

Southern Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction

SSIRI

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Quarterly Report

July - September 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
July - September 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 has three interrelated, radio-based education programs, plus the integration of other technologies:

- **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, numeracy, 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.
- **Other technologies** – SSIRI incorporates other technologies, especially to support teacher education including VSAT/Internet, video production, and portable media devices.

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

- P1-P3 lessons are being broadcast daily to 40,000 children including over 5,000 pupils in the Three Areas
- The new *Terbia B* beginners' English series is ready for broadcast on October 1. 121 groups have been identified and facilitators trained including 96 in Southern Sudan and 25 in the Three Areas.
- The English *Terbia A* (Advanced) programs are being broadcast to 8,000 registered listeners in groups plus a substantial 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).
- SSIRI took important steps for introducing alternative technologies
 - Reactivated the VSAT/Internet connection at the Maridi NTTI and procured VSAT equipment for two other TTIs and a County Education Center
 - Designed low-cost technologies based on MP3 devices with a small external speaker – with either solar or hand cranking charging systems. Procurement is underway.
 - The technologies consultant Matt York produced a website called “one media player per teacher” – www.ompt.org – based on the SSIRI activities.

- EDC staff produced a video of an IRI classroom in Maridi called *The Learning Village*
- Eight USAID visitors from the Health and Education Teams observed a *Learning Village* radio primary 1 and program 2 lessons in Rumbek.

The following are key implementation data for *The Learning Village*:

Number of Pupils						
Grades Primary 1-3	Southern Sudan		Three areas		Totals	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Subtotal by Sex	21,993	12,863	3,128	2,206	25,121	15,069
TOTAL	34,856		5,334		40,190	

Number of Classrooms	
Southern Sudan	710
The Three Areas	135
TOTAL	845

Number of Teachers and Facilitators								
Southern Sudan			The Three Areas			Total		
M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
643	109	752	62	15	77	808	151	959

Terbia A (Advanced) English programs are designed for open listening. In addition to individual listening, EDC organized 590 groups with 8,186 participants.

Terbia Advanced Listeners in Groups				
Location	Groups	Listeners		
		Male	Female	Total
<i>Southern Sudan</i>	460	3,687	3,090	6,777
<i>Three Areas</i>	130	867	542	1,409
Total	590	4,554	3,632	8,186

1.0 SSIRI PROGRAMS

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 instructions 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 May 2008.

Broadcasts: In addition to the programs being broadcast 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 is reaching over half of the population of Southern Sudan. In addition, the *Terbia* programs are being broadcast on Radio Bakhita FM in Juba.

Primary 3 scripts up to number 89 were edited after formative evaluation and 75 have been re-recorded and are ready for broadcast.

The scope and sequence and the master plans of the Primary 4 programs were completed. Scriptwriting will take place once the second half of *Terbia B* is completed in early 2008.

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 a range of English language skills. There are four series of 60 half-hour lessons ranging from beginning to advanced levels. Two of the series of 120 lessons fall under *Terbia A* or advanced. The remaining two series of 120 lessons are part of *Terbia B* or beginners' series. To date, half of the 240 half-hour radio lessons have already been written. EDC began by producing the most advanced series to 60 lessons -*Terbia A, part 2*; it then produced the first 60 lessons for beginners under *Terbia B-part 1*. The *Terbia A-2* series of 60 programs is already being rebroadcast for the second time. The *Terbia B-1* series is ready for broadcast starting the first day of the next quarter October 1, 2007.

Terbia B1. All 60 scripts were written, recorded and edited for formative evaluation. Seventeen scripts were edited after formative evaluation, re-recorded, edited and are ready for broadcast.

Terbia B2. Design of the *Terbia B (Part 2)* was entirely developed by the scriptwriting team. EDC held a workshop in Nairobi for the development of the new *Terbia B2* series; Mr. Omot Okony Oluk, Director of Curriculum, MoEST, participated in this workshop. It is the first time that the scriptwriting team has developed the contents of the series, and the results have been very satisfactory. This was a nice step in their capacity building. Ninety out of 100 master plans are completed.

