



Treatment and Prevention of Acute Malnutrition in Jonglei State & Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Republic of South Sudan

Date: January 22, 2019	Prepared by: Odongo Bonny Oryem																																																																													
I. Demographic Information																																																																														
1. City & State: Bor, Jonglei State, and Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Republic of South Sudan																																																																														
2. Organization: Real Medicine Foundation, South Sudan (www.realmedicinefoundation.org) World Children's Fund (www.worldchildrensfund.net) United Nations Children's Fund (www.unicef.org) United Nations World Food Programme (www.wfp.org)																																																																														
3. Project Title: Treatment and Prevention of Acute Malnutrition																																																																														
4. Reporting Period: October 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018																																																																														
5. Project Location (region & city/town/village): RMF provides nutrition services in Pajiek, Wau, and Mogok payams in Ayod County of Jonglei State and Guggu, Marua, Churi, and Kessingor payams in Boma County of Greater Pibor Administrative Area. The table below shows the 14 sites where RMF is currently operating nutrition centers as of the fourth quarter of 2018.																																																																														
Table 1: RMF nutrition centers																																																																														
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #d9e1f2;"> <th colspan="3">Location</th> <th colspan="3">Programs</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #d9e1f2;"> <th>County</th> <th>Payam</th> <th>Boma</th> <th>Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP)</th> <th>Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP)</th> <th>Stabilization Center (SC)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="7">Ayod</td> <td rowspan="6">Wau</td> <td>Jiech</td> <td>Jiech</td> <td>Jiech</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wai</td> <td>Wai</td> <td>Wai</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nyanapal</td> <td>Nyanapal</td> <td>Nyanapal</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Padek</td> <td>Padek</td> <td>Padek</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Karmoun</td> <td>Karmoun</td> <td>Karmoun</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Longoro</td> <td>Longoro</td> <td>Longoro</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mogok</td> <td>Thuop</td> <td>Mogok</td> <td>Mogok</td> <td>Mogok</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Pajiek</td> <td>Nyayian</td> <td>Gorwai</td> <td>Gorwai</td> <td>Gorwai</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Keer</td> <td>Kuotyang</td> <td>Kuotyang</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Pibor</td> <td>Guggu</td> <td>Itti</td> <td>Boma Hospital</td> <td>Boma Hospital</td> <td>Boma Hospital</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Churi</td> <td>Nyat</td> <td>Nyat</td> <td>Nyat</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marua</td> <td>Labarab</td> <td>Marua</td> <td>Marua</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Kessingor</td> <td>Naoyapuru</td> <td>Naoyapuru</td> <td>Naoyapuru</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kordep</td> <td>Kordep</td> <td>Kordep</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Location			Programs			County	Payam	Boma	Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP)	Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP)	Stabilization Center (SC)	Ayod	Wau	Jiech	Jiech	Jiech	-	Wai	Wai	Wai	-	Nyanapal	Nyanapal	Nyanapal	-	Padek	Padek	Padek	-	Karmoun	Karmoun	Karmoun	-	Longoro	Longoro	Longoro	-	Mogok	Thuop	Mogok	Mogok	Mogok	Pajiek	Nyayian	Gorwai	Gorwai	Gorwai	Keer	Kuotyang	Kuotyang	-	Pibor	Guggu	Itti	Boma Hospital	Boma Hospital	Boma Hospital	Churi	Nyat	Nyat	Nyat	-	Marua	Labarab	Marua	Marua	-	Kessingor	Naoyapuru	Naoyapuru	Naoyapuru	-	Kordep	Kordep	Kordep	-
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6. Target Population: Direct project beneficiaries for the year 2018 are tabulated below, along with beneficiaries reached during the fourth quarter:																																																																														
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	SAM Children to Benefit from OTP	SAM Children Benefitted from OTP	SAM Children to Benefit from SC	SAM Children Benefitted from SC	Total SAM Children to Benefit	Total SAM Children Benefitted
Ayod	1,897	563	211	65	2,108	628
Boma	2,180	184	242	78	2,422	262
Total	4,077	747	453	143	4,530	890

Table 3: MAM children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) directly targeted and reached

County	Annual Target	Q4 Results	Annual Target	Q4 Results	Annual Target	Q4 Results
	MAM Children to Benefit from TSFP	MAM Children Benefitted from TSFP	PLW to Benefit from TSFP	PLW Benefitted from TSFP	Total Children and PLW to Benefit from TSFP	Total Children and PLW to Benefitted from TSFP
Ayod	4,888	1,587	1,596	1,509	6,484	3,096
Boma	1,679	600	448	627	2,127	1,227
Total	6,567	2,187	2,044	2,136	8,611	4,323

Indirect project beneficiaries include the whole population of Ayod and Boma counties, estimated to be 199,474 and 211,094, respectively, projected from the 2008 South Sudan Population and Housing Census. The nutrition service centers also receive beneficiaries from the neighboring counties and internally displaced persons (IDPs) from various areas of Jonglei and neighboring states.

