

Annual Report 2023

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Table of Contents

LETTER FROM THE BOARD	2
MISSION STATEMENT	3
HISTORY OF CEF	3
ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS	4
CEF PHILOSOPHY AND BELIEFS	4
STATISTICS AND PROFILES OF BENEFICIARIES	6
PROTECTION	6
FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD	10
EDUCATION	14
WASH	18
Health	22
HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE YEAR	25
FINANCE STATEMENTS	26
AWARDS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND DONATIONS	28
ROSTER	29

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

On behalf of the Board of Directors and my own, I would like to express our gratitude and sincere appreciation to our valued partners, particularly Save the Children International, Microsoft Corporation, UNWOMEN, UNICEF, and GIZ, for their generous support in terms of financial assistance, software provisions, and training opportunities that have significantly contributed to the successful operations of CEF.

We are truly thankful for the strong partnership we have forged with each of these organizations, which has played a pivotal role in enabling CEF to achieve its objectives effectively. Over the past seven years, CEF has experienced remarkable growth in its project portfolio, operational capabilities, funding sources, and workforce. These accomplishments are a testament to the unwavering commitment, dedication, collaborative efforts, and determination of our staff members who have worked tirelessly to facilitate the mobilization of **\$2,265,764.03** and provide assistance to **525,954** beneficiaries in South Sudan.

Congratulations to all the dedicated individuals at CEF for their outstanding contributions. Let us continue to uphold the high standards of work and maintain this positive momentum moving forward.



Malual Jacob Runrach,
Secretary/ED.

MISSION STATEMENT

To empower communities to improve their healthy living conditions, fight poverty, eradicate illiteracy and discrimination against women.

CEF VISION

CEF envisions a free, empowered, and healthy society where all people are equal.

HISTORY OF CEF

Charity and Empowerment Foundation (CEF) is a non-profit organization established in 2017 by Dr. Gai Chol Paul, during his pursuit of a doctorate degree at Walden University. Inspired by the concept of positive social change instilled in him by Walden University, Dr. Paul took the initiative to create CEF with the primary objective of empowering communities and improving their overall living conditions. With a focus on combating poverty, eliminating illiteracy, and addressing gender discrimination, CEF is working tirelessly to create a more equitable and just society.

CEF initiatives span across various areas, including health enhancement, education advancement, and livelihood improvement. These efforts are primarily targeted towards remote and underserved regions, where accessing adequate resources and support is a significant challenge. Through its comprehensive approach, CEF aims to create a world where all individuals are equal, free, and empowered.

By working closely with rural communities, CEF strives to make a lasting impact and contribute to a healthier and more prosperous world for all. Since 2017, CEF has been mobilizing resources from International Organizations, UN agencies, International Corporations, and the board membership contribution.

ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS.

CEF has five systematic goals to achieve by 2030. The figure below corresponds to programs CEF is implementing.



CEF PHILOSOPHY AND BELIEFS

CEF places great importance on the value of **advocacy**. By engaging in advocacy efforts, CEF works to influence decision-makers in the development, modification, and implementation of policies. The focus of CEF's advocacy work is on addressing issues impacting children, their primary caregivers, and relatives. Through advocacy initiatives, CEF aims to enhance the capacity of duty bearers to fulfill their responsibilities in terms of policies, practices, and legislation, while also empowering children, caregivers, and local civil society members to assert their rights and hold others accountable.

Additionally, CEF recognizes the significance of **behavioral change communication** (BCC) as a powerful tool for fostering positive social change within the communities where

its projects are implemented. By selecting appropriate communication channels and crafting tailored messages and strategies, CEF utilizes BCC to promote shifts in knowledge, attitudes, norms, beliefs, and behaviors, ultimately facilitating greater awareness and understanding of the change process.

Moreover, CEF acknowledges the impact of **peer education** in disseminating information within target communities through individuals' peers. Through training peer educators, CEF facilitates the spread of positive social change perceptions in project communities, encouraging the adoption of favorable behaviors and supporting the sustainability of desired transformations.

Furthermore, CEF places emphasis on **enhancing the capacities of local communities and their institutions** as a means of driving significant positive changes in project areas. By empowering women to recognize their potential and assert their rights in regions where CEF operates, and by strengthening the capabilities of local institutions, CEF has successfully fostered enduring positive outcomes even after the conclusion of its projects.

Lastly, CEF values **innovation** as a key driver of project success. By implementing innovative approaches to project execution, CEF upholds the highest quality standards, reduces costs, meets deadlines, garners support from donors, partners, and communities, and establishes and maintains its reputation and credibility.

STATISTICS AND PROFILES OF BENEFICIARIES

PROTECTION

In response to the humanitarian crisis stemming from the Sudan war, we implemented the Crisis Modifier project in Aweil East. This initiative aimed to address the urgent psychosocial needs of returnees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and children from host community who were deeply affected by the conflict. Through the provision of peer-to-peer psychosocial support, we were able to create a safe and supportive environment for these vulnerable populations to express their emotions, process their experiences, and build resilience in the face of adversity. By reaching out to 120 children with this essential support, we made significant strides in promoting mental well-being and fostering a sense of community in the midst of crisis.

Our dedicated team of trained staff worked tirelessly to ensure that the peer-to-peer psychosocial support sessions were tailored to the specific needs of each child, taking into account their unique backgrounds and experiences. By fostering a sense of belonging and connection among the participants, we were able to empower them to cope with trauma, develop healthy coping mechanisms, and strengthen their social and emotional skills. Through the Crisis Modifier project, we not only provided immediate relief to those affected by the Sudan war but also laid the foundation for long-term healing and recovery in Aweil East.

Additionally, we embarked on a comprehensive awareness-raising campaign on child rights in Aweil East, targeting returnees, IDPs, Refugees, and host community structures situated at the border of South Sudan and Sudan. The campaign aimed to educate and empower these vulnerable populations on the fundamental rights of children, with a focus on

protection from exploitation, access to education, healthcare, and a safe environment.