During the next two quarters, the remaining 120 lessons will be produced including *Terbia B-2* and *Terbia A-1*. Thus, by mid-2008 there will be 240 half-hour English language programs ranging from beginners to advanced. The beginners' series *Terbia B* assumes that the listeners will be organized into listening groups led by a trained facilitator. The facilitator is necessary in order to translate some of the English language instructions into the local language and, in general, to lead the English class. The advanced series *Terbia A* can be listened to by individuals without the need to be organized into groups. That is, any individual with a radio and a moderate level of English can benefit from the radio lessons.¹

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 broadcast *Terbia A* from February to July 2007, and then began to rebroadcast the series again in August.
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* will begin October 1, 2007. The *Facilitator's Guide* for *Terbia B* was written, edited, printed and distributed. EDC developed FAQ on *Terbia B* and SSIRI support to the literacy campaign for distribution to MoEST and partners.

During August and September, the SSIRI Outreach Coordinators, in collaboration with county education officials, identified listening groups for *Terbia B* and trained the facilitators. Both radios and the facilitators' guides were distributed.

¹ During October 2007, recommendations were developed to change the nomenclature of the *Terbia* series to the following: *Terbia for Beginners* (Programs 1-120); *Terbia – Intermediate* (Programs 1-60); *Terbia Advanced* (Programs 1-60)

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

Radio Service	Schedule	Frequency
Shortwave	Mo-We-Fr 9:30 a.m	15660 Khz
	Tu-Th-Sa 5:00 p.m.	15560 Khz
Bakhita FM Radio	Mo-We-Fr 4:00 p.m.	91 FM
Miraya FM Radio	Mo-We-Fr 10:00 a.m	101 FM

Radio Bakhita FM Juba will rebroadcast *Terbia A* on Tu-Th-Sa at 4:00 PM beginning October 2, and Miraya Radio will also rebroadcast *Terbia A* on Tu-Th-Sa at 10:00 AM beginning October 30.

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 series as part of Stage 1 of the in-service program.

The original ten radio programs were called *Strides into the Future* and were developed by the Sudan Basic Education Program (SBEP). EDC 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.² 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 EDC 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 has asked that the program also be available for student teachers enrolled in pre-service programs 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.

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

The program will be launched in early 2008 when the primary schools open.

² It is anticipated that EDC will provide at least some of the teachers an MP3 device with the programs recorded in advance. This would be an alternative to listening to the programs on the radio.

Other Learning Technologies

There was considerable progress relating to other learning technologies to support SSIRI programs. There are two principal objectives for these other technologies:

1. There is need for low-cost alternatives to radio broadcasts to accommodate the classes and learning groups that cannot meet at the time of the broadcasts. For example, the schools in Nuba Mountains are on a different academic calendar. Fortunately, there is a new USAID-supported FM radio station that can broadcast some of the SSIRI programs to the community around Kauda. However, schools in other locations would not be able to participate in the IRI lessons unless there is an alternative means of delivery. These low-cost technologies will also be particularly helpful for *Terbia* listening groups, many of which cannot meet at the times the broadcast.
2. The second objective is to strengthen the teacher training programs. The major activity is the procurement and installation of VSAT equipment and the subsequent ongoing training and support. Another important activity is the development of basic skills in video production so that teacher training staff can produce videos to help strengthen their academic program, especially pedagogy.

The work on low-cost technologies was greatly aided by the EDC consultant Matthew York who, among other things, is a producer of *Videomaker* magazine in the United States. During the quarter, he conducted extensive research into a range of low-cost devices for delivering the SSIRI programs. He also assessed alternative means of recharging the batteries required in the equipment. Information on his work can be found at the following website that he created www.ompt.org. “One Media Player per Teacher (OMPT) is raising the awareness of the power of connecting people to crucial information that can improve health, education, and employment opportunities, even people who are far away from the Internet.” OMPT is an initiative of the parent company Polder, which was founded by Matthew York.

Based on his research, we have identified some appropriate low-cost options for trying out in Southern Sudan beginning next quarter. The basic system consists of an inexpensive MP3 player that can hold all of the audio lessons for one primary school grade (100 half-hour programs or 50 hours) or all of the lessons of one of the *Terbia* series (60 half-hour programs or 30 hours). These devices, not much larger than a person’s thumb, also include an FM radio receiver and they cost under \$25 in the United States. A small, inexpensive (\$15) external speaker is attached to the MP3 device so that a classroom full of students can listen to a lesson. The MP3 player and the speaker use 3 or 4 AA or AAA rechargeable batteries. Therefore, the system must also include a means for recharging the batteries.

