

THE DRAFT MANIFESTO OF THE SUNRISE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

SOUTH SUDAN



IDEAS FOR A BETTER COUNTRY FOR ALL



This Manifesto is our public declaration of principles, policies and the goals that will lead us to the Promised Land.

The Sunrise Democratic Party is the party for all the citizens and will protect and empower:

- The Youth.
- The Women.
- The Disabled.
- The Farmers; both subsistence and large scale Commercial Famers.
- The Small Businesses and Ordinary Workers.
- Minorities (Ethnic, religious, etc).

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Preamble

South Sudan faces an uncertain future. As you all know, our country is now languishing in the abyss of man-made crises as well as natural crises. These crises include political crisis that has caused civil war, the war has caused humanitarian crisis that has made more than half our population refugees and impoverished, serious human rights abuses, corruption, frequent unprecedented floods and droughts. Lack of basic services and the threat of famine have raised the level of crimes such as highways robberies and cattle rustlings which is tearing our communities apart. All these crises have put our country in a dire economic crisis and now our people work just like slaves with no salaries for years now and the situation worsens as time goes. The ongoing conflict and insecurity have pushed millions to the brink of starvation for years now.

To tackle these challenges and to bring our people together and put our nation on the path to the **Promised Land**, the Sunrise Democratic Party (SDP) has been founded as a result of the cries from the ordinary people and the vulnerable group; the youth, women, the disabled, farmers, small businesses and the ordinary workers. The SDP is founded on principles and it's goal-oriented.

The SDP believes that for South Sudan to be stable and prosperous, it must achieve peace, unity, initiate development of basic infrastructure such as roads and bridges, airports, railways, schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, ICT infrastructure, give her citizens paid jobs to enjoy the dignity of work and end poverty, establish institutions of democracy and good governance. South Sudan must achieve transparency and accountability to end corruption. The SDP aspire to respect human rights so that anybody living in South Sudan regardless of their backgrounds, citizens or non-citizens are treated with dignity and respect according to all the principles outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Sunrise Democratic Party endeavours for a fairer society where people should be treated fairly in the distribution of the benefits and burdens of society, the correction of wrongs and injuries, and in the gathering of information and making of decisions. Everyone must be treated equally in the application of the law, no one is above the law.

Finally, if we work together and the whole nation is behind the SDP, we shall achieve peace and stability, create jobs, end poverty and build a better life for all the South Sudanese. We must act with greater determination to get to the **Promised Land**. By working together, we can establish democracy and develop South Sudan to achieve the vision of the Sunrise Democratic Party of 'building a better country for all.'

Slogan:

Peace, Unity, stability, Development.

Vision:

To create a peaceful, stable, prosperous and egalitarian South Sudan where human beings regardless of one's background are protected, their rights are respected and where democracy flourishes and the rule of law reigns.

Mission:

The mission of the SDP is to provide genuine leadership that is responsive, transparent and accountable to the people, and to provide opportunities and empowerment for the youth, women, minorities and the disabled.

1. Core values/Beliefs and Principles:

The values that members of the SDP share help keep us together.

- Patriotism.
- Good governance.
- Transparency.
- Accountability.
- Equality.
- Zero tolerance to corruption, tribalism and violence
- Respect for ethnic and cultural diversity.
- Justice.
- Truth.
- Popular sovereignty.
- Respect for the Rule of Law.
- Respect for Human Rights such as right to life, liberty etc.
- Innovation.

Good Governance: Build a participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive governance system which is effective, efficient, fair and inclusive and follows the rule of law. A style of governance that assures corruption is minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision-making. A governance system which can respond to the present and future needs of society.

Innovation: Encourage creativity in entrepreneurship and business innovations, as well as industrial and technological advancements.

Transparency: This means that decisions taken and their enforcement are done in a manner that follows rules and regulations. It also means that information is freely available and directly accessible to those who will be affected by such decisions and their enforcement. It also means that enough information is provided and that it is provided in easily understandable forms and media.

Accountability: The government must be accountable to those who will be affected by its decisions or actions. Accountability must be enforced in conjunction with transparency and the rule of law.

Life: The individual's right to life should be considered inviolable except in certain highly restricted and extreme circumstances, such as the use of deadly force to protect one's own or others' lives.

Liberty: The right to liberty is considered an unalterable aspect of the human condition. Central to this idea of liberty is the understanding that the political or personal obligations of parents or ancestors cannot be legitimately forced on people. The right to liberty includes personal freedom: the private realm in which the individual is free to act, to think and to believe, and which the government cannot legitimately invade; political freedom: the right to participate freely in the political process, choose and remove public officials, to be governed under a rule of law; the right to a free flow of information and ideas, open debate and right of assembly; and economic freedom: the right to acquire, use, transfer and dispose of private property without unreasonable governmental interference; the right to seek employment wherever one pleases; to change employment at will; and to engage in any lawful economic activity.

Common Good: The public or common good requires that individual citizens have the commitment and motivation that they accept their obligation to promote the welfare of the community and to work together with other members for the greater benefit of all.

Justice: People should be treated fairly in the distribution of the benefits and burdens of society, the correction of wrongs and injuries, and in the gathering of information and making of decisions.

Equality: All citizens have: political equality and are not denied these rights unless by due process of law; legal equality and should be treated as equals before the law; social equality so as there should be no class hierarchy sanctioned by law; economic equality which tends to strengthen political and social equality for extreme economic inequality tends to undermine all other forms of equality and should therefore be avoided.

Diversity: Variety in culture and ethnic background, race, lifestyle, and belief is not only permissible but desirable and beneficial in a pluralist society.

Truth: Citizens can legitimately demand that truth-telling as refraining from lying and full disclosure by government be the rule, since trust in the veracity of government constitutes an essential element of the bond between governors and the governed.

Popular Sovereignty: The citizenry is collectively the sovereign of the state and hold ultimate authority over public officials and their policies.

Patriotism: Virtuous citizens display a devotion to their country, including devotion to the fundamental values upon which it depends.

1.1 Constitutional principles of the Sunrise Democratic Party

- The Rule of Law.
- Separation of Powers.
- Representative Government.
- Checks and Balances.
- Individual Rights.
- Freedom of Religion
- Federalism.
- Civilian Control of the Military.

Rule of Law: Both government and the governed should be subject to the law.

Separation of Powers: Legislative, executive and judicial powers should be exercised by different institutions in order to maintain the limitations placed upon them.

Representative Government: The republican form of government established under the Constitution is one in which citizens elect others to represent their interests.

Checks and Balances: the powers given to the different branches of government should be balanced, that is roughly equal, so that no branch can completely dominate the others. Branches of government are also given powers to check the power of other branches.

Individual's Rights: Fundamental to a constitutional democracy is the belief that individuals have certain basic rights that are not created by government but which government should protect. These are the right to life, liberty, economic freedom, and the "Pursuit of happiness." It is the purpose of government to protect these rights, and it

may not place unfair or unreasonable restraints on their exercise. Many of these rights are enumerated in the Bill of Rights.

Freedom of Religion: There shall be full freedom of conscience for people of all faiths or none. Religious liberty is considered to be a natural inalienable right that must always be beyond the power of the state to confer or remove. Religious liberty includes the right to freely practice any religion or no religion without government coercion or control.

Federalism: Power is shared between two sets of governmental institutions, those of the states and those of the central or federal authorities, as stipulated by the Constitution. The view of of the Sunrise Democratic Party is that Federalism must be based on the current ten states of South Sudan, since the current ten states maintain our ethnic diversity.

Civilian control the military: Civilian authority should control the military in order to preserve constitutional government.

2. Peacebuilding and Reconciliation

Conflicts between different groups that may be political or communal have brought death and destructions to our communities all over South Sudan for a long time. Sometimes, these conflicts often move beyond disputes over resources and into long-standing, deep-rooted, socio-political conflicts between the interests and needs of various entities. There is a need to analyse whether these conflicts are community-based or political before implementing any conflict resolution methods. Several factors must be comprehensively assessed. Whether the conflict lies among governmental agencies, political bodies or among rival communities, expertise in both conflict resolution and social psychology will be necessary to adequately comprehend the dynamics of the conflict, and thus its potential routes toward resolution or management.

Also talking with armed groups is often an essential part of ending violent conflict. We will engage with armed groups to build a lasting peace in South Sudan.

As per conflict resolution experts recommendations, efforts must be made to get parties to engage in one or more of the following methods:

- Group or community mediation.
- Facilitated negotiation or dialogue
- Problem-solving workshop.
- Collective creative brainstorming.
- Or any variety of resolution methods appropriate for the particular conflict.

2.1 Peacebuilding in the post-conflict South Sudan

The transition from violence to lasting peace in South Sudan must be achieved through improvements in governance, and in fair access to economic opportunities, justice, safety and other aspects of wellbeing, such as health, education and a decent environment in which to live.

