

Diocese of Salisbury “Sudans Day”, October 2020

“Salisbury Diocese-funded work with ECS and ECSS”

Robert Hayward

Salisbury Diocese’s Partnership Link with the Episcopal Churches of Sudan (ECS) and South Sudan (ECSS) is based on Prayer. The Diocese also supports both Churches with grants for Capacity-Development, Education and Emergency Response, such as, this year, response to the Covid-19 pandemic as it affects the two countries.

Each Church was sent an initial £5,000 for Covid-19 response and a further £39,300 for each has been collected through the Bishop of Salisbury’s very successful Covid-19 Appeal for Sudan and South Sudan. The Appeal was for Food in Sudan and for Soap, Sanitiser and Water Containers in South Sudan.

Sudan



ECS Province Capacity-Development. Since the 2019 Sudans Day the ECS Province Office now has improved internet, a projector for use by the Province and the Diocese, an air-conditioning unit for the Mothers’ Union office and additional copies of the ECS Strategic Plan for 2017-2022. Completion of the office for ECS’s development wing, the Episcopal Development, Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (EDARRA) within the ECS Province Office extension in the ECS All Saints Cathedral compound in Khartoum, has been delayed by the Covid-19 lockdown but is expected by the end of 2020. Salisbury Diocese also provides an Archbishop’s Discretionary Fund, to support the ECS Primate, Archbishop Ezekiel Kondo in his ministry. He uses it to assist needy clergy with emergency grants for medical care and children’s school fees.



Photo: Robert Hayward

ECS Province Extension under Construction. EDARRA Office: Ground Floor Right



Photo: Robert Hayward

ECS Province Mothers’ Union Office
New Air Conditioning Unit



Photo: Robert Hayward

ECS Strategic Plan for 2017-2020

Shokai Bible Training Institute (SBTI), Omdurman. Salisbury Diocese gives SBTI a much-needed £5,000/year towards its running costs, including staff salaries. SBTI has been running a 3-year Diploma course for twenty students. However, with grants from the Anglican Communion Fund and the Church Association for Sudan and South Sudan, the SBTI Principal and Vice Principal have completed a Master of Science degree at the Alexandria School of Theology in Egypt, so SBTI is now able to run Bachelor of Science degree courses.

Diocese of Khartoum Basic School, Omdurman. Last year Salisbury Diocese paid for two new classrooms with desks, to help the Basic School meet the government's requirement that girls be educated separately from boys. This requirement had led to a wall being built down the middle of the school and the need for several more classrooms. In early 2020, through Salisbury Diocese, Holy Trinity Cathedral Gibraltar paid for another classroom with desks, so now only three more classrooms are needed. The schools in Khartoum have been closed during Covid-19 but are expected to re-open in mid-October. The Headmistress of the Basic School and Khartoum Diocese are very grateful for the three new classrooms, which are on the boys' side of the girls/ boys-dividing wall.



Photo. Robert Hayward

ECS Basic. Holy Trinity Cathedral Gibraltar Classroom under Construction

Diocese of Khartoum Girls' Secondary School, Omdurman. Between 2016 and 2019 Salisbury Diocese paid for the refurbishment of the school and some post-flood emergency repairs. As a result, not only did the number of girls attending the school increase by 50% but also the school has been able to host primary and secondary adult-education classes for hundreds of adults, many ladies, in the afternoon and evening. A link between the Girls' Secondary School and Sherborne Girls' School is currently being established under the auspices of Salisbury Diocese, much to the excitement of girls at both schools.

Diocese of Kadugli Peace School. In 2019 Salisbury Diocese contributed to the construction of a church school in Kadugli, in the south of Sudan, through Bradford-on-Avon Deanery. It is now helping to pay for a water supply for the school, with a water tank tower, a water tank to be filled from a donkey-drawn water bowser and pipes to a number of taps. In spite of the violence that there has been in Kadugli Town this year near the school, the construction of the water supply system is almost complete. Assistant Bishop Hassan James, whose dream the Peace School was, is delighted.