Matt York also did extensive research on alternative means of recharging the batteries including a range of solar panels and hand cranking devices, plus a small holder for placing the batteries when they are being recharged. See Annex I for a more detailed description of the low-cost technologies options.

The following table summarizes each of the systems designed by SSIRI and includes the estimated costs.

Estimated prices for the low-cost technologies							
US Dollars, Delivered Nairobi	Desiree 1	Desiree 40	Desiree 40	Desiree 40	Desiree 40	Boomer DC	Boomer
	Simplest System for Teachers	System for IRI classes or Terbia Groups - Hand cranked only	System for IRI classes or Terbia Groups - Hand cranked and Solar charger	System for IRI classes or Terbia Groups - Hand cranked and Solar panel	System for IRI classes or Terbia Groups - Solar panel only	More expensive option - JWIN	More expensive option - JWIN
JWIN CD player						43	43
MP3 player - Nextar 1 GB	21	21	21	21	21		
Flash Drives (3)						45	45
Head set	-						
External speakers		13	13	13	13		
Holder for batteries		16		16	16	16	
Rechargeable Batteries AAA	3	3			3		
Rechargeable Batteries AA			14			14	
Battery upsizer tubes						11	
Hand crank device		17	17	17			
Solar power - small	10						
Solar power - integrated charger			27				
Solar power - 5 watt				67	67	67	
bag/case	3	7	7	7	7		
shipping to DC							
shipping to Nairobi							
TOTAL	\$ 34	\$ 70	\$ 92	\$ 135	\$ 120	\$ 196	\$ 87

100 units of the low-cost technologies system are being procured. There will be some variations of the systems in order to test out which particular options will be most appropriate in southern Sudan. A somewhat more expensive option that will be tested includes a JWIN CD player that also consists of an FM radio and a USB port that can read a MP3 player or a computer flash drive. Thus, there are options of delivering the audio programs - FM radio, CDs, or a flash drive that contains the audio files. The least expensive option that will be tested out will support the Professional Studies for Teachers program. It will consist of a MP3 player, a small headset, and a simple solar charging device.

The workshop for rolling out the new technologies is planned for the end of November.

Regarding the high-end of our technology initiatives, EDC has reactivated the VSAT installed in Maridi under the SBEP program. In addition, EDC has established a wireless connection from the Ministry offices to the Maridi TTI where a computer center has been established. The Ministry is also extending the connection to the Curriculum Development Center. EDC has held the first planning meetings with the senior staff of the TTI in order to develop a framework for introducing, managing, and maintaining a new computer center.

EDC has also procured three additional VSAT systems that will be located at Arapi and Aramweer TTIs plus a Country Education Center to be determined. SSIRI also procured six computers for both Maridi and Arapi TTIs. Computers for Aramweer and the CEC will be procured later. The VSAT system should be installed at Arapi and Aramweer during the next quarter. If required, EDC will also procure generators. EDC will provide an IT specialist for each institution as well as the necessary funds for maintenance, fuel, and, most importantly, the provision of an Internet connection.

SSIRI procured and turned over to the MoEST eleven Thuraya phones, one for the Director, Alternative Education Systems, in each state plus one for the Ministry. These phones will greatly enhance the ability of SSIRI to communicate with the state MoE officials as well as supporting communication between the states and the central Ministry. At the ceremony to turn over the phones, the Undersecretary William Ater commended SSIRI for all its efforts to help eliminate illiteracy in Southern Sudan. He urged all other partners to emulate SSIRI in developing the Education Sector in Southern Sudan.

2.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring Data

The Learning Village program is reaching 40,190 (26,232 boys and 15,181 girls) pupils from P1 – P3. A summary of the data is presented in the table below.

Number of pupils				
Southern Sudan				
No.	State	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Western Equatoria	4914	3276	8190
2	Jonglei	14429	7995	22424
3	W. Bahr el Ghazal	462	308	770
4	Upper Nile	651	434	1085
5	Central Equatoria	315	210	525
6	Lakes	1222	640	1862
7	N. Bahr el Ghazal	1113	742	1855
Sub- Total		23106	13605	36711
Three areas				
1	Blue Nile	986	778	1764
2	S. Kordofan	378	252	630
3	Abyei	1764	1176	2940
Sub- Total		3128	2206	5334
Grand Total		26234	15811	42045

The above information is further broken down by grades in the following table.

