



Danish Refugee Council

**Danish Refugee Council
South Sudan Programme
October 2008**

Humanitarian Accountability Framework

1. Brief Description of the Regional and Country Programme

DRC has been active in South Sudan since October 2005, when DRC received a grant for a 2.5 year DAR rehabilitation project in Kajo Keji county. Since January 2006, DRC also implements a three-year project in the area that used to be called Greater Yei, comprising Lainya, Yei, Kajo Keji and Morobo counties. As of 2008, DRC operates a main office in Yei and field offices in Kajo Keji, Lainya and Morobo. In addition, a liaison office in Juba was staffed during 2006/7. Currently the DRC programme employs three expatriate and app. 50 local staff.

DRC has also been working across the border in Northern Uganda since 1999, first as part of the Danish Assistance to Self-reliance Strategy and later under the DAR strategy through which it has acquired extensive experience in the humanitarian situation in the north-western districts of Uganda as well as of the situation of Sudanese refugees in the border area. DRC's presence on both sides of the border provides an opportunity to utilise previous experiences, capacities and networks.

From the outset in 2005, DRC in South Sudan was meant to be an integrated part of DRC's regional hub in Nairobi. While this was relevant and useful during the first years, the diminishing role of Nairobi for co-ordination of rehabilitation activities in South Sudan meant that DRC South Sudan's ties with Nairobi were gradually reduced during 2006.

Danish Demining Group, an integrated part of DRC, has been operational in South Sudan (Central and Eastern Equatoria) since 2006 in the field of mine action, namely mine risk education, mine clearance, victim assistance and advocacy. DRC and DDG maintain close programmatic and operational ties.

DRC's programme in South Sudan is relatively new and special in the way that it stands on two relatively separate legs, one implemented out of Yei, subsequently called the Greater Yei (GY) project and one out of Kajo Keji (KK). The GY (DKK 17 mill) project period began on the 1.1.2006 and will end on the 31.12.2008, the KK (DKK 12 mill) project period went from 1.10.2005 and until the 30.6.2008, upon which a bridging grant (DKK 2 mill) is currently implemented until the end of 2008.

As of January 2009, the two legs are likely to become merged into a unified South Sudan programme.

2. DRC's Objectives, Partners and Stakeholders in the area of operation

2.1 Strategic Programme Objectives:

Overall Objective:

DRC contributes in a significant way to the provision of durable solution to displacement related problems in the region.

Immediate Objective:

DRC has established a robust presence in South Sudan, including skilled staff on all levels, sound financial and administrative procedures and experience-based programming by 2011.

2.2 Project Objectives for 2009:

The **overall objective** of the 2009 project is to:

'Support durable solutions to displacement problems in South Sudan on the basis of human rights and humanitarian principles'

The **immediate objectives** of the 2009 project are:

- 1. Return of refugees and/or IDPs has been supported in 10 communities by the end of 2009*
- 2. A number of critical livelihood assets in 10 communities are re-established by the end of 2009*
- 3. The capacity of local administrative structures to receive returnees within the area of operation is enhanced by the end of 2009*

