

# Return and Reintegration of Qualified Sudanese Programme (RQS) A Teacher's Interview

**The Return and Reintegration of Qualified Sudanese Programme (RQS) aims to meet some of the critical gaps in knowledge and skills that the Government of South Sudan (GoSS) Ministries and other employing institutions face as they rebuild and develop South Sudan. Luca George Kidi is an IDP and a teacher who wants to return home. Here is his story.**



“I am from eastern Equatoria, from Lopaw Payam in Torit county, South Sudan. A long way from here... I came to Khartoum in 1996, after fleeing from my village in 1993. I was eleven years old at the time. I had the chance to go to school in Khartoum and later studied to become a pre-school teacher. I also did teacher training courses in community development, physical education, child protection, early childhood development, music and movement and a variety of other subjects. My aim is to bring this knowledge to the Torit area where my family comes from but first of all I hope to be offered a job as a pre-school teacher there. I lodged my application with IOM to join the Return of Qualified Sudanese Programme and they forwarded the list to the Ministry of Education in eastern Equatoria. I understand, that the ministry has indicated that they will offer jobs to all of us who meet the qualification requirements. So, I am going to fly back to Torit via Juba with members of my family.

Apart from teaching, I see myself assisting in improving pre-school education in the Torit area, because early childhood learning is very important. I have experience. I have already been involved in setting up a school in the El Salaam camp for internally displaced persons near Khartoum, where we live. The Episcopal Church of Sudan together with the Sudan Development and Relief Agency (SUDRA) have assisted us. Non-governmental organizations such as World Vision and CARE Sudan are giving some funds. I receive a small financial incentive for my work as a teacher at that school.

SUDRA sent me on an assessment mission to the Torit area in November last year, to see what is to be done there and where non-governmental organizations could help. There had been a fierce attack on the area by the Lord Resistance's Army just shortly before the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005. Since then school buildings have not been properly repaired, there is hardly any teaching material and... there are very few teachers. I can help. I have the teaching material and the know-how and also the experience with getting funds from non-governmental organizations. I can do my share to improve the situation in Torit. I keep telling my colleagues in the camps in Khartoum. 'What are you still doing here? Let's go and build up something for future generations in our home areas in the south'."