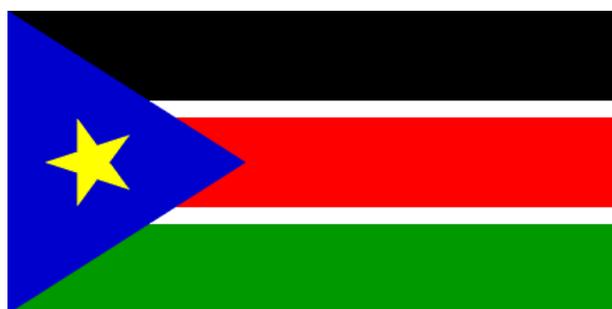


info@asaaid



## **South Sudan**

**Media and telecoms landscape guide**

**February 2012**

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## **Introduction**

South Sudan declared independence from the rest of Sudan in July 2011.

This new nation of about 10 million people is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world.

The population mainly consists of semi-nomadic pastoralists and subsistence farmers.

Many people receive little or nothing in the way of government services.

Tribal warfare is rife, literacy is low, infant mortality is high and life expectancy is short.

In February 2012, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimated that five million people in South Sudan would suffer food shortages during the year ahead – nearly half the country's population.

Distances are huge and transport is difficult.

There is only one bridge across the River Nile at Juba. The river divides the country in two. Tug boats and barges ply the river as far south as Juba, providing a vital trade and passenger transport link with Sudan to the north.

Most of the dirt roads which link South Sudan's far-flung towns become impassible for five months of the year during the rainy season between May and September

Much of the country becomes completely inaccessible during this period.

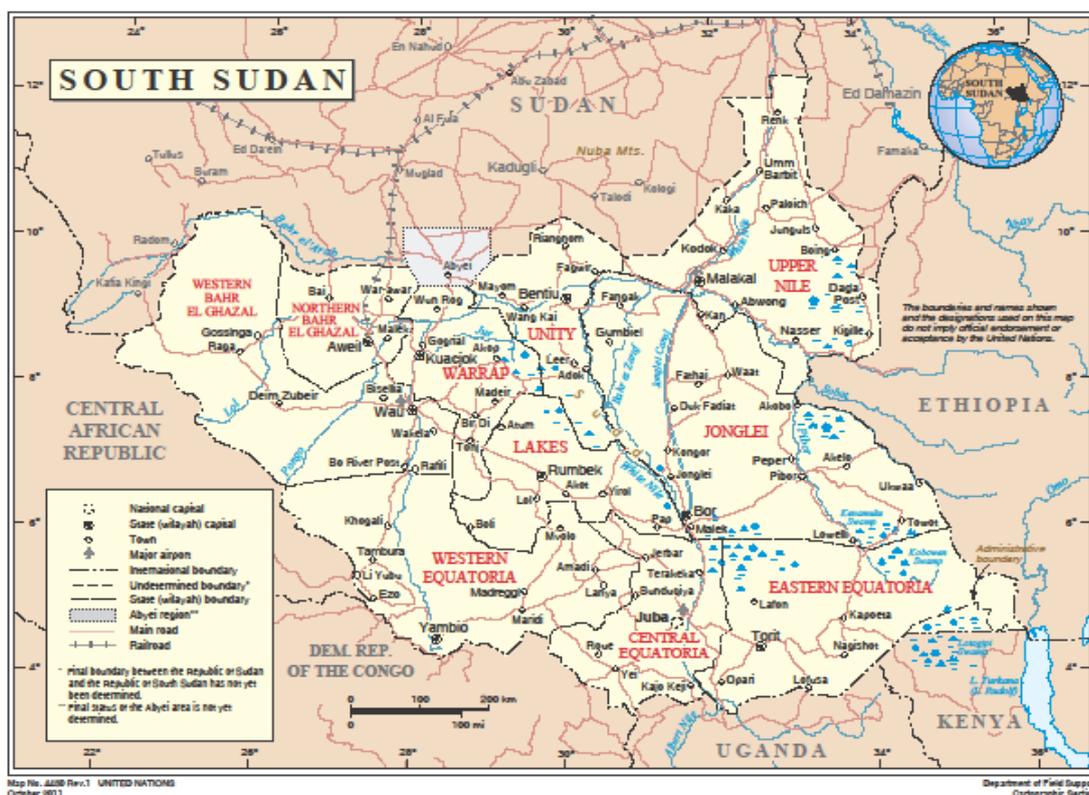
The South Sudanese identify strongly with the black people of Sub-Saharan Africa.

With the advent of British colonial rule and the arrival of Christian missionaries in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, many South Sudanese became Christian.

The lingua franca of South Sudan is pidgin **Arabic**, often referred to as **Simple Arabic** or **Juba Arabic**.

However, South Sudanese have very little affinity with the staunchly Islamic culture of North Africa and the Middle East.

Few Southerners have embraced Islam. The Arab world is firmly associated in their minds with 50 years of oppressive rule from Khartoum and with centuries of Arab slave raiding before that.



**Map of South Sudan**

*Source: United Nations*

Today the South Sudanese look southwards to Uganda and Kenya for cultural and trading links and inspiration for the future. Ethiopia is also an important influence.

What little infrastructure South Sudan once possessed was destroyed during 50 years of intermittent civil war between 1955 and 2005 as a succession of rebel movements sought to end rule from Khartoum.

However, a Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 opened the way for South Sudan to secede from the rest of Sudan.

The peace accord gave South Sudan immediate de facto autonomy from Khartoum and the slow and expensive process of rebuilding its shattered infrastructure began.

Aid and foreign investment flowed in to support the building of roads and mobile telephone networks, and the reconstruction of schools, health clinics and hospitals.

The Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), the former rebel movement in the south, took over the reins of government in 2005 and has maintained tight control of political power ever since.

Right from the start, the SPLM administration in South Sudan had all the trappings of a fully independent state.

It made its own laws, controlled the army and police and issued its own visas to visiting foreigners.

The SPLM government began to promote English instead of Arabic as the official language of South Sudan.

It also established a more liberal regime for the media and telecoms than that allowed by Khartoum in the north.

Private radio stations flourished, a free press was largely tolerated and Juba gave licenses to mobile phone companies that were banned from operating in the rest of Sudan.

As a result, the media and telecoms landscape in Southern Sudan rapidly became very different from that of the North.

99% of registered South Sudanese voted in favour of independence in a January 2011 referendum. This confirmed that South Sudan would secede from the rest of the country.

However, the 2005 peace agreement left many issues unresolved. These included the demarcation of the border between Sudan and South Sudan, the future status of three disputed districts, and the division of oil revenues between North and South.

These thorny issues came to the fore as independence loomed. Relations between Juba and Khartoum began to break down even before the South formally declared independence on July 9<sup>th</sup> 2011.

In May 2011, Khartoum's security forces and allied Arab militia groups invaded the disputed territory of Abyei, sending more than 100,000 displaced residents across the border into South Sudan.

Abyei had previously been under joint administration by Khartoum and Juba, pending a referendum of the local population to determine its future.

An SPLM splinter group subsequently launched rebellions in two other disputed territories, where a large section of the population was sympathetic towards the idea of joining South Sudan.

The SPLM North seized control of the Nuba Mountains in South Kordofan State and launched an insurgency in Blue Nile State on the Ethiopian border.

Juba meanwhile accused Khartoum of arming rebel groups in several parts of South Sudan and provoking outbreaks of inter-tribal fighting.

By early 2012, fighting had flared up at several points along the poorly demarcated border.

Serious fighting between had also broken out between rival ethnic groups within Southern Sudan, especially in Jonglei and Unity states.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimated that more than 350,000 people were displaced from their homes as a result of various outbreaks of fighting in South Sudan in 2011.

By February 2012, a further 100,000 refugees from Sudan entered South Sudan to escape fighting in South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

During the civil war, 1.7 million Southerners sought refuge from the conflict in Khartoum and other cities in the North.

Many of these displaced people returned home during 2010 and 2011, placing additional strain on South Sudan's limited infrastructure.

In January 2012, the United Nations said returnees from the north were still arriving at the rate of more than 1,000 per week.

According to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), 700,000 South Sudanese still lived in the north in January 2012, mostly in slums on the outskirts of Khartoum.

Aid workers and diplomats feared that the Sudanese government might eventually order the mass deportation of all remaining people of South Sudanese origin, creating a tidal wave of impoverished returnees to the South.

A 10,000-strong UN peacekeeping force known as the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) was deployed in South Sudan in 2005 to oversee implementation of the peace agreement between the SPLM and Khartoum.

In July 2011, UNMIS was rebadged as the United Nations Mission in Southern Sudan (UNMISS). Its military strength was reduced to 7,000 men and its mandate was extended for a further 12 months.

By early 2012, a separate 4,000-strong UN force of Ethiopian peacekeepers had been deployed in the disputed territory of Abyei.

Negotiations between Juba and Khartoum on South Sudan's continued use of the pipeline that carries South Sudan's oil exports to Port Sudan on the Red Sea broke down in January 2012.

Khartoum seized a large volume of Southern Sudanese crude awaiting export in Port Sudan in compensation for what it said was Juba's refusal to pay transit fees for use of the pipeline.

Juba responded by shutting down South Sudan's entire 350,000 barrels per day oil production and suspending all export shipments via the Port Sudan pipeline.

It accused Khartoum of demanding outrageously high transit fees for use of the pipeline.

The suspension of South Sudan's oil exports, if it persists, could have devastating economic consequences for both countries.

Before independence, South Sudan produced three quarters of the two countries' combined oil output of 470,000 barrels per day.

Oil revenues were widely estimated to constitute 98% of South Sudan's government income and about 60% of the revenue flowing into Khartoum's coffers.

Landlocked South Sudan plans to build a new oil pipeline to the Indian Ocean port of Lamu in Kenya

It is also exploring the possibility of building a pipeline to Djibouti on the Red Sea via Ethiopia.

However, both projects would take several years to complete.

In the meantime, South Sudan will be forced to rely on the existing pipeline to Port Sudan to get its crude oil to export markets.

The 2008 census put the population of Southern Sudan at 8.3 million.

Since then the country's population has since been swelled by the return of at least one million people who returned home following the end of the civil war and by natural increase.

The population in early 2012 was generally estimated at about 10 million.

**Arabic** and various dialects of pidgin Arabic are widely spoken throughout South Sudan, even though the government now prefers to use **English** as an official language instead.

In northern border areas, especially around **Malakal** in Upper Nile state, more people speak classical Arabic.

However, there are still large numbers of people in the territory who speak neither English nor Arabic. This group includes those who have had no access to formal education, most women and the residents of remote rural areas.

The main African languages spoken in South Sudan are **Dinka, Luer** and **Shilluk**. There are also dozens of other languages spoken by smaller ethnic groups.

Humanitarian organisations planning to launch communications initiatives with intended beneficiaries should coordinate their actions with other stakeholders through the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Cluster leads.

OCHA has a South Sudan country office in Juba.

A full contact list of cluster leads is available at:

<http://ochanet.unocha.org/p/Documents/111130%20-%20South%20Sudan%20Cluster-Sector%20Coordinator%20and%20Co-Coordinator%20Contact%20Sheet.pdf>

### South Sudan at a glance

**NB:** There is very little reliable statistical information about Southern Sudan.

<b>Population (2008 census)</b>	<b>8.3 million</b> (widely considered to understate the real figure)
<b>Official languages</b>	<b>English, Arabic</b>
<b>Other languages widely used in broadcasting</b>	<b>Pidgin Arabic, Dinka and Nuer, Shilluk</b>
<b>GDP per capita</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Adult literacy rate (National baseline household survey 2009)</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Radio sets per 1000 people</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>TV sets per 1000 people</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Mobile phone penetration (Zain estimate 2011)</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Number of mobile subscribers (Zain estimate 2011)</b>	<b>1.3 million</b>
<b>Mobile network coverage</b>	<b>Main towns and some main roads</b>
<b>Mobile network coverage of population (Zain estimate 2012)</b>	Less than 50%
<b>Internet subscribers</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Ranking in UN Human Development Index 2011</b>	<b>150 (out of 182)</b>
<b>Ranking in RSF World Press Freedom Index 2011/12</b>	<b>111 (out of 179)</b>

## **Media overview**

Radio is the main source of news and information for people in South Sudan.

Most of the population now lives within the reach of FM and Medium Wave broadcasts.

New radio stations have mushroomed in the state capitals and other large towns since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement was signed in 2005.

By early 2012, there were more than 30 radio stations on air across the country. Many of these were set up by churches and community organisations backed by international donors.

However, much of the rural population still lives in remote villages beyond the reach of FM and Medium Wave broadcasts.

For them crackly Short Wave broadcasts and conversations with travellers passing through are their only link with the outside world.

Information and advice delivered face-to-face by word of mouth continues to be important in remote rural areas.

Local chiefs and religious leaders command respect in village communities and play a key role in spreading knowledge and forming opinions.

The largest ethnic groups in Sudan are the **Dinka** and the **Nuer**.

At least half of all Southern Sudanese probably speak a dialect of Dinka or Nuer as their mother tongue.

However, the official languages of government and business are **English** and **Arabic**.

