



BONN INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR CONVERSION

B · I · C · C

BONN INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR CONVERSION • INTERNATIONALES KONVERSIONSZENTRUM BONN



People Safe from Guns
in South Sudan

TRAINING COURSE
DOCUMENTATION

Bor and Ayod, South Sudan,
December 2006

List of Contents

1.0 Overview	2
2.0 Training in Bor County	2
<i>2.1 Background</i>	2
<i>2.2 Course Participants</i>	2
<i>2.3 Training Material</i>	3
<i>2.4 Training Process and Outcomes</i>	3
<i>2.5 Train-the-trainer Component</i>	4
3.0 Training in Ayod County	4
<i>3.1 Background</i>	4
<i>3.2 Course Participants</i>	5
<i>3.3 Training Material</i>	5
<i>3.4 Training Process and Outcomes</i>	5
4.0 Conclusions	6
<i>Annex</i>	
Annex 1: Bor Participants	7
Annex 2: Bor Action Plans	8
Annex 3: Ayod participants	9

List of Acronyms

BICC	Bonn International Center for Conversion
CBO	Community-based organization
DD&R	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
NGO	Non-governmental organization
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SSDDRC	South Sudan DDR Commission
SRRC	Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission
TRESA	Training and Education on Small Arms
UNMIS	UN Mission in Sudan

1.0 Overview

From 6–8 and 11–13 December 2006, BICC conducted two training courses on SALW control in cooperation with Pact. The courses took place in Bor and Ayod counties respectively, within the context of BICC’s capacity-building project on SALW control and Pact’s community security program. The courses were facilitated by Ms. Julie Brethfeld (BICC) and Ms. Elvan Isikozlu (BICC), with the support of Mr. Tim Hayden-Smith (Pact) and Mr. Emmanuel Deng (Pact). The following is a report of the proceedings and outcomes of both courses.



Group photo of participants in Bor training course

2.0 Training in Bor County

2.1 Background

In opening the workshop, the Minister of Information, H.E. Timothy Taban Juc, confirmed that small arms are a major problem in the state of Jonglei and, in particular, Bor County. Civilian disarmament was undertaken in early 2006, but the security situation is still fragile, as the neighboring Murle have not yet been disarmed. According to the participants, key security threats faced by the community include cattle raiding and the abduction of children—a local curfew was recently implemented as a result of clashes between the Bor Dinka and Murle. There is a joint integrated unit (JIU) compound in the County, an UNMIS presence, and the SSDDRC plans to open a local office under the leadership of Mr. Aguti Adut. Pact is also planning on opening a local office.

In his opening speech, the Minister of Information encouraged participants to come up with a way forward and expressed his commitment to help support those outcomes that strengthen SALW control and community security.

2.2 Course Participants

As per local protocol, the course was officially opened by the Deputy Governor of Bor County and the Minister of Information, while the Minister of Education formally closed the meeting.

Over 20 participants attended the course, which was aimed at civil society members and local administrators. Participants included members of women's organizations, youth organizations, teachers and staff of the Ministry of Education, trade union, police, the Head of the Police Intelligence Unit, and one Member of Parliament. Five of the participants were women; two from local women's organizations, another two from the SPLM, and one from the Ministry of Education. They participated actively and raised security concerns relating directly to women, children and girls. Two members of the SSDDRC were also flown in from Juba to attend the training—the Director of Programs for South Sudan (Mr. Kuel Aguer) and the SSDDRC representative for Jonglei State (Mr. Aguti Adut). While a number of UN representatives for UNMIS, UN OCHA, UNDP had also planned on attending, a security incident several days earlier in Malakal prevented their participation. For a list of participants, see Annex 1.

2.3 Training Material

Course content was based on various TRESA modules on SALW control developed by BICC in 2005/06. Core modules included *SALW and Development* (2006), *Reintegration* (2006), *Global and Regional Agreements on SALW* (2006), along with sections of *Civil Society Action on SALW Control* (2005) and *Youth and Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)* (2006). Posters designed by BICC were distributed and used as awareness-raising tools, while information booklets entitled "People safe from guns in South Sudan" were also distributed to participants at the end of the course. Participants were encouraged to write SALW control messages on these posters in their language of preference and post them in their communities.



Bor participant with BICC-designed poster

2.4 Training Process and Outcomes

The main objectives of the course were:

- To identify problems related to small arms and violence in Jonglei state.
- To develop a plan of action for addressing these problems.



Bor participant presenting a group action plan

Two-thirds of day one and day two were spent on content, while most of day three focused on completing action plans in small groups. The planning process was based on a security issue that participants had previously identified, and which they had a strong interest in/capacity to address. These included:

- Cattle raiding
- Inter-tribal differences
- Youth unemployment / violence
- Child abduction

Presentations of the action plans were made on the final day of the workshop. Despite strong efforts by the training team to encourage very targeted and specific plans, the majority of them remained very broad, identifying a long list of needs rather than specific actions or activities. See Annex 2 for copies of the action plans.

