



## Treatment and Prevention of Acute Malnutrition in Jonglei & Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Republic of South Sudan

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Prepared by:  
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### I. Demographic Information

1. City & State

Bor, Jonglei State, and Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Republic of South Sudan

2. Organization:

Real Medicine Foundation, South Sudan ([www.realmedicinefoundation.org](http://www.realmedicinefoundation.org))  
United Nations Children's Fund ([www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org))

3. Project Title:

Treatment and Prevention of Acute Malnutrition

4. Reporting Period:

January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017

5. Project Location (region & city/town/village):

Ayod County of Jonglei State and Boma County of Greater Pibor Administrative Area

6. Target Population:

Direct project beneficiaries for the year 2017 are tabulated below:

Table 1: SAM children targeted

County	SAM Children to Benefit from OTP	SAM Children to Benefit from SC	Total
Ayod	2,944	440	3,384
Boma	1,469	0	1,469
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,413</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>4,853</b>

Table 2: MAM children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) targeted

County	MAM Children to Benefit from TSFP	PLW to Benefit from TSFP
Ayod	4,329	3,375
Boma	1,898	1,467
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,227</b>	<b>4,842</b>

Direct project beneficiaries are approximately 140,517 people living in the payams assigned to RMF, and indirect beneficiaries include the whole population of the two counties, estimated to be 340,661 projected from the 2008 South Sudan Population and Housing Census. The nutrition service centers also receive beneficiaries from neighboring counties and internally displaced persons (IDPs) from various areas of Jonglei and neighboring states.

### II. Project Information

7. Project Goals:

The overall goal of this project is to reduce the global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate to an acceptable level of less than 15% in each of the payams assigned to RMF. This will be in line with standards set by the South Sudan National Nutrition Program.

#### 8. Project Objectives:

- To provide lifesaving nutrition services for acutely malnourished children (boys and girls) under 5 years of age and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- To prevent malnutrition in early childhood through promotion of improved infant and young child feeding, caregiving, and care seeking practices at the facility, community, and family level.
- To prevent and treat micronutrient deficiency disorders in children through provision of multiple micronutrient supplementation, vitamin A, and deworming campaigns in the assigned areas.
- To strengthen the capacity of the County Health Department (CHD) and provide appropriate resources for the initiation and integration of nutrition services into existing primary health care, as well as linking nutrition interventions in the health system in the targeted counties.

#### 9. Summary of RMF-sponsored activities carried out during the reporting period under each project objective (note any changes from original plans):

##### Implemented activities in line with RMF-sponsored activities and project objectives:

- Facilitated the participation of RMF in the joint rapid response mechanism mission conducted by WFP and UNICEF in Kandak, Mogok Payam in Ayod County.
- Facilitated the participation of RMF in the joint rapid response mechanism mission conducted by WFP and UNICEF in Katdalok, Kuach Deng Payam in Ayod County.
- Re-established an OTP in Jiech previously run by COSV.
- Procured and provided more stationery for the OTP/SC/TSFP sites in Ayod and Boma.
- Supported the printing of M&E tools for the nutrition activities in Ayod and Boma.
- Supported the routine running of OTP/SC/TSFP activities in Ayod and Boma.
- Continued to support satellite phone services through payment of monthly subscription fees, as this is the only means of communication in those hard to reach areas where RMF works and where routine phone services are not available.
- Procured and delivered an adequate amount of essential foodstuffs for RMF's relocated staff members (those recruited from Juba and deployed to Ayod and Boma) where basic commodities are not available.
- Supported the welfare of relocated nutrition staff members in Ayod and Boma.
- Continued to procure and provide in-kind support (soaps, salt, and sitting mats) for the infant and young child feeding (IYCF) mother-to-mother support groups.
- Improved storage and accommodation facilities at OTP/TSFP/SC sites in Ayod and Boma.
- Facilitated in-country travel of nutrition staff between Juba and different nutrition centers in Ayod and Boma with UNHAS flights.
- Coordinated and delivered nutrition supplies to RMF sites in Ayod and Boma through the logistic cluster and regular UNHAS flights.
- Continued support of high-speed Wi-Fi internet service in the Juba office to enable easy coordination.
- Continued facilitation of RMF's team to participate in all coordination activities/meetings at national and state levels.

