

**NON – GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE PROMOTION OF  
CHILDREN’S RIGHTS PROTECTION IN SOUTH SUDAN:  
A CASE STUDY IMATONG STATE**

**BY**

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### DECLARATION

I, **OHIDE JOHNSON PAUL** declare that this research report on the “Non-governmental organizations and the promotion of children’s rights protection in South Sudan: A case study Imatong state” is my original work efforts to the best of my knowledge and has not been submitted for any academic award at any institution.

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### **APPROVAL**

This Research report entitled "Role of Non-Governmental organization on promotion of children's right protection in Imatong state South Sudan" was done under my guidance and Supervision as the University academic Supervisor.

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**SUPERVISOR**

## DEDICATION

I dearly dedicate this handful work to my family especially my beloved wife **Abau Rose Johnson** a woman of virtue who embraces education even during this time of hardships to make sure that I accomplish this academic mission. Her enormous contributions; prayers, encouragement and inspirations during the course of the study is immeasurable. It's a blessing having you as a wife. I love you. To my beloved son **Edwin Johnson** and my two lovely daughters **Dorothy Johnson** and **Golda Johnson** all I do is because of you thank you for being good children I love you All.

May Almighty God Bless you Abundantly.

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## **ABBREVIATION/ACRONYMS**

<b>AAP</b>	American Academy of pediatrics
<b>ACRWC</b>	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the child
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>CAR</b>	Central Africa Republic
<b>CRC</b>	Convention on the Rights of the Child
<b>CRIN</b>	Child Rights International Network
<b>DRC</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>ICCPR</b>	International Convention on Civil and Political Rights
<b>INGOs</b>	International Non – Governmental Organizations
<b>LRA</b>	Lord’s Resistance Army
<b>NGOs</b>	Non – Governmental Organizations
<b>NORAD</b>	Norwegian Agency for Development
<b>OVC</b>	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
<b>SPSS</b>	Statistical Package for Social Scientist
<b>UN</b>	United Nation
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nation Development Program
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nation Fund for Population Activities
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nation International Children Emergency Fund
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom
<b>UNMAO</b>	United Nation Mine Action Office
<b>UNMISS</b>	United Nation Mission in South Sudan

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### ABSTRACT

The study assessed the role of NGOs in the promotion of children's rights protection in South Sudan a case study of Imatong state. It answered three study objectives that included: To establish the nature of children's rights, find out challenges faced by NGOs in the promotion of children's rights and to examine the solutions to the challenges faced by NGOs in South Sudan. The study used cross sectional research design; questionnaires were used to collect data from 60 respondents who participated in the study. Non-governmental sector, in collaboration with other development stakeholders, are involved in promotion of children's rights protection

Based on the empirical findings of the research, nature and the magnitude of the NGO include: provides opportunities to marginalized sectors of the community, like children in some countries, minorities, advocate for human rights and good governance, voice for civil society and build capacity tends to enhance transparency and accountability. A number of factors were found to be challenges affecting NGOs in promoting Children's rights included limited funds, limited human capital, and poor networking from the government. The solutions to the challenges facing NGOs in promoting children's rights were enhanced transparency, fair competition and accountability these included; Effective sensitization and participation of the public, training of the local elected members, lobbying for funds and government support. Therefore it is concluded that these have benefited a great deal of advantages in promoting children's rights.

The study stated some recommendations which included; There is need for periodic audit of roles of NGOs and Zero tolerance to corruption and bureaucracy to help achieve their main objective as pertaining children's rights, There is need for increased funding of the entire program and emphasis should be made on children promotion practices already in place this requires the active involvement of both the NGOs and other stakeholders in country.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.0. Introduction**

This study examines the role of Non-Governmental organization and the promotion of children's rights protection in South Sudan -Imatong state.

This chapter explains the background to the study, statement of the problem, general objectives, specific objectives, research questions, conceptual framework, significance of the study, justification of the study, scope of the study and operational definitions.