We in the Sunrise Democratic Party understand very well the factors that contribute to peace, the absence of which can potentially lead to conflict. Peace is when:

- Everyone lives in safety, without fear or threat of violence, and no form of violence is tolerated in law or in practice
- Everyone is equal before the law, the systems for justice are trusted, and fair and effective laws protect people's rights
- Everyone is able to participate in shaping political decisions and the government is accountable to the people
- Everyone has fair and equal access to the basic needs for their wellbeing – such as food, clean water, shelter, education, healthcare and a decent living environment
- Everyone has an equal opportunity to work and make a living, regardless of gender, ethnicity or any other aspect of identity.

Therefore, the SDP strategies for bringing a sustainable peace to South Sudan is to ensure that people are safe from harm, have access to law and justice, and are included in the political decisions that affect them, have access to better economic opportunities, and enjoy better livelihoods.

Some of the ways in which this can be achieved are through:

- Engaging in various forms of diplomacy
- Strengthening democracy and inclusive politics (e.g. electoral frameworks, active citizenship initiatives, etc.)
- Improving justice systems (e.g. anti-corruption initiatives, constitutional reforms, access to justice initiatives, truth commissions, etc.)
- Working to improve general security.
- Working together with business and trade to create sustainable jobs or improve their employment practices.
- Improving infrastructure and urban and rural planning
- Including peace education in curricula
- Creating free and inclusive media.
- Improving healthcare.
- Making development programmes in conflict areas more sensitive to conflict dynamics

Importantly, peacebuilding in South Sudan will be done collaboratively, at local, national, regional and international levels. Individuals, communities, civil society organisations, the government, regional bodies and the private sector all will play a role in building peace.

3. Democratic Leadership and Good Governance

The SDP shall promote participative style of leadership, in which the people of South Sudan shall take a more participative role in the decision-making process. Everyone will be given the opportunity to participate, ideas are exchanged freely and discussion is encouraged. The SDP style of leadership will be based on the principle of equality and the free of ideas, aiming for effective and efficient leadership. The Sunrise Democratic Party government will be led by people who are:

- Egalitarian.
- Fair-minded.
- Adaptive.
- Engaged with the stakeholders.
- Role models.
- Forward-thinking.
- Team-oriented.
- Goal-oriented.
- Consensus builders.

SDP understands that it would be difficult for any government to accomplish its goals without the active participation of the stakeholders such as:

- Active constituent members, such as the youth, women and traditional chiefs.
- Concerned parents of a student at school.
- Business organisations.
- Civil society organisations, etc.
- Health professionals.
- People in the education sector.

The SDP believes that democracy is the best way of ensuring: wide political participation in national affairs; broad-based political participation in the selection of leaders; respect for civil and political liberties; transparency and accountability in the running of national affairs; and adherence to the Rule of Law.

The Sunrise Democratic Party is committed to democracy and good governance. We shall be operating within a framework of democracy and good governance anchored on people-centred and people driven decision-making

structures that extend from the grassroots to the national leadership. We shall observe and adhere to the following tenets:

Separation of Powers: The SDP shall remain committed to the principle of checks and balances among the three branches of government; Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. .

Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law: The doctrine of Constitutionalism requires that both the governors and the governed observe and uphold the Rule of Law and that laws evolve to meet the demands of a dynamic society and reflect the will of the people. In line with this doctrine, the SDP shall implement legal reforms aimed at addressing issues and challenges regarding democracy, good governance and the Rule of Law.

Justice for All: The SDP believes that people must have easy access to justice. In this regard the SDP Government shall work towards providing adequate court infrastructure for all the county and state courts. There shall be a local court and judge in every county and a high court in every state. The Judiciary shall be provided with electronic management system to link all institutions in the justice system for easy flow and management of cases.

Conduct of Elections and the Independence of the Electoral Commission: The SDP is committed to the holding of legal, free and fair national and local elections. It shall uphold the independence of the Electoral and Boundary Commission of South Sudan and provides the best modern electoral infrastructure for the advancement of democracy.

Principle of Political Pluralism: The SDP strives for South Sudan to become a true multi-party democracy. SDP believes in the freedom to form political parties and existence of organised oppositions for vibrant democracy to flourish.

Commitment to Decentralization: The SDP believes that states and counties are the centres of development and service delivery to the people. Therefore, the state parliaments and county councils will be the engine of all decentralized activities. More power will be devolved from the central government in Juba to the states and counties, making it possible for the people to participate in decision-making at the local level, to achieve taking towns to people. The SDP shall empower county and town councils, to improve the management and efficiency of counties and the state capital cities.

Public Service Reform: The SDP shall be committed to improving public service systems, by stamping out corruption and removing inefficiencies, as well as employing qualified public service officials for better performance in the public sector. The Sunrise Democratic Party shall also improve efficiency and effectiveness in the public service through regular training, monitoring and evaluation of performance.

Partnership with the Faith Groups: The SDP recognizes the religious sectors as key partners in promotion of peace, unity and stability. The faith groups can also play a pivotal role in the provision of education, health and community services in the society. The SDP will also work in partnership with religious of all denominations in the promotion of national values that will enhance peace and cohesion in the society.

Partnership with Traditional Leaders: The SDP recognizes traditional leaders as strategic partners in engendering, promoting and sustaining national unity in the society. The role of the traditional chiefs in maintaining peace and

unity is very crucial as the SDP recognizes them as the true representatives of their people, accessible, respected and legitimate and therefore essential in running the country.

Enhancement of Media and Press Freedom: The SDP acknowledges that the media, both print and electronic, are important contributors to democratic processes and good governance. The SDP is fully committed to promoting and enhancing media freedom and independence, the protection of media personnel from harassment, and allowing for self-regulation among media practitioners and media institutions.

Cooperation with Civil Society Organizations: The SDP recognizes Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) as key players in inculcating a culture of democratic behaviour, good citizenship and promoting development among citizens and particularly the marginalized. The SDP is fully committed to providing an enabling environment for the operations of CSOs.

Appropriate and ethical use of public resources: All public resources and funds must be used for, or in support of, the delivery of public services. This is true regardless of whether resources are provided through the State or Central government budgets, or sourced through user charging, fundraising, or donations. The SDP shall be guided by the following principles in the management of public resources and funds:

The SDP Public Service Code of Conduct and the Standard of Practice require us to abide by four principles:

- Integrity and impartiality; resources must only be used for official purposes and the procurement policies and practices must be followed.
- Promoting the public good; expenditure must represent the best use of public resources to achieve the desired objective.
- Accountability and transparency; expenditure must be properly authorised, and provide an audit trail of that authorisation.

4. Infrastructure Development

The Sunrise Democratic Party shall build the basic infrastructure necessary for the stimulation of economic growth and the improvement in the quality of life for the South Sudanese. Infrastructure such as transportation, energy, water, telecommunication and information technology, social infrastructure (Schools, hospitals, emergency services, community support, public space, libraries and cultural institutions) and government services infrastructure.

Road infrastructure: The SDP will construct the main highways running through the length and breadth of the country connecting all the ten state capitals and other important locations such as tourism centres and ports. The SDP will also strive to build roads that will link all the county and payam headquarters as well as roads and streets with the major cities. All this will be done in partnership with the private sector.

Railway infrastructure: The SDP government will commit to construction of railway line that will join Juba to Kampala and ultimately to the rest of the East African countries. It is also an intention of the Sunrise Democratic Party to extend to the railway line from Juba to Wau where it connects to the already existing Babanusa-Wau Railway line which runs all the way to Khartoum. This will boost industrial and economic growth for South Sudan and for the East African region.

Aviation infrastructure: There is an urgent need to upgrade Juba International

Airport and Malakal Airports to state of the art facilities to a capacity that can handle the ever growing air traffics.

The SDP government shall also construct modern airports in all the capital cities of ten the states of South Sudan.

This will boost economic and industrial growth as well as creating many job opportunities for the citizens.

Water transport infrastructure: A large section of the White Nile flows through South Sudan and the country have access to approximately 1400km of navigational waterways stretching from Juba in the south, to Kosti in North Sudan, and from Bentiu in the west to Akobo on the Ethiopian border to the east. The river is accessible throughout the year, and these days during the rainy season the Nile is the only reliable transport link between the southern, central and northern areas of the country. Many of the rivers tributaries are also navigable, however these are only considered passable during the rainy reason.

There are major challenges facing the river transport such as the fluctuations of water levels during the rainy and dry seasons, insecurity, some section of the river are impassable with larger boats, lack of modern port with loading and unloading equipment. The passenger transport along the river has not been fully developed.

The SDP shall work in partnership with the private sector to development the river transport in South Sudan and make it an income generating sector that can employ many citizens.

- The existing ports of Mangalla, Bor, Shambe, Adok, Malakal and Renk need to be modernised to facilitate the river transport system.
- Provision of loading and offloading facilities at the ports.
- Dredging and clearing of water canals need to be done in some sections of the river to make it passable for larger boats.
- Security need to be improved along the length of the Nile.
- Establish good water transport management system to deal with the issues revenue management and safety of the water transport systems.

Telecommunication and information technology: The SDP government in partnership with telecommunication companies will encourage construction of enough telecommunication towers and facilities that will provide 95 percent network coverage to all the regions of South Sudan. There will be more mobile broadband connections, (4G or 5G) connections in South Sudan. The SDP shall encourage private sector investment in the construction of the telecommunication and information technology facilities to bring enough mobile broadband coverage to the whole population of South Sudan. This will also bring fast internet connections to businesses, schools, universities, hospitals, individuals, etc.