II. Project Information

7. Project Goals:

The overall goal of this project is to reduce the global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate to an acceptable level of less than 15% in each of the payams assigned to RMF. This will be in line with standards set by the South Sudan National Nutrition Program.

8. Project Objectives:

- To provide lifesaving nutrition services for acutely malnourished children (boys and girls) under 5 years of age and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- To prevent malnutrition in early childhood through promotion of improved infant and young child feeding, caregiving, and care seeking practices at the facility, community, and family level.
- To strengthen the capacity of the County Health Department (CHD) and provide appropriate resources for the initiation and integration of nutrition services into existing primary health care, as well as linking nutrition interventions in the health system in the targeted counties.
- To strengthen the maternal, infant and young child nutrition program in the two counties, so as to prevent chronic malnutrition, particularly cases of children who are underweight or experience wasting and stunting.

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:

- In Pibor County, additional funding from Common Humanitarian Funds (CHF) strengthened WCF, WFP, UNICEF, and RMF's support of the existing 3 Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) centers and 1 stabilization center in the county, while **1 additional malnutrition treatment and prevention center** was established in Kordep. All locations continue to provide quality, lifesaving nutrition interventions in Pibor County.
- In Ayod County, the existing 9 CMAM centers and 2 stabilization centers were maintained and continued to provide quality, lifesaving nutrition interventions.
- With support from RMF headquarters, all our CMAM sites in both Ayod and Boma were fully funded in terms of operating costs throughout the reporting quarter.

- Facilitated the participation of RMF in the joint rapid response mechanism mission conducted by WFP and UNICEF in Ayod County during the reporting quarter.
- In both Ayod and Pibor, RMF procured and supplied all malnutrition treatment and prevention centers with adequate stationery and other items to facilitate effective operations.
- Continued to support satellite phone services for all 14 centers through payment of monthly subscription fees in those hard to reach areas where RMF works and where regular phone services are not available. This enhances communication and coordination of RMF's programs and program sites.
- Procured and delivered an adequate amount of essential foodstuffs for RMF's relocated staff members (those recruited from Juba and deployed in Ayod and Boma) where basic commodities are not available.
- Supported the welfare of relocated nutrition staff members in Ayod and Boma.
- Procured and provided in-kind support (soaps, salt, and sitting mats) for the infant and young child feeding (IYCF) mother-to-mother support groups at all our sites in both Ayod and Boma.
- Facilitated routine in-country travel of nutrition staff between Juba and different nutrition centers in Ayod and Boma with UNHAS flights.
- Continued support of high-speed Wi-Fi internet service in the Juba office, as well as the field sites in Jiech, Boma, Gorwai, and Mogok, to enable easy communication, coordination, and reporting. This was done through maintenance of the equipment and payment of monthly subscription fees.
- Continued facilitation of RMF's team to participate in nutrition cluster activities and meetings at national and state levels.

