

# **Southern Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction**

## **SSIRI**

**Award No. 623-A-00-04-00054-00**

### **Quarterly Report**

**April – June 2007**



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## ACRONYMS

DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
IRI	Interactive Radio Instruction
MoEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
PS101	Professional Studies 101
SSIRI	Southern Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction
TERBIA	Teaching English through Radio-Based Instruction for All
TTI	Teacher Training Institute
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Education Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminals (used for data broadcasts)

**SSIRI**  
**Southern Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction**  
**Quarterly Performance Report**  
**April – June 2007**

*Harnessing the power of radio and other technologies to reach children, youth, and adults with quality education across Southern Sudan and the Three Areas*

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The USAID-funded Southern Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction (SSIRI) Project designs, develops, produces and broadcasts interactive radio instruction programs in cooperation with the Southern Sudanese Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology (MoEST) Department of Alternative Education Systems. SSIRI implements three interrelated, radio-based education programs:

- **Primary Education - The Learning Village** consists of 400 daily half-hour programs in English, local language literacy, mathematics, and life skills for grades 1 to 4.
- **English - Terbia** provides English language instruction to youth and adults while engaging the learners in civic education and health topics. There will be 240 half-hour radio programs from beginning to advanced levels of English.
- **Professional Studies for Teachers** is a radio-based, distance-learning course to improve teaching.

In addition, SSIRI uses other technologies to support teacher education including VSAT/Internet, video, and portable media devices.

This report outlines activities and achievements of SSIRI from April 1 to June 30, 2007. The highlights of the activities completed this quarter include:

- P1-P3 lessons are being broadcast daily to nearly 40,000 children including about 4,000 pupils in the Three Areas
- The English Terbia A (Advanced) programs are being broadcast to 8,000 registered listeners in groups plus an estimated large number of casual listeners.
- The programs are being broadcast on both shortwave and FM through the facilities of Miraya Radio (nationwide) and Radio Bakhita (Juba).
- In order to assess the impact on achievement, SSIRI initiated a testing program with pre-tests being administered to P1 in six locations throughout Southern Sudan and the Three Areas.
- The design of the Primary 4 programs was completed and the master plans were created through lessons 70.
- SSIRI completed the design of the English Terbia B (Basic) program and began to write the scripts.
- Two-thirds or 65 lessons for Primary 3 have been completed.
- SSIRI took the first important step for introducing alternative technologies to support teacher education by installing a VSAT/Internet connection at the Maridi NTTI.

## 1.0 SSIRI PROGRAMS

### **(A) *The Learning Village- Primary Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4***

The heart of SSIRI is *The Learning Village*, a series of 400 half-hour programs targeting primary school grades P1 to P4 – 100 lessons per grade. The programs are based on the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology syllabi and include instruction in English, local language literacy, mathematics, and life skills such as HIV/AIDS, mine risk awareness, and peace education. The radio programs are broadcast in English and require that the classroom teacher translate some of the instruction into the local language. Thus, the teacher is a key partner and both the teacher and the pupils are very active during each lesson. The programs for P1 - P3 are being broadcast to schools in the Three Areas; the three towns of Juba, Malakal, and Wau; and other locations in Southern Sudan. The P4 lessons will be broadcast starting in 2008.

*Broadcasts:* In addition to the broadcasts on shortwave radio, the Project is fortunate to have the lessons broadcast at no charge on Miraya Radio FM, a UN sponsored station. Miraya Radio is establishing a series of repeater stations throughout Southern Sudan and expects to reach 60-70% of the population of Southern Sudan in the second half of 2007. In addition, the *Terbia* programs are being broadcast on Radio Bakhita FM in Juba.

*Primary 3:* During the quarter, the scriptwriting and production teams completed the scripting and recording of lessons through 65. The lessons have been evaluated at SUD Academy, a school for Southern Sudanese in Nairobi, and revised accordingly. The P3 Teacher's Guide was approved by the MoEST and was printed and distributed.

*Primary 4:* The Scope and Sequence for Primary 4 is completed and the scriptwriters have written 70 of the Master Plans, which provide details on the format, content, and activities for each of the lessons. The scriptwriting has been postponed so that all scriptwriters could work on *Terbia B*, which is the highest current priority for SSIRI.

