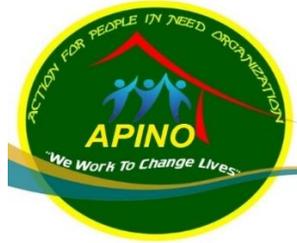


APINO Bi – Annual Narrative Report 2016 - 2018



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APINO BI-ANNUAL REPORT 2016 – 2018



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ACRONYOMS

APINO	Action for People In Needs Organization
BoDs	Board of Directors
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SPLM/A-IO	Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army in Opposition
RRC	Relief and Rehabilitation Commission
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Introduction

The journey from 2016 – 2018 has been full of hurdles amidst continues and renewed protracted conflict in the Republic of South Sudan. This has not only affected the plans and programs of the organization but also posed some serious risks in accessing the most needed support to our target beneficiaries.

Given the increasing violent clashes between the government forces and the SPLA-IO in the Equatoria region, many civilians mainly women and children were forcefully displaced from their homes and majority ran to seek refuge in the neighboring Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This compelled APINO to temporarily shift some of its programs to Northern Uganda to address the dire condition facing the South Sudanese refugees in Bidi-Bidi in Yumbe District, Imvepi and Rhino Camp in Arua District.

According to UNHCR Uganda, about 80% of the refugees in Northern Uganda are South Sudanese most of who faces numerous challenges of access to social services in form of lack of scholastic materials, limited access to healthcare services, limited access to economic opportunities and many families are dependent on WFP monthly food ration.

With many refugees who have gone through horrible experiences during their journeys leaving them with trauma and bitterness. This was further derailed by the loss of properties and loved ones which deepened the impact of the conflict on the already vulnerable population. In addition to the dragged conflicts was the harsh reception at the resettlement site with the host communities. These increases on the existing tensions and conflicts because of limited access to the already scarce resources.

APINO therefore, conducted a rapid needs assessment to intervene with the quick needed social services that the will restore hope among the refugees and build resilience in coping with the new basic refugee life.

This bi-annual report therefore presents the background of APINO as a national non-governmental organization, its current programs and the major interventions and achievements. It commences with an introduction and background of the context that justified its programs in Uganda. It then proceeds with current programs and a summary of achievements. It further outlined the challenges and conclude with suggestions and recommendations for future planning process. Finally, it draws lessons from its program implementation for feedback and policy formulation for the organization's development.

Background and profile of APINO

Action for People In Need Organization – (APINO) is a Not-for-Profit, Non-Political and Non-Government Organization (NGO) founded in 2016 in South Sudan.

APINO is registered in Arua District Department of Community Services with Registration Number 503/676.

The initiative is founded by South Sudanese Musician & Activist **Lupai Moses Cisona**, supported by other South Sudanese and volunteers in different parts of the world.

APINO is engaged in various programs including Peace Building and Trauma Healing, Access to Justice, Education, Livelihood and Economic Empowerment, Reproductive Health and Forum Theatre performances.

Considering the increasingly level of poverty, rampant conflicts among communities, poor health services, high prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS, limited access to education, limited economic opportunities, APINO works to implement initiatives that support the most vulnerable individuals in the communities.

Our Vision

APINO advocates for united, peaceful and healthy society that contributes to positive social change and development.

Mission

APINO aims to empower people through promoting Healthy living, access to Education, increase economic opportunities and support to peaceful co-existence among communities.

Purpose:

Our purpose is to promote positive social change among South Sudanese people living in the rural communities in South Sudan and beyond.

Core Values

APINO is guided by the following core values of

- competency
- drive for results
- respect and dignity for humanity
- transparency and accountability
- faith and love for all

Our ethical code of conduct encompasses gender responsiveness and equity, resilience and upholding individual rights while implementing our program and interventions.

ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Strategic priorities 1: Peace Building, Trauma Healing & Reconciliation

- To mobilize community members on peace building and reconciliation processes

Strategic priorities 2: Livelihood and Economic Empowerment

- To empower Youth, Women and Girls with life skills and small-scale business group loans to promote self-reliance.

Strategic priorities 3: Health Care Service

- To support and promote health care services through collaborating with government and other health institutions and grass root organizations

Strategic priorities 4: Creative Arts and Music.

- To establish and support community music, dance and drama groups.

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- To establish an Art and film production music center that offer training and mentorship for upcoming talents.
- To conduct and promote civic education on issues that affect communities through music dance and drama

Strategic priorities 5: Access to Education for all Children

- To engage community members and involve them in promoting education for all children

Strategic priorities 6: Access to Justice

- To promote transitional justice and provide legal aid support to survivors of Human Rights violation

Strategic priorities 7: Organizational Capacity Development

- To build and strengthen the capacity of management staff so that they can support the well-functioning of the organization.

