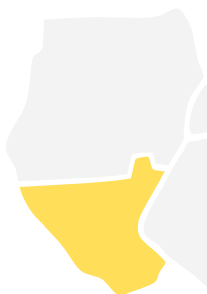


SOUTH SUDAN*



From displacement to decision-making: Empowering internally displaced South Sudanese women to effectively participate and lead in political processes

DURATION: 02/2025 – 02/2027

Despite making up 65% of the Internally Displaced People (IDP) population, women's representation in camp leadership remains disproportionately low, with 14% of women in Juba's zonal committees and 17% in Wau IDP site management. Traditional male-dominated governance systems reinforce restrictive social norms, often excluding women from leadership. Meetings held at inappropriate times and locations further combined with social stigma, family resistance, and gender-based violence discourage participation. Displacement, trauma, economic hardship, low literacy, and mobility issues, make political engagement even harder. Additionally, weak links between camp and local governance structures limit IDP women's influence in broader political processes. These overlapping challenges highlight the urgent need for inclusive policies and targeted support to empower displaced women as political actors.

This project aims to challenge cultural barriers, promote inclusive leadership, and ensure displaced women play a central role in shaping decisions that affect their lives. The project will strengthen the visibility, voice, and agency of IDP women within governance structures. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Transforming social norms towards IDP women's political leadership in Juba and Wau counties, creating an enabling environment for their participation in decision-making.



Establishing feminist networks and movements of IDP women leaders to effectively advocate for women's political participation and build linkages with broader women's movements.



Building coalitions with IDP women leaders who actively engage in political processes and demonstrate increased influence at both camp and local government levels.



KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

500

with increased understanding of women's political leadership through public discourse events

COMMUNITY
MEMBERS

700

reached by or participated in advocacy and campaign activities to support women's political participation and challenge social norms

STAKEHOLDERS

200

trained to implement community level HeforShe action plans

MALE
CHAMPIONS

10

with strengthened capacities to engage and advocate for women's political participation

WOMEN'S
RIGHTS
ORGANIZATIONS

PARTNERSHIPS



Consortium with Women Peace Force (WPF)

Hope Africa South Sudan (HASS)

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Host weekly community dialogues, prioritizing the inclusion of women-headed households, women with disabilities, elderly women and young mothers; using participatory methods such as storytelling, role-play, and community theater.
- ▶ Organize bi-weekly dialogues with traditional leaders and church-based groups to reinforce cultural acceptance and community support for women's leadership.
- ▶ Launch Leadership Academies to build the political and civic capacities of emerging IDP women leaders.
- ▶ Roll out the "Champions Program" engaging male allies including religious leaders and cattle camp leaders to advocate for gender equality and women's leadership.
- ▶ Train site committees and camp management to strengthen institutional support for women's participation in governance.



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