### **(B) TERBIA**

The *Terbia* English language programs provide an excellent opportunity for Sudanese to strengthen their English language skills while, at the same time, to engage in important issues around the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and civic education. For example, the *Terbia* program covers topics such as: Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR), land ownership, democracy, elections, the role of the Sudanese leaders in preserving peace, civil society and the role of civil society organizations in development, and constitutional issues such as the Bill of Rights, succession, and the rights of women. In addition, health segments were added to the *Terbia A* programs including topics such as nutrition, water and sanitation, hygiene, cholera, meningitis, and HIV/AIDS.

*Terbia* targets audiences with two levels of English language skills and abilities - *Terbia A* and *Terbia B*. The 60 programs for the first series of *Terbia A* and *Terbia B* will be completed in 2007, and the second series of another 60 programs each will be completed in 2008. Thus, there will be a total of 240 half-hour radio programs.

1. **Terbia A (Advanced Level)** – targets individuals who already possess some proficiency in English. *Terbia A* is designed so listeners can learn English, civic education, and some health topics either independently or in small groups. SSIRI began broadcasting *Terbia A* in February 2007 and will complete the series in the beginning of July. The series will be broadcast again starting in July. SSIRI is broadcasting *Terbia A* throughout Southern Sudan and the Three Areas.
  
2. **Terbia B (Basic Level)** – targets Sudanese who have little or no proficiency in English. The lessons include English literacy, basic numeracy, and some civics education. These programs are designed for listeners who are able to meet in groups with a facilitator. The broadcast of *Terbia B* is scheduled to begin October 1, 2007. The *Facilitator’s Guide for Terbia B* was written and edited, and is ready for printing. Formative evaluation started in Nairobi in SWAN, Sudan Women’s Association of Nairobi. A facilitator was selected from the former participants of *Terbia A*. Another group in Juba at the Sr. Juveline Accelerated Learning Program center has been identified for formative evaluation as well.

*Broadcasts* - The following table summarizes the *Terbia A* broadcasting schedule:

Radio Service	Schedule	Coverage
Shortwave	Mon-Wed-Fri 9:30 – 10:00 AM	All Southern Sudan and the Three Areas
	Tue-Thurs-Sat 5:00 – 5:30 PM	
Bakhita FM Radio	Mon-Wed-Fri 06:00- 6:30 PM	Juba
Miraya FM Radio	Mon-Wed-Fri 10:00 -10:30 AM	In 2007 coverage will expand to about 60-70% of population of Southern Sudan
	Tue-Thurs-Sat 10:00 -10:30 AM	

### **(C) Professional Studies for Teachers**

Professional Studies for Teachers is a program to support the development of teachers as part of the MoEST in-service teacher education program. The first course is Classroom Management and Administration and is known as PS101. The course has been developed into a twelve week radio program as part of Stage 1 of the in-service program.

The original 10 radio programs were called *Strides into the Future* and were developed by the Sudan Basic Education Program (SBEP). SSIRI then developed an introduction for week 1 and a final program for week 12.

The program relies on broadcasts, a student’s manual, and the support of a Local Instructor. The 12 week course begins and ends with face-to-face meetings with the teachers and a Local Instructor. There is a weekly broadcast during the interim ten weeks. Each week, the teachers complete activities assigned in the Student’s Manual and they try to apply the new skills taught by the radio in their classrooms. The Local Instructor conducts a minimum of two visits to observe classroom teaching practices and to support the teachers with their weekly activities. The SSIRI Outreach Staff will work with County Education Officers to identify and train appropriate Local Instructors to support the delivery of PST.

The target groups include teachers enrolled in the MoEST in-service teacher education program, untrained teachers in SSIRI schools and, possibly, additional untrained teachers

participating in other teacher training programs. The Director for Quality Promotion and Innovation Mr. John Aguek is advocating that the program also be available for student teachers enrolled in pre-service teacher training at the Teacher Training Institutes. Since the programs are designed for teachers to practice new skills in their classrooms, there will be follow up discussions with the Principals and the professional studies lecturers at the Teacher Training Institutes on how the applied component of PST can be fulfilled at the pre-service institutions.

SSIRI will work with the MoEST to design additional PST modules that will result in a more comprehensive radio-supported in-service teacher education program.

During the quarter, the Student's Manual and Training Guide for EDC Outreach Coordinators and MoEST staff were finalized for printing.

#### ***(D) Other Learning Technologies to Support Teacher Education***

***VSAT/Internet:*** The introduction of new technologies into TTIs has started with the successful reestablishment of the VSAT system at the Maridi education offices and the extension of the service to the TTI. In addition, SSIRI has completed the initial procurement process for additional equipment and is waiting for BIS approval to complete the purchase.