Our Thematic Areas

Within this reporting period, APINO's program areas includes peacebuilding, trauma healing and reconciliation, livelihood and economic empowerment, reproductive health, creative music and arts, access to education for all children and access to justice. However, as driven by the emergency needs, some of the programmatic areas could not receive funding thus the interventions targeted priorities areas.

1. **Peace Building, Trauma Healing & Reconciliation.** APINO uses music, dance and drama to promote peace building, trauma healing and reconciliation.
2. **Livelihood and Economic Empowerment** – APINO works to empower Youth, Women and Girls and promote their self-reliance through providing life skills and small-scale business group loans.
3. **Reproductive Health:** APINO engage with government and other health institutions to support and promote the provision of community-based health education
4. **Creative Arts and Music:** APINO uses music, dance and drama to conduct civic education on issues affecting communities to promote peace building. It further aims to promote arts and engage in film production and groom young talents.
5. **Access to Education for all children:** APINO works to engage community members and involve them in promoting education for all children
6. **Access to Justice:** APINO advocate to promote transitional justice and provide legal aid support to survivors of human rights violation by engaging lawyers and justice institutions.
7. **Organizational Capacity Development:** APINO embark to build and strengthen the capacity of management to efficiently and effectively run its programs.

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Current Staff Volunteers

S/N	Names	Position	Year	Qualification
01	Lupai Moses C	Executive Director - Volunteer	2016 Date -	PGDM, B.A Economics
02	Mutto Robert	Program Coordinator - Volunteer	2016 Date -	B.A
03	Otiti Joseph	Program Assistant - Volunteer	2016 Date -	Dip in Business Admin
04	Tabu Hellen	Finance - Volunteer	2016 Date -	B.A in Business Admin
05	Jacob Okot	Human Resource - Volunteer	2017 Date -	B.A in Business Admin
06	Franco Metaloro	Community Mobilizer	2016 Date -	Uganda Certificate of Ed
07	Levi Lubang	Media and Communication - V	2016 Date -	B.A Info Technology
08	Janet Badi	Assistant Admin- Volunteer	2018	Diploma in Accountancy

Summary of program achievements on APINO's key objectives

The programmatic achievements on the APINO's key objectives are summarized below;

Key Results

Peace building, Trauma Healing and Reconciliation

Through music, dance and drama, Action for people in Need Organization implemented a program on peaceful co-existence aimed at promoting spirit of dialogue between refugees and host communities, trauma healing and restoration of hope among refugees. A total of 15 live concerts were performed in 6 refugee camps and Koboko reaching a about 40,000 people both refugees and host community children, youth, women and community leaders. These performances were done in collaboration with other local South Sudanese artists in Uganda such as Leviticus, Dr Franco, Lady Amina, Jay Family, Brother Jimmy, and Dr. Candy including Home Boy a Ugandan artist based in Koboko.



Livelihood and Economic Empowerment

We empowered 15 women refugees in Ofua 3 with both capacity building training on financial management and startup small scale business loans with zero interest. A total of 3.5 million Ugandan shillings were given to these 15 women who have initiated small scale businesses ranging from tea making, small eating places, vegetable selling, hair dressing and saloon services and small shops selling mixed goods. These businesses have helped women support their families, pay school fees for their children and buy a mobile machine for baking equipment which

in turns help other women to bake their own cake.

Women group and APINO Team after business training skills in Ofua Zone 3 in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement, Arua Uganda.

Reproductive Health

With the increasing influx of refugees from 2016, access to health care services were constrained due to the limited facilities. APINO therefore, conducted 5 community-based health education awareness campaigns in Bidi Bidi, Ofua, Imvepi and Swinga on issues of HIV/AIDS, personal hygiene, sanitation and reproductive health.



APINO further provided sanitary pads to 89 girls in Alpha Primary school to enable them to continue with studies

as well as reducing dropout due to menstrual period. This is made possible with funding from Kajo-keji Health Institute (KKHTI) which mainly support our community-based health education programs in the refugee camps. A total of about 5,000 refugees and host community were reached with these health education messages during one concert.

Creative Arts and Music

Lupai Moses Cisona the founder, who is also a South Sudanese Musician and Activist uses his talent of singing as a tool to engage, mobilize and educate the South Sudanese Refugees on issues of peaceful co-existence, trauma healing, reconciliation and access to education.