Through interactive workshops, community dialogues, and distribution of informational materials, we successfully reached out to over 700 individuals, fostering a deeper understanding and commitment to upholding the rights of children in the region.

This initiative not only served to raise awareness but also to build sustainable partnerships with local stakeholders and community leaders, laying the groundwork for continued advocacy and support for child rights in the area. By engaging with diverse groups and fostering dialogue on this critical issue, we have taken a significant step towards creating a more inclusive and protective environment for children in Aweil East, setting the stage for further impactful interventions in the future.

Moreover, we embarked on a crucial initiative to enhance the capacity of 60 community members residing at the border of South Sudan and Sudan in the area of Child Protection in Emergency. This comprehensive training program was designed to equip returnees, IDPs, Refugees, and members of the host community structures with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively respond to child protection issues in emergency situations. Through a series of interactive workshops, participants were empowered to identify and address the unique vulnerabilities faced by children in crisis settings, as well as to implement appropriate protection measures to ensure their safety and well-being.

By engaging with a diverse group of individuals representing different backgrounds and experiences, our training initiative fostered a collaborative and inclusive approach towards child protection in emergency response efforts. Participants were encouraged to share their insights and perspectives, contributing to a rich exchange of ideas and best practices in

safeguarding children during times of crisis. Through this targeted capacity-building intervention, we aimed to strengthen the resilience of communities at the border of South Sudan and Sudan, ensuring that they are better prepared to protect and support children in need during emergencies.

Furthermore, our efforts to promote cultural community events and sporting activities in Aweil Center saw a significant impact on the local population, particularly the youth demographic. By organizing and publicizing these events, we aimed to foster a sense of unity and shared identity among the community members, encouraging participation and engagement from all age groups. The diverse range of activities, from traditional dance performances to friendly sports competitions, provided a platform for individuals to come together, celebrate their heritage, and build relationships based on mutual respect and understanding.

Through our initiatives, we sought to instill values of peace and co-existence among the residents of Aweil Center, emphasizing the importance of dialogue and collaboration in resolving conflicts and building a harmonious society. By actively involving young people in these events, we aimed to empower the next generation to become agents of positive change, equipped with the skills and mindset needed to contribute to a peaceful and inclusive community. Our commitment to promoting cultural exchange and sporting activities as tools for social cohesion and conflict resolution has been instrumental in fostering a sense of belonging and togetherness among the diverse population of Aweil Center.

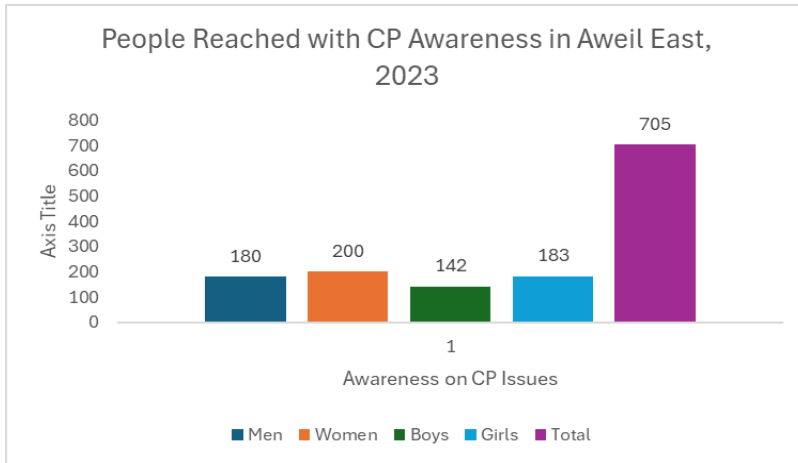


Figure 1: Awareness on CP Issues in Aweil East, 2023

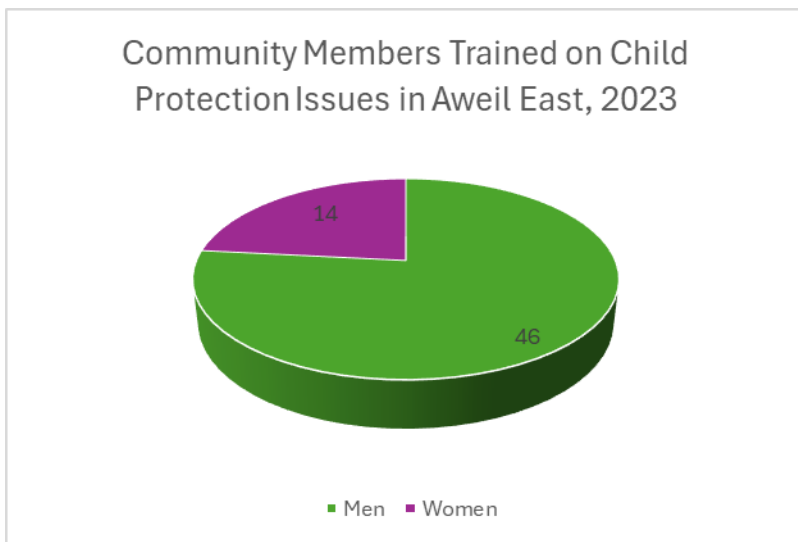


Figure 2: Community Members Trained on CP Issues in Aweil East, 2023



Figure 3: Peer to peer Psychosocial support activities in Aweil East, 2023

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD

In our efforts to support farmer agricultural production and enhance food security in the Aweil Center, we have successfully reached 1000 smallholder farmers with comprehensive training activities and essential tools. Through our tailored programs, we have equipped farmers with the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance crop yields, improve farming practices, and increase the overall productivity of their agricultural activities. By providing access to high-quality inputs, market opportunities, and agribusiness orientation, we aim to empower farmers to not only meet their food and nutrition needs but also to enhance their income levels and create sustainable livelihoods for themselves and their families.