SSIRI held a successful meeting at the Maridi NTTI to introduce the new learning technologies. The discussion included an introduction to ICTs and their use in education and future plans for developing and utilizing the Internet to improve the educational program at the TTI. Also, SSIRI facilitated an agreement in Maridi on sharing the running costs of the generator between the TTI, MoEST Curriculum Development Center, and SSIRI.

Next quarter, a VSAT/Internet connection should be established at the Arapi TTI and staff training will begin at both institutions on how to use the Internet to improve the educational program at the TTIs.

***Video for Teacher Training:*** Initial plans were developed for introducing basic video technology to strengthening the teaching of pedagogy. Also, SSIRI revised and shortened the 5-minute basic video of an IRI grade 2 class in SUD Academy. This video shows the highly interactive roles among the radio characters, the classroom teacher, and the pupils. Finally, SSIRI developed plans to produce a 15-minute teacher training video on *The Learning Village* next quarter.

***Other Technologies:*** During the quarter SSIRI assessed a range of Portable Media Players that might be used to distribute audio and video. There is a range of devices using MP3/MP4 such as an iPod or proprietary systems such as MegaVoice devices. The major challenge is to identify cost-effective battery charging systems, not so much for the devices themselves, but for the external speakers with amplifiers.

## **2.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

### ***The Learning Village***

SSIRI Outreach Staff worked closely with County Education Offices to mobilize additional schools and to identify teachers for participation in the *Learning Village*. The following table summarizes the number of new teachers trained for the 2007 school year.

Location/ County	Twic East	Duk	Wau	Malakal	Abyei	Pochalla	Juba	Rumbek	Yambio	Maridi	Kurmuk	Total
<b>Trained Teachers</b>	26	50	92	76	27	26	19	38	48	46	15	<b>463</b>

Of the 463 teachers, 42 teachers were trained in Abyei and Southern Blue Nile (27 Abyei and 15 Kurmuk). Training of teachers in Nuba Mountains will take place in September in time for the beginning of the school year in October.

*Pupils reached* – SSIRI began broadcasting the half-hour daily programs for grades 1-3 in early June 2007. IRI lessons are reaching almost 40,000 children - nearly 36,000 children in Southern Sudan and nearly 4,000 in the Three Areas. The following table summarizes the number of schools, classrooms, and pupils by state or area.

<b>Schools Currently Supported by SSIRI</b>						
No.	Region	Schools	Classrooms	Pupils		
				Boys	Girls	Total
1	Western Equatoria	80	234	4,914	3,276	8,190
2	Jonglei	47	246	14,686	8,032	22,718
4	Western Bahr el Ghazal	75	100	462	308	770
5	Upper Nile	31	31	234	200	434
6	Central Equatoria	25	25	315	210	525
7	Lakes	16	49	1,222	640	1,862
8	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	44	44	1,113	375	1,488
<b>Subtotal Southern Sudan</b>		<b>318</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>22,946</b>	<b>13,041</b>	<b>35,987</b>
9	Abyei	36	84	1,764	1,176	2,940
10	Southern Kordofan	18	18	378	252	630
11	Southern Blue Nile	11	11	231	154	385
<b>Subtotal Three Areas</b>		<b>65</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>2,373</b>	<b>1,582</b>	<b>3,955</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>383</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>25,319</b>	<b>14,623</b>	<b>39,942</b>

*P1 – Pre-testing:* The major activity this quarter was the administration of a pre-test for Primary 1. In order to help determine the impact on achievement of the IRI programs, EDC initiated a new testing program this quarter. EDC decided to begin with Primary 1 and developed tests in local language literacy, English, and mathematics. The test is based on the major objectives of the MoEST primary school syllabus. The same test will be used for both the pre-test near the beginning of the school year and the post-test near the end of the school year.

EDC developed an experimental design consisting of a sample of schools in six locations across Southern Sudan and the Three Areas. Both experimental (radio) schools and control (non-radio schools) were selected. Thirty-seven radio schools and six non-radio schools were identified. Thus, we will be able to measure the extent to which the children in the radio classes attained the objectives of the syllabus. In addition, we will have an indication of how much the children in radio classes learned in comparison to children who did not have the IRI lessons.

