



Integrated Health and Development Organization Annual Report 2024

Message from the Executive Director



Dear Stakeholders,

As we reflect on the past year, IHDO has achieved significant milestones in advancing its mission. This report outlines our key developments, program outcomes, and financial standing, emphasizing our commitment to community development, education, water and sanitation, and advocacy. 2024 saw the continued success of our SDLG project and an expansion to Torit County. We also significantly enhanced local governance through coordination forums with county governments and successfully advocated for community groups. Despite facing funding headwinds due to the closure of key donor projects in the region, we secured \$80,000 in grants and strengthened our team through targeted capacity building. Our WASH initiatives have shown tangible results, improving cost recovery and coordination among local structures such as Water Management Committees, Hand Pump Mechanics, Women Leaders, and the Payam WASH Forum.

Our vision, to empower South Sudanese communities, especially women and girls, through integrated health, development, and advocacy initiatives, guides our work.

Looking ahead to 2025, we aim to strengthen our outreach, expand our partnerships, and continue to deliver impactful programs in the communities we serve.

We express our deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, volunteers, donors, and partners. Together, we have made remarkable progress, and with your continued support, we will build on this foundation in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Juma Tikol Marino

Executive Director,

Integrated Health and Development Organization

Contents

Our Commitment	3
Key Highlights & Achievements	4
Financial Overview	6
The Team	7
Community Impact & Partnerships.....	8
Challenges and Opportunities.....	9
Looking Forward: Strategic Goals for the Upcoming Year	10
Acknowledgements and Gratitude	10
Contact Information	10

Our Commitment

Guided by our commitment to empower South Sudanese communities, particularly women and girls, through integrated health, development, and advocacy initiatives, we envision a future where our work transforms lives, fosters unity, and drives lasting change in South Sudan. We aim to strengthen resilience and promote gender equality by collaborating with government and partners to enhance WASH, maternal health, peacebuilding, and education programs. Our strategic priorities include advocating for improved access to water and health services, promoting women's economic empowerment, building inclusive peace, and amplifying the voices of marginalized groups. This includes amplifying women's voices in decision-making, holding local government accountable for service delivery, facilitating the inclusion of marginalized groups in development and governance, and fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration for improved services.



Key Highlights & Achievements




In 2024, IHDO marked several significant accomplishments:

• **SDLG Project Impact and Continued Success:** Building on the foundation laid since its launch in 2023, the Sustainable Development through Local Governance (SDLG) Project continued to deliver significant impact, benefiting 6,000 individuals and communities. In 2024, the SDLG contract was renewed for another year, with an exciting expansion of activities into Torit County. We have strong indications that our long-term partner, VNG

International, will renew the project again in 2025.

- **National WASH Sector Review Conference:** IHDO participated in the National Joint WASH sector review conference in South Sudan in February 2024, in partnership with DT-Global USAID AfiaWASH, VNG International, UNICEF, Malteser International, and RUWASSA. IHDO co-convened the side event on Promoting Gender Equality and Women empowerment in the Water Sector, and our Executive Director, Juma Tikol, was a panelist in the main conference.
- **Support for County Governments Through Coordination Forums and County Service Awards:** IHDO actively supported the county governments of Kapoeta South, North, and East in organizing coordination meetings and WASH Cluster coordination meetings. These forums brought together local government officials, civil society organizations (CSOs), community leaders, and representatives of people with disabilities to discuss, share ideas, and adopt strategies on how to influence policy reforms, prevent and mitigate natural resource-based conflicts, and promote sustainable practices in Eastern Equatoria. IHDO played a key role in facilitating these discussions, ensuring inclusive participation, and helping to develop actionable plans. As part of this support, IHDO also invited local government and civil society organizations to a workshop on Lobby and Advocacy Training for Community Leaders on Natural Resources Management.



- **Enhanced Staff Skills in Lobbying and Advocacy:** Recognizing the critical importance of community engagement in decision-making, Alphonse and Esther participated in specialized training on lobbying and advocacy organized by the Civil Society Coalition on Natural Resources (CSCNR). This training equipped them with skills to engage in policy dialogue, advocate for equitable resource allocation, and promote sustainable practices that benefit both people and the environment. Key outcomes included enhanced understanding of natural resources management, strengthened stakeholder networks, and the development of actionable advocacy plans for addressing natural resource challenges in Kapoeta. The training covered key areas such as stakeholder analysis, message development, and advocacy strategy formulation, enabling our staff to more effectively represent community needs and advocate for policy changes.
- **State Level Joint Sector Review Participation:** Two IHDO staff and two women leaders participated in the state-level joint sector review of WASH in Eastern Equatoria, where they raised issues concerning the lack of spare parts in the counties, limited involvement of women in state-level coordination meetings, and limited support from the state ministry of local government. This yielded positive outcomes, with the Director-General visiting Kapoeta East later in the year and attending the Kapoeta East coordination meeting.
- **Secured Funding:** Secured \$80,000 in grants, allowing us to improve WASH service delivery in Greater Kapoeta and cover office operational costs.
- **Executive Director Honored with Human Rights Awards:** We are thrilled to announce and congratulate our esteemed Executive Director, Mr. Juma Tikol, for his remarkable achievement in winning two prestigious awards at the 2024 Human Rights Defenders Award ceremony held at Palm Africa Hotel in Juba.
 