Through our collaborative efforts with local partners and stakeholders, we have been able to create a supportive ecosystem that fosters agricultural innovation, knowledge sharing, and market linkages for smallholder farmers in the Aweil Center. By focusing on capacity building, resource mobilization, and sustainable practices, we are committed to promoting resilience and prosperity within the farming communities we serve. Our holistic approach to farmer support aims to address the multifaceted challenges faced by smallholder farmers and create lasting impact in improving food security, nutrition outcomes, and economic opportunities for all participants in the agricultural value chain.

In our efforts to promote nutrition education and behavior change among farmers in Aweil Center, we meticulously designed and organized comprehensive nutrition awareness education programs. These programs were tailored to empower farmers with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions about their dietary choices and practices. Through interactive workshops and training sessions, we emphasized the importance of planting nutritionally valuable foods, such as fruits and vegetables rich in

essential vitamins and minerals, to enhance the overall nutritional quality of their diets.

Furthermore, we focused on educating farmers about the significance of preventing household food contamination and implementing proper food handling and storage practices. By emphasizing the importance of maintaining hygiene and sanitation standards in food preparation and storage areas, we aimed to reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses and ensure the safety and quality of the food consumed by the community. Our holistic approach to nutrition education encompassed not only the promotion of healthy eating habits but also the implementation of practical measures to safeguard the nutritional integrity of the food supply chain in Aweil Center.

In our efforts to empower vulnerable households, particularly women, through economic skill development, we conducted comprehensive training sessions for 80 individuals in tailoring techniques. These training sessions were designed to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to enhance their livelihoods and generate sustainable income opportunities. Additionally, we distributed 80 sewing machines and 20 peanut grinding machines to these individuals, enabling them to establish or expand their small businesses and improve their economic independence.

Furthermore, as part of our commitment to fostering economic resilience among marginalized communities, we also distributed 10 grinding mills to further support the economic activities of these households. By providing essential tools and training opportunities, we aim to create a conducive environment for individuals to thrive and achieve financial stability, ultimately contributing to the overall socio-economic development of the community.

In our efforts to address food insecurity in Aweil East, we successfully distributed assorted food items to a total of 2,100 individuals, including returnees, IDPs, and refugees. This initiative aimed to provide much-needed sustenance to vulnerable populations facing food scarcity and insecurity in the region. By partnering with SCI and leveraging community networks, we were able to ensure that essential food items such as grains, pulses, cooking oil, and fortified foods reached those most in need.

The distribution of assorted food items not only provided immediate relief to individuals and families struggling with hunger but also underscored our commitment to supporting the most marginalized communities in Aweil East. Through a coordinated and inclusive approach, we were able to reach a significant number of beneficiaries and make a tangible impact on their well-being. This distribution effort exemplifies our dedication to addressing food insecurity and promoting resilience among displaced populations in the region.



Figure 4: Number of people who received livelihood service, 2023

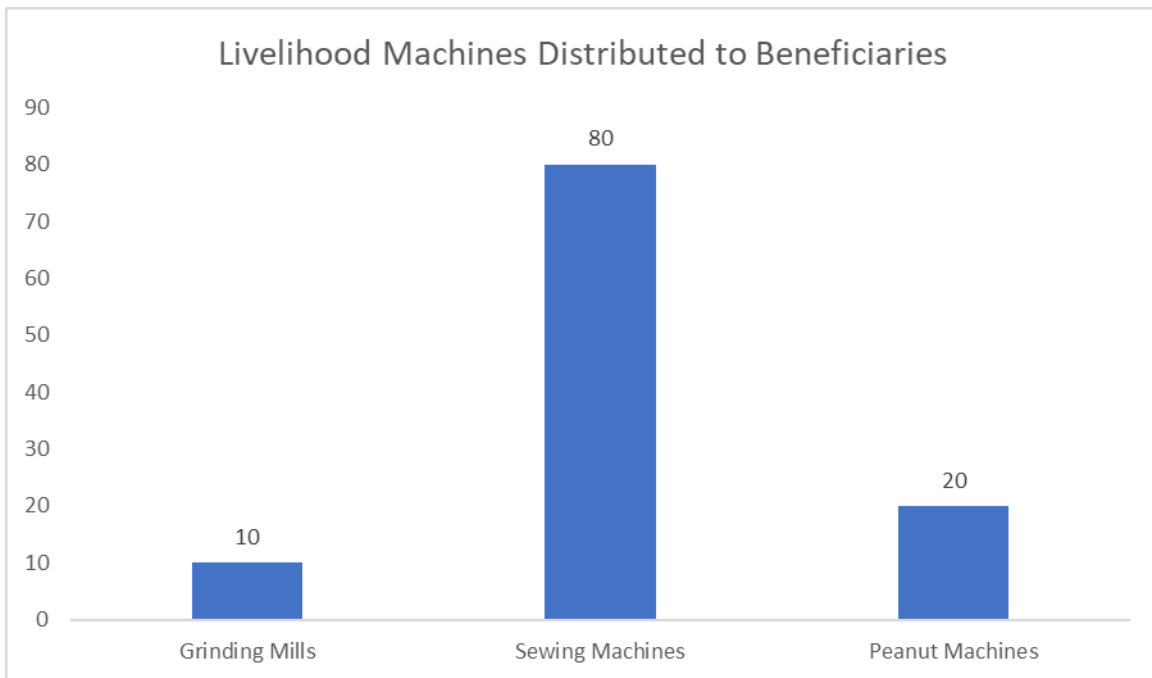


Figure 5: Livelihood machines distributed to beneficiaries, 2023



Figure 6: Individual members during tailoring machine training in Nyalath Payam, Aweil Center County, 2023



Figure 7: Participants and key stakeholders viewing the Peanut Paste machine in Nyalth Payam in Aweil Center County, 2023

EDUCATION

In collaboration with the UNICEF, CEF made a significant impact in Awerial county by providing support to 6 primary schools through the distribution of scholastic materials and dignity kits. These essential resources not only facilitated the educational journey of 6,500 children but also helped in promoting a sense of dignity and self-worth among the schoolgirls. By equipping these schools with the necessary tools for learning and personal hygiene, we aimed to create a conducive environment where children could thrive academically and socially.