The pre-test was administered in the following six locations – Panyagor in Twic East, Maridi in Maridi County, Malakal in Malakal County, Agok in Abyei Area, Kauda in Southern Kordofan, and Malualkon in Aweil East County where *The Learning Village* program is implemented through a partnership with Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (AMURT), an international NGO supporting 53 primary schools. Given that the schools in Kauda will not open until October, SSIRI will have to return there for additional testing.

The following are among activities that were carried out before testing was done this quarter:

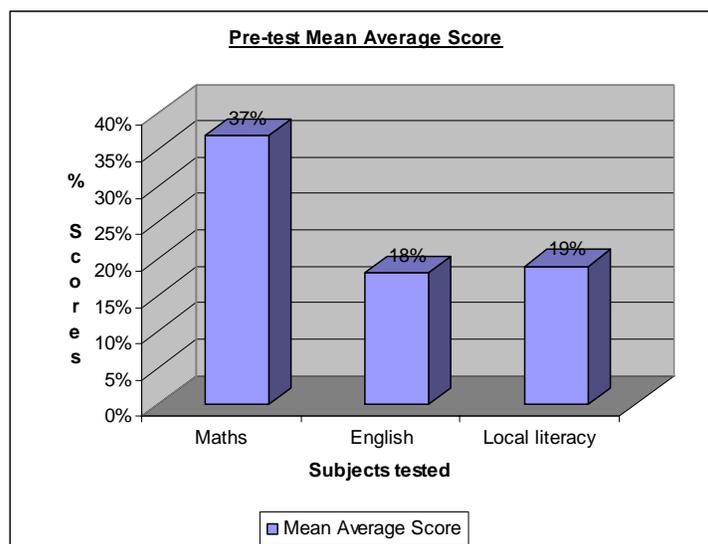
- A learner assessment plan was developed that included the objectives to be tested, the testing design, and a testing schedule.
- The MoEST curriculum objectives were reviewed to ensure that the tests capture the intended learning outcomes
- The tests were developed based on the objectives
- The test administrators were trained to ensure uniformity and consistency in testing
- The testing instruments were pre-tested and revised.

Some of the highlights from the pre-testing data follow below. The assessment team tested 609 learners of whom 279 (44%) were females. A breakdown of the pupils tested by location is given in the following table.

Location	Pupils tested		
	Male	Female	Total
Maridi	50	51	101
Panyagor	97	77	174
Malakal	27	51	78
Malualkon	113	68	181
Kauda	17	13	30
Abyei - Agok	26	19	45
<b>Totals</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>609</b>

The mean average score for each of the subjects is presented in the table below. The pupils did not perform well in English and local literacy, but did better in mathematics. Since the test questions were designed to measure year-end outcomes, it was expected that the students would not do well on the pre-test.

Subject tested	Mean Average Score
Mathematics	37%
English	18%
Local literacy	19%



Following the administration of the posttest, SSIRI will prepare a final report that will include data disaggregated by sex and region.

Forty-one teachers (6 females and 35 males) were interviewed. The majority of the teachers only had primary level (41%) of education as shown in the table below. Overall, the level of education of the teachers was much higher than expected.

Level of Education	Teachers	%
Primary certificate or below	17	41%
Secondary certificate or below	16	39%
Diploma	8	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>100%</b>

The majority of teachers interviewed were local residents (78%); the others had just returned (22%) from neighboring countries where they had been refugees during the long years of civil war. None of the teachers had been internally displaced.

### **TERBIA A**

*Participants* - SSIRI is broadcasting *Terbia A* (Advanced) throughout Southern Sudan and the Three Areas. Although *Terbia A* is designed for open listening, that is, for anyone with a

radio who has a moderate level of English, SSIRI organized listening groups and enrolled 8,246 participants. In addition to the number of enrolled listeners in *Terbia A* as shown in the table below, there is a potentially large, but unknown number of independent listeners. SSIRI will conduct an audience survey in the future to estimate the number of listeners.

<b><i>Terbia A</i> Listeners Enrolled in Listening Groups</b>			
	<b>Listeners</b>		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>Total</b>	8,246	4,568	3,678

### **PMP**

SSIRI revised the M&E/PMP plan with support from Dr. Kathleen Letshabo, EDC’s Regional Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Advisor. The new document merged the three SSIRI components (*Learning Village*, *TERBIA* and *Professional Studies for Teachers*).

