: Mapping of Interlocutors & Bridge-builders, Intergenerational CSO forums, Information Sessions on R-ARCSS Progress and Advocacy Visits to R-ARCSS & Corresponding Mechanisms' Representatives

In this framework, the project had identified two indicators, which, as before, were measured both for the project's baseline and for the final evaluation, as summarized in the table below.

INDICATOR	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	
		Baseline	*Endline*
Output Indicator 1.3.1: % of CSOs who report they see added value in collaborating closely with young women to promote peace in their communities	70%	95%	91%
Output Indicator 1.3.2: % CSOs respondents who report they have a plan for activities that improve young women's participation in peace efforts beyond the project's end	70%	88%	73%

For both indicators, the measurements at endline exceed the targets set by the project, yet in both cases they are lower than those recorded during the baseline survey. In the case of indicator 1.3.1 the difference (around 4%) falls within the margin of error and could therefore indicate that in this case there was no change. With indicator 1.3.2, however, the change is significant and might also be due to differences in the methods and samples used for the two surveys.

In this framework, Search and partners were able to map interlocutors and to create an impressive database composed of 700 names of "interlocutors and bridge builders" (186 in Torit, 272 in Aweil, 112 in Juba and 130 in Bor). This document can certainly support future activities in these areas.

The Information Sessions of R-ARCSS Progress and the Advocacy Visits to R-ARCSS & Corresponding Mechanisms' Representatives had some delays but were finally implemented. According to the project reports, four information sessions of R-ARCSS progress and eight Advocacy Visits to R-ARCSS and corresponding mechanisms' representatives were held. Due to the mobility limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, however, not all the foreseen non-Juba based participants were able to attend. According to the project documents, the intergenerational CSO forums were organized in Maridi and Torit to create space for both young and older women to interact on peacebuilding. Yet we have no direct findings from the interviews on them.

Two other important findings emerged from the qualitative and quantitative analysis. Firstly, the project had a limited impact in supporting intergenerational dialogue among women. During the interviews, only a few of them declared that the perception of elderly women toward young women has changed. As shared by a public officer in Aweil, "The older women are so engrossed in themselves and think that the younger women have no role to play because they are young. This is one of the biggest problems – the older women think that if they engage the young women, the young ones will take their places." Yet, as shared by a young woman in Juba, "this project is creating that awareness and the significance of collaborations between young and older women". A few examples of positive collaborations were found, for instance in Jonglei state, as an informant said: "There is a good collaboration here and before this project, the former minister of gender, who is a woman, was helping to mentor the girls." More on local dynamics, a student in Juba shared that "Women and young girls fought at water points and sometimes the conflicts escalated to levels that police and the army had to be called in. After receiving the knowledge and skills, I was able to speak with the older women about the skills in addressing the conflicts at the water points. They agreed with the suggestion that we should volunteer as supervisors to ensure that there is order at the water points. The plan is now working well because of the training we received from NWERO."

Secondly, networking and/or coordination between CSOs and/or with informal groups were limited to a few locations and showed constraints in terms of sustainability. For instance, in Aweil the State Ministry of Gender, Social and Child Welfare convenes regular coordination meetings for several partners implementing different GBV components, but there is little evidence demonstrating inter-agency collaborations. Similar sentiments were expressed by respondents in Juba, Bor and Torit.

3.2 OBJECTIVE 2: To transform attitudes and behaviors about women and youth (and young women in particular) and their role in peace and security

Four indicators were identified in the project's logical framework to measure progress under this objective, and the following table summarizes the measurements at baseline and endline.
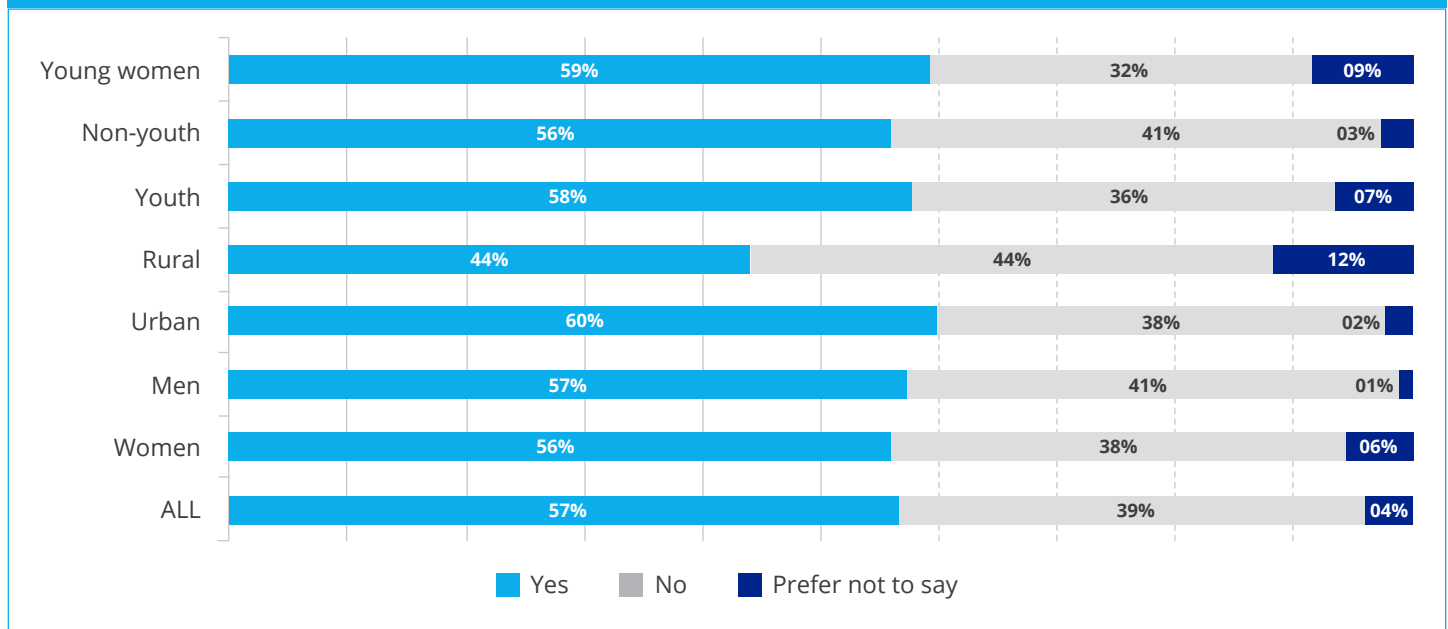
INDICATOR	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	
		Baseline	*Endline*
Outcome Indicator 2a: % of respondents who believe women are listened to as valued contributors to peace and security	70%	86%	57%
Outcome Indicator 2b: % of respondents who believe youth are listened to as valued contributors to peace and security	70%	84%	58%
Outcome Indicator 2c: % of women and youth who find the initiatives implemented useful in advancing their roles in peace and security	80%	0%	86%
Outcome Indicator 2d: % of respondents that view the participation of women and youth in peace and security efforts as more acceptable after participating in or being exposed to project activities	75%	0%	83%

