



# INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

2011 | WASHINGTON, DC

The Governments of the United States and the Republic of South Sudan hosted the International Engagement Conference for South Sudan December 14-15, 2011 to highlight the national development vision of South Sudan and opportunities for investment in the country. The conference was co-sponsored by the United Kingdom, Norway, Turkey, the European Union, the African Union, the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the Corporate Council on Africa, and InterAction. Outcomes of the conference:

## Republic of South Sudan

The Government made commitments in the following areas:

- Transparency and Accountability
  - Commitments include finalizing laws on public financial management and accountability and internal audit; full implementation of the USAID-supported financial management information system at the national and state levels to effectively manage public resources, increase transparency, and reduce wasteful spending; and making public Audit Chamber reports on government spending that comply with international audit standards.
- Oil Revenue Management
  - The Government intends to implement the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) with the goal of becoming an EITI Candidate Country.
  - The Government is finalizing a Petroleum Bill that will provide a legal framework for development and management of petroleum resources and their extraction, and a Petroleum Revenue Management Bill that will provide a legal framework for management of oil reserves.
  - A petroleum revenue management framework will be developed to support short-term, sustainable fiscal policies and long-term growth and diversification of the economy.
  - The Government will establish an Oil Revenue Stabilization Account that de-couples public expenditures from petroleum revenues, and a Future Generation Fund that accumulates public savings for the future.
- Creating Conditions to Enable Development of the Private Sector
  - The Government will increase new business registrations by at least 5,000, improve access to finance and capacity development services for small and medium-sized enterprises, and seek to reduce the burden of doing business in South Sudan by at least 20 percent across five areas identified in the International Finance Corporation-World Bank report [Doing Business in Juba 2011](#).
  - The Government seeks to increase its trade volumes, and increase production and productivity in agriculture, livestock, forests, fisheries and wildlife by 10 percent by 2013.
- Human Capital Development
  - The Government will design a plan for human capacity building with a progressive shift to increased responsibility of the Government to fully manage governance and resources and deliver basic services to citizens.

- Integrating Delivery of Basic Services for Citizens
  - By July 2014, the Government aims to reduce mortality of mothers and children under age 5 by 20 percent, increase the net enrollment rate in primary school from 46 percent to 65 percent, and provide each of the 10 states with technical or higher education facilities.
  - The Government aims to increase access to improved sanitation and hygiene from 9 to 29 percent of the population in both rural and urban areas.
- Coordination of International Assistance
  - To integrate assistance from international partners and avoid duplication of efforts, the Government will establish a framework for aid management that facilitates implementation of the Government-drafted South Sudan Development Plan.

## **United States**

- In order to encourage U.S. investment in South Sudan, the Department of Treasury issued two general licenses that authorize, to the extent otherwise prohibited, (1) activities and transactions relating to the petroleum and petrochemical industries in South Sudan and related financial transactions, and (2) the transshipment of goods, technology, and services through Sudan to and from South Sudan and related financial transactions. These licenses are expected to enable greater investment in South Sudan.
- USAID is working with a range of partners to strengthen economic growth in South Sudan through agricultural development, including John Garang University, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), and the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC). Goals include increasing agricultural resiliency, supporting high-quality agricultural inputs and services and building an enabling agricultural infrastructure.
- Working with AGRA, USAID's Development Credit Authority plans to mobilize \$7 million in private financing for agriculture lending from Equity Bank and Finance Sudan.
- The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has launched a review of South Sudan eligibility for the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences program. USTR is also committed to completing the steps necessary to enable South Sudan to be considered for eligibility under the African Growth and Opportunity Act.
- The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) has initiated the process to open for business in South Sudan.
- USAID is partnering with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan, the World Bank, and the donors of the Health Pooled Fund to expand essential primary health care services.
- The U.S. Government is taking a closer look at ways to encourage the participation of women and youth and respect the diversity of the people of South Sudan.

## **Norway**

- Norway is working collaboratively with the United States and others from a transparency perspective to include all the principles behind the EITI in petroleum revenue management legislation.

## **United Kingdom**

- The United Kingdom, on behalf of the Troika (the United States, United Kingdom, and Norway) will work with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to establish a high-level dialogue on transparency and accountability issues.

## **Turkey**

- Turkey is encouraging its private sector to increase business-to-business cooperation between the two countries for higher trade and investment targets, and will evaluate and support development projects in South Sudan in areas where the Turkish International Cooperation Agency is active, including irrigation, energy, health, and education.

## **United Nations**

- The United Nations Country Team will assist the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to take bold steps to reinforce core governance functions, build service delivery systems, improve food security, and reduce community conflict in an equitable way across all 10 states, with special focus on addressing the acute needs of women in South Sudan.

## **World Bank**

- The World Bank will organize a donors' conference for South Sudan in 2012. The World Bank, African Development Bank, and International Monetary Fund are assisting with South Sudan's acceptance as a full member of the financial institutions.

## **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**

- The IFC will continue support to the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to promote financial sector development and investments in key sectors such as agriculture and infrastructure. The IFC is establishing a field office in Juba to facilitate this engagement.

## **European Union**

- The European Union, along with the United States and South Sudan Ministry of Agriculture, will sponsor an event on agriculture and food security in Juba during the first half of 2012.

## **African Union**

- The African Union, together with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Coordinating Agency, will work with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to develop a country Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) Agenda.

## **Corporate Council on Africa (CCA)**

- CCA will convene a Doing Business in South Sudan workshop, as a follow-up meeting for the private sector in Juba to promote connections and explore the potential for doing business in South Sudan.
- CCA will also with Books for Africa to supply South Sudan with a container of approximately 22,000 books for use by schools and libraries and in law development.