In addition, we ensured that the PMP conforms to new USAID indicators for education that were released early this year. The project identified ten indicators, seven of which are the same or similar to the USAID indicators. All of the indicators are listed in the table below alongside the subset of USAID education indicators.

<b>No.</b>	<b>SSIRI Project Indicators</b>	<b>USAID BASIC EDUCATION Indicator framework</b>
		Number of learners enrolled in USG-supported pre-primary schools or equivalent non-school-based settings
1*	Number of primary school students enrolled in SSIRI targeted schools	Number of learners enrolled in USG-supported primary schools or equivalent non-school-based settings
2*	Number of learners enrolled in TERBIA A and TERBIA B programs.	Number of adult learners enrolled in USG-supported schools or equivalent non-school-based settings
		Number of learners enrolled in USG-supported secondary schools or equivalent non-school-based settings
3.	Mean gain scores on local language literacy, numeracy, and English language for <i>The Learning Village</i>	
4.	Mean gain scores on English language and numeracy for English <i>Terbia B</i>	
5*	Number of teachers trained IRI methodologies	Number of teachers/educators trained with USG support
6*	Number of teachers who completed the PST course	Number of teachers/educators trained with USG support
7*	Number of MOE officials and administrators trained in IRI and/or education management	Number of administrators and officials trained
8*	Number of radio programs produced and disseminated through radio	(see next item for relevant indicator)

No.	SSIRI Project Indicators	USAID BASIC EDUCATION Indicator framework
	broadcasts	
9*	Number of teachers guides and other teaching and learning materials provided with USG assistance	Number of textbooks and other teaching and learning materials provided with USG assistance
		Number of Parent-Teacher Association or similar 'school' governance structures supported
		Number of classrooms constructed with USG assistance
		Number of classrooms repaired with USG Assistance
10	Proposed strategy for a radio-based teacher training certification for Southern Sudan	Does your program support education systems/policy reform? If yes, please describe the contributions of your program, including progress against any mission-level outcome or impact indicators.
		Number of laws, policies, regulations, or guidelines developed or modified to improve equitable access to or the quality of education services
		Amount of private financing mobilized with a DCA guarantee

**Note:** \*Asterisk identifies indicators to be reported to USAID as per the PMP.

### ***Database Development***

A preliminary database on participating schools was created and data were entered (schools, teachers, locations, training, radios distributed, etc). In addition, a database for the P1 test data was developed and data entered. A more sophisticated database software program is being adapted from the Zambia IRI project for use in Southern Sudan.

### **3.0 STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING**

Two major capacity building workshops for Outreach Staff were conducted during this reporting period.

The Field Staff Workshop took place in April for seven days to train SSIRI field staff. The last few days were attended by Lucy Kithome, CTO, SSIRI, and Mary Mwadime, Acquisition & Assistance Specialist, from USAID. The purposes of the workshop were as follows:

- To provide updates from field and Nairobi staff.
- To learn from the experiences of the outreach team since the last meeting in November 2006. Discussion of common issues.
- To increase the skills of the Outreach Coordinators and Outreach Advisors

The second meeting was a Training of Trainers workshop for SSIRI Outreach Staff from six locations including Maridi, Juba, Rumbek, Pochalla, Panyagor, and Kurmuk. The SSIRI IRI Advisor, Production Advisor, and the Deputy Chief of Party conducted the two-day workshop for the Outreach Staff focusing on *The Learning Village* and *Terbia B*. The SSIRI

Digital Editor videotaped the training. The edited video tapes will be used to support future SSIRI TOT and training for teachers.

During this reporting period the Deputy Chief of Party provided extensive, site-based technical assistance to the Outreach Team. The DCOP visited project locations in Abyei, Agok, Kauda, Kurmuk, Wau, and Rumbek. He assisted the Kurmuk OC to prepare for training and then participated in training in Wau and Agok. The SSIRI Production Advisor co-facilitated the Agok training with the Outreach Coordinator. The SSIRI Outreach Team used the Wau Fast Track Training Program as a Training of Trainers for new SSIRI staff from Rumbek, Agok, and Wau.

The Maridi-based Outreach Coordinator worked with one of the SSIRI Digital Editors to videotape *The Learning Village* and *Terbia A* lessons. Two *Learning Village* teachers John Badi, Nagbia Primary School and Enzaru Judith, Haddow Primary School were videotaped. The Suleiman and Gisma Drug shop *Terbia A* groups were also videotaped. The edited video tapes will be used to support future SSIRI training for teachers and facilitators.