The main lingua franca of South Sudan is pidgin Arabic, often referred to as **Simple Arabic** or **Juba Arabic**.

Since 2005, English has become the preferred language of government, business and education in Southern Sudan.

The growing popularity of English has been encouraged by Southern Sudan's close economic and cultural ties with neighboring Kenya and Uganda and the strong influence of Anglophone Christian missionaries.

Using English rather than Arabic also helps to emphasize the difference in culture, religion and politics between South Sudan and the Islamic North.

The increasing importance of English in Southern Sudan is reflected by its prominence in the local media.

Nearly all the newspapers published in Southern Sudan are written in English. The language is also widely used on radio and television.

However, English is the language of the educated elite. It is not widely spoken or understood outside the main towns.

A media audience survey of 1,546 people in Southern Sudan undertaken by the Swiss-based Fondation Hirondelle in 2007 found that only 4% of respondents thought they could speak English well.

About 60 different African languages are spoken across Southern Sudan.

Other languages are only used by a scattering of small and isolated communities.

Local radio stations outside the capital broadcast mainly in the tribal languages spoken within their broadcast coverage area.

The 2009 National Baseline Household Survey found that only 27% of adults could read and write.

However, it indicated that the literacy for young people in the 15 to 24 age group was much higher at 40%.

The 2007 Fondation Hirondelle survey, entitled "Media Access and Use in Southern Sudan," showed that radio was the main source of information for the population as a whole.

59% of respondents cited the radio as a source of information, but only 45% said it was their most important source.

The other two most important sources of information mentioned were word of mouth and the church.

42% of respondents said they got information by word of mouth and 37% said this was their most important source of information.

42% of respondents said they got information from the church, but this was less trusted as a source.

Only 10% said the church was their most important source of information and only 11% described it as a reliable source.

14% of respondents said they got information from newspapers and 13% cited television. Neither of these media was regarded as reliable.

The South Sudan Media Survey, conducted in December 2008 by Consumer Options for USAID [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PNADR807.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADR807.pdf) also concluded that radio was the most important source of information in South Sudan.

98% of respondents to this survey cited radio as a source of information. 71% said it was their most important source.

64% of respondents to the USAID survey also cited the church as a source of information.

Other important sources of information highlighted were word of mouth (45%), mobile phone (39%) and television (37%).

However, the USAID survey of 1,194 people had a strong urban bias.

It was conducted in and near six large towns. Most of the people interviewed had been to school and could speak some English.

However, four out of five South Sudanese live in rural villages, most of which are beyond the reach of terrestrial TV broadcasts and mobile network coverage.

Mobile phone and TV usage in the population as a whole is therefore likely to be much lower than the USAID survey indicates.

All the same, media consumption habits are changing fast.

Many new radio stations have opened and the mobile phone network has expanded considerably since both media audience surveys were carried out.

Fondation Hironnelle was due to publish the results of a new media audience survey in early 2012.

Southern Sudan covers 640,000 square km. Its territory is roughly equivalent in size to Somalia or Afghanistan.

But there are few roads and most of those which do exist are little more than dirt tracks. The majority are closed for several months of the year by seasonal flooding.

The telephone landline network was torn up during the civil war and has not been replaced.

However, the mobile phone network has expanded rapidly since the return of peace in 2005.

It now covers all of South Sudan's main towns and many of the main roads that link them.

South Sudan's largest mobile phone operator, **Zain**, estimated in 2011 that about 1.3 million people had mobile phones or the potential to buy and use them.

The SPLM government in Juba has encouraged the establishment of private FM radio stations and these have proliferated.

By early 2012 the government had established state-run radio stations in nine of the the country's 10 state capitals.

**Aweil**, the capital of Northern Bahr el Ghazal state was the only state capital without a government radio station. However, it did have a government-run TV station and two non-government FM stations could be heard clearly in the town.

These were Radio Miraya, the UN radio station, and the Internews-supported community radio station, Nhomlaau FM, based in nearby Malualkon.

Several draft laws to protect freedom of expression and regulate the media have been drawn up. But by early 2012, none of them had been approved by parliament and promulgated.

Media development organisations and pro-democracy groups are concerned that this situation creates a dangerous lack of clarity for both journalists and government officials.

They point out that the current legal vacuum enables political leaders and government officials to act arbitrarily and with impunity to limit freedom of expression whenever they wish to do so.

According to local and international media sources, the SPLM retains tight political control of government radio and television.

Furthermore, the SPLM authorities often use a heavy hand to curb opposition access to the private media.

During the campaign for the 2009 presidential and legislative elections, security agents raided two independent radio stations in Juba, **Liberty FM** and **Bakhita Radio**, after they aired opposition criticisms of the South Sudan government.

Both stations were also closed briefly by the government in March 2010 after allowing opposition politicians to express their views on air.

Pro-democracy groups have documented numerous other instances of journalists from other media being arrested or harassed by security officials.

Professional standards in journalism are low. Very few South Sudanese journalists have received professional training.

Many journalists are former refugees educated in Kenya and Uganda who began working in the media in those countries.

The South Sudan government operates medium wave radio stations in **Juba, Wau, Bentiu** and **Malakal** .

It also operates FM stations in **Juba, Wau, Bentiu, Malakal, Bor, Torit, Kwajok, Yambio and Rumbek.**

These are operated through an umbrella network known as **South Sudan Radio.** However each station in the network produces and broadcasts its own programming and is largely autonomous.

Veronica Gordon, a Director at South Sudan Radio, said that by early 2012 it was technically possible to link up all the stations in the network in order to broadcast important programmes live right across the nation.

But she said this was only done occasionally to provide live coverage of major national events due to the high cost involved.

The broadcast output of South Sudan Radio's FM stations is heavily influenced by the local SPLM political leaders and senior administrators in each state.

There are also four independent radio networks which have developed extensive coverage of Southern Sudan:

- **Radio Miraya** [www.radiomiraya.org](http://www.radiomiraya.org) is a radio station set up in 2006 by the United Nations Mission (UNMIS) in Sudan in partnership with the Swiss-based Fondation Hirondelle [www.hirondelle.org](http://www.hirondelle.org). It broadcasts from Juba on 26 FM relay stations across Southern Sudan and on short wave. In early 2012 Miraya was planning to increase its coverage still further through the construction of new relay stations and the installation of more powerful transmitters on some of its existing masts.
- **Catholic Radio Network (CRN)** <http://www.sudancatholicradio.net> is a network of nine local radio stations set up by the Roman Catholic Church since 2006. It claims to reach a total potential audience of more than four million people. The network has a training centre in **Wau** and a central news room in **Juba**. CRN has eight affiliated FM radio stations across South Sudan. It also operates a small FM station serving the Christian communities in the disputed **Nuba Mountains** in South Kordofan State in Sudan. All these stations are linked by V-sat to the network centre in Juba. The satellite link enables centrally produced sound clips and scripts to be distributed electronically for local broadcasting. Formerly called the Sudan Catholic Radio Network, the CRN officially shortened its name to the **Catholic Radio Network** in early 2012.
- **Sudan Radio Service (SRS)** [www.sudanradio.org](http://www.sudanradio.org) broadcasts into Southern Sudan and Darfur from **Nairobi** on short wave. The station is financed by the US government. Its main studios are in Nairobi, but it also has news rooms in Juba and Khartoum. In 2010, SRS also launched an FM station in **Juba**. Since then, it has progressively transferred more of its programme production from Nairobi to Juba.

- **Internews** [www.internews.org](http://www.internews.org) -supported community radio stations. The US-based media development organisation Internews supports a network of four FM radio stations in remote towns of South Sudan and two more in disputed areas outside South Sudan's internationally recognized borders. All these stations are linked by satellite to the Internews country office in **Juba**. Internews claimed in August 2011 that together the six stations reached 1.7 million listeners.

Several other local FM stations have sprung up.

Some are owned by community groups, some by Christian missionary organisations and others by private businessmen.

Given the failure of FM and Medium Wave broadcasts to reach many parts of Southern Sudan, Short Wave radio still plays an important role in the territory.

However, wherever FM is available, it remains the medium of choice.

Local broadcasters using short wave include **Radio Miraya**, **SRS** and **Radio Peace** [www.globaledneavour.org](http://www.globaledneavour.org), a station run from Nairobi by a US Christian evangelist organisation.

**BBC World Service** is widely listened to on short wave in English and Arabic. It also broadcasts on FM in **Juba, Malakal, Wau and Yambio**.

The South Sudan government operates a television service in Juba and a handful of other large towns, but this only reaches a small and largely urban audience.

Newspapers barely circulate outside Juba and the other main towns. Newspapers are only read by the urban English-speaking educated elite.

Two daily newspapers, **The Citizen** and **The Juba Monitor**, are published and printed in Juba.

Most of the rest are weeklies that are printed in Kampala or Nairobi and are flown into Juba.

Internet use is even more restricted than newspaper readership. However news websites are an important news channel for enabling South Sudanese in the diaspora to keep up with events at home.

The independent English language news website, **the Sudan Tribune** [www.sudantribune.com](http://www.sudantribune.com), focuses heavily on Southern Sudan.

The **Gurtong Trust**, an NGO set up by a South Sudanese IT expert living in Europe, also runs a news website that focuses on Southern Sudan <http://www.gurtong.net>

## **Radio overview**

Radio is the single most important source of news and information in South Sudan.

Separate media audience surveys conducted by the Fondation Hironnelle in 2007 and USAID in 2008 both showed that radio was the most widely used and the most trusted source of information.

At least 30 FM stations have been set up across the country with the encouragement of the SPLM government in Juba since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005.

All the state capitals can receive at least one FM radio station.

Many other local FM stations cover remote parts of the interior.

These are mostly run by churches, community organisations, NGOs and private businesses.

The radio station with widest national coverage in South Sudan is **Radio Miraya**.

This well-resourced radio station based in **Juba** is operated jointly by the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the Swiss-based Fondation Hironnelle.

It uses satellite links to broadcast from 26 different FM relay stations across the country. Most of Miraya's programmes are in **English** and **Simple Arabic**.

The South Sudan government operates a loosely coordinated network of local radio stations across the country under the umbrella of **South Sudan Radio**.

Most of these stations broadcast on FM and can only be heard within the vicinity of the town where they are based.

However, some government stations also transmit on Medium Wave to reach a wider geographic area.

South Sudan Radio broadcasts on Medium Wave from **Juba, Wau, Bentiu** and **Malakal**.

It operates local FM stations in **Juba, Wau, Bentiu, Malakal, Bor, Torit, Kwajok, Yambio** and **Rumbek**.

Each station in the network produces and broadcasts its own programming.

Veronica Gordon, a Director at South Sudan Radio, said that by early 2012 it was technically possible to link up all the stations in the network in order to broadcast important programmes live right across the nation.

But she said this was only done occasionally to provide live coverage of major national events due to the high cost involved.

The broadcast output of South Sudan Radio's FM stations is heavily influenced by the local SPLM political leaders and senior administrators in each state.

Despite the proliferation of FM stations in recent years, many remote areas still rely on Short Wave broadcasts. And not all families have a radio.

The 2007 Hironnelle media audience survey showed that the most popular time of day to listen to the radio was 06.00 to 09.00 in the morning.

There was a second much lower peak in listening in the evening from 16.00 to 20.00.

The survey showed that people usually listen to the radio at home, at a friend's house or at a community centre.

In South Sudan, radio listening is widely regarded as a social activity.

The Hironnelle survey found the most popular stations were: **BBC World Service English** (16% regular listenership), **Miraya FM** (16%), **Sudan Radio Service** (15%) and **Radio Omdurman** (9%)

However, it is probable that radio audience loyalties have changed since then. It is likely that more people listen to the new local FM stations that have opened up, and fewer listen to Miraya, SRS and the BBC.

It is also likely that **Voice of America (VOA)** has started to gain a larger audience in South Sudan following the launch of its daily English language programme "Sudan in Focus" in 2010.

This 30-minute magazine programme is aimed specifically at audiences in South Sudan called "Sudan in Focus". It is broadcast on Short Wave and on FM by local partner radio stations.

Radio Omdurman is the official radio station of the Sudan government in Khartoum. It no longer broadcasts in South Sudan.

One of the big attractions of local FM stations is that they broadcast mainly in the tribal languages of their target audience.

Their programmes are therefore easier to understand than those of national and international broadcasters, which are mostly in **English, Arabic** and **Simple Arabic**.

The local stations also deal with local issues that relate directly to their listeners' everyday lives.

The Hironnelle survey found that the most popular types of radio programme were news (48%), music (27%), sports (21%), talk shows (20%), HIV/Aids awareness (17%) and education (16%).

It also showed that the typical radio listener was a male aged 20 to 34 who had some degree of education. Men were much more likely to listen to radio than women.

There are four radio networks with broad coverage across Southern Sudan.

