

HUMAN APPEAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (HADO)



ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Acknowledgements

Human Appeal Development Organization (HADO) extends its sincere appreciation to all partners, stakeholders, and communities whose collaboration and commitment made the successful implementation of its 2024 programmes possible. The achievements presented in this report reflect a shared vision and collective effort to improve the lives of vulnerable populations across South Sudan.

HADO expresses particular gratitude to the South Sudan Ministry of Agriculture and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for their strategic guidance, technical expertise, and material support, which significantly strengthened the delivery of food security and livelihoods interventions. Their contributions ensured alignment with national priorities and enhanced the quality and impact of programme outcomes.

The organization also acknowledges the critical role of local authorities, administrative leaders, traditional chiefs, and community-based structures across Juba County and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area. Their support in community mobilization, coordination, and facilitation fostered trust, strengthened local ownership, and enabled effective and sustainable programme implementation.

Finally, HADO recognizes the dedication of its staff and volunteers, as well as the resilience and active participation of the beneficiaries—women, men, and youth—who remain at the heart of all interventions. Their commitment to positive change continues to inspire HADO’s work and reinforces its mission to build resilient, peaceful, and self-reliant communities.

Published by

Human Appeal Development Organization
Hai Peace Residential Area, Gudele 2, Juba City,
Central Equatoria State, South Sudan
Email: info@hado.org.ss / hop@hado.org.ss
Contact: +211928 522 422/+211920050890

©Human Appeal Development Organization (HADO), January 2025

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Acknowledgements | ii |
| Executive Summary..... | iv |
| 1. Background | 1 |
| 2. Programme Achievements..... | 3 |
| 4.1 Food Security & Livelihoods | 3 |
| 4.2 Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion | 3 |
| 4.3 WASH Program | 4 |
| 4.4 Cross-Cutting Approaches..... | 4 |
| 3. Partnerships and Collaboration | 6 |
| 4. Organizational Capacity and Growth | 7 |
| 5. Challenges and Lessons Learned | 8 |
| 6. Future Outlook..... | 10 |
| 7. Conclusion..... | 12 |

Executive Summary

In 2024, Human Appeal Development Organization (HADO) implemented a range of integrated humanitarian and development interventions across Juba County (Ganji, Wonduruba, Gudele 2, and surrounding payams) and the Pibor Administrative Area, focusing on WASH, Food Security and Livelihoods, Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion, and cross-cutting community resilience programming.

Through its WASH programming, HADO improved access to safe water and sanitation services by rehabilitating a non-functional borehole in Ganji Payam, reaching approximately 1,000 people with safe drinking water and reducing water collection time and health risks. In addition, environmental hygiene campaigns in Pibor Market removed 3.5 metric tons of waste, cleared drainage systems, and reached over 3,000 daily market users, improving public health conditions. The organization also strengthened preventive health systems by training 25 hygiene promoters in Gudele 2, extending hygiene awareness to over 1,200 community members.

In the Food Security and Livelihoods sector, HADO supported vulnerable communities across six payams in Juba County through a combination of agricultural support, cash assistance, and emergency food distribution. The project strengthened 20 farmer groups (400 farmers, 45% women), supported cultivation of 800 acres of farmland, and reached 1,200 households with cash transfers and 5,500 households with emergency food assistance. These interventions contributed to improved food consumption, increased agricultural production, and reduced reliance on negative coping strategies.

Under Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion, HADO empowered youth in Pibor Town and Jebel Boma through the establishment of 10 peace clubs and the training of 200 youth (30% female) in conflict resolution, mediation, and leadership. The project facilitated 25 community dialogues, reaching over 3,000 indirect beneficiaries, strengthening trust between youth, elders, and local authorities, and contributing to improved peaceful dispute resolution practices.

