

**PROJECT REPORT**  
Radio Training  
*Republic of South Sudan (RoSS)*

*February 1 – April 1 2012*

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## 1. Overview

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### 1.1. Introduction

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was officially activated in South Sudan on September 16, 2011 to ensure timely and effective provision of inter-agency telecommunications services to support humanitarian operations. As nominated lead agency, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) is responsible for ensuring overall coordination of activities on the ground in close collaboration with both local and global ETC Working Groups.

Access to telecommunications services in the field during emergencies is critical not only for coordinated humanitarian response, but also for the safety and security of aid personnel. Radio communications is the main-stay for humanitarian operations, especially in remote locations such as those across South Sudan. Currently all ETC partners in the country use VHF and HF security communications networks provided by WFP, UNHCR and UNDSS. Existing radio rooms in nine state locations (Aweil, Bentiu, Bor, Juba, Malakal, Rumbek, Torit, Wau and Yambio) serve more than 4,000 humanitarian workers.

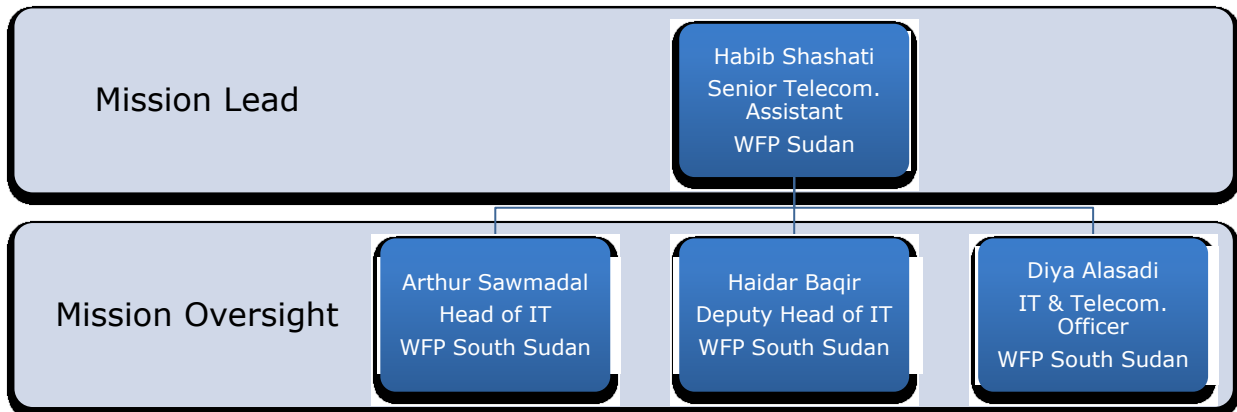
User demand across the country significantly increased as a result of independence and escalating humanitarian crises across the country - saturating capacity of the existing networks. While it is acknowledged that additional communications channels are required to reduce congestion, humanitarian partners could - with appropriate training - take additional measures in the field to make more optimal use of existing telecommunications availability.

The aim of this initiative is to improve the standard of radio operation in South Sudan for safety and security of aid workers in the field, as well as to develop understanding of correct radio use to relieve congestion on existing networks.

### 1.2. Key Achievements

- 95 training sessions delivered across 8 location
- Total of 426 participants
- Representatives from 9 different UN agencies and 108 NGO
- 12 participants completed the Training-of-Trainers course

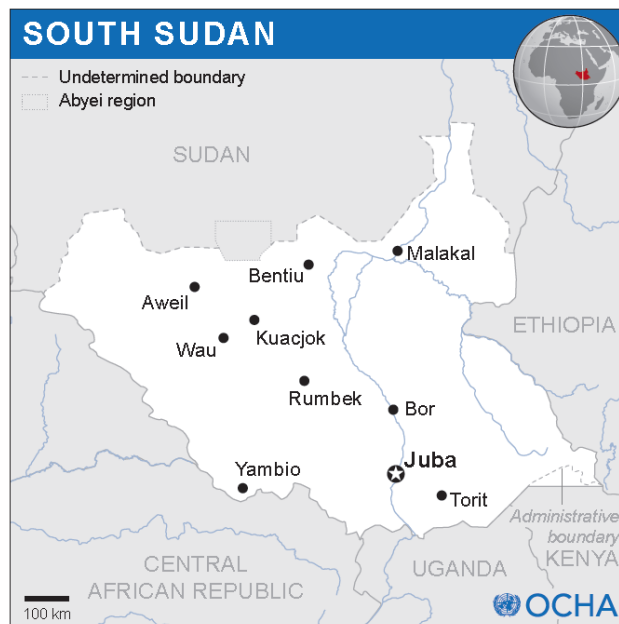
### 1.3. Project Team



### 1.4. Locations

Training was scheduled to take place in the capitals of each of the nine states in South Sudan. The training in Yambio had to be cancelled due to the postponement of UNHAS flights to the city. Instead, the number of sessions held in Juba was increased.

