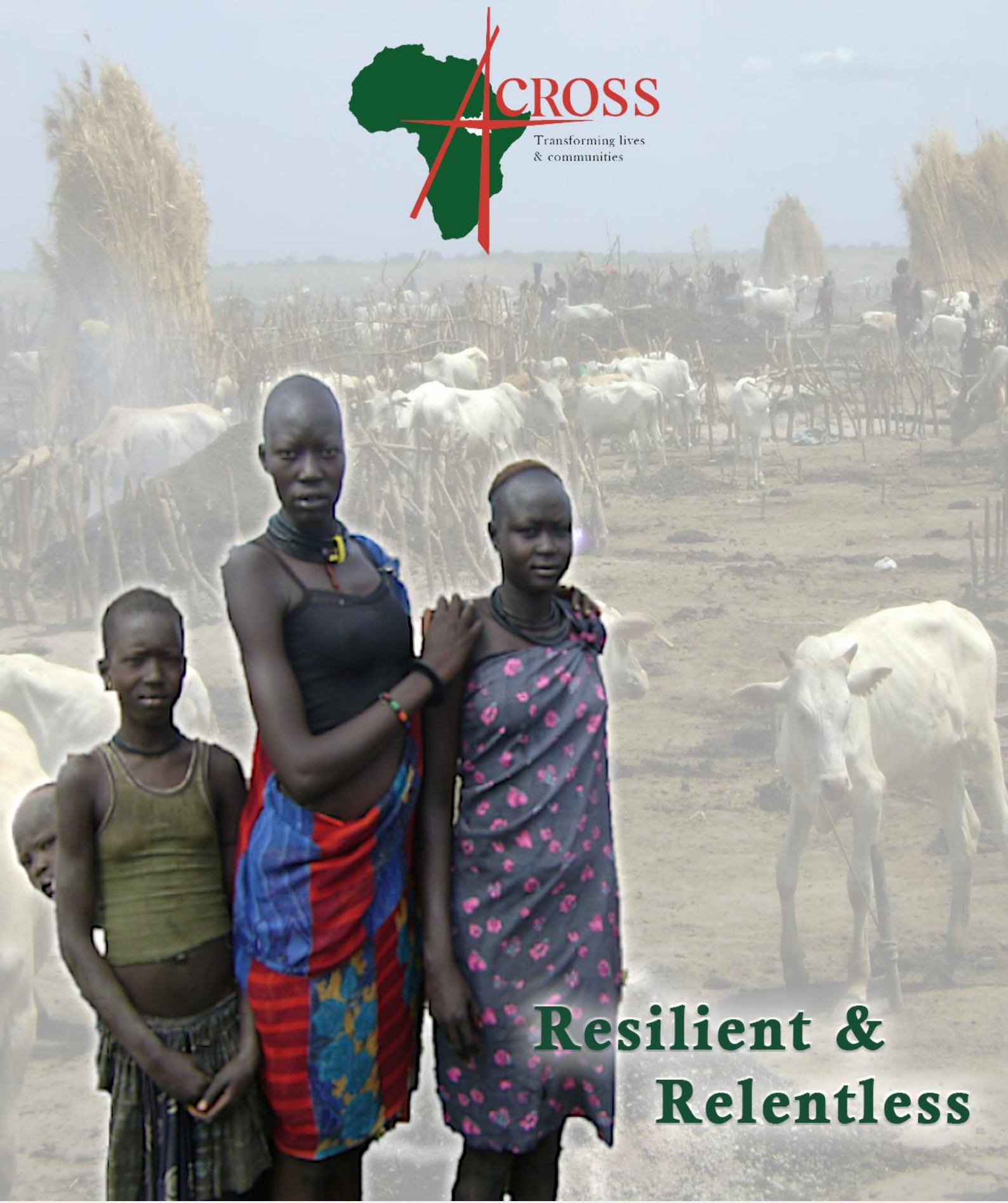


# 2019 Annual Report



**Resilient &  
Relentless**

# 2019 ACROSS Annual Report

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**ACROSS Mission:** to transform communities in South Sudan and beyond through a Christ-centred, holistic approach.



## Forward

In 2019, South Sudan continued its difficult journey toward peace and unity which appeared illusive. But much progress was made, and hope was sluggishly restored across the country. As a result, funding partners began to think about development projects once again—at least in small ways. Yet at the same time, there was an upswing in the need for humanitarian assistance for communities who suffered one calamity after another. First draught and fires followed by severe flooding, disease and pestilence. Amidst these natural disasters, were also flare-ups of inter-communal conflict, cattle raiding, and criminal activity fuelled by the economic decline and hardship.