APINO further conducted 4 Radio talk shows in Arua (Arua one FM) and in Juba South Sudan (Miraya FM the UN Radio) which discussed issues of youth, women involvement in peace building, promoting access to basic education, livelihood and economic empowerment of women with business skills so that they can support their families.



Lupai Moses on Miraya FM in Juba during a talk show on youth and women empowerment

Access to Education for all children

Education is a Human Right and an important tool for societal transformation. Amidst grave challenges of access to both primary and secondary where about 53% of the primary-aged and 92% of the secondary-aged children are however out of school, while an average of 22% are enrolled in grades lower than their age, APINO is promoting equal access to education.



Currently, we are sponsoring 10 children at Royal school in Ofua zone 3 in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement. We also supported two schools with assorted scholastic materials in 2017. Most of those children we are supporting are from disadvantaged family backgrounds and some are unaccompanied minor who fled the conflict in South Sudan without their parents.

Jacob Otima is one of our current beneficiaries, he used to stay at home in Ofua zone three, Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement, Arua-Uganda. Today he is studying at Royal School in grade 3 and his dream is to become a Doctor so that he can help South Sudanese communities.

Access to Justice

This programmatic object achieved little due to the current context. During this reporting period, no funding was secured for promoting access to restorative justice and legal empowerment. However, with the current window of peace, this objective will be given priority to enable people have a peaceful return to their places.

Organizational Capacity Development

Institutionally, APINO has achieved the following;

- Established its office in Rhino camp refugee settlement, Arua district with activities expanded to Imvepi, Bidi-Bidi and Swinga refugee camps.
- Recruited and kept 11 committed volunteers who are currently running its programs in the refugee camps.
- APINO has valid legal status both in South Sudan and in Uganda.
- APINO has offices in Juba and in Rhino camp refugee settlement for its operations
- APINO has functional Board of Directors (BoDs) with members that have various experiences and professional backgrounds.

Operation challenges

It has not been easy coming this far without the commitment and support of our partners and friends. Emerging from a difficult context characterized with financial crisis, war, inflation, limited external donations, APINO thrived amidst unbelievable operational constraints among which the following;

Challenges

- The huge need versus limited resources. Given the huge number of refugees Uganda is currently hosting estimated at 1,470 981 and many IDPs, the small donations and individual contributions from friends cannot match the huge demand for basic and social services that APINO plan to offer.
- The number of children in need of support in many aspects like basic needs (food, shelter, clothing, and parental care) and developmental needs (education, protection, medical care etc.) is so great that the selection process could not accommodate similar number of children in this category. Design tools to assess the need through the block leaders, interviews with the parents and community leaders.
- Insecurity in most parts of the country especially in the Greater Equatoria region where APINO intended to work. This is manifested in restricted access to civilians and IDPs, harassment of humanitarian staff, suspicion for spying and in extreme cases arrest, detention and killings of humanitarian workers.
- Too much bureaucracy in the humanitarian coordination especially with UNOCHA. This not only restrict programs but further limited access to financial resources for national NGOs like APINO.

- Overdependence on volunteers who don't devote most of their time and effort to the work of the organization. Currently 3 full time staff who may not have the full capacity to run all its programs though there are volunteers who APINO is supporting to implement its programs.

Suggestions and Recommendations

With the above clear shown operation challenges, the following suggestions and recommendation can chaperon APINO's future and operations plans;

- Improve on lobbying and fundraising strategies to solicit resources, funding and support to implement APINO programmatic objectives. This can be through;
 - Recruitment of a full-time technical staff to map and liaise with possible partners especially INGOs to support APINO programs.
 - Collaboration with other local partners implementing similar programs in South Sudan.
 - Resetting of priorities to meet the most pressing needs and vulnerable groups
- Mapping of specific locations with dire need for interventions and start programs targeting the most vulnerable people. This involve resetting program priorities to supporting vulnerable target groups such as women, children and children with special needs. Perhaps this might minimize the huge needs yet with little resources.
- APINO should apply for membership in the South Sudan NGO Forum and subsequently join the relevant clusters to easily coordinate its operations and possible allocation of common humanitarian funds (CHF). In Uganda, APINO should corporate and coordinate with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) to similarly solicit funding for operation in the refugee camps.
- Capacity building of the current staff to technically and support the operation of the organization. Further the management of APINO needs to improve on staff motivation to boost the morale of volunteers supporting its programs.
- Strengthening of institutional structures especially the BoDs to develop policies that contribute the effective development of the organization.

