

**South Sudan Transition Initiative**  
**OTI Small Grants Program for Southern Sudan**  
*Pact, Inc.*

**Pact/OTI Quarterly Report #1**  
**(June 16-September 30, 2003)**

**Background/Description**

On June 16, 2003 Pact signed Contract No. HDA-D-00-03-00136-00 to implement the USAID Office of Transition Initiatives program entitled “South Sudan Transition Initiative”. This two-year OTI small grants initiative focuses on promoting and supporting good governance, local-level peace initiatives, and the development of civil society. The program will support the transition from a culture of war to one of peace and good governance. Under this goal, there have been three, clearly identified objectives:

- To strengthen key processes, mechanisms, and institutions for responsible governance and civil society development
- To bolster emerging processes, mechanisms, and institutions that promote peace and stability
- To increase access to quality, independent information

**Activities this quarter (non-grant)**

The majority of non-grant making activities for this reporting period were geared to project start-up issues.

*Staffing of key personnel:*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Date of Fielding for Project</b>
Bill Polidoro	Program Director	June 16, 2003
Luca Venza	Grants Manager	July 19, 2003
Fred LeGregam	Logistics Coordinator	June 16, 2003
Titus Syengo	Grants Database Manager	June 16, 2003

Equipment purchased for program start-up (this list is draft pending finalization)

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Date of purchase</b>	<b>Cost of purchase</b>
Pact, Inc.	3- IBM Laptop Computers	July 7, 2003	USD \$1,685 each
Pact, Inc.	Polycom Conference Call System	July 7, 2003	USD \$350
Pact, Inc.	2- Docking Stations	July 7, 2003	USD \$300 each
Pact, Inc.	Canon Digital Camera	July 16, 2003	USD \$412

Pact Kenya -OTI	Nissan Terrano II	31st July 2003	Kshs. 3,100,000.00
Pact Kenya -OTI	Thuraya Satellite Phone	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2003	USD \$ 1,372.00
Pact Kenya - OTI	Digital Photocopier	3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2003	Kshs.139,552.65
Pact Kenya - OTI	APC UPS Back Up	4 <sup>th</sup> June 2002	Kshs. 11,682.00
Pact Kenya - OTI	DELL Optiplex Computer	5 <sup>th</sup> June 2003	Kshs.106,200.00
Pact Kenya - OTI	Canon Digital Camera	15 <sup>th</sup> August 2003	Kshs. 27,840.00

#### Office and camp fit-out:

Office renovations in Nairobi were completed on August 18, 2003 and OTI staff moved into the offices immediately. Office includes a large conference room and complete printing and copying facilities.

Office renovations in Lokichoggio were initiated on September 8. Estimated completion date is mid-October.

Construction of Kapoeta – The construction of the camp began in early August with funding from both OTI and SPF. Construction has been broken down into two stages. Stage one consists of 6 tukuls, a kitchen, latrines and a cafeteria. Stage one was complete in September 2003. Stage II is now underway. This stage consists of cement offices, additional tukuls for housing and a storage space. Stage II construction has an estimated completion date of December 31, 2003.

#### Systems and other activities:

- The OTI staff held several meetings with OTI stakeholders, including SPLM institutions, civil society and international and Sudanese NGOs/CBOs. The objectives of these meetings were to identify appropriate entry points for the OTI program and to ensure complementarity and minimize overlap with other USAID and other donor programs.
- The team also worked to establish foundations around technical strategies around health, agriculture, engaging civil society, peace and civic education, women's empowerment/engagement, engaging with youth, and entry points for governance related discussions/activities. Written strategies will be finalized in the second quarter of the program following the strategic plan finalization.
- *Database training:* The Grant Manager and Senior Grants Management Specialist for the Pact/OTI program attended database training in Washington DC on July 10<sup>th</sup>. The Grants Database Manager attended similar training in August after traveling to the US. This orientation to the database provided Pact with the opportunity to review and make comments on format and structure. The OTI

Grants Database Manager has been updating the system as new grants are received, and has sent the most recent backend to OTI.

- *USAID/OTI Strategic Planning Session (September 30-October 3)*  
September 30-October 3 at the Safari Park Hotel in the Winner's Circle room. Pact provided the planning and organizing of the Strategic Planning Session (See attached E for a list of participants). The full Strategic Plan is currently being reviewed and commented on and a final strategy will be complete during the second quarter of the program.

### ***Grants activities in this quarter***

Much of the grant activity during this reporting period focused on setting a foundation for awards around the three result areas. The grant pipeline (by results area) is included as Attachment D. During the period, two awards were finalized.