4.1 Energy infrastructure:

The power infrastructure in South Sudan is under-developed and so weak that it can't meet our nation's growing energy demand. Large majority our population depend on traditional biomass fuels such as wood, charcoal, crop residue and animal dung to provide their cooking and heating energy needs. Roughly 1 percent of our estimated 12.5

million people can access electric grid at shockingly high prices for a very unreliable service. Today, many people use rooftop solar arrays and noisy and environmentally unfriendly diesel generators to light their houses and shops.

Hydropower: The River Nile presents many opportunities for hydropower generation from large plants to small hydro. Here are the existing plants: Fula (1,080 MW), Bedden (720 MW), Lekki (420 MW), Shukoli (250 MW) and Juba barrage (120 MW) (ROSS, 2014). The SDP government shall work in cooperation with private investors to encourage development of those hydro plants to higher capacity as well as investing in more hydro plants across the country for more efficient means of enabling access to electricity to the many communities scattered around the country. Hydroelectricity should be the baseload for South Sudan and therefore more investment in it, is necessary.

Wind: There is plenty of wind in South Sudan and therefore there is a need to attract private investment to develop this sector for rural electrification where distributed systems can easily be utilized.

Solar: South Sudan has about 8 hours of sunshine per day. This can be successfully used to support electrification in the rural areas as well. The Sunrise Democratic Party's government will work with private investors to increase the use of the country's high potential for solar energy to meet the country's energy demand.

Gas and Geothermal are other potential energy sources that should be utilized for South Sudan to meet its energy demand. All this means economic growth and more job opportunities for our citizens.

4.2 Fuel Independence

South Sudan should become self-sufficient in oil products by building enough refineries on our soil. This will allow citizens to buy cheaper fuel and save us a lot of money. The SDP shall work in cooperation with the oil companies such as the national oil and Gas Corporation of South Sudan (Nilepet), to upgrade the existing Bentiu Oil Refinery as well as building new ones in strategic places such as Paloch for the country to achieve its goal of fuel independence. This should make the country have enough diesel and petrol for the domestic consumption as well as for export to the neighbouring countries.

4.3 Water/Sanitation and Waste Management Infrastructure

South Sudan is facing severe shortage of clean drinking, to survive, families that don't have access to clean drinking water are forced to drink dirty water, putting them at risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera and diarrhoea, which remain leading causes of death among children in South Sudan. Mostly women and girls are forced to travel some kilometres in search of water which is affecting girls' education as well as leaving no time for women to look for work as they are confined at home for domestic duties.

Limited potable water supplies, poor access to hygiene and unsanitary living conditions present serious health hazards in urban areas of South Sudan, especially in the parts of the capital cities where the poorest and most vulnerable populations live. The population of Juba, our capital city, keeps increasing yearly. Thousands of impoverished people in and other capital cities lack clean water and proper sanitation. Similarly, nearly 90 percent of the population of South Sudan live without adequate sanitation facilities, all across the sectors such as in schools, hospitals, universities, etc.

Provision of clean drinking water and sanitation facilities will reduce the number of deaths caused by waterborne disease, while also freeing women and girls from the work required to transport and store water, allowing them more time to focus on education and the women to pursue income-generating activities.

To combat this problem of limited clean water supplies and the potential outbreak of cholera and other water-borne illnesses, the SDP government in partnership with the willing private companies, shall launch comprehensive sanitation and hygiene programs aimed at providing quick-impact and long-term solutions that address immediate needs while building local capacity to implement and sustainable water supply and sanitation infrastructure developments. These programs shall include:

- Implementing a quick impact program involving construction of community water systems, hygiene and sanitation education, drilling of enough boreholes and water treatment throughout South Sudan.
- Construction of enough water supply pipelines, booster stations, public latrine and ablution facilities, for the people in Juba and other state capital cities.
- Construction of enough truck refilling stations to deliver treated water throughout Juba and all the other state capitals.
- Rehabilitation and upgrading of the existing water treatment plants in all the cities of South Sudan.
- Establish a practicable sanitation and solid waste management policies that emphasise waste prevention, minimization, reuse, recycling and disposal.
- Establish water and waste management departments that shall provide families, organisations, businesses, etc. with clean water and improved sanitation.
- Construction of public toilets/restrooms fully provided with water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, in variety of locations such as markets, sport fields, public parks, bus stations, religious sites, etc.

4.4 Housing and Urban Development

South Sudan population is estimated at 11.3 million according to the World Bank (2013). Large majority of this population is concentrated in rural areas. However, South Sudan's predominantly rural population has gradually been shifting to urban areas since 2005 when the country gained its semi-autonomy. This urban population growth poses many challenges, exacerbated by dilapidated/destroyed infrastructure and services resulting from decades of war and marginalization. These challenges are:

- Overcrowding or Overpopulation.
- Unemployment.
- Housing problems.
- Development of slums.
- Sanitation problems.
- Water shortage problems.
- Health hazards.

- Degraded environmental quality
- Disposal of trash.
- Transportation problems.
- Urban crimes.
- Increased rates of poverty.

The SDP believes there is an urgent need for infrastructure development and provision of amenities necessary to support the livelihoods of the population in urban centres and to reduce overcrowding as well as solving all the problems that come with urbanization. The country's rapid urbanization, particularly its capital, Juba and other major cities, calls for large scale urban planning and institutional capacity building of government institutions to be able to effectively plan and implement sustainable urban development initiatives for housing countrywide.

The SDP ideology in regard to housing is 'Shelter for all.' To realise this dream, the SDP government will do the following:

- Both the national and state governments to make low interest rates loans available for people on low income to construct their houses.
- The government to work in partnership with private sector to construct affordable rental houses.
- Carry out legal and regulatory reforms, to make land available to citizens at reasonable prices.
- Develop land mediation, land governance and land administration policies that support peaceful co-existence in the neighbourhoods and all across the country.
- Creation of conditions for sustainable livelihoods and urban economic development with a focus on improving the status of women and youth by making places of work and skills training available.
- Develop national urban policy and physical planning for equitable development to sustainable urbanization to transform the lives of people all over South Sudan.
- Develop the policy of housing and basic services through public works to meet the needs of urban communities, and secondly that livelihoods are enhanced through employment in public works projects.
- Construction of road infrastructure and development of modern public transport networks in all the major cities.
- Gender inclusiveness.
- Investment in basic and economic infrastructure.
- Investment in information communication and technology (ICT) facilities.
- Adaptation to climate change and mitigation of it.
- Promotion of modernized and sustainable agriculture systems to feed both the urban and rural populations.
- Establishment of small, medium and large scale industries to secure employment for the people in the urban centres especially the youth and women.
- Upgrading of slums in all the major cities.

- Establishment of human resource training centres.
- Strategic location of higher educational institutions and skills training colleges.
- Promotion of sound sanitation and waste management practices.
- Sound environmental management policies.
- Provide incentives for responsible social behaviour.

4.5 Development of rural housing.

South Sudan at the moment has virtually no rural shelter policies and therefore, people living in the rural areas provide their own poor quality shelters within the context of subsistence economies. Majority of the rural inhabitants are poor or on low-income and hence use simple traditional ways of constructing their own shelters from local materials. People in the rural areas face a number of problems which include:

- Widespread absence of safe water supplies and sanitation facilities.
- In some situations, the inability to separate the accommodations of domestic animals from those of human beings.
- The prevalence of a number of deficient features of housing structures, including leaking roofs, unstable walls and poor floors, all requiring frequent repairs and prematurely becoming structurally dangerous.
- Lack of robust houses that can withstand the vagaries of nature, including floods, strong winds and earthquakes.
- Lack of energy and telecommunications services to the rural population.

The Sunrise Democratic Party's government will tackle the above stated challenges by initiating sustainable shelter projects in rural areas. This can be summarized as follows:

- The use of locally available renewable resources in ways which ensure that environmental assets are not degraded or depleted.
- Build adequate local capacity to plan and administer the implementation of long-term housing, water and sanitation programmes.
- Build adequate local capacity to mobilize financial resources on a continuous basis in ways which guard against long-term reliance on external support.
- The use of appropriate technologies which, as far as possible, utilize locally available human and material resources and achieve the required standard of safety and affordability.
- The adoption of solutions which the majority of the rural poor can afford and which achieve the minimum standards for housing, water and sanitation.
- Provision of cheaper and affordable energy and telecommunications services to the rural population.
- Provision of adequate shelter for re-settlement, reintegration of IDPs and returnees, and building their resilience within local communities.

- Achieve the satisfaction of people's real desires, as opposed to externally-perceived needs.

5. Health Sector

The health system and infrastructure in the Republic of South Sudan is in a terrible shape and it has been made worst by the civil war which has severely affected the country's capacity to develop the health sector. South Sudan is currently facing a severe shortage of all categories of trained health professionals, including physicians, laboratory technicians, nurses and midwives. We currently rely on inadequately trained or low skilled health workers. There is also an inequitable distribution of health workers both among the states, and between the urban and rural areas, where the majority of the population lives.