Learning Village Summary Information						
Grades	Southern Sudan		Three areas		Totals	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
P1	13173	7914	1446	1006	14619	8920
P2	6347	3381	969	724	7316	4105
P3	3586	2310	713	476	4299	2786
P4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub - total by Sex	23106	13605	3128	2206	26234	15811
Grand totals	36711		5334		42045	

These pupils are being taught by 829 (705 male and 124 female) teachers who have been trained by SSIRI in the use of IRI methodology. The table below summarizes by region the number of primary teachers and *Terbia B* facilitators trained to use IRI methodology.

IRI Trained teachers/Facilitators Summary Information						
Year	Southern Sudan		Three areas		Totals	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
2006	286	35	49	13	335	48
2007	357	74	13	2	370	76
TERBIA -B	79	26	24	1	103	27
Sub - total by sex	643	109	62	15	808	151
Grand Totals	752		77		959	

Currently, *The Learning Village* program is being implemented in 383 schools and covering 845 classrooms in the targeted areas as shown in the table below.

Classrooms per Grade					
Location	Schools	P1	P2	P3	Total
SS	308	390	187	133	710
Three Areas	75	73	40	22	135
Total	383	463	227	155	845

To ensure sustainability the project has trained MOEST officials from the county offices in IRI methodology so that they can be involved in the support and monitoring of the program. To date SSIRI has trained 36 (33 male and 3 female) MOEST officials across Southern Sudan and the Three Areas. The table below shows the distribution of officials trained by region

MOEST IRI Trained Officials						
Year	Southern Sudan		Three Areas		Totals	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
2006	4	1	0	0	4	1
2007	24	2	3	0	29	2
Sub-Total by Sex	28	3	3	0	33	3
Grand totals	31		3		36	

Though *Terbia A* was designed for open listening, EDC and the MoEST have encouraged the formation of listening groups to strengthen the listening experience and to improve the monitoring program. Acknowledging that there may be many independent listeners and groups meeting on their own without SSIRI's active support, a listenership survey is planned to estimate the actual listenership by mid 2008. The following table summarizes the number of *Terbia A* listeners.

TERBIA A Summary Information			
Location	Groups	Listeners in groups	
		Male	Female
South Sudan	460	3687	3090
Three Areas	130	867	542
Sub-total	590	4554	3632
Grand Total	590	8186	

SSIRI will roll out the *Terbia B-Basic* program beginning in October 2007. In preparation for that program SSIRI, staff have been working with local education officials to identify, recruit, and train facilitators. To date the 130 (103 male and 27 female) facilitators have been trained to lead 121 groups in project targeted areas.

TERBIA Basic Summary Information					
Location	Groups	Facilitators trained		Enrolled Members	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Southern Sudan	96	79	26	338	234
Three Areas	25	24	1	241	120
Sub-total	121	103	27	579	354
Grand Total	121	130		933*	

*The number represents members enrolled in only 34 groups. By the time of compiling this report the rest of the data had not been received.

Strengthening the capacity of M&E team

During the quarter, SSIRI hired a Sudanese Assistant M&E Specialist. The new staff member Mary Oyelle participated in an Outreach Team TOT workshop accompanied Martin Omukuba, M&E Specialist to Kurmuk, Pochalla and Panyagor to visit project locations.

Site Monitoring visits to Kurmuk, Pochalla and Panyagor

The M&E team visited Kurmuk from August 17 to September 2. During the visit the schools were on recess, but there were several activities bulleted below:

- Held discussions with the Kurmuk County Education Director to discuss the education status in the county. During the meeting, we were made to understand that the teachers in the county are not being paid. In general, the schools in Kurmuk County are lacking essential education material (books, blackboards, text books etc). Neither the north nor south is supporting the county in education, although the county is using the south curriculum.
- During the visit, the team conducted a recruitment process for HEAR staff - IRI Coordinator and Education Resource Manager.
- The team visited Kurmuk Model ALP level 4 classes that listen to *Terbia B* broadcasts. The class meets every afternoon and, as part of their learning, they listen to *Terbia A* advanced broadcasts. The learners said they were happy about the broadcasts as they are learning both English and civic education.
- The team also conducted a TOT training for *Terbia B* facilitators for the SSIRI outreach staff for Kurmuk.

