Discover the results of our work in 2023

26 December 2023
Our 2023 in Numbers

- 06 Full-time Staff
- 112 Trained In-person
- 04 In-person Locations
- 05 International Engagements
- Over 1 million people were reached via organic and paid social media campaigns

- 34 Trainers & Panelists Engaged
- 150+ Published Fact-checks
- 10+ Virtual Locations
- 34,800+ Website Users

- 468 Trained Online
- 01 Dis/Misinformation Report
- 60+ Virtual and In-person Training Sessions
- 84 Documents Uploaded to Document Repository

- 1,800 Users of the Document Repository
- 10,580+ Social Media Community

- 1,800 Users of the Document Repository
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211 Check Overview
211 Check Objectives
Our Work in 2023
2023 Activity Highlights
211 Check Overview

211 Check is a fact-checking and information verification platform that works to combat misinformation and disinformation in South Sudan, first established on 18 March 2020 to counter COVID-19 dis/misinformation.

211 Check is being led, managed and run by Defyhatenow (DHN), a National Nongovernmental Organisation (NNGO) registered with registration number 2285 in South Sudan at the National Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC). As an organisation, Defyhatenow (DHN) works on creating frameworks for enhancing trust between stakeholders in Africa through mobilising civic action against all forms of hate speech, misinformation, human rights violations, and incitement to violence.

**Mission Statement:**
211 Check aims to further public discourse and counter false information through fact-checking and verifying information.

**Vision Statement:**
To create a South Sudan where accurate, reliable information is easily accessible and widely shared, empowering individuals to make informed decisions and contributing to a more informed and engaged society.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>211 Check Objectives</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Counter</strong></th>
<th>Counter misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech in South Sudan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Provide</strong></td>
<td>Provide a platform for South Sudanese fact-checkers to publish articles/reports on various thematic issues within South Sudan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Offer</strong></td>
<td>Offer editorial support and training on fact-checking to South Sudanese journalists, bloggers, and content creators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enhance</strong></td>
<td>Enhance the quality and health of online information in South Sudan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our Work in 2023

- Empowering Fact-checking in South Sudan (EFiSS) Training
- SIMA Journalists Mentorship
- Enhancing the Effectiveness of 211 Check to Strengthen Fact-checking in South Sudan
- PesaCheck CheckDesk
2023 ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS...
The Empowering Fact-checking in South Sudan (EFiSS) Training Program equipped 52 trainees with knowledge and skills used by professional fact-checkers, which will enrich their work in multiple fields.

There were three cohorts in 2023, with 25 in Cohort 4, 19 in Cohort 5, and 08 trainees in Cohort 6.

Nine (09) volunteer trainers facilitated the over 30 training sessions on Zoom and YouTube Livestream.

Trainees learned new techniques and sources to check information to determine its accuracy and promote veracity in the public domain.
### Empowering Fact-checking in South Sudan (EFiSS) Training Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort Number</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<td>Cohort 5</td>
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<td>Cohort 6</td>
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<td>Fact-checking Day Webinar</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Attendees</th>
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<td>Cohort 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fact-checking Day Webinar</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
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</table>
Empowering Fact-checking in South Sudan (EFiSS) Training
This three-month program targeted forty (40) content creators and was conducted through online and in-person training on combating disinformation.

Mentees benefitted from weekly skill-building workshops on Zoom focusing on identifying and stopping the spread of disinformation through fact-checking and verification techniques.

The training was conducted online twice weekly for the three-month fellowship period and a one-day in-person meeting for the participants in merged in the different locations (Abyei, Baliet County), (Wau County, Jur River County), (Kapoeta North County, Budi County), (Leer County, Mayendit County) and Juba County.

We worked with twelve (12) trainers from South Sudan, Uganda and Kenya.

All 40 mentees and 12 trainers were placed in a Google Classroom and WhatsApp group setting to engage beyond the training hours.
SIMA Journalists’ Mentorship Virtual Training Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Male</th>
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<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Budi County</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kapoeta North County</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leer County</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayendit County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wau County</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>Jur River County</td>
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<td>Juba County</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
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- **Male**: Number of male participants.
- **Female**: Number of female participants.
- **Total**: Total number of participants.
SIMA Journalists’ Mentorship In-person Training Statistics

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<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kapoeta North County</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wau County</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leer County</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juba County</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>46</td>
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SIMA Journalists Mentorship
### PesaCheck CheckDesk

The CheckDesk is a five-month partnership between Code for Africa’s PesaCheck and Defyhatenow’s 211 Check that sought to produce distinct fact-checking news products on themes that differentiate 211 Check from others doing fact-checking in South Sudan.

We worked with three full-time media monitors, fact-checkers, and one editor.

A total of 40 fact-checks were published at the end.

Topics and issues selected for fact-checking by the CheckDesk include political misinformation, Climate, Health, Gender rights/access and Reproductive rights/access.
PesaCheck CheckDesk

WFP is not giving out any cash transfers, as claimed by an impostor website.

There isn’t scientific proof to back some of these "important health tips".

The South Sudan Red Cross says the job advertisement is fake.

The video is an old staged short film shot in 2022 about the story of child prisoner Ahmed Manasra in Palestine.