The Sunrise Democratic Party shall address these pressing challenges facing the health sector, by developing and strengthening the health systems so that it is able to deal with all the health challenges such as HIV/AIDS and overall sexual health, mental health, TB, water borne diseases, maternal and child health, medical supply chain management.

The SDP considers investment in the health sector as a key economic investment since sustainable economic development requires a healthy Human capital. Therefore, the SDP government shall address the following fundamental pillars of health systems:

Infrastructure and equipment: Embarked on a robust health infrastructure development program by building, one referral well equipped modern hospital in each country and clinics in all the payams, one big main referral Hospitals with specialist section in each state capital. Modernise and rehabilitate the existing hospitals in Juba and other urban centres in South Sudan through refurbishment and re-equipment.

Training of health personnel: Establishment of one medical training college in each state where the health personnel will undergo the necessary training in order to strengthen and rehabilitate the health system for the sake of continuous improvement of health and quality of life of the South Sudanese. Train and re-train Health workers to keep up-to-date knowledge of health matters for the benefit of the citizens.

Human Resource Recruitment and development: Recruitment of enough health and, medical personnel and deploy them equitably across the country. Provision of on-the-job trainings for clinical officers, midwives, etc.

Health Security: Established the South Sudan Centre for Disease Control and prevention to carry out the function of disease control and prevention, enhance epidemic preparedness and response and to recommend health policy. Prevent, detect, and control diseases of public health importance. It will also carry out disease surveillance and intelligence for the health of the public.

The SDP will develop and strengthen the health systems in South Sudan to achieve the aspiration for health for everyone everywhere (universal health coverage).

- This will include Infrastructure development, Human Resource improvement, enhanced supply chain management, resilient health security measures, healthcare financing, research and governance.

- Initiate the construction of health facilities with adequate medical personnel and modern equipment;
- Initiate the programme of upgrading the existing medical infrastructure and ensure that every county all across South Sudan has a modern hospital;
- Enhance good governance in the health sector.
- Carry out periodic auditing for all the medical stores all over South Sudan;
- Increase the number of well-trained medical personnel annually;
- Enhance the qualifications of medical personnel, by sponsoring existing health workers for specialised training or refreshment training;
- Work in partnership with the private sector to invest in programs that reduce maternal and child mortality and morbidity;
- Provide the conducive environments for the private sector to invest and operate in the health industry;
- Interlink all pharmacies and dispensaries to enable surveillance of drug sale and usage as well as curtailing theft of drugs from Government institutions;
- Promote basic hygiene practices and nutrition;
- Establish medical emergency services, by ensuring that all main hospitals have ambulance services with the well-trained paramedics;
- Ensure provision and use of sound sanitation facilities as health awareness campaign is launched countrywide with the support of traditional leaders and communities;
- Introduce facilities for rehabilitation counselling, especially for drug and alcohol related problems;
- Provide free ante-natal care for pregnant women, free health care for babies and children up to school going age and for the aged and the disabled and free treatment for those infected with diseases such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

6. Education Sector

Generations of children in South Sudan have been and are being deprived of a fair chance in life because of the following reasons:

- Lack of schools infrastructure
- Conflict & insecurity
- Lack of qualified teachers

As a result, over 70 percent of school age children are out of school in South Sudan, putting at risk their futures and the future of the country. Some of the out-of-school children are living in pastoral communities, moving with their cattle and are not able to attend regular classes. The largest group of out-of-school children in South Sudan are girls. Poverty, child marriage and cultural and religious views all hinder girls' education. The SDP consider education for children as basic human right and therefore will do the following:

- Upgrade all the existing primary and secondary schools.

- Establishment of compulsory and well-equipped libraries at all levels of education as well as establishment of community libraries in each payam.
- Construction of enough primary and secondary schools with wash facilities according to population distribution.
- Establish one large technical college and vocational training centre in each state of South Sudan to provide skill trainings such as electrical, mechanics, plumbing, fire systems, IT, carpentry, metal-work, etc.
- Ensure safe learning environments for children.
- Provision of adequate teaching staff and other manpower.
- Enhance teacher training and improve the competence of teachers along with vigorous national inspection;
- Upgrade all the existing universities and build new ones to make sure there is at least one well-equipped university with modern facilities in each state.
- Make learning experiences more meaningful for children and make education more cost-effective;
- Develop and promote effective use of innovative teaching methods/materials in schools.
- Provide more conducive environment for private sector participation in all levels of education;
- Provide in-service training for all the teachers and head teachers to achieve quality education and good governance at all levels of schools.
- Prepare our students to compete in the emerging global economy by prioritizing math, science and technology at all levels of education and also by promoting ICT literacy.
- Making substantial investments in training quality teachers at all levels of the educational system;
- Provide full funding for all the schools, colleges and universities and make sure all the staff are adequately paid and paid on time to keep them motivated while doing their job.
- Provide Universal Basic Education with emphasis on gender equity in both primary and secondary schools.
- Put in place laws, to prevent child marriage and early pregnancy.
- Employ more school teachers, to reduce the teacher-pupil ratio;
- Established the National Science Center, to promote scientific research, training in science and technology.

7. Primary Emergency Services

The Sunrise Democratic Party will establish three primary emergency services that can be summoned directly by the public any time in all the ten states of South Sudan:

- Police, law enforcement, criminal investigation and maintenance of public order. There is a need to establish levels of agencies of law enforcement that conduct law enforcement, such as the State Police and Highway Patrol agencies, Municipal and County police as well as other law enforcement agencies.
- Fire and Rescue Services: fire suppression, technical rescue, and hazardous materials mitigation. These services are provided to those who need help during any type of emergency. Some Fire and Rescue services

agencies are also trained to provide emergency medical services. They shall be fully equipped with all the gear they need to carry out their work to help the public.

- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and technical rescue. Emergency Medical Services agencies and Technical Rescue services agencies are responsible for immediate response to medical emergency calls as well as specialized rescue services calls. They will be fully equipped with everything they need including the emergency services vehicles and equipment so that they can work to help those who need rescue assistance.

Emergency services will have one or more dedicated emergency telephone numbers reserved for critical emergency calls. Some fire departments will also be providing emergency medical services along with their primary services.

8. Youth Empowerment

The youth make up great majority of the population of South Sudan, with approximately 70% being below the age of 35 years. The SDP believes that this huge and energetic human resource potential must be harnessed towards our country's development. The SDP shall work in close partnership with the industries to offer youth training in life skills, employability and entrepreneurship. The SDP Government shall undertake the following measures and initiatives aimed at reducing youth unemployment and promoting wealth creation among the youth:

- Launched the plans and policies that are aimed at upskilling the youth population through apprenticeship training to a more skilled, economically better off youth that is patriotic;
- Work in partnership with the private sector to put in place programs and plans for youth employment.;
- Build at least one technical trades college that is well-equipped in each state, to enhance skills training for the youth;
- There will be creation of jobs opportunities for youth through massive infrastructure projects such as roads, schools and hospitals that will commence as soon as the SDP takes the country's leadership.
- Youths in the rural areas will not be left behind as the SDP will make sure they acquire university education as well as technical skills trainings.
- Initiate programs to enable youth participation in governance institutions, such as the parliament, local authorities and other government institutions for them to acquire leadership skills;
- Provide practical business skills development and entrepreneurship programmes for youths to gain business and business management skills;
- Promote youth participation in the creative industries (art, culture and recreation) as a major source of jobs creation;
- Build capacity among youths to enable them to successfully participate in business entrepreneurship;
- Work in cooperation with the financial institutions and local banks to fund youth business start-ups;
- Establish apprenticeship and internships programmes for school-leavers and graduates from tertiary institutions to enable them to acquire practical work experience in information and communications technology (ICT) and other marketable skills that are in demand in the job market;

- Promote sporting activities and world class training in sports and healthy competition to engage the energies of the youth for them to achieve their sporting dreams.
- Establish monitoring and evaluation mechanism in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, to track implementation of all youth programs.

9. Women Empowerment and Gender Equality

Compared to their male counterparts, the women in South Sudan face a lot of challenges including gender based violence, domestic violence, forced marriage, early marriage and early pregnancy, illiteracy, health during pregnancy and birth, poverty and more. The Sunrise Democratic Party believes that gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable society.

Therefore urgent steps need to be taken so that more girls are going to school, fewer girls are forced into early marriage, more women are serving in parliament and positions of leadership, and laws are being reformed to advance gender equality.

