Background

Republic of South Sudan separated from Sudan on July 9, 2011, after long periods of violent conflicts. Since independence, South Sudan (with an estimated population of 12.5 million) has struggled with good governance and nation building and has attempted to control rebel militia groups operating in its territory. The long-lasting conflict of warfare in South Sudan has devastated the social and economic fabric of society, depriving people of livelihoods and creating widespread poverty. To date, there are over 1.87 million South Sudanese internally displaced by the conflicts that erupted in December 2013 and July 2016. Another 2.27 million refugees stay in neighbouring countries (OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin South Sudan January 31, 2019). Approximately 250,000 persons with disabilities are living in internally displaced persons’ (IDP) camps. Emergency situations such as conflicts or natural disasters can also generate an increased number of persons who experience disability owing to new injuries, a lack of quality medical care or the collapse of essential services. But in most of the humanitarian programmes and services provided in the camps and host communities, there are only few deliberate attempts by the relevant organizations or the government to mainstream the needs of persons with disabilities in the project design.

History of involvement and principles of cooperation of Light for the World

South Sudan was considered as focus country from 2005 to 2016. Light for the World’s programme aimed to support sustainable programmes in all mandate areas with a systemic impact. Over the last years since the foundation of the country in 2011, South Sudan again went into an overall humanitarian crisis which more and more also affected the development and the sustainable implementation of all our programmes as well as the security of partners and our colleagues. Especially since 2016, the country programme has been seriously limited by the outbreak of military unrest and ongoing insecurity. Thus the country programme shifted from focus to partner and restarted with disability mainstreaming in humanitarian aid.
Strategic Lines and Priorities

Light for the World’s programme in South Sudan aims at disability inclusive conditions via a twin-track approach of sustainable development related interventions and inclusive humanitarian assistance.

On individual and community level, Light for the World uses Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) in South Sudan as an umbrella concept and entry point to implement the health, education, livelihood, social rehabilitation and empowerment services for women and men, girls and boys with disabilities.

Main objective:
Women and men, girls and boys with disabilities, their families and caregivers are empowered through disability inclusive policies and services of governmental and UN bodies, and local and international NGOs in the humanitarian crisis setting in South Sudan.

Specific Objective 1:
Humanitarian aid (UN agencies, international and local NGOs) and public service is disability inclusive and mainstreams the needs and desires of women and men, girls and boys with disabilities.

Result 1.1:
The government of South Sudan recognizes the rights of persons with disabilities through disability inclusive programmes and policies.

- A coalition of the Disability Working Group with expert organizations advocates for governmental CBR implementation, cooperates with and supports the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
- National DPO Federation advocates for the enactment of the Inclusive Education policy by parliament
- Light for the World cooperates with a pool of advisors: CBR supervisors, IE Master Trainers and Inclusion facilitators from DPOs and local NGOs

Result 1.2:
Projects and services of non-governmental organizations are disability inclusive.

- Mainstream humanitarian aid providers participate in workshops and develop their action plans for inclusion based on Light for the World’s experiences in the field (CBR in different types of IDP camps) and by coaching of mainstream humanitarian providers
- Partnership development for education sector planning with Light for the World as CBR and IE advisor with Norwegian Refugee Council, Windle Trust and Stromme Foundation (mainstream education provider in South Sudan)

Specific Objective 2:
Women and men, boys and girls with disabilities, their households and caregivers, have access to health, rehabilitation, education, livelihood and social activities in their communities and are empowered to participate fully.

Result 2.1:
Health and rehabilitation: Women and men, girls and boys with disabilities have access to health services

- Rehabilitation at community level, identification and referral of patients identified in CBR to specialized medical services
- Coalition of complementary organizations (research, medicine distribution, treatment, rehabilitation, inclusion) to intervene comprehensively on nodding syndrome (+ other forms of epilepsy) in Western Equatoria
- Minimum of eye health services (eye care department of a governmental hospital in Rumbek/Lakes State)

Result 2.2:
Education in emergency: CBR has been established on community and IDP camps level and taken over by the community (mainly parents), local and international organizations

- CBR (including inclusive education in emergency) has been established in IDP camps with different compositions of camp organization and management
- Comprehensive interventions in three geographical
areas: Central and Western Equatoria, Western Bahr el Ghazal

- Strategic partnership with Sudan Evangelical Mission (resource development)
- Governmental and non-governmental staff has been trained by Light for the World and the pool of advisors
- Partners have gradually taken over responsibility

**Result 2.3**
Sports for peace: unity and peaceful coexistence among youth including women and men, girls and boys with disabilities of different ethnic groups

- Peaceful coexistence through “sports for peace” in IDP camps (awareness raising through sports, participants carry out security patrols, assist women and men, girls and boys with disabilities, volunteer in child-friendly spaces, bring children to school, act as after-school tutors)

**Result 2.4:**
DPO strengthening: The national DPO Federation is formed, functioning and established, supports actively disability inclusion in humanitarian aid and advocates for enactment and dissemination of inclusion policies

- National DPO Federation unifies different ethnic groups thus contributes to peaceful coexistence
- National DPO Federation influences the Disability Working Group (DPOs, Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, NGOs) and draws an action plan to disseminate the National Disability and Inclusion policy and the sign language dictionary to the Federal States
- National DPO Federation advocates for the enactment of the Inclusive Education policy by parliament
- Light for the World will further support the National DPO Federation with capacity development of the federation, DPOs and DPO members, e.g. individuals from DPOs get training to become inclusion facilitators
- DPO members/inclusion facilitators support project activities (especially inclusive humanitarian aid sensitization, training and coaching) in collaboration with Light for the World
- The National Association of the Deaf and Equatorial Association of the Deaf with the support of Light for the World development South Sudanese sign language dictionary and build the capacity of interpreters and master trainers.

**Result 2.5:**
Livelihood: Inclusion of youth with disabilities in vocational training and generation of income

- Inclusion of youth with disabilities in vocational training centres (partner of Dorcas and Edukans in “Skills for work”)
- Potential of developing Sudan Evangelical Mission’s (SEM) workshop to become a vocational training center
- Promotion of Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs)
- Support of small business development in IDP camps