The measurements do not provide a clear picture about the project's achievement in relation to this outcome. For two indicators (2a and 2b), the endline measurements from the endline survey are lower than those recorded for the baseline, with the discrepancy potentially linked to differences in the methods or samples used for the two surveys. In particular, a partial different interpretation of the question related to question 2a could have been possible. In fact, in the baseline it is explained that during the FGDs, on this question, "While over half of FGDs and KIIs said 'yes' to this question, the majority said this varied depending on if the woman was married, as they are reportedly listened to more. About half of the participants said that there was a difference between the age of the woman, as older women are listened to more". These qualitative observations show that there is a different consideration between young women and older women, with the last ones considered as more listened as valuable contributors to peace processes.

Overall, the limited trust in what young people, and young women, can contribute to peace and security was in full display in the endline beneficiary survey. For example, when asked if they thought that women are listened to as valued contributors to issues of peace and security, just over half of respondents (57%) said yes. The number is even lower for specific categories of respondents, chiefly those from rural locations, as shown in the chart on the following page.

Answers to the question: Do you think that women are listened to as valued contributors to issues of peace and security? (By respondent type)

Respondent type	Yes	No	Prefer not to say
Young women	59%	32%	09%
Non-youth	56%	41%	03%
Youth	58%	36%	07%
Rural	44%	44%	12%
Urban	60%	38%	02%
Men	57%	41%	01%
Women	56%	38%	06%
ALL	57%	39%	04%

For indicators 2c and 2d the measurements at endline are higher than at baseline, which would be a positive finding albeit the same caution (i.e. about the difficulty of comparing results) should apply as before. The findings are similar, if slightly more positive, when respondents were asked the same question, but in relation to youth, as per the chart below. A comparison with the baseline measurements for the same questions is, unfortunately, not useful, as those were far higher (86% for women and 84% for youth), confirming that the methods or samples used for the two surveys were different. For 2c, there are significant differences between younger and older participants (93% said yes vs. 79%) and between urban and rural respondents (88% vs. 75%). Similarly, for 2d there is a significant difference between younger and older participants (90% said yes vs. 77%).

Answers to the question: Do you think that youth are listened to as valued contributors to issues of peace and security? (By respondent type)

Respondent type	Yes	No	Prefer not to say
Young women	65%	26%	09%
Non-youth	54%	42%	03%
Youth	64%	29%	07%
Rural	53%	37%	10%
Urban	59%	38%	03%
Men	57%	43%	
Women	58%	35%	07%
ALL	57%	37%	05%

Legend: ▮ Yes ▮ No ▮ Prefer not to say
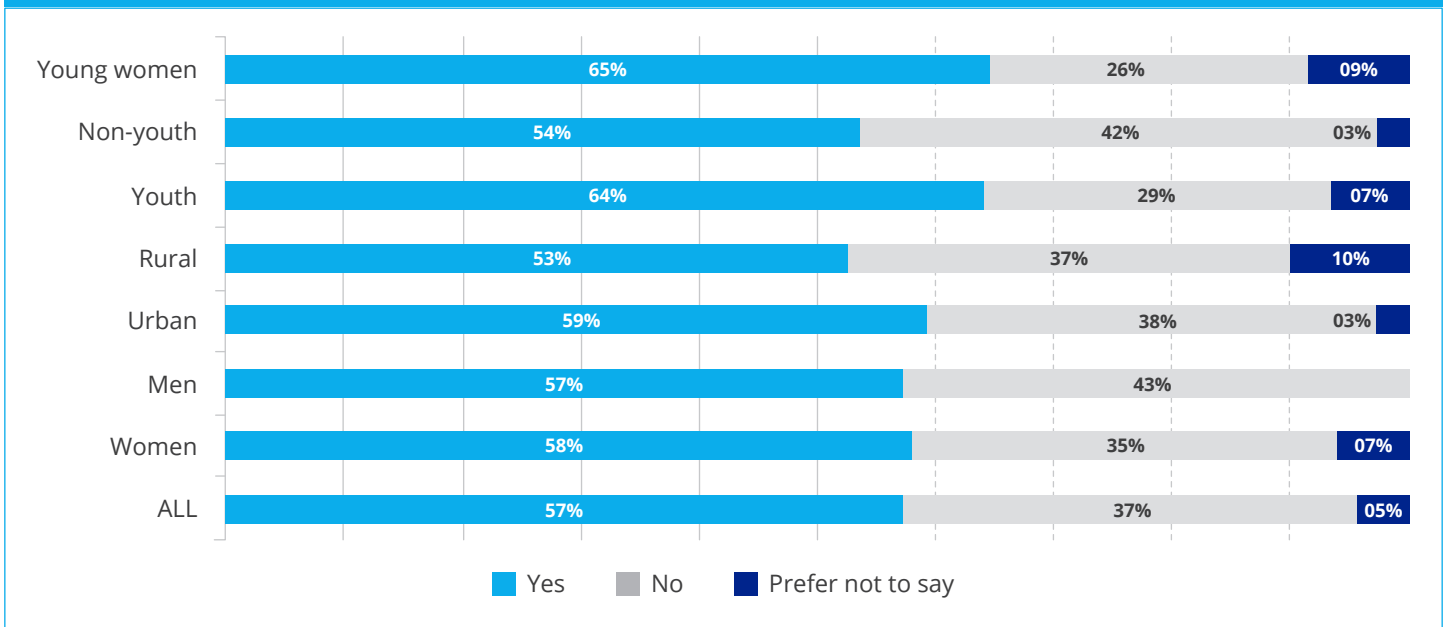
Comparing endline measurements with project targets, progress under the first two indicators appear to be below targets, while progress under the last two exceeded them. On the whole, this data points to a record of overall effectiveness, marked by some challenges. This record is analyzed outcome by outcome in an attempt to provide further clarity about where the project worked and where it did not work as well as expected.