The Sunrise Democratic Party believes in gender equality and diversity across all sectors of our society such as politics, sports, the arts, media and more. We believe that men and women should be equally represented in the decision-making processes that impact their lives. We all have the right to be seen, heard and recognised for our contributions to society, as stipulated in our constitution's Bill of Rights and other international documents such as Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

In appreciating, that women empowerment is an important strategy for overcoming poverty, marginalisation and all other ills that disadvantage women, the SDP Government shall:

- Adopt affirmative action to ensure that there is equitable representation of women in Parliament, Councils, Boards of Private Companies/Enterprises and on all boards of government commissions;
- Promote equal participation of men and women in all structures of governance and the economy;
- Work towards achieving gender parity in pay and participation in the workforce ;
- Make it easy for women to access low interest loans at local banks to fund women businesses;
- Provide sanitation and hygiene materials for school girls to absenteeism;
- Build more Boarding Schools for girls in rural areas, to promote the girl-child's education;
- Establish programs that promote maternal and child health;
- Enactment of legislations on rights of women and children, such as the Child Protection Act, Marriage Act, Sexual Abuse Act, Gender-based Violence Act, and Divorce Act, etc.
- Domesticate Regional and International Conventions that promote gender equality.
- Design programs that aim to improve the overall education system by encouraging gender sensitivity and taking measures to prevent gender-based violence in a classroom setting.
- Build girls-only schools in the most disadvantaged regions with the purpose of benefiting girls.

10. The Persons with Disabilities.

Decades of conflict in South Sudan, pre and post-independence in 2011, poverty and poor access to services have increased the rate of disability in South Sudan. Based on global estimates of 15% of the world's population living with disabilities, South Sudan is estimated to have more than 1.2 million people with disabilities (HRW, 2017; Forcier et al, 2016, p. 4). In addition, the people with disabilities in South Sudan are marginalised and excluded as a result of the numerous attitudinal, environmental, and institutional barriers they face and the lack of concerted efforts by the national government to include them.

The Sunrise Democratic Party's Government shall address the challenges faced by persons with disabilities. These challenges include:

- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). South Sudan has critical levels of mental health issues as a result of the conflict but mental health services are extremely limited and people with mental health conditions have been locked in prison even if they haven't committed a crime.
- Stigmatization of the persons with disabilities.
- High level of illiteracy as a result of very limited access to any educational opportunities,
- Limited access to braille for the blind people and other learning aids and literacy materials for all the disabled;
- Lack of training opportunities;
- People with disabilities face greater risks of being caught in fighting and have been left behind when communities have fled attacks;
- Lack of employment opportunities;
- lack of access to specialised basic services;
- Lack of accessibility to public places;
- Inadequate media coverage;
- Political marginalization;
- Verbal and physical abuses;
- Lack of legislation relating to the rights of persons with disabilities;
- Limited representation in positions of decision-making at all levels of society;
- Economic exclusion.

To address these challenges, the Sunrise Democratic Party will undertake the following measures:

- Initiate a long-term national plan, to ensure that all South Sudanese have opportunities to improve their lives without leaving anyone behind;

- Prioritize equality, full participation and empowerment of persons with disabilities in all sectors of our economy, through policy plans;
- Enact legislations related to Persons with Disabilities, to ensure that a disability perspective is built into all aspects of policy-making;
- Initiate economic empowerment plans, to favour the economic empowerment of persons with disabilities through start-up businesses for self-employment;
- Establish special schools with well-trained teachers for the education of children with disabilities;
- Provide incentives in the forms of lower taxes for employers of persons with disabilities.
- Enact legislation to increase the participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making positions at all levels, including Parliaments and Councils;
- Provide braille printing machines in the learning centres at every state and county;
- Train and employ sign language interpreters at all the learning centres in states and counties;
- Employ sign language interpreters in all Government Ministries and major public institutions;
- Enhance enforcement of disability laws and policies;
- Provide persons with disabilities with more opportunities for vocational training that is relevant to the labour market, to increase their employability;
- Provide medical social welfare assistance to persons with disabilities;
- Ensure that all new buildings have provisions that facilitate easy access for persons with disabilities, such as ramps and lifts.

11. Agricultural Development

South Sudan has huge land resources with a great potential to produce food to meet its needs, and that of neighbouring countries. Many sources have estimated that 75% of the country's land area is suitable for agriculture (Crops, Fisheries, Livestock, Floriculture and Horticulture) while, approximately over 50% of South Sudan land space is arable, and therefore suitable for cultivation. However, it is very unfortunate that most of the food sold in the market in South Sudan is imported and a significant proportion of food insecure people rely on imported food aid.

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy of South Sudan. It is evident that close to 90% of the population lives in rural areas, with agriculture, forestry and fisheries providing the primary livelihood for the majority of the households in each state of South Sudan. Much of the rural sector activity is currently focused on low-input low-output subsistence agriculture instead of production for markets. Significant challenges facing agricultural sector are:

- Weak entrepreneurship base and absence of commercial farming. Agriculture remains a subsistence activity by smallholder farmers using simple methods.

- Weak or non-existent capacity to provide farm and off-farm extension services to farmers. The public sector extension and veterinary/animal care services are extremely limited. Inspection services are weak in enforcing standards and lack equipment and training. There is critical lack of trained community animal health workers.
- Lack of agricultural productivity-enhancing technologies. There is little use of improved varieties of seed or breeds of livestock. Crop farmers save their seed for planting in the next season, and there is little selection for improved varieties. There is a need for improved varieties that are resistant to common diseases and which are more productive. The traditional livestock breeds could increase productivity by upgrading the genetic base, but market incentives to improve quality are lacking.
- Poor and inadequate infrastructure. Lack of developed trunk and feeder roads, railway, electricity and transport systems as well as ICT, inhibit movement of goods and services into and out of rural areas, increase the cost of transportation and dampen producers' incentives to generate surplus. The absence of rural and feeder roads and, therefore, access to domestic, regional and international markets are a key bottleneck to increased agricultural production. Similarly, the near complete absence of rural electrification limits the choice of farm implements and the adoption of modern farming techniques.
- Weak markets and non-existent market information systems. South Sudan has yet to achieve the level of mobile voice and data telecommunication that is now commonly available in many rural communities in Africa. In addition, the absence of ICT in rural communities limits market information generation and dissemination. This also restricts market size, outreach and agricultural value chains development. Consequently the economic benefits of modern telecommunication still elude rural communities in South Sudan.
- Lack of microfinance facilities. Formal banking services are still extremely limited in South Sudan. There are no financial services for the agricultural sector; for producers or for agricultural businesses.
- Weak farmer/producer organizations. Right now, many of the producer members do not farm as a business, and decisions are not made based on cost/ benefit basis. There is little ability to calculate costs of production and to use market information to determine if products will be competitive and profitable in markets. Extremely weak literacy and numeracy skills, particularly among women, are constraints to smallholders becoming commercialized.
- Shortage of farm labour. Even though 90% of the population of South Sudan lives in rural areas, close to 80% of farm labour is provided by women who combine this activity with their other domestic chores. Farming is not viewed favourably, as a befitting profession, by young men and women, who often migrate to cities. In addition, farm labour, when available, is expensive and often lacks appropriate skills and the incentive to work.

- Unclear land tenure and demarcation. Uncertainties pertaining to property rights and access to land are major challenges hampering agricultural development in South Sudan. Large-scale farming requires access to land with unambiguous rights to profitably develop the land. Having a uniform national land law and transparent ownership rights and obligations will facilitate the decision of foreign investment in agriculture in South Sudan. In addition, given the predominant role that women play in farming, the laws must be gender sensitive and accord women the right to land ownership as well.
- The need for improved agricultural inputs and techniques such as seeds and fertilizers, storage facilities and advisory services, and irrigation development;
- The difficulties faced by farmers in accessing markets due to nuisance taxes and charges, including bribes;
- The lack of a critical mass of farmer and rural producer associations as a means of entering the market place with the aim of minimizing the cost of inputs, accessing loan finance at affordable rates and influencing farm-gate prices.

The SDP Government shall be determined to achieve a modern, diversified, innovative and commercially-viable agricultural sector that leads to production, industrialization, and enhanced trade and markets. This will lead to improved standard of living by good nutrition, affordable food, wealth creation and decent livelihoods for all the South Sudanese.

To achieve the above, the SDP Government shall prioritize agriculture, by allocating more financial resources to the sector, in order to address the following critical areas:

11.1 Enhance Agricultural production

In order to modernise and transform the agricultural sector to increase production, and make it become an all-inclusive, transparent and diversified agricultural sector, the SDP government shall implement the following:

- Development of infrastructure such as trunk and feeder roads, railway, electricity and transport systems as well as ICT to facilitate transport and productivity.
- Establish an Agricultural Financial Institution to support the agricultural sector, by encouraging youths and women to start up small scale farming through low interest loans;
- Support the small-holder farmers to commercialise and gain access to both domestic and international markets;
- Support subsistence farmers, through government sponsored programmes so that they can produce more food for their families.
- Encourage and support large scale commercial and corporate producers in the agriculture sector;
- Promote the certification of seedlings and other vegetatively propagated planting materials;