- **Advocacy for Community Groups:** IHDO successfully advocated for support for community groups, including engaging FAO to support the Narus Payam WASH Forum, who received training and seeds to establish agriculture and agribusiness ventures for funding their activities.
- **Secured Support for Kapoeta Town Payam WASH Forum:** IHDO secured support from the municipality for the Kapoeta Town Payam WASH Forum and Hand Pump Mechanics Association in the form of an office and furniture.
- **On-the-Job Coaching:** Our staff received on-the-job coaching through monthly meetings with a technical advisor.
- **Women's Mentorship Program:** We increased the number of women mentees, providing women leaders with on-the-job coaching and training as trainers. These women mentees supported community mobilization and mentorship of water management committees, receiving a small stipend.
- **Strengthened Local Government Relationships:** Our relationship with local government continues to be strengthened, with local governments inviting our trainers to

support them in implementing their activities, particularly training of community groups such as the Handpump Mechanics Association and Water Management Committees.



In 2024, we hosted a representative from the Association of Women in Local Government Administration who came to Kapoeta to visit and engage with women leaders.

• **Community Outreach in Torit County:** Expanded our outreach to Torit County with Esther Kasmiro working with the county women association and Torit county government on establishing Village Savings and Lending Associations.

- **Acquisition of Starlink Internet System:** To support our activities and address the challenges of internet connectivity, we acquired a Starlink internet system, enabling us to conduct online meetings, particularly for the monthly coaching sessions.
- **Enhanced Partnerships:** Increased volunteer engagement and developed new partnerships with the South Sudan Human Rights Defenders Network and Defend Defenders.



Financial Overview

In 2024, IHDO demonstrated prudent financial management, with total revenue of \$80,000, primarily sourced from Board Members and grants from International Organizations like VNG International. Our expenses for the year totaled \$79,791.67, with the largest portion allocated to program services/activities, and a smaller portion allocated to staff salaries.

Financial Summary:

- **Total Revenue:** \$80,000
 - Donations and Grants: \$62,711.70
 - Other Income (Board of Directors): \$17,288.30
- **Total Expenses:** \$79,791.67
 - Program Services/Activities: \$73,791.67
 - Administrative Expenses: \$6,000
 - Fundraising Expenses: \$0
- **Surplus:** \$208.33

While we ended the year with a small surplus of \$208.33, this result underscores the need for continued and diversified fundraising efforts to enhance our financial stability and ensure long-term sustainability. We are actively exploring new funding opportunities to support our expanding programs and initiatives. Our financial statements are available for review in the appendix of this report.

The Team

Our organization's structure is designed to ensure efficiency, innovation, and collaboration across all areas of operation. Elizabeth Kasmiro, previously a community mobilizer, was promoted to Project Officer for Torit County, recognizing her dedication and capabilities. We have also onboarded new women mentees as community mobilizers, strengthening our grassroots engagement. Below is a brief overview of our leadership team:

- **Executive Director:** Juma Tikol Marino
- **Programs Coordinator:** Lonyia Emmanuel
- **Project Officers:** Alphonse Lobukui, Esther Arupe, Elizabeth Kasmiro
- **Finance & Human Resources Officer:** Elizabeth Toma
- **Volunteer Coordinator:** Jackson Lochebe
- **Procurement & Logistics:** Joyce Nasike
- **Technical Advisors:** John Arop, Jacqueline Muthura, Gerald Kabuye

Each department and advisor has contributed significantly to the success of our initiatives, and we are proud of the talented and passionate individuals who work tirelessly to advance our mission.

Community Impact & Partnerships

The success of IHDO is largely due to the strong partnerships we've formed with local businesses, government agencies, and other non-profit organizations. In 2024, we worked with VNG International to build the capacity of WMCs and citizens to enhance and expand cost recovery systems; Build the capacity of women and youth to participate in decision making, and peace-building and non-violent advocacy and strengthen capacities of local structures e.g. Payam WASH Forums and WMCs to coordinate and enhance WASH service delivery.