These are:

- **Radio Miraya** [www.radiomiraya.org](http://www.radiomiraya.org) set up in 2006 by the United Nations Mission (UNMIS) in Sudan in partnership with the Swiss-based Fondation Hironnelle [www.hironnelle.org](http://www.hironnelle.org). It broadcasts from Juba on 26 FM relay stations across Southern Sudan and on short wave. In early 2012, Miraya was planning to increase its coverage still further through the construction of new relay stations and the installation of more powerful transmitters on some of its existing masts.
- **Catholic Radio Network** [www.sudancatholicradio.net](http://www.sudancatholicradio.net) a network of nine local radio stations set up by the Roman Catholic Church since 2006. It claims to reach a potential audience of more than four million people. CRN has a training centre in **Wau** and a central news room in **Juba**. The network operates eight FM radio stations across Southern Sudan in **Juba, Torit, Malakal, Rumbek, Tonj, Yei, Wau and Yambio**. It also runs a small FM station at **Gidel** in the Nuba Mountains in Kordofan State in Sudan. All these stations are linked by V-sat to the network centre in Juba. The satellite link enables centrally produced sound clips and scripts to be distributed electronically for local broadcasting. Formerly called the Sudan Catholic Radio Network, the CRN officially shortened its name to the **Catholic Radio Network** in early 2012.
- **Sudan Radio Service (SRS)** [www.sudanradio.org](http://www.sudanradio.org) broadcasts into Southern Sudan and Darfur from **Nairobi** on short wave. The station is financed by the US government. Its main studios are in Nairobi, but it also has news rooms in Juba and Khartoum. In 2010, SRS launched an FM station in **Juba**. Since then, it has progressively transferred more of its programme-making from Nairobi to Juba.
- **Internews** [www.internews.org](http://www.internews.org) -supported community radio stations. The US-based media development organisation Internews supports a network of four FM radio stations in remote towns of South Sudan: **Turalei, Leer, Malualkon** and **Nasir**. It also supports two other stations in disputed areas outside South Sudan's internationally recognized borders at **Kauda** in the Nuba Mountains and **Kurmuk** in Blue Nile State. All these stations are linked by satellite to the Internews country office in **Juba**. Internews claimed in 2011 that together these stations reached 1.7 million listeners.

Many radio stations mix languages within the same programme. The most common combinations are **English** and **Simple Arabic**. Often there are two presenters in the studio, one speaking in each language.

USAID distributed over 600,000 radio sets in 2007 to try to boost radio audiences in Southern Sudan. These were wind-up radios with solar panels. However, many of them broke down quite quickly, often because the recipients did not know how to use them properly.

According to the Catholic Radio Network, many people in the Nuba Mountains in South Kordofan left their radio sets outside in the rainy season, not realizing that water would damage them.

The biggest barrier to radio listening cited by respondents to the Hironnelle survey was the cost of batteries.

## **Radio stations and networks**

### **South Sudan Radio** (no website)

This radio network is directly controlled by the government of South Sudan.

It operates **Radio Juba** as a national station, broadcasting on Medium Wave.

South Sudan Radio operates separate regional medium wave radio stations in **Wau, Bentiu** and **Malakal**.

Since 2005 the South Sudan government has set up new FM stations in nine of the 10 state capitals: **Juba, Wau, Kwajok, Bor, Malakal, Yambio, Rumbek, Bentiu** and **Torit**.

Some of these FM stations are owned by the government of the state where they are situated. Locally-based SPLM officials often influence their broadcast output.

However, in reality, all government radio stations are managed as part of the South Sudan Radio network.

This is technically capable of simulcasting live programming across the entire network, but it only does so occasionally for special events because of the high cost involved.

In 2011, the government was planning to open new state-run FM stations in **Aweil** and **Kajo Keji**.

The studio facilities of the government FM stations are generally primitive. Some of them only broadcast for four to six hours per day.

South Sudan Radio has developed with the help of training and equipment from South Africa and several international media development organisations.

According to pro-democracy groups and a study of media coverage of the April 2010 general election by the Danish NGO International Media Support, the news and current affairs output of Southern Sudan Radio is strongly biased in favour of the SPLM.

Southern Sudan Radio's stations include the following:

## **Radio Juba**

This is the flagship station of the South Sudan Radio network.

It broadcasts on FM and Medium Wave in **English, Arabic** and **Simple Arabic**.

The station also carries some programmes in **Zande, Madi, Muru, Bari Latuka, Toposa, Didinga** and **Kuhu**.

Radio Juba can be heard within a 400 km radius of the capital on Medium Wave. Its audience mainly consists of people who are beyond the range of FM broadcasts by other stations.

Radio Juba is on air for eight hours per day from 06.45 to 10.00 in the morning and again from 15.45 to 21.20 in the evening.

A 15 minute news bulletin is broadcast in English, Arabic and Simple Arabic in the evening and is repeated the following morning.

There is a daily one-hour phone-in programme each morning.

Radio Juba started broadcasting on FM in 2011 following the delivery of new equipment.

It now has internet access in the news room.

Director of Radio – Suzanne Alphonse

Director of Programmes – Rehan Alhabi Rehan

Director of Radio News – Yusef Michael Daffalla

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## **Radio Wau**

This radio station can be heard on Medium Wave and FM up to 100 km from Wau, the capital of Western Bahr el Ghazal state, depending on weather conditions.

It broadcasts for two hours per day, mostly in **Arabic**.

News bulletins are broadcast in both **Arabic** and **English**.

Some programmes are broadcast in **Dinka, Jur** and **Balanda**

The station is owned by the government of Southern Sudan, but is managed by the Western Bahr el Ghazal state government.

Director of Radio Section – Deng Alor Koor

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## **Radio Malakal**

This station is run by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry in Upper Nile state.

According to BBC Monitoring, its Medium Wave broadcasts can be heard within 100 km radius of **Malakal**, the state capital. It also broadcasts on FM.

Radio Malakal broadcasts for five hours per day, mostly in **Arabic**.

**English** is used for newscasts and special programmes.

The station also broadcasts in **Dinka, Nuer** and **Shilluk**.

Director: Mr. Gatbel Lam

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Email: [gatbellam@ymail.com](mailto:gatbellam@ymail.com)

### **Radio Rumbek**

This station broadcasts on 98.0 FM from Rumbek, the capital of Lakes State, northwest of Juba. It is owned by the Lakes State Government.

It broadcasts in **English, Juba Arabic, Dinka, Thokrel and Gurdey**.

English is mostly used for newscasts and civic education programmes.

The station's extensive use of **Dinka** makes it popular with local people.

The 2007 Hironnelle Foundation survey showed that Radio Rumbek was far more popular than any other radio station in Lakes State.

The radio broadcasts on Medium Wave and FM and can be heard within 130 km radius of Rumbek.

Contact person - Manyang Mayom (Also a correspondent of the Paris-based news website Sudan Tribune)

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### **The Voice of Eastern Equatoria State**

This radio station broadcasts on 97.5 FM from **Torit**, the capital of Eastern Equatoria State, southeast of Juba.

The station's main transmitter in Torit has a range of 30 to 50 km radius.

Voice of Eastern Equatoria State also has an FM relay station at **Kapoeta**, near the Kenyan border.

The radio station is owned by the Eastern Equatoria State government. It opened in 2008.

The station broadcasts mostly in **Acholi and Latuka**.

**Langi, Madi and Toposa are also used.**

News bulletins are in **English** and **Juba Arabic**.

In 2011 the station was planning to station correspondents in each of the eight counties of Eastern Equatoria State.

The management is willing to accommodate discussion programmes initiated by humanitarian agencies, especially at times of crisis.

Assistant News Editor – Henry Lokuri Benjamin

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Email: [hlokuri@yahoo.com](mailto:hlokuri@yahoo.com)

## **Bentiu FM**

This radio station broadcasts on 99.0 FM and 558 Khz Medium Wave from Bentiu, the capital of Unity State, north of Juba.

Most of its output is in **Nuer**, but **English** and **Arabic** are used for news bulletins.

The FM broadcasts can be heard within a radius of 60-100km from Bentiu town, but the station can be heard on Medium Wave in most of Unity State.

Bentiu FM mainly broadcasts educational programmes targeting local communities. Unity State is an important oil producing area.

It relays the daily **Voice of America (VOA)** news magazine programme “Sudan in Focus.”

Coordinator: Mr. Gatwich Stephen

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Email: [gatwich.stephen@yahoo.com](mailto:gatwich.stephen@yahoo.com)

## Radio Kwajok

This station broadcasts on 99.0 FM from **Kwajok** the capital of Warrap State.

It can be heard within a radius of about 200 km, reaching some parts of Unity, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Lakes states.

Radio Kwajok broadcasts mainly in **Dinka** and **Bongo**.

**English** is used for news bulletins, announcements and some programmes.

Managing Director: Bonabeeck Akok Abiem

Tel: +211 906 863 141

Email: [bankanei@yahoo.com](mailto:bankanei@yahoo.com)

## Yambio 90.0 FM

This radio station was set up by the government of Western Equatoria State in 2009.

It broadcasts on 90.0 FM.

Acting Station Manager - Mbugo Phillip William

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## Radio Jonglei 95.9 FM

This radio station in **Bor**, the capital of Jonglei State, is a joint venture between the Jonglei State government and Sudan Christian Ministries, a local church group.

It was launched in April 2010 and broadcasts on 95.9 FM.

Jonglei State government has a controlling 70% stake in the radio station. The churches have 30%

Radio Jonglei says it aims to foster peace and unity among the six main tribes in Jonglei State by broadcasting to them in their own languages.

Most programming is in **Arabic** and **English**, but the station also broadcasts in **Dinka, Nuer** and **Anyuak**

The radio claims to reach more than three quarters of Jonglei state, but this appears unlikely. Radio Jonglei does not appear to have any FM relay stations outside Bor. Neither does it transmit on Medium Wave.

Jonglei State has a long history of tribal warfare. More than 140,000 people were forced to flee their homes in a major outbreak of fighting between the **Nuer** and **Murle** tribes in eastern Jonglei in early 2012.

Radio Jonglei's programming is largely focused on education.

It relays **Voice of America (VOA)** news every day at 19:30 and broadcasts a local news programme at 21.00

Manager - Malek Gutnyin  
Cell: + 211 955 120 395

### **Radio Miraya** [www.radiomiraya.org](http://www.radiomiraya.org)

Radio Miraya is the UN radio station in South Sudan. It has a wider geographic reach than any other FM radio station in the country.

It broadcasts from **Juba** on 101.0 FM through a network of 26 relay stations linked by satellite.

The station also broadcasts on 9940 Khz Short Wave.

Miraya means "mirror in Arabic."

The radio station was set up in 2006 by the United Nations Mission (UNMIS) in Sudan in partnership with the Swiss-based Fondation Hirondelle.

Its remit was to promote peace and reconciliation and provide reliable news and information following the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

Radio Miraya is financed by the governments of Germany, Switzerland and Sweden.

During the first five years of its activity, Radio Miraya maintained a news room in **Khartoum** and broadcast to the whole of Sudan on Short Wave.



Miraya was planning to establish a reporting bureau in every state capital of South Sudan during the course of 2012.

The station broadcasts round the clock.

Most of its programming is in **English, Arabic** and **Simple Arabic**.

There are also some programmes in **Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk, Bari, Zande, Lutuka, Mole** and **Lovo (Acholi)**

The station's staff has shrunk in size since the closure of its broadcasts to Sudan in 2011..

In early 2012 it employed about 17 local staff, most of whom had been trained in-house, and about 14 expatriates.

According to BBC World Service Trust research in 2008, the station is very popular, especially among the youth. It has a good reputation for news.

Since South Sudan became independent and Radio Miraya refocused all of its attention on broadcasting to audiences in the new country, the stated objective has been: "To contribute to the creation of a democratic, peaceful and stable new state of South Sudan by providing nation-wide high quality news and information"

Miraya carries regular news bulletins in **English** and **Simple Arabic** throughout the day. There are also entertainment, current affairs and civic education programmes, debates and phone-in shows.

Radio Miraya has FM repeater stations in the following locations:

**Juba**  
**Akobo**  
**Aweil**  
**Bentiu**  
**Bor**  
**Ezo**  
**Gok Machar**  
**Kajo Keji**  
**Kapoeta**  
**Koch**  
**Kwajok**  
**Malakal**  
**Maridi**  
**Melut**  
**Mundri**  
**Nasir**  
**Nimule**

**Pibor**  
**Raja**  
**Renk**  
**Rumbek**  
**Torit**  
**Wau**  
**Yambio**  
**Yei**  
**Yuai**

Additional FM relay stations were due to be installed at 15 new sites in 2012, including the following locations:

**Mayom**  
**Pariang**  
**Turalei**

Radio Miraya was also planning to increase the strength of several of its smaller existing transmitters from 250 to 1000 watts.

In early 2011, Radio Miraya staff expressed concerns that the station's rural audience was bleeding away in some areas to local FM stations which broadcast in local languages.

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Editor in Chief – Kevin Bellwood  
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Fondation Hironnelle South Sudan Country Representative – Anne Bennett  
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**Catholic Radio Network (CRN)** [www.sudancatholicradio.net](http://www.sudancatholicradio.net)

The Catholic Radio Network (CRN) consists of nine local radio stations linked to the Roman Catholic Church.

It was set up in 2006 by the Comboni Missionary Institutes and the Sudan Catholic Bishops' conference.

The network runs a training centre in **Wau** and a common newsdesk at the network headquarters in **Juba**.