- Encourage and support commercial production of livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, chickens, guinea fowls) of improved genetics;
- Encourage and support fish farming among women and youths, to meet the market demand of fish which is in short supply, which shall in turn create wealth and contribute to nutrition levels;
- Promote wildlife husbandry (game ranching);
- Promote the cultivation of tree crops such as avocados, citrus, mangoes, cashew nuts, etc.
- Promote growing of industrial hemp and cannabis for medicinal purposes;
- Establish institutions which shall be responsible for the certification of livestock breeds, fish species and breeding programmes.
- Establish institutions that shall manage agricultural loan schemes that enable farmers to grow and expand to a higher production level. The youths and women will be especially targeted for this program.
- Encourage diverse production inputs to cover a wide range of crops, livestock and fisheries, across the country to targeted farmers with the potential to expand;
- Encourage traditional authorities to avail more land to farmers, especially the youths and women, in their chiefdoms for expanded production;
- Enact laws that make it easy for farmers to gain access to arable lands for agricultural production purposes.
- Encourage the formation of unions and associations to advocate on behalf of various sections within the agricultural industry.
- Invest in construction of public dams and irrigation schemes for agricultural purposes;
- Privatised the operations of dams and irrigation schemes for the purposes of efficiency;

11.2 Modernisation of Agriculture, Technical Training and Technologies

The SDP Government shall:

- Provide technologies to support innovation and improve productivity in agriculture;
- Invest in research and development including establishment of national research laboratories for control of diseases for livestock and fisheries as well as pest control;
- Invest in improved livestock breeds through artificial insemination;
- Invest in research and certification of tree crops;
- Establishment of electronic and technical information platforms for agricultural sector;
- Establish at least one veterinary centre in each county and train more veterinarians to take care of the livestock;
- Establish one modern and well-equipped college of agriculture in each state;

- Endeavour to eradicate all major animal diseases to enhance livestock production and economic improvement.
- Provision of enough agricultural tools and equipment, to support land cultivation;
- Encourage and support the use of animal draught power, with the necessary tools as per the various levels of producers;
- Encourage and support breeding of draught animals such as oxen and donkeys, for use in the areas of need;
- Increase the availability of farming machineries such as tractors to increase productivity;
- Incentivise private sector investment in the assembly and production of appropriate agricultural tools and equipment inside South Sudan;

11.3 Mechanization of Agriculture and Value Addition

Agricultural industrialization and value addition are vital in spurring production, growth and enhancing exports, creating employment and business opportunities for all South Sudanese.

The SDP Government shall work to support establishment of Agro-Processing facilities inside South Sudan to promote and support the development of the following agro-industries which will be spearheaded by South Sudanese:

- Timber/wood processing industry;
- Leather, wool, and skin industry for livestock, crocodile, etc;
- Horns and hooves, to cover ornaments, glue, tooth picks, spoons, etc;
- Industrial hemp and medicinal cannabis industry;
- Fruit processing and preservation industry;
- Feed and nutrition for livestock and fisheries.

11.4 Agriculture Trade and markets

The Sunrise Democratic Party shall endeavour for the goal of making our people have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life at all times. South Sudan shall produce enough food at home for domestic consumptions as well as for exports. Trade and market policies will be focused on promoting a whole spectrum of agricultural commodities including livestock, fisheries, and crops as well as associated by-products.

In order to support an effective, predictable, diversified and efficient market for agricultural products, the SDP Government shall:

- Develop a coherent crop marketing and export policy;
- Production support services, with the inclusion of the private sector to provide various services including input delivery and mechanization;

- Develop agro-industrial processing centres such as milk processing centres, aquaculture parks, cold chains (refrigeration from source to market), aggregation centres and milling plants, etc.
- Strengthen agricultural market information systems to improve market efficiencies and competitiveness in the region;
- Promote the participation of the private sector in agricultural commodity markets through farmer groups, cooperatives, aggregators, and commercial agribusinesses;
- Establish border policies that will facilitate agricultural trade;
- Expanding agricultural markets, value chain development and finance, with a special emphasis on agribusiness development;
- Achieve and maintain food security, social development and fighting climate change.

12. Mining Industry and Mineral Resources Management

South Sudan has mineral resources that have remained almost largely untapped. In addition to petroleum, South Sudan mineral deposits, is expected to include, gold, copper, lead, zinc, nickel, marble, iron, chromium, cobalt, tungsten, mica, silver, among others.

Unlike the oil sector, which South Sudan inherited, with its complete infrastructure, including several pipelines extending north through Sudan to the Red Sea, long-term contractual relationships with multinational oil companies, the market for minerals is largely restricted to transactions among a handful of rural communities and migrant workers who operate artisanal gold mines in informal cross-border economies. This important sector should be tapped into and fully develop for the sake of employment creation, revenue generation and industrialisation. In order to develop this sector, the SDP Government shall:

- Encourage rapid development of the mining industry and ensure it matures as soon as possible to boost job creation and the economy;
- Develop infrastructure such as feeder roads, railway, enough electricity and transport systems as well as ICT to facilitate transport and productivity.
- Involve the affected communities in decision-making when it comes to the exploitation of natural resources in their areas and promote a safe and healthy environment;
- Formulate legislations that protect the environment;
- Enhance the sustainable social, cultural and economic well-being of communities in Payams that may be positively or negatively impacted by Mining Operations;
- Ensure full accountability and transparency in mining activities.
- Make sure no mining permitted without prior consent from the landowning communities.

- Enforce constitutional provisions that prohibit the president, vice president, presidential advisers, ministers, deputy ministers, governors, state advisers, state ministers, and other constitutional office holders from engaging in commercial mining activities.
- Should adopt a policy that prohibits the military from becoming involved with mining ventures, either as an institution or through military officers acting in their individual capacity.
- Make sure mining companies assist in the development of communities near to or affected by its operations to promote the general welfare and enhance the quality of life of the inhabitants living in the mining areas;
- Develop a Mining Revenue Bill that lays the rules for revenue sharing between the different levels of government, affected communities, and the mining companies;
- Ratify the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and other core human rights treaties as an obligations to citizens under international human rights law.
- Establish a Mining Regulatory Authority to monitor and regulate the operations of the mining industry;
- Introduce a financing scheme that will guarantee citizens' participation in share-holding in companies in the mining value chains;
- Develop and adopt policies that make capacity-building and skill development of citizens in the management of mines through sponsorship, apprenticeship and on the job training as preconditions for investments in mining;
- Formalise and empower artisanal and small-scale mining especially among youths and women;
- Support the processing of minerals locally by building local refineries;
- Reform the mine tax regime to ensure that minerals benefit the citizens;
- Formulate policies to reserve quotas and training opportunities for local communities in the mining areas;

13. The Economy and the Financial Management

South Sudan economy is largely dependent on oil exports revenues and this makes it especially vulnerable to oil prices. The economy is also vulnerable to weather as recent floods have devastated the economy. Civil conflicts, corruption, poor fiscal management and COVID-19 pandemic are other factors that have contributed to poor performance of the economy. Physical infrastructure such as roads is non-existent. Other social economic infrastructure on which a sound economy is based is weak. South Sudan remains among the poorest countries in the world and four out of five South Sudanese still live below the international poverty line. The following is the summary of the challenges facing the South Sudan Economy:

- Civil conflicts;
- Fluctuations in the oil prices;
- Rampant corruption and poor fiscal management;
- Constant Hyperinflation;
- High debt burden;

- Distortions in the foreign exchange rate market
- Non-existence of any basic social economic infrastructure;
- Insufficient health infrastructure and facilities for the healthy workforce;
- Poor and insufficient educational facilities for skills trainings;
- Poor physical infrastructure such as roads to move people and goods to and from markets;
- Inadequate irrigation infrastructure, making the little farming activities rain-dependent;
- Inadequate energy and ICT infrastructure;
- High youth and women unemployment;
- Lack of diversification in the economy with sectors such as mining and agriculture not being adequately utilized;
- Non-payment of salaries which has resulted in a very demoralized private and Civil Service workforce;
- Inadequate banking facilities to provide loans at acceptable interest rates to citizens so that businesses can start and flourish;

The SDP government shall first address the underlying causes of both the communal and political conflicts in order to stabilize the economy. Then initiate large-scale infrastructure development across the country in all sectors of the economy, including: roads, energy, health, education, transport and communication systems, water and irrigation infrastructure and housing in all the payams. Another way of fixing the economy is diversification by investing, for instance in agriculture and mining sectors which will reduce poverty. Diversifying the economy will enable South Sudan to build an economy that is resilient to shocks and ensure a sustained and inclusive growth. Reform in the public financial management and its governance structures to ensure transparency and accountability is another critical element in establishing a resilient economy.

In order to address the economic challenges, the SDP government shall embark on the following:

- Initiate national dialogue and reconciliation process to achieve peace and stability;
- Embarked on economic diversification, to reduce dependence on oil and invest in agriculture and mining as well as other areas.
- Reform the taxation system to favour the people on low wages and introduce the minimum wage. The reform will also ensure that big businesses will contribute their fair share to the society;
- Embark on large-scale infrastructure development projects across the country in all sectors of the economy, including: roads, energy, health, education, transport and communication systems, water and irrigation infrastructure and housing in all the payams;
- Harmonize salaries for the Civil Service and increase them by at least 100 %;
- Embark on industrialization drive aimed at attracting foreign investors as well as empowering citizens to own factories to kick-start wealth-creation. The industrialization shall help the youth acquire new technical skills needed to run the factories;

- Promote entrepreneurship by making affordable loans available to South Sudanese;
- Establish the agency to promote competition and fair trade in markets to benefit consumers, businesses, and the community. This agency should also regulate national infrastructure services. Its primary responsibility is to ensure that individuals and businesses comply with the principle of competition, fair trading, and consumer protection laws.
- Manage foreign exchange and reduce the influence of the black market on the national currency;
- Fund government projects using primary proceeds from the sale of oil, mineral and natural resources, to reduce the fiscal burden on individuals and small businesses;
- Maintain low income tax in the agricultural sector, to enhance food production and low food prices;
- Consolidate all tax payments made by companies into a single tax, to reduce the cost of meeting statutory requirements;
- Strengthen the prudent use of resources;
- Combat corruption in all public institutions and introduce electronic means of transactions and records keeping.
- Establish modern market centres and facilities at all the payams and the state capital cities;
- Provide incentives for South Sudanese to set up trading businesses, especially in the payams and bomas and in rural areas;
- Introduce government sponsored award system for the companies and individuals that are performing well in the economy, fulfilling the responsibility of giving back to the community while complying with all the relevant standards and regulations.

