

**CHRIST COMPASSION SERVICE ORGANIZATION
(CCSO)**



CONCEPT PAPER

Mathew 9:35-36.

Jesus went through all towns and villages, teaching in their Synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds he has compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a Shepherd.

**Western Lakes State
South Sudan**

1. Introduction

This concept paper of Christ Compassion Service Organization (CCSO) describes the concerns of the Southern Sudanese people who believe in their potential to overcome the various challenges facing them. The tragic circumstances they find themselves in and the challenges facing them were caused by years of war, oppressive exploitation and human rights abuses.

The civil war, which went on for a long time made the citizens of South Sudan increasingly vulnerable to poverty and has led to continuous aid-dependence among Sudanese communities. This oppression denied people the empowerment and diversification of agricultural skills and appropriate technologies among others in Sudanese communities. The situation was further aggravated by the unfair distribution of the national resources and the socio-economic activities across the country by the oppressive Government that was in power before the South Sudan ceded from Sudan.

The attainment of independence ushered in a new dawn in South Sudan. The formation of the Government of South Sudan has brought hope to the South Sudanese nationals both within and in the Diaspora. This joy for the South Sudanese nationals is however threatened by the current war being fought between the government and the rebels. A quick and lasting solution needs to be found if South Sudan is to continue enjoying the fruits of its new independence. It is the responsibility of all South Sudanese to contribute to the attainment of lasting peace and tranquillity in the country.

2. Guiding Bible Verse

The guiding verse that led to the formation of CCSO is the compassion of Jesus Christ as captured in Mathew 9:35-36. *“Jesus went through all towns and villages, teaching in their Synagogues, preaching the Good News of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds he has compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a Shepherd”.*

3. Background

Even with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan now functional there are still a lot of challenges to be overcome. The government is still at its infancy and it will take time for government services to effectively reach all citizens on the ground. Therefore to supplement the efforts of the government non governmental organizations (NGOs) and other non state actors will still play important roles in delivering services to the citizens.

It is against this that brought about formation of Christ Compassion Service Organization (CCSO). The idea to form CCSO came from Bishop Maker in Pacong in Rumbek East County. After he shared the idea with other people of Western Lakes State and in the Diaspora they agreed that it was necessary to form an indigenous NGO to act as a vehicle for development in Western lakes State and South Sudan. Therefore CCSO will support the initiatives already being undertaken by the local community and other organizations in the Western Lakes State and beyond in other parts of South Sudan.

The founders of CCSO have already held discussions with the county authorities, community leaders and other stakeholders. They have welcomed the idea to form CCSO and are willing to partner together with CCSO to enhance socio-economic development of South Sudan in General and Western Lakes State in particular.

CCSO will act as a vehicle for mobilizing and motivating the local communities to use their own strengths to address problems facing them and thereby make them become self-reliant. CCSO believes that such an approach would make them move away from aid dependence and move towards development of sustainable livelihoods, especially among vulnerable poor groups.

Hence, to start with, CCSO thought of organizing itself to enable its members to transfer necessary skills and agricultural-based appropriate technologies to communities and to promote adoption of positive changes leading to sustainable development. CCSO will also actively engage itself in the promotion of peace and reconciliation in an effort to eliminate inter-ethnic conflicts within South Sudan. CCSO has articulated its vision and mission as follows.

3. Vision, Mission, Principles and Core Values of CCSO:

CCSO is an Indigenous South Sudanese Non-Governmental Organization. It is a non-profit organization committed to working with the poor and vulnerable communities to enable them to realize sustainable livelihoods by restoring their dignity and self-respect and to promote self-reliance.

Vision Statement of CCSO

To realize democratic, peaceful and progressive South Sudan wherein all people have equal and just opportunities to realize all-round human development without any form of discrimination.

