

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

**SOCIETY OF DAUGHTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE
AND COLLABORATORS**

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Acknowledgement

DMI expresses gratitude to God the almighty for the blessings on us to successfully carry out the socio-development programs in 2022.

DMI would like to thank donors and well-wishers for the financial support that helped the target communities to have access to socio-economic status in the society.

DMI would like to thank all staff team and members for their commitments, assistance and this endeavour would not have been possible without the support of the founder, superior general, provincials and country directors.

DMI thanks them for their motivation, guidance and technical support in transforming their life with due dignity.

TABLE OF CONTENT



Note from Mission Director	3
Note from the country Director	4
Introduction	5
Vision, Mission and Geographical coverage	6
Rationale for implementing following programs	7
Key Program Strategy	8
Country Results	9
Program Photos	11
Success Stories	14
Special events, Visits and Media Coverage	16
Annual Plan for 2023	18
Conclusion	18

NOTE FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

I am always contented and deeply grateful for the support, collaboration, and passion of our partners worldwide who, day after day, mobilize their efforts for transforming the lives of the unreached and disadvantaged communities in Africa.



Over 38 years of our mission in five African countries, India and Papua New Guinea have enriched our experiences and expanded our services to the needy women, children, and youth communities to have access to socio-economic status and dignified life.

Here in South Sudan, the staff, volunteers, donors, and thousands of beneficiaries are part of a vigorous and dynamic family- “We Ourselves” of a movement of solidarity for building a better world through their involvement and empowerment.

The beneficiaries have been trained by the Society of DMI team to be a part of various community structures such as village saving lending associations (VSLA), smallholder farmers associations, peace and reconciliation, monitoring and protection, school management, and child protection committees, and become dynamic agents of change in their communities.

It was clear that our option for the poor and the needy who stirred Society of DMI to ameliorate the fundamental crisis and the disgraceful situation of the communities through education, food security, vocational training, and humanitarian assistance programs in South Sudan.

I am proud of the burgeoning growth of the comprehensive programs and the team (DMI sisters and staff) in South Sudan. We appreciate the resilience of our partners in rebounding the communities from the pandemic and the poor situation. The involvement of beneficiaries in the organization is the key to our success. They start performing at the optimum level that sparks the light in the lives of other vulnerable communities in the nation.

To all of you, our gratitude! In this context, I thank the Founder, superior general, provincials, and country directors for their support, implication, and outstanding commitment. Thank You all!

May God Bless You and the members of DMI Global Mission family!

Sr. Vijili Dali, DMI

NOTE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

I am delighted to connect with you through this report to share the journey of Society of DMI South Sudan during 2022 towards the realization of our vision. Having expanded our geographical coverage by stepping in to a new state, Upper Nile (Diocese of Malakal), we were able to serve the needy communities in four states of South Sudan. We were in the second year of our second five-year strategy for the country which guided us to plan and implement our programs and improve the organizational systems.



DMI sisters in South Sudan focus is to bring peace and development in the target communities by establishing strong local community structures and using these structures to build the capacities of the communities to lead a dignified life.

Through Food Security and Livelihood, Women and Youth Development, Education, Vocational Training and Humanitarian Assistance programs, DMI Sisters reached out to over 35,000 households as direct beneficiaries from the needy communities. We are able to increase the household income, promote community health, create jobs and self-employment opportunities for youths, promote micro businesses and ensure the food security of smallholder farmers.

Our sisters faced logistical, terrain and security challenges in reaching some of the target communities but continued to serve the people. These challenges confirmed that we are reaching the hard-to-reach communities and strengthened our resolve to serve the neediest communities.

Despite the challenges, we were able to achieve some extraordinary results – many of which are documented in this report. For that I want to appreciate the project teams. They went way beyond the call of duty.

As ever, we were able to draw on the energy, enthusiasm and backing of our supporters, volunteers and partners. We are privileged to be able to do so.

I thank almighty God, donors, well-wishers, all the DMI sisters and staff, whose committed efforts have enabled us to accomplish good impact in the communities and to enlarge our reach. I thank the DMI congregation, the Founder Rev. Fr. Arul Raj and the Superior General and the team for their support and guidance.

Thanking you!

Sr. Rengis Mary

INTRODUCTION

We, the Society of DMI team thank God almighty for His blessings showered during 2022. After the disruption of our operations by the COVID-19 in the last three years to 2021, this year was a lot more hopeful with relaxation of most of COVID-19 prevention measures as a result of the availability of the vaccines which saw significant reduction on the new infections. We are in the third year of implementation of our second Country Program Strategy. The security situation in Malakal our newest operational area remains fluid with spates of ethnic armed conflicts. Warrap suffers from massive flooding as a new phenomenon. The road condition is very bad in Malakal and Gogrial operational areas. When it rains, it floods in Gogrial while the clay mud in Malakal makes vehicular movement to Kodok villages impossible.