### **To strengthen key processes, mechanisms, and institutions for responsible governance and civil society development**

With \$500,000 funding from USAID/CCM, the U.S. Government, through the Pact OTI contract, committed to partially funding and assisting in the organization of the All South Convention. This Convention will play a pivotal role in articulating the vision and structures of the emerging governing institutions in southern Sudan. On 29 September, Pact provided the SPLM committee chair (James Wani Igga) with pre-award authorization leading to the initial planning, and ensuring communications through the provision of a satellite phone. The pre-award authorization was signed on September 22nd, the Satellite Telephone phone was procured and delivered to the committee chair on October 3rd. On-going constraints relate to the availability of the planning committee members, who are currently engaged in the broader peace discussions in Naivasha, and the identification of other sources of funding to cover convention costs, estimated to be 1.2 million, continue to hamper rapid implementation of foundation work. In addition, it is increasingly clear that current Pact staff will not be sufficient to cover the gambit of activities required to prepare so skilled consultants will be brought on to help with organization (pending a contract adjustment). The conference is anticipated for the first quarter of 2004. Attendance will be significant (as many as 4,000) with a duration of 3-4 weeks.

### **To bolster emerging processes, mechanisms, and institutions that promote peace and stability**

No grants awarded under this result area this reporting period.

### **To increase access to quality, independent information**

Pact/OTI issued an \$85,000 in-kind equipment grant to the Sudan Development Trust for communications equipment leading to the publication of the first independent newspaper in southern Sudan called the *Sudan Mirror*. The paper printed and distributed 30,000 copies of the first edition on 6 October 2003. The paper has been met with great enthusiasm and initial content reviews are very positive. The paper will continue to print on a fortnightly basis (next printing scheduled for October 17th)--see attachment F for more information.

***Travel this quarter***

Name	Dates of Travel	Location	Purpose
Luca Venza	July 18 <sup>th</sup> (one way)	DC to Nairobi	Fielding to post
Titus Syengo	August 11-25	Nairobi-DC-Nairobi	Database training
Luca Venza	August 22-29	Nairobi to Yei	Field visit to Yei helped establish the foundation of engagement with many key SPLM institutions in Western Equatoria including DATT and women's secretariat in Yei. In addition, all active NGOs in Yei town were visit to feed help inform entry points for OTI programs (see attachment A).
Luca Venza	September 7-13	Nairobi-Rumbek-Nairobi	Field visit to Yei helped establish the foundation of engagement with many key SPLM institutions in Bahr el Ghazal including the SRRC (see attachment B). In addition, a preliminary assessment was done of women's activities in Rumbek town, primarily by the Women of PanDa Hotel, KonyRot Women's group, and Bahr el Ghazal Women's Development Center (see attachment C).
Fred LeGregam	September 28 to October 2	Nairobi-Kapoeta-Nairobi	Logistics trouble-shooting during camp construction

***Grant activities anticipated for the following quarter (see attachment D—weekly tracking chart)***

Since the inception of the program, the OTI team has worked with stakeholders to hammer out appropriate strategies for gender issues, civic education, civil society mapping and empowerment. The ultimate objective is to ensure that appropriate issues relating to each are brought to the national convention and that OTI investments are targeted and results oriented. (We can highlight the strategies we have for each area to date.)

***Regional Level Dialogues***

The following regional dialogues are all planned to take place in November 2003/Early December. They are being planned in partnership with the SPLM Women's Secretariat, Christian Aid and Pact:

- 1) Nuba Regional Women's Conference
- 2) Bahr el Ghazal Regional Women's Conference
- 3) Upper Nile Women's Regional Conference

#### 4) Funj Regional Women's Conference

##### *Networking Organizations*

1) Civil Society Mapping and Mobilization- Pact is engaging with Sudanese NGOs by region to performing comprehensive mapping and networking exercises. To date, ACAD, Vetworks, NRRDO, and ROOF have submitted concepts that will be carried out in the last quarter of 2003.

2) Peace and Civic Education- BYDA has organized a membership of Civic Education implementing agencies to develop sub-national materials around formal and informal sectors for all of south Sudan. Will begin early to mid October and comprehensive funding will follow shortly.

##### *Communications*

1) South Sudan Post- Anticipating the imminent signature of a \$28,000 grant with the Center for Documentation and advocacy for the publication of 2,000 copies of a magazine focused on south Sudan.

##### *Agriculture*

1) Agriculture Policy Workshops- 15 October, enter into initial conversations about funding regional workshops in 5 regions to discuss key points around developing agriculture policy.

##### *Projected travel in coming quarter*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Bill, Fred, Titus	Mid-October	Kapoeta, Rumbek	Site visit and planning, visits to local CSOs to scout potential grants.
Paul, Keer	Late October	Abyei/Aweil	Visit on going activities during Natsios visit.
Luca	Early November	Funj	Visit potential grant sites, especially news-paper and local CSOs. Explore cross border linkages.
Luca and Paul	Mid-November	Nuba	Visit potential grant sites, especially radio and local CSOs. Explore cross border linkages.
Fred	Mid-November	Rumbek	Follow up on camp development
Luca	Early December	Western Equatoria	Follow up with Anne Itto on Ag and Women's research. Visit Wani Igga about Convention.
Bill, Fred	Early December	Ayod	Visit potential camp site and negotiate with officials

**Problems requiring addressing**

None

**Activities Requiring Attention in this quarter**

This quarter, Pact will be submitting a request for additional administrative and technical support for the All South Convention and for the small grants initiative more broadly. This request will include staff, equipment, travel and materials.