In Pochalla, the team visited Pochalla Primary school, which had just reopened after being closed due to flooding. The team observed P1 and P2 class using IRI lessons. The pupils seemed engaged in the learning and the teachers did well following instructions and engaging learners. Though the SSIRI staff did not visit other schools, the County Education Directors said that IRI is currently being implemented in 12 out of 13 schools within the county. He praised IRI saying that it gave teachers easy time in preparing and delivering lessons.

The team trained 12 (all male) *Terbia B* facilitators in Panyagor from October 12-14. Most schools had closed due to flooding. In addition, teachers were on strike complaining of unexplained deductions from their monthly salary by the central government in Juba.

3.0 STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING

Terbia B Planning Workshop

SSIRI continues to prioritize capacity building of local Sudanese Outreach Coordinators. A Planning/TOT workshop for *Terbia B* was conducted in Juba, Sudan from 8th - 10 August. The Outreach Coordinators from Malakal, Wau, Agok, Maridi and Juba were invited. The Senior Inspector for IRI, AES/MoEST, Ms. Betty Poni, plus the Director, AES/MoE, Central Equatoria State also attended. In addition, there was a representative of Cush Community Relief International, which is a SSIRI partner in Waat.

The Juba workshop provided an important opportunity to report on the discussions and outcomes of the SSIRI senior staff planning meeting held earlier in the month including detailed planning for the next 3-6 months, especially the roll-out of *Terbia B* and Professional Studies for Teachers. The workshop also strengthened the structure and procedures of the outreach team; and provided an opportunity to develop and longer term plans. Major outcomes of the Juba workshop included:

- A schedule of visits by senior staff to assist with *Terbia B* implementation and other issues to Kurmuk, Kauda, Abyei/Agok, Panyagor, Pochalla, and Wau during August and September.

- Strengthened capacity of the outreach staff to conduct training for Terbia B facilitators.

Subsequent to the workshop, Edward Kasran, Outreach Advisor, Martin Omukuba, M&E Specialist, and Maree Melican, Education Specialist traveled to various projects locations to provide on-site technical support to the outreach team and to assist with the training of *Terbia B* facilitators.

EDC Planning Workshop

At the end of July, EDC conducted a three-day planning workshop with all senior project staff. The purposes of the workshop were to (a) review the current status of our implementation of activities, (b) strengthen the structure and procedures of our outreach team, (c) refine plans for starting upcoming programs (*Terbia B*, PS 101, and implementation of IRI in Nuba Mountains), and (d) review our longer term implementation strategy. The major outcomes of the workshop were:

- Developed more detailed roles and responsibilities for the Outreach Coordinators and the Outreach Advisors
- Developed detailed plans for implementing *Terbia B*
- Decided to implement PS101 initially in Nuba Mountains on a limited scale beginning late 2007, probably using alternative technologies such as a MP3-like device
- Proposed a broadcasting schedule for all *Terbia* programs so that each series (*Terbia B parts 1 and 2*, *Terbia A parts 1 and 2*) is broadcast twice before the end of the current Cooperative Agreement in June 2009. At the point each new series begins, there would be an opportunity to increase the number of listeners and to involve more fully the Ministry officials and other partners within the states. (See the next page.)

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

TERBIA PROGRAMS

	2007					2008						2009													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
TERBIA B-1				1	1	1	1	1					2	2	2	2	2								
TERBIA B-2									1	1	1	1			2	2	2	2	2						
TERBIA A-1													1	1	1	1	1				2	2	2	2	2
TERBIA A-2																			1	1	1	1	1		

8 Meter banner promoting literacy produced for the MoEST



4.0 WORKING WITH PARTNERS

NDI (National Democratic Institute)

NDI provides radios to EDC for distribution to support the SSIRI programs. During the quarter, NDI provided 200 of the small Freeplay Ranger radios, principally for use with the new *Terbia B* listening groups.

Tom Tilson met with Bavani Shanmuganathan, NDI Programs Officer; Marc Moorrees, NDI Director of Operations to discuss the allocation and distribution of radio. Tom shared SSIRI's report on the distribution of the 1,360 radios received by NDI. Over 90% of the radios are accounted for at present.

Tom Tilson also met with Inez Andrews, Emmanuel Walla, and John Granville at USAID to discuss the allocation of radios. John said that he would try to secure 5,000 additional large Lifeline radios for 2008. NDI has promised to provide SSIRI with 7,000 large radios, 5,000 in 2007 and 2,000 in 2008. Also, there was agreement at the meeting that SSIRI does not need to submit an overly detailed radio distribution plan since, at least for the moment, it is distributing relatively few radios, and these are going to its own staff. EDC will, however, need to provide a proper accounting of the radios.