2.5 Train-the-trainer Component

A short presentation on ‘how to be an effective trainer’ was offered to interested participants immediately following Day 2 of the workshop. Seven participants took part in this presentation, which was followed by a discussion of methodologies and tools for adjusting training techniques according to different age groups. The discussion was highly successful among the participants, many of whom were teachers or leaders of youth organizations with an interest in developing their training skills.



A train-the-trainer session with BICC facilitator

3.0 Training in Ayod County

3.1 Background



Group photo of participants in Ayod training course

In December 2005, the process of civilian disarmament began in Ayod County. The process went reportedly well with very few incidents of violence.¹ Civilian disarmament in Ayod occurred against the threat of a forced campaign, the results of which were deadly in other parts of northern Jonglei. What is more, the Ayod County Commissioner implemented a local law whereby those who did not turn over their gun would be fined five cattle—this law was also implemented by neighboring counties and proved to be a good ‘stick’ for disarmament.

At the time of training, the security situation in Ayod appeared to be very good. There was no curfew, and people (including women and children) were walking home very late at night. While there were some clashes with the neighboring Lou during the disarmament process in late 2005/early 2006, there have been no SALW incidents since. Representatives from the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SRRC) in particular claim that all guns were collected in this process. Violence between young men and, especially, domestic violence (which seems to be widespread in South Sudan) still occurs, but with traditional weapons (spears, panga) or cold weapons (knives).

One major concern identified during the training was the lack of compensation for disarmament and the lack of development in the form of services and infrastructure, such as roads, water, etc. Due to a flood earlier in the year, many local people were also worried about food shortages.

¹ Based on information acquired during a meeting with local leaders, SRRC reps and Pact on 5 December 2006.

3.2 Course Participants

The course was officially opened and closed by the acting Deputy Commissioner of Ayod County. An average of 36 participants attended our training, which was aimed at civil society members and local administrators. Participants included local leaders (including elders and the Paramount Chief), church officials, teachers, representatives from a variety of CBOs and NGOs, local administrators, and two representatives of the SRRC. Five women were among the participants, two of whom were elders, one teacher, one staff member of the Carter Center, and another from the SSDDRC. The elders were very active in the course and provided insight into the plight of women during the war and the prevalence of domestic violence. Two representatives of the SSDDRC, Mr. Ket Ganglual and Ms. Tabitha M. Mathiong, also attended the course from Juba.

3.3 Training Material



Course flipcharts with content based on TRESA modules

Similar to Bor, the course content was based on various TRESA modules on SALW control developed by BICC in 2005/06. Core modules included *SALW and Development* (2006), *Reintegration* (2006), along with sections of *Civil Society Action on SALW Control* (2005) and *Youth and Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)* (2006). Posters designed by BICC were distributed and used as awareness-raising tools, while information booklets entitled "People safe from guns in South Sudan" were also distributed to participants at the end of the course.

3.4 Training Process and Outcomes

The main objectives of the course were:

- to understand and discuss the small arms problem,
- to become familiar with elements of small arms control,
- to identify possible activities to help prevent the use of small arms and armed violence.

Day 1 and most of Day 2 were spent on content, while the afternoon of Day 2 was spent on explaining the concept of awareness-raising as well as developing related activities in small groups. To help guide this process, three topics were given to participants that had already been discussed in the course:

1. the danger of guns to children,
2. how youth can be respected without carrying/owning a gun,
3. how to create trust and understanding between returning soldiers and the receiving community.

Participants were organized into small groups and tasked with designing a theatrical performance, song or dance on any one of the above topics. These pieces were performed in plenary on the final day of the course, which participants thoroughly enjoyed. The presentations were followed by a final discussion of where these activities could be most effectively performed in their community. Prior to closing, the Paramount Chief emphasized

the importance of training courses on this issue and raising awareness about the negative impact of armed violence within the community.



Song performed in plenary as an awareness-raising activity for youth

Similar to Bor, BICC posters were also handed out as a final awareness-raising exercise. One participant questioned the picture of a broken gun, asking why it had been broken. BICC facilitators explained that a broken gun is one that cannot be misused against the population, which led to a wider debate on the benefits of destroying weapons as a form of SALW control.

4.0 Conclusions

The objectives of both training courses were successfully met. Participants were active and extremely interested in the topics discussed, and final course evaluations revealed an increase in knowledge on SALW control.

While the development of theatrical performances proved to be a highly successful outcome of the training course in Ayod, the development of action plans in Bor proved more challenging than expected. A great deal of guidance and step-by-step instruction is necessary in the action planning process, while at the same time ensuring that ideas are sustainable and generated locally. Emphasis must continue to be placed on local ownership and finding creative solutions to local problems that are not reliant upon external aid.

Both courses reveal ongoing needs and challenges for promoting SALW control. BICC plans to continue to work in partnership with all local stakeholders to help ensure that these needs and challenges are addressed.

