

1. “Generation In Action (G.I.A) in conjunction with Green Star Initiatives for self-help (G.S.I) - Joint UPR Submission – Sudan - October 2010”

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3. Establishment

Generation in action (GIA)- is a Community Based organization formed in 2007, to promote human Right and fight discrimination in all aspects of life in Sudan. While Green Star Initiative came into existence in early 2007 with the aim of helping mankind to realize their God giver potentials and resources to better their lives through building community capacities and helping in identification of local resources and human abilities for development.

4. Main cross cutting activities between the two organizations.

Psychosocial development activities
Capacity building activities
Creation of educational and learning opportunities to all

5. Introduction executive summary.

Sudan a former colony Anglo- Egyptian is a country that has never enjoyed and known peace since its independence from its colonial masters. It is divided into four major regional blocks of the four three are more pronounced that the former war thorn south, the current war thorn western Darfur region, the north and the eastern region which has not got wider local and international media coverage.

The general situation of the country has been painted and punctuated by political and social quarrels among others with a massive human rights violation that has accompanied these civil strives, wars and quarrels. This violation ranges from religion, regions, isolation, color-bar, death, and many others. Worthy mentioning here also is the discriminative traditional cultural set-ups based on gender. The effect of all these is painfully to be spoken out the traumatized remnants of the war and almost a decade occupation of the Lord Resistance Army (LRA) of some parts of southern Sudan, forced migration and internal displacement of communities, the stories and the sigh of child-headed homes, forced child marriages, massive rape cases, women sold in marriage arrangements by community dominated men, domestic violence against women.

6. Priority issues identified as human rights is concerned.

The following issues are of priority and all efforts has to be done to address them if at all human rights are to be uphold with outmost care and dignity by all parties concerned with the protection of human rights. These issues are;

Traumatized persons
Child headed homes as a result of abandonment and orphanage
Forced early marriages by wealth thirst parents and guardians

Voiceless women – they have no voice in decision making apart from kitchen matters
Treatment of women as properties- in this part of the world women are counted as part of property. Visit atypical burial ceremony of a man you will hear of it.
Rape in marriage lives- a woman has no choice whether she is in the mood for sex or not
Domestic violence based on gender- women are always subjected to physical torture many a times without mercy from men
Men dominated economy- women are forbidden from owning properties in their names.
Illiteracy- massive high rate of illiteracy, schools and manpower are very limited.
Child labor- many of children who engage in this industry are mainly the abandoned children, street children, e.t.c
War widows and war children (war orphans, child soldier)
Discrimination against HIV/Aids victims
Street children e.t.c

7. Current normative and institutional frame work for the promotion and protection of human rights.

A number of institutional network have been so far been put place since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in early 2005 notably;

The granting of southern region semi autonomous authority over its territory and a chance for the people of the south to determine the destiny of region whether to remain part of the larger Sudan or a new independent country through a referendum due early next year.

The signing of the Child Act, 2008 the president of the semi autonomous south on the 13th day of October, 2008 in an attempt to promote and protect children social vices and all other forms of discrimination and oppression,

The creation of the ministry of gender, social development and religious affairs in the government of the semi autonomous south is a positive gesture towards promoting gender equity, freedom of worship and provision of basic needs. Which was not their or they were discriminatively awarded

Other vulnerable groups such as people with physical disabilities and people living with Aids/HIV victims the policy frameworks and legislation have not actually come out and spelt out clearly.

8. The efficiency of this institution in promoting protecting of human rights

The efficiency of these mechanisms though packed by strong words and terms to be applied is still very poor despite minimal indication of improvement recorded. The rights for self determination of the people the south still hangs in balance due to conflicting comments put across to masses by both two sides. The enforcement of the child act signed by the south is not packed by concrete action. The popular vote by the people of the south for self determination still hangs in the air due conflicting information passed out to the masses by the two side of the divide.

9. The cooperation of the State with the Human Rights mechanism

NGOs, Rights holders, Human rights defenders at national, regional and international levels

The relationship between Sudan with NGOs especially International NGOs and Human Rights defenders has not been smooth especially those from western countries due their hard stand on human rights violation by the government to the people of Sudan. A number of them have been

forced out operation from the region leaving the Right holders denied of their rights to humanitarian assistance.

Criticism of the government from the recent past have been violently dispersed by military forces like what happened to students who had staged a peacefully demonstration to demand for the implementation of the remaining CPA articles.

10. Country's achievements.

The signing of the CPA the agreement ended the civil war in the south this has brought peace to the people of the south, it has given the people of the south a chance to decide the future of the south through the forthcoming referendum vote.

Demobilization, disarmament and reintegration program in the south spearheaded by the government of southern Sudan.

The signing of the Child Act by the government of south Sudan on 13 October 2008 to promote and protect child Rights in the south.