Mission Statement of CCSO

The CCSO mission statement is "To alleviate poverty among vulnerable communities in South Sudan and to make them self-reliant through:

- Mobilising and motivating people and enhancing their organizational capacity
- Ensuring food security for vulnerable household by enhancing their technical skills and transfer of appropriate agricultural technologies.
- Restoring values of dignity, self-respect and righteousness by supporting churches in their evangelization programs.
- Ensuring healthy households through hygiene and sanitation awareness
- Prevention of Water-borne diseases through provision safe drinking water
- Enhancing disaster preparedness of vulnerable communities.
- Promoting peace and reconciliation among the communities of South Sudan

Principles and Core Values of CCSO:

The vision and mission of CCSO are founded on a strong values, principles and beliefs held by its founding members. These values, principles and beliefs are as follows:

(a) Equality

CCSO intends to promote a society in which everyone is treated equally without any discrimination on grounds of ethnicity, age, religion or disability.

(b) Transparency and Accountability

CCSO believes in a society wherein people conduct themselves in a transparent, honest, straightforward and truthful way to ensure accountability. To this extent, CCSO will incorporate these values in its own functioning and will operate in a transparent manner and will be totally accountable to the community with which it works and to all other stakeholders.

(c) Grassroots participation

CCSO shall facilitate promotion of a society wherein the values of dignity and self-respect of the people are restored. CCSO will attain this by encouraging community participation and involvement of all people at the grassroots level in the decision-making processes.

(d) Indigenous wisdom

CCSO believes that the local people, although they may be vulnerable due to loss of some livelihood assets, have very valuable experience and wisdom that needs to be recognised and complemented to further enhance their use. The existing skills and technologies could be mobilised and used as a base for any further sustainable development people may think to be disseminated or transferred through the community members

4. Geographical Focus:

The vision and mission of CCSO is broader than its ability to address the sectoral as well as geographical scope of South Sudan. Therefore, in the initial stages, CCSO shall focus its work in Western Lakes State of South Sudan. Gradually CCSO will expand its operations to other parts of South Sudan

In the immediate future CCSO intends carry out situational assessments in Western Lakes State to understand how people are coping with their problems and needs. This will help CCSO to understand how to complement people's efforts so that their efforts to becoming self-reliant are not undermined. CCSO also plans to undertake similar assessments in other parts of South Sudan in the future.

5. Skills and Interests of CCSO.

CCSO address poverty alleviation through facilitating people's own efforts by adopting positive change based on the sustainable development through use of local resources and addresses the self-help coping mechanism. CCSO will promote agricultural based development in order to ensure mobilisation of social and economic and human resources to empower skilful people among community members. CCSO is interested in promoting practices such as irrigation practices, use of draught animals in agriculture, rain and flood water conservation for sustainable agriculture, agro-business skill, sustainability of nutritional improvements, crop and appropriate

agricultural technologies diversification, environment protection, and artisans work and adult literacy among others.

6. Strategic Objectives of CCSO.

- To facilitate community organization and mobilization to empower people and enable them to work for promotion of peace and harmony essential for sustainable development.
- To facilitate the participation of all community members in their own development processes without any forms of discrimination.
- To increase agricultural food production through enhancement of appropriate technologies among the farmer group to promote sustainable agricultural development.
- To build capacity of agro-business groups among other traders to ensure processing and marketing of agricultural products and increase availability of agricultural equipment, tools and materials and other goods on demand in local market.
- To encourage and persuade community to contribute to success of education of children and adult literacy to promote empowerment and self-reliance.
- To promote health status at household level by creating awareness on proper hygiene, sanitation practices, HIV/AIDS.
- To prevent outbreak of waterborne diseases through provision of safe drinking water.
- To facilitate and encourage the community to learn the gospel through evangelism.
- To promote peace and reconciliation among the different communities of South Sudan.
- To improve food security within the communities of South Sudan.
- To promote the education and welfare of the girl child.

7. THE CCSO ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

CCSO operates with a clear governance and operational structure that includes:

1. The Board of Trustees
2. Executive Director
3. Management Committee

8. CALL TO ACTION

CCSO invites partnerships with like minded organizations, donors and stakeholders to collaborate on impactful programs in the community. By working together we can protect lives, promote peace and build a resilient South Sudan where communities thrive in dignity and self-reliance