



A project in cooperation with UISG and USG,
together with the local church

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 DEVELOPMENT 2021



Together for a Future of Hope
and Reconciliation in South Sudan





Solidarity is a project of UISG and USG, both the female and male Unions of Superiors General, initiated at the request of the Conference of Bishops of Sudan, supported by over 260 congregations, private donors and international agencies with funding, personnel, and expertise. Together, congregations work in harmony to accompany and empower the people of South Sudan helping to heal the wounds caused by the armed conflict, and walking together towards a better future. In all of our projects and initiatives, we endeavour to prevent gender violence and we are particularly careful to ensure that South Sudanese women and girls have equal access to education and training.

Our projects in South Sudan:



Catholic Health Training Institute (CHTI) in Wau



Solidarity Teacher Training Center (STTC) in Yambio



Sustainable Agricultural Project (SAP) in Riimenze



Pastoral Project based in Juba



Letter from the President



"There is a basic principle, essential for moving towards social friendship and universal brotherhood: to perceive **how much a human being is worth**, how much a person is worth, always and in all circumstances. If everyone is worth so much, it must be said clearly and firmly that the mere fact of having been born in a place with fewer resources or less development does not justify that some people live with less dignity". (Fratelli Tutti, 107)

You are holding in your hands the Solidarity with South Sudan Annual Report, which expresses our commitments to transparency and to keep you up to date with the evolution of our projects. You will find objectives, explanations, figures... but, beyond all this, which is absolutely necessary, we want you to discover our commitment to social friendship and universal fraternity, as described by Pope Francis in his encyclical "Fratelli Tutti".

We believe in **the infinite value of each human being**, and that is why this joint adventure of the two Unions of Superiors General was born.

I invite you to read the report with attention, but I also invite you to **REGARD** with affection the faces in the photos that you will find in the following pages, faces that hide stories that maybe we will never know, but which we recognise as holy stories, faces of real people whose lives have been positively impacted by Solidarity with South Sudan.

"No one can experience the true beauty of life without relating to others, without having real faces to love" as Pope Francis wrote in "Fratelli tutti". And he adds: "Here is a secret of true human existence, because life exists where there is bonding, communion, fraternity" (87).

Thank you to being a part of Solidarity with South Sudan. Thanks for your support and solidarity for another year. We are sure that, with you, "we are thinking and creating an open world" (Fratelli tutti).

May God bless you
Br. Emili Turù Rofes, FMS



Letter from the Executive Director

The theme of the latest Assembly of Solidarity members in South Sudan was '**Torch Bearers**'. This was, in part, inspired by the Tokyo Olympics, which took place shortly afterwards, with its motto 'Hope lights our way'. Another reason for choosing this theme was the realization that of the twenty members who are currently in South Sudan, only eight participated in the last Assembly held in 2019. The others are relatively new to the country and to Solidarity.

Each new member joining Solidarity is asked to take the torch passed on by previous members and to make it their own in ways that both suit their gifts and the evolving nature of our project. Having such a turnover in personnel has some drawbacks but it very concretely shows that religious congregations continue to support our project by giving valued personnel to be part of this endeavour. After thirteen years of presence in South Sudan, Solidarity is no longer in the pioneering phase of setting up structures in a newly independent State. We are now firmly in the phase of consolidation, deepening our presence before handing over the torch at some future date to those who will succeed us, and eventually to the local Church.

During the Assembly, members shared insights around the theme of 'carrying the torch' of Solidarity and what it meant for them. Here are some of their comments:

- Joining Solidarity was 'a gift of God'.....
- my passion is being fulfilled and I am multiplying my passion through teaching and training.'
- 'A challenge to teach people who have a very poor educational foundation... and I love it.'
- My passion has never died. Every time I was down I was encouraged in something new, each individual member doing something different.'
- The first group were Solidarity and now I am Solidarity.'
- It has given me a different identity and now I am something more."
- I am in the right place'.
- 'My companions were given to me, I did not choose them and they did not choose me'.
- 'Being together, we draw strength, we share experiences, and we are encouraged. If I am right, it does not mean that you are wrong.'
- 'Our presence, our community witness speaks for itself.'



We would like to thank all those congregations who have given, and continue to give, valued members to this common project. We carry the torch for you and for ourselves. But principally, we carry it for those whom we serve.