Through the provision of scholastic materials such as textbooks, writing supplies, and educational resources, we sought to enhance the quality of education in these primary schools. Additionally, the distribution of dignity kits, including personal hygiene items and clothing, aimed to address the basic needs of the students and promote a sense of pride and confidence in their appearance. By supporting these 6 primary schools in Awerial county, we were able to contribute towards creating a more inclusive and empowering educational environment for the children in the community.

Additionally, CEF embarked on a significant initiative to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of the education system in Awerial county by conducting training sessions for Parents Teachers Association (PTA) members and School Management Committees (SMCs) in six primary schools. These training programs were meticulously designed to empower the participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to actively contribute to the improvement of their respective schools.

Through workshops and interactive sessions, the PTAs and SMCs were equipped with essential tools and strategies to foster a conducive learning environment, promote parental involvement, and enhance school governance. The training sessions focused on topics such as effective communication, financial management, and collaborative decision-making, enabling the participants to play a more active role in supporting the educational development of their schools. The engagement and enthusiasm displayed by the PTAs and SMCs during these training sessions underscored their commitment to driving positive change and fostering a culture of excellence within the education sector in Awerial county.

Moreover, CEF embarked on a transformative project to support education by constructing six semi-permanent classrooms in Awerial county. These classrooms were meticulously designed to provide a conducive learning environment for the students, equipped with essential amenities to enhance the educational experience. Through meticulous planning and collaboration with UNICEF and the Ministry of General Education and Instruction, we were able to ensure that the construction process adhered to high-quality standards, with a focus on sustainability and durability.

The completion of these six semi-permanent classrooms signifies a significant milestone in

our commitment to improving access to quality education in Awerial. By investing in infrastructure that supports learning, we aim to empower the next generation of students in the region, providing them with the necessary resources to thrive academically and unlock their full potential. The impact of these classrooms extends beyond physical structures, serving as a symbol of hope and progress for the community, inspiring a brighter future for generations to come.

Under the NORAD Framework in collaboration with the SCI, CEF successfully translated and distributed 500 copies of the Safe School Declaration Guidelines for South Sudan. This initiative aimed to promote the safety and protection of schools in South Sudan, emphasizing the importance of upholding the rights of children to education in a secure environment. By ensuring the widespread dissemination of these guidelines, we sought to raise awareness among stakeholders, including government officials, educators, and community members, about the critical need to safeguard schools as spaces free from violence and conflict.

Through this strategic effort, we aimed to contribute to the overall resilience and stability of the education sector in South Sudan, fostering a conducive learning environment for all children in the country.

Furthermore, CEF embarked on a crucial mission to conduct an awareness-raising campaign on the Safe School Declaration Principles in Rumbek East County. This initiative was aimed at promoting the importance of ensuring safe and secure learning environments for children and youth in the region. Through targeted outreach efforts, community engagement, and informative sessions, we were able to reach a total of 4,320 individuals with key messages and guidelines outlined in the Safe School Declaration.

The campaign focused on raising awareness about the principles of the Safe School Declaration, emphasizing the protection of educational facilities, students, and educators during armed conflicts. By collaborating with local stakeholders, educational institutions, and community leaders, we were able to effectively disseminate information and foster a culture of safety and resilience within the education sector. The engagement and participation of the community were instrumental in amplifying our message and ensuring that the importance of safe schools is recognized and prioritized in Rumbek East County.



Figure 8: TLS constructed with the UNICEF Funding in Awerial County, 2023



Figure 9: Children celebrating after receiving their scholastic materials supplied by the UNICEF, 2023

WASH

In collaboration with the SCI under funding from Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CEF made significant strides in supporting the community of Tonj East County by distributing assorted Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) items to address their hygienic and sanitation needs. Through our dedicated efforts, we were able to assist a total of 76,495 individuals in accessing essential WASH items, such as clean water containers, hygiene kits, and sanitation supplies. This initiative played a crucial role in promoting proper hygiene practices and improving the overall health and well-being of the community members.

By distributing these WASH items, we aimed to empower individuals to take charge of their health and well-being by providing them with the necessary tools to maintain proper hygiene standards. The positive impact of our intervention was evident in the improved sanitation practices and reduced instances of waterborne diseases within the community. Through collaborative efforts and a commitment to sustainability, we continue to work towards ensuring that every individual in Tonj East County has access to the essential WASH items needed to lead a healthy and dignified life.

Additionally, CEF embarked on a comprehensive hygiene promotion and awareness-raising campaign in Tonj East County, reaching a total of 53,236 individuals within the community. The primary objective of this initiative was to educate and empower local residents on the importance of proper hygiene practices in order to prevent the spread of diseases and improve overall health outcomes in the region. Through interactive workshops, community engagement sessions, and distribution of educational materials, we aimed to instill lasting behavioral changes and promote a culture of hygiene consciousness among the population.

Our dedicated team of volunteers and health educators worked tirelessly to deliver key messages on handwashing, sanitation, and safe water practices to individuals of all ages and backgrounds. By fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility within the community, we sought to create sustainable impact and drive positive health outcomes for generations to come. Through collaborative efforts and strategic partnerships with local stakeholders, we were able to amplify the reach and effectiveness of our hygiene promotion campaign, ultimately contributing to a healthier and more resilient Tonj East County.

Moreover, CEF made significant strides in addressing the critical issue of water scarcity in Tonj East County by rehabilitating six boreholes and a water yard. Through these efforts, we were able to support 21,879 individuals in gaining access to sufficient and safe water for domestic use. By revitalizing these essential water sources, we not only provided immediate relief to communities facing water shortages but also ensured the sustainability of these resources for years to come.