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

- In Pibor County, a total of 5 OTP/TSFPs and 1 stabilization center were maintained and continued to provide lifesaving nutrition services with support from WCF, WFP, UNICEF, CHF, and RMF headquarters.
- In Ayod County, a total of 9 OTP/TSFPs and 2 stabilization centers were maintained and continued to provide lifesaving nutrition services with support from WCF, WFP, UNICEF, and RMF headquarters.
- The RMF M&E Coordinator visited all field sites to offer supportive supervision and on-the-job training to field staff. These visits help ensure that RMF's projects continue to provide quality services and achieve the set targets.
- Program reporting and coordination have been greatly improved thanks to the high-speed Wi-Fi internet service installed by RMF earlier this year and maintained at two additional field sites in Ayod (Gorwai and Mogok), as well as the continued maintenance of high-speed Wi-Fi internet service in Jiech provided in coordination with CMD and in Boma with CHD.
- RMF's Juba-based team, visiting nutrition staff from the various field locations, and Juba Teaching Hospital staff continued to benefit from the high-speed Wi-Fi internet service installed in RMF's Juba office.
- Project development and staffing were strengthened, as RMF South Sudan received funding under CHF/UNDP/OCHA to implement a **6-month emergency nutrition intervention in Pibor County**, effective from mid-September 2018 to February 28, 2019. More than 50 staff members were recruited under this project.
- **16,974** and **7,092 children under 5** were screened for signs of acute malnutrition during the fourth quarter of 2018 in Ayod and Boma counties, respectively. Screening data were shared with the nutrition cluster for further analysis.
- **563** and **184 severely acute malnourished (SAM) children** were identified and referred to OTPs in Ayod and Boma, respectively, for therapeutic management during this reporting quarter.
- **65** and **78 SAM children with medical complications** were referred to and treated at RMF's 2 SCs in Ayod and 1 SC in Pibor, respectively.
- **1,587** and **600 moderately acute malnourished (MAM) children** in Ayod and Boma counties, respectively, were enrolled in a supplementary feeding program during this quarter.
- **11,162** and **4,404 pregnant and lactating women (PLW)** were screened for signs of acute malnutrition in Ayod and Boma, respectively.
- **1,509** and **627 pregnant and lactating women (PLW)** were enrolled in a supplementary feeding program in Ayod and Boma, respectively, during the reporting quarter.
- **6,265** and **5,018 mothers and caregivers** in Ayod and Boma, respectively, received appropriate messages on MIYCN, strengthening malnutrition prevention measures.
- **24** and **12 MIYCN mother-to-mother support groups** in Ayod and Boma, respectively, were supported (with knowledge and in-kind materials) and continued to deliver MIYCN services.

The treatment outcomes at the end of the reporting quarter (Q4) are summarized in the tables below:

Table 4: Treatment outcomes for SAM

S/N	SPHERE Indicator	Ayod	Boma
1	Recovery rate	92.0%	94.0%
2	Defaulter rate	8.0%	6.0%
3	Mortality rate	0.0%	0.0%
4	Non-respondent	0.0%	0.0%

Note: The rate of defaulters was caused mainly by three factors: 1) population movement far from the center to the riverside, especially in November and December, in search of pasture and water for their animals, 2) stock-outs of OTC supplies in some sites of both counties, and 3) intertribal conflict hindering the operation of some centers, especially in Pibor County.

Table 5: Treatment outcomes at TSFPs

S/N	SPHERE Indicator	Ayod	Boma
1	Recovery rate	95.0%	96.0%
2	Defaulter rate	5.0%	4.0%
3	Mortality rate	0.0%	0.0%
4	Non-respondent	0.0%	0.0%

- RMF's relocated staff in various nutrition treatment centers of Ayod and Boma received adequate essential foodstuffs from Juba and continued to provide quality CMAM and IYCF services. (All our areas of intervention are hard to reach and purchasing basic foodstuffs there is not possible.)
- Our nutrition field-based teams continued to have clean, safe drinking water through usage of the provided water purifying equipment.
- Monthly payment of Thuraya (satellite telephone) subscription fees enabled effective communication and coordination.
- Continued replenishment of nutrition supplies in all our CMAM sites through the logistics cluster and regular UNHAS-operated aircraft.
- Coordinated RMF nutrition activities with UNICEF, UN agencies, the nutrition cluster, and other nutrition partners, both at the national and state levels.

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

- The communities in Boma and Ayod in particular continue to benefit from our services. During the reporting quarter, a total of **890 SAM children** were treated, and **2,187 MAM children** and **2,136 PLW** were enrolled in our feeding program, hence improving the quality of life of children and pregnant and lactating women.
- The populations in our catchment areas are benefiting from regular educational information on nutrition, health, and sanitation.
- Through continuous nutrition education and IYCF messages, the communities in these areas are now learning about appropriate feeding behaviors and valuable local food sources that they were previously unaware of; communities are no longer solely dependent on the traditional food sources of milk, meat, and sorghum.
- The capacity of the County Health Departments (CHDs) and the staff recruited from Ayod and Boma is continuously built through training and mentorship.
- The limited resources of the State Ministry of Health and County Health Departments of the selected counties are now channeled to cover other areas, since RMF is providing nutrition services in the whole area.
- The nutrition project offers employment opportunities for South Sudanese nationals at national, state, county, and village levels.
- The high-speed Wi-Fi internet access enables easy coordination for RMF's teams based in Juba, Jiech, Gorwai, Mogok, and Boma. The internet installed at field operation centers has also strengthened our friendship with local leaders, as they benefit from internet access as well.

