



## Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery, Republic of South Sudan

Date: May 23, 2017	Prepared by: Dr. Taban Martin Vitale
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### I. Demographic Information

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

2. Organization:  
Real Medicine Foundation, South Sudan ([www.realmedicinefoundation.org](http://www.realmedicinefoundation.org))

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

4. Reporting Period:  
January 1 – March 31, 2017

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

6. Target Population:

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

The number of the students currently in the program are tabulated below:

Year	Nursing Students	Midwifery Students	Total
Year 1 (2016 Intake)	25	33	58
Year 2 (2015 Intake)	15	15	30
Year 3 (2014 Intake)	30	23	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>141</b>

The program's graduates have been and will be deployed to their respective state hospitals, county hospitals, and primary healthcare centers to bridge the gap between the high demand for skilled services and few available service providers.

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

### II. Project Information

7. Project Goals:

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

8. Project Objectives:

- Provide model courses in registered nursing and registered midwifery in the first National Health Training Diploma Institute in South Sudan.
- Provide a curriculum recognized by all ministries associated with education in the Republic of South Sudan (RSS).
- Provide a cutting-edge skills laboratory and library for the students.
- Provide an improved clinical setting for student training.
- Provide highly qualified instructors and tutors for the duration of the three-year program.
- Provide an unprecedented model of healthcare sector capacity building for South Sudan.
- Provide a sustainable solution to South Sudan's maternal and infant mortality rate, the former which is the highest in the world at 2,054/100,000 as per the 2006 South Sudan Household Survey.

9. Summary of RMF-sponsored activities carried out during the reporting period under each project objective (note any changes from original plans):

Implemented activities in line with RMF-sponsored activities and project objectives include:

- Continued support of college human resources through payment of the national tutors' salaries.
- The two master trainers for the Health eVillages project continued to benefit from the provided tablets preloaded with medical materials.
- Support to the National Ministry of Health, Republic of South Sudan and project partners in the coordination and implementation of project activities over the reporting period. Support and activities are in line with the approved JCONAM annual work plan.
- Continued facilitation of interlinkages with the UNFPA, MOH, IMC, and other stakeholders to guarantee quality assurance in the implementation of both nursing and midwifery curricula in the diploma program.
- Coordinated RMF activities with other organizations and UN agencies supporting the Juba College of Nursing and Midwifery (JCONAM) by participating in meetings and conferences.

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

- In addition to her role of lecturing and mentoring students in clinical studies, the national tutor provided by RMF continued to support JCONAM's administration in management of the college.
- The two college tutors provided with Health eVillages preloaded tablets are able to do quick reference checks during lectures and clinical work, hence improving the quality of service delivery.
- The college staff members and students continued to benefit from the essential drugs provided by RMF.
- The two college tutors continued to supervise and mentor the nurses/midwives provided with Health eVillages preloaded tablets, which in turn has improved patient care in the facility, as healthcare professionals are able to do quick reference checks and provide health education using the devices.
- Continued coordination of RMF activities and participation in meetings/workshops together with NGOs and UN agencies supporting JCONAM and other National Health Training Institutes (NHTIs).

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

- The Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery curriculum approved by the Ministry of Health (MOH) is being used as a model document alongside JCONAM structures for replication in other states.
- The Ministry of Health, through the support of RMF and other stakeholders, is working to replicate JCONAM in other states. This will translate into continued growth in the number of nursing and midwifery diploma institutes in South Sudan and potentially new nursing/midwifery college partnerships for RMF.
- Stakeholders in nursing and midwifery education and services are undertaking the development of a bridge course for community/enrolled midwives to be accepted into JCONAM's diploma training program with the ability to complete the course in less than 3 years.
- It is currently estimated that it will take close to 66 years for South Sudan to establish a professional and sustained capacity to address maternal mortality issues. South Sudan has the highest maternal mortality rate in the world; the Ministry of Health (MOH) reported 2,054 deaths for every 100,000 live births in 2006, and despite improvements, ten years later, South Sudan still has the world's highest maternal mortality rate. In addition to establishing other diploma institutes in South Sudan, the MOH is working on

bilateral agreements with neighboring countries to send out qualified South Sudanese to train as nurses and midwives in order to establish a critical mass in the next 10 years.