The rehabilitation of the boreholes and water yard involved thorough assessments, repairs,

and upgrades to enhance their efficiency and reliability. Our team worked closely with local authorities and community members to ensure that the water sources met the necessary quality standards and were accessible to all residents. This initiative not only improved the daily lives of thousands of individuals by providing them with a reliable source of clean water but also contributed to the overall health and well-being of the community in Tonj East County.

Furthermore, CEF made significant strides in improving sanitation conditions in Tonj East County by constructing six latrines to provide dignified, safe, clean, and functional excreta disposal facilities for the community. These newly built latrines not only address the immediate need for proper sanitation but also contribute to the overall health and well-being of the residents. By ensuring access to these facilities, we are empowering individuals to live with dignity and promoting a healthier environment for all.

Through our dedicated efforts, we have supported over 10,000 individuals in Tonj East County to have access to dignified latrines, marking a substantial achievement in our mission to improve sanitation infrastructure and practices in underserved communities. The construction of these six latrines represents a tangible investment in the health and dignity of the local population, laying the foundation for sustainable progress and fostering a culture of hygiene and sanitation awareness. Our commitment to enhancing access to clean and functional excreta disposal facilities underscores our dedication to promoting public health and advancing the well-being of communities in need.

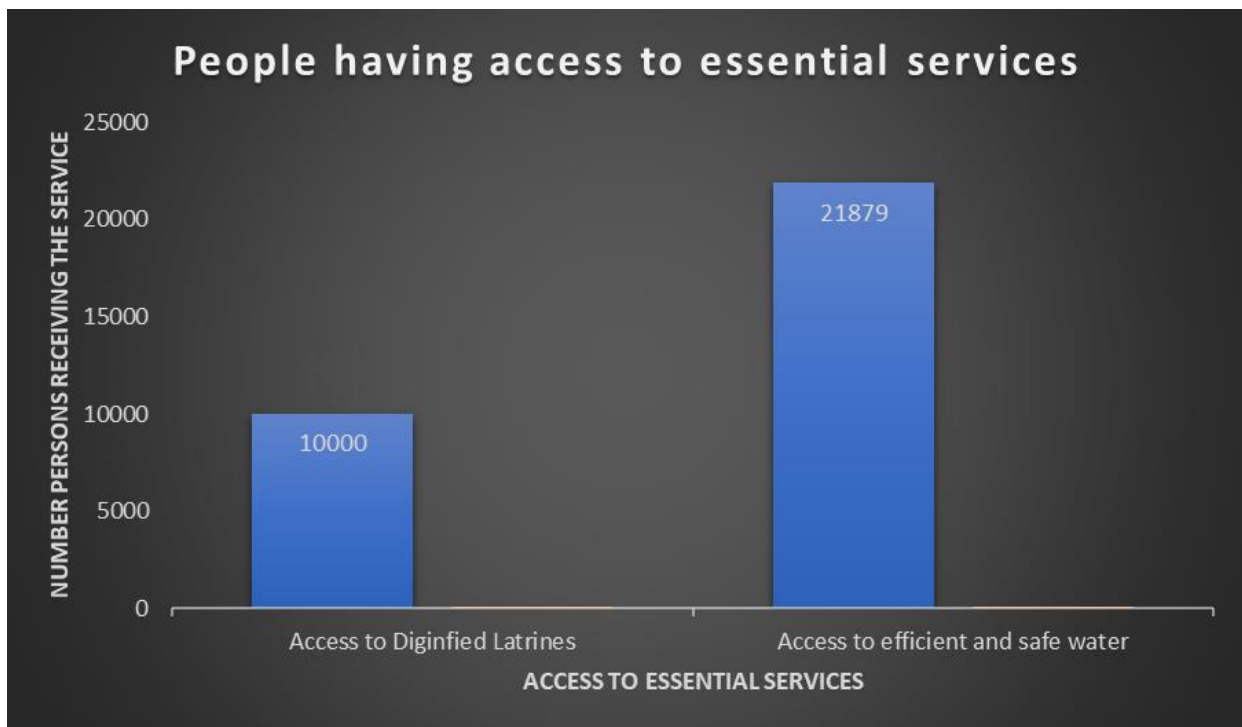


Figure 10: Number of people having access to services.

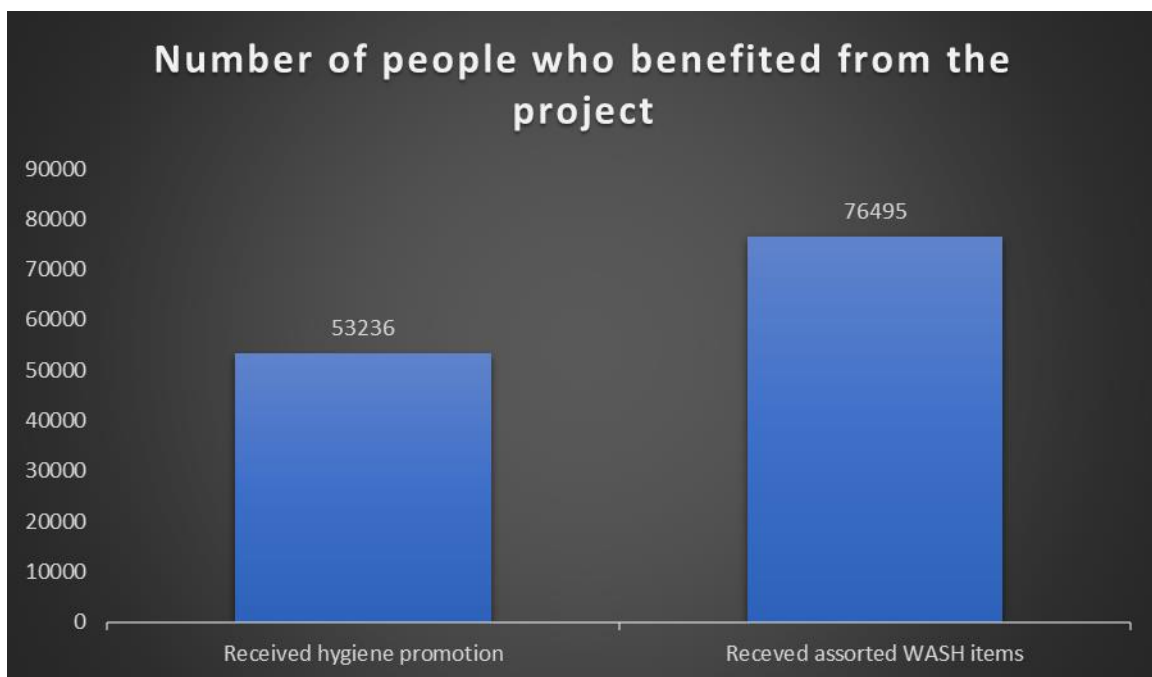


Figure 11: Number of people who benefited from the project.



