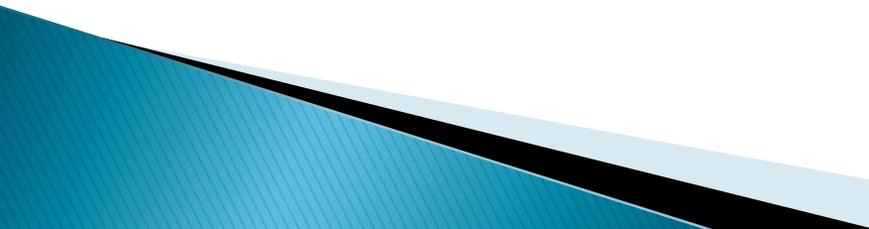


**Theme: ``Protecting and Assisting Migrants
During Times of Crisis The Way Forward``**

**Venue: World Meteorological Organization,
Geneva**

13th -14th September 2012

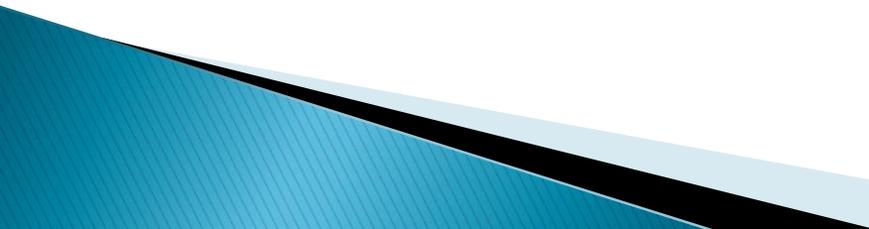
**Presentation By: Hon. Joseph Lual Achuil,
Minister of Humanitarian Affairs & Disaster –
Management (MHADM)
Republic of South Sudan.**



- The Sudan, out of which South Sudan had emerged is a country endowed with immense resources. Despite the resources it has; lack of good governance in the country for many decades has led to political instability, abject poverty, marginalization and massive displacement of people inside and outside the country.



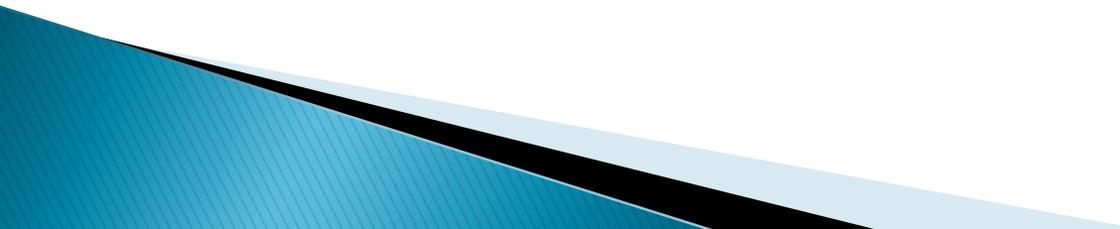
- The political situation in the northern Sudan, prior to independence of South Sudan in 2011; did not favour South Sudanese IDPs who had been living there for decades.
 - That situation led to large scale voluntary movement of South Sudanese back home, whether in an organized form or spontaneously.
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- The government of South Sudan responded by initiating an accelerated repatriation of its nationals from Sudan back home in October 2010, assisted by IOM and UNHCR and is still ongoing.
 - A total of (591,472) returnees have returned to South Sudan between October 2010 and April 2012 (IOM tracking and monitoring unit) .This is in addition to (1,812,300) returnees received in South Sudan between 2004 and 2008 (figures from the statistical yearbook of South Sudan 2010).
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- The repatriation process had faced and still facing many challenges including and not limited to :insecurity of IDPs inside Sudan, and enroute to South Sudan; inadequate means of transport and high transport cost in Sudan; exposure of returnees to bad weather and diseases;inadequete health services to returnees; lack of sufficient funds for repatriation, rehabilitation and reintegration; unfavorable political situation for IDPs in Sudan; issues of stranded IDPs in Khartoum,Kosti and Renk;issues of citizenship of IDPs in Sudan; issues of land allocation to IDPs ;unemployment; border closure between Sudan and South Sudan and the trade embargo etc

- In 2010, IOM and UNHCR established transit and permanent reception centers in the ten states, and the MHADM /RRC formed committees in the ten states, headed by RRC state Directors and with membership of UN agencies, INGOs, CBOs, CSOs security organs, and relevant line ministries operating in each state.
 - Those reception committees were tasked to receive, screen, verify, maintain security, provide basic services and arrange for onward transportation of IDPs to their final destinations.
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- Although the focus was reversed initially with more emphasis on repatriation rather than Reintegration .Collective efforts have been recently exerted with the creation of a specific Reintegration Theme Group for South Sudan (RTGSS) which had developed a progressive reintegration strategy for South Sudan outlining a common approach.
 - The strategy aims at achieving a gradual shift in focus from repatriation to reintegration therefore ,paving way for a sustained stabilization ,increased food security and social inclusion in areas of high return.
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- It is an integrated approach involving all partners including humanitarian and development partners to ensure timely and cost –effective reintegration approach, implemented simultaneously.
 - The objective of the strategy is to :
 1. Provide sufficient basic social services at grassroots to returnees and host communities.
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2- Expand gender sensitive livelihoods opportunities in urban and rural settings of high returns.

3- Improve physical security of returnees and host communities.

4- Improve state capacity to plan and monitor stabilization and reintegration efforts.



- The strategy also includes prioritization exercise based on geographic location of South Sudanese returnees from October 2010 to March 2012; with special focus on (19) priority counties for assistance in Unity ,WBG,NBG,CE,Warrap,Jonglei and lakes states.
- (RTGSS) was organized as a necessary structure to ensure that reintegration responses are implemented for at –risk communities.
- The key objective of the theme group is to provide a multi-stakeholder platform to establish Coherence of information, data and analysis, strengthen coordination and advocacy, give guidance on activities related to key areas, and

- and enhance complementary action among its partners with the aim of supporting and reinforcing the national response to the reintegration challenge. It will also play a core role in coordinating, monitoring and tracking the progress of the implementation of the reintegration strategy. It has also to prepare a preliminary reintegration theme group operational plan to guide the work of the group.

- Like refugees and IDPs ; migrants during crisis should access the following in countries of transit or destination:



- a. Be considered and included in humanitarian contingency plans of the host country for humanitarian assistance.
- b-Be provided protection by the host country and facilitated for easy and safe access to neighboring countries.
- c-Be considered for employment and possible reintegration(social protection) in the host country.
- For the above to be achieved; there is need to formulate laws to protect migrants; convene a global convention on protection of migrants, ratified by all member states and with clear mandate to IOM as lead implementing agency.

Thanks