Across all programmes, HADO mainstreamed gender equality, youth inclusion, community participation, and resilience building, ensuring that women and young people actively participated in decision-making and implementation processes. These cross-cutting approaches enhanced sustainability, strengthened local ownership, and improved the overall impact of interventions.

Overall, in 2024 HADO reached more than 10,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries, significantly contributing to improved food security, access to safe water, public health, and peaceful coexistence in targeted communities. The organization remains committed to building resilient, inclusive, and empowered communities across South Sudan through integrated, community-driven development and humanitarian action

1. Background

In 2024, South Sudan continued to face a complex humanitarian and development landscape shaped by conflict, economic instability, climate shocks, and limited access to essential services. An estimated over 9 million people required humanitarian assistance, with food insecurity, displacement, and protection risks remaining widespread. The situation was further compounded by the influx of returnees and refugees, particularly from the Sudan crisis, placing additional pressure on already strained resources and services in host communities.

Population movements remained high, with internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees settling in both rural and peri-urban areas such as Juba County, Lainya, and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA). Many arrived with limited assets and livelihood opportunities, increasing their dependence on humanitarian support. These dynamics contributed to heightened vulnerability, particularly among women, children, and youth.

Food insecurity remained one of the most pressing challenges, with many areas classified under Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels. Agricultural production was constrained by insecurity, lack of inputs, limited mechanization, and climate variability. At the same time, the macroeconomic environment remained fragile, characterized by high inflation, currency depreciation, and rising food prices, which significantly reduced household purchasing power and access to basic needs.

Conflict and social instability persisted in areas such as GPAA, where intercommunal violence and cattle raiding continued to disrupt communities. Youth were particularly affected, facing limited access to education and employment opportunities while also playing a central role in both conflict dynamics and peacebuilding efforts. Weak social cohesion and limited dialogue mechanisms further exacerbated tensions.

Access to essential services, including healthcare, water, sanitation, and education, remained limited, especially in rural and conflict-affected areas. These challenges contributed to poor health outcomes, increased vulnerability to disease, and reduced opportunities for long-term development.

Despite these challenges, communities demonstrate strong resilience and social cohesion structures that, when supported, can play a critical role in recovery and development. Local actors—including community leaders, women's groups, youth networks, and farmer associations—remain central to strengthening accountability, service delivery, and sustainable development outcomes at the grassroots level.

In response to this context, HADO adopted an integrated approach combining emergency food assistance, livelihoods support, and youth peacebuilding interventions. This approach aimed to address immediate humanitarian needs while strengthening community resilience, promoting social cohesion, and supporting sustainable recovery.

HADO's programming was guided by principles of equity, inclusion, accountability, and sustainability, ensuring that interventions are responsive to community priorities and strengthen

local capacities. Cross-cutting priorities such as gender equality, youth empowerment, and community participation are mainstreamed across all projects to enhance impact and sustainability.

Aligned with national priorities and global development frameworks, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for South Sudan, HADO remains committed to saving lives, restoring dignity, and building resilient communities capable of withstanding future shocks.

This annual report presents the organization's achievements, lessons learned, and impact over the reporting period, reflecting its continued commitment to delivering effective, accountable, and community-driven humanitarian and development assistance.

2. Programme Achievements

4.1 Food Security & Livelihoods

In 2024, HADO implemented an integrated Emergency Food Security and Livelihoods Project across Wonduruba, Lainya, Kuda, Sirimon, Nesto, and Rokon payams in Juba County, reaching thousands of vulnerable households with both immediate relief and long-term livelihood support.

Through agricultural assistance, HADO supported 20 farmer groups (approximately 400 farmers, 45% women) with improved seeds, farming tools, and mechanized ploughing services. This led to the cultivation of 800 acres of land, representing a 60% increase in agricultural production capacity compared to previous seasons. Complementary training in climate-smart agriculture, crop management, and post-harvest handling further enhanced productivity, contributing to an estimated 35–45% increase in yields.