Qualitative data show different opinions and perspectives confirming that there is not a significant majority of citizens that see changes in the perception of the community members towards young women's involvement in the peace processes. For instance, a male respondent in his 30s involved in the project in Torit said that "No, the perception of the community has not changed that much on the national peace processes. […] However, the project has awoken women to participate at any level of peace initiatives so that their voices are heard." As underlined by a female respondent in Aweil, "It will take a long time to change the perception of the community." She also elaborated on women's social conditions (domestic violence, unemployment, etc.) and how these factors create structure constraints.

Interestingly, different informants from Maridi shared the relevant role that young women can play in peace during religious activities. As stated by a female interviewee from a rural area near Maridi: "Young women also during church services confidently talk to the congregation passing information about peace."

This perspective could deserve more attention in future programming.

Overall, from the findings emerged that the project has contributed to a slow but steady process of changing perceptions among men and women on the role played by youth, and by young women in particular, in peace processes. This perception is well-captured by a female civil servant in Bor: "It is changing slowly by slowly. You see even for families to allow their young women to be trained is an indicator of change and transformation. The understanding here is that women should be kept at home – even the older ones, but I see this changing because the young girls were discussing freely and going back to their families to tell them of what they learnt." This trend is echoed by a man with CSO background in Maridi "At first there was the perception of women not responsible for peacebuilding; even some women had the perception that peacebuilding is only meant for men. They could wait for men to intervene, then they would come later. The project has awoken the minds of women. The perception has changed, when women call for a rally on peace everyone comes, including men.'" Similarly, a teacher in Aweil portrayed this slow-pace change in perception: 'Many men insist that women have no rights. [...] This project may gradually change things because there are some community members that are beginning to see the value in the inclusion of young women in peace processes."

Output 2.1: South Sudanese citizens have more exposure to different examples of peace and security that capture representation, inclusion, and leadership

A key project component was composed by radio programming finalized to transform attitudes and behaviors about women and youth (and young women in particular) and their role in peace and security. This output was fully implemented but encountered some difficulties.

According to the numbers provided by the radios, overall, 218 radio episodes were aired with a total reach of 13,058 listeners (including the radio drama Sergeant Esther, the radio talk show Nuswan Salam and Hagana Shows), with male participation being recorded as higher at 75.7%, indicating that men were significantly interested in women-led media discussions.

Interestingly, the program *Nuswan Salaam* (Women of Peace) was co-designed by young women involved in the project and it was a largely women lead program. The programs also received dozens of calls and text messages. Among them, nine out of ten were men. From the interviews, it emerged that part of the men are eager to discuss gender-related issues and this openness could inform future programming and targeting. These data are extremely interesting and show how the project created a space for young women and exposed a male audience to new narratives. The project also created a robust women-led media platform on Eye Radio functioning as a consortium.

Many times, the radio programs had a direct impact. For instance, as shared by a program manager in Bor, "The issue of child abduction has been rampant in Jonglei state and this affects mostly women and girls. The women from Jonglei Women Association and other panelists were hosted here and they appealed to those who are practicing child abduction to stop. And because of the calls by women, some of the perpetrators have returned the children abducted – this was one of the initiatives of the women that has had a great impact in the community here." Another example presented by a female student during a focus group in Juba highlights the relevance of the programs: "After our participation in the radio programmes, all FM stations are now reaching to me to speak about the role of young women in peacebuilding, the role of young women and girls and GBV issues. I have several platforms on which I speak about such issues and that is a result of the project." All the topics selected were fully relevant and based on the needs highlighted in the baseline.
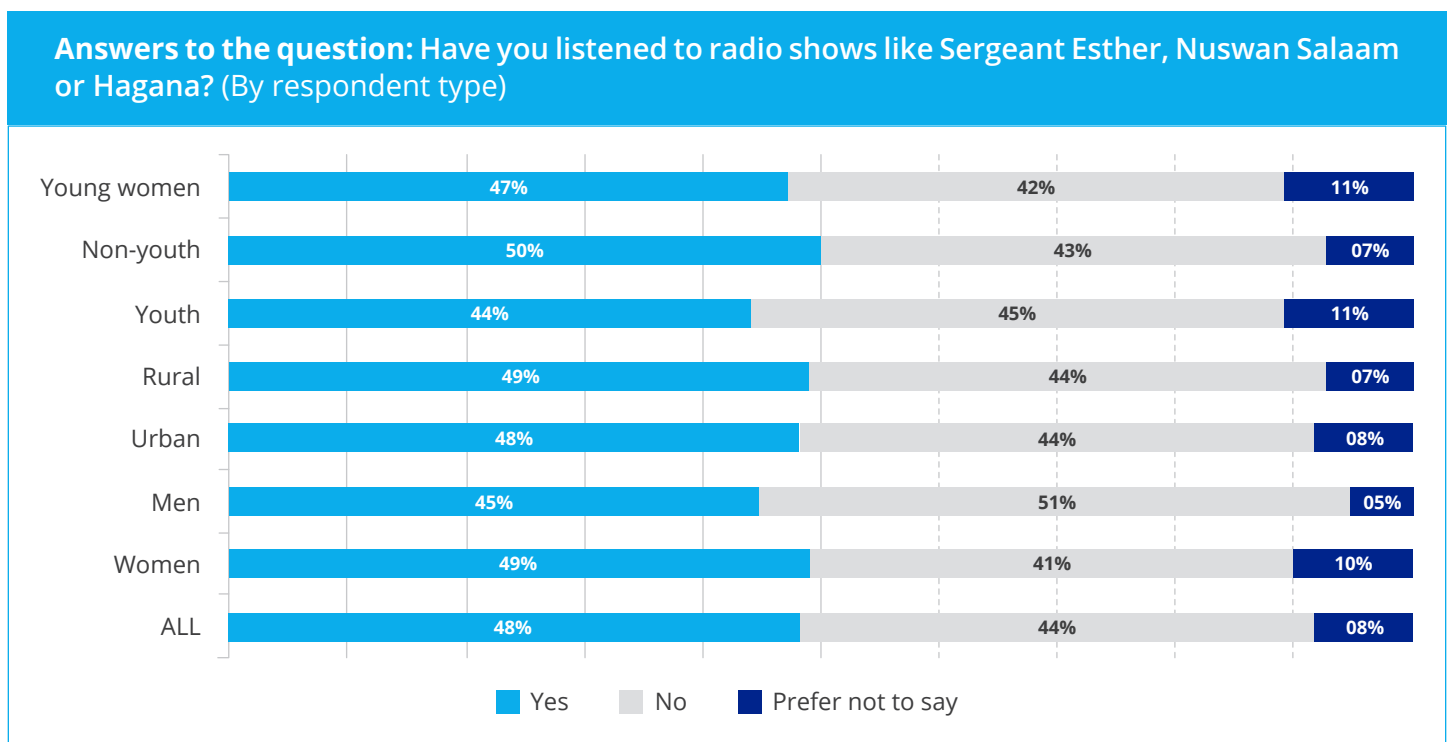
Furthermore, the programs also received some high-level guests, such as South Sudan Vice President Rebecca Nyandeng and Minister of Defence Angelina Teny. These guests were important to gain space and to create dialogue and engagement with policy-makers. As explained by a radio producer: "Key decision-makers listening in are sometimes triggered to do something about issues affecting women's participation in peacebuilding... The Minister of Gender and the female Vice president promised that once the legislative assemblies were reconstituted, they would introduce bills related to family law and GBV in parliament for discussion."