Fr. Jim Greene, Mafr (in the picture with all the Solidarity members during the last Assembly in South Sudan)





Solidarity Teachers Training Centre



The Centre is now recognized in South Sudan as a leading provider of primary teacher training. The programs are delivered at the Yambio campus or through distance learning conducted in other regions (in-service), to provide additional educational opportunities for the displaced people in the country. Taking into account the precarious situation and the difficulties of moving around many areas of the country, the availability of the programs via distance learning programs is of fundamental importance.

Since 2008, 734 teachers have graduated from in-service and pre-service programs, and 72% of them are currently working in education in their communities. The percentage of the total graduate body is 17% female, an important figure considering that female literacy is very low in South Sudan. Every effort is being made to increase female intake in STTC. This August, out of a total of 44 students enrolled in Level 1, 16 are women.

Today, the objectives of the project are to prepare competent, highly motivated and effective teachers, to equip student teachers with skills for peace building, respectful dialogue, and conflict resolution in order to face current challenges, to instill in the student teachers, professional ethics and to develop in them a curious and critical mind and to enhance the educational opportunities for women and girls in South Sudan. In addition, we are arranging new workshops, with special attention on Methodology and planning, as required by the new National Curriculum. After these specific workshops, the students are going to visit the teachers at their school to support them to put into practice what they learned with the Solidarity team.

Despite the closure of the STTC imposed by Covid-19, our students have maintained contact with their teacher trainers, and continued to study and practice in their communities. Each year, two STTC graduates are selected for full scholarship in order to receive further training at Tangaza University College of Nairobi, Kenya. Upon the completion of the degrees, students will work for a minimum of four years at the STTC as teachers to contribute to the sustainability of the project.





Catholic Health Training Institute



The Institute is a recognized institute in South Sudan for the training of diploma level nurses and midwives, according to the curricula developed by the Ministry of Health and Higher Education.

To date, the CHTI has produced 181 registered nurses and 87 midwives, each trained for three years, for a total of 268 graduates. Of these, 34% are women, but Solidarity is working to increase the percentage of women every year. 44% of the current student body are women which is up from 20% in 2010.

In 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the CHTI was unable to carry out its ordinary activities in presence from March to October. For this reason, the 41 students (25 nurses and 16 midwives), who enrolled in 2018 and should have graduated in 2020, have their graduation delayed in June 2021. Fortunately, on 5 October 2020, the CHTI was able to reopen its doors to students. 2021 started with 135 students from five different regions.

Every year, two graduates are sent to study for a master's degree. At the end of their studies, they will join the CHTI team as tutors. Currently 6 graduates at CHTI are studying in Kenya.

With regard to the dramatic situation of the health system in southern Sudan, training nurses and midwives is a great contribution to the building up of a healthier future for South Sudanese, for their empowerment, for the physical and cultural wellbeing of women, children and their whole families.





Pastoral project



Peace building, reconciliation, trauma healing, community building, and leadership training for the animation of small Christian communities (SCC) toward the building up of the reign of God are fundamental components of all Solidarity pastoral teams, which are based in the appropriately named "Good Shepherd Peace Centre" (GSPC), in Kit.

The international and inter-congregational team is committed to organizing and implementing pastoral programs aimed at empowering South Sudanese people to build a more just and peaceful society. Among its activities, the Centre offers retreats, on-going formation for priests, and training for catechists. Special attention is paid to the family, women, young people and children.

The Solidarity Pastoral Team works closely with the National South Sudanese Pastoral Coordinator in providing a series of bi-annual workshops designed to develop the skills of the diocesan Pastoral Directors and their teams. The Team is involved in the ongoing formation of pastoral workers, priests, and religious and lay women and men, in line with the national pastoral priorities.

Since 2008, many workshops were conducted. Some numbers

- o Trauma healing workshops: 2135 participants
- o Peace-building workshops: 260 participants
- o Supporting women & empowerment workshops: 1500 participants
- o Formation of small Christian communities: 2294 participants

One member of the pastoral team is present as chaplain in the 'Protection of Civilians (POC) camp in Malakal, an area that has experienced great instability recently.