Despite the operational challenges, 2022 has been a hopeful year in which we gained good recognition by stakeholders for our work in the thematic programs. We were able to forge out new partnerships. DMI is recognized as a respectable actor in the fight against Gender Based-Violence (GBV). We are active participant in the national GBV cluster. We have become a model for good agricultural practices.

As we transition for emergency to recovery, we were able successfully hand over community schools while we maintained management of two schools – one in the host communities and IDP camp

VISION, MISSION & CORE VALUES



GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE



RATIONALE FOR IMPLEMENTING FOLLOWING PROGRAM

South Sudan is a fragile nation and one of the three most-food insecure countries despite its favorable conditions for agriculture. The country is at the bottom of the Human Development Index (HDI) at 186 out of 189 countries. About 85% are involved in agriculture and 65% own cattle.

The prolonged conflict in South Sudan left whole generations missing out of formal schooling. A huge number of youths are unemployed because they have neither the requisite formal education nor the skills to gain them employment. The literacy rate of the country is only 27% and two million children are out of school. Most of the rural schools lack basic infrastructure, quality teachers and learning materials. 51% of the youth population did not have the opportunity to either complete formal schooling or acquire work skills for gainful employment.

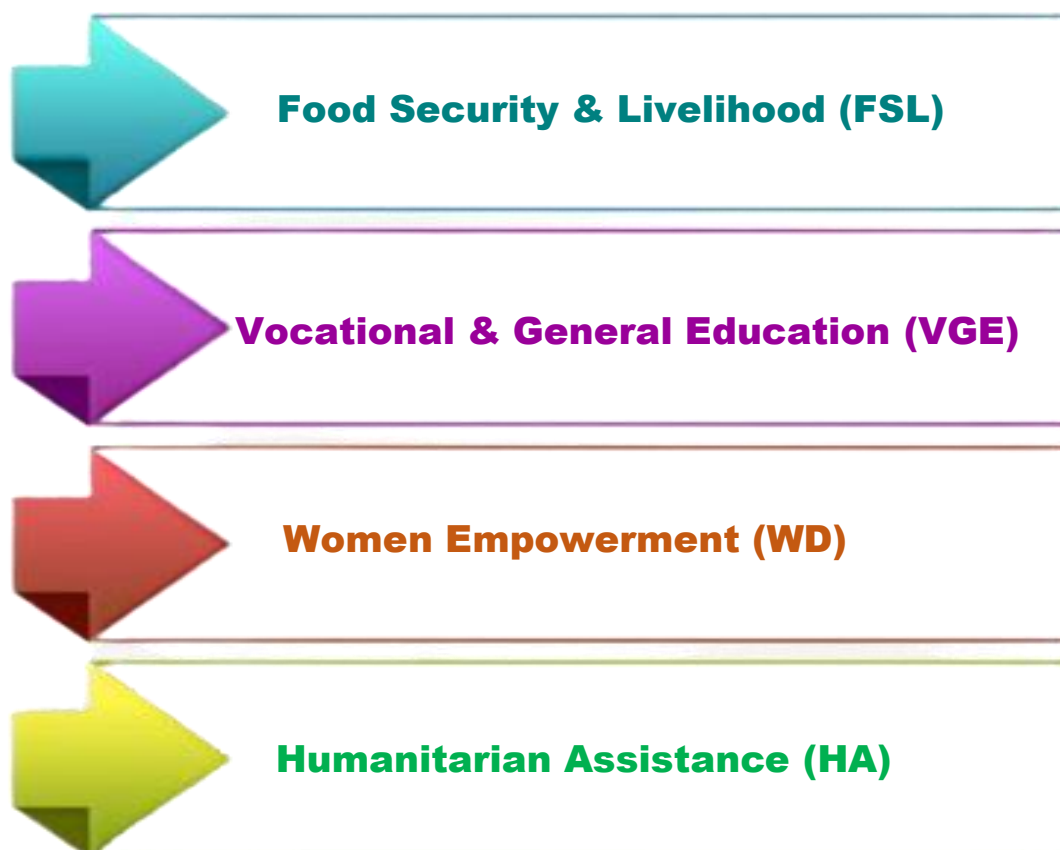
Child marriage is widely spread in the country and 52% of girls get married before their 18th birthday. Sexual and gender-based violence is prevalent, with at least 4 out of 10 women reported to have experienced one or more forms of violence. Traditional beliefs, cultural practices and patriarchy encourage child marriage and marginalizes women.