#### **1.1Background of the study**

##### **1.1.1 Children's Rights promotion in the Developed World**

Globally, the 1908 Children Act was introduced in United Kingdom (UK) followed by the Children and Young Persons Act 1920 with a bundle of laws to protect young persons and children in the early 20th century. The Children and Young Persons Act 1933 consolidated the laws into a single law which was intended to protect Children and any young person.

The Children Act 1933 defined child neglect and abuse as is now currently understood in the context of welfare and well-being. Welfare (health, safety and happiness) is the 'fare', the nourishment that makes a person well and healthy.

Lucy Delap notes that 'the period before 1948 saw the majority of work with vulnerable children undertaken by 'moral' or family welfare workers. These were mostly voluntary workers based within groups such as the Church of England's Moral Welfare Associations. Their remit also included supporting 'friendless girls', unmarried mothers and babies, intervening to prevent prostitution, and helping treat and prevent the spread of venereal disease. Boys were not widely perceived as sexually vulnerable, and barely featured in discussions of child assault and prostitution.

Well-being is the personal motivation and aspiration for security, comfort and emotional contentment that drives the process. The offence of child cruelty under section 1 of the Children and Young Peoples Act 1989 provides protection for health and safety. Learning, as the other essential ingredient to the pursuit of well-being, is covered by section 44.

Child protection and the prevention of neglect and abuse follow this model throughout. This was the approach that led the policy imperative for eradicating child poverty in a system of public health epidemiology. An international programme was promoted by the World Health Organization in the Health For All programming goal and nationally as Health for All Children. The public health imperative of well-being is exactly mirrored in the socio-economic philosophy of capabilities as welfare economics.

Whilst the Children and Young People Act 1933 established the foundations they were later consolidated into the state's employment, education, health and welfare by the Children Act 1989 and following tranche of legislation. Internationally, the principles were embodied in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989.

Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child 1924, Recognizes that all mankind owes to the child the best that it has to give, declare and accept it as their duty that beyond and above all considerations of the race, nationality or creed; that a child must be given the means to requisite for its normal development both morally and spiritually, a hungry child must be fed, a sick child must be nursed, orphans must be sheltered and succored. (Kamya, 2008).

### **1.1.2 Children's Rights promotion in Africa**

The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (also called the ACRWC or Children's Charter) was adopted by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in 1990 (in 2001, the OAU became the African Union) and entered into force in 1999. Like the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Children's Charter is a comprehensive instrument that sets out rights and defines universal principles and norms for the status of children. The ACRWC and the CRC are the only international and regional human rights treaties that cover the whole spectrum of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

The ACRWC calls for the creation of an African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (Committee of Experts). Its mission is to promote and protect the rights established by the ACRWC, to practice applying these rights, and to interpret the disposition of the ACRWC as required of party states, African Union (AU) institutions, or all other institutions recognized by AU or by a member state.

Children in Africa are affected by many different types of abuse, including economic and sexual exploitation, gender discrimination in education and access to health, and their involvement in armed conflict. Other factors affecting African children include migration, early marriage, differences between urban and rural areas, child-headed households, street children and poverty. Furthermore, child workers in Sub-Saharan Africa account for about 80 million children or 4 out of every 10 children under 14 years old, which is the highest child labor rate in the world.

The ACRWC defines a "child" as a human being below the age of 18 years. It recognizes the child's unique and privileged place in African society and that African children need protection and special care. It also acknowledges that children are entitled to the enjoyment of freedom of expression, association, peaceful assembly, thought, religion, and conscience. It aims to protect the private life of the child and safeguard the child against all forms of economic exploitation and against work that is hazardous, interferes with the child's education, or compromises his or her health or physical, social, mental, spiritual, and moral development. It calls for protection against abuse and bad treatment, negative social and cultural practices, all forms of exploitation or sexual abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation, and illegal drug use. It aims to prevent the sale and trafficking of children, kidnapping, and begging of children.

The Committee was formed in July 2001, one and half years after the Children's Charter came into force. The members are elected by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union. The criteria for the selection of members are:

Members must be nationals of a State Party to the Children's Charter; They must be individuals of high moral standing, integrity, impartiality and competence in matters of the rights and welfare of the child; Members are nominated by signatory countries and elected by the Assembly of Heads of State of the African Union; Members are elected for a term of five years and serve voluntarily in their individual capacity. They may not be re-elected.