The network headquarters in Juba is linked by V-sat to all of CRN's affiliated stations. This enables programme scripts to be distributed by email for translation into local languages.

The central newsdesk also distributes short audio clips by email to its affiliated stations for local broadcast.

It generates two national news bulletins every day. These are broadcast by all the stations in the network, along with local news.

The Juba newsdesk also promotes the exchange of information and programming between the different stations in the network.

All the Catholic stations share the same vision and mission and are bound by common editorial and administrative policies.

Their stated mission is: *"To reach-out to the people of South Sudan with a means of communication and information that builds peace through reconciliation and healing of trauma."*

Although there is a strong Christian ethos to the stations, they aim to offer "room for a constructive dialogue with those who own different perspectives."

They also avoid taking sides with any political party or group.

Each station broadcasts locally produced culture-sensitive programming in the languages which are understood by local people, in addition to networked content.

The network's member stations broadcast in a total of 22 languages.

CRN's first station to go on air was **Bakhita FM** in **Juba** in 2006.

By 2012, the network consisted of eight associated radio stations in South Sudan and one in the disputed Nuba Mountains area of South Kordofan State in Sudan.

Most of these stations could be heard clearly within a 100 km radius of their transmitter. Some reached even further.

In early 2012, CRN had affiliated stations on air in:

**Juba**  
**Malakal**  
**Nuba Mountains**  
**Rumbek**  
**Tonj**  
**Torit**  
**Yambio**  
**Yei**  
**Wau**

Director – Sister Paola Moggi

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Editor – Jose Vieira

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Email: [scrnnews@gmail.com](mailto:scrnnews@gmail.com)

SCRN's affiliated stations are:

**Bakhita FM** [www.bakhitaradio.org](http://www.bakhitaradio.org)

This station broadcasts on 91.0 FM in **Juba**. The main languages used are **English, Arabic** and **Juba Arabic**.

It also broadcasts in **Bari, Madi** and **Acholi**.

Bakhita was set up in 2006 by the Catholic Archdiocese of Juba. It was the first Catholic radio station to go on air in South Sudan

It is on air from 07.00 until 22.00 with a short afternoon break.

Bakhita's output includes: discussion forums, news bulletins and programmes about peace building, civic education, health, youth and women's issues.

The station can be heard within 110 km radius of Juba. It claims to reach a potential audience of 1.1 million people

Director – Alberto Tokwaro Fabian  
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Studio: +211 121 90 5961  
Email: [bakhitaradio@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bakhitaradio@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Radio Emmanuel** (no website)

Radio Emmanuel broadcasts on 89.0 FM from **Torit**, the capital of Equatoria State, near the Ugandan border. It is owned by the Catholic Diocese of Torit.

The station has a 2000 watt transmitter on a 72 metre mast.

This normally pushes the signal as far as Kapoeta, 120 km to the east, Ikotos, 80 km to the south in the Matong Mountains and Lafon, 90 km to the north.

The station opened in 2009.

Radio Emmanuel broadcasts for 10.5 hours per day in **English, Juba Arabic, Lotuho, Didinga, Pari, Madi, Toposa and Acholi.**

It runs discussion programmes on civic education, family, youth and cultural issues and the reintegration of demobilised soldiers and returning civilians who were displaced by the civil war.

The station also airs a series of phone-in shows. These include its morning flagship programme 'Wake up Eastern Equatoria.'

A twice-weekly show called 'Family Matters' is dedicated to health and nutrition.

Radio Emmanuel has eight full-time staff and several part-timers.

The station is on air for eight hours per day from 07.00 to 12.30 in the morning and again from 16.00 to 21.00 in the evening.

Director – Father Lounoi Santino Stephen  
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[Emmanuelnews12@yahoo.com](mailto:Emmanuelnews12@yahoo.com)

Producer – Lilian Ochoo  
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**Saut al Mahabba (Voice of Love)** (no website)

Saut al Mahabba broadcasts on 93.6 FM from **Malakal**, the capital of Upper Nile State, on the river Nile.

Its 2000 watt transmitter has a range of about 65 km and reaches a potential audience of 650,000 people.

The station broadcasts for seven hours per day, mainly in **Arabic** and **English**. It also plays songs in **Dinka**, **Nuer** and **Shilluk**.

It is on air for seven hours per day from 09.00 to 12.00 in the morning and again from 16.00 to 20.00 in the evening.

Director – Sister Elena Balatti

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Email: [Saut.al.Mahabba@gmail.com](mailto:Saut.al.Mahabba@gmail.com)

**Radio Good News** (no website)

Radio Good News broadcasts on 89.0 FM from **Rumbek**, the capital of Lakes State, northwest of Juba. It began broadcasting in January 2010.

The station has a 2500 watt transmitter, mounted on a 60-metre mast.

This enables Radio Good News to be heard within 150 km radius of the town.

It claims to reach a potential audience of over one million.

The station broadcasts for nine hours per day in **Dinka** and **English**. There are also some programmes in **Jur Beli** and **Arabic**.

Radio Good News is on air from Monday to Friday 06.30 to 10.30 during school term time, when it broadcasts educational programmes in the morning, and between 06.30 to 08.30 during school holidays and Saturdays.

The station goes on air again from 17.30 to 22.30 at night.

There is a two-hour discussion programme every day at 18.00.

Eight presenter/reporters work for the station.

Director - Father Don Bosco Ochieng Onyalla

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Email: [radiogoodnews@gmail.com](mailto:radiogoodnews@gmail.com)

[rgnnews@gmail.com](mailto:rgnnews@gmail.com)

### **Radio Easter** (no website)

Radio Easter broadcasts on 94.0 FM from **Yei**, a town in Central Equatoria State near the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The station was launched by the Catholic Diocese of Yei in January 2010.

Its 1000 watt transmitter, mounted on a 60-metre high mast pushes the signal as far as Kajo Keji on the river Nile, 110 km to the east.

Radio Easter broadcasts for 6.5 hours per day in **English, Arabic** and **Bari**. It is on air from 07.30 to 12.00 in the morning and again from 17.00 to 19.00 at night.

Director – Father Arike Joseph Eugenio

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Email: [radioeaster@gmail.com](mailto:radioeaster@gmail.com)

### **Radio Don Bosco** (no website)

Radio Don Bosco broadcasts on 91.0 FM from the town of **Tonj** in Warrap State, northwest of Juba.

It transmits for 7.5 hours per day in **English, Arabic, Dinka, Bongo** and **Jur**.

Radio Don Bosco went on air for the first time in February 2010.

The station is attached to a secondary school and has a music studio. It is on air from 06.30 to 10.00 in the morning and again from 17.00 to 21.00 in the evening.

Its 2000 watt transmitter, mounted on a 60-metre high mast, has a range of about 140 km.

Radio Don Bosco claims to reach a potential audience of 500,000.

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Production Manager  
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### **Voice of Peace – Gidel** (no website)

Radio Voice of Peace is located at **Gidel**, a remote location in the **Nuba Mountains** in Southern Kordofan State.

Many inhabitants of the Nuba Mountains, which lie just to the north of the internationally recognized border between Sudan and South Sudan, are Christian.

The Nuba Mountains are one of the “Three Protocol Areas” claimed by the SPLM that are outside the 10 states that comprise the accepted core of Southern Sudan.

Voice of Peace is operated by the Catholic Radio Network (CRN).

It broadcasts for five hours per day on 107.9 FM in **English**, the local dialect of **Arabic, Tira** and **Otoro**.

The radio station is on air between 08.00 and 11.00 in the morning and again from 17.00 to 19.00 at night.

Voice of Peace has a 300 watt solar-powered transmitter mounted on a 30-metre mast which allows its signal to be heard by communities up to 30 km away in the same valley.

In 2011, a relay transmitter was installed on a nearby hill-top. This has extended the radio station’s range to 50 km radius.

The Voice of Peace covers an area with a population of about 150,000 people where there is virtually no mobile telephone network.

It has 10 full-time staff and four part-timers.

In early 2012 the Nuba Mountains were controlled by rebels of the SPLM- North movement.

Director - Sister Mary Carmen Galicia Alfaro  
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Email: [voiceofpeace2008@gmail.com](mailto:voiceofpeace2008@gmail.com)

**Radio Voice of Hope** (no website)

Radio Voice of Hope broadcasts from **Wau**, the capital of Western Bahr-el-Ghazal State.

It is owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wau and forms part of the Catholic Radio Network (CRN).

The station broadcasts on 98.65 FM and can be heard within 90 km of Wau.

Voice of Hope went on air for the first time in October 2011. It employs two full-time journalists and four part-timers.

The station can be heard within 90 km of Wau and reaches an estimated potential audience of 550,000.

The CRN has a radio training centre in Wau.

Director – Enrica Valentini

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**Radio Anisa** (no website)

Radio Anisa is based in **Yambio**, the capital of Western Equatoria State.

Its signal can be heard clearly within 100 km of the town and more faintly as far away as Ezo (160 Km) and Tombura Town (180 km).

The station serves a population of about 400,000.

Radio Anisa is the newest station in the Catholic Radio Network (CRN). It was formally inaugurated in December 2011 after several months of test broadcasts.

It broadcasts on 92.0 FM for eight hours a day in **English, Zande, Arabic** and other local languages.

Radio Anisa is on air for a few hours in the morning and again in the evening.

Father Ignatius Mborihenga, the Director of Radio Anisa, says the station “seeks to educate as well as entertain and to provide information in creative ways that are attractive to the listeners.”

Director - Father Ignatius Mborihenga  
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**Sudan Radio Service (SRS) [www.sudanradio.org](http://www.sudanradio.org)**

Sudan Radio Service (SRS) broadcasts into South Sudan and Darfur from **Nairobi** on Short Wave.

It also operates an FM radio station in **Juba** – SRS FM.

SRS was set up in 2003 by the US-based NGO Education Development Center (EDC) [www.edc.org](http://www.edc.org) with funding from USAID.

It aims to provide its listeners with the knowledge and tools needed to participate more fully in peace-making, reconciliation and development.

The organisation has news rooms in Nairobi, Juba and Khartoum and a network of correspondents throughout Sudan and South Sudan

SRS hires out its digital studios in Nairobi to organisations wishing to record their own programmes and key message spots. It also produces radio outputs to order.

In 2010, SRS entered a partnership with the University of Juba to set up a course in broadcast journalism at the university. This will lead to a Certificate in Broadcast Journalism, the first journalism training qualification to exist in South Sudan.

Since the establishment of its FM station in Juba in 2010, SRS has progressively transferred more and more of its programme making from Nairobi to Juba.

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**SRS FM (Juba) [www.sudanradio.org](http://www.sudanradio.org)**

SRS FM broadcasts round the clock on 98.6 FM from spacious and well-equipped studios on the outskirts of **Juba**.

The station has a 2000 watt transmitter in Juba which covers most of Central Equatoria State. It can be heard as far away as **Yei** and **Nimule**, 150 km to the south and sometimes in **Torit**, 150 km to the east.

SRS FM went on air in July 2010. It broadcasts in **English** and **Juba Arabic**.

Its parent organisation, Sudan Radio Service (SRS) was set up in 2003 by the US-based NGO Education Development Center [www.edc.org](http://www.edc.org) with funding from USAID.

It aims to provide its listeners with the knowledge and tools needed to participate more fully in peace-making, reconciliation and development.

SRS has newsrooms in Juba and Khartoum and a network of correspondents throughout Sudan and South Sudan.

Programming focuses on news and current affairs, civic education, health, agriculture, animal husbandry and business issues. There is also music and entertainment.

There are news bulletins at 08.00, 13.00 and 17.00.

In early 2011, SRS FM employed eight journalists in Juba producing news and local programming.

The Juba station also rebroadcasts material produced by SRS at its main studios in Nairobi.

Chief of Party – Jon Newstrom

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For advertising, program sponsorship or public service announcements:

Marketing Coordinator - Tamburo Michael Renzi

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[srs@edc.org](mailto:srs@edc.org)

[srs@sudanradio.org](mailto:srs@sudanradio.org)

SRS text message line: +211 917 257 601

### **SRS Short Wave (Nairobi)** [www.sudanradio.org](http://www.sudanradio.org)

Sudan Radio Service (SRS) broadcasts to Sudan and South Sudan for three hours per day on Short Wave from **Nairobi**.

It is on air from 07.00 to 08.00 in the morning on 13720 Khz and from 18.00 to 20.00 in the evening on 17745 Khz.

Most of its programming is in **English, Arabic** and **Simple Arabic**.

SRS also has programmes in seven tribal languages that are widely spoken in Southern Sudan: **Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk, Bari, Moru, Zande** and **Toposa**.

Its two hours of daily programming for the troubled Darfur region of Sudan includes segments in **Fur, Masalit** and **Zaghawa**

SRS has newsrooms in Juba and Khartoum and a network of correspondents throughout Sudan and South Sudan.

Its output consists of news and information programmes, public service announcements and educational programmes. There is a daily phone-in show.

SRS estimates that its Short Wave broadcasts reach 1.1 million regular listeners in Southern Sudan

The radio station carries advertisements, sponsored programmes and public service announcements on behalf of other development and relief organisations.

