



CSOs JOINT COMMUNIQUE

September 8, 2023

Preamble:

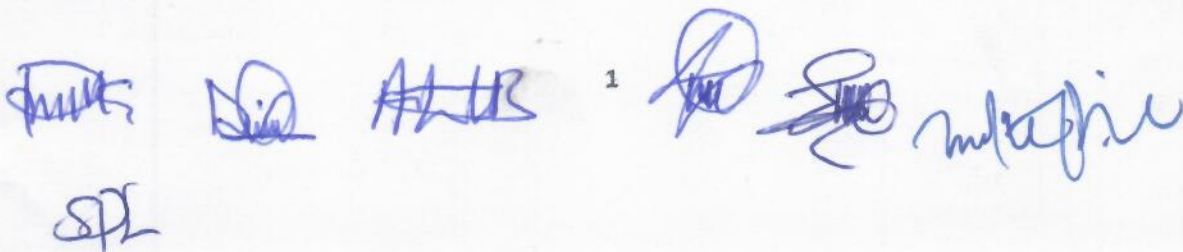
We, the members of Civil Society Organizations from I-Plan South Sudan, Women Organizer, SDI, SSWEN, AAIDO, CAHRD, COS, YMCA, YWCA, LSDO, and UNA South Sudan, took part in the training of Civil Society Organizations in National and State Budget processes from September 6-8, 2023, at Landmark Hotel in Juba. The training was under the theme: "Building the capacity of civil society organizations to cultivate partnerships and enhance cooperation for enabling an exchange of knowledge, evidence, and best practices to advance collective advocacy for citizens' needs and aspirations in national and state budgets." The training was under the project Enhancing citizen participation for a transparent and accountable budget, supported by the Institute of Social Policy and Research (ISPR).

Recognizing the current suffering of the South Sudanese citizens and building on the public demand for accountability and equitable, timely service delivery, the CSOs called for the government to immediately consider delivering services to the citizens based on the passed budget 2023-2024.

Nothing concerning the lack of citizen inclusion in the budget process due to top-bottom budget-making does not consider the citizens' priority areas. We also called on the national government, the Revitalized Transitional Legislative Assembly, and the Council of States in next year's budget-making to adopt an **Output-Based Budget** informed by **A Bottom-Up Approach**. A bottom-up budget approach will allow citizens' priorities from Boma, Payam, County, and from Town Council, Municipality, City, and State to be reflected in the national plan and budget. We recommend output-based budgeting because outcome-based budgeting is a comprehensive approach that considers the inputs, outputs, and outcomes to be achieved with public funds and taxes.

Cognizant of the responsibilities that lie with the transitional government in prioritizing and allocating resources to meet the public demands and provide much-needed services to South Sudanese citizens.

We are determined to continue our engagement with all levels of government and its implementing ministries to ensure transparency and accountability during the budget implantation process. We strongly call for all public institutions and ministries to publish



financial expenditure reports and do independent scrutiny and audit, allowing the citizens to access the financial expenditure data and report.

Acquainted with the limited support for mechanized agriculture and access to markets due to a limited budget and poor road network, we task the Ministry of Agriculture and the relevant specialized committee in the parliament to prioritize commercial agriculture and a good road network to reduce imports and promote local production for both subsistence and commercial purposes.

Noting with concerns despite free primary and secondary education policy by the government, public institutions continue to charge learners fees due to, among others, delays in payment of and insufficient salaries and wages for staff and support staff and limited public-school structures.

Recommends to the Ministry of Finance and Planning to allocate a budget for Climate Change in the following supplementary budget 2023-2024 and the subsequent fiscal year budget 2024-2025 to cater for the adverse effects of and prevent future climate change disasters in the country.

Recognizes the allocation of budget for Constituency Development Fund (CDF) in the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget and calls for the implementation of this fund to be informed by grassroots priorities.

Demands that the Ministry of Health conducts an assessment to provide a report on the number of health facilities in the country and provide details on those facilities that are not functioning to inform budget allocation.

Calling upon partners/donors to support civil society to educate the public on their rights and roles in the budget-making process.

ALB











SPL







As a result of this, our signatures as delegated by our organizations.

S/N	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	SIGNATURE
1	Samuel Nuor Partop	CEO	I-Plan South Sudan	
2	Both Koang	Executive Director	AAIDO	
3	Atem Abraham Thon	Executive director	CAHRD	
4	David Tamoyo Joseph	Volunteer	YMCA	
5	Alli Babu	Executive Director	LSDO	
6	Joseph Kenyi Samuel	Executive Director	UNA South Sudan	
7	Adut Andrew	Program coordinator	SSWEN	
8	Dominic sudan	Project officer	SDI	
9	Malual Atem Malual	Project Coordinator	ISPR	