#### 10. Results and/or accomplishments achieved during this reporting period:

- **1 OTP in Jiech has been re-established**, maintained, and providing quality CMAM and IYCF services.
- **3 existing OTPs and TSFPs in Boma** were maintained and continued to provide quality CMAM and IYCF services.
- **2 OTPs, 1 SC, and 3 TSFPs in Ayod** were maintained and remained operational, all providing quality CMAM and IYCF services.
- **3 OTPs, 1 SC, and 2 TSFPs in Ayod were suspended in early March 2017** due to insecurity in the area.
- **7,869 and 10,532 children under 5** were screened for signs of acute malnutrition during this quarter in Ayod and Boma counties, respectively.
- **177 and 222 severely acute malnourished (SAM) children** were identified and referred to OTPs in Ayod and Boma, respectively, for management during the reporting quarter.
- **833 and 144 moderately acute malnourished (MAM) children** in Ayod and Boma counties, respectively, were enrolled in a supplementary feeding program during this quarter.
- **3,779 and 2,347 pregnant and lactating women (PLW)** were screened for signs of acute malnutrition in

Ayod and Boma counties, respectively.

- **964** and **93 pregnant and lactating women** were enrolled in a supplementary feeding program in Ayod and Boma counties, respectively, during the reporting quarter.
- **4,493** and **4,215 mothers and caregivers** in Ayod and Boma, respectively, received appropriate messages on IYCF, strengthening malnutrition prevention measures.
- **10** and **6 IYCF mother-to-mother support groups** in Ayod and Boma, respectively, were supported and continued to deliver IYCF services.
- RMF participated in the joint rapid response mechanism mission conducted in Kandak and Katdalok, during which our nutrition staff members were mentored and a number of SAM/MAM children and PLW were enrolled in the feeding program.
- **85% of the admitted SAM cases fully recovered**, which is a good indicator, as the proportion of recovered children was above the 75% recommended by South Sudan's MOH and international protocols.

The treatment outcomes at the end of the reporting quarter are summarized in the tables below:

Table 3: Treatment outcome for SAM

S/N	SPHERE Indicator	Ayod	Boma
1	Recovery Rate	82%	88%
2	Defaulter Rate	10%	12%
3	Mortality Rate	3%	0%

Table 4: Treatment outcome at TSFP

S/N	SPHERE Indicator	Ayod	Boma
1	Recovery Rate	84%	92%
2	Defaulter Rate	14%	8%
3	Mortality Rate	0%	0%

- RMF's relocated staff in various nutrition treatment centers of Ayod and Boma received adequate essential foodstuffs from Juba and continued to provide quality CMAM and IYCF services. (All our areas of intervention are hard to reach, and purchasing basic foodstuffs there is not possible.)
- Our nutrition field-based teams continued to have clean, safe drinking water through usage of the provided water purifying equipment.
- Existing nutrition staff members were supported, mentored, and refreshed on CMAM/IYCF through continued on-site supervision conducted by the nutrition program managers.
- RMF's Juba-based team, visiting nutrition staff from the various field locations, and JTH staff continued benefiting from the high-speed Wi-Fi internet service installed in RMF's office.
- Monthly payment of Thuraya (satellite phone) subscription fees enabled effective communication and coordination.
- Continued replenishment of nutrition supplies in all our OTP, SC, and TSFP sites through the logistics cluster and regular UNHAS operated aircrafts.
- Coordinated RMF nutrition activities with UNICEF, UN agencies, the nutrition cluster, and other nutrition partners, both at the national and state levels.

11. Impact this project has on the community (who is benefiting and how):

- The communities in Boma and Ayod in particular are delighted with our services. During the reporting quarter, a total of **399 SAM** and **977 MAM children**, as well as **1,057 PLW** were enrolled in our feeding program, respectively, hence improving quality of life for children and pregnant and lactating women.
- The populations in our catchment areas are benefiting from regular educational information on nutrition, health, and sanitation.
- The capacity of the County Health Departments (CHDs) and the staff recruited in Ayod and Boma is continuously built through training and mentorship.
- The limited resources of the State Ministry of Health and County Health Departments of the selected counties are now channeled to cover other areas, since RMF is providing nutrition services in the whole area.
- The nutrition project offers employment opportunities for South Sudanese nationals at national, state,

county, and village levels.

- The high-speed Wi-Fi internet access enables easy coordination for RMF's Juba team and visiting nutrition teams from various field locations.

12. Number served/number of direct project beneficiaries:

- Direct project beneficiaries are approximately 140,517 people living in the payams assigned to RMF, projected from the 2008 South Sudan Population and Housing Census.
- The project aims to provide treatment and multi-micronutrients to about **3,384** and **1,469 SAM children** in Ayod and Boma, respectively.
- The project aims to provide treatment and multi-micronutrients to about **4,329** and **1,898 MAM children** in Ayod and Boma, respectively.
- The project aims to provide treatment and multi-micronutrients to about **3,375** and **1,467 PLW** in Ayod and Boma, respectively.