Annex 1: Bor Participants

H.E. Peter Nyang Chol
Deputy Governor

H.E. Abraham Jok Aring
Commissioner

H.E. Timothy Taban Juc
Minister of Information

Brigadier, Paul Deng Awuol
Police Chief

Lt.Col. James Koor Lem
Head of Intelligence, Police

Samuel Anyijong Kuol
Chairperson, Trade Union

Malaak Mayom Malaak
Chairperson of BYWA, Youth

Simon Makol Ayuen
S.G of BYWA, Youth

Peter Ayor Ayuen
S.G of BYAD, Youth

Ms. Umselma Gordon Ayom
Chairlady, Women Development Union

Ms. Samira Doka Barach
Secretary, Women Development Union

Ms. Suad Hasen Makuac
Chairlady, SPLM Union of women

Ms. Martha Lazaro Kuol
Deputy, SPLM Union of Women

Aguti Adut
Representative Jonglei, SSDDRC

Kuel Aguer
Director of Programs, SSDDRC

David Jok Deng Awuol
Translator, English/Arabic to Dinka

Chol Wal Wieu
Translator, English to Arabic

Chol Malis
M.S. School, Bor

David Jok Deng

Dchan Jock Dhon
Ministry of Education

Ms. Rhoda Amer Aguto
Ministry of Education

Mujur Gai Abidr
Director of pre-school

Maki M. Deng
Teacher, Primary School

Paul Aluer

Annex 2: Bor Action Plans

Action Plan 1 – By community members	
Problem	Cattle raiding is causing a lot of violence using small arms
Target group	Youth, cattle farmers / traders
Activities	Raise awareness of the problem through workshops and conferences in the state (11 counties)
Actors	Partnerships with NGOs, Government, SRRC, community, religious leaders, civil society
Resources	Government to initiative development activities for youth (i.e) capacity-building training in partnership with NGOs
Timeline	From January 2007 onward

Action Plan 2 – By community members	
Problem	Cultural [inter-tribal] differences [compounded by] a general lack of consultation and follow-up
Target group	Community leaders, youth, women's groups
Activities	Meetings and conferences
Actors	Partners: Women's groups, civil society, community leaders Spoilers: guns and ammunition traders, youth, politicians Supporters: civil society, religious leaders, Government
Resources	Conflict resolution skills, transport and communication network, full-time coordinator, community center for consultation
Timeline	a) 7 days training b) conduct meetings for the community to choose members of the consultation c) two weeks notification d) two weeks for selection of community representative e) 7 days consultation meeting N.B. Regular consultation every 3 months for seven days.

Action Plan 3 – By youth organizations	
Problem	Youth unemployment: lack of relevant skills, lack of job opportunities, lack of capital—often resulting in violent behavior
Target group	Youth groups, women
Activities	Vocational training
Actors	Partners: NGOs, Government, women's groups Spoilers: Politicians, youth, gun owners Supporters: Government, NGOs, civil society, community leaders, religious leaders
Resources	Means of transportation, funding
Timeline	6 months (January–June), report and evaluation

Action Plan 4 – By women's union reps	
Problem	Child abduction
Target group	Children and government
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby government for the enforcement of the law—role of police and judiciary • Conduct meeting with Commissioner • Meeting with abductors through conferences, seminars • Teach children at schools about the problem and partner with teachers in this regard
Actors	Partners: community groups, teachers, CRS, SRRC
Resources	SRRC to provide financial or material support
Timeline	Start January 2007

Annex 3: Ayod participants

Peter Gual Both
Payam Administrator

Thomas Tut Kuer
Payam Administrator

James Poch Bordop
Boma Administrator

Simon Buong
Paramount Chief

John Maweyie
Payam Administrator

Ms. Rebecca Nyadak
Church member

John Jak Muou
Education, Ayod County

Ms. Mary Nyakang
Teacher, Ayod County
HQ

Abdan Machok
NPA Representative

Gabriel Chiarey Tot
COSV Representative,
SRRC

Moses Puol
SCM Representative

James Yiar
Carter Centre
Representative

James Kuony Tai
SC-F-UK Representative

John Mark Mayian
SC-F-USA Representative

Michael Nhial
VSF-B Representative

Peter Bhab
SRRC Representative

John Both Kuet
Youth Representative

Ms. Rebecca Nyakuek
Women's Association
Mathew Machot Gatolin
WHO Representative
Thomas Kutei Gatke
UNPDA Representative

Kueth Koang Chuor
CRADA Representative

William Not Chol
Peace Committee

John Jak Muon
Finance

Peter Gatkuoth
Catholic Church

John Gatluit Puot
ECS Representative

James Gatjang
Presbyterian Church

Peter Kuol Khol
African Inland Church

James Deng
SDA

Peter Teah Chuol
Trade Union

Daniel Kuony
Farmer T. Centre

Michael Diang
Education

John Chuol Puok
Appeal Court

Jacob Machiar

Ms. Tabitha Ayen
Assistant Payam
Administrator

James Panom Chuol
ACMA

Gatjang Yut Nhial
Education Director

Kuich Keat Phat

Kong Tot Thiec

William Deng Weka

Ket Gaglual
SSDDRC

Ms. Tabitha M. Mathiong
SSDDRC