To address immediate food insecurity, HADO provided unconditional cash transfers to 1,200 households (averaging \$60 per household), enabling families to meet basic needs while stimulating local markets and reducing harmful coping strategies. In addition, 5,500 households received emergency food assistance, ensuring access to essential food supplies during critical periods.

As a result, 65% of supported households improved their food consumption levels from poor to acceptable, while reliance on negative coping mechanisms—such as selling productive assets—significantly declined. Increased production also enabled households to generate income through the sale of surplus produce, strengthening livelihoods and resilience.

Overall, the program contributed to enhanced food security, increased household incomes, and improved community resilience, demonstrating HADO’s commitment to sustainable, community-centered solutions in South Sudan.

4.2 Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion

In 2024, HADO implemented a Youth Peacebuilding Project in Pibor Town and Jebel Boma, empowering young people as key actors in conflict prevention and community cohesion.

The program established 10 Peace Clubs, creating safe platforms for dialogue, peer engagement, and peace advocacy. A total of 200 youth (30% female) were trained in conflict analysis, mediation, negotiation, leadership, and civic engagement, strengthening their capacity to actively participate in peace processes.

Through 25 youth-led community dialogues, the project engaged elders, women, and local authorities in promoting peaceful coexistence and addressing conflict drivers. These efforts reached over 3,000 indirect beneficiaries, expanding awareness and community participation in peacebuilding initiatives.

As a result, the program contributed to a 30% increase in peaceful dispute resolution cases and a noticeable reduction in youth involvement in conflict-related activities. It also strengthened trust and collaboration between youth and community leaders.

Overall, the initiative demonstrated that empowered youth are critical agents of change, contributing to sustainable peace, improved social cohesion, and more resilient communities.

4.3 WASH Program

In 2024, HADO delivered impactful, community-driven Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions across Juba County and Pibor Administrative Area, significantly improving access to safe water, sanitation services, and hygiene practices for vulnerable populations.

HADO successfully rehabilitated one borehole in Ganji Payam (Juba County), restoring access to safe and reliable drinking water for approximately 1,000 people (180 households). This intervention reduced water collection time by nearly 50%, minimized reliance on unsafe water sources, and contributed to an estimated 25% reduction in waterborne disease risk. A community water management committee was established and trained to ensure sustainability and long-term functionality of the water point.

To strengthen preventive health systems, HADO trained approximately 25 community hygiene promoters in Gudele 2 (Juba County), equipping them with practical skills in sanitation, safe water handling, and community engagement. These promoters extended hygiene awareness to an estimated 1,000–1,500 community members, significantly improving knowledge and adoption of key hygiene practices, with about 70% of reached households demonstrating positive behavior change.

In Pibor Administrative Area, HADO implemented a large-scale environmental hygiene promotion and clean-up campaign in Pibor Market, benefiting an estimated 2,500–3,000 daily users. The campaign mobilized 60 community volunteers, removed approximately 3.5 metric tons of solid waste, and cleared 450 meters of drainage channels, leading to improved sanitation conditions and reduced public health risks in one of the region’s busiest commercial centers.

Collectively, these interventions reached an estimated 4,500–5,000 people in 2024, contributing to improved public health, reduced disease risks, and strengthened community resilience. The program also enhanced community ownership, local capacity, and sustainable WASH systems, aligning with HADO’s commitment to advancing SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being).

4.4 Cross-Cutting Approaches

In 2024, HADO applied a set of cross-cutting approaches across all programme areas to strengthen inclusivity, sustainability, and community ownership of development outcomes.

Gender Equality was mainstreamed across interventions, with deliberate efforts to promote women’s participation in farmer groups and peacebuilding structures, including peace clubs. HADO also ensured equitable access to project resources and opportunities for both women and men, contributing to more balanced participation in decision-making and benefit sharing.

Youth Inclusion was a central strategy, with young people actively engaged as leaders and change agents in peacebuilding, livelihoods, and community development initiatives. This approach strengthened youth agency and enhanced their role in driving positive social change.