At the beginning of the year, when we chose our theme of **Resilient and Relentless**, little did we know how these ideas would encourage us through the challenges of implementing emergency response projects where obstacles are plentiful, and timing is critical. The ACROSS team rose to the challenge and delivered an unprecedented number of life-saving interventions in some of the most difficult to reach areas of the country.

When we began our planning for 2020, I asked God for a new theme to sustain us for whatever may come next. The result is the 2020 theme; **Integrity and Hardwork** – synergistic concepts near to my heart and the heart of ACROSS. The plans we have for the coming year feature facilitating marginalized communities as they envision and work toward realising God's purpose for them as well as their potential;

engaging people in life-giving dialogue around issues of human dignity as image bearers of the Most High, and capacity building initiatives that build on existing infrastructures in local government, community groups, and the local church.

By God's grace and for His glory, we celebrate the ministry of ACROSS in 2019 and, look forward with hope to better serve communities in South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and beyond in the coming year.

Serving with you,

Elisama Wani Daniel  
ACROSS, Executive Director



## ACROSS Overview

We are an interdenominational Christian organization, based in South Sudan and working to transform lives and communities through partnership with the global church, other organizations, and the communities we serve. Working with South Sudanese communities in a dialogue of equals, ACROSS seeks holistic transformation in all sectors. Through training programs and local resources, we work to understand and engage root causes of problems from the perspective of those affected. A holistic approach, one which brings the whole Gospel to the whole person and whole community, is necessary for creating meaningful relationships and authentic change.

### Listening to Communities, Listening to God



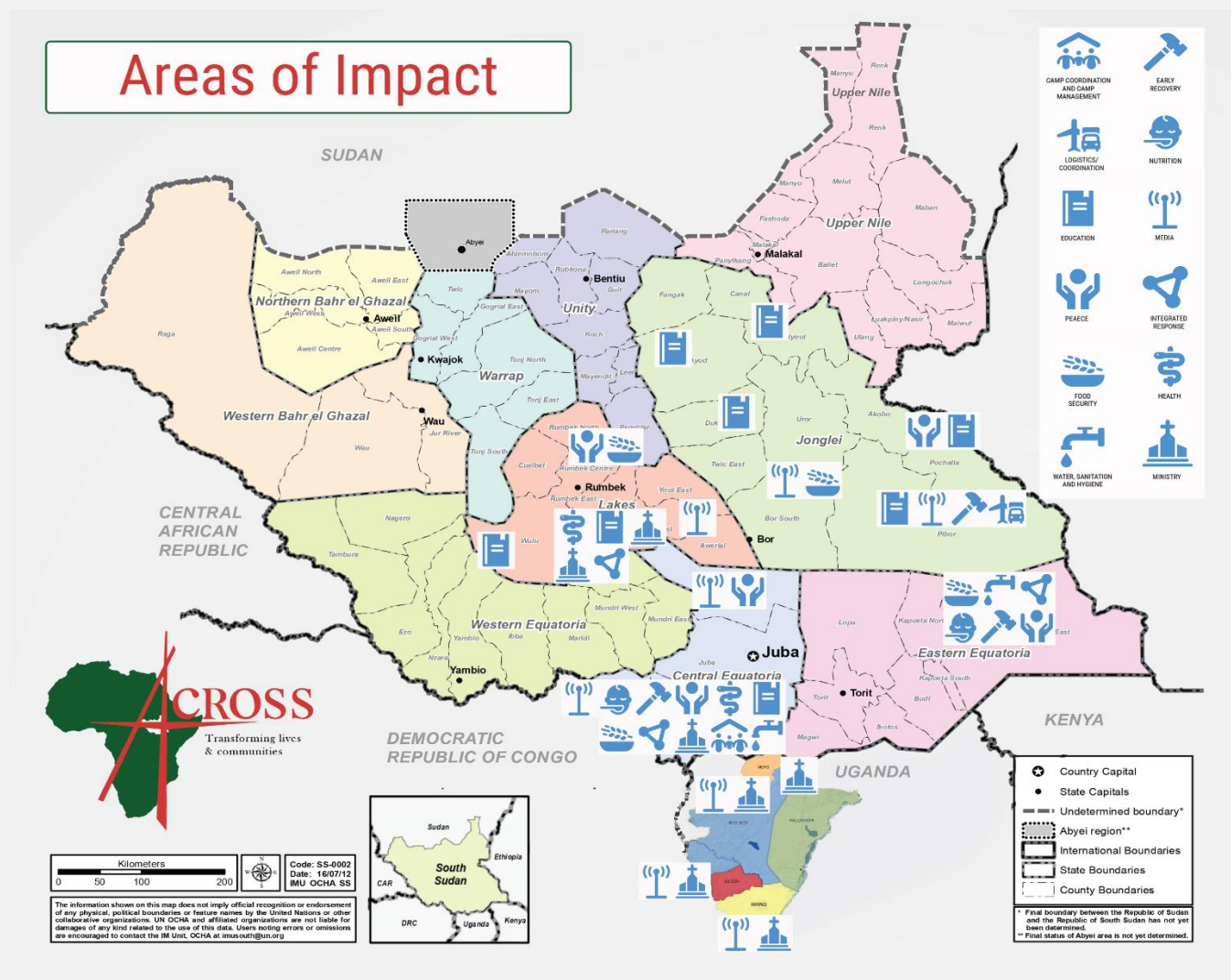
The dynamics in South Sudan affect the nature and style of ACROSS' work. Beyond security concerns, refugee issues, and political movements; the presence of international relief agencies has made some people hopeless and others dependent—dampening some people's imagination for change. From the time of the peace agreement in 2005 to the independence of the Republic of South Sudan in 2011, the signing of peace in 2015 and following civil clashes - ACROSS has had to respond to new realities both helpful and challenging. There is an urgency for communities to seek God's direction in their trajectories, identifying their needs, seeking a solution together, and moving toward their envisioned destiny.