Some notable community outputs include:

- **Hand Pump Mechanics Association (HPMA) Development:** All 4 HPMAs developed business and operational plans, enhancing their capacity for sustainable service delivery.
- **Recognition of Women Leaders:** Women leaders trained in Kapoeta East gained recognition and were invited to represent their communities at the Peace Dialogue Conference for Turkana-Toposa communities (South Sudan-Kenya border).
- **Local Resource Mobilization Successes:**
 - The PWF from Kapoeta Town received in-kind support from the Kapoeta Town Municipality in the form of an office.
 - The municipality also supported the women center run by women leaders with furniture and office space.
 - Torit PWF, in partnership with the county, reported mobilizing support from NGOs to build an office, complete with latrine.
 - Kapoeta East Narus PWF established a thriving soap and photocopy business to fund their activities.
- **Revitalization of Inactive PWF:** Kapoeta North PWF, previously inactive, reconstituted their membership with support from IHDO trainers and the county, and have begun implementing activities.
- **Enhanced Involvement of Women Leaders:** Increased involvement of the women leaders association in Torit, who had previously been left out of Torit County and State WASH Activities. They were involved in the development of the Torit WASH Strategic Plan.

- **Empowerment of Female Handpump Mechanics:** Female hand-pump mechanics reported increased respect from the communities given their new responsibilities and have taken up leadership roles in HPMAAs. They reported getting included in assignments for repairs and rehabilitation. In Kapoeta East, women leaders who were conducting monitoring found that some female hand pump mechanics were still being left out during repairs and approached the executive director to address the issue. This follow-up on the 2023 women's advocacy issue demonstrates strengthened advocacy capacity.
- **Active PWFs and Recognition:** All trained PWFs (8) are active and collecting monitoring data and supervising WMCs in their locations; they are active in coordination meetings where they present activities; in Kapoeta East, Narus PWF received recognition from the State Ministry of Public Works for their work and who encouraged NGOs and partners to work with them.
- **Participatory Reflection Workshops:** 12 men and 7 women from local government, IHDO, and Payam WASH Forums participated in reflection workshops which focused on individual experiences and highlighted the impact the project has had on them, the challenges they face, and joint planning ensuring co-ownership of activities for the second half of the year.

Challenges and Opportunities

This year, IHDO faced several challenges that required creative problem-solving and adaptability. These challenges included:

- **Closure of Donor Projects:** The abrupt closing down of many donor projects in Eastern Equatoria, including DT Global Afia WASH, a previous funder, significantly reduced funding opportunities.
- **Limited Funding Opportunities:** Competition for available funding has increased.
- **Political Uncertainty:** The postponement of elections created a period of political uncertainty. While peace was maintained, the situation required careful monitoring.
- **Limited Local Government Resources:** Limited funding to local governments, who are our partners, means that despite good intentions, they struggle to provide services to communities.
- **Limited Geographic Reach:** Despite a strong presence in Eastern Equatoria, we have not yet expanded to other states.

However, with every challenge comes opportunity. We have identified several key areas for growth in 2025, including:

- Expanding our reach to Torit County.
- Strengthening our volunteer program to better support program delivery.
- Increasing advocacy efforts to raise awareness about cost recovery.
- Exploring partnership opportunities to strengthen resource mobilisation.

Looking Forward: Strategic Goals for the Upcoming Year

As we look ahead to 2025, IHDO is focused on several key strategic goals to further our mission and expand our impact:

- We aim to expand our outreach and communication efforts, recognizing the need to strengthen our social media presence as part of our resource mobilization strategy.
- We are committed to exploring new partnerships to build our fundraising efforts and diversify our funding streams.
- We look forward to securing a renewal of the SDLG project for a third year from our long-term partner, VNGL, to continue the vital work of promoting local governance and community development.
- We are also committed to launching a new project on FSL.
- Enhancing internal capacity or staff development.

We believe these efforts will position us to continue driving positive change in the communities we serve.

Acknowledgements and Gratitude

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported us over the past year:

- Donors: Your generosity enables us to continue our important work.
- Volunteers: Your time and dedication are invaluable to our success.
- Partners: Thank you for your collaboration and shared commitment to our mission.
- Board of Directors: Your guidance and leadership ensure our organization's continued growth.
- Technical Advisors: Your expertise and guidance have been instrumental in achieving our goals.

We could not have achieved what we have without each of you. Together, we are making a lasting impact.

Contact Information

For further information, please contact:

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