Solidarity Agricultural Project



The primary aim of this project is to educate and form local farmers, both women and men, in the practice of new sustainable farming techniques. This involves the introduction of new crops, promoting animal husbandry. All this is in view of establishing a more balanced and healthy diet. Over time, the project has become highly beneficial to the local population, as it provides work close to home, and income. Tillage and livestock machinery has been introduced, greatly assisting the local population. Today Solidarity accompanies farmer groups in six villages. The number of beneficiaries reached so far by SAP-R is 891 households (HH), of which 486 are male / 406 are female.

The orientation of the farm is that of teaching and demonstrating crop cultivation and animal husbandry rather than cultivating large tracts of land for commercial use. This year cultivation was reduced to 52 Feddan (about 25 hectares). The main crops are maize, groundnuts, beans and cassava. The main priority has been on the production and distribution of pigs, chickens and ducks to local households. This has proven very popular.

Despite the difficulties due to Covid-19 and its impact on the economy, this centre managed to achieve remarkable results in 2020:

- 66 agricultural workshops carried out in the 6 villages involved. 36% were aimed at women's groups.
- 186 pigs were distributed to 93 households and separately, 264 chicken to 88 families;
- more than 62 tons were harvested;
- the seminars organised, including distance learning, trained 350 new farmers;
- 181 farmers bought livestock to expand their businesses;
- 400 families have improved their household income thanks to the implementation of better farming practices acquired during the trainings;
- a new solar-powered well and water tanks were built to ensure a reliable water supply.

In addition, since 2017, Sap-R has conducted 29 radio talk shows to raise awareness and sensitise wider communities with regard of sustainable agriculture and better nutrition. In 2020, 202 women attended courses on nutrition, with a focus on children's nutrition. The objective is to educate women in the practice of better nutrition by identifying the basic nutrients required by the body for normal functioning.



Solidarity Agricultural Project - Additional mission



Moreover, since 2016 a nursery school is available in Riimenze to support working women. Currently 210 children are enrolled. The school has four teachers who take care of four classes: baby (2 classes), middle and high school.

Another Solidarity initiative is in the area of supporting local rural education through the offering of kindergarten services and supporting the local primary school in an area that is still recovering from the displacement of people due to fighting and insecurity.

Finally, Sap-R is assisting 100 displaced elderly people with monthly food and repairs to their homes, a much-needed service for these people on whom the pandemic has had the greatest impact.





THE GLOBAL GOALS

IN 2015, WORLD LEADERS AGREED TO 17 GLOBAL GOALS, UNIVERSALLY CALLED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS).

THESE GOALS HAVE THE POWER TO CREATE A BETTER WORLD BY 2030, BY ENDING POVERTY, FIGHTING INEQUALITY AND ADDRESSING THE URGENCY OF CLIMATE CHANGE. GUIDED BY THE GOALS, IT IS NOW UP TO ALL OF US, GOVERNMENTS, BUSINESSES, CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR EVERYONE.

FOLLOWING THE IMPACT OF THE SOLIDARITY PROJECTS, TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE IN SOUTH SUDAN:



STTC ENSURES INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.



- TARGET 4.3: EQUAL ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION
- TARGET 4.4: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH RELEVANT SKILLS FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS
- TARGET 4.5: ELIMINATE ALL DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION
- TARGET 4.7: EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

STTC ACHIEVES GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

TARGET 5.1: END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS





CHTI ENSURES HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTES WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES.

TARGET 3.1: REDUCE MATERNAL MORTALITY

TARGET 3.C: INCREASE HEALTH FINANCING AND SUPPORT THE HEALTH WORKFORCE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



CHTI ENSURES INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

TARGET 4.3: EQUAL ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION

TARGET 4.4: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH RELEVANT SKILLS FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS

TARGET 4.5: ELIMINATE ALL DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION

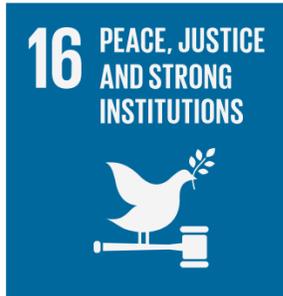
TARGET 4.7: EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP



CHTI ACHIEVES GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

TARGET 5.1: END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

TARGET 5.6: UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS



THE PASTORAL TEAM PROMOTES PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL , AND BUILD EFFECTIVE ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS.