Chief of Party – Jon Newstrom

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### **Internews supported community radio stations** [www.internews.org](http://www.internews.org)

Six FM community radio stations have been set up in conflict-sensitive areas with support from the US-based media development organisation **Internews**.

They operate as a loose network supported by the Internews country office in **Juba**.

All six stations are equipped with V-Sats equipment and satellite phones.

Programming can be distributed to them electronically from the Internews office in Juba.

Four of the stations are based in remote conflict-sensitive areas of South Sudan at **Leer, Maluakon, Turalei and Nasir**.

The other two are located in disputed territory to the north of the internationally recognized border of South Sudan at **Kauda** in the Nuba Mountains in South Khordofan and **Kurmuk** in Blue Nile State.

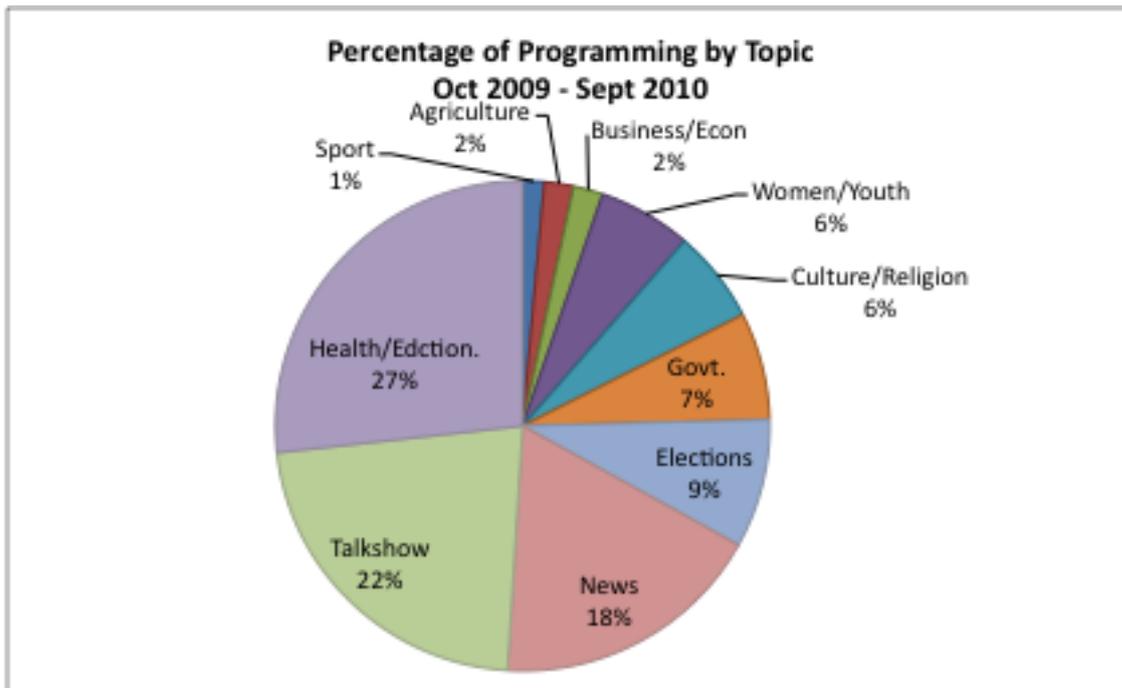
The radio stations broadcast for at least eight hours per day, six days per week. Each station reaches an audience within 60 to 100 km radius of its transmitter.

In 2012, Internews was continuing to assist these stations with programming, training and technical support.

However, the radio station in Kurmuk went off air in August 2011 after fighting broke out in Blue Nile Province between the Sudan army and rebels of the SPLM North.

The Internews community radio development programme in South Sudan is financed by USAID.

The following pie chart shows the programming mix of the Internews supported community radio stations:



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Local Radio Coordinator – Sammy Muraya

Mob: +211 919 796 672

Email: [smuraya@internews.org](mailto:smuraya@internews.org)

### **Nhomlaau FM** (no website)

This station is based in **Maluakon**, a small town in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State.

The station's name means "Freedom" in Dinka. It broadcasts in **English, Arabic** and **Dinka**.

The radio station, established and run with support from Internews, reaches a potential audience of more than 300,000 people.

It can be heard in the state capital **Aweil**, about 80 km to the west.

Radio Station Coordinator - Chris Marol

Mob: +211 911 594 523

Email: [chris.marol@internewssd.org](mailto:chris.marol@internewssd.org)

**Naath FM (Leer, Unity State)** (no website)

This station is based in **Leer** county, an oil-producing area of Unity State, north of Juba.

Its name means “Citizen” in Nuer.

Naath FM was established with support from Internews in 2009. It has a 250 watt transmitter.

The station broadcasts to a potential audience of about 160,000 people in **English, Arabic and Nuer.**

Radio Station Coordinator - Rica Taker

Mob: +211 906 239 835

Email: [rica.taker@internewssd.org](mailto:rica.taker@internewssd.org)

**Naath FM (Nasir, Upper Nile State)** (no website)

A second Internews-supported community radio station called Naath FM opened in **Nasir**, a town on the Sobat river near the Ethiopian border in Upper Nile state, in September 2011.

Naath means “Citizen” in Nuer.

The station is on air for 10 hours per day. It reaches audiences within 100 km radius of Nasir.

Naath FM’s Facebook page is <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Naath-FM-Nasir/225290840848372?sk=wall>

Journalist – Dukhan Jundit Both

Mob: +211 908 587 540

**Mayardit FM** (no website)

Mayardit FM is based in **Turalei** in Warrap State, near the border with Sudan’s South Kordofan state.

Its name means “Peace” in Dinka.

The station broadcasts in **English, Arabic** and **Dinka** to a population of about 330,000 people in its coverage area.

Mayardit FM was established with support from Internews. It first went on air in March 2010.

Its broadcasts can be heard in the nearby disputed territory of Abyei.

Abyei had been under joint administration by Juba and Khartoum until Sudanese security forces and allied Arab militias seized control of the territory in May 2011

Radio Station Coordinator - Deng Bol David

Mob: +249 916 672 048

Email: [Deng.Bol@internewssd.org](mailto:Deng.Bol@internewssd.org)

#### **Radio Al Mujtama Fi Kurmuk** (no website)

This Internews-supported radio station is based in **Kurmuk** in Blue Nile State of Sudan near the Ethiopian border.

It broadcasts in **Arabic, English** and **Udduk**.

The range of broadcast is 60km to the south. Its coverage does not extend northward due to the height of the mountains.

This radio station is situated in Blue Nile State, one of the “Three Protocol Areas” outside the 10 states which comprise the core of Southern Sudan.

It was subject to special administrative arrangements until fighting broke out between the Sudanese security forces and rebels of the SPLM North in August 2011

Radio Al Mujtima Fi Kurmuk, whose name means Kurmuk Community Radio in Arabic, shut down soon afterwards.

Kurmuk was briefly occupied by the SPLM North, but was recaptured by Sudanese government forces in November 2011.

Radio Station Coordinator - Dominic Santo Atem

Mob (Sudan): +249 911 594 673

Email: [dominic.santo@internewssd.org](mailto:dominic.santo@internewssd.org)

### **Voice of Community** (no website)

This Internews-supported radio station is based in **Kauda** in the Nuba Mountains in South Kordofan State of Sudan.

The area is mainly populated by black Christian people who identify closely with South Sudan.

The Nuba Mountains were one of the “Three Protocol Areas” outside the 10 states which comprise the core of South Sudan. They were all subject to special administrative arrangements under the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

However, rebels of the SPLM North seized control of the Nuba Mountains in September 2011 and continued to hold the area in early 2012.

Voice of the Community was still on air in early 2012. Nearly 280,000 people live within the radio station’s coverage area.

Radio Station Coordinator - Walid Ali

Mob (Sudan): +249 911 619 483

Email: [walid.ali@internewssd.org](mailto:walid.ali@internewssd.org)

### **Liberty 89.0 FM** (no website)

Liberty FM is a private radio station based in **Juba**.

It also operates a subsidiary station in **Yei**, a town near the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), 150 km to the southwest.

Liberty FM was set up in 2005 by British businessman Gordon Bell and Peter Yata, a former Mayor of Juba, through a company called Juba Information Outreach.

Liberty FM’s 1200 watt transmitter in Juba covers an area of 80 km radius.

The radio station claims that its station in Yei has a similar reach.

Liberty FM broadcasts from Juba in **English, Juba Arabic** and **Bari**.

From Yei, it broadcasts in **English, Kakwa, Kiswahili, Luganda** and **Arabic**.

English is the main language for news bulletins.

Liberty FM carries a mix of music and talk programmes, covering topics such as health, business, sport, women’s issues and religion. There is a daily afternoon phone-in programme.

The station also rebroadcasts programmes of **the BBC World Service** and the **Voice of America (VOA)**.

The station has repeatedly got into trouble with the SPLM authorities in Juba for allowing the opposition access to its airwaves.

The two Liberty FM stations exchange some programming by internet

News editor – Musa David

Mob: +211 955 214 686

Email: [musa.david71@gmail.com](mailto:musa.david71@gmail.com)

### **Capital FM** (no website)

Capital FM was the first private radio station to go on air in Southern Sudan. It was opened in **Juba** in 2005 by a local businessman, Chaplain Solomon Lui.

This music and entertainment station broadcasts programmes round the clock on 100.0 FM and takes phone-in requests from listeners.

It broadcasts exclusively in **English** and **Juba Arabic** and can be heard within a 30 km radius of the city.

The radio is particularly popular among youth with a passion for music and other forms of entertainment. It does not carry any news bulletins.

In early 2011, the station employed six presenters and was planning to move into new purpose-built studios.

Director – Chaplain Solomon Lui

Mob: +211 477 104 004

+211 126 553 056

Email: [capitalfm@live.com](mailto:capitalfm@live.com)

### **Voice of the People (VOP)** (no website)

This private FM broadcasts from **Juba** in **English** and **Arabic** on 97.0 FM.

It was launched in 2010 and claims to cover a 360 km radius around the capital.

This seems unlikely for a radio station with a single FM transmitter.

According to Benjamin Bol Yei, one of Voice of the People's shareholders, the radio station focuses on "developmental challenges facing the Southern Sudanese people and ways of overcoming this."

He also said the radio aims to persuade South Sudanese professionals in the Diaspora to return home.

Voice of the People relays programmes from **Voice of America (VOA)**, including its daily magazine programme Sudan in Focus.

Ratio magazine reported in 2011 that the investors in the station had plans to set up a private television station in Juba as well.

Director - Mac Mabior

Mob: +211 955 414 931

+211 915 515 974

Email: [mabior1@yahoo.com](mailto:mabior1@yahoo.com)

### **Radio Jonubna** (no website)

This private radio station in **Juba** broadcasts music and entertainment programming in **English** and **Juba Arabic** on 100.0 FM.

Jonubna broadcasts 24 hours per day and can be heard within 80 km radius of Juba.

Its programme output includes phone-ins. Jonubna means "Ourselves" in Juba Arabic.

The station was set up by local businessman Ayii Dwaung, who owns the adjacent Southern Sudan Hotel.

In 2011 he was also planning to set up an Arabic language newspaper in Juba.

Director – Taba Elisa

Mob: +211 955 332 103

+211 929 279 301

### **Grace FM** (no website)

Grace FM broadcasts on 95.1 FM in **Kajo Keji** in Central Equatoria State. The town is situated near the river Nile, close to the Ugandan border.

The radio station was launched in 2008 by Youth Vision Development, a local youth organisation, with assistance from the Danish Refugee Council.

It broadcasts programmes on food security, water and sanitation, education, health democracy, good governance and religion.

The station also carries debates and phone-ins from listeners. The debates often focus on democracy issues.

A great deal of Grace FM programming is related to the local community in Kajo-Keji. The station uses **English** and several local languages in its broadcasts.

Coordinator: Steve Sokiri

Tel: +249 924167488

Email: [stevesok01@yahoo.com](mailto:stevesok01@yahoo.com)

Media Officer, Grace FM - Grace Kisyake

Mob: + 249 128 125 362

Democracy and advocacy advisor, MS Sudan - Peter Tholstrup

Mob: + 211 955 219 207

+ 211 477 199 820

Email: [pt@mssudan.dk](mailto:pt@mssudan.dk)

### **Spirit FM** (no website)

Spirit FM is a private radio station based in **Yei**, southwest of Juba near the DRC border.

It broadcasts on 99.9 FM and covers a radius of 60 km around Yei.

The station has a strong Christian religious element to its programming. It receives support from the US-based Dan Peters Foundation, which supports a number of Christian radio stations in Africa.

The general manager of Spirit FM was briefly arrested in April 2010 for refusing to allow the local SPLM administrator immediate access to the air waves to talk about election results while the station was broadcasting a sponsored programme.

Spirit FM broadcasts mainly in **English** and **Juba Arabic**. Local languages such as **Madi**, **Kuku** and **Kakwa** are also used.

General Manager - Loburi Alex William,

Tel: +211 477 100 445

Email: [Loburialex2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Loburialex2004@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Ngun Kata FM** (no website)

This Christian evangelical radio station is based in **Kaya** in the extreme south of Southern Sudan, close to the point where the borders of Sudan, Uganda and DRC meet.