#### Key characteristics of ACROSS:

1. A clear holistic ministry approach.
2. An integrated program approach.
3. Strong partnerships with agencies from around the world.
4. A reputation for program implementation and careful management of resources.
5. Geographic locations throughout South Sudan and Northern Uganda.
6. Substantial involvement in rehabilitation and reintegration responses to refugees and displaced people groups.
7. Unique partnership with the local church.

## 2019 Project Activities

ACROSS implemented 25 projects and programs in nearly every humanitarian sector: health, nutrition, WASH, education, food securities & livelihoods, camp management, integrated response, peace and reconciliation and more. Ongoing programs included Participatory Awakening Process (PAP), children's ministry, sports ministry, and a variety of media activities.



In recognition of ACROSS' ability to serve in challenging and remote areas, ACROSS UNHCR renewed their endorsement of ACROSS as the **Deep Field Humanitarian Focal Point** for greater Boma region. This means that we coordinate cluster activities and emergency response for all organizations serving in Boma. We also serve greater Yei as lead partner for the Nutrition Cluster.



## Testimonials

### **Empower Vocational Training Project in Juba**

My name is Richard and I am 24 years old. I have completed my vocational training course in Solar electricity in 2019 through Empower project with ACROSS. Before I joined the vocational training program, I had been playing cards every day because of idleness. I had no skills, no knowledge on Solar PV/electricity. After training, I became equipped with knowledge and skills that made me to do anything on Solar and basic electrical repairs. I got an internship with Green Power Electricity Company in Juba. I worked and learnt tirelessly. After they saw my performance, I was offered a contract for the position of field officer and a salary. With my income I am able to buy food and support my younger brother in school. I thank ACROSS, EMPOWER project and European Union, as donor, for giving me this opportunity that greatly has improved my life.



### **What's Up Girls Education Project**



My name is Peter and I am a 16 year old, class 4 pupil from Pachong primary school. I joined school because of the good activities I saw happening and because the parents recommended it. I used to think boys and girls are not equal and it is not worth for girls going to school. The project has changed my thinking. I now have confidence in my own abilities and I respect of hers. I now have the ability to relate to both boys and girls better than before. This is all brought about by the lifeskills training the project provided to us.

### **Mahad Internally Displaced Persons Camp She is Worthy Menstrual Hygiene Management Project**

I am Duna. I am 21 years old from Anyuak community living in Mahad IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) Camp. Before I received the [menstrual] cup, my period was a big problem to me. Sometimes I had no money to buy disposable pads. I also didn't like to wear the pads because they made me feel nauseous and I had to find a place to dispose the pad or wash my rags. I sometimes skipped school when I was on my period. But since I got the cup, I go to school every day.