Community Engagement was prioritized through participatory planning and implementation processes, ensuring that communities were actively involved in identifying needs, designing interventions, and monitoring progress. This strengthened ownership and accountability of project outcomes.

Resilience Building was integrated across all programmes, focusing on sustainable, long-term solutions that reduce vulnerability to shocks such as conflict, food insecurity, and climate-related stresses. These efforts contributed to stronger and more self-reliant communities.

Overall, these cross-cutting approaches enhanced the effectiveness, inclusiveness, and sustainability of HADO's 2024 interventions.

3. Partnerships and Collaboration

In 2024, HADO significantly strengthened its partnerships and collaboration framework, recognizing that effective humanitarian and development outcomes depend on strong coordination with government institutions, technical agencies, and community structures. These partnerships played a central role in improving programme quality, expanding resource opportunities, and ensuring the sustainability of interventions across HADO's areas of operation.

A key outcome of these collaborations was the improvement in the technical quality of interventions. Working closely with the Ministry of Agriculture, HADO benefited from national-level technical guidance, policy alignment, and sector expertise, particularly in agricultural development, food security, and climate-smart farming practices. This collaboration ensured that HADO's interventions were aligned with national strategies and best practices, improving the relevance and effectiveness of its programmes. Similarly, technical partnership with FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) strengthened HADO's capacity in agricultural extension services, farmer training approaches, and resilience-building initiatives. FAO's technical support contributed to the adoption of improved methodologies, enhanced training materials, and more evidence-based implementation strategies.

Partnerships also played a critical role in resource mobilization and leveraging support. Through its engagement with development actors such as FAO and coordination with government institutions, HADO was better positioned to access technical and material support, including agricultural inputs, capacity-building opportunities, and joint programming initiatives. These collaborations helped reduce operational gaps and enabled the organization to expand its reach to more vulnerable communities. In addition, HADO's credibility and visibility were strengthened through its active participation in coordination forums, which improved its ability to attract potential funding and partnership opportunities.

At the community level, collaboration with local authorities and community structures—including traditional leaders, farmer groups, women's associations, and youth networks—was instrumental in strengthening programme ownership and sustainability. These structures played a vital role in community mobilization, beneficiary targeting, conflict resolution, and local monitoring of project activities. Their involvement ensured that interventions were culturally appropriate, locally accepted, and better sustained beyond project timelines. This strong community engagement also enhanced accountability and trust between HADO and the populations it serves.

Overall, HADO's partnerships and collaboration in 2024 significantly contributed to its organizational success by enhancing technical quality, improving resource efficiency, and strengthening the sustainability of its programmes. These relationships continue to position HADO as a trusted and collaborative actor within the agriculture and development sector in South Sudan.

4. Organizational Capacity and Growth

Throughout 2024, HADO made important progress in strengthening its internal systems and expanding its institutional capacity to deliver more efficient, accountable, and impactful programmes across its areas of operation. These developments were driven by the organization's commitment to improving performance, ensuring compliance with donor standards, and enhancing its ability to respond effectively to community needs.

Operational systems were significantly strengthened during the year through the refinement of internal policies and procedures. HADO improved its financial management systems, procurement processes, human resource procedures, and reporting structures to enhance transparency and accountability. The organization also standardized key operational tools and introduced more structured documentation and filing systems, which improved efficiency in tracking program and administrative activities. Strengthened coordination mechanisms between departments further enhanced internal communication and reduced delays in implementation.

In 2024, HADO also prioritized staff capacity development as a core driver of organizational growth. Staff members participated in targeted trainings and on-the-job learning sessions focused on monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL), project cycle management, safeguarding, financial accountability, and results-based reporting. These capacity-building initiatives improved technical competencies across teams and enhanced staff ability to implement programs in line with best practices. In addition, internal knowledge-sharing sessions fostered a culture of continuous learning and improved teamwork across departments and field operations.