It broadcasts in **English**, **Juba Arabic**, **Madi** and **Kakwa**.

Ngun Kata was set up by Sudan Christian Ministries in a grass hut on a hill near Kaya to broadcast religious programming, development programming and peace messages to the surrounding area in all three countries.

The name of the station means "God hears" in a local language.

However, the radio station has so far been hampered by the low strength of its transmitter and power supply. As a result, its broadcasts cannot be heard in at least three counties in the area.

The surrounding areas of Sudan, Uganda and DRC have suffered frequent attacks from roving bands of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA).

This Ugandan rebel group, whose wandering bands of gunmen have raided as far afield as the Central African Republic (CAR), is notorious for its brutality and its recruitment of child soldiers.

Ngun Kata receives support from High Adventure Gospel Communication Ministries [www.hagcm.org](http://www.hagcm.org) a Canadian Christian missionary organisation.

Email: [sales@biblevoice.org](mailto:sales@biblevoice.org)

### **Nehemiah Trumpet Call (NTC)** (no website)

This is a Christian evangelical radio station broadcasting from the village of **Morongole**, near **Nimule**, on the Ugandan border.

NTC broadcasts on 97.3 FM from a 350 watt transmitter mast situated on the hill just above Nimule town. However, the studio is in Morongole, a village just off the main road to Juba, about 35 km to the north.

The station can be heard easily within 60 km radius of Nimule.

NTC normally broadcasts from 06.30 to 22.00 in **English**, **Juba Arabic**, **Ma'di**, the most widely spoken local language in the Nimule area, and **Acholi**.

Its programming consists mainly of music and religious programmes. The station also carries a daily discussion programme on social and community issues with a phone-in every afternoon.

People in the Nimule area also listen to FM stations broadcasting from Uganda.

Director – Jimmy Kitara Levi

Mob: +211 955 619 072

+211 903 809 414

+211 756 102 271

Email: [jklevi2011@hotmail.com](mailto:jklevi2011@hotmail.com)

### **Radio Peace** [www.globalendeavour.org](http://www.globalendeavour.org)

Radio Peace broadcasts Christian evangelist programming on short wave frequencies 4750 khz and 5895 khz from transmitters at an undisclosed location in South Sudan.

It is on air for six hours per day in **English**, **Dinka**, **Nuer**, **Arabic** and **Juba Arabic**.

The station is run by the US-based Christian evangelist organisation Global Endeavor [www.globalendeavor.org](http://www.globalendeavor.org) and is managed from Nairobi, Kenya.

It works in partnership with the Nairobi-based Association of Christian Resource Organisations Serving Sudan (ACROSS)

Radio Peace claims that its signal reaches the southern third of Sudan, including some parts of Darfur and South Kordofan.

Between 2004 and 2009, Radio Peace distributed 30,000 radio sets to people in Southern Sudan. It had plans to distribute even more.

The organisation plans to set up subsidiary radio stations in the south, but has not yet disclosed their intended location.

General Manager – Peter Stover

Founder, Radio Peace - Brad Phillips

Tel (USA): +1 888 201 5245

**Voice of America (VOA)** [www.voanews.com](http://www.voanews.com)

Voice of America (VOA), the external broadcasting service of the US government, broadcasts to Sudan and South Sudan on Short Wave in **English** and **Arabic**.

From Monday to Friday VOA broadcasts a daily 30-minute **English** language news magazine programme called “Sudan in Focus.”

This is aimed primarily at listeners in South Sudan.

The programme goes out live at 19.30 in the evening on 9675, 12015 and 13825 Khz Short Wave.

It is also relayed on FM and Medium Wave by several partner radio stations in South Sudan.

“Sudan in Focus” was launched in May 2010 during the run-up to the referendum on independence in South Sudan.

Tel (USA): +1 202 205 9942

Email: [sudanproject@voanews.com](mailto:sudanproject@voanews.com)

**BBC World Service** [www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice)

BBC World Service broadcasts in **English** and **Arabic** on 88.2FM in **Juba, Malakal, Wau and Yambio**.

It also broadcasts to South Sudan on Short Wave.

**Radio France Internationale (RFI)/Radio Montecarlo** [www.rfi.fr](http://www.rfi.fr)

RFI, the French government's international radio station, broadcasts in **French**, **English** and **Arabic** on 90.40 FM in **Juba**.

Its Arabic language broadcasts are branded as Radio Montecarlo.

## **Television**

The only functioning television station in South Sudan is the government-run **South Sudan Television (SSTV)** station in **Juba**.

It broadcasts for six hours in the evening in **English** and **Arabic**. Its terrestrial signal can be received within 25 km radius of the city.

SSTV also runs small local TV stations in **Aweil, Wau, Malakal** and **Rumbek**. These produce a limited amount of separate programme output.

Aweil TV transmits programmes to viewers within 35 km radius of its transmitter in the capital of Northern Bahr el Ghazal state.

Its editorial policy toes the government line. The station is located close to the town's railway terminal.

SSTV Juba can also be viewed on satellite TV. It is available through the South African satellite broadcaster DSTV.

South Africa has provided training for SSTV staff.

The Southern Sudan government was planning to establish 300 community viewing centres across Southern Sudan for people who do not have a television set at home.

SSTV Director (Juba) - Francis Duku

Mob : +249 955 528 435

+249 128 610 774

Email: [dukuabe@googlemail.com](mailto:dukuabe@googlemail.com)

Aweil TV Director - B. Kun

Mob: +211 907 661 296

## **Print overview**

South Sudan has two daily newspapers, **The Citizen** and **The Juba Monitor**.

Both are produced and printed in the capital **Juba**.

There are several other titles which appear weekly or twice a week. Nearly all of them are published in **English**.

Sales are low – typically between 1,000 and 5,000 copies per edition.

Half a dozen new weekly newspapers hit the streets of Juba in early 2011 during the run-up to independence.

These included the first **Arabic** language newspaper to be published in South Sudan; **Al Maseer** (Destiny).

In early 2012, most South Sudanese newspapers were still printed in Kampala or Nairobi and flown into Juba for distribution.

Newspapers circulate almost exclusively amongst the educated elite in Juba and the other main towns.

They influence opinion amongst politicians, civil servants and businessmen in the capital, but very few copies reach rural villages.

Most copies are sold in **Juba, Rumbek** and **Yei**. Occasionally newspapers reach other towns in the south, such as **Torit** and **Bor**.

Many newspapers aimed at readers in South Sudan were formerly printed in Khartoum.

However, by early 2012, **The Juba Post** was the only publication still operating such an arrangement.

In early 2012 there were two printing presses in Southern Sudan capable of printing newspapers.

One was owned by the government, the other by **The Citizen**.

## **Newspapers**

### **The Citizen** [www.thecitizen.info](http://www.thecitizen.info)

The Citizen became South Sudan's first daily newspaper when it transferred all its operations from Khartoum to Juba in 2010.

This independent newspaper is strongly supportive of South Sudan's independence.

It was founded in 2005 by Nhial Bol, a former journalist at the Khartoum Monitor, an English-language paper which was published in Khartoum from 2000 to 2011.

The Citizen was originally edited and printed in Khartoum. However it had had many run-ins with the Sudanese government and has frequently been forced to suspend publication.

The paper moved its entire operation from Khartoum to Juba in December 2010 and has suffered much less government interference since then.

However, The Citizen has occasionally had problems with the SPLM administration

According to the New York Times, Editor in Chief Bol has been arrested three times since 2007 by the South Sudanese authorities for articles that accused officials of corruption and mismanagement.

In late 2011, The Citizen claimed to be selling 2,000 copies per day

Editor in Chief: Nhial Bol  
Mob: +211 128 106 575

Managing editor – Osman Shinger  
Tel: +211 908760789  
Email: [info@thecitizennews.com](mailto:info@thecitizennews.com)

### **The Juba Monitor** (no website)

The Juba Monitor became South Sudan's second daily newspaper when it was launched in **Juba** in December 2011.

It is owned and managed by Alfred Taban, a former BBC correspondent in Khartoum.

The newspaper is printed on the presses of its rival **The Citizen**.

The Juba Monitor grew out of the Khartoum Monitor, an English language newspaper run by journalists from South Sudan that was based in Khartoum.

The Khartoum Monitor was closed down by the Sudanese government in July 2011, the day before South Sudan became independent.

It reappeared as The Juba Monitor in South Sudan five months later.

Journalist – Omunno M. Otto

Mob: +211 912589 104

Email: [omunom@yahoo.com](mailto:omunom@yahoo.com)

### **The Juba Post** [www.jubapost.org](http://www.jubapost.org)

This bi-weekly newspaper is edited by a team of journalists in Juba, but is still printed in Khartoum.

The Juba Post describes itself as “the first independent newspaper for Southern Sudan.

It was founded in 2005 by the Juba Media Information and Advertising Company with assistance from UNDP and Norwegian Church Aid.

The paper used to claim a print-run of 5,000-7,000, but journalists who worked for it said sales were nearer 3,000.

The Juba Post focuses mainly on politics, but also carries reports on economy, education, health, sports, peace and reconciliation, culture, sustainable livelihood, religion and women’s rights.

It is the only South Sudan newspaper that is still widely sold in Khartoum.

Managing Editor - Charles Rehan Surur.

Mob: +211 912 385 782

Email: [charysurur@hotmail.com](mailto:charysurur@hotmail.com)

Acting Editor in Chief – Michael Koma

Tel: +211 120 780 982

+211 120 779 342

Email: [thejubapost@gmail.com](mailto:thejubapost@gmail.com)

Sales and finance (Juba) -. Sarah Saadia

Tel. +211 121 990 937

+211 915 945 364

Email: [sara.jubapost@gmail.com](mailto:sara.jubapost@gmail.com)

Sales and finance (Khartoum) - Loris Michael Lasuba

Tel: +249 912 376 044

Email: [loris.michael@yahoo.com](mailto:loris.michael@yahoo.com)

### **Sudan Mirror** [www.sudanmirror.com](http://www.sudanmirror.com)

This newspaper publishes twice a week. It is produced and printed in Nairobi.

The Sudan Mirror was set up in 2003 by Dan Eiffe, an Irishman and former Catholic priest, who went on to work for many years for Norwegian People's Aid in Southern Sudan.

Tel: +211 477124693

Email: [mirrorsudan@yahoo.com](mailto:mirrorsudan@yahoo.com)

### **The Southern Eye** (no website)

This weekly newspaper is published in Juba, but is printed in Kampala, Uganda.

Its editorial line favours the South Sudan government.

The Southern Eye was founded in 2006.

It claims a weekly print run up to 1.000 copies.

Most of its sales are in **Juba**, but a few copies can be obtained in **Yei, Torit** and **Yambio**.

The newspaper's offices are in located in the Hai Al-Souk area of Juba.

Acting Editor – Mutsinzi Kali

Mob: +211 477 100 072

+211 477 130 611

Email: [southerneyegoss@yahoo.com](mailto:southerneyegoss@yahoo.com)

[mutsinzikali@yahoo.com](mailto:mutsinzikali@yahoo.com)

### **The Star** ([www.thestarsudan.net](http://www.thestarsudan.net))

This is a weekly newspaper published by Rivers Media Group.

It was launched in 2009, but suspended publication after a few months.

The Star resumed publication in June 2011.

It claims a weekly circulation of 3,000 in **Juba, Yei, Torit, Aweil** and **Bor**.

The Star's offices are located at Mobil roundabout, opposite PETRONAS petrol station, near Juba teaching hospital.

Managing Editor - Mareng Chour Deng

Email: [stareditor1@yahoo.com](mailto:stareditor1@yahoo.com)

[thestareditor@gmail.com](mailto:thestareditor@gmail.com)

Mob: +211 955 686 152

+211 959 000 690

### **The New Times**

This independent weekly newspaper was launched in **Juba** in July 2011.

It claims to sell 3,000 to 5,000 copies per week in Juba and most other large towns in South Sudan, except for Malakal and Bentiu.

The New Times office is in the Thongpiny area of Juba.

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Managing Editor - Badru M. Mulumba

Mob: +211 955 009 984

Email: [badru.mulumba@gmail.com](mailto:badru.mulumba@gmail.com)

### **The Hero** (no website)

This independent weekly newspaper was launched in **Juba** in May 2011.

It claims to sell about 1,000 copies weekly. It is mainly distributed in **Juba, Yeï** and **Nimule**.

The newspaper's offices are located in the Nimra Talata area of Juba.

Managing Editor - Bongiri Peter

Mob: +211 955 566 665

Email: [theheronewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:theheronewspaper@gmail.com)

### **The Pioneer** (no website)

The Pioneer is a weekly newspaper that was launched in Juba in early 2011 by Atem Yak Atem, a veteran South Sudanese journalist.

It sells about 3,000 copies weekly in **Juba, Torit, Aweil, Bor** and **Yambio**.

The Pioneer offices are located within Bakhita 91 FM radio complex in central Juba.

Managing Editor, Atem Yak Atem

Cell: +211 955 813 667

Email: [pioneerjuba@gmail.com](mailto:pioneerjuba@gmail.com)

**Al-Maseer** ([no website](#))

Al-Maseer became South Sudan's first **Arabic** language newspaper when it was launched in February 2011.

