

# South Sudan Post-Referendum Study

## Preliminary Findings



# Research Parameters

- Public Opinion Research in South Sudan since 2004
  - ◆ Twelfth Study
- Qualitative Research
  - ◆ Ordinary Southern Sudanese Citizens
  - ◆ Perceptions, Not Reality
- Scope of Research
  - ◆ 67 Groups in Southern Sudan
  - ◆ 52 Locations, All 10 States, Rural/Urban
  - ◆ 860 Participants
  - ◆ March 16-April 6, 2011

# Hopes for the Nation

- Democratic
- Peaceful
- Responsive
- Honest and Open
- Developed
- Fair and Equitable
- United

*'We voted to separate from the Arabs who made us slaves, but as we have separated now, we want a nation with good governance and [respect for] the feelings of its citizens, a nation that will eliminate tribalism and with no empty promises from its leaders.'*

# Barriers to Successful Nation: Insecurity

- End Rebellions
- Reduce Tribal Conflict
- Address Crime and Banditry

*'The best way to build this country is to make sure that insecurity is dealt with by the government so that people are free.'*

# Barriers to Successful Nation: Underdevelopment

- High Expectations & Short Time Horizons
  - ◆ Schools and clinics in every village...Like Kenya or U.S.
  - ◆ Major changes: immediately to 2 years
- Strong Desire for Equitable Distribution
  - ◆ Current development is not up wishes
  - ◆ Comparison to other locations
  - ◆ Concentrated in Juba

*'It [South Sudan] should be democratic country where all are treated equally in terms of development and security; that is, if there is a school in one area, other areas also need to have a school.'*

# Barriers to Successful Nation: Corruption

- Significant Concern
  - ◆ Perception is most officials involved
  - ◆ Lack of transparency, controls and accountability
  - ◆ Only areas of government officials are developed
  - ◆ Responsible for slow pace of development

*'Leaders are working to get something, not to do something.'*

# Barriers to Successful Nation: Tribalism

- “As Big as a Mountain”
- Imbalance of power
  - ◆ One tribe/clan occupies majority of key positions
    - At national level, perception is mostly about Dinka
    - Much more complex at state/local level: any tribe/clan
  - ◆ Means lives of only certain groups will improve
  - ◆ Need a tribesmen in government to have a voice

# Barriers to Successful Nation: Tribalism

- Unfair Government Employment Practices
  - ◆ Govt offices top to bottom with same tribe/clan/family
  - ◆ Only viable employer raises the stakes
  - ◆ Desire for administrative and legal solutions

*'In the future, South Sudan would be among the most successful countries if all tribes and the government are united, but if people are to work for personal interests, it would be one of the worst countries in the world.'*



# The North & Abyei

- Good Relationship with North is Important
  - ◆ Mainly a business relationship
    - Benefit economically from being good neighbors
  - ◆ But some are skeptical: more likely a hostile border
    - Outstanding issues such as Abyei, border demarcation
    - Northern support for militias
    - North's need for South's resources
- Any Means Necessary on Abyei
  - ◆ Negotiation first, but support for war if required
  - ◆ 'Part of us'

# Hope & Potential

- Citizens Want to Help Build a Great Nation
  - ◆ Engine of development
    - Grow food, start business, provide labor
  - ◆ Eager to pay taxes for development
  - ◆ Commitment to end tribalism
- And See Great Potential in the New Nation

*You consider forty years or more of war. The country was destroyed. But in just five years of peace we have communications system, hospitals and schools. Our people are returning from other countries. I am sure there will be a better South Sudan five years from now.*