Over 2.2 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) have settled in UN camps and lack access to rehabilitation and reintegration services. It is expected that the IDPs will explore possibilities of returning to their native communities. While the government of South Sudan had developed policies to collaborate with Civil Society Organization (CSOs) to ensure food security for small holder farmers, education for the IDP and the disadvantaged children, protection of women and employment opportunities for youth in South Sudan.



COUNTRY PROGRAM STRATEGY

DMI in South Sudan is current implementing program in the second five-year Country Strategy to 2025. The Strategy has four main Country Programs including:



KEY RESULTS DATA

No. of States/regions Reached	4
No. of Villages Reached	153
No. of Community Groups	234
No. of Households Reached	33,020
No. of Women Reached	26,416
No. of Youth Reached	1,652
No. of Children Reached	6,991
No. of GBV survivors supported	266

Key Program Results

Food Security and Livelihood (FSL)

Food Security and Livelihood is one of the four Country Programs. we are making progress towards the Food Security and Livelihood program objectives. We were also able to reach many more villages. We observe the growing interest of the farmers in savings since the Village Savings and Loans concept was introduced to them in the previous years. Small holder farmers with agricultural inputs – seeds, tools and training. The following are the key results of the programs....,

- Promoted food security and livelihood program among the small holder farmers in 47 rural villages.
- Over 10,000 small holder farmers have been trained and supported through FSL.
- Formed 35 farmers' associations (FA) by consolidating farmers for their mutual support and benefit.
- 11 FA members have established group businesses, cultivated savings of SSP28,807,650 which is equivalent to USD 45,726.
- Supported 10,603 IDP families with agriculture tools and seeds to initiate sustainable farming practices.
- IDP families have saved the amount of SSP28,807,650 which is equivalent to USD 45,726.

Vocational and General Education (VGE)

What used to be Education in Emergencies (Community School) is one of Country Strategies that aligns vocational training with general education and provide for training needs of out-of-school school children and youths. These children and youths are left gullible to manipulation by selfish highly place people to fulfil their bad plans. The Society of DMI designs and deliver training on child-centered methodology for primary school teachers leading to quality education for children and in the same way, Society of DMI provides market-driven vocational training courses that create employment opportunities for youth. The following are the key results of the programs....,

- Trained 159 youths in various vocational skills
- Established 2 community schools for the children in IDP camp and host villages
- 1983 children of the disadvantaged communities have access to formal education
- 1526 children have midday meals

Women Development (WD)

Women are at the heart of everything we do. To be able to effectively support women, a program dedicated to empower women through women's associations that contributes to protection of girls and women from violence and harmful practices and enable them to improve their social and economic status.

In the concluded year, we were able to build on the progress of women. Up to 80% of members are from the community groups we have. We have mainstreamed GBV as a crosscutting concept in all of our programs across the country. The following are the key results of the programs...,

- 810 women have become members of SHGs
- VSLA women members saved SSP 14,825,200 which is equivalent to USD 22,808
- 540 women members trained in entrepreneurship
- 270 women initiated income –generation activities and 135 women have started microbusiness
- 266 GBV victims rescued and supported with counselling services
- 17 MPCs formed and strengthened

Humanitarian Assistance (HA)

Peace, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (PRRR) Program was reviewed and incorporated into our Humanitarian Assistance (HA) to streamline our intervention and support the IDP families settled in UP Camps. The Humanitarian Assistance provides relief and recovery support to food insecure communities affected by natural and man-made disasters and to pilot and scale-up model that enables reintegration of IDPs to their native counties/states.

The year ended December 2022 was largely stable in the first two quarters as COVID-19 infections which was the main humanitarian issue in the previous year subsided significantly and the disease prevention restrictions on movement of people was relaxed. However, the withdrawal of the UN Mission for the PoC in Juba left a vacuum for humanitarian assistance to the over 40,000 IDPs in the camp. IDP communities were supported with outreach medical clinic, and providing nutritious food to pregnant and lactating IDP women. The following are the key results of the programs...,

- Provided relief food- and non-food items to over 900 families who were displaced by the flood and the armed conflict in Warrap state in Gogrial and in Kodak region.
- 14 health camps organized for IDP families in the camps and host villages
- 300 pregnant women supported with nutrition supplement
- 5681 community children, women and men received general treatment through Medical Camps

Program Photos



Distributing seeds to women farmer's groups



Trainees awarded Certificates of vocational Skills and start-up kits



Primary school children receive text books



IDP women pose for a picture after confectionery training



Female Youths after receiving a trophy after winning the volley ball match



The medical doctor sister, is conducting community outreach clinic



Vocational Training - Unemployed youths get opportunity to learn various skills like Masonry, Electrical and etc.....