## **4.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

The Rumbek-based Outreach Coordinator and DCOP hosted eight USAID visitors from the Health and Education Teams at Matangai Primary School to observe *The Learning Village* radio lessons. The USAID Team observed good Primary 1 and Primary 2 lessons being taught by a teacher who had only been trained the previous week.

Stephanie Foerster, EDC Communications Manager, visited Wau from 9-13 April where she videotaped a *Terbia* class and profiled two members of the class – a woman official in the State MoEST and a male secondary school teacher. She then traveled to Rumbek where she videoed a P2 IRI class. She visited Juba where she interviewed Kuol Atem, Director, Alternative Education Systems, and Lt. Cmdr Deng, Coordinator of Education, SPLA. These activities were part of an EDC-sponsored initiative to document education in difficult circumstances.

Ms. Foerster also facilitated several sessions at the Field Staff Workshop where she worked with outreach staff to identify key information and messages to be communicated to partners and other stakeholders. She also discussed with staff criteria for identifying success stories. In addition, she outlined a communications strategy for SSIRI and will develop the strategy in more detail.

SSIRI produced a five-minute video of an IRI class. In addition, SSIRI developed two FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) Sheets on the following:

- *SSIRI Support Literacy for Women*
- *SSIRI Support the Professional Development of Teachers*

## **5.0 WORKING WITH PARTNERS**

### ***MoEST***

The MoEST held two Technical Working Group meetings in Rumbek from 18-20 April attended by SSIRI.

- **TWG on Basic Education.** Jane Namadi, IRI Producer, and Tom Tilson, COP, gave a 30-minute presentation on SSIRI to this TWG. As part of the presentation, they showed the new 5-minute video of an IRI class. Approximately twenty-five people were present including representatives from six states.
- **TWG on Gender and Social Change.** Maree Melican, SSIRI Education Specialist, gave a 10-minute presentation on SSIRI including recent accomplishments and future plans. Approximately 35 people were present including representatives from seven states. The meeting was chaired by Her Excellency, Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Western Equatoria.

In April, Tom Tilson gave a 1 ½ hour presentation in Aramweer on SSIRI to approximately 40 State MoE officials plus a small number of representatives from the military, police, and wildlife.

**National Literacy Campaign:** The MoEST has launched a national literacy campaign to promote the need for basic literacy for the great majority of Sudanese who have not had the opportunity to attend school during the last twenty years. The SSIRI activities are an important part of this campaign. Below is one of the two large posters developed by SSIRI and the MoEST. This poster is located at the entrance of Parliament in Juba.



### **Other Program Partners**

#### **NDI (National Democratic Institute)**

NDI provides radios to EDC for distribution to support the SSIRI programs. SSIRI and NDI staff met during the quarter to discuss possible joint initiatives, especially in Abyei, and developed tentative plans for collaborative training. In addition, they reviewed the need of SSIRI for additional radios,

the requirements for reporting on radios already distributed, and the content of plans for future distribution. EDC submitted to NDI an accounting of the 1,360 radios received.

In a meeting at USAID re. NDI and SSIRI, USAID said that it would try to obtain 5,000 additional large Lifeline Freeplay radios for SSIRI, in addition to the 7,000 radios promised by NDI over the next two years.

### **HEAR-Sudan**

EDC is a subcontractor to Creative Associates, International on the USAID-funded HEAR (Health, Education and Reconciliation) Project in the Three Areas. Although HEAR is not a part of SSIRI, we report on some of our work under HEAR because of the similarity of EDC's activities under SSIRI and HEAR. In both projects, EDC is focusing on the implementation of IRI activities. The HEAR-Sudan and the SSIRI projects are uniquely linked to each other, and EDC expects to improve the results of both projects by fostering the synergies found between them.

The SSIRI DCOP, who also serves as a Technical Advisor on the USAID-funded HEAR Project visited Kauda, Southern Kordofan State to meet local education officials and NGOs, and to conduct HEAR interviews. He also spent a week in May in Kurmuk, Southern Blue Nile, where he met with the County Education Director and with representatives from various NGOs.

The DCOP prepared to travel to Abyei to participate in a Training of Trainers workshop for HEAR-Sudan staff and a teacher training workshop. The DCOP revised the training program for the IRI portion of the 5-day HEAR training.

