



Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery, Republic of South Sudan

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I. Demographic Information

1. City & State:
Juba, Central Equatoria State, Republic of South Sudan

2. Organization:
Real Medicine Foundation, South Sudan (www.realmedicinefoundation.org)

3. Project Title:
Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery (JCONAM)

4. Reporting Period:
January 1, 2019 – March 31, 2019

5. Project Location (region & city/town/village):
Juba Teaching Hospital, Juba County, Central Equatoria State, Republic of South Sudan

6. Target Population:

The Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery (JCONAM) has a direct target population of between 40 and 60 students for every annual intake for the Registered Nursing and Midwifery Diploma course. The 2010 intake admitted 36 students (18 nursing students and 18 midwifery students). 30 of those students progressed to their final year and graduated on August 29, 2013. A second class of 61 students started training in January 2012, and 45 (23 nurses and 22 midwives) progressed to their final year and completed the course in December 2014. 54 students were admitted at the beginning of 2013, and 38 (23 nurses and 15 midwives) completed the course in November 2015. The two groups of 2012 and 2013 graduated on December 11, 2015. 60 students (30 nursing and 30 midwifery students) were admitted in 2014, and 53 (30 nurses and 23 midwives) progressed to their final year, completing the course in June 2017 and graduating on July 26, 2017. 30 students (15 nursing and 15 midwifery) were admitted in 2015 and all 30 (15 nurses and 15 midwives) progressed into their final year, graduating in December 2018.

The 2016 intake included 25 nursing and 33 midwifery students, and they will be graduating in June 2019. The 2017 intake consisted of 36 nursing and 34 midwifery students, and the 2018 intake consisted of 38 nursing and 50 midwifery students. In 2019, JCONAM faces a gap in funding from its donors. Thus, the 2018 intake of students were suspended under all donors, with the exception of one implementing partner who is supporting 10 first-year midwifery students at the college.

The number of students in the program during the reporting quarter (January to March) are tabulated below:

Year	Nursing Students	Midwifery Students	Total
Year 1 (2018 intake)	0	10	10
Year 2 (2017 intake)	36	34	70
Year 3 (2016 intake)	25	33	58
Total	61	77	138

The growing population of Juba, the capital city of South Sudan, is now estimated to be 444,680, projected from the Population and Housing Census conducted in 2008. (There were 140,396 inhabitants in the immediate surrounding counties of Juba at that time). JCONAM educates candidates from all ten former states and serves as the first college of its kind exclusively operated by South Sudanese in South Sudan to educate professionals to serve the country's population of 10.46 million.

II. Project Information

7. Project Goals:

To improve the quality of and access to professional healthcare services by imparting the necessary skills through a three-year diploma program in either nursing or midwifery at the first college of nursing and midwifery in South Sudan accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education and Juba University, offering a diploma in Registered Nursing and Midwifery Status. JCONAM is contributing to reducing the maternal and child mortality rates in South Sudan in accordance with Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4 and 5.

8. Project Objectives:

- Provide model courses in registered nursing and registered midwifery in the first National Health Training Diploma Institute in South Sudan.
- Provide a curriculum recognized by all ministries associated with education in the Republic of South Sudan (RSS).
- Provide a cutting-edge skills laboratory and library for the students.
- Provide an improved clinical setting for student training.
- Provide highly qualified instructors and tutors for the duration of the three-year program.
- Provide an unprecedented model of healthcare sector capacity building for South Sudan.
- Provide a sustainable solution to South Sudan's maternal and infant mortality rates, the former of which is one of the highest in the world at 789/100,000. Currently, 1 in 50 South Sudanese women will die from pregnancy-related causes, as compared to 1 in 4,900 in developed countries.