This declaration is a positive indicator and points to the potential of using radio to promote more engagement, by communities, on peace and security issues. However, on this aspect, the project was also limited, as achieving advocacy objectives needs several follow-up activities and this could be considered as a first step that needs several others to have an impact. Having important guests also created some challenges, as explained by the same radio producer: "It was not smooth and the radio had to find a way of coordinating with the partners. Some guests or panelists would drop off at the last minute and the radio would struggle to find replacements. Some panelists requested to be transported and there was no money to facilitate the movement of the panelists to the radio station." Overall, these challenges appear rather common when important guests are involved.

Other challenges faced under this output relate to relevance. One was that the radio programs were not always context-related, as stated by a program's producer: "The radio broadcasts are the same for all states and for all the radio stations that we send the recordings to. Sometimes this means that some of the broadcasts are not relevant in certain contexts and not relevant in some states." From the interviews the relevance of working on cultural aspects also emerged. An informant in Jonglei state shared, "sometimes listeners call in and tell us not to bring issues of human rights and women's rights that are for white people to South Sudan." Similar dynamics were mentioned on wedding, dowry and other family issues. Addition-

ally, flexibility should be allowed for partners wishing to design unique radio broadcasts that respond to their specific audiences and not necessarily airing as part of the consortium.

Overall, these data show that a considerable effort has been made to produce the programs, but the attention received was uneven in the country. This issue emerged considering that, for instance, Eye Radio broadcasts live from Juba and is heard in six other locations across South Sudan, namely Yambio, Rumbek, Kwajok, Wau, Aweil, and Bor, with a total audience listenership of over 900,000. In fact, according to the endline survey, slightly less than half of the participants (48%) said that they tuned in and followed the radio programs, as per the chart below; and qualitative data show that   target community members have appreciated the radio programs.

Answers to the question: Have you listened to radio shows like Sergeant Esther, Nuswan Salaam or Hagana? (By respondent type)

Respondent type	Yes	No	Prefer not to say
Young women	47%	42%	11%
Non-youth	50%	43%	07%
Youth	44%	45%	11%
Rural	49%	44%	07%
Urban	48%	44%	08%
Men	45%	51%	05%
Women	49%	41%	10%
ALL	48%	44%	08%

Overall, the data above sheds positive light on the project's media components, suggesting that the investment in radio programming was both relevant and effective. However, the data also point to some areas for improvement. For example, a breakdown of answers by respondent's location indicates that whereas 52% of respondents from Juba said that they had listened to the programs, the number is only 30% for respondents from Bor (where an additional 32% said that they were not sure whether or not they had listened to the programs.

The evaluation found that external factors also affected the listening, as it happened in Yei during challenging security situations. Another limitation was related to the use of Arabic and English. The last project's monitoring report mentions that the translation of some programs into the major native languages would have been welcomed in locations where local languages are preferred. This will equip the beneficiaries with knowledge on sensitive topics such as female empowerment and the roles they play in peacebuilding. This will be especially useful in areas where English and Arabic are not understood. The sustainability of this action could be improved if all the materials will be uploaded online and utilized, at least partially, in future activities.

Finally, it should be mentioned that the mechanism of the listeners' group encountered several difficulties in different locations. For instance, the group in Lologo (Central Equatoria State - Juba) did not engage in the activity as was expected. When asked why they were not listening to the radio programme as expected, they noted that there was only one radio for several of them to congregate in one home. The listener group in Aweil shared that the activity "has brought us together and created a good network." Yet from the focus group held in that location some skepticism also emerged, around using a single radio and on the follow-up: "First of all, there is just one radio for all of us. We wonder why SFCG gave us only one radio. Are radios that expensive? Why can't we all be given radios to listen from our homes? This is not sustainable [...] We sit here and listen to the radio – then what next? [...] Listening to the radio each time, and the same programs over and over again is just not enough."

Output 2.2: Communities and key actors have increased appreciation of the role of women and young people in peacebuilding

This output foresaw two activities: young women-led mediation and peacebuilding initiatives, rural outreach, peace festivals and social media campaign. Under this output, the project had identified two indicators of progress, which were again measured for the project's baseline and for the final evaluation. The measurements are summarized in the table below.

INDICATOR	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	
		Baseline	*Endline*
Output Indicator 2.2.1: % of community members who believe that women are prepared to lead peace initiatives in their communities	70%	94%	71%
Output Indicator 2.2.2: % of community members who believe that youth are prepared to lead peace initiatives in their communities	70%	88%	69%

As with other indicators discussed before, the findings from the comparative analysis are unfortunately inconclusive. The endline measurements are, in fact, lower to those recorded at baseline, and this could be due to differences in methods or the samples used for the two surveys. This difference could be due to a higher percentage of respondents from the Manganteen refugees camp in the endline. As presented in the baseline, "of all locations surveyed, 93% or more respondents said "yes" except for Mangateen, where about 20% of respondents did not feel women were prepared, including 22% of women." This data is also confirmed from the FGD organized in Manganteen. In fact, participants presented all their social and economic constraints to participate in peace initiatives. For instance, a participant shared that "the role of women at the grassroots level and in the Payams, Bomas is very limited and we know the project tried to include us here at the IDP camp."

Outreach activities were heavily affected by COVID-19 limitations. Search and its partners were able to adapt the project to bypass the mobility limitations, for instance supporting local groups or organizations such as Jonglei Women Association in Bor. Yet, not all the peace festivals and rural outreach were implemented in the end. The project supported the annual "Hagana Peace Festival" organized by Anataban from March 7-8. The youth-led peace event was organized under the theme "*Salam de Hagana* (This Peace Is Ours)" and was attended by over 8,000 youth (37.5% female).