## ACROSS Media – Sudan Literature Centre

ACROSS Media consists of digital recording, print publications, mobile projector ministry and teacher training programmes. The printing facility is located at our base in Arua, Uganda and the digital recordings take place in both Arua and Juba.

Book publishing activities in 2019 included printing or reprinting 42 titles (13,663 copies) of which 28 titles (6,728 copies) were for SLC stock and sales and 14 titles (6,935 copies) were ordered by other Christian organisations.

SLC completed two large hymnal projects: expansion of the Dinka Bor Hymnal which now includes 1852 songs and is more than 900 pages in length, and updating the Dinka Agaar Hymnal. We printed a draft edition of 140 copies of the Dinka Bor the hymnal for field testing and 648 copies of the new Dinka Agaar Hymnal.



More than 1200 solar-powered digital audio players (DAPs) were distributed in 2019 including 400 of them for a rapid response to the Ebola challenge facing Yei River State. ACROSS designed the **Ebola is Preventable Inter-sectorial Approach** as a rapid 45 day strategy to support disease prevention efforts, using mass communication, community engagement and distributions of hand-washing units and soap to communities in Yei and Morobo Counties.

ACROSS records many of the messages in a variety of local languages as well as English and Arabic. Programmes utilizing DAPs have proven to be more impactful than workshops alone. The DAP stays with the community long after the training staff

leave. Repetition and discussion-based engagement are proven techniques encouraging behaviour change.



**Bio-gas pilot project**

Another innovative ACROSS Media project included the implementation of a bio-gas pilot project among the cattle keepers in Terekeka. The project was the application of the peace and reconciliation messages the community have been studying together.

## 2019 Project List

Project Name	Location	Sector
Integrated Response Refugee Camp Management	Juba/Gorom	Refugee Care
POSITIVE INTEGRATION OF RURAL COMMUNITIES INTO THE PEACE ECONOMY	Rumbek/Wulu, Lakes	Peace and Reconciliation
South Sudan Joint Response	Various locations	Early Recovery
Multi-sectoral Lifesaving Humanitarian Assistance	Eastern Equatoria	Early Recovery
Food Assistance, WASH & Non-Food Item Support	Eastern Equatoria	Early Recovery
Continuous Professional Development	Jonglei State	Education
EMPOWER	Juba	Education
Reviving Education in Boma	Boma	Education
Ebola is Preventable	Greater Yei	Health
Radio & Digital Audio Messages on peace building and social education in South Sudan	Various locations	Peace and Reconciliation
WHAT'S UP GIRLS	Rumbek, Lakes	Education
Integrated Community-based Development Project	Rumbek, Lakes	Community Transformation
Promoting Peaceful Co-Existence & Access to Education	Boma	Peace and Reconciliation
Acute Nutrition Support and Nutrition Centre	Yei, Gorom	Nutrition
Integrated Food Security Support	Rumbek, Lakes	Early Recovery