TARGET 16.1: REDUCE VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE





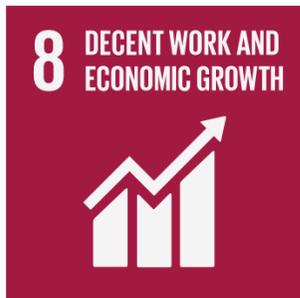
Solidarity Agricultural Project



THE AIM IS TO END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



- TARGET 2.1: UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO SAFE AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD
- TARGET 2.2: END ALL FORMS OF MALNUTRITION
- TARGET 2.3: DOUBLE THE PRODUCTIVITY AND INCOMES OF SMALL-SCALE FOOD PRODUCERS
- TARGET 2.4: SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION AND RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES



WE PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL.

- TARGET 8.3: PROMOTE POLICIES TO SUPPORT JOB CREATION AND GROWING ENTERPRISES
- TARGET 8.4: IMPROVE RESOURCE EFFICIENCY IN CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS.

- TARGET 15.4: ENSURE CONSERVATION OF MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS
- TARGET 15.A: INCREASE FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE ECOSYSTEM AND BIODIVERSITY

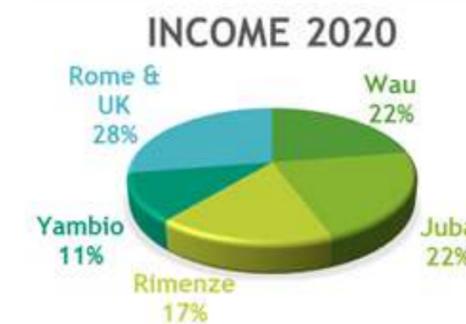


2020 Financial Statement

As each year, Solidarity's Financial Statements have been reviewed by external auditors, which certified the correctness of our data, in according with national regulations.

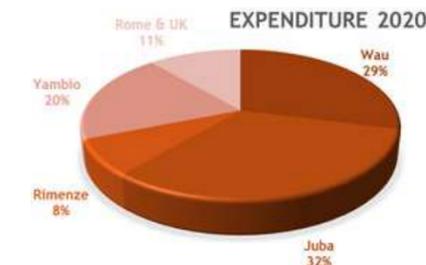
Thanks to the donations and the grants received in 2020, Solidarity has been able to reach extraordinary results, which enabled us to realize some of the targets included in our Strategic Plan.

TOTAL INCOME 2020					
Wau	Juba	Rimenze	Yambio	Rome & UK	Total
\$ 896.804,67	\$ 871.255,84	\$ 667.789,29	\$ 454.443,22	\$ 1.097.243,98	\$ 3.987.536,99



One of the targets of each project is to keep costs under control, endeavouring to reduce them year after year. In 2020, we were able to realize some cost savings, allowing us to redirect more funds to the projects and emergent situations.

2020 TOTAL EXPENDITURE					
Wau	Juba	Rimenze	Yambio	Rome & UK	Total
\$ 789.399,31	\$ 876.081,08	\$ 211.810,98	\$ 537.418,13	\$ 308.802,00	\$ 2.723.511,51



Total 2020	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3.987.536,99
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 2.723.511,51
Balance	\$ 1.264.025,49



Mission Promoter



We are glad to announce you that Fr. David Gentry Akin has been appointed as the Solidarity Mission Promoter.

Father David will be the liaison person between the Solidarity with South Sudan Board and Executive Director and the various religious congregations and Embassies to the Holy See located in Rome. His duty is to promote the Vision and Mission of Solidarity with South Sudan and to foster and maintain relationships with Solidarity member congregations and various international Church and public agencies.

Father Dave is a priest of the diocese of Stockton in California, USA. He has served as a professor of theology, working primarily with undergraduate students, for the past 27 years. He earned a masters in theology from the University of Notre Dame (USA) and the pontifical licentiate and doctorate in theology from the Catholic University of Leuven (Louvain) in Belgium. Dave has worked as an elementary and secondary school teacher, as well as in hospital chaplaincy and parish ministry. He is taking on a new role as Mission Promoter, an area in which he has not previously ministered, and so he realizes that he has a lot to learn! He looks forward to becoming acquainted with all of the wonderful people associated with Solidarity with South Sudan, and to doing his very best to make a substantial contribution to our mission.

Welcome David!



The greatest achievement of Solidarity lies in seeking to live in our name - Solidarity - through accompaniment of the people of South Sudan.