LOCATION	STATE	DATES	# OF SESSIONS
Bentiu	Unity	February 6 – 8	9
Rumbek	Lakes	February 10 – 13	9
Wau	Western Bahr El Ghazal	February 16 – 20	9
Aweil	Northern Bahr El Ghazal	February 23 - 24, 27	9
Malakal	Upper Nile	March 2, 5 - 6	9
Bor	Jonglei	March 12 – 14	9
Juba	Central Equatoria	15 – 17, 19 – 23, 25 – 26 March	20
Torit	Eastern Equatoria	March 28 – 29	3



## **2. Training Courses**

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### **2.1. VHF Radio Training**

This course is the most basic of those delivered and is intended to build a general understanding of radio operation for humanitarian personnel. Participants are instructed on use of Motorola GP 380, GP360 and GP340 – including display, general care, button configuration, display screen, channel structure (Simplex and Repeater channels), factors that affect the VHF range, how to Selcall and how to carry out a radio check. Correct radio protocol is also covered including call signs, phonetic alphabets, prowords, the emergency button and in which conditions it is to be used and hints for the radio speak.

### **2.2. Radio Operator Training**

Radio Operator Training is intended specifically for staff who operate radio rooms or COMCENS. The course includes more advanced and in-depth modules on standard UN radio procedures, rosters, working practice and standard operating procedures. Courses for new staff, and refresher courses for existing staff, were held.

### **2.3. Training-of-Trainers**

This course is for staff who have passed the radio operator training and will go on to teach other radio operators. Through delivery of the Training-of-Trainers course, the ETC can develop a pool of locally based instructors.

### **2.4. Driver/ Passenger Radio Training**

The target audience for this course is drivers and staff whom work predominantly in the field. Common mistakes made when on the road and in the field, i.e. refugee camps, are highlighted in the course and advice is given on how they can be avoided. Codan NGT display, HF frequency propagation during different times of the day, how to answer incoming Selcall, how to make a Selcall and simple trouble shooting while in the field are also covered.

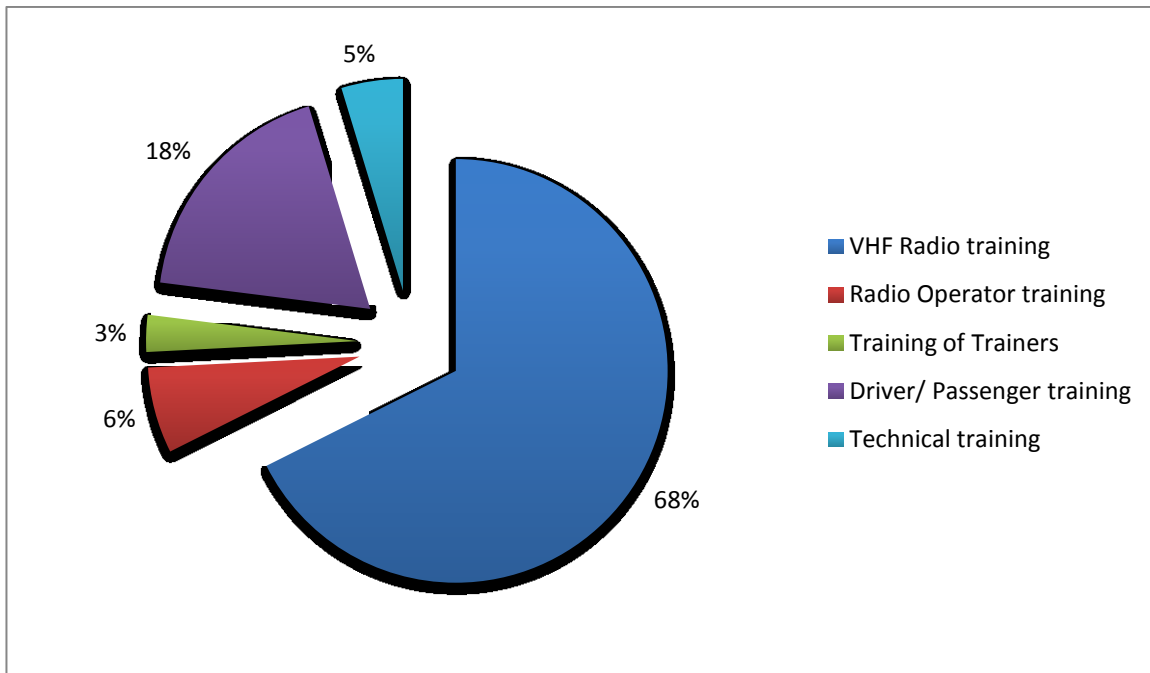
### **2.5. Technical Training**

This advanced course for radio operators, telecommunications assistants and officers, demonstrates how to install and maintain VHF/HF radios - base or mobile - according to WFP standards.