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:

- The two master trainers for the Health eVillages project continued to benefit from the tablets preloaded with medical materials.
- Provided support to the National Ministry of Health, Republic of South Sudan and project partners in the coordination and implementation of project activities over the reporting period. Support and activities are in line with the approved JCONAM annual work plan.
- Continued facilitation of interlinkages with UNFPA, MOH, IMC, and other stakeholders to guarantee quality assurance in the implementation of both nursing and midwifery curricula in the diploma program.
- Coordinated RMF activities with other organizations and UN agencies supporting the Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery (JCONAM) by participating in meetings and conferences.
- Continued support of college human resources through payment of a South Sudanese national midwifery tutor's salary.
- Continued paying top-up allowances for eight midwives who are working in the Maternity department of Juba Teaching Hospital (JTH) and mentoring students from JCONAM during their clinical practice at the hospital.
- Continued to support the consultative process in developing policies/guidelines and strengthening the South Sudan Nurses and Midwives Association.
- RMF continued to supply basic medical supplies/medications for students.
- Provided additional training modules and equipment for the demonstration room and skills lab.

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

- RMF continued to provide top-up allowances for eight midwives who serve the Maternity unit of Juba Teaching Hospital and mentor students from JCONAM.
- JCONAM students in clinical practice continued to provide healthcare services at Juba Teaching Hospital (JTH) and primary healthcare centers within the city of Juba, bridging the gaps in human resources and improving quality of care.
- The midwife kits provided to Juba Teaching Hospital and other health facilities improved the availability of essential equipment, helping to improve safe maternity care, as well as JCONAM students' experience in clinical practice.

- The two college tutors provided with Health eVillages preloaded tablets continued do quick reference checks during lectures and clinical work, hence improving the quality of service delivery.
- The two college tutors continued to supervise and mentor the nurses/midwives provided with Health eVillages preloaded tablets, which in turn has improved patient care in the facility, as healthcare professionals are able to do quick reference checks and provide health education using the devices.
- RMF participated in the development of policies/guidelines for the South Sudan Nurses and Midwives Association.
- Continued coordination of RMF activities and participation in meetings/workshops together with NGOs and UN agencies supporting JCONAM and other National Health Training Institutes (NHTIs).
- RMF continued to finance the salary of one South Sudanese national midwifery tutor.
- In addition to the role of lecturing and mentoring students in clinical studies, the national tutor provided by RMF supported JCONAM's administration in management of the college.

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

- JCONAM students in clinical practice continued to provide healthcare services in Juba Teaching Hospital and primary healthcare centers within the city of Juba, bridging the gaps in human resources and improving quality of care.
- Students trained on Respectful Health Care (RHC) and Psychological First Aid are continuing to apply the knowledge and skills received in this training. The 2 UNV midwives who received the training are also continuing to mentor students in the Maternity ward of JTH in light of this training.
- The Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery curriculum approved by the Ministry of Health (MOH) is being used as a model document alongside JCONAM structures for replication in other states.
- The Ministry of Health, through the support of RMF and other stakeholders, is working to replicate JCONAM in other states. This will translate into continued growth in the number of nursing and midwifery diploma institutes in South Sudan and potentially new nursing/midwifery college partnerships for RMF.
- Stakeholders in nursing and midwifery education and services are undertaking the development of a bridge course for community/enrolled midwives to be accepted into JCONAM's diploma training program with the ability to complete the course in less than 3 years.
- It is currently estimated that it will take close to 66 years for South Sudan to establish a professional and sustained capacity to address maternal mortality issues. South Sudan has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world: 789 deaths for every 100,000 live births. In addition to establishing other diploma institutes in South Sudan, the MOH is working on bilateral agreements with neighboring countries to send out qualified South Sudanese to train as nurses and midwives in order to establish a critical mass in the next 10 years.
- Several years of experience derived from working with JCONAM and other partners has enabled RMF to develop a vision of increasing its level of support in South Sudan. By virtue of its registration and autonomy, RMF will seek to partner with organizations/agencies, and most importantly, government elements, in the areas of health systems strengthening and sustainable economic empowerment as witnessed in its projects in other countries.

12. Number served/number of direct project beneficiaries:

- Through the support of the consortium of partners, during the first quarter of 2019 (January to March), **138 students were fully sponsored** for the three-year education program. This includes the provision of school uniforms, books, stationery, tutors, and monthly allowances.