Editor Soman Atim said at the time that the weekly newspaper was particularly aimed at South Sudanese returning from Khartoum and the north who had been educated in Arabic.

He said the Al-Maseer aimed to serve as a bridge between South Sudan and the north.

Al Maseer means "destiny" in Arabic.

The newspaper's offices are located in Munuki payam, Juba.

Editor – Soman Atim

Mob: +211 955 008 855

**The New Nation** [www.thenewnation.net](http://www.thenewnation.net)

The New Nation started life as an online newspaper in July 2011 and produced its first printed edition in February 2012.

The publication was founded by Els de Temmerman, a Belgian journalist who was formerly Editor-in-Chief of the government-owned New Vision newspaper in Uganda.

The website mainly carries feature stories and news analyses. It is not always updated on a daily basis.

The New Nation launched its first 36-page paper issue with full colour with financial support from the Belgian government.

Temmerman said some copies of the newspaper would be sold to the public, but 5,000 copies would be distributed free to schools, health centres, government offices, radio stations and NGOs around the country.

It was not clear how frequently it would be published.

The New Nation has three reporters based in Juba and 10 correspondents in the interior.

Its offices are located in Thong Piny area, along the Ministries-Airport Road.

News Editor - Kenneth G. Oluka

Mob: +249 905 259 827

+211 955 944 385

Email: [editor@thenewnation.net](mailto:editor@thenewnation.net)  
[sudanadvocacy@hotmail.com](mailto:sudanadvocacy@hotmail.com)

## **Online media**

The 2007 Hironnelle Foundation media survey of Southern Sudan found that only 7% of respondents used the internet.

It also found that the overwhelming majority of internet users went online at an internet cafe.

Since then, modems that link to the internet via the mobile phone network have become popular amongst computer owners, but connection speeds remain slow.

In reality, only the educated elite in South Sudan's main towns, foreign residents and the diaspora overseas have access to the internet

Several Southern Sudan media outlets, including **Radio Miraya** [www.mirayafm.org](http://www.mirayafm.org) , **Sudan Catholic Radio Network (SCRN)** [www.sudancatholicradio.net](http://www.sudancatholicradio.net) **Sudan Radio Service (SRS)** [www.sudanradio.org](http://www.sudanradio.org) and **The Citizen** [www.thecitizen.info](http://www.thecitizen.info) newspaper carry real time news on their websites.

In addition, there is an independent English language news website, **the Sudan Tribune** [www.sudantribune.com](http://www.sudantribune.com) which focuses heavily on Southern Sudan. It is based in France.

The **Gurtong Trust** [www.gurtong.net](http://www.gurtong.net) , an NGO set up by a South Sudanese IT expert who emigrated to Europe, also runs a news website that carries detailed coverage of Southern Sudan.

**The New Nation** [www.thenewnation.net](http://www.thenewnation.net) is an online newspaper established in July 2011 by Els de Temmerman, a Belgian journalist who was formerly Editor-in-Chief of the government-owned New Vision newspaper in Uganda.

The website mainly carries feature stories and news analyses. It is not always updated on a daily basis.

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News Editor - Kenneth G. Oluka

Mob: +249 905 259 827

+211 955 944 385

Email: [editor@thenewnation.net](mailto:editor@thenewnation.net)  
[sudanadvocacy@hotmail.com](mailto:sudanadvocacy@hotmail.com)

Since very few people in Southern Sudan have access to the internet, these websites have a restricted local readership.

They are mainly used by the diaspora and other people overseas with an interest in Southern Sudan.

## **Traditional and informal channels of communication**

In a society where radio and mobile phone coverage remain limited, face-to-face communication through word of mouth remains hugely important, especially in remote rural areas.

Traditional chiefs and local religious leaders are particularly important and trusted in this regard.

Health Ministry workers who conducted the 2007 Southern Sudan Household Health Survey <http://www.bsf-south-sudan.org/sites/default/files/SHHS.pdf> said religious and local community leaders were very useful in gathering and spreading information due to the influence they had in their communities.

## **The Church**

The umbrella organisation for Christian Churches is the **Sudan Council of Churches**, which has a southern secretariat in Juba.

The Sudan Council of Churches also has regional offices staffed by full-time facilitators in **Wau, Malakal** and **Kassala**. The latter is the capital of Blue Nile State, one of the Three Protocol Areas, whose future status is disputed.

The operational arm of the Sudan Council of Churches is the Inter-Church Council. This comprises:

- Roman Catholic Church
- Episcopal Church of Sudan
- Africa Inland Church
- Presbyterian Church of Sudan
- Sudan Pentecostal Church
- Sudan Interior Church

The Sudan Council of Churches works closely with international NGOs on promoting awareness of HIV/AIDS and caring for those who live with the infection.

It also worked closely with the government to promote voter registration and participation in the 2010 general elections and the 2011 referendum on independence.

In many cases, priests and pastors even modified traditional prayers to incorporate calls to register and vote.

The priests do not just spread key messages in church services.

They also inform and advocate through parish councils and through the women's and youth groups with which they are closely involved.

Secretary General - Reverend Ramadan Chan Liol

Tel (Sudan): +249 915 672 358

Tel (Kenya): +254 723 700 557

Email: [Ramadan.chan@gmail.com](mailto:Ramadan.chan@gmail.com)

Deputy Secretary General – Reverend Mark Akec

Mob: +211 912 493 873

The Roman Catholic Church has a particularly strong network of communications with its congregations. Many of its missions are linked by radio to Juba.

### **The Mosque**

The Southern Sudan Muslim Council is the organisation that represents the Islamic community in South Sudan. It has a permanent secretariat in Juba and local representation at the state, county and payam (smallest unit of local government) level.

It has cooperated with the Sudan Council of Churches and international NGOs on messaging about HIV/AIDS.

However, communication between the Southern Sudan Muslim Council's national secretariat in Juba and outlying branches is usually very slow, taking place only when individuals travel to make face-to-face contact.

Contact:

National Council member - Sheikh Juma Said

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+249 912 921 671

Email: [mubadiroon@yahoo.com](mailto:mubadiroon@yahoo.com)

Sheikh Juma Said is also Executive Director of the local Islamic NGO Mubadiroon.

Messages disseminated through a church or mosque are only likely to influence the members of that religious congregation, not the entire local community.

### **Traditional chiefs and local administrators**

Information can also be disseminated through traditional chiefs. They are usually the most trusted and authoritative source of information for local communities.

However, there is no national organisation which effectively represents traditional chiefs. They must be contacted individually through face-to-face meetings.

This is usually a slow and labour intensive process, especially given the poor state of communications in remote rural areas.

Many parts of Southern Sudan become completely inaccessible during the April to August rainy season.

The most influential local leaders are the traditional chiefs. Some are hereditary, others are appointed or elected through a variety of mechanisms. All of them emerge from the local community through accepted customs.

This tends to give the chiefs greater legitimacy in the eyes of the local population than externally appointed government administrators.

South Sudan is divided into 10 states. The states are divided into counties. Beneath the county level exists the payam, the smallest unit of local government.

Each state has a ministry of local government. This runs the county administration offices. The county offices in turn are in touch with the payam administrator.

During the campaign for the 2011 referendum on independence or unity with the north, the Government of Southern Sudan managed successfully to mobilise people at the payam level to register as voters and then turn out to cast their ballot.

Relations between traditional chiefs and government-appointed local administrators at the payam level are usually good if both representatives are from the same ethnic group.

However, tension and lack of cooperation can arise when they are not.

Social and cultural events such as market day, dances, demonstrations, wrestling matches, weddings and beauty pageants are significant venues for mass communication.

Singers, preachers, presenters and drama groups can use such platforms for raising awareness.

T shirts, hats and posters are widely used by aid agencies for the dissemination of messages. However, it is doubtful how effective such measures are in a largely

illiterate population, unless they are backed up by other channels of information to explain and endorse the message.

### **Loudspeakers**

One popular means of mass communication is the broadcasting of messages such as Public Service Announcements (PSAs) via vehicles with loudspeakers.

In Juba and the surrounding area, Sultan Jambo is widely respected and used by a number of different organisations. His mobile number is +211 121 572 621.

Cars equipped with loudspeakers were extensively used by political parties during campaigning for the April 2010 general elections.

## **Media resources**

Media production facilities are thin on the ground in Juba.

Humanitarian organisations operating in South Sudan often find it easier to record radio spots and programmes and produce printed materials in Nairobi or Kampala.

## **Media associations**

### **Southern Sudan Union of Journalists (SSUJ)**

The Southern Sudan Union of Journalists (SSUJ) broke away from the Union of Journalists of Southern Sudan (UJoSS) in February 2010 after it went into decline.

The SSUJ was subsequently granted official recognition by the government.

The trade union had nearly 80 members in early 2011 and was active in organising journalism training.

Secretary General - Peter Bongiri

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James Lemor - Secretary of External Affairs, SSUJ

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+211 477 148 765

Email: [jameslemor@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jameslemor@yahoo.co.uk) +

### **Union of Journalists of Southern Sudan (UJoSS)**

UJoSS was the first journalists' union to be founded in South Sudan.

It came into being in 2004, before the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement as an association of journalists who worked closely with the SPLA.

It suffered a decline after many of its founders drifted off into other jobs after 2005.

Many of the organisation's remaining members defected to the rival SSUJ when it was founded in early 2010.

However, UJoSS has experienced something of a revival since then. By early 2012 it had a representative based in each of the 10 states of South Sudan.

Chairman - Oliver Modi

Mob: +211 957 100 855

Email: [ujoss.ujoss@yahoo.com](mailto:ujoss.ujoss@yahoo.com)

### **Association of Media Women in Southern Sudan (AMWISS)**

This organisation was founded in 2008 to address the perceived imbalances of media coverage dedicated to women's and children's issues in the region.

Apollonia Mathia – Executive Director, AMWISS

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Email: [apollonia.mathia@gmail.com](mailto:apollonia.mathia@gmail.com),

### **Media development organisations**

**BBC Media Action** [www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/trust](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/trust)

BBC World Media Action, is the international media development arm of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). It has been supporting broadcasters in Southern Sudan since 2008.

Until December 2011, BBC Media Action was known as BBC World Service Trust.

The organisation helps local broadcasters to produce discussion programmes on sensitive social issues, such as violence against women

It worked closely with the **Sudan Catholic Radio Network (SCRN)** and **Sudan Radio Service** to promote balanced, fair and well-informed coverage of the 2010 elections and the 2011 referendum on independence.

Country Director – Carol Morgan

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Email: [Carol.morgan@bbc.co.uk](mailto:Carol.morgan@bbc.co.uk)

**Internews** [www.internews.org](http://www.internews.org)

Internews has been setting up community radio stations in Southern Sudan since 2006 in a project financed by USAID. It continues to provide technical and journalism training for their staff.

These community stations have a broadcast range of about 70kms each. They are on air six days a week for a minimum of 8 hours per day. Together they reach a potential audience of 1.7 million people.

Four of the stations are situated within the internationally recognized border of South Sudan.

Two others are situated in areas of southern Sudan whose final status was not fully resolved by the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement; the Nuba Mountains and Blue Nile State.

The Internews-supported community stations broadcast in at least 10 different languages.

To date, Internews has built and launched six fully-equipped FM community radio stations:

- **Nhomlaau FM** (“Freedom” in Dinka) in **Malualkon**, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State
- **Naath FM** (“Citizen” in Nuer) in **Leer**, Unity State
- **Naath FM** (“Citizen” in Nuer) in **Nasir**, Upper Nile State
- **Radio Al Mujtama Fi Kurmuk** (“Kurmuk Community Radio” in Arabic), **Kurmuk**, Blue Nile State
- **Voice of Community** in **Kauda**, Nuba Mountains, South Kordofan
- **Mayardit FM** (“Peace in Dinka”) in **Turalei**, Warrap State

Sudan Programme Director – Huub Gales

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Community Radio Coordinator – Sammy Muraya

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Email: [smuraya@internews.org](mailto:smuraya@internews.org)

**Free Press Unlimited** [www.freepressunlimited.org](http://www.freepressunlimited.org)

The Dutch-based media NGO Freevoice writes, produces and records drama and public service announcements for radio. It has an office and production studio in Juba.

In 2011 Freevoice merged with two other Dutch media development organisations, **Press Now** (the operator of Radio Dabanga that broadcasts on short wave to Darfur) and the **Radio Netherlands Training Centre** to form a new NGO called **Free Press Unlimited**.

In 2010, UNICEF commissioned Freevoice to produce a series of themed radio dramas. In 2011 it was producing a further series of themed radio dramas and associated discussion programmes for UNHCR.

Freevoice produces radio dramas in **Simple Arabic**.

It has the capability to produce public service announcements in several local languages.

The Freevoice premises are situated near the Al Sabh children's hospital in Juba.