14. Land Resource Management

Land continues to be a major source of conflict in South Sudan between communities, individuals, private entities, public entities, etc. This is because there is no legal clarity on land ownership between public, private, and communal land. Clear land rights and ownership policies and laws are necessary as land tenure systems have implications for food security, access to water, natural resources, pastures and settlement during droughts and flood disasters.

Good land management is also important for the overall stability and security of South Sudan. Therefore, there should be a legal framework that recognizes both formal and customary land tenure systems to avoid numerous disputes over land ownership. Citizens all over South Sudan complain of instances of land sale to many buyers which then causes disputes between these many buyers. There are numerous disputes among citizens over land ownership at present. In order to achieve good land resource management, the SDP shall do the following:

- Formulate uniform national land policy;
- Establishment of robust system of issuing of title deeds and land ownership certificates with digital records keeping.

- Carry out national land survey, in conjunction with various stakeholders countrywide;
- Land allocation is based on preference to South Sudanese and on utilization capacity;
- Women, youths above age, and the disabled, must be given equal rights to own land.
- The age for youths to acquire land should be from 20 of age;
- Establishment of land court as a division within the judicial system, to handle land disputes;
- Creation of a digital record keeping for all land transactions;
- Pass legislations for forest preservation and limitation on illegal deforestation, due to poor forest management.
- Introduction of electronic national land management system in our first term.

15. Forestry and Wildlife Rehabilitation

15.1 Wildlife

South Sudan is a land of immense and unique biodiversity hotspot unlike anything else on the planet. Few other places have such a sheer concentration of large and unique animals. But much of the country's wildlife was endangered as a result of the combined effects of civil wars, habitat loss, and rampant and illegal poaching. Government control is almost non-existence in some areas of the country, placing the country's wildlife at greater risk of poaching and extinction.

South Sudan has six major national parks, where much of the spectacular wildlife can be seen.

- The **Bandingilo National Park**, located in the Equatoria region near the capital of Juba, is home to the world's second-largest annual migratory route of antelopes, including the reedbuck, tiang, and white-eared kob. Visitors might also catch a glimpse of Sudan **cheetahs**, **caracals**, East African **lions**, and Nubian **giraffes**.
- The **Boma National Park**, which encompasses nearly 9,000 square miles of grasslands and floodplains near the eastern border, is a refuge for **antelopes**, **buffalo**, giraffes, cheetah, **leopards**, **elephants**, eagles, and **vultures**.
- The **Lantoto National Park** covers nearly 300 square miles of forests and glades near the southern city of Yambio. Elephants, buffalos, antelopes, **baboons**, and **ostriches** are all found here.
- The **Nimule National Park**, located near the southern border with Uganda, features hills and low-lying areas near the Nile River. A large number of elephants roam through the park.
- The **Shambe National Park**, located on the west bank of the White Nile, covers 240 square miles in the remote central part of the country. Shambe is a very rich source of large wildlife, including **hippos**, rhinos, ostriches, giraffes, lions, and monkeys. It's also a popular bird-watching destination along migratory routes.
- The **Southern National Park** is a vast mixture of rainforests, gallery forests, woodlands, and grasslands. Crocodiles, lions, giraffes, buffalo, and antelopes roam the park, while freshwater fish like **catfish** and **lungfish** abound in the nearby rivers.

In order to preserve and protect our wildlife, the SDP government shall do the following:

- Strengthen the ministry of wildlife by providing all the necessary resources for the development of national parks infrastructure.
- Rehabilitate all the six major national parks and restock them if necessary.
- Invite the interested private companies to take over some game parks for better management in order to attract tourists.
- Train young South Sudanese in game parks management and preservation.
- Cooperate with local communities in order to protect wildlife and to curtail poaching;
- Provide incentives to citizens to establish private game ranches that can coordinate with national parks.
- Formulate legislations that criminalize poaching.

15.2 Forest Preservation

South Sudan is well endowed with diverse natural forests and woodlands. However, forest assets of South Sudan have been seriously degraded by the prolonged conflict affecting the country. Deforestation is threatening a complete loss of South Sudan forest. The main causes of this deforestation are: fuelwood collection, charcoal production, illegal logging, agriculture, livestock, and the construction industry. There is, therefore, an urgent need to introduce and implement effective forest preservation programmes, policies and legislations. For the sustainable management of forests, the SDP government will do the following:

- Strengthen the ministry of forestry by providing all the necessary resources for the development of forest-related infrastructure.
- Introduce issuance of forestry-related licenses to anyone wanting to carry out forest-related business;
- Encourage bee-keeping and honey-harvesting to make organic honey production a viable industry.
- Formulate legislations for the natural resources protection to protect forests from illegal logging, wildlife, water bodies and other natural resources;
- Empower local communities and individuals, through direct funding, land allocation and tax incentives, to establish forestry plantations;
- Initiate tree plantation programs across the country to plant at least one million trees per year, particularly in desert-threatened areas;
- Provide incentives for investment in efficient and sustainable harvesting of wood for construction, furniture, paper, and pulp;
- Incentivise the processing of forest products, such as fruits, juices, mushrooms, honey, etc. to create more jobs for the citizens;
- Encourage the private sector to partner with local authorities to invest in forestry and wildlife;
- Encourage and facilitate entrepreneurship in forestry and wildlife management; ;

- Promote the use of alternative sources of energy, gas and solar, to curtail charcoal burning.

16. Climate Change and Environmental Protection

Climate change threatens food security, human health and human safety. Temperature rise and extreme weather conditions threaten agricultural activities and hence food production. Recently the rising levels of the River Nile caused floods which immediately affected over one million people in South Sudan. In Jonglei alone, the worst-affected state, they have displaced an estimated over 400,000 people. All across the affected areas of South Sudan, flooding destroyed vast areas of farmland and killed countless number of cattle, leaving millions of people food insecure. It has destroyed sources of clean drinking water, leaving people vulnerable to waterborne diseases and has threatened children's education.

Over all, climate change is causing droughts and floods which have devastating effects on the environment, which in turn affects sustainable social and economic development and impeding wealth creation and poverty reduction. The SDP government shall do the following:

- Formulate formidable laws on environmental protection and implement international agreements and protocols on climate change;
- Establish national agency which will be responsible natural crises and disaster and natural disaster fund for quick response during natural crises such as floods and droughts ; ;
- Adopt reconstruction and rehabilitation policies to rebuild any infrastructure that is affected by climate change related crises;
- Establish environmental management agency at all the states;
- Ensure that all developmental projects are properly inspected for their impact on the South Sudan environment before being approved for execution;
- Introduce climate change topics in the school curriculum;
- Intensify sensitization programmes on the negative effects of climate change, how to mitigate its effects, and how to promote sustainable use of resources;
- Enhance support for research institutions working in developing climate change resilient strategies and tree varieties and disseminate results countrywide;
- Establish infrastructure and systems for early warning to ensure preparedness;
- Start planting of trees in all the Payams;
- Implement programs for the conservation of wetlands, rivers, lake basins and canals, and their protection from pollution to protect bio-diversity;
- Foster investment in recycling of non-bio-degradable plastics so as to curtail indiscriminate and hazardous disposal;
- Introduce alternative sources of energy to curtail the utilisation of wood fuel;

- Introduce alternative sources of livelihood and income for people living on charcoal.

16.1 Impacts of oil and gas drilling on the environment

Oil and gas drilling has a serious impact on our wildlands and communities. Drilling projects operate around the clock generating pollution, fuelling climate change, disrupting wildlife and damaging public lands. South Sudan is running one of the dirtiest and poorly managed oil productions on the planet. It is reported that the oil industry in South Sudan usually leave landscape pocked with hundreds of waste pits, the water and soil contaminated with toxic chemicals and heavy metals including mercury, manganese and arsenic.