12. Number served/number of direct project beneficiaries:

The project aims to directly serve the following vulnerable populations in Ayod and Boma counties of Jonglei State and Greater Pibor:

- **2,108** and **2,422 SAM** children in Ayod and Boma, respectively
- **4,888** and **1,679 MAM** children in Ayod and Boma, respectively
- **1,596** and **448 PLW** in Ayod and Boma, respectively

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

- The project indirectly targets the whole population of Ayod and Boma counties, estimated to be **199,474** and **211,094**, respectively, projected from the 2008 South Sudan Population and Housing Census.
- The **1,936,638** people living in Jonglei State and Greater Pibor also benefit from the project indirectly, as there is frequent movement of people across counties.
- The nutrition service centers also receive beneficiaries from neighboring counties, as well as internally displaced persons (IDPs) from various areas of Jonglei State and other states in South Sudan.

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

RMF's stabilization centers (SCs) in Ayod and Boma provide a range of medical services for children suffering from acute malnutrition with medical complications. All of our outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) sites screen acutely malnourished children for malaria and provide appropriate treatment based on the South Sudan Ministry of Health's policies.

RMF procured and delivered the following medications for our respective stabilization centers:

- IV Normal Saline
- Parenteral Broad-Spectrum Antibiotics
- Anti-Fungal Regimens
- Anti-Parasitic Skin Regimens
- Antimalarials (Injectable and Oral)
- Anti-Histamine Regimens
- Anti-Spasm Regimens
- Multivitamin Supplements
- Hematinic/Mineral Supplements

We provide many other consumables as well, including midwifery kits, to support in case of emergency.

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

This project mainly targets the management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). However, some of the children and adults come to our unit due to health-related problems, since there are no healthcare services in most of our areas of operation.

Some of the conditions our team sees:

- Malaria
- Respiratory Tract Infections
- Urinary Tract Infections
- Diarrheal Diseases
- Intestinal Worm Infestation
- Skin Infections
- Gunshot Wounds
- Enteric Fever
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Eye Infections

16. Notable project challenges and obstacles:

- In Pibor, high rates of cattle raiding among tribal communities posed a security threat to most project sites within the area. This greatly affected the planned project performance.
- Lack of quality healthcare services in most parts of Ayod and some parts of Boma made it difficult to effectively link/refer clients with health-related issues.
- Most of RMF's locations are not accessible by road and are not on the UNHAS schedule, which makes it difficult and costly to deliver items and passengers, especially through charter flights. In addition, transportation and logistics are sometimes delayed due to bad weather.
- Record inflation of South Sudanese Pounds (SSPs) has made it difficult to provide sufficient staff housing and procure program materials, since the prices of basic commodities have increased more than tenfold.
- Delays in approval of the in-country quarterly activity plan (implementation plan) affected the processes aimed at achieving the desired deliverables.
- Operational costs remain high due to poor communication networks and transportation systems in our areas of operation. Calls must be made through Thuraya satellite phones and people and supplies transported by air, which are both very expensive.

17. If applicable, plans for next reporting period:

- **Sourcing additional funding:** RMF South Sudan's team is working to find funding from sources including the World Bank Health Project, CHF/UNOCHA Nutrition Project, HPF3 Health Project, and many others. We will continue to pursue additional funding to cover remaining gaps.
- Installation of high-speed Wi-Fi internet services in an additional location in Pibor to support RMF coordination and the County Health Department (CHD).

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

RMF procures basic medical supplies to take into our areas of operation.

19. Success story(s) highlighting project impact:

In the fourth quarter of 2018, a total of **143** severely malnourished children with medical complications, who were facing death, were saved by RMFs quality inpatient management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In addition, a total of **747** severely malnourished children without medical complications were enrolled in outpatient treatment programs to prevent their condition from worsening and to restore them to health. It is our hope that these children will contribute to a better future for South Sudan.

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



RMF team member with children benefiting from nutrition services



An RMF senior nutrition nurse conducting a malnutrition screening at the facility



RMF Senior Nutrition Nurse Florence providing tepid sponging for a child who developed a high fever in the ward



Replacing a flat tire on the RMF truck carrying setup items to Labarab



RMF construction using local materials for storage of supplies



RMF technical field staff communicating key health and nutrition messages to mothers on OTP/TSFP days



RMF field technical staff carrying out routine health and nutrition education for mothers and caregivers of malnourished children



An RMF nutrition officer teaching proper latching techniques to a group of mothers



RMF provides mother-to-mother support group members with in-kind supplies, like soap, after each bimonthly meeting



RMF Country Program Manager training mother-to-mother support groups how to pass on IYCF key messages to other members in community



Mother-to-mother support group members at their monthly meeting in Gorwai