

EDC IN SOUTH SUDAN

EDC has been a partner to South Sudanese communities for **more than 20 years**, supporting locally-led social and economic development with evidence-based programming that helps learners, families, and the nation to thrive.



USAID YOUTH EMPOWERMENT ACTIVITY SOUTH SUDAN (YEA) (2022 - 2026)

YEA provided **20,000 youth aged 15 to 29 (nearly 60% young women)** with essential skills in functional literacy, numeracy, entrepreneurship, and livelihoods; offered critical information on health; and created opportunities for young people to engage in social cohesion and community service. Led by EDC in partnership with Nile Hope, Women Advancement Organization, and Mobile Humanitarian Aid, **YEA delivered services in six states and thirteen counties through a network of 90 youth-led and youth-serving organizations**, whose capacity to implement sustainable high quality programming was also strengthened.

YEA engaged **3,000 community-based trainers** with deep local knowledge and credibility, and offered two learning pathways. One provided foundational learning to help youth with little to no formal education re-enter school, access technical training, or improve livelihoods.

The second supported youth who had already had some schooling, offering training to help them transition into waged or self-employment. Climate-smart approaches equipped youth with knowledge of eco-friendly business practices, resource conservation, and employment strategies for a resilient, climate-adaptive South Sudan. **YEA curriculum and materials were aligned with and validated by the MoGEI.**

YEA's Youth Corps service model fostered peer support and established a national network of youth leaders. Non-violent advocacy training and civic engagement opportunities empowered youth to address personal and community challenges. The Youth Corps model provided a unifying framework and fostered a sense of belonging, reshaping perceptions of young people within communities and among youth themselves.



YEA demonstrated unprecedented reach, scalability, and efficiency.

Through partnerships with community-based associations, the program ensured local ownership, contextual relevance, and sustainability, maximizing impact while supporting transition away from dependence on humanitarian aid. YEA strengthened local engagement, enhanced collaboration with government entities, and laid the foundation for more resilient systems.

SOUTH SUDAN DISTANCE LEARNING THROUGH RADIO (2020)

To support the **continuity of education during the COVID-19 pandemic**, EDC supported the MoGEI to present the primary and secondary school curriculum in live broadcasts using a classic radio education format. EDC trained two cohorts of radio instructors on best live radio instructional practices, helping radio teachers to develop confidence in applying more active and engaging evidence-based techniques when developing their programs and supporting the improved quality and uptake of programs by families and communities.

SOUTH SUDAN TEACHER EDUCATION PROJECT (SSTEP) (2011 – 2014)

SSTEP's partnership with the MoGEI worked with **State Ministries, Teacher Training Institutes, County Education Centers in 10 states, and the Curriculum Development Center**. SSTEP supported the development of teacher policies and certification structures; improved education management systems; revision of the unified curriculum and refinement of standards to improve teacher performance; strengthening of teacher support systems; improved gender equity; strengthened systems for production and distribution of learning materials; improved English language skills; improved reading instruction; and expanded training and learning resources.

SOUTH SUDAN INTERACTIVE RADIO INSTRUCTION (SSIRI) (2009 – 2012)

South Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction (SSIRI) used radio-based learning and other technologies to deliver high-quality education programs to teachers, children, youth, and adults. The Learning Village enhanced teaching and learning at the primary level; RABEA (Radio-Based Education for All) provided English language and civic education for youth and adults; and SSIRI delivered a 12-week accelerated in-service teacher training course. SSIRI reached **180,000 school-based learners across South Sudan and trained 2,600 teachers**. RABEA learning groups registered **16,900 youth and adults**, and listener surveys recorded **446,000 additional listeners** benefitting from the open access radio methodology. Grade 2 and 4 **SSIRI learners showed dramatically greater gains in English** and math than those by students not using IRI.

SUDAN RADIO SERVICE-EYE RADIO (SRS) (2003-2012)

SRS provided news, current events, cultural programming, civic education, and peace and development-focused programming to support South Sudan's transition to independence. Beginning with 4 hours of shortwave broadcast, the program built to **24 hours a day of FM broadcast in nine languages** from a dedicated station in Juba, training more than **800 journalists** and producing more than **35,000 hours** of content for its broad and enthusiastic audience.