The social media campaigns built around the radio programs were followed by online audiences from across the country. Based on the shared reports from Eye radio, Sergeant Esther Radio Drama reached over 60,796 people and 1,837 engagements. Most of the followers on Facebook liked and appreciated the program. "*She Naturepeace*" radio profiling program reached over 28,011 people and 611 engagements. Meanwhile, *Nuswan Salaam* radio program posts stand out as the most followed program on Eye Radio's official Facebook page with over 143,607 people reached, and 2,724 engagements since the start of the program. The overall total of people reached stands at 232,414 with 5,172 engagements.

Overall, enhancing the role of young women in peacebuilding processes is both unique and a niche of the project. While this was outstanding, changing communal perceptions about women in general requires longer-term and transformative multi-year interventions, as also discussed in general in the section on objective 3.2 above. Several stakeholders interviewed noted that the project time frame was not long enough to change the minds and negative perceptions of men, women, boys and elders.

Finally, **young women-led mediation and peacebuilding initiatives** represented a clear success in terms of effectiveness and impact. The data collected show terrific success stories. Courageous young women were able to implement initiatives rapidly in different locations. For instance, an informant in Bor shared an example highlighting the importance of targeting the male component, especially young men: "because of the negative perception of the community towards the young women, their skills may be interpreted

and the men who are believing the young women and supporting them can be referred to as weak men."

Young women trained by NWERO impressed a local chief in Kapuri for their confidence during outreach activities. He said that "NWERO is an eye-opener. I can say I was one of those who were rigid, when young women raised their hands to speak, I would think they were disrespectful, but after they organized the outreach and told us the importance of the participation of young women in local peacebuilding, I was able to see the points clearly and the importance of their participation". He also moved from personal transformation to action, as he shared: "in this area, we have so many "niggas", a group of young men that wait for the girls on the way as they go to collect water or firewood, and attack them. But because the young women feared to tell us the problems they faced, we as chiefs were unable to help them. After the outreach, we started to listen to the complaints the young women brought to us and now the niggas are afraid to attack the girls." A limpid example showing how the activities were relevant and they had a significant impact. A similar dynamic was in place also in Lologo.

Even another **example related to "niggas"** highlight both the impact of peacebuilding and mediation initiatives and the relevance of involving young men in the project. Some young women, after receiving the training, worked in their communities in Lologo, Gudele and Sherikat, to find out why young men and women were joining the groups called "niggas". They mixed and mingled and interacted with them, following what they learned during the training and without asking direct questions. In one of the evaluation's focus groups, a young woman recollected her experience:

> *"A nigga asked, 'now that you are part of these things of peacebuilding, do you think you are now better than us?' We quickly realized that we need to be tactful and not overly excluding them. We ask for their advice and that way they feel included and can help us." Empathy was indeed an important feature of many of these initiatives: "these are young people like us."*

Finally, it should be noted that many of the women involved were preoccupied with the sustainability or the replicability of their initiatives due to financial constraints. For instance, the young women who dialogued with niggas stated that "they tell us they want out. But we have no resources[6] and logistics for ourselves to carry our work and there are no logistics to help a nigga that wants to leave." While project interventions sought to increase the participation of young women in both local and national peacebuilding processes, economic vulnerabilities faced by all the young women interviewed, has the potential to stifle longer-term engagement and sustainability. There is a need to consider economic empowerment through strengthening networks with organizations that engage in economic empowerment or through a small grants scheme.

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[6] A nigga needs to pay to exit from a group.

3.3 OBJECTIVE 3: To contribute guidance, best practices, and lessons learned to the global field of youth engagement in peace and security

Under this outcome, Search has been working collaboratively with partners to conduct a case study into the impacts of youth efforts in influencing the peace processes in South Sudan, develop good practice guidance materials for youth mediators (especially young women) and mapping guides for youth inclusion in peace processes. These studies were conducted during the last part of the project and have not informed the project implementation. However, they could be relevant for follow-up projects as the basis for local and international advocacy on strengthening women and youth participation in local and national peace processes. These studies could be shared with other local and international organizations.

Output 3.1: Concrete evidence of the effectiveness of in-country youth support to peace efforts is fed into the global field

This output foresaw two activities: an analysis on the impact of youth-led efforts to influence the R-ARCSS; and the "What Works" Podcast to share project and case study findings. Under this output, the project had identified two indicators of progress. However, only one of these could be measured for the final evaluation, as summarized in the table below.

INDICATOR	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	
		Baseline	*Endline*
Outcome Indicator 3a: % of targeted national, regional, and international-level policy-makers who report access to improved information on the role of youth engagement in peace process as a result of materials produced from this project	50%	0%	Not available
Outcome Indicator 3b: % increase in access to information and collaborative platforms on youth engagement in peace processes	50%	51%	85%

Indicator 3a could not be measured during the evaluation as the endline survey was not targeted to policy-makers. This was a decision made during the inception period, whereas a more qualitative assessment of progress under this indicator was seen as the preferred way to determine progress. Under indicator 3b, the question was posed to respondents involved in a CSO, and the answer suggests strong progress.

The relational analysis of young women peacebuilders (entitled "Inclusion & Participation of Youth in Peacebuilding: Exploring the Experiences of Youth in South Sudan") was published in April 2021. The report highlights several key issues on youth participation in South Sudan. The research was conducted using the "We are Here" framework ("in the room," "around the room" and "outside the room") to analyze and identify youth engagement in the negotiation and implementation of the peace agreement and peacebuilding efforts in South Sudan. The report was based on a huge data collection effort (167 key informant interviews and 15 focus group discussions in Juba, Central Equatoria State, Torit, Eastern Equatoria State and Aweil, Northern Bahr El Ghazal State. In total, 252 people participated in the study). Overall, this product represents a key document to inform future project activities, especially on advocacy. This product, fully in line with this final evaluation, provides specific information that can be used during formal meetings with policy-makers (e.g. to prepare discussion points), to write statements or to design mentoring programs or training.

The "What Works" Podcast was not implemented, mainly due to time constraints. Search staff also shared that podcasts have a limited reach in South Sudan. They are used mainly in urban areas, but they have a limited diffusion in rural ones (this and further consideration should inform future planning of outreach activities and tools). However, Search organized other two activities to substitute the podcast. Firstly, a meeting with a US Youth Peace and Security Group that provided both a chance for presenting the tools and advocating with US YPS supporters and policy-makers. In September 2021, Search also organized an informal meeting between some young women peace mediators involved in the project and members of FEMWISE. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange good practices on women's participation in local and national peacebuilding processes.