Incidences of oil spills in the oil producing areas, for example, Pariang and Rubkona counties of Unity State and other places in Upper Nile were reported in the past, It is expected that these incidences of oil spills have led to pre-term births, stillbirths, congenital anomalies or deaths in new-born, blindness, male sexual dysfunction, and low fertility within the population those areas.. Despite these incidences, no one holds the oil companies in South Sudan accountable for their negligence. Their actions have brought considerable devastation, including environmental degradation and damage impacting on the health of citizens. The following are the impacts of oil and gas drilling on the environment and the surrounding communities:

- Air pollution and environmental contamination; communities living close to oil production sites and are exposed to dangerous pollutants on a daily basis which can lead to respiratory, cardiovascular and other diseases.
- Dangerous emissions fuel climate change with adverse effects on the environment.
- Oil and gas development can ruin wildlands. Infrastructure built for oil and gas extraction can leave behind radical impacts on wildlands. The construction of roads, facilities and drilling sites requires the use of heavy equipment and can destroy big chunks of pristine wilderness. The damage is often irreversible.
- Drilling disrupts wildlife habitat. Oil and gas extraction is a menace to wildlife. Loud noises, human movement and vehicle traffic from drilling operations can disrupt animals' communication, breeding and nesting. Powerlines, fences, and roads can also fragment habitats for many species.
- Oil and chemical spills can be deadly to both humans and animals.

The SDP government shall do the following:

- Encourage responsible and ethical oil and gas production for safety of the nearby communities and conservation of the environment/ecosystems.
- Formulate appropriate national laws, regulations and guidelines.
- Oil production companies must prove coherently and transparently that their activities are environmentally friendly.
- Adopt clear enforceable operational standards in line with international standards in oil and gas production.
- Establish appropriate monitoring procedures and protocols,
- Periodic auditing and environmental impact assessment.

- Appropriate penalties on the breaches of the environmental standards.
- Adequate emergency response procedures in case of a major disaster such as oil or chemical spills.

17. Labour Force and Industrial Relations

Being a new nation, South Sudan does not have mature and independent labour institutions such as labour unions to fight for the rights of workers to ensure fair and safe working conditions as well as minimum living wages. It is a rule of thumb that the stability of any economy and the creation of sustainable jobs are anchored on stable labour and industrial relations.

The SDP will facilitate the formations of labour institutions and establish mechanisms for workplace related dispute resolutions as well as ensuring health and safety at the workplace, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan and in conformity with the international standards. The workers in South Sudan face the following challenges:

- Wage theft or non-payment of their rightful dues. Workers go for months without pay.
- Low salaries virtually in all the sectors compared to how the economy is performing;
- Discrimination based on gender in giving employment.
- Prevalent of casual employment;
- Non enforcement of the industrial relations rules and regulations.
- Non enforcement of the health and safety rules and regulations in the workplace.
- Lack of motivation in both private and civil service labour force;
- Unsafe working conditions;

The SDP is the friend of the ordinary workers and shall do the following:

- Develop policies and industrial relations legislations to redress the situation of the workers;
- Introduce the minimum wage, depending on the sector, which should be reviewed periodically to keep pace with the inflation rate and the performance of the economy;
- Encourage permanent employment of workers so that citizens enjoy the dignity of work;
- Review the existing industrial relations laws and develop mechanisms for their enforcement;
- Enforcement of the principle of 'Equal Pay for Equal Work';
- Introduce workers' entitlements such as annual and sick leaves for all the workers to stimulate staff wellbeing and productivity;
- Encourage rewards culture for outstanding performance in the private sector, to enhance labour productivity;
- Establish systems of awareness creation for employee rights and obligations;
- Domesticise and implement labour standards, bringing them in line with international standards;
- Work in coordination with the private sector to do skills audits and identify the skills on demand in the country.

- Establish systems of granting temporary visas for skilled workers on a need basis;
- Establish systems for regular monitoring and evaluation of compliance to the industrial relations standards at workplaces;

18. Sports and Recreation

Sports is one the vital sectors in any society. It promotes culture, enriches the economy and grows careers for people who love to make it a career. The sports sector in South Sudan has great potential for job and wealth creation as it is also an important source of recreation and physical health. South Sudanese are sports loving people and they are now making headlines around the world for the sporting achievements while representing other countries. They are also making headlines at home as well for their unique traditional sports such as traditional wrestling that can be played in an open field and which is hugely popular. But the political crisis and civil conflicts have held us back since independence without making any progress. The SDP plans to do the following:

- Construction of one modern stadium in each state capital city in all the 10 states of South Sudan;
- Ensuring that there are sport fields in each educational institutions at all level of education;
- Provision of all the sports needs to all the payams through constituency offices;
- Promote all the disciplines of sports such as football, basketball athletics in all institutions of learning and in academies.
- Promote traditional wrestling and fund it so that participants can make it a career and benefit from their natural talents.
- Rehabilitate sports infrastructure and recreation halls countrywide both in cities e.g. Juba stadium, and in rural areas;
- Encourage local manufacturing of sports equipment and sports uniforms as a way of industrializing sports in South Sudan;
- Establishment of sports academies for the training of talented youth;
- Encourage all institutions of learning to support sports;
- Introduce school sports competitions at payams, states and national levels;
- Introduce government sponsored trophies for community sports competitions, such as traditional wrestling and other community sports, through local authorities;
- Introduce scholarships for youths talented in sports;
- Commercialize sports and encourage entrepreneurship and investment.

19. The Security Sector

The Sunrise Democratic Party (SDP) identifies security sector reform as one of the most crucial tasks that need to be tackled if South Sudan is to attain peace and stability. As it is well known, the main political parties in South Sudan have been founded on military movements with weak political wings. As a result, the lines are blurred between the leadership and the armed forces within the ruling SPLM party and other armed groups, which makes the security

forces vulnerable to the possibilities of the outbreak of political conflicts. This military culture has made the armed forces become a powerful instrument aligned mainly to individual leaders rather than the state or central party structures. So the reform in the security sector, both within and the police, that is well implemented will restructure the South Sudan's security services in a way that best meets the security needs of citizens and the state. To ensure sustainable peace and security in the country and for the nation's building to commence, the SDP will ensure that the security sector undergoes the following transformation:

- Introduce the reforms within the military, police, wildlife services, prisons, and intelligence by clearly defining the constitutional roles of each one of them and by reaffirming the principle of civilian rule.
- Initiate the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program and integrate all the armed rebel groups into the one national army with one doctrine as defined by our constitution.
- Establish National Military Pension Fund, under which all members of the army would receive a pension upon retirement.
- Modernize the South Sudan air force unit and establish air defence system to protect our airspace from any violations.
- Establish the Riverine Unit to provide security on rivers and river transport;
- Construction of security forces infrastructure (offices, workshops, training camps and barracks) for efficiency in operation;
- Construction of modern correctional facilities in all the ten states;
- Introduce the community-based policing model, to increase police visibility in the communities;
- Introduce gun ownership laws to make sure that all the guns are registered and their owners are known to ensure that our villages and cities are safer.
- Employ youths and women in the defence and security forces and in the correctional services, to be selected on the basis of equity from all the states;
- Carry out training and retraining of officers to prepare them for modern challenges, including gender-based violence, serious and organized crimes, cyber-crime, terrorism, drugs smuggling, and robbery on roads;
- Carry out high level leadership trainings of young officers in the army and promote them to various ranks up to the rank of general to take charge of the army.
- Introduce electronic systems and procedures at Immigration Department, to increase efficiency, transparency and improved government revenue collection.
- Employ appropriate security measures at the airports and borders to protect our citizens from smuggling of arms and drugs.
- Invest in a modern Defence and Security Force capable of preserving national peace and security as well as protecting our territorial integrity;

20. International Relations

South Sudan diplomatic relations have been severely curtailed by the civil conflicts, corruption and the economic crises that ensued. The conflict has displaced over 4 million people to the neighbouring countries. The country doesn't pay her diplomatic staff and most embassies have been closed down around the world due to lack of money. South Sudan didn't even attempt to open embassies in some countries since independence in July 2011 because it cannot afford it. Due to the economic crisis, South Sudan usually defaults over membership fees to its regional organisations such as the East African Community (EAC) and the African Union (AU). The SDP will restore the image of South Sudan and shall do the following:

- Resolve to pay salaries on time, to the diplomatic staff to boost their morale;
- Introduce a policy that will facilitate the participation of South Sudanese in the diaspora in national affairs including investment;
- Resolve to pay our membership fees to international, continental and regional organisations on time to strengthen our diplomatic engagement;
- Establish trade relations and sign trade agreements with strategic countries for our national interest;
- Solicit rich countries to help us and offer scholarship programmes to our students to be trained in various fields such as engineering and science, medicines, leadership, etc.
- Effectively use our diplomatic connections and state visits to attract foreign investment and promote our trade relations;
- Facilitate the return of all the refugees by providing the returnees with all their needs.
- Ensure that all missions abroad are readily accessible to South Sudanese;
- Facilitate the access of South Sudanese in the diaspora to land for developmental projects and investments;
- Placement of highly qualified South Sudanese in senior positions in international organisations such as the UN, the AU, EAC.
- Use our diplomatic connections to solicit funds from our friendly countries for the construction of vital infrastructure such as, modern hospitals, airports in the states capital cities, finding permanent solutions to floods.

THE MANIFESTO OF THE SUNRISE DEMOCRATIC PARTY
IDEAS FOR A BETTER COUNTRY FOR ALL



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