Figure 12: Institutional latrines with hand washing facilities in Palal Payam, Tonj East County 2023



Figure 13: A boreholes rehabilitated in Makuach Payam in Tonj East County, 28/9/2023

Health

In a significant stride towards enhancing healthcare capabilities within the Protection of Civilians (POC) camp in Juba, the CEF conducted a comprehensive training session for health workers on the 29th of March 2023. The session saw a total of 11 participants, comprising 3 female and 8 male individuals, who were equipped with essential skills and knowledge to address various health-related challenges prevalent in the POC. Through this initiative, CEF aimed to not only build the capacity of local health workers but also foster a more inclusive and gender-balanced approach towards healthcare delivery.

The training session served as a platform for participants to engage in interactive learning experiences, exchange best practices, and collaborate on strategies to improve health outcomes for the community. By empowering a diverse group of health workers with the necessary tools and expertise, CEF reaffirmed its commitment to promoting sustainable healthcare practices and strengthening the overall well-being of individuals within the community.

Additionally, the CEF demonstrated its commitment to public health by conducting a series of Covid-19 awareness campaigns that have successfully reached 502 individuals across 100 households. Through targeted messaging and community engagement initiatives, CEF has

been able to disseminate crucial information about the virus, preventive measures, and vaccination efforts to vulnerable populations.

By leveraging a multi-faceted approach that includes door-to-door visits and community meetings, CEF has been able to effectively communicate with individuals from diverse backgrounds and varying levels of health literacy. These efforts have not only increased awareness about Covid-19 but have also empowered individuals to make informed decisions about their health and well-being. CEF's dedication to promoting public health and safety through proactive outreach initiatives serves as a testament to its mission of creating healthier and more resilient communities.

Finally, CEF organized a mass awareness campaign on 4th April 2023, reaching out to a commendable turnout of approximately 300 participants. The event served as a platform to disseminate crucial information on various health-related topics, including preventive measures, early detection of diseases, and the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. Through engaging presentations, interactive workshops, and informative materials, CEF effectively educated and empowered the attendees to take charge of their health and well-being.

The initiative not only aimed to enhance the participants' understanding of key health issues but also fostered a sense of community and solidarity in promoting a culture of wellness. By equipping individuals with the knowledge and resources necessary to make informed health choices, CEF's mass awareness campaign played a pivotal role in empowering the community to prioritize their health and embrace a proactive approach towards disease prevention and overall well-being.