There’s insufficient evidence that fenbendazole can cure cancer.
### Enhancing the Effectiveness of 211 Check to Strengthen Fact-checking in South Sudan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multi-year Domain, Hosting, and SSL Subscription</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training Sessions</td>
<td>05 Training Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webinars</td>
<td>05 Webinars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trainers and Webinar Panelists</td>
<td>11 Trainers and Webinar Panelists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and Webinar Attendees</td>
<td>356 Training and Webinar Attendees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report Published</td>
<td>01 Report Published</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freelance Fact-checkers</td>
<td>08 Freelance Fact-checkers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fact-check for a Pay Articles publishes</td>
<td>25 Fact-check for a Pay Articles publishes</td>
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IFCN 211 Check Supported Training and Webinars

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Webinar 1</td>
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<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webinar 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webinar 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webinar 4</td>
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<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training 5</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webinar 5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>34</td>
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</table>
Number of Trainers & Webinar Penalists Engaged in 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EFiSS Training</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMA Journalists Mentorship</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFCN Build Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>34</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enhancing the Effectiveness of 211 Check to Strengthen Fact-checking in South Sudan

Training and Webinar posters of 211 Check’s IFCN supported project that aims to capacitate journalists, students, and other active social media users over six months.

It is used to store Press Releases, Reports, Legislation, Policies, Guidelines and regulations, and Circulars, which the public can access at any time and from any location with internet access, with the primary goal of improving access to information. Journalists, researchers, academics, and the general public can access the Document Repository anytime and from any location with Internet access.

In 2023, our team has been able to upload eighty-four (84) documents that have attracted 1,800 users and an average of 150 monthly users.
Local Engagements

Our Project Coordinator, Emmanuel Bida, facilitating a session on hate speech research and documentation for CSOs in a project launch by AMALNA (Nov 2023)

Marina Modi leading a session on dis/misinformation in a students’ training by Youth Media Initiative South Sudan. (Nov 2023)

211 Check and Blue Digital Marketing Managing Director

211 Check Coordinator & IREX SIMA Technical Advisor ahead of a Kapoeta training
Local Engagements

Our Project Coordinator, Emmanuel Bida, participating in a panel discussion on dis/misinformation, fact-checking and election integrity at the 2023 South Sudan Internet Governance Forum (SSIGF) (Oct 2023)

A photo with _rog Agency team from Berlin and Kenya after a work meeting in Juba

Our Project Coordinator, Emmanuel Bida, leading a session on youth, social media and hate speech at an inter-college conference organized the Association for Media Development in South Sudan (July 2023)

211 Check’s Bida and Jibi Moses during the launch of SafetyComm South Sudan center
Local Engagements

Defyahatenow Staff having a dinner to celebrate 211 Check’s acceptance into the International Fact-checking Network (IFCN) – March 2023 at the Pyramid Continental Hotel

Bella Twine (The Debunk Initiative, Uganda), Emmanuel Bida (211 Check, South Sudan), Lokiri Nelson (The Radio Community, South Sudan), and the Communications Lead at the Media Challenge Initiative posing for a group photo after a meeting and tour of the MCI Hub (April 2023)
International Engagements

Memberships:
• Signatory of the International Fact-checking Network’s Code of Principles
• Member of the Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD)
• Member of the Africa Facts Network
• Member of the Africa Fact-checking Alliance (AFCA)

Events:
• GlobalFact10 – Virtual Attendance
• Media Development Forum
• Africa Facts Summit
• JamFest
International Engagements

- **RNTC Digital Media to Counter Disinformation and Hate Speech Short Course**
  - Haarlem, Netherlands
  - 02 – 28 June 2023
  - Attendee: Emmanuel Bida, 211 Check Editor

- **Global Fact10**
  - Virtual Attendance at globalfact10.com and in person in Seoul, South Korea
  - 28 – 30 June 2023
  - Attendees: Jibi Moses and Emmanuel Bida

- **Media Development Forum**
  - Paris, France
  - 11 - 13 July 2023
  - Attendee: Emmanuel Bida, 211 Check Editor

- **Africa Facts Summit 2.0**
  - Port Louis, Mauritius
  - 5 and 6 October 2023
  - Attendee: Jibi Moses, 211 Check Associate Editor

- **JamFest**
  - Johannesburg, South Africa
  - 16 – 19 October 2023
  - Attendee: Jibi Moses, 211 Check Associate Editor
International Engagements: Gallery
Social Media Analytics

Reach, Impressions or Views vs. Channel Name

Facebook: 93,209
Instagram: 10,652
WhatsApp: 453
Twitter: 26,624
Telegram: 803
YouTube: 5,292
TikTok: 1,817
LinkedIn: 678
Email Octopus: 1,538
SlideShare: 1,156
Our Team

Emmanuel Bida
Project Coordinator & Editor

Jibi Moses
Associate Coordinator & Editor

Beatrice Amude
Media Monitor & Fact-checker

Marina Modi
Compliance

Nancy Caesar
Media Monitor & Fact-checker

Ochaya Jackson
Trainer & Fact-checker
Read More

• https://gfmd.info/gfmd-welcomes-32-new-members/
• https://gfmd.info/members/211-check/
• https://jubaecho.com/2023/03/14/south-sudan-gains-er
global-fact-checking-platform/
• https://www.sudanspost.com/south-sudans-only-fact-che
platform-admitted-into-global-network/
• https://www.poynter.org/ifcn/2023/as-globalfact10-brin
international-fact-checkers-together-meet-some-of-the-nev
signatories/
THANK YOU!

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