The impact of Solidarity is clearly visible at the level of individuals. Over the course of their training, students and participants in the workshops learned not only to become good teachers, farmers, catechists, nurses and midwives, but also learnt life skills that support them in their professional, personal and family. Students acknowledge having learned a lot from Solidarity Community members such as being committed, patient, cooperative, and punctual. For many of students, it was the first time they had a feeling of security, not having to worry what they would eat the next day and what would happen next.

Considering the circumstances under which Solidarity has been operating more than a decade, the projects have performed remarkably over the last 13 years. In one of the most fragile regions in the world, Solidarity has stepped in to accompany the people of South Sudan.

A representative of the Diocese of Tombura, Yambio said: "The highest award we can give Solidarity, was that they never departed. They decided to stay and showed their commitment and sacrifice, putting into action the gospel values Solidarity by which they claim to live".

We could reach these results only thanks to your support!

So, thanks to the congregations, donor agencies, and individuals who are supporting the Solidarity mission.





How to support us

DONATIONS

ONLINE DONATIONS can be made through our website: please link to www.solidarityssudan.org

DETAILS FOR BANK TRANSFERS

Donations in EUROS



Account Name/Cheques payable to:
Solidarity Projects Italy ONLUS - ETS
Postal Address: *P.zza Ponte S. Angelo 28, 00186 Roma (Italia)*
Account Number: 1000/00066112
Bank Name: Banca Intesa SanPaolo
Bank Address: Piazza Paolo Ferrari 10, 20121 Milano (Italia)
Branch No.: 05000
IBAN: IT22 P030 6909 6061 0000 0066 112
BIC/SWIFT: BCITITMM

Donations in GBP

Account Name/Cheque payable to:
Solidarity Projects Ltd.
Postal Address: UHY, 2B Vantage Park, Washingley Road,
Huntingdon, PE29 6SR. UK
Bank Name: Allied Irish Bank (GB)
Bank Address: AIB, Birmingham City Office, 61 Temple Row,
Birmingham, B2 5LT
Sort Code: 23 83 93
Account No: 02034016 | BIC/ SWIFT: AIBKGB2L
IBAN: GB79 AIBK 238393 02034016

Donations in US Dollars



Account Name/Checks payable to:
Solidarity Projects Italy ONLUS - ETS
Postal Address: *P.zza Ponte S. Angelo 28, 00186 Roma (Italia)*
Account Number: 1610/09358110
Bank Name: Banca Intesa SanPaolo
Bank Address: Piazza Paolo Ferrari 10, Milano 20121
Branch No.: 05000
IBAN: IT28 K030 6909 6061 6100 9358 110
BIC/SWIFT: BCITITMM

Donations in US Dollars for American Citizens

Tax-deductible donations may be made **online** through
<https://www.solidarityfriends.org/donate/>
For **bank transfers** please contact jmumaw.solidarity@gmail.com

Friends in Solidarity is the US partner to *Solidarity with South Sudan* and a 501(c) 3 non profit organization. Official receipt for tax purposes will be sent from Friends in Solidarity.

See <https://www.solidarityfriends.org> for more details.

DETAILS FOR CHEQUES

Cheques in Euros must be headed to Solidarity Projects Italy ONLUS - ETS
and sent to Solidarity Projects Italy ONLUS - ETS *Piazza di Ponte S. Angelo 28, 00186 Roma - Italia*

Cheques in GBP must be headed to Solidarity Projects Ltd
and sent to Solidarity Projects Ltd *c/o UHY Hacker Young 2B Vantage Park, Washingley Road, Huntingdon, PE29 6SR, Cambridgeshire UK*

Cheques in Us Dollars must be headed to Solidarity Projects Italy ONLUS - ETS
and sent to Solidarity Projects Italy ONLUS - ETS *Piazza di Ponte S. Angelo 28, 00186 Roma - Italia*

For American citizens in USA only: the cheques in US Dollars must be made payable to *Friends in Solidarity, Inc* and sent to:
8737 Colesville Road, Suite 610, Silver Spring, MD 20910, USA. Please contact jmumaw.solidarity@gmail.com in order to obtain tax deduction.

Many thanks!



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WEBSITE

www.solidarityssudan.org

Then, you can select your language
among English, Spanish, French or
Italian