The table below shows the actual number of students present at the college during the reporting quarter:

Year	No. Nursing Students	No. Midwifery Students	Total
Year 1	0	10	10
Year 2	36	34	70
Year 3	25	33	58
Total	61	77	138

- The project provides employment opportunities for both the teaching and non-teaching staff. This provides economic sustainability for the staff and their families.
- JCONAM was co-founded by RMF and Juba Link in 2010 and established by the consortium of partners on behalf of the Ministry of Health (MOH), Republic of South Sudan. To date, project activities have been implemented with a planned exit strategy, working toward turning over complete implementation of these projects to the Ministry of Health. This is to ensure each project's sustainable development and continuity by the relevant office in the Ministry of Health.
- Upon graduation after the three-year course, the registered nurses and midwives will continue to provide much-needed services within South Sudan's states and counties at the facility level. The services offered by this cadre of graduates are also expected to extend into the community through health education, community mobilization, and home care, among others.
- With the inclusion of second-year midwifery students on the Maternity ward's delivery roster, students are able to conduct or participate in 10–20 supervised deliveries per day. These numbers are, however, meant to increase as JCONAM looks into expanding the number of practice sites in the near future.

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

10.46 million South Sudanese. It is the intention of the consortium to provide a scalable working model for a government nursing and midwifery college that may be extended to strategic locations with the highest demand for these services throughout the country. The school accepts applicants from all 10 former states to optimize the distribution of newly qualified healthcare personnel. Subsequent years will witness satellite campuses in other states.

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

RMF procures essential medicines to stock the JCONAM dispensary; the students and the college staff receive medication from JCONAM for simple medical conditions.

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

Under the supervision of their clinical mentors, the nursing students were able to provide support in the treatment and care of patients in the following wards:

- Medical ward
- Surgical ward
- Pediatric ward
- Maternal-Child Health/Family Planning ward

Midwifery students were supervised in the Maternity ward, which includes the following areas:

- Antenatal clinic
- Antenatal ward
- Postnatal ward
- Gynecology ward

Health Problems Addressed:

- Maternal Mortality
- Infant Mortality
- Obstetric Fistulae

Indirectly, these medical conditions are also addressed:

- Malaria
- Respiratory Tract Infections
- Intestinal Worms
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases (including HIV/AIDS)
- Trauma/Domestic Violence
- Psychological Trauma (PTSD)

- Malnutrition
- Enteric fever
- Tuberculosis

16. Notable project challenges and obstacles:

- Lack of funding from current donors to facilitate the 2018/2019 intake, associated with low government capacity to take over full management of the college.
- Lack of new commitments from JCONAM health partners is creating many unmet needs for the college.
- Lack of qualified personnel within the hospital to supervise the students when they are conducting clinical rounds, i.e. the students are occasionally supervised by lower level health cadres, leading to a discrepancy between skills taught and what is witnessed.
- Lack of medical plans or health insurance for the students, who are exposed to infections and other illnesses in the workplace.
- Lack of extra-curricular activities for the students to engage in during their free time and weekends, i.e. outdoor sports and games.
- Limited technical and financial commitment and support provided to the Ministry of Health by the stakeholders for the review of the diploma nursing curriculum.
- Lack of financial commitment by stakeholders for the construction of an urgently needed classroom block, students' hostel, tutors' residence, and recreational hall.

17. If applicable, plans for next reporting period:

- Continue to support JCONAM based on our annual implementation plan, which is based on our MOU with the Ministry of Health.
- Continue lobbying for more resources to bridge gaps.
- Lobby for more funding towards full government management of the college.

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

RMF keeps the JCONAM dispensary stocked with essential medicines; the students and college staff receive medication from JCONAM for simple medical conditions.

19. Success story(s) highlighting project impact:

See Appendix

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 monthly basis

Project Photos



JCONAM students during their training at Juba Teaching Hospital, benefitting from midwife kits donated by Direct Relief through RMF



JCONAM students prepare to engage patients in health education



JCONAM nursing and midwifery students enjoying a common traditional dance at the college



Canadian ambassadors to South Sudan paying a visit to the JCONAM skills laboratory



JCONAM students sitting for an exam