The 25% given to women representatives in the government is pointer towards attaining gender equity in the country.

11. challenges and constrains.

The two broad challenges and constrains identified are; institutional weaknesses ranging from family to national levels the family social fabrics that used to hold the community together, sharing resources and caring one another have been weaken beyond repair for example the extended family ties, African socialism are dying away partly due to war, economic hardship and modernization.

The governmental institutions that has been put in place they are weak and in most cases they lack political will from political leaders and lastly limited financial and technical backup given the fact that the country has just emerged from the civil war in the south and the current civil wars in western Sudan.

Weak implementation mechanism for vulnerable groups like HIV victims, disabled, widows, children,

12. Key national priorities as identified G.I.A and G.S.I

Three broad priorities dominates the whole debate if any meaningful results is to be achieved as pertains Human Rights protection and promotion these are as follows;

- Psychosocial development policies

- Education and training opportunities

- Creation of protective environment for promotion protecting

13. Initiatives and commitments that should be undertaken to overcome the challenges and constraints and improve Human Rights situations on the ground.

- Strengthening of local actors at grassroots level through massive capacity building and empowerment campaigns

- Development of strong psychosocial policy frame works and guidelines. E.g providing counseling classes, sports and games

- Development policy frame work and guidelines for the creation maintenance of protective environment for the vulnerable sections of the community. This can be inform of children homes for children, women centers from where they could air out their views without fear.

Develop strong follow-up mechanism to monitor the Human Rights situations on the ground for example manning grassroots Human Rights watchdog units to collect information to Boma level of administration.

14. Comment on future cooperation

It is an opportunity that we look forward to have again in order to strengthen and build on what the country has so far achieved

15. Expectations in terms of capacity building and technical assistance recommended.

If the community is empowered in all the sphere of life by building its capacities packed by up to date and well planned technical assistance then Human Rights conditions will greatly improve.

1. GIA currently is running a child drop-in centre with the aim of protecting the children from harmful things like land mine, drug abuse, road accident since many people are driving without driving license about child Right we do involve children to participate in activities that makes them feel satisfied as pertains to their Right through Drama about their right in education, drama about their Right in participation in games, their Rights from oppression, forced and early marriages, girls as source of income to the parent when sold off in marriage.

2. It is also running a general counseling centre. It has identified difference groups who need psychotherapies and counseling therapies many of them are traumatized because of results of civil wars in Sudan. This groups also need special attention in terms of awareness of their human right, this are the disabled, Children and HIV victims.

3. The disabled are neglected and sidelined, Since most of them are old and can't deliver to the community needs. Some are used as source of money to the families by keeping them on roadsides as beggars and in the evening they are taken home. Some have made camps by roadsides as their permanent homes.. No initiative so far has been done to these disabled old ones.

4. The Girl child has been deprived her right to education and freedom of expression In Sudan, Girl compensation is a cultural norm in Sudan. Many of the girls compensated to other families committed suicide due to right violation in their new families. Many girls still do not attend school, because their parents are afraid of them meeting people who might drive them from their traditions. They are afraid that educated girls will argue with them, and want more control over their lives. Even worse, say the parents, a young girl often does not have a say in whether and whom she will marry. It is the parents, who make the decision. The girl is frequently subordinate to her partner in big family decisions, such as when to have children and how many to have. Many of these girls, in villages and towns throughout Sudan, are only about 16-years-old. But such marriages are common, even though early unions have been illegal for decades; we still have countable cases in Sudan.

5. This is based on the argument that if a girl does not marry at an early age, she will sexually interrelate with many men, and nobody will want to marry her later. Marriage is a way of keeping girls from sexual adventures, they so argue. It also strengthens clan relationships and honors their traditions.

6. Forced marriages are also key ways of HIV/AIDS Transmission to the girls, Since some people with HIV/AIDS who have a notion that if you sleep with a virgin you get healed really spend big amounts on dowry just to get the virgin girls, yet transmitting the virus, impregnating them, since the girl is in the village no special care and food, thus endangering the life of the unborn, and if even giving birth to positive babies.

7. Child labor in Sudan is another hindrance to a child's rights, with countless children, mostly under the age of 14, have left their families in search of work within the towns and markets. Some departed "voluntarily" or at the urging of their parents to escape the severe poverty of their home areas. Others were ensnared by labor traffickers. Some of the children end up getting jobs in the small hotels within the markets where they are overworked poorly paid and working late, where they meet people walking home, who might, rape or even abduct them.

8. The HIV/AIDS victims are neglected by the families thus stigmatization and discrimination, is common in Sudan, people still have a mind set that HIV can be transmitted by greetings, sharing same plate, sharing beddings. So the victims are isolated and can't participate in any livelihood activity in conjunction with others