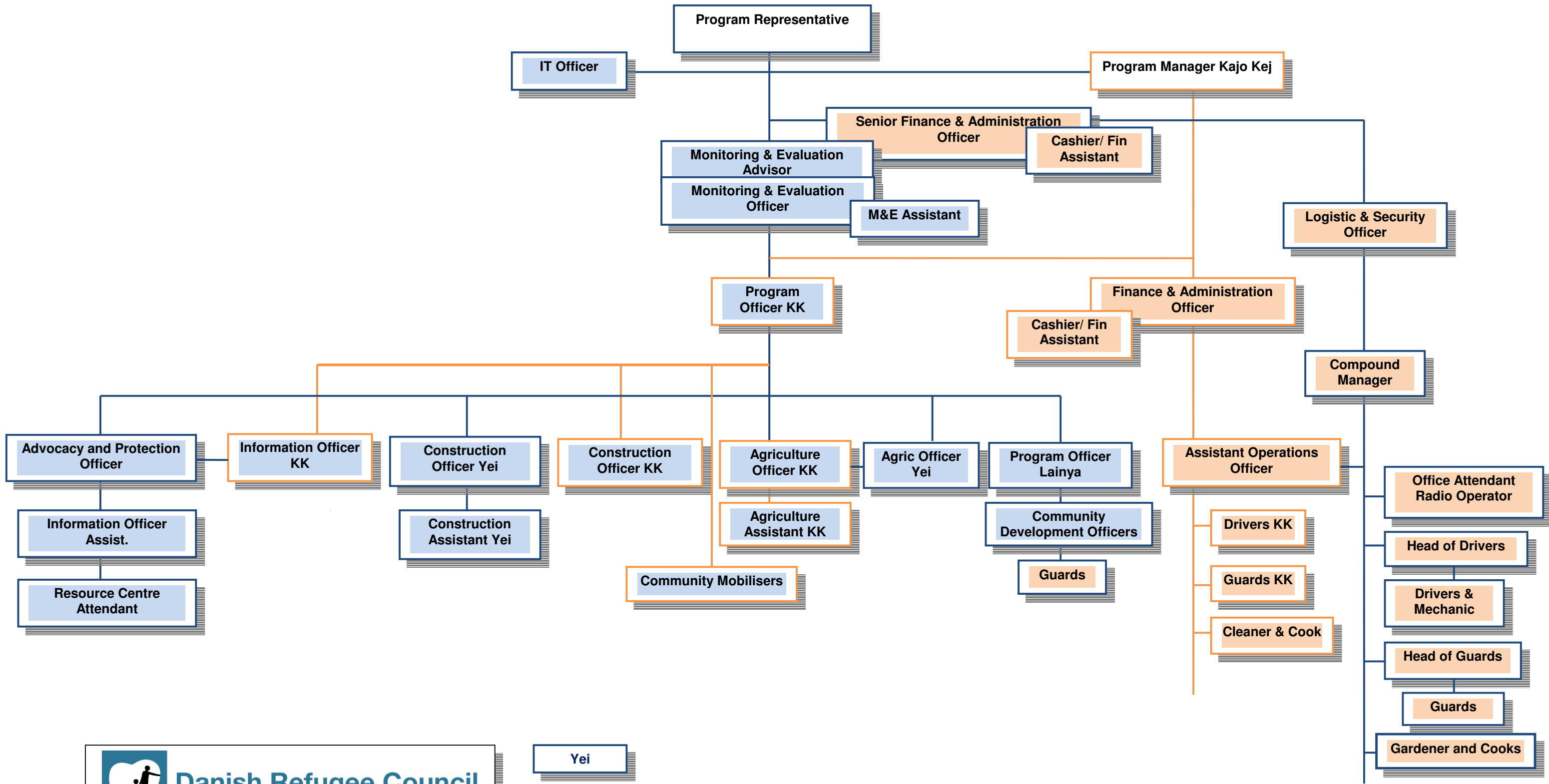
2.3 Stakeholders

Currently, DRC South Sudan works directly with the following key stakeholders:

- Recipient communities (refugees, IDPs and host population)
- Local Authorities (at State, County, Payam and Boma levels)
- Partner organization: Community Action Water Project (CAWP)
- Donors (Danida, FAO)

3. Organisational Chart for DRC in South Sudan

See next page.



4. External and Internal Standards for DRC in South Sudan

DRC's Mandate for International Activities:

The mandate for the international activities is the protection and promotion of durable solutions to refugee and displacement problems, on the basis of humanitarian principles and human rights, including:

- Providing refugees, internally displaced persons and other affected groups in situations of war and conflict with assistance according to their rights. The assistance can consist of relief and other humanitarian aid, rehabilitation and support to return home, as well as contributions to the promotion of durable solutions.
- Contributing to capacity building and co-operation between local and national authorities, as well as other relevant organisations. This work aims at strengthening advocacy and promoting solutions to problems related to situations of conflict, particularly with a view to improving the protection and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons.

Other Standards adhered to by DRC:

- The 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the status of refugees
- The 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- The Geneva Convention and Protocols of 1949
- The ICRC Code of Conduct
- The SPHERE Standard
- The Humanitarian Accountability Principles (HAP)
- DRC's Code of Conduct
- The 1997 Ottawa Treaty (Anti Personnel Mine Ban Convention)

National Standards relevant for South Sudan:

- The Labour Law
- Personal income tax Law 2007

5. The nature of DRC - Beneficiary Relationships

As part of its integrated community-based approach, DRC South Sudan conducts lengthy PRA exercises (lasting 10 days) prior to any intervention. During this process, beneficiaries are informed about DRC, its role and mandate as well as programmatic approaches and selection criteria in case relevant (e.g. in the case of selecting participants in Farmer Field Schools or for distribution of NFIs and/or seeds & tools). First and foremost, the PRA exercises seek to get the informed consent and input from different segments of this particular community.