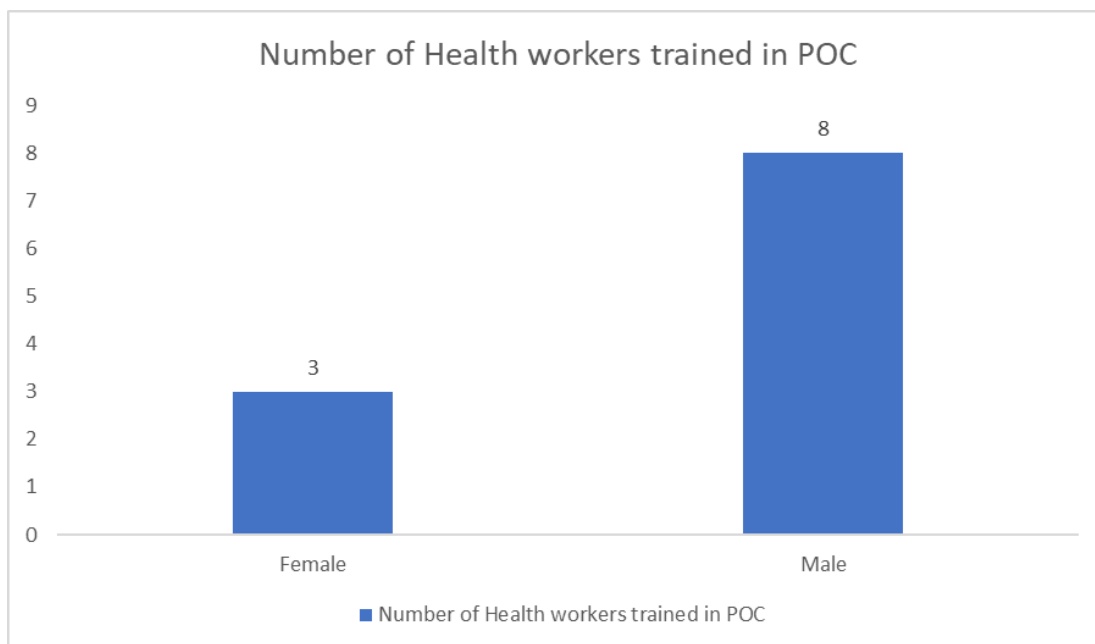


Figure 14: Number of Health workers trained in POC, 2023

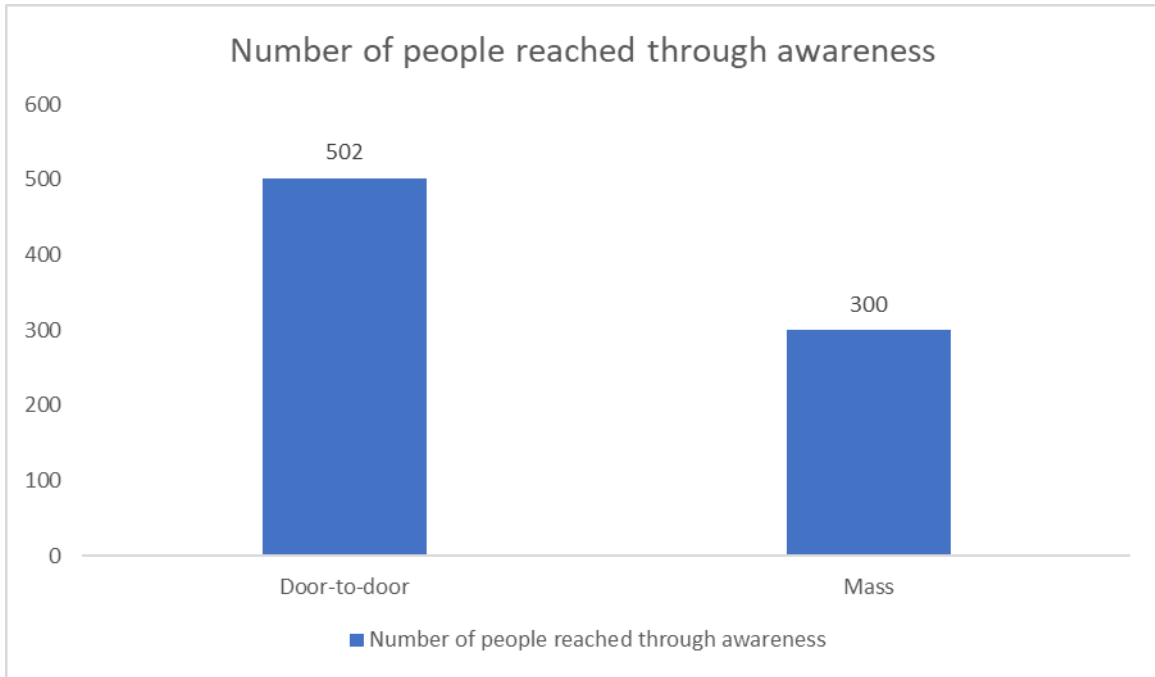


Figure 15: Number of people reached through awareness, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE YEAR

CEF has achieved tremendous achievements for 2023 in all areas of program, operation, finance, supply chain, and human resource. Under the programmatic improvement, CEF generated \$774,127.21 from SCI, UNICEF, UNWOMEN, GIZ, and membership contributions. CEF reached **189,873** beneficiaries with FSL, CP, Education, and Health and WASH. Under finance, there was great improvement in reporting and compliance, finance team were trained, and they are now experts in their field. Supply chain department improved mobility by buying 1 car to ease the movement of persons and projects supplies. Under human resource department, new human resource policies were developed in 2023 to meet the UNICEF requirements.

FINANCE STATEMENTS

(Only show infographic statements here because the detailed finance statements may not be relevant to many audiences)