VSLA members have regular meeting and increase their savings



Women Empowerment – Food Security



Midday Meal Program



Graduation program for children



Flood Relief Service in Wau, South Sudan



Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture



Counselling People - Malakal



Women engaged in Group Business in Gogrial.

Success Stories

Juba Women's Federation engaged local authorities to relocate soldiers from Primary School they occupy as a military barracks for many years.

The Primary school in the Somba community was occupied by soldiers for many years which lead to the closure of the school and deprived education for the children of Somba and surrounding communities.

The representatives from three Somba communities belonging to the Juba Women's Federation Executive observed that occupants of militants in school disturbed women living in Somba and their kids not having access to school education. The women cannot afford the cost of sending their children to other schools located far away from the Somba community. Transport fear is high, and there is a security risk of young children traveling a long distance to school. The three Somba group representatives reported the matter in their monthly meeting.

The Federation Executives selected five members to meet with the local authorities of the Somba community and present the situation to them to seek their support to resolve the matter. The community chief and other leaders of the Somba community met the Commander of the soldiers and presented the issue raised by the Federation Executives. After listening to the presentation of the women, the military Commander met the Juba County Commissioner and requested him to provide an alternate accommodation for the soldiers and remove them from the school's premises to enable the resumption of the school after many years. The county commissioner gave them an alternate place, and the soldiers relocated. The school resumed on 11 March 2022, and children are happy in their local school after many years. The parents of the Somba community express thanks to the Juba Women's Federation for acting to resolve this military personnel accommodation on primary school premises which they had thought would never be resolved.





Thank God I am realizing my dream

My name is Tumusime Lydia Wani, I am fifteen years old, and I am studying in primary class 5 at DMI St. Bakhita School located in Mauna. I belong to the Bari tribe, and I am the second born in my family, I am blessed with two brothers and one sister.

She was admitted to the school from primary class 4, 2021 onwards. Her house is located lyakuron far from the school, and every day she walks 1 km from her home to school along with her friends. The school fees in other schools are very high, her parents were not affording to pay school fees, which affected her dream of pursuing education. At one point in time, her parents were planning to keep her at home. Later they came to know about the DMI School and school fees structure through their friends.

Her parents were very happy to admit her to DMI St. Bakhita School. Since the school fee is low, they are able to support her education dream. She is studying well and score good marks in all subjects. She used to be weak in Mathematics subjects, but after joining this school, she is able to understand and show a lot of interest to learn and clarify her doubts with teachers. The teacher's motivation and special focus increase her interest to learn and improve her performance in school. Now she is best among all in the class.

Through this testimony, she appreciates her teachers, DMI sisters and her partners for their contribution to realizing her education dream.



Story of Angelina Nyanen

Angelina Nyanen is a 35-year-old woman who lives in Mangateen camp. She is a mother of 3 children and a member of Peace and Reconciliation Committee. She has struggled a lot to feed her children without income. She actively participates in group activities. From the loan she received from the group, she has initiated microbusiness that helped her to increase her income.

She received a loan of 50,000 SSP and set up a staff to sell dry fish, cooking oil, onions and charcoal. From this stall, she has started earning the income of 14000 SSP in a week which helps her to sustain herself and family

When asked what she likes about being a member of the PRC, she says that the sense of belonging in the group and working together for promoting peace with one another and for the community as a group, is what she likes.

DMI staff helped her to plan her business and cultivate savings. Angelina Nyanen is happy that with support of she is able to earn income to support herself, her children and also as a PRC member she is able to contribute to peace in the camp. She expresses her sincere thanks and gratitude to DMI for escalating her life-style.

Network & Media Coverage

SDMIC has strengthened its collaboration with various funding organizations and stakeholders.

- Participated in the meeting with country directors of world concern, war child Holland and EU technical advisor. The theme of meeting was aim of establishing a consortium. About 15 persons participated in this meeting.
- Participated in the meeting with Action Against Hunger (ACF) in Juba. The theme of meeting was exploring partnership relationship. About 10 persons participated in this meeting.
- Participated in the meeting with Warrap state Authorities in Gogrial. the theme of meeting was build rapport with government authorities and maintain their support to our work. About 8 persons participated.
- Participated in the meeting with Japanese International Development Agency (JICA). The theme was New partnership was established with this Agency. About 10 persons participated.
- Participated in World Food Day Celebration with over 2000 members.
- Participated in the meeting with Indian Ambassador. The aim was to keep diplomatic contact with the Embassy which supports our meeting with other donors. About 8 persons participated.
- Celebrated the certification day for vocational education. The theme was human capital, a foundation of Nation's development. Let us build it together for South Sudan. over 400 persons participated in this joyful event.
- Observed 16 days' activism to take action and protect women and girls against GBV. Over 1000 members participated and sensitized.
- Participated in multi-donor country cocktail program. the aim was to interact and build partnership with various potential donors
- Participated in the meeting with country director of ALIGHT to establish potential partnership. About 6 persons participated.