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.

Michael Cacich, HEAR/EDC Technical Advisor, Edward Kasran, SSIRI Outreach Advisor and Onek John Orach, SSIRI Outreach Coordinator spent two weeks in July in Abyei working with HEAR staff on several tasks including: orienting HEAR education and health staff on IRI methodology and *The Learning Village* program; reviewing and helping to finalize the HEAR 5-day training program; taking the lead in training the first cohort of Abyei teachers; and assisting in the development of a project master plan and detailed one-year implementation plan.

Because the HEAR IRI Coordinator was new and the HEAR staff was just getting oriented to the IRI methodology, the decision was made for SSIRI staff to act as lead facilitators for this training component. The HEAR design calls for training of all teachers (P1 – P8) from participating schools. However, since *The Learning Village* only focuses on P1-P3 currently (P4 will be introduced next year) only P1-P3 teachers (53 teachers participated) were invited to the IRI training to occur over two Saturday afternoons and one Sunday. After the completion of the first weekend of training (a Saturday and Sunday) teachers were given radios and teacher guides and given instructions to begin *The Learning Village* lessons the following week.

During the week HEAR and SSIRI staff visited 5 of the 10 participating schools including multiple visits to several schools to support and mentor teachers in their classrooms. The following Saturday teachers were asked to share their experiences. While many teachers

showed great commitment to following the IRI lessons, others did not. Challenges and possible solutions were discussed and HEAR will continue to address these.

The collaboration between the two projects is critical to the success of both working in the same geographic areas ensuring that the opportunities and experiences of both projects are shared to improve results. Cross-training provides an opportunity to enrich the skills and capacity of both teams of outreach staff.

Chirillo Chol, SSIRI Abyei/Agok Outreach Coordinator also attended the HEAR/IRI training and participated in several HEAR orientation and planning meetings to ensure effective linkages and synergies between HEAR and SSIRI in Abyei. Specifically, Chirillo is expected to provide technical support as necessary to the new HEAR IRI Coordinator and ensure ongoing collaboration between the two projects.

Freeplay Energy

EDC was in contact with David Floyd of Freeplay Energy concerning the possibility of modifying the Lifeline radio to incorporate a USB port for reading MP3 devices or flash drives. Freeplay had already been thinking about this and was glad to know of our interest. They have promised to send us a prototype model for testing during the next quarter.

A modification of this type would be particularly beneficial to our program as teachers or facilitators could use the radio, either shortwave or FM, when our programs are being broadcast ; at other times the teachers could play our audio files through an MP3 device or a flash drive. In all cases, the radio needs no electrical power other than that provided by hand cranking or the solar panel.

Lenmar

Thanks to our consultant Matt York, the President of Lenmar Corporation agreed to donate 1,000 rechargeable batteries valued \$2,895 to support our low-cost technologies systems.

Inveneo

Matt York also made contact with Inveneo. “Inveneo is a non-profit social enterprise whose mission is to get the tools of ICT into the hands of organizations and people who need them most -- those in remote and rural communities in the developing world.”

<http://www.inveneo.org/>. Inveneo produces a small desktop computer that require only 20 watts of power and, thus, can be operated from a simple solar panels/battery system. The Chief of Party will meet with an Inveneo senior official in Nairobi in October to discuss how this company and their computers could support the SSIRI technology initiatives in Southern Sudan. Their computers delivered to their distributor in Uganda cost approximately \$600.

SolaPak

SolaPak is a Nairobi company that specializes in solar power solutions to energy needs. We held discussions with the head of the company and it is likely that we will place an order for approximately 30 solar panels next quarter as part of the rollout of our low-cost technologies.

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. They will also begin to broadcast the *Terbia B*

programs beginning late October. The ability to broadcast the SSIRI programs on FM has been an extraordinary benefit to the program because of the clear audio signal. There are some concerns, however, of the sponsors of Miraya Radio about broadcasting these lessons and there is a request for EDC to provide information on the impact of these lessons. EDC will respond to this request next quarter.

Radio Bakhita

Radio Bakhita is broadcasting the *Terbia A* lessons in Juba and will begin to broadcast *Terbia B* early next quarter.