Output 3.2: Gendered learning to ensure representation of young women is contributed to the Youth, Peace and Security sector

In order to further facilitate the dissemination of the case study findings, two other activities were implemented in the final phase of the project. Firstly, two policy briefs were published in July 2021, respectively on youth and on women participation in the Peace Process in South Sudan. The two policy papers are well-structured, but they have limited references to the many successful stories and case studies implemented by the project participants. These publications could certainly benefit more from concrete and tangible examples and narratives. Otherwise, the risk is to have a limited impact on stakeholders due to the general consideration already present in similar documents.

According to Search staff, policy briefs and mediation documents were shared by a group of 25 young women who formed up the network for young women peace mediators in South Sudan. Search has shared the policy briefs with some of their partners including the Ministry Gender, Youth and Social Affairs, Minis-

try of Peacebuilding, RJMEC, and IGAD respectively.

Furthermore, during the final phase of the project, Search elaborated good practice guidance material for peace mediators. These documents appear concise, well-structured and informative with key information related to mediation and to the role of youth on peace processes and can target mediators, technical experts, and international practitioners on why and in what ways young people, and young women, in particular, can better shape and influence peace processes.

5. Critical lesson learned and recommendations

This evaluation helps to formulate a series of critical lessons learnt and recommendations mainly for Search and its partners to inform follow-up projects and activities.

In terms of **relevance**, as widely presented the intervention's objectives and design fully responded to the young women's needs and priorities in terms of their role in peace and security matters in the country. This result was also possible because the activities were designed according to the needs collected in the baseline. Furthermore, NWERO, CRN, Eye Radio and other organizations were able to involve young women from different contexts and areas, also from remote ones and among IDPs. The activities remain relevant despite the COVID-19 challenges due to the ability of the project's partners to adapt and to transform constraints into opportunities. For instance, in addition to the original project locations, Search and its partners were successful in extending the implementation of the project to six relevant new locations.

Regarding **effectiveness**, the project's expected results have been achieved against almost all the ambitious indicators. The project's most positive results are represented by activities related to strengthening the ability of young women leaders and groups to collaboratively lead local and national-level peace efforts and young women-led mediation and peacebuilding initiatives. The increase in confidence experienced by participants attending training and mentorship activities is very clear and the follow-up local peacebuilding activities show increased self-confidence, knowledge and skills. The main challenges were represented by transforming attitudes and behaviors about women and youth (and young women in particular) and their role in peace and security, especially on a large scale and at the national level. Changing perceptions has emerged from this evaluation as a slow process that deserves specific programming and close attention to cultural dynamics and constraints. In order to finalize all the planned activities, a key factor was the ability of Search and partners to adapt the activities to the enormous ongoing challenges. For instance, COVID-19 has particularly affected the mobility of the participants, the outreach activities and the overall project's timeline. An important adaptation was to target the COVID-19 emergency itself through target initiatives led by young women to contain the pandemic.

Concerning **impact**, the project achieved several intended changes, as presented in this report. These changes were present mainly at the local level, while achieving changes at the national level was more challenging, also due to mobility limitations. Some stories of change, partially reported in this document, deserve close attention and are to be shared in future activities. Young women-led mediation and peace-building initiatives had a significant impact because brave young women were able to implement initiatives rapidly in different locations, also involving men in their communities. Yet, the collaboration between young and older women is improved only in some locations and needs more nuanced and specific attention in the future. Significant examples of collaboration between young and older women were observed in Bor and Aweil. In Bor, the Jonglei State Women Association (JSWA) regularly convened trainings for the girls' network and women in the IDP camp and jointly participated in radio programmes aired by the Jonglei State radio. In Aweil, the membership of two radio listeners groups is composed of both young and older women. The intergenerational nature of the listeners' group demonstrates improved interactions between young and older women. In Juba, intergenerational bonds were established between older and young-er women through initiatives implemented by NWERO and CROWN the WOMAN – as evidenced in the achievements of the mentorship programs between influential women drawn from NWERO and CROWN the WOMAN and the young mentees.

In terms of **efficiency**, the collaboration between project partners worked very well and involved new local organizations and informal groups. In some cases, CSOs are able to collaboratively work with the young women networks/youth groups to ensure equal participation in the peace processes in some locations, while in others the collaboration was limited or absent. The project was not fully able to create adequate advocacy platform(s). This was due to external conditions – especially due to Covid-19 limitations – but also because advocacy at the national level needs more specific attention and programming in the complex South Sudanese political landscape. Due to the fact that achieving advocacy objectives needs several follow-up activities, in this regard the project could be considered as a first step that needs several others to have an impact at national level.

The overall **sustainability** of the project presents some limitations. While acquired skills and publications will last beyond the project itself, the monitoring of activities already captured that "though 80% of the respondents see added value when collaborating with young women in peacebuilding initiatives, only 62% still believe CSOs have plans to carry on and sustain the young women programs beyond the end of the project." Sustainability could also have been better built during the project. For instance, some participants were involved in a single activity, sometimes lasting just one day, without specific follow-up activities. Beyond these two components, the enmeshment of project activities within interventions of partner organizations could only materialize if they manage to mobilize external funding. It should be said that, while financial resource constraints appear to limit the overall sustainability of interventions beyond the lifespan of the project, the interventions were implemented in a context of massive needs and extreme economic vulnerabilities experienced by young women.

Based on these findings and analysis, further action should include the following areas:

➔ **Target men specifically to transform social attitudes and behaviors about young women.** Some project's activities highlighted the relevance of involving men – young, but also fathers, local chiefs, etc. – to change the perception of young women.

➔ **Involve traditional authorities to understand the project's aspirations and objective of ensuring that women are also participating in the affairs of their country.** Local chiefs and authorities could play a pivotal role in underpinning the activities and legitimizing them in their community, especially among men. Community leaders should also be informed and engaged before radio shows are aired.

➔ **Capitalize the work done in this project with specific advocacy activities at the national level.** In particular, bring the narratives and achievements of young female peacebuilders to decision-makers. Engage the National Assembly and establish lasting relations between local groups and members of the parliament. CTSAMVM's international donors could also be targeted to enlarge consensus and support.

➔ **Consider translating some radio shows into the major native languages.** This effort could increase the outreach capacities, especially in rural areas.

➔ **Consider engaging people with special needs**, so they equally participate in different peace initiatives in their respective communities and/or at the national level.

➔ **Reconsider the validity of listener groups.** From the evaluation emerged that listening groups were not fully effective and could be calibrated more as discussion groups. For instance, each house could have a radio and templates that they can fill in their observations. They can submit their individual points to the M&E office to review and. It gathering to brainstorm in a format to be discussed with each group.