UN Women South Sudan @unwomenssudan · Oct 18

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Women are the engines that keep our communities running. Together with our partner @SweinSouthSudan, we are commemorating the International Day of Rural Women in Nyakuron Cultural Center, Juba, where rural women display their crafts and products. Join us in celebration!



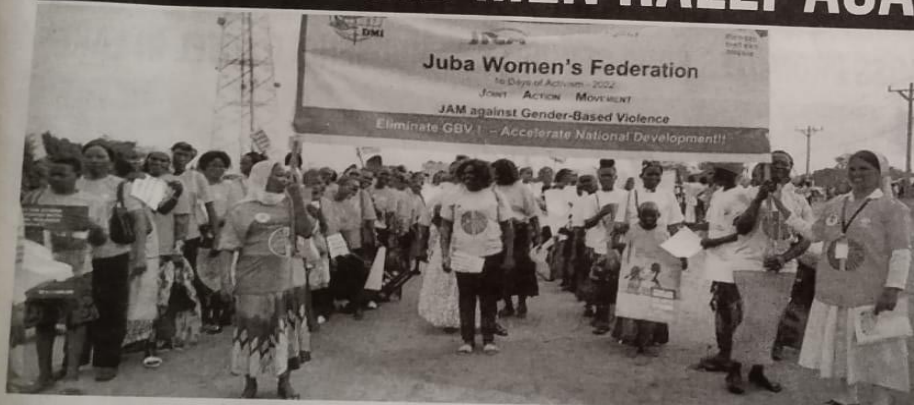
Executive Officer Gak Malek on Friday said they trained 30 youths equipping them with entrepreneurial skills.

Malek said the training has been divided into two batches, and that the first batch of training completed on Friday and the second batch will begin training on 12th December.

Malek said the training has been divided into two batches, and that the first batch of training completed on Friday and the second batch will begin training on 12th December.

"This training has been so helpful to me, it has helped me to discover myself and I have learned that I need to know myself and know what I don't know and know who knows what I don't know," said Joseph.

DMI SISTERS AND 1000 SOUTH SUDANESE WOMEN AND MEN RALLY AGAINST GBV



At the event, DMI, partners and communities took a firm resolve to create a JAM against GBV. The chorus of the rally and the meeting was --Let us "UNITE! Act(ivism) to end violence against women and girls" to build our nation and achieve national development!

As part of the UN-mandated 16 Days of Activism, DMI-promoted three South Sudanese Women's Federations organized rally and meeting in

which over 1000 women, men, girls and boys participated.

The rally was flagged off by JICA

Women's Empowerment Program Adviser Ms. Chigusa Ikeuchi from the Gudele Football Ground at 9.30 AM on December 9, 2022 and reached

Mary Queen of Apostles Church, Gurei where the DMI Country Office is located.

Women from the three Federations shared their experiences in engaging local authorities to resolve GBV issues.

Ms Gladys Jambi of UNMISS, Ms Lucy Simon, from JICA Women's Empowerment Program, Dr Bennett Kenyi, representative of Mensen Met een Missie (Netherlands), Mr. Emmanuel Umbarani Rabbi, representative of Village Chiefs and Juba City Council member, commended DMI for this initiative, made statements on the need to eliminate GBV from South Sudan and encouraged the women to continue the fight against GBV.

Representative of the Central Equatoria State Minister of Gender, Child and Social Welfare appreciated the initiative and confirmed the commitment of government to work with DMI and other development partners to fight against GBV.

CONCLUSION

The year 2022 was a year of hope after the disruption of the covid-19 pandemic. We made some marked progress in the delivery of our second country strategy. The society of DMI is committed to intensifying its program reach and work with the local community in setting a sustainable model in line with sustainable development goals-3-good health and well-being, 4-quality education, 5-gender equality, 8-decent work and economic growth, 16-peace, justice and strong institutions and 17-partnerships for the goals by ensuring participation of the local community. DMI would make new strategic partnership relationships to address the underline root causes in 2023.



Donor Collaboration

We thank our donors for their support to SDMIC in our efforts to bring peace to South Sudan.





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