The Committee of Experts meets twice each year, usually in May and November in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The exact dates depend on other items on the AU agenda around these times. They are empowered to receive and examine the country ("state") reports on the measures they have adopted to implement the provisions of the Children's Charter as well as the progress achieved regarding how the rights are being protected. The final protective function of the

Committee of Experts is related to the investigations procedure. They are empowered to resort to any appropriate method of investigation in respect of any issue covered in the Children's Charter.(Baker, 2007).

As of 2016, the ACRWC has been ratified by 47 of the 54 states of the African Union, and signed but not ratified by the remaining seven states. Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, São Tomé and Príncipe, Somalia, South Sudan, and Tunisia have signed but not ratified the Charter. Morocco, a non-AU member state, has also not ratified.(Blagescu, 2006).

Uganda is one of the AU Countries which has incorporated the rights of children in its constitution (as per 1995 constitution) and has many other NGOs helping communities to protect child rights and other humanitarian laws like the Foundation for human right, the Uganda child Rights initiative and other non-Governmental organizations. Child protection systems are a set of usually government-run services designed to protect children and young people who are underage and to encourage family stability. UNICEF defines a 'child protection system' as: the set of laws, policies, regulations and services needed across all social sectors – especially social welfare, education, health, security and justice – to support prevention and response to protection-related risks. These systems are part of social protection, and extend beyond it. At the level of prevention, their aim includes supporting and strengthening families to reduce social exclusion, and to lower the risk of separation, violence and exploitation. Responsibilities are often spread across government agencies, with services delivered by local authorities, non-State providers, and community groups, making coordination between sectors and levels, including routine referral systems, a necessary component of effective child protection systems, (Clayton, 2000)

### **1.1.3 Children's Rights Promotion in South Sudan**

In South Sudan INGOs - International organizations like UNICEF - works in partnership with the Ministries of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, Justice and Interior, the Sudan People's Liberation Army, the Ministries for Social Development at state level, the South Sudan Police Service, the South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, the

South Sudan Demining Authority, UNMIS Child Protection Section, UNMAO, UNDP, UNHCR and UNFPA, international and local NGOs, community-based organizations and faith based organizations.(Gurtong, 2016)

Essential Statistics Orphaned children 17% of children have at least one dead parent. Birth registrations overall, the births of 35.5% of children under five are registered and 30% have a birth certificate. Early marriage 40.1% of young women aged 15-19 are married or in a relationship 6.9% of girls are married before their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday;44.8% between 16 and 18 years of age. NGO's have a vital role to play in the promotion and protection of human right especially in developing countries which have the largest number of NGO's whose activities are spread in different fields for the welfare of human beings including the promotion and protection of human rights.(South Sudan Health Household Survey and Multiple indicator Cluster survey, 2010).

According to Plan International - South Sudan's child protection focus is on the issue of forced child marriage, which is prevalent in South Sudan and a key barrier preventing girls from accessing education opportunities. Girls in this case do not have access to education and skills necessary to succeed in life. Their work encompasses emergency intervention among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), through Child-Friendly Spaces where children actively take part in activities that help them to cope with the situation and reinforce their resilience. School clubs have given children the skills to express themselves, and support has been given to girls and boys by their skilled staff in preparing poems, songs, drama and debates and radio programmes in which they educate parents, community and their peers on child rights and peace.(Newell, 1993)

According to the South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission the heavy presence of landmines means that many children are in danger of severe injury or death on daily basis. Displacement, increased poverty, reduced opportunities for socialization; play and education, coupled with uncertainty, all undermine the protective environment for children and young people. The enactment and dissemination of child Act CRC has been a major achievement for the Government of South Sudan in protecting and promoting child rights in the past three years. However, putting the child Act into practice remains a challenge and the independent Child Commission, responsible for overseeing implementation, is yet to be formed. Much work by the organizations such as UNICEF, World Vision, Save the Children and War Child to

highlight child protection issues at a national level is done on a routine basis on raising awareness of child protection in communities. They alert communities on children's rights and their rights should be protected,(Chapman, 2004)