13. Number of indirect project beneficiaries (geographic coverage):

- The project indirectly targets the whole population of the two counties, estimated to be **340,661**, projected from the 2008 South Sudan Population and Housing Census.
- The **1,721,036** people living in Jonglei State and Greater Pibor also benefit from the project indirectly, as there is frequent movement of people across counties.
- The nutrition service centers also receive beneficiaries from neighboring counties, as well as internally displaced persons (IDPs) from various areas of Jonglei State and other states in South Sudan.

14. If applicable, please list the medical services provided:

RMF is filling some of the gaps of medical services in the area, and recently signed a partnership agreement with UNICEF's health section for the implementation of Maternal Child Health Care (MCH) services in Gorwai and Pibor PHCCs.

15. Please list the most common health problems treated through this project.

This project mainly targets the management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). However, some of the children and adults come to our units due to health-related problems, since there are no healthcare services in most of our areas of operation.

Some of the conditions our team sees:

- Malaria
- Respiratory Tract Infections
- Diarrheal Diseases
- Intestinal Worm Infestation
- Skin Infections
- Gunshot Wounds
- Enteric Fever

16. Notable project challenges and obstacles:

- The armed confrontation between Juba government forces and SPLA in Opposition, which took place in February and March of 2017, badly affected our operation. RMF nutrition sites in Katdalok, Mogok, and Yian (all in Ayod County) were vandalized, and nutrition supplies and compound items valued at \$71,951.20 were looted. The three sites remained nonoperational.
- Renewal of RMF's partnership agreement with UNICEF for the treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition in Ayod and Boma counties was a very lengthy process, forcing RMF to implement for some time without an agreement, thus having to cover the resulting gaps.
- Delays in fund disbursement from UNICEF affected normal operations of the nutrition program, both at

Juba and field levels.

- The slow, bureaucratic financial management system of WFP delayed the disbursement of funds, making continuity of services very challenging.
- Continued episodes of stock-out at both the OTP/SCs and TSFPs due to high patient demand.
- Lack of healthcare services in our areas of operation make it very challenging to help patients of all age groups who come to our clinics with medical conditions. It is unethical that health partners that have resources from donors are only providing services in the big centers and neglecting communities at the village level.
- Irregular UNHAS flights to our areas of operation make it challenging to deliver essential items for the nutrition teams and conduct routine M&E activities.
- The depreciation South Sudanese Pounds (SSPs): There is significant devaluation of South Sudan currency against USD, hence the prices of basic commodities have increased more than tenfold, making operation very challenging.

17. If applicable, plans for next reporting period:

- Continue providing quality comprehensive nutrition packages in all our sites in Ayod and Boma.
- Follow up with UNICEF and WFP on fund disbursement.
- Follow up with UNICEF and WFP on supply delivery to RMF sites in Ayod and Boma.
- Procure and install staff tents and solar systems in Jiech, Pagil, and Gorwai.
- Solicit more financial resources to cover the gaps, since operational costs have become very high due the depreciation of South Sudanese currency and the country's economic crisis.
- Follow up with the MOH, IMA, and WHO about healthcare implementation in Ayod and Boma

18. If applicable, summary of RMF-sponsored medical supply distribution and use:

RMF procures basic medical supplies to take into our areas of operation.

19. Success story(s) highlighting project impact:

Please review photo Annex.

### III. Financial Information

20. Detailed summary of expenditures within each budget category as presented in your funded proposal (file attachment is fine). Please note any changes from plans.

Detailed financial report sent separately on a monthly basis.

## Project Photos



RMF nutrition team conducting IYCF activities through use of MOH illustration materials



RMF nutrition team conducting health/nutrition education before screening beneficiaries and distributing nutrition



Mothers at an RMF nutrition center awaiting screening after receiving appropriate information on IYCF

supplies



RMF nutrition staff conducting MUAC screening for children under 5



RMF nutrition staff conducting MUAC screening for children under 5



RMF nutrition nurse measuring the weight of a child during screening



RMF nutrition staff measuring the weight of a child during screening



RMF nutrition staff conducting MUAC screening for a

lactating woman



Severe acute malnourished (SAM) child in the feeding program at an RMF nutrition center



Severe acute malnourished child in the feeding program at an RMF nutrition center



Severe acute malnourished child in the feeding program at an RMF nutrition center



RMF nutrition staff accurately completing the nutrition cards during TSFP distribution day



RMF nutrition staff accurately completing the nutrition cards during TSFP distribution day



RMF nutrition staff accurately completing the nutrition cards during OTP distribution day