- JCONAM students in clinical practice continued to provide healthcare services at Juba Teaching Hospital (JTH) and primary healthcare centers within the city of Juba, bridging gaps in human resources and improving quality of care.
- Several years of experience derived from working with JCONAM and other partners has enabled RMF to develop a vision of increasing its level of support in South Sudan. By virtue of its registration and autonomy, RMF will seek to partner with organizations/agencies, and most importantly, government elements, in the areas of health systems strengthening and sustainable economic empowerment as witnessed in its projects in other countries.

12. Number served/number of direct project beneficiaries:

- Through the support of the consortium of partners, **currently 141 students are fully sponsored** for the three-year education program. This includes the provision of school uniforms, books, stationery, tutors, and monthly allowances.

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

Year	No. Nursing Students	No. Midwifery Students	Total
Year 1	25	33	58
Year 2	15	15	30
Year 3	30	23	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>141</b>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Health Problems Addressed:**

- Maternal Mortality
- Infant Mortality
- Obstetric Fistulae

Indirectly, these medical conditions are also addressed:

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

16. Notable project challenges and obstacles:

- All the UN volunteers and other expatriate tutors left the country in July 2016 due to insecurity, hence leaving the college with limited South Sudanese tutors only. This has made it very difficult to supervise and mentor students in the clinical areas.
- Students from the University of Upper Nile and midwifery students from Kajo Keji Health Training Institute continue to use the limited facilities at JCONAM following displacement due to armed conflicts in Central Equatoria and Upper Nile states. This leads to congestion and interruptions in conducting lectures.
- Lack of new commitments from JCONAM health partners is creating many unmet needs for the college.
- Lack of qualified personnel within the hospital to supervise the students when they are conducting clinical rounds, i.e. the students are occasionally supervised by lower level health cadres, leading to a discrepancy between skills taught and what is witnessed.
- Lack of medical plans/insurance for the students with consideration of their exposure to infections and other general illnesses in the workplace.
- Lack of extra-curricular activities for the students to engage in during their free time and on weekends, i.e. outdoor sports and games.
- Limited technical and financial commitment and support provided to the Ministry of Health by the stakeholders for the review of the nursing diploma curriculum.
- Lack of financial commitment by stakeholders for the construction of an urgently needed classroom block, students' hostel, tutors' residence, and recreational hall.

17. If applicable, plans for next reporting period:

- RMF will continue to support JCONAM based on our annual implementation plan, which is based on our MOU with the Ministry of Health.
- Continue lobbying for more resources to bridge the gaps and have additional classes for nurses and

midwives.

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

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

19. Success story(s) highlighting project impact:

See Appendix

### III. Financial Information

20. Detailed summary of expenditures within each budget category as presented in your funded proposal (file attachment is fine). Please note any changes from plans.

Detailed financial report sent separately on a monthly basis

## Project Photos



JCONAM student counseling a woman on prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) during a routine ANC visit



JCONAM student performing an HIV test after counseling a woman during an ANC visit



JCONAM student enrolling women in the ANC program during an ANC visit



JCONAM student enrolling women in the ANC program during an ANC visit



JCONAM midwifery student taking the blood pressure of a woman during routine ANC visit



JCONAM midwifery student performing abdominal palpation during a routine ANC visit



JCONAM student inserting Implanon at the family planning clinic



JCONAM student monitoring a woman (counting the number of contractions) in the first stage of labor



JCONAM student supporting and counseling a woman in the first stage of labor



A jubilant JCONAM student carrying a newborn baby after conducting a successful SVD



JCONAM student at the EPI clinic administering DPT vaccine to a child



Mother of twins waiting for her sister, who was taken to the labor suite for delivery by JCONAM students