### **Localizing Institutional Capacity Building in Southern Sudan (LINCS)**

The SSIRI DCOP facilitated a meeting between the HEAR-Sudan COP and LINCS COP in Abyei to discuss their respective projects and identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination in particular around the HEAR Education Resource Centers and LINCS Resource Centers in Abyei, Kauda, and Kurmuk and training for adult educators.

### **Land O Lakes**

Following up on a joint meeting involving EDC, Land o Lakes, and USAID on possible EDC/Land O Lakes collaboration on a literacy/numeracy program for the Toposa people with whom Land O Lakes is working, EDC developed and submitted a proposal to Land O Lakes. EDC proposed to incorporate some of SSIRI's basic literacy and numeracy programs into a program consisting of weekly meetings of the Toposa people from the various cooperative groups.

### **Fast Track Teacher Training Program**

MoEST developed the Fast Track Teacher Education and Training Program to provide initial orientation to new teachers over a five-week course. Two counties in each of the ten states were selected and over 1,200 teachers were trained.

SSIRI worked with MoEST and AED to ensure incorporation of SSIRI into the five-week training program for new teachers. SSIRI staff provided orientation and basic training for about a day as part of the Fast Track Program in 4 states including 6 counties: Central Equatoria – Juba and Yei Counties; Eastern Equatoria – Torit and Kapoeta Counties; Western BEG – Wau County; and Western Equatoria – Maridi County.

### **Windle Trust, Wau**

The Windle Trust English language program for SMOE officials and teachers in Wau is using the *Terbia* program.

### **ACROSS**

In Yei, SSIRI held a meeting with Walter Duku who produces teacher education radio programs for ACROSS, Rhys Hall who is responsible for the development of ACROSS spiritual programs, and Greg who oversees the radio production work.

SSIRI also consulted ACROSS regarding the planned application of a device called a MegaVoice, which can hold up to 160 hours of audio. It has a built in solar panel. SSIRI has plans to use a similar device for disseminated programs to learning centers.

### **War Child**

War Child supports about 10 community schools in displaced camps around Juba and some adult literacy classes. EDC will follow up on potential SSIRI support for their programs.

### **Radio Stations**

#### **Miraya Radio FM**

Miraya Radio is broadcasting the *Terbia A* lessons and all three grades of the IRI *Learning Village* throughout much of Southern Sudan.

#### **Radio Bakhita**

Radio Bakhita is broadcasting the **Terbia A** lessons in Juba.

### **Internews**

Internews has expressed interest in broadcasting SSIRI programs, as their stations become operational. The first FM station in Malualkon started broadcasting on a pilot basis. Stations in Kauda and Kurmuk may begin next quarter.

SSIRI sent to Internews four questions to be included in their listenership surveys.

### **Radio stations in Yei**

A meeting was held with the Production /Programs Manager Innocent Asubo at Liberty FM radio station (90.00 FM) and with Spirit FM radio station. Both stations expressed interest in broadcast the *Terbia* programs for a fee.

### **Conferences**

EDC gave a presentation at the Regional forum on *The return and reintegration of refugee teachers and students into the Southern Sudan education system*. The forum aimed to assist in the planning and preparation for the return and reintegration of Sudanese teachers and students as well as to further develop and strengthen the system for the reintegration of returnee teachers. The forum also examined existing documentation of refugee teacher and student experiences, accreditation and qualification for the purpose of identifying the equivalency needed for their reintegration into the Southern Sudan education system.

## **6.0 PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Staffing**

EDC promoted Edward Kasran from Outreach Coordinator to Outreach Advisor to be based in Juba. In addition, EDC in collaboration with the MoEST conducted a successful process to hire an Outreach Coordinator for Juba – Onek John. Out of that process is a strong candidate to replace Edward Kasran in Maridi as the Outreach Coordinator. Rev. Emmanuel Mading was hired as an Outreach Coordinator for Rumbek. Rev. Emmanuel had been working informally as a volunteer to promote SSIRI's Learning Village in Rumbek. Also, the recruitment process is underway to identify individuals who will support our learning technologies activities.

We anticipate that almost all of the new staff to be hired next quarter will be Southern Sudanese.

### **Reprogramming**

EDC worked on a reprogramming budget, which will be submitted to USAID early next quarter.

### **Miscellaneous**

- EDC procured a vehicle, which will arrive in Juba in early July. A second vehicle for Southern Sudan will be ordered early next quarter.
- The Chief of Party attended the 3-day USAID Administrative Compliance seminar conducted by the Center for Public Management.