NGO's have a vital role to play in the promotion and protection of children's right specially in the developing countries where there are large number of NGO's whose activates are spread in different fields for the welfare of human being including the promotion and protection of human right. Much work by these International and national organizations such as UNICEF, World Vision, Save the Children and War Child in highlighting and addressing children's protection issues at a national level are done on a routine basis by raising awareness of child protection in communities. They alert communities on children's rights and why their rights should be protected.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

The involvement of NGOs in the process of human rights standard-setting is, generally speaking, a recent phenomenon. Nevertheless, there are examples of NGOs which have been active for along time in international campaigns against slavery and against the trafficking in women and children, (Anzar, 2002).

UN and other international organizations as well as NGOs created a climate favorable to the conclusion of international conventions in these areas. The Anti-Slavery Society, which celebrated its 150th anniversary last year, should be mentioned with honor. Another prestigious international organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross, founded in 1868 and based in Geneva, has been instrumental in developing standards of international humanitarian law (Ahamad, 2006).

Gross violations of children's rights continue to take place in South Sudan – including the right to protection. Simply, children in South Sudan continue to be at risk of many violations, stemming from the impact of the armed conflict that ravaged the country for more than 40 years, The recent civil wars have destroyed the social fabric of the many communities and many children have been left without the protection of caring adults, exposing them to high levels of violence, including gender-based violence, exploitation, abuse and deprivation. Thousands of children in South Sudan do not have parents, and some of them have been targeted for

recruitment by armed forces and groups. Around 1,500 of these children are yet to be released. There are also increasing reports of children without appropriate family care working and living on the streets in major cities and towns; many of these children are at risk of getting into conflict with the law. Child abduction is particularly common among some nomadic and pastoral communities, and remains one of the major reasons for inter-communal clashes.

Even though many NGOs are working in the Country, the fact is there has been a gap in the promotion of children's rights protection, therefore this study will be undertaken so as to address and analyze this gap in the promotion of child rights in south Sudan and will illustrate the major problems through a case study of Imatong state.

### **1.3 Purpose of Study**

The major purpose of the study is to examine the effect of non-governmental organizations in promotion of child rights protection in South Sudan through a case study of Imatong state.

### **1.4 Objective of the Study**

The specific objective involves;

- i. To examine the nature of children's rights promotion in Imatong state - South Sudan.
- ii. To find out challenges faced by non-governmental organizations in the promotion of children's rights protection in Imatong state – South Sudan.
- iii. To find solutions to the challenges faced by NGOs in the promotion of children's rights protection in South Sudan - Imatong state.

### **Research questions**

- i. What is the nature of children's right promotion in Imatong state - South Sudan?
- ii. What are the challenges faced by Non-Governmental organizations in promotion of child rights protection in Imatong state – South Sudan?
- iii. What are the solutions to challenges faced by NGOs in Imatong state – South Sudan?

## **1.6 Scope of the study**

### **1.6.1 Content scope**

The study examines the role of Non-governmental organization and the promotion of child rights protection in South Sudan with special attention to Imatong state.

### **1.6.2 Geographical scope**

The study was carried out in South Sudan, which is bordered by Uganda to the South, Sudan to the North, Central Africa Republic to the west, Ethiopia to the East. Imotong state is located in the Eastern Equatoria Region bordered by Kapoeta State to the West and Jubeck State to the East.

### **1.6.3 Time scope**

The study used literature/text books from the period of 1993 – 2017 to provide information required to complete this study research.

## **1.7 Significance of the study**

The study will make specific contributions to the domain of knowledge, policy and strategy as it relates to the role of non-governmental organizations in the field of child protection.

The study will contribute towards domestic institution building and thus for empowering widening and deepening capacity in locally constituted organizations. It is expected that when this study is carried out and accomplished successfully, it will contribute to greater awareness on the role played by non-governmental organizations in the promotion of child rights protection.

The study will help different stakeholders to develop and implement better strategies to improve and protect children's rights from being abused.