➔ **Continue to reflect and connect GBV, early marriages and domestic violence to a broader picture** of women exclusion and broader conflicts.

➔ **Dedicate more specific attention to local cultural norms shaped under patriarchism that impede women participation in peacebuilding.** South Sudan has local and radiated cultural norms that should be considered to transform young women's perception in society.

➔ **Dedicate more attention to strengthening the local partners at the State levels with the needed capacity on peacebuilding initiatives** so they would continue to engage and create awareness on the local community members. At the same time, follow up visits by Search to the formed groups in the States could further boost the continued engagement of the young women at the State level and underpin the sustainability of the achieved results.

→ **Help women groups to develop their small economic activities so they can continue to finance their peacebuilding.** Many of the women involved were preoccupied with the sustainability or the replicability of their initiatives due to financial constraints. There is a need to consider economic empowerment through strengthening networks with organizations that engage in economic empowerment or through a small grants scheme.

→ **Avoid one-off activities and plan continuous engagement of youth women and other target groups.** Respondents expressed concerns regarding one-off trainings or other activities. These activities have limited impact and could create mismatched expectations.

→ **Conduct specific analysis to inform future actions on intergenerational dialogue among women.** Build on critical lessons learned discussed in this section and capitalize possible. In the planning phase, clarify the level and dimension of the collaboration (e.g. community, social, national level). Overall, intergenerational dialogue should be tailor-made at the local level and should inform, or even involve, older women already in planning activities. For instance, in Maridi emerged that young women can play a relevant role c on peace during religious activities. The national and political level remain more challenging and some experienced and popular champions could be involved to overcome this gap. The new female component of the National Assembly should be fully involved at this level.

→ **Target networking and/or coordination between CSOs as a direct objective with specific resources.** In particular, involve and provide resources to small grassroots groups and organizations that emerged from the evaluation as eager to connect with other CSOs and with institutions.

ANNEXES

I. Indicator measurement

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
OUTCOME 1	Outcome Indicator 1a: % of participants who can cite one concrete example of how the project has improved their ability to lead peacebuilding efforts (Disaggregated by age, sex, location, stakeholder group)	0%	75%	78%	Percentage is even higher (97%) for young people (15 to 35 years old).
	Outcome indicator 1b: # of young women participants who participate in the local or national peace efforts	0	40	90	
	Outcome Indicator 1b: % of participants who report participating in at least one women-led peacebuilding initiative as a result of this project (Disaggregated by age, sex, location, stakeholder group)	0%	70%	94%	
	Outcome Indicator 1c: % of participants who state that their role as peacebuilders has been strengthened as a result of project activities (Disaggregated by age, sex, location)	0%	80%	94%	Percentage is higher (100%) for young people (15 to 35 years old), and lower (90%) for non-young people (36 and older).

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
Output 1.1	Output Indicator 1.1.1: % of participants who can explain at least two specific peacebuilding concepts they learned as a result of project trainings (Disaggregated by age, sex, location, stakeholder group)	0%	65%	80%	Percentage is higher (93%) for young people (15 to 35 years old), and lower (69%) for non-young people (36 and older). Percentage is higher (93%) for participants urban locations (83%), and lower for those in rural ones (67%).
	Output Indicator 1.1.2: % of participants who describe themselves as confident in their ability to lead peacebuilding efforts as a result of project trainings	0%	75%	91%	Most 'very confident' (41%) answers came from older participants (36 and older). Most 'not confident' answers came from participants from rural locations (17%).
	Output Indicator 1.1.3: # of young women peacebuilders identified in relational analysis (Disaggregated by age, location, stakeholder group)	20	40	40	
	Output Indicator 1.1.4: # of young women trained in peacebuilding principles and leadership (Disaggregated by age, location, stakeholder group)	0	40	90	Percentage is higher (100%) for young people (15 to 35 years old), and lower (90%) for non-young people (36 and older).

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
Output 1.2	Output Indicator 1.2.1: % of target participants who report increased access to platforms which link local and national-level women-led peace efforts	51%	60%	78%	Among non-participants, the number of respondents who said that they have access is 53%.
	Output Indicator 1.2.2: % target participants who report improved collaboration between younger and older women involved in peacebuilding	84%	65%	54%	Measurement at endline is lower than that at baseline. This could be due to a small number of respondents from Bor in the endline where the question was often interpreted beyond collaboration on peacebuilding. In fact, in the baseline is explained that "In Bor, almost every respondent said that collaboration between younger women happens most often during cultural ceremonies, especially weddings or funerals." This interpretation is clearly not fully in line with the question ("collaboration between younger and older women *involved in peacebuilding*").
	Output Indicator 1.2.3: # of mentorship sessions conducted	0	10	10	
	Output Indicator 1.2.4: # of women mediators trained (disaggregated by sex, location, stakeholder group)	0	50	55	Percentage is higher (100%) for young people (15 to 35 years old), and lower (90%) for non-young people (36 and older).
	Output Indicator 1.3.5: # of Advocacy Visits to R-ARCSS & Corresponding Mechanisms' Representatives	0	2	8	

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
Output 1.3	Output Indicator 1.3.1: % of CSOs who report they see added value in collaborating closely with young women to promote peace in their communities	95%	70%	91%	
	Output Indicator 1.3.2: % CSOs respondents who report they have a plan for activities that improve young women's participation in peace efforts beyond the project's end	88%	70%	73%	
OUTCOME 2	Outcome Indicator 2a: % of respondents who believe **women** are listened to as valued contributors to peace and security	86%	70%	57%	Measurement at the endline is lower than that at baseline. This could be due to methodological differences or differences in the samples used for the two surveys. Furthermore, a partial different interpretation of the question could be possible. In the baseline it is explained that during the FGDs, on this question, "While over half of FGDs and KIIs said 'yes' to this question, the majority said this varied depending on if the woman was married, as they are reportedly listened to more. About half of the participants said that there was a difference between the age of the woman, as older women are listened to more"
	Outcome Indicator 2b: % of respondents who believe **youth** are listened to as valued contributors to peace and security	84%	70%	58%	Measurement at the endline is lower than that at baseline. This could be due to methodological differences or differences in the samples used for the two surveys.