Internews

Internews has agreed to broadcast SSIRI programs on their new stations in Malualkon and Leer. In addition, Internews has helped to create a new station in Kauda with NRRDO, who has also agreed to broadcast at least some of the SSIRI programs.

CCRI

George Ogutu, CCRI Education Coordinator from Nyirrol County participated in the TOT *Terbia B* facilitator training for SSIRI Outreach Coordinators and Advisors held in Juba early August. George plans to identify *Terbia B* groups and train facilitators.

ROOF

In Kurmuk, EDC held discussions with the ROOF Gender Coordinator who is also the Field Coordinator. EDC expressed appreciation for availing an office space for SSIRI staff. ROOF is supporting four *Learning Village* schools. We discussed further collaboration including some of the ROOF supported adult centers as *Terbia B* groups.

AMURT

AMURT Intl. described their work with SSIRI in their recent Annual Report. *The Learning Village* was introduced in Aweil East County to approximately 60 teachers in 53 schools. "All these schools have received radios to benefit their students through the interactive learning method that the program provides."

Nick Mayison, Programmes Manager, said that there is great interest in the radio programs including some women in their micro-credit groups. Some of them listen to *The Learning Village* while in their market stalls. Some teachers complain about poor radio reception and many teachers are struggling because their English is not sufficient. Some teachers are using *The Learning Village* to improve their own English.

LINCS Localizing Institutional Capacity in Sudan

In Agok, EDC staff met with Senada Kahriman of the Mercy Corp - LINCS Project. Our Outreach Coordinators can introduce SSIRI to the LINCS supported CBOs that have adult literacy activities. We could host an open forum at the CSRCs (resource centers) where potential *Terbia* listeners can be invited to learn about the program. Currently 16 out of 36 CSOs focus on adult education, but the participants don't speak English. A potential problem is that the groups don't meet during the time of the broadcasts. This could be solved through the use of other technologies. CDs or flash drives with SSIRI radio programs and print materials could be disseminated to all CSRCs. Each CSRC has laptops that are available for individuals and groups to use. Some CSRCs may also have a CD player. *Terbia B* groups would be established with a facilitator.

Fast Track Program

In Wau, EDC gave a presentation to the second round of Fast Track teachers.

5.0 Conferences and Special Events

ERDF Meeting

EDC participated in the ERDF meeting in Yambio and distributed a brief report on the status of SSIRI to all participants.

International Literacy Day

EDC contributed to the MoEST activities in support of International Literacy Day. In particular, in collaboration with the Ministry, EDC prepared large banners and posters relating to literacy and the SSIRI programs. One of the large posters and is placed outside the parliament and another one is at the international airport in Juba. (See page 19.)

Sudanese officials in training in Nairobi

Bullen Nginzo, Outreach Advisor, and Tom Tilson gave a 20-minute presentation on SSIRI to approximately 50 Sudanese officials including the DG for Education from each of the ten states, who are participating in a management training program at the Kenya Institute of Administration.