Photo: Kadugli Diocese



Photo: Kadugli Diocese

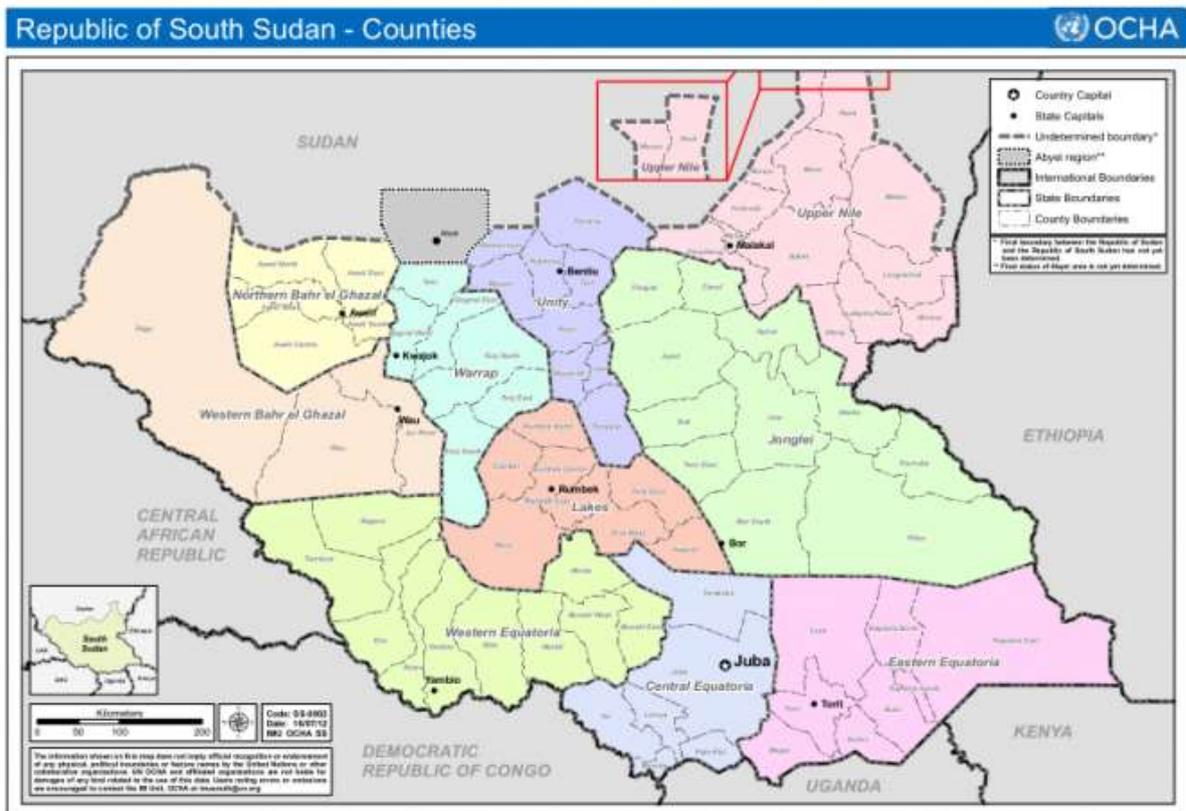
Peace School, with Plastic Water Tank delivered Water Tower under Construction



Photo: Robert Hayward

ECS Diocese of Kadugli. Murta Parish Church. "Rooted in Jesus" Groups

South Sudan



ECSS South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (SSUDRA). For a second year, Salisbury Diocese is paying most of the salary of the **SSUDRA Emergency Coordinator**, Mr Light Wilson, whose post and excellent work has greatly increased SSUDRA's capacity to support the ECSS internal provinces and dioceses. He has spent much time supporting the church in northern Unity State with its food security and livelihoods projects funded by the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC, Canada) and by Christian Aid/Action by Churches Together. There and in Juba Light has further strengthened SSUDRA's relationships with the World Food Programme, the United Nations International Organisation for Migration and other humanitarian agency partners. He conducted an assessment commissioned by MCC on hygiene and the impact of Covid-19 in Rubkona County in Unity State, which resulted in SSUDRA's getting 5-months of Covid-19-response funding from MCC.



Photo: SSUDRA

MCC Canadian Foodgrains Bank food, Rubkona County, Unity State

ECSS Justice, Peace and Reconciliation Committee (JPRC). Up to March 2020 and the start of Covid-19 JPRC had been running several workshops for church leaders, government and opposition officials and United Nations and civil society organisations on the implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement. It had given training in trauma healing & reconciliation and in locally-generated mediation. ECSS has no money to pay the two JPRC staff members a salary. Salisbury Diocese gave the **volunteer Finance Officer** a monthly incentive from April 2019 to March 2020, which allowed her to get her daughter back into education and to stay in post until the start of a Church in Wales grant through Christian Aid to pay her a salary. Salisbury Diocese is now paying the **volunteer National Coordinator** a monthly incentive for one year until February 2021, which has allowed him to stay in post, continue with the trauma healing & reconciliation training and preach and speak regularly on local radio about faith, peace and Covid-19-prevention, reaching many church-goers and radio listeners.

The Episcopal University (TEU). A Salisbury Diocese grant enabled TEU to install reliable internet in its current office in the Bishop Gwynne Theological College in

Juba and solar panels for electricity and internet at the TEU guesthouse, where the Acting Vice-Chancellor and visitors stay and at buildings in the college compound.



Photo: Robert Hayward
TEU Internet



Photo: Robert Hayward
Solar Panels on roof of on TEU Guesthouse

Diocese of Juba Juba Diocesan Model Secondary School (JDMSS). Through the Friends of JDMSS Salisbury Diocese supports this wonderful school, which has again proved itself to be the top secondary school in South Sudan, with over 800 girl and boy students. It is one of the few schools that have kept on teaching through Covid-19, with dedicated teachers giving students materials to study at home and work to do at home, for marking when it is brought back to the school.

Diocese of Juba Holy Spirit Basic (Primary) School. Through Salisbury Diocese Holy Trinity Cathedral, Gibraltar has paid for a borehole water supply at Holy Spirit Basic School, which benefits not only the 700 pupils but also members of the nearby local community. As with the new classroom at the ECS Basic School in Omdurman, this generous support from Holy Trinity Cathedral is greatly appreciated, especially as the Cathedral has also had its own Covid-19-related relief projects within Gibraltar and Spain to pay for.



Photo: Juba Diocese



Photo: Juba Diocese

Holy Spirit Basic School Borehole Water Supply (Holy Trinity Cathedral, Gibraltar-funded)

Robert Hayward
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