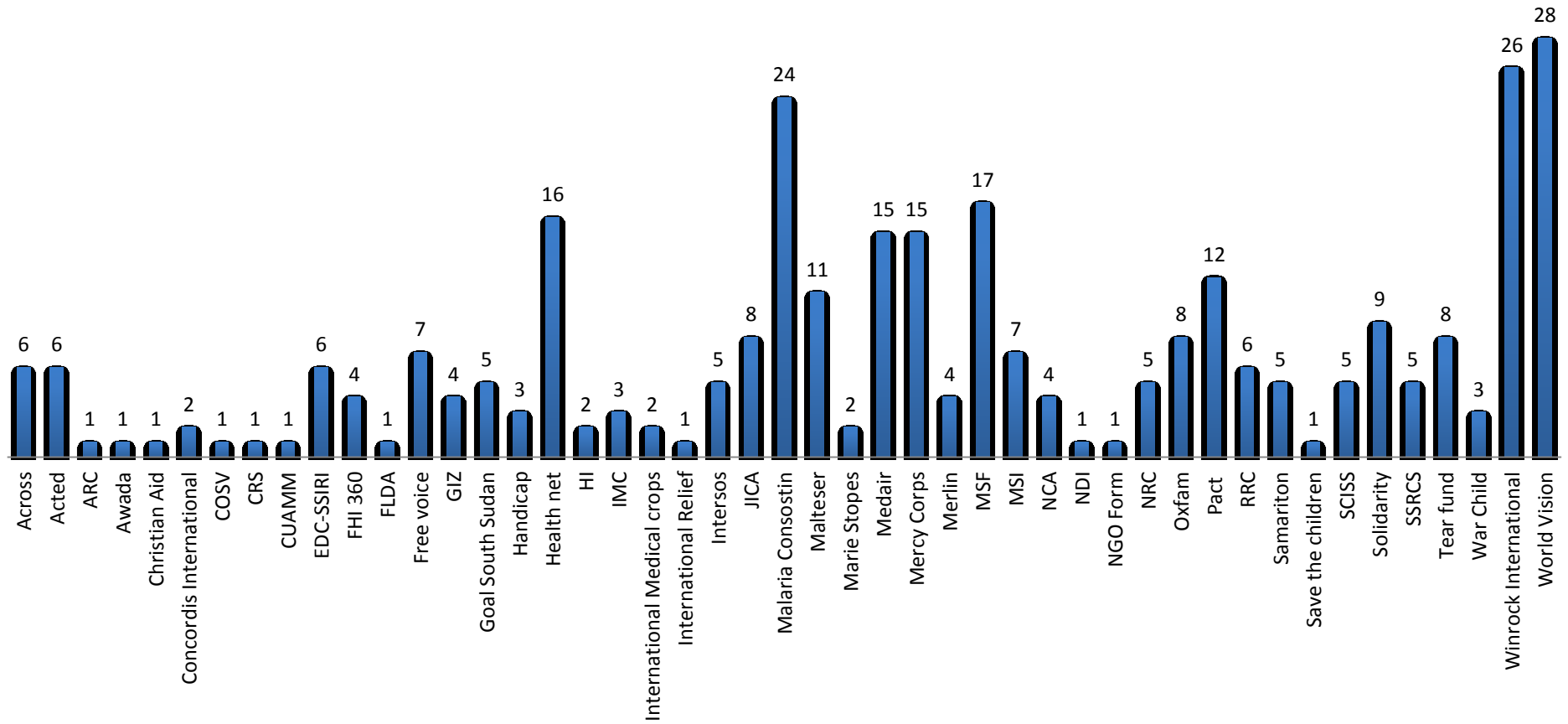
### 3. Results

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#### 3.1. Type of Training



### 3.2. NGO Staff Trained per Agency



## 4. Budget

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All costs associated with this training were covered by the ETC in South Sudan through a pre-existing cost-sharing mechanism managed by WFP as local lead.

## 5. Sustainability

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Due to the rapidly evolving nature of the crises across South Sudan, the humanitarian population has a high turnover. It is recommended that further radio training courses are held in six months time to train new staff in the operation as well as any staff who were unable to attend the courses already conducted.

It is also recommended that staff, capable of becoming trainers themselves, are nominated to participate in the Training-of-Trainers course to build the capacity within South Sudan.

## 6. Abbreviations

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ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
HF	High Frequency radio
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
WFP	UN World Food Programme
UNHAS	UN Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	UN Refugee Agency
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNMISS	UN Mission in South Sudan
VHF	Very High Frequency radio