EDC Conference

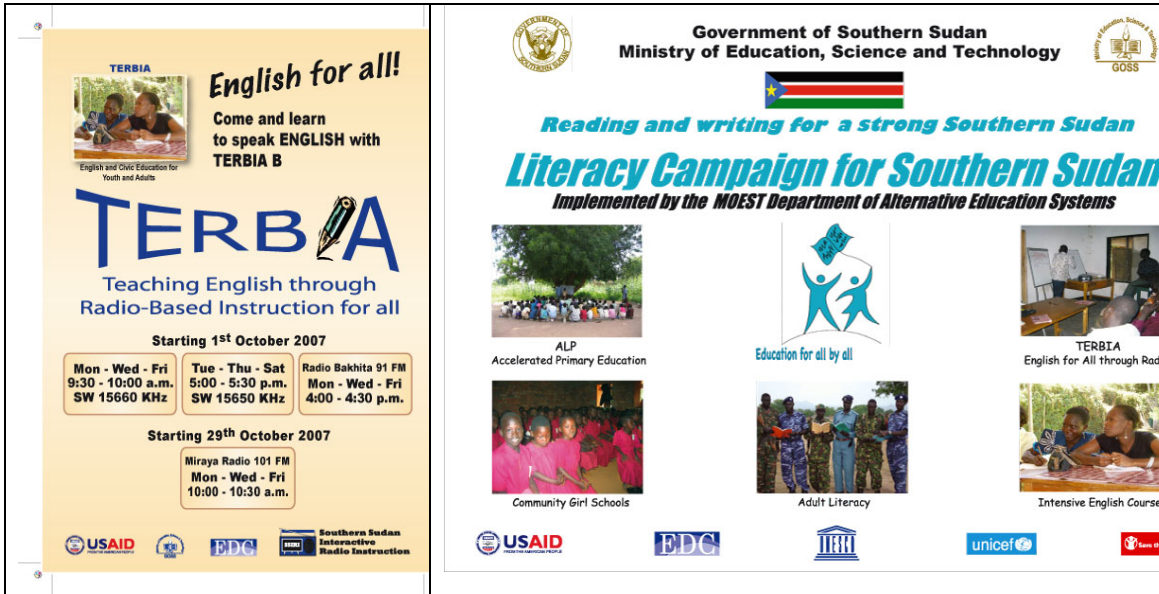
In August, EDC held a one-week “summit” in Washington for its senior international staff. This was an excellent opportunity to share information and best practices among representatives from the many different countries as well as with the EDC staff in the United States. Many topics were covered, but two were of particular interest in regards to Southern Sudan. The first was an ICT national conference in Yemen with the Ministry of Education that led to the development of an ICT strategy. Perhaps we could sponsor a similar event in Juba in 2008 as part of our plans for training MoEST personnel on ICT applications to education. A second interesting session was on the relatively new “open education movement” in a wide range of courses and curriculum materials are becoming available on the Internet. This could be a major benefit to the Curriculum Development Center in Maridi.

Prior to the summit, Tom Tilson, Chief of Party, and Athanas Mwamba, SSIRI IT Specialist, visited the EDC/Newton office and met with staff involved in learning technologies within the US. Tom Tilson, Victor Vasquez, and Michael Cacich participated in the summit in Washington.

6.0 PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

Literacy Materials for MoEST

EDC provided the Ministry additional copies of the SSIRI brochure and new up-to-date fliers promoting the *Terbia* programs. In addition, EDC prepared large literacy banners and posters. (See page 14 to see the banner.)



Success Story

EDC also produced a success story based on the use of the *Terbia A* programs in the Juba Day Secondary School.

Video

EDC videotaped a primary school class in Maridi using *The Learning Village*. This video will be completed early next quarter and will be a useful tool for teacher training as well as for general promotional use of the IRI program.

7.0 PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

Staffing

With the substantial increase in SSIRI activities, EDC modestly expanded its staff in Southern Sudan and Nairobi. The Nairobi office staff has been augmented by a Senior Administrative Officer and a Project Accountant. In the Juba office, EDC has hired a Logistics and Administrator Officer and Financial Officer, plus drivers for the two new vehicles which arrived this quarter.

EDC also initiated a significant recruitment drive to identify Sudanese who can augment our outreach staff as well as provide technical assistance and support to our technology initiatives. New staff will be added next quarter.

Unfortunately, Victor Vasquez, our IRI Specialist, will depart Nairobi at the end of October. However, he will continue to support the creation of scripts on a part-time basis from his home in Caracas, Venezuela. One of the senior Sudanese scriptwriters will be promoted to lead the scriptwriting group.

Reprogramming

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

Transportation

- EDC is now a member of UNHAS, which will permit direct communication with the World Food Program regarding transportation of persons and cargo on OLS flights.
- EDC established an agreement with World Relief for the shipment of persons and cargo to Pochalla. Samaritan's Purse and GOAL have also been very helpful in moving SSIRI staff and equipment in and out of the Three Areas.
- EDC now has two vehicles in Southern Sudan.

ANNEX I – LOW-COST TECHNOLOGIES

In our first deployment, we chose the 1 GB Nextar PMP which retails for \$20 along with the Cyber Acoustics CA-MP301 battery powered speaker.



The PMP requires one AAA battery while the speaker requires four AA batteries.



On sunny days the batteries are recharged with a tiny solar panel with an integrated battery charger. however, the inclusion of this item might add more complexity (too many products to manage for the end users).



On cloudy days the batteries are recharged with a Lenmar Pro78 which can be powered a small solar panel or powered by the Freecharge 12v hand crank (on rainy days)



All of the items combined in a single kit has been named Desiree because it is comprised of several discrete products. In the coming months, we hope to reduce the number of items and increase ease of operation.