Office Manager – Daniel van Oudenaren

Email: [freevoicecd@gmail.com](mailto:freevoicecd@gmail.com)

Free Press Unlimited headquarters

Tel (Netherlands): +31 35 62 54 300

Email; [info@freepressunlimited.org](mailto:info@freepressunlimited.org)

Address:

FreePress Unlimited  
Witte Kruislaan 55  
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Postbank 7676  
The Netherlands

**International Media Support** [www.i-m-s.dk/content/sudan](http://www.i-m-s.dk/content/sudan)

International Media Support (IMS) is a non-profit organisation working to support local media in countries affected by armed conflict, human insecurity and political transition.

It is based in Denmark and was founded in 2001.

In Sudan, IMS provides training and expertise in safety of media workers and conflict-sensitive reporting. It monitored media coverage of the 2010 elections.

Executive Director (Copenhagen) - Jesper Højberg

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Tel: +45 88 32 7000

Fax: +45 33 12 00 99

Email: [ims@i-m-s.dk](mailto:ims@i-m-s.dk)

### **Agency for Independent Media [www.aimonline.org](http://www.aimonline.org)**

**AIM** is an initiative launched by various media personalities in South Sudan to promote media freedom and professional journalism.

The organisation also aims to strengthen the role of the media as a watchdog on implementation of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

It was founded in 2006.

Secretary General – Esther Wasuk

Tel: +211-120 727 932

+211- 477 104 607

E-mail: [aimsudan@gmail.com](mailto:aimsudan@gmail.com)

### **Association for Media Development in Southern Sudan (AMDISS)**

AMDISS identifies the training needs of the media organisations, promotes media training and lobbies for the development of independent media in Southern Sudan.

By late 2010, it had run out of funding and most of its activities had ceased.

Stephen Tut – Founder member AMDISS

Email: [stephentut@swissmail.org](mailto:stephentut@swissmail.org)

## **Audio and video services**

### **Sudan Radio Service (SRS) [www.sudanradio.org](http://www.sudanradio.org)**

SRS hires out its digital studios in Nairobi to organisations wishing to record their own programmes and spots. It also produces programmes and spots to order for external clients

The radio station may also offer a similar service at its new studios in Juba.

In 2010, SRS entered a partnership with the University of Juba to set up a course in broadcast journalism at the university. This will lead to a Certificate in Broadcast Journalism, the first journalism training qualification to exist in Southern Sudan.

Students on the course will be given hands-on broadcasting experience at SRS.

Contacts:

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Marketing Coordinator - Tamburo Michael Renzi (For advertising, program sponsorship or public service announcements)

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[srs@edc.org](mailto:srs@edc.org)

[srs@sudanradio.org](mailto:srs@sudanradio.org)

### **Radio Miraya [www.radiomiraya.org](http://www.radiomiraya.org)**

Radio Miraya was set up in 2006 by the United Nations Mission (UNMIS) in Sudan in partnership with the Swiss-based Fondation Hirondelle. It is financed by the governments of Germany, Switzerland and Sweden.

Radio Miraya has studios in Juba, Wau, Malakal and Rumbek

It collaborates with a wide range of aid agencies. They are frequently invited to speak and answer questions from listeners on its programmes.

Chief of Radio – Quade Hermann

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Editor in Chief – Kevin Bellwood

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Fondation Hironnelle South Sudan Country Representative – Anne Bennett

Mob: +211 914 709 754

Email: [abennett@hironnelle.org](mailto:abennett@hironnelle.org)

### **Key Recordz Ltd**

Music recording studio established in 2007 that records local artists and produces videos. Its parent company is based in Kampala.

The studio is keen to record jingles, advertisements and spots for radio.

Director/Producer - Bigo Kaliki

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Email: [bigokalibya@yahoo.fr](mailto:bigokalibya@yahoo.fr)

Director/producer Adela Isongo

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Email: [adelardpal@yahoo.com](mailto:adelardpal@yahoo.com)

### **Printers**

#### **Nemexis Designs Limited**

This small firm in Juba designs and prints banners, posters, stickers and T-shirts.

Creative director/designer – Austin Mutwiwa

Haile Selassie Avenue, next to William Doshi, Juba Town.

Mob: +211 955 137 478  
+211 927 120 551  
+211 477 330 298  
Email: [ndl.sudan@gmail.com](mailto:ndl.sudan@gmail.com)

### **NBY Printing and Publishing**

This small firm of printers produces standard office stationery, posters up to A3 size, flyers, pamphlets and magazines.

NBY was set up in 2010 as the local subsidiary of an Eritrean printing company.

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## **Telecommunications overview**

Southern Sudan's telecommunications infrastructure was wrecked during the civil war. The landline telephone network is virtually non-existent.

The mobile telephone network has expanded greatly since the war ended in 2005. It now covers all the main towns and much of the countryside around them. It also extends along many of the country's trunk roads.

But in February 2012, Hakim Dario, the General Manager of Zain, one of South Sudan's five mobile operators, estimated that the mobile network still covered less than half the country's population.

Vast areas of Southern Sudan still have no access to a working telephone line of any description.

Furthermore, outside the state capitals, there is limited overlap between the coverage areas of the different networks.

Many people have mobile phones with dual SIM cards inside connected to different networks to help get round this problem.

Humanitarian agencies still have to rely on radio and satellite communications in remote areas.

A study commissioned by **Zain** in mid-2011 estimated that there were 1.3 million existing or potential mobile subscribers living in areas with access to a mobile network.

Assuming a population of 10 million for South Sudan, that would give a mobile penetration rate of approximately 13%.

At the time, **Zain** had 570,000 subscribers and claimed to be the market leader, with **Vivacell** in second place.

The limited extent of mobile coverage and low mobile penetration rates are not the only obstacles to using mobile phones as a tool for communication with disaster-affected communities in South Sudan.

Low literacy levels prevent people from making full use of text messages.

There are also limited facilities for recharging mobile phone batteries in villages that have no electricity.

Nevertheless, UNICEF has had some success in using SMS messages to alert people to upcoming vaccination campaigns.

In early 2011, the Ministry of Health also used SMS to broadcast hygiene messages in **English** in Juba.

The SMS services of local networks are also able to handle **Arabic** script.

Aid agencies could fund mobile phones for setting up two-way communication channels with target communities in or near the main towns and trunk roads.

There are five mobile networks licensed by the government to operate only in South Sudan:

**Vivacell**

**Gemtel**

**MTN**

**Zain**

**Sudani**

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**Vivacell** and **Gemtel** only operate in South Sudan.

**MTN** and **Zain** are large international mobile telecoms companies which operate in both Sudan and South Sudan. Since independence in 2011, the management of these two companies in each country has been completely separated

**Sudani** is a mobile network owned by the government of Sudan. It only has a small presence in South Sudan. In early 2012 Sudani was widely expected to withdraw completely from the country.

All mobile networks in South Sudan now use the country's new international direct dialing code +211.

Before independence, Vivacell, MTN, Zain and Sudan used the Sudan international dialing code +249.

However, Gemtel, which has close links with Uganda Telecom, used the Ugandan international code +256.

Kuwaiti-owned **Zain** has invested heavily in expanding its South Sudan network since independence.

However, Libyan-owned **Gemtel** scaled back its own ambitious investment plans following the outbreak of a civil war in Libya which led to the overthrow and killing of the country's authoritarian ruler Muammar Gaddafi.

One Sudanese telecoms source said in early 2012 that Gemtel had lost subscribers heavily. They noted that it was totally reliant on Uganda Telecom, which is also majority controlled by Libya, for mobile traffic switching.

SIM cards in South Sudan cost between \$2 and \$7.

Voice calls typically cost 12 to 15 piastres (4 to 6 US cents) per minute.

However, in early 2011, MTN was offering calls to any network at 7 piastres (3 US cents) per minute.

**Gemtel** was charging 40 piastres (15 US cents per minute) for calls to other networks, but many people used Gemtel for international calls, since it was the cheapest network in this regard.

SMS messages cost about 5 piastres (2 US cents) each.

According to the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), there were 4.2 million internet users in the whole of Sudan and South Sudan in 2009. That equates to roughly 10% of the country's population.

However, it is reasonable to surmise that very few of these internet users were in South Sudan.

Only one in four people can read and write in South Sudan and very few of those who are literate have access to a computer.

Internet access is largely restricted to the main towns and to organisations with their own direct satellite communications link.

Computer modems linked to the mobile phone network are becoming increasingly popular, but connection speeds are still slow.

## **Telecommunications companies**

**Zain** [www.sd.zain.com/english](http://www.sd.zain.com/english)

Zain claimed 590,000 subscribers in South Sudan in February 2012.

The Kuwait-based telecoms giant also operates a large mobile network in Sudan. Its South Sudan subsidiary became an autonomous corporate entity at independence in July 2011.

Zain began extending its Sudanese network into South Sudan in 2008. It has invested \$150 million on rolling out its network since then.

After independence in July 2011, Zain announced a further \$60 million investment in South Sudan.

South Sudan General Manager Hakim Dario said in February 2012 that the company had 170 mobile base stations across the country.

Zain's network expansion programme aimed to extend network coverage to at least one town in each of the 86 counties of South Sudan, he added.

Dario told infoasaid that Zain eventually aimed to provide coverage within each payam, the smallest unit of local government administration.

Zain planned to have 295 base stations in operation by the end of 2013.

Dario said Zain planned to launch a mobile banking and money transfer service in South Sudan during the course of 2012 in partnership with Kenya Commercial Bank.

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Chief Information Officer - KA Khorshid (Khaled)

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### **Vivacell** (no website)

Vivacell, which is owned by the Lebanon-based Fattouch Investment Group, launched its GSM network in February 2009.

By early 2012 its network covered all 10 state capitals and the main roads from Juba to Yei, Bor, Nimule and Torit.

Vivacell said it had around 500,000 subscribers in early 2011. It also claimed to be the leading mobile phone operator in the south of the country, particularly in Juba, Torit, Yei, Yambio and Bor.

In April 2011, Vivacell's Chief Technology Officer, Khalil Nassar, told Reuters that the company aimed to sign up one million subscribers by the end of 2012 and three million by 2014.

In early 2012, rival companies expressed doubt that it had reached the one million subscriber milestone.

Vivacell has broadcast SMS messages to its subscribers on behalf of the Government of Southern Sudan and the United Nations, but in early 2011 it had not yet offered this service to other potential clients.

Vivacell can target the broadcast of SMS sectors by region or subscriber list.

In early 2012, Vivacell did not have a functioning website. However, it made regular announcements on its Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/networkoftheworld?sk=info>

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**MTN** [www.mtn.sd/en](http://www.mtn.sd/en)

South African-based MTN began extending its Sudanese network to South Sudan in 2008.

The following year it established a mobile switching centre in Juba. This enabled MTN to improve the speed and reliability of call connections in the South. Previously all calls initiated from MTN mobile telephones in South Sudan had to be routed through Khartoum.

The switching centre in Juba also enabled MTN's mobile network in South Sudan to become completely independent from that of the North after independence.

MTN claimed 2.6 million subscribers in the whole of Sudan and South Sudan at the end of 2008, 24.4% more than a year earlier. It did not publish separate figures for the South.

In January 2011, it was regarded as one of the most reliable networks in South Sudan with wide coverage.

General Manager South Sudan – Syed Awais

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Customer Service Centre Supervisor – Joseph Joseph Garang

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[jgarang@mtn.sd](mailto:jgarang@mtn.sd)

### **Gemtel (no website)**

Gemtel is the oldest mobile network in South Sudan and also the most expensive in terms of domestic call charges.

However, in 2011 many people still used Gemtel for international calls since its overseas call rates were significantly cheaper than those of its competitors.

From 2006 to 2011 Gemtel used the Ugandan international dialling code +256 instead of the Sudanese international code +249.

It now uses the new South Sudan international dialing code +211, like all the country's other telecoms operators.

However, Gemtel still relies on its sister company Uganda Telecom to switch its calls in Kampala.

In early 2011, Gemtel's network extended to all the main towns in South Sudan. It also provided intermittent coverage along the following main roads:

- Juba-Yei-Kaya
- Juba-Rumbek-Bentiu
- Juba-Torit

Libyan Arab Investments Portfolio (LAP), an investment arm of the Libyan government, acquired an 80% stake in Gemtel in February 2010.

LAP, which also has a controlling interest in Uganda Telecom, put new management into Gemtel in late 2010.

Soon afterwards Gemtel embarked on an ambitious expansion programme to extend its network and bring back customers who had switched to other cheaper networks.

The company said in February 2011 that it aimed to double the number of its base stations in Southern Sudan from 70 to 140 by the end of the year.

However, this ambitious investment plan was curtailed after civil war broke out in Libya and the country's authoritarian leader, Muammar Gaddafi was overthrown.

Gemtel claimed to have about 600,000 active subscribers in early 2011, but rival mobile operators said this appeared to be a gross exaggeration.

One Sudanese telecoms source said in early 2012 that Gemtel had lost customers heavily to rival networks which offered better coverage and lower domestic call charges.

He estimated that Gemtel's customer base had been reduced to about 10,000 active subscribers.

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**Sudani** [www.sudani.sd](http://www.sudani.sd)

Sudani is the mobile telecommunications arm of Sudatel, the telecoms company controlled by the national Sudanese government in Khartoum.

It is the smallest network in South Sudan and was widely expected to withdraw from the country after independence.

Tel (Sudan): +249 183 221 111

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