Our partners

Currently, APINO depends heavily on good friends, individuals and well-wishers for the implementation of its projects. Kajo Keji Healthy Training Institute (KKHTI) is the only local organization funding the organization yet with limited resources allocated for staff welfare and motivation. We are grateful to some of our friends who squeezed their meagre resources to support our work. We dream together for a better funding that will uplift APINO to achieving its vision.

Financial management

Close monitoring of finance was conducted throughout the operation period. Good internal controls system were in place guided by our financial manual for Effective and efficient utilization of our finances.

Summary and conclusions

With this great start in the last two years, we were challenged, we have learned, and we project a clear future progress of this organization.

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Within two years, reaching over 50,000 people is a motivation for renewed efforts in working for social change within our communities. Our commitment is to realize our set objectives and liberate our communities from rampant conflicts, extreme poverty and limited economic opportunities, lack of access to educational opportunities and restorative justice.

Notwithstanding the current challenges of limited funding, restricted access for humanitarian workers, high bureaucracy of coordination and information sharing, APINO stands with the South Sudanese communities in delivering the much-needed support to its target groups. These challenges strengthen our response and build resilience among our teams even with limited resources.

Our hopes remain high with the resigning of the Revitalized Peace Agreement on the Resolution of Conflicts in South Sudan (R-ARCISS) on September 5th, 2018. This shows a great commitment from the leaders of South Sudan to end the war and open opportunity for peace. Considering this commitment, APINO project a huge need in supporting the implementation of this peace agreement through implementation of its peace building, trauma healing and reconciliation programs. It further looks forward to strengthening community dialogues, increase livelihood and economic opportunities and promoting access to education for all. APINO envision both a challenging and inspiring work in 2019 and beyond.

Annexes: Success stories



Akwero is one of our current beneficiaries, she used to operate tea business stay in Ofua zone three, Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement, Arua-Uganda. Today she is able to operate local food restaurant after accessing small scale loan from APINO.

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INCOME FROM DECEMBER 2016 – DECEMBER 31.2018

Entry No.	Reference	Date of Entry	DETAILS	UGX	Total
1	RN001	10/11/2016	Received Fund from Members	5,700,000	4,700,000
2	RN002	17/04/2017	Fund Received from KKHTI	2,510,550	2,510,550
3	RN003	10/05/2017	Funds Received from Bosco - Australia	500,000	500,000
4	RN004	15/06/2017	Fund Received from Sabata Ramba - USA	375,000	375,000
5	RN005	17/09/2017	Income received from Jackson - Canada	220,000	220,000
6	RN006	20/10/2017	Funds received from Members	4,000,000	4,000,000
7	RN007	20/10/2017	Funds Received from Malish JP	100,000	100,000
8	RN008	05/06/2018	Total Contributions from APINO Members	10,920,000	10,920,000
9	RN009	10/07/2018	Contribution Received from Peter Jomoyi	100,000	100,000
10	RN010	10/07/2018	Contributions Received from Ayume Justin	150,000	150,000
11	RN011	29/08/2018	Fund Received from KKHTI	2,400,000	2,400,000
12	RN012	15/12/2018	Fund Received from Data Media	600,000	600,000
13	RN013	15/12/2018	Fund Received from Lomodi LTD	400,000	400,000
14	RN014	15/12/2018	Contributions from Members - APINO	8,392,410	8,392,410
		31.12.2018	Total Fund Received	30,707,960	<u>34,207,960</u>
			Eqv to USD @ 1USD =3650 UGX		<u>\$9,372</u>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT SUMMARY FROM DEC 2016 – DEC 31.2018

Income			Expenditure Summary According to Departments		
DATE	DETAILS	UGX in Million	Date	DEPARTMENTS	UGX
31.12.18	INCOME		34,207,960		
			31.12.18	Peace Building, Trauma Healing & Reconciliation	14,700,000
				Livelihood and Economic Empowerment	3,500,000
				Health Care Service	5,285,550
				Creative Arts and Music.	2,000,000
				Access to Education for all Children	3,000,000
				Administrative Cost/Office purchase	5,660,000
		<u>34,207,960</u>			
			Total		34,145,550
			Balances		62,410

Notes:

- The expense included systems hire, printing of posters and banners, incentives for drama groups and transportation of artists and staff members.
- We trained 15 women on basic business skills and gave them start up loans to be paid back with no interest, 3.5M was disbursed.
- In collaboration with Kajo Keji health training institute we conducted community base health education grass root awareness. The cost includes sanitary pads, system hire, printing of visibility materials, transportation, lunch and refreshments.
- We are directly paying for tuition fee, uniform and cost of scholastic materials.