Due to this integrated area-based approach, DRC rarely targets special groups. While some interventions, such as school constructions are designed to assist children in particular, others such as NFI distributions or Farmer Field Schools, do target the most vulnerable members of a given

community. In these cases, the process of identification is done via clear selection (vulnerability) criteria and in close collaboration with the community leadership.

Regarding language and communication in South Sudan, both English and Juba Arabic are widely understood. Written information is provided in English (Newsletters, Training Material, etc) and some of the local languages in case relevant. However, literacy rates are as low as 20-25%, meaning that most information to primary beneficiaries has to be provided verbally through DRC field staff and in the appropriate local languages used by the Central Equatorial tribes (Kakwe, Kuku, Madi, etc.). Radio broadcasting is done in both English and local languages.

As a result of the community-based approach applied by DRC South Sudan, field staff and beneficiaries are in constant interaction during the implementation period. DRC contact information is made available through field staff, who work in these communities. In addition, all project sites are clearly marked by signboards that include contact details. School constructions are supervised daily by both contractor and DRC staff. Other inputs such as finalized boreholes and Farmer Field Schools are supervised as a minimum once per month.

Beneficiaries do actively participate in project implementation in several ways:
 School Construction (as workers on the building site or by carrying sand and stones)
 Farmer Field Schools (as farmers)
 PRA preparatory sessions (as stakeholders)

6. List of Current Projects

Project Title	Support to durable return and reintegration in South Sudan, Kajo Keji County
Donor	Danida
Sectors	WATSAN, Food Security, Protection, Information Provision, Capacity Building
Objectives	Promote durable solutions for and protection of returning refugees and IDPs in South Sudan on the basis of human rights and humanitarian principles
Beneficiaries	Returning refugees from Uganda, IDPs and host populations
Authorities involved	State, County, Payam and Boma
Implementing Partners	Community Action Water Programme

Project Title	Facilitation of return and provision of durable solutions to South Sudan refugees and IDPs, Greater Yei Area
Donor	Danida
Sectors	Education, WATSAN, Food Security, Protection, Information Provision, Capacity Building
Objectives	Promote durable solutions for and protection of returning refugees and IDPs in South Sudan on the basis of human rights and humanitarian principles
Beneficiaries	Returning refugees from Uganda, IDPs and host populations
Authorities involved	State, County, Payam and Boma
Implementing Partners	Community Action Water Programme

Project Title	508-583 & 508-535 (Tools & Seeds Distribution plus FFS)
Donor	FAO
Sectors	Food Security / Agriculture
Objectives	Enhance food security
Beneficiaries	Returnees, I.D.P & Host Communities
Authorities involved	County Agriculture Dept. & Local administrators

7. Accountability Improvement Plan

- More information on the DRC HAF will be disseminated among staff, beneficiaries and stakeholders.
- During the next 12 months, a systematic roll-out of the DRC Programme Handbook will ensure that all management tools are understood and implemented in all DRC programmes. Furthermore, DRC South Sudan will develop its own M&E toolbox, incl. templates for continuous consultations with beneficiaries.
- The PRA approach is constantly reviewed in order to guarantee an efficient foundation for implementation and to avoid misunderstandings from the side of all involved stakeholders.
- DRC South Sudan is in the process of further strengthening its monitoring and evaluation procedures during fall 2008. Two national M&E staff have been employed and are supervised by an expatriate M&E advisor.
- Job descriptions are updated regularly. All DRC employees are familiar with, and have signed, the DRC Code of Conduct.
- DRC globally is about to implement an initiative on Human Resource Development on all levels and HAP is likely to play a prominent role during these training events.
- The new M&E team is also responsible for handling complaints and does an assessment of how best such a system could look like, seen from the perspective of beneficiaries. Testing takes place in the Kajo Keji area and a formalized complaint handling mechanism is likely to be in place by the end of 2008.
- Regarding the formalisation of staff compliant mechanism, DRC South Sudan awaits generic guidance from DRC HQ.
- HAF and HQMS will be closely monitored on a regular basis, particularly during Annual Reviews.