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
OUTCOME 2	Outcome Indicator 2c: % of women and youth who find the initiatives implemented useful in advancing their roles in peace and security.	0%	80%	86%	Responses came only from participants. There are significant differences between younger and older participants (93% said yes vs. 79%) and between urban and rural respondents (88% vs. 75%).
	Outcome Indicator 2d: % of respondents that view the participation of women and youth in peace and security efforts as more acceptable after participating in or being exposed to project activities	0%	75%	83%	Responses came only from participants. There is a significant difference between younger and older participants (90% said yes vs. 77%)
Output 2.1	Output Indicator 2.1.1: % of listeners who can cite at least one instance of positive leadership by women from one of the radio programs (Disaggregated by age, sex, location, stakeholder group)	0	65%	N/A	A measurement of this indicator could not be done at endline. This indicator was 86% in the last monitoring report. This said, a question was included in the endline with an open ended answer, to which 16 respondents answered providing pertinent examples from the programs.
	Output Indicator 2.1.3 # of radio programs produced and broadcast	0	100	108	
	Output Indicator 2.1.4: # of episodes of Sergeant Esther produced and broadcast	0	20	25	

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
Output 2.1	Output Indicator 2.1.5: # of new peace leaders profiled through radio programming and social media (disaggregated by age, sex, location, and stakeholder group)	0	20	20	
	Output Indicator 2.1.2 % of listeners who display a greater understanding of concepts related to gender sensitivity and inclusion after being exposed to the project's media programming (disaggregated by age, sex, location, stakeholder group)	0	65	N/A	A measurement of this indicator could not be done at endline. The indicator was 75% in the last monitoring report.
Output 2.2	Output Indicator 2.2.1: % of community members who believe that women are prepared to lead peace initiatives in their communities (disaggregated by age, sex, location)	94%	70%	71%	Measurement is lower compared to baseline (but in line with target). This could be due to a higher percentage of respondents from Manganteen. As presented in the baseline, "Of all locations surveyed, 93% or more respondents said "yes" except for Mangateen, where about 20% of respondents did not feel women were prepared, including 22% of women."
	Output Indicator 2.2.2: % of community members who believe that youth are prepared to lead peace initiatives in their communities (disaggregated by age, sex, location)	88%	70%	69%	Measurement is lower compared to baseline (but in line with target). This could be due external factors, to methodological differences or differences in the samples used for the two surveys (e.g. the "Manganteen factor", as presented for output indicator 2.2.1.).

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
Output 2.2	Output Indicator 2.2.3 # of young women-led peace-building initiatives	0	30	31	
	Output Indicator 2.2.4: # of rural outreach activities conducted (disaggregated by location and activity type)	0	30	12	
	Output Indicator 2.2.5: # of peace festivals held	0	2	3	
	Output Indictor 2.2.6: # of viewers that interact with content produced as a part of the social media campaign	0	2000	232,414	
OUTCOME 3	Outcome Indicator 3 a: % of targeted national, regional, and international-level policy-makers who report access to improved information on the role of youth engagement in peace process as a result of materials produced from this project	0	50%	N/A	
	Outcome Indicator 3b: % increase in access to information and collaborative platforms on youth engagement in peace processes	51	50	85	

	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATOR BASELINE	EOP INDICATOR TARGET	EOP INDICATOR PROGRESS	NOTES
Output 3.1	Output Indicator 3.1.1: # of case studies produced on the influence of youth in the R-ARCSS process	0	1	1	
	Output Indicator 3.1.2: # of What Works Podcast produced and broadcast	0	1	0	Search organized other two activities to substitute the podcast. Firstly, a meeting with a US Youth Peace and Security Group that provided both a chance for presenting the tools and advocating with US YPS supporters and policy makers. In September 2021, Search also organized an informal meeting between some young women peace mediators involved in the project and members of FEMWISE.
Output 3.2	Output Indicator 3.2.1: # of policy briefs on participation of women & youth in peace processes produced	0	2	2	
	Output Indicator 3.2.2: # of good guidance materials produced for peace mediators	0	2	2	

II. Lines of inquiry

CRITERION/ ASPECT	MAIN LINE OF INQUIRY	SUB-LINE OF INQUIRY
Relevance	1. To what extent did the intervention's objectives and design respond to the young women's needs and priorities regarding their role in peace and security matters in South Sudan?	1.1. Did the project target the relevant population to achieve its goal? 1.2. Were the activities relevant to the needs of young women? 1.3. To what extent was the project able to adapt to the changing context to stay relevant? 1.5. Was the project based on an analysis of the needs of young women?
Effectiveness	2. To what extent have the intended projects' expected results been achieved against the selected indicators? Which are the changes achieved within the project?	2.1. What activities and strategies were most effective in achieving results? 2.2. What activities and strategies were least effective in achieving outcomes? 2.3. Did the project encounter challenges? How were they addressed? 2.4. Were the monitoring tools developed appropriate to understand progress against outcomes? 2.5. Did the project achieve its intended outcomes?
Impact	3. What changes, intended and unintended, positive and negative, have occurred in the target locations attributed to the project activities? How have these evolved?	3.1. To what extent have young women played a substantive role in the ongoing peace efforts in South Sudan? 3.2 What is the perception of the community members towards young women involvement in the peace processes? 3.3 How have the young and older women positively collaborated in the peace initiatives across South Sudan regarding the revitalized peace agreement? 3.4 To what extent have the young women been able to adequately utilize the available platforms such as the radio, social media and through the outreach campaigns to advance their issues and concerns about the current peace processes? 3.5. Did the project achieve any unintended outcomes (both positive and negative)?

CRITERION/ ASPECT	MAIN LINE OF INQUIRY	SUB-LINE OF INQUIRY
Efficiency	4. Has the project been able to establish efficient relations among CSOs to achieve its key objectives?	4.1. Have the CSOs worked collaboratively with the young women networks/youth groups to ensure equal participation in the peace processes?
		4.2. What is the networking and/or coordination level achieved by the project with its stakeholders?
		4.3 Has the project been able to create adequate advocacy platform (s) for the young women towards advancing their equal participation in peace efforts in South Sudan?
Sustainability	5. To what extent are the achieved results likely to be sustained after the project close out?	5.1 To what extent can beneficiaries make use of skills and knowledge acquired during the project?
		5.2 What enables or impedes the sustainability of results?
		5.3. What changes has the project brought about policies (at national or subnational level)?
		5.4. To what extent will collaborative platforms or mechanisms set up by the project continue to exist after its completion?
Recommendations and lessons learned	6. Which are the critical lessons learned to draw concerning the project's activities and results?	6.1. What are the main recommendations to inform future peacebuilding programming with particular focus on young women and youth in South Sudan?
		6.2. What worked and what didn't and why?