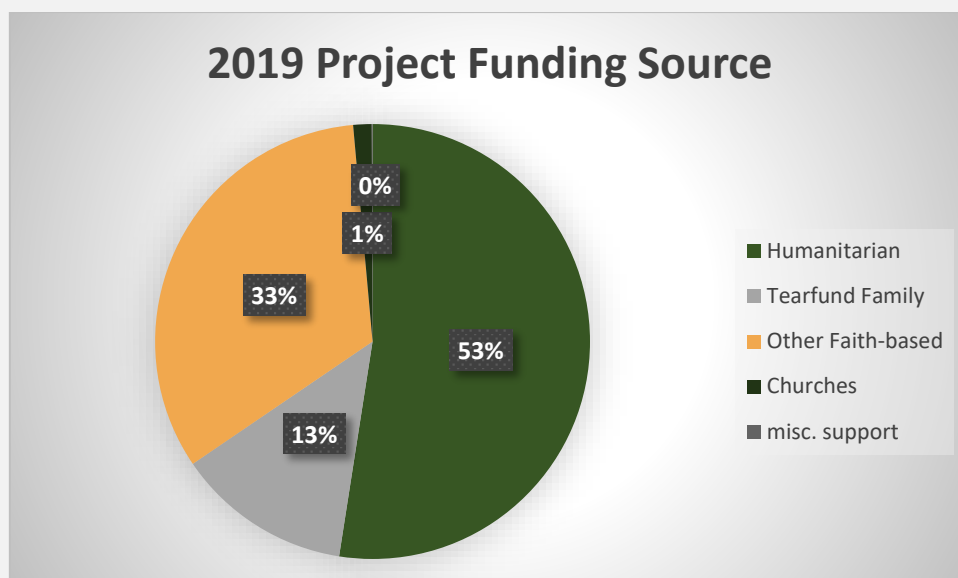
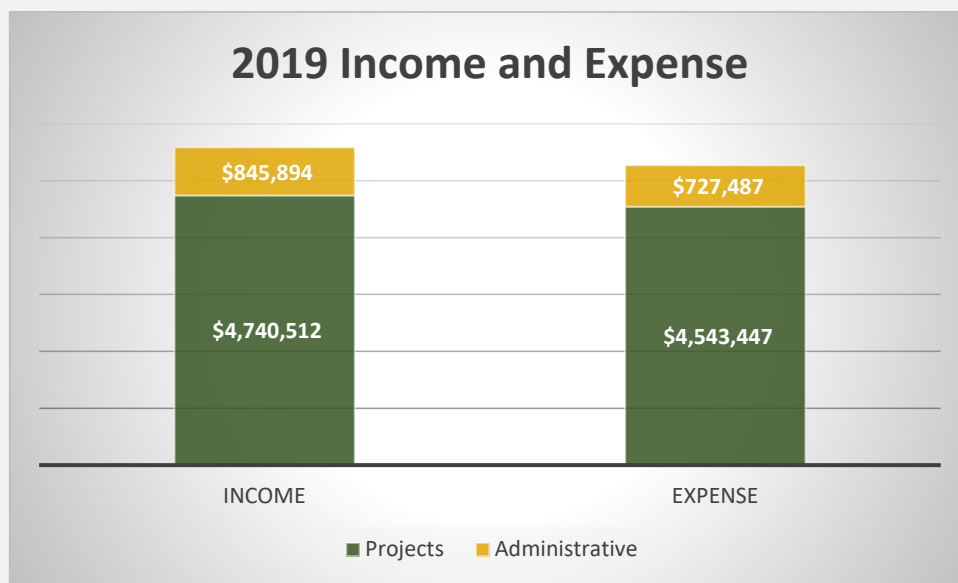


2019 Project List (continued)		
Project Name	Location	Sector
Seed Fairs	Rumbek, Lakes	Food Security
Mobile Teacher Training	Jonglei State	Education
MAHAD Camp WASH project	Juba	WASH
Early Recovery Support for Crisis affected IDPS in Kassengor	Eastern Equatoria	Early Recovery
Action Plan for Peace and GBV	Terekeka and Pibor	Peace and Reconciliation
Piloting Action Plan for Peace and Gender based violence (GBV) project	Aweil and Yirol	Peace and Reconciliation
Children's Ministry	Arua, Uganda	Ministry
Sudan Literature Centre	Arua, Uganda	Ministry
Sports for Peace	Arua, Uganda	Ministry



## Financial Overview

ACROSS relies on project funders to continue its vital work. Just as the projects we implement are varied and vast, so too are those who support them. We are grateful to each of our project partners for making 2019 a successful and impactful year.







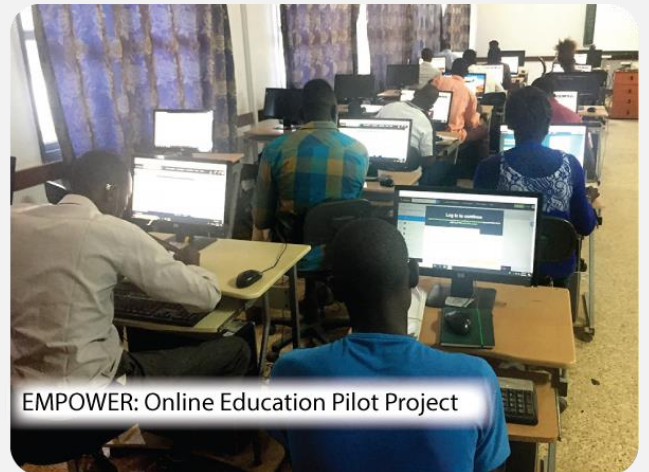
Food Distribution in Kapoeta North



Parent Teacher Association Training



Sports for Peace



EMPOWER: Online Education Pilot Project

Transforming Lives...  
and Communities



School Supply Distribution



Mosquito Net Distribution





**Thank you to our 2019 partners!**



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