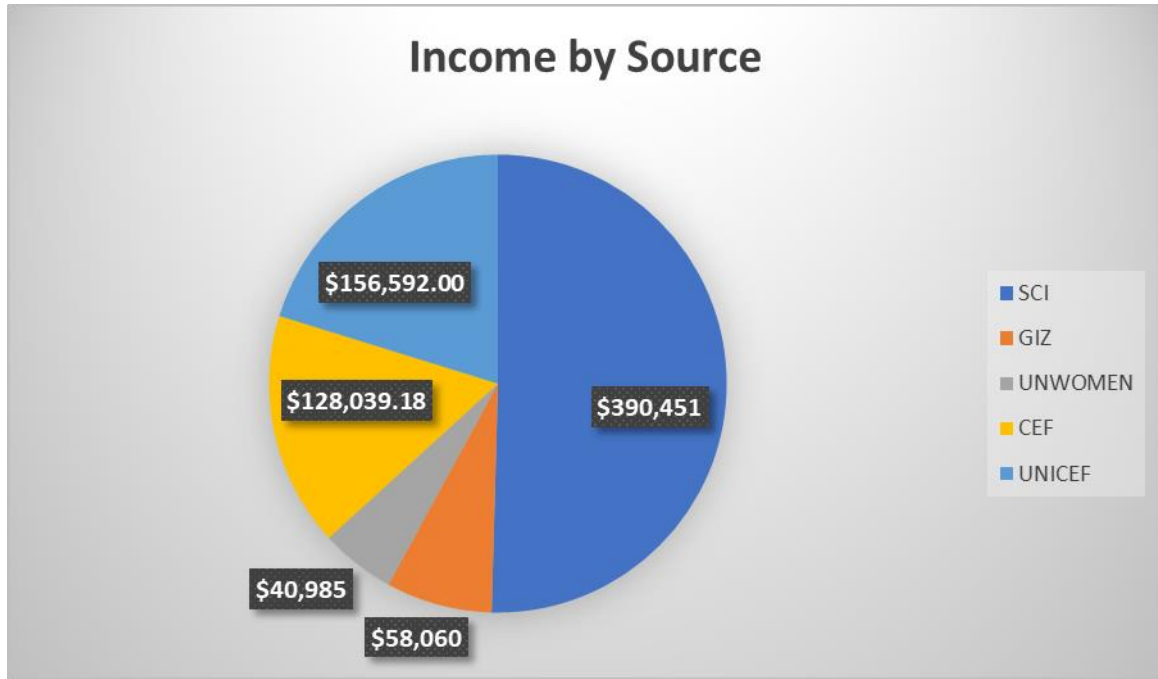


Figure 16: Income by Source, 2023

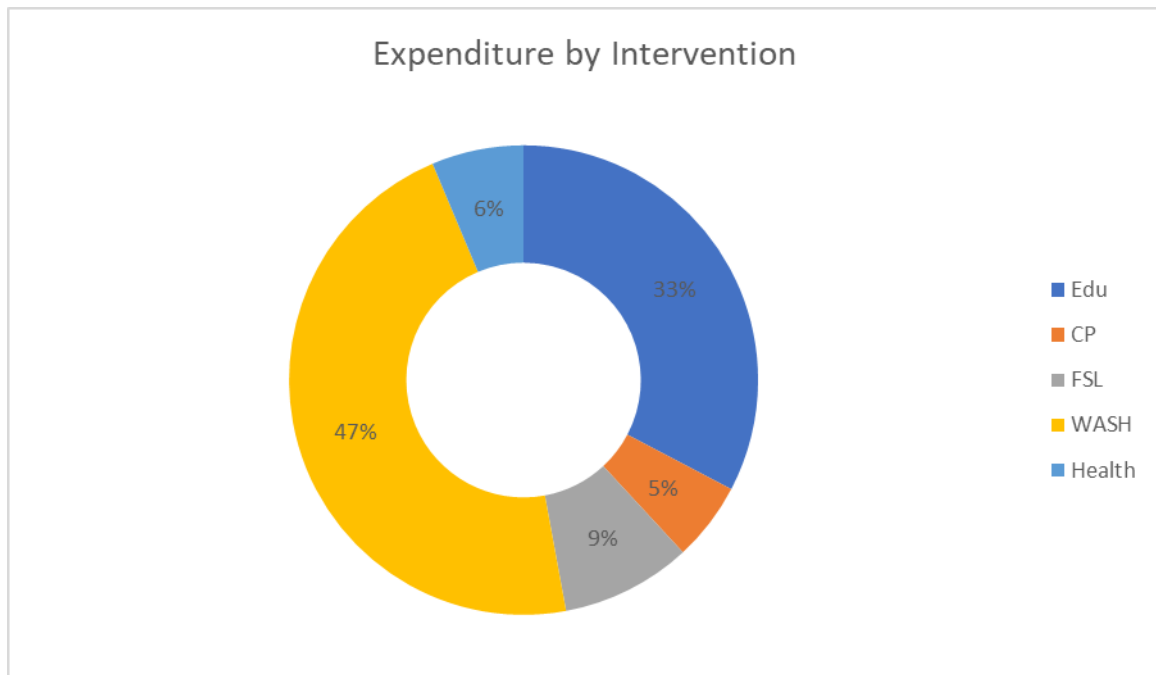


Figure 17: Expenditure by Intervention, 2023

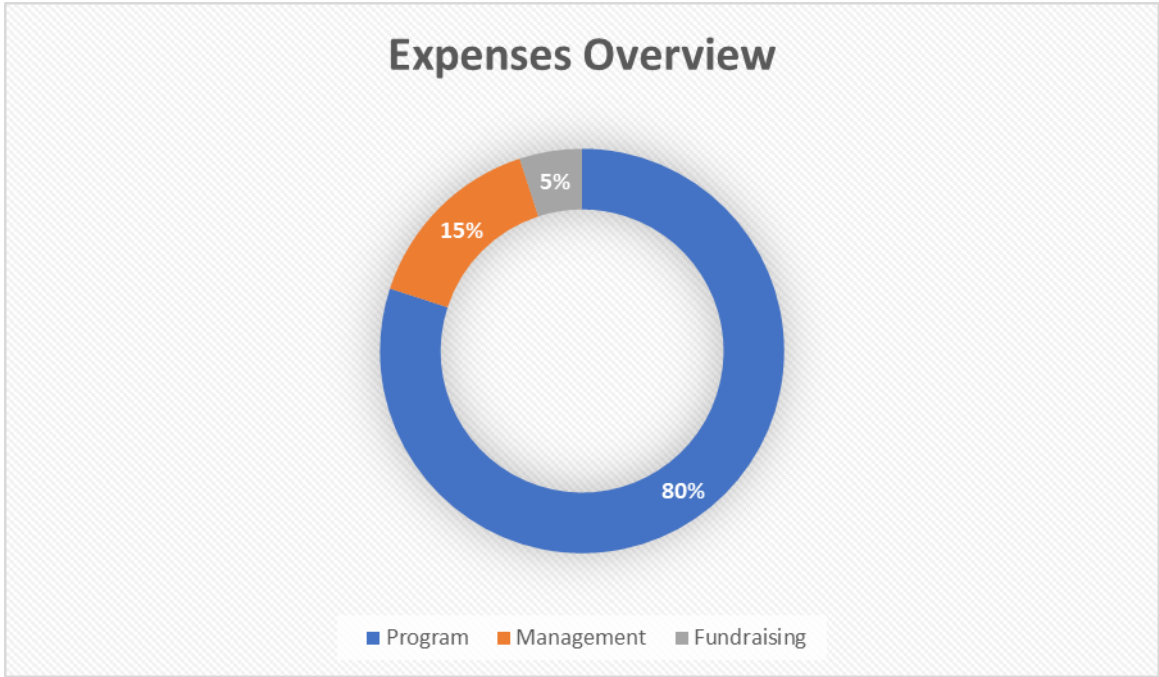


Figure 18: Expenses Overview, 2023

AWARDS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND DONATIONS

#	Project	Amount	Source
1.	GIZ food and nutrition security and management of natural resources project	\$58,060.00	GIZ
2.	NORAD Framework	\$54,643.03	SCI
3.	SSJR- WASH program	\$335,808	SCI
4.	Increasing availability of learning spaces with community participation in Awerial County, Lake state	\$156,592.00	UNICEF
5.	Protection from COVID -19 Impacts Among IDPs, Women and Their Host Communities in Bentiu.	\$40,985.00	UNWOMEN
6	Board Contribution	\$128,039.18	CEF
Total		\$774,127.21	

ROSTER

S#	Name in Full	Position
1.	Abiar Ajith Lual	Chair
2.	Malual Jacob Runrach	Secretary/ED
3.	Leek Gai Kurwal	Member
4.	Anai Mary Gai	Member