The organization further enhanced its programme management capabilities by strengthening planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation systems. HADO improved its use of logical frameworks, theories of change, and performance monitoring tools to better track outputs and outcomes. Coordination between field teams and management was reinforced, leading to improved data quality, timely reporting, and more responsive decision-making. These improvements enabled the organization to manage programmes more effectively and ensure that interventions remained aligned with community priorities and donor expectations.

Overall, the progress achieved in 2024 reflects HADO's ongoing institutional strengthening process and its commitment to building a resilient, professional, and results-oriented organization capable of delivering sustainable impact.

5. Challenges and Lessons Learned

7.1 Challenges

During 2024, HADO operated within a complex and often volatile context shaped by South Sudan's broader humanitarian, economic, and infrastructural challenges. These conditions directly influenced programme delivery across its operational areas, including rural and peri-urban communities affected by food insecurity, weak infrastructure, and limited basic services.

Funding limitations remained one of the most significant constraints. Like many local organizations in South Sudan, HADO faced unpredictable and insufficient funding streams, which affected the scale and continuity of interventions. Limited resources restricted the organization's ability to fully expand integrated programming and respond to the growing needs of vulnerable populations, particularly during peak periods of food insecurity and seasonal shocks such as flooding and drought.

Access constraints also posed a major operational challenge. Poor road networks, especially during the rainy season, made it difficult to reach remote communities in a timely manner. In some areas, insecurity, localized tensions, and administrative delays further restricted movement of staff and delivery of inputs. These challenges affected monitoring visits, timely implementation of activities, and the efficient distribution of agricultural inputs and humanitarian support.

Additionally, high operational costs significantly impacted programme efficiency. Rising fuel prices, transportation costs, and inflation in local markets increased the overall cost of implementation. This was compounded by logistical difficulties in transporting materials to hard-to-reach areas, which required additional resources for storage, transport, and field coordination. As a result, HADO had to carefully prioritize activities to ensure maximum impact within limited budgets.

7.2 Lessons Learned

Despite these challenges, 2024 provided valuable lessons that have strengthened HADO's approach to programme design and implementation.

One key lesson is that integration improves effectiveness. HADO observed that combining interventions—such as linking agriculture, livelihoods, nutrition, and WASH-related activities—produced stronger and more sustainable outcomes than implementing standalone projects. Integrated programming allowed for more efficient use of resources and addressed the interconnected nature of vulnerability in South Sudanese communities, particularly in rural livelihood systems.

Another important lesson is that community ownership ensures sustainability. Projects that actively involved community members, local leaders, and beneficiary groups from the planning stage demonstrated higher levels of acceptance and long-term continuity. Community participation in decision-making, implementation, and monitoring strengthened accountability and ensured that interventions were more relevant to local needs and cultural contexts. This approach also improved post-project sustainability, as communities were more willing to maintain and continue activities beyond external support.

HADO also learned that youth engagement strengthens peacebuilding and resilience. In many operational areas, youth represent both a vulnerable group and a powerful force for positive change. Engaging young people in agriculture, skills development, and community dialogue initiatives helped reduce tensions, promote social cohesion, and provide alternatives to violence and idleness. Youth participation also improved innovation and energy within programme implementation, making interventions more dynamic and community-driven.

6. Future Outlook

Building on the achievements, lessons learned, and strengthened partnerships of 2024, HADO is positioning itself in 2025 to deliver more integrated, resilient, and community-driven programming across its operational areas in South Sudan. The organization will focus on expanding its multi-sectoral approach to address the interconnected challenges of food insecurity, poverty, limited basic services, and vulnerability to shocks.

A key priority for 2025 is the expansion of integrated programming, ensuring that interventions are designed in a holistic manner that links agriculture, livelihoods, health, nutrition, WASH, and education. This approach will enable HADO to address the root causes of vulnerability rather than isolated symptoms, improving overall household resilience and community well-being. Integration will also enhance efficiency in resource use and strengthen coordination across sectors.

HADO also plans to scale up livelihoods interventions, particularly targeting smallholder farmers, women, and youth. These interventions will focus on climate-smart agriculture, livestock production, and income-generating activities to improve household income and food security. By strengthening value chains and promoting sustainable agricultural practices, HADO aims to support long-term economic resilience in rural communities.

In the area of health and nutrition, HADO will strengthen community-based approaches to improve awareness and practices related to maternal and child health, malnutrition prevention, and access to essential health services. Special emphasis will be placed on nutrition-sensitive programming linked to agriculture and livelihoods, ensuring that households not only produce food but also improve dietary diversity and nutritional outcomes. Community health education and referral linkages will be strengthened in collaboration with relevant health actors.

For WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), HADO will prioritize improving access to safe water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene promotion in underserved communities. Planned interventions include community sensitization on hygiene practices, support to safe water access initiatives, and strengthening community management structures for water points. These efforts aim to reduce waterborne diseases and improve overall public health, particularly among children and vulnerable groups.

In the education sector, HADO will support initiatives aimed at improving access to quality education, especially for vulnerable children affected by poverty, displacement, and food insecurity. The organization plans to work with communities to enhance school participation, promote girl-child education, and strengthen school environments through community engagement. Education interventions will also integrate life skills and awareness on health, nutrition, and protection issues to build more informed and resilient learners.

Finally, HADO will continue to strengthen peacebuilding efforts by integrating conflict sensitivity, youth engagement, and community dialogue into all program areas. By linking agriculture, livelihoods, health, WASH, and education with peacebuilding, the organization aims to foster social cohesion and reduce resource-based conflicts in its operational areas.

Overall, the 2025 outlook reflects HADO's commitment to delivering integrated, inclusive, and sustainable development solutions that improve livelihoods, health, education, and resilience across communities in South Sudan.

7. Conclusion

HADO's performance in 2024 reflects a year of meaningful progress, institutional strengthening, and impactful community engagement across its operational areas in South Sudan. Despite a challenging operating environment characterized by funding constraints, access limitations, and high operational costs, the organization remained steadfast in its mission to improve the lives of vulnerable populations through integrated and community-driven interventions.

Throughout the year, HADO successfully balanced immediate humanitarian and development needs with long-term resilience-building efforts. Emergency and short-term responses were complemented by sustainable interventions in livelihoods, agriculture, and community capacity strengthening. This dual approach ensured that communities not only received essential support but were also equipped with skills and systems to improve their self-reliance and resilience against future shocks such as food insecurity, climate variability, and economic pressures.

The organization also made notable progress in strengthening institutional systems, staff capacity, and partnerships, which collectively improved programme quality, accountability, and efficiency. Collaboration with key stakeholders, including government institutions, technical agencies, and community structures, enhanced the relevance and sustainability of interventions. At the same time, internal capacity-building efforts ensured that staff were better equipped to design, implement, and monitor high-quality programmes aligned with best practices and donor expectations.

Importantly, HADO's work in 2024 reinforced the value of community participation and ownership. By actively engaging local leaders, youth, women's groups, and farmer associations, the organization strengthened trust, improved targeting of beneficiaries, and enhanced the long-term sustainability of its interventions. These community-driven approaches ensured that programmes were contextually relevant and responsive to local priorities.

In conclusion, HADO's 2024 programmes demonstrate a strong and consistent commitment to addressing both urgent needs and structural causes of vulnerability. The organization remains dedicated to empowering communities, strengthening resilience, and promoting sustainable development in South Sudan. Building on the achievements and lessons of this reporting period, HADO is well-positioned to expand its impact and deepen its contribution to inclusive development, peacebuilding, and improved livelihoods in the years ahead.