

**Urgent Action Fund – Africa  
Interim Rapid Response Grant Report Form**

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Women Relief Aid (WRA), South Sudan
<b>Person Responsible for Grant:</b>	Callen Kamuto (Country Director)
<b>Submission Report Date:</b>	08/08/2022

## USE OF FUNDS

- 1. Please attach original receipts and supporting documents and a detailed budget, including a breakdown of how grant funds were used.**

We have attached the expenses breakdown and evidence receipts, photos for the activities on this report to show how grant/ funds were used according to terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

- 2. Please describe how the funds were used for the situation for which the grant was requested.**

The funding were used to facilitate two days training for 80 schools girls from 16 schools within Torit County (5 girls per schools), one day mentor mothers training for 40 participants where the participant were picked from rural areas, one day stakeholder dialogue meeting for 20 participants, and 6 radio talk shows programs (three school girls debates and three awareness) on sexual reproductive health and rights to end child marriage, and early teenage pregnancies in Torit County, Eastern Equatoria State, South Sudan.

## INTERVENTION

- 3. How has the situation changed due to your intervention?**

With this intervention implemented by Women Relief Aid in Torit County, there have been behavioural changes among local community members on how they see young girls. They no longer see them as sources of wealth when they are young. In addition, trained peer educators have become role models in their respective schools and are now working as agents of change for others. The project has built on awareness, acceptance, and support for youth-friendly SRHR education and services which address gender inequality in terms of belief, attitudes, and norms as the early adolescent period control.

Most of school girls were unaware of danger of involvement in sexual affairs at the age below 15 years. The participants have become peer educators in their schools and in the community as they are educating girls on hygiene, children's rights and abstaining from early sexual affairs. The participants are able now to use the knowledge they acquired in the training to maintain their hygiene both at school and at home. School girls who were not present at the workshop training were able to gain knowledge from their peers who attended the training on radio talk shows conducted.

- 4. Briefly provide us with a quote or paragraph on the significance of this funding.**

We learnt that the absence of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) is the greatest health problem among young girl's ages 10-16 years in Torit County. Gender inequalities, lack of knowledge, discrimination and oppression makes it hard for young girls to make decisions about their own bodies and sexuality. Issues concerning young girls' SRHR are complex. WRA with this funding has increased and strengthened young girls' efforts, human rights, health information and knowledge.

WRA has provided accurate information regarding sexuality reproduction health rights and influenced community behavior changes in Torit County where the project was implemented.

**5. What would you say is the most significant change that you experienced as a result of this intervention?**

The most significant change is the knowledge that participants (schools girls) got on sexual transmitted infections (STIs) and sexual reproductive health and rights is now practically been used on daily basis by participants, since it's not taught in schools as a subject.

Behavioral change towards hygiene practice and menstruation cycle management, the participants are now able to practice hygiene in their home, e.g. the issue of breastfeeding babies before washing their breasts. Now hygiene is improving in the community because the participants continue to share this knowledge with other women in the community.

Birth spacing is another change in the community. Most of the mentor mothers who came for the training never knew the about the important of child spacing, but because of this training many learnt the skills and now educating fellow women in the community.

**Why do you consider this change significant?**

This is because women and girls who came to know that sexual reproductive health and rights knowledge is important because it gives them guide lines on preventive methods from sexual transmitted infections (STIs) and effects on child marriage and early pregnancies.

**6. Please describe any other actors that contributed to the change.**

The State Minister of Gender Child and Social Welfare, Care International (Torit Field Office), Women led organization advocating for Human rights in Torit County, Network of women living with HIV, Education department of EES, Torit Hospital administrators, Torit County Health department, Eastern Equatoria police spokes persons, RRC EES.

## **CHALLENGES /OPPORTUNITIES**

**7. Did anything unexpected happen (positive or negative)? (For example, a new opportunity or an unexpected challenge). Please explain.**

At the time of implementing this program in Torit County, new opportunities for collaboration happened with different actors including women centre who host WRA at their premises. However, there were negative unexpected challenges of inflation which made all prices for project items double. The remoteness of project area made the cost of transportation of project items from Juba to field location high.

Additionally, there was an expectation by the Eastern Equatoria state authorities who demanded the project activities to cover the entire region; this became a challenge since it was programed for Torit County only.

**8. Did any collaboration with any groups emerge to carry out this activity? If yes, will these collaborations continue beyond this intervention?**

Yes, collaboration emerged between WRA and other five local small women led CBOs organizations at grassroots level in Torit County This collaboration will continue to strengthen the advocacy programs at grassroots level. WRA believes in group teamwork will continue as one way of promoting transparency and accountability to the beneficiaries since these five CBOs women led organisations has

chosen WRA to led them and connect them to any opportunity of grants at national and international level.

## **BENEFICIARIES**

### **9. Who were the main beneficiaries of your action?**

The main primary beneficiaries were 80 adolescent school girls from 16 schools ages 12-28 years in Torit County and 40 mentor mothers ages 29-45 years (parents of girls) in Torit County, 20 Stakeholders. While secondary beneficiaries were 10,000 general public in Eastern Equatoria State of South Sudan.

### **10. If you were funded to hold a meeting, convening, or any similar event:**

#### **a. How many people attended?**

Over 5,000 participants attended our 6 radio talk shows, 40 mentor mothers, 80 Adolescents girls from both secondary and primary schools, and 20 stakeholders representing different institutions.

#### **b. Please provide contact details for at least 4 women's rights groups/WHRDs who were in attendance, if possible.**

##### **1. Itwak Executive Director: Davidica Ikai Grasio.**

Contact: 0925239457

Email: davidicaikai@yahoo.com

##### **2. Eunice Nakiru.**

Eastern Equatoria, Women Association.

Contact: 0921635718.

##### **3. Debora Ajier**

Women Leader, Eastern Equatoria State.

Contact: 09242447340.

##### **4. Martha Jildo**

Women Representative, Torit Municipal Council Fodofodo Block.

Contact: 0929294838.

### **11. Kindly indicate if there are any other materials used in your intervention that you would like to submit with this report (Photos, media reports, videos, etc).**

Yes there are Photos, Media reports and videos.

### **12. If applicable to the nature of activity carried out, please indicate if there was any media coverage of your intervention? (If yes, provide links).**

- Yes, the voice of eastern equatoria 97.5 FM. link
- Radio Emmanuel the voice of peace 89.0 FM link
- <https://www.facebook.com/113972223291660/posts/772317057457170/?flite=scwspnss>
- <https://www.facebook.com/113972223291660/posts/771727280849481/?flite=scwspnss>
- <https://www.facebook.com/113972223291660/posts/769870561035153/?flite=scwspnss>

## **FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES**

### **13. What specific activities will your organisation carry out as a follow up to this intervention?**

- Follow up on mentor mothers from their various communities to make them continue with raising awareness to other members in the grassroots on sexual reproductive health and right, child marriage and early pregnancies and its complications.
- Follow up on adolescent girls in schools to continue with raising awareness to other adolescents girls in schools by forming reproductive health clubs in schools, and inter-competition on Debating and football.
- Follow up meetings with schools, authorities, health authorities, police, and other government departments responsible for child welfare in Torit County.
- Engagement with other stakeholders in Torit County to create more conducive environment for young girls to fit in.
- Engagement with trained mentor mothers in helping to promote SRHR programs to end early adolescent pregnancy in Torit County.
- Mentorship programs in schools within Torit County.
- Radio talk shows to educate more public on SRHR programs to end early girl's pregnancies and child marriages.

### **14. Have you been able to raise sufficient funds to continue this effort? What are your current funding needs around this action?**

No, we are still networking around the Globe to get additional funding to make us cover other remaining counties in Eastern Equatoria State of South Sudan.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **15. To what extent may UAF-Africa share the details of your grant or use this information in our publications? Are there certain details that you would like to be kept confidential?**

No, we want this grant and information to be used by UAF-Africa in your publications because it is one of our policies to increase transparency and accountability in our community in the region and to all our partners around the world to know what we are doing for women and girls of South Sudan.

Appendix (Photo evidence)



*Mentor Mothers Participants signing their transport refund money after completion of their training programs.*



*40 Mentor Mothers exposed for group photo after completion of their training in Torit County*



*Mentor mother leaders were on local FM radio studio in Torit Town sharing their experiences after attending one day training.*



One day stakeholder dialogue meeting in Torit County with 20 women participants



*State Educator representative officiating the opening of two days schools girls training on SRHR at Torit Women Centre*



*80 school girls participants awarded with certificate of participation after two days training on SRHR to end early child marriages and pregnancies among school girls.*





*80 schools girls were exposed for group photo after their two days training in Women Centre Torit on SRHR to end early child marriage and pregnancies among schools girls*



*Girls Debate program on local FM radio at Torit town where two primary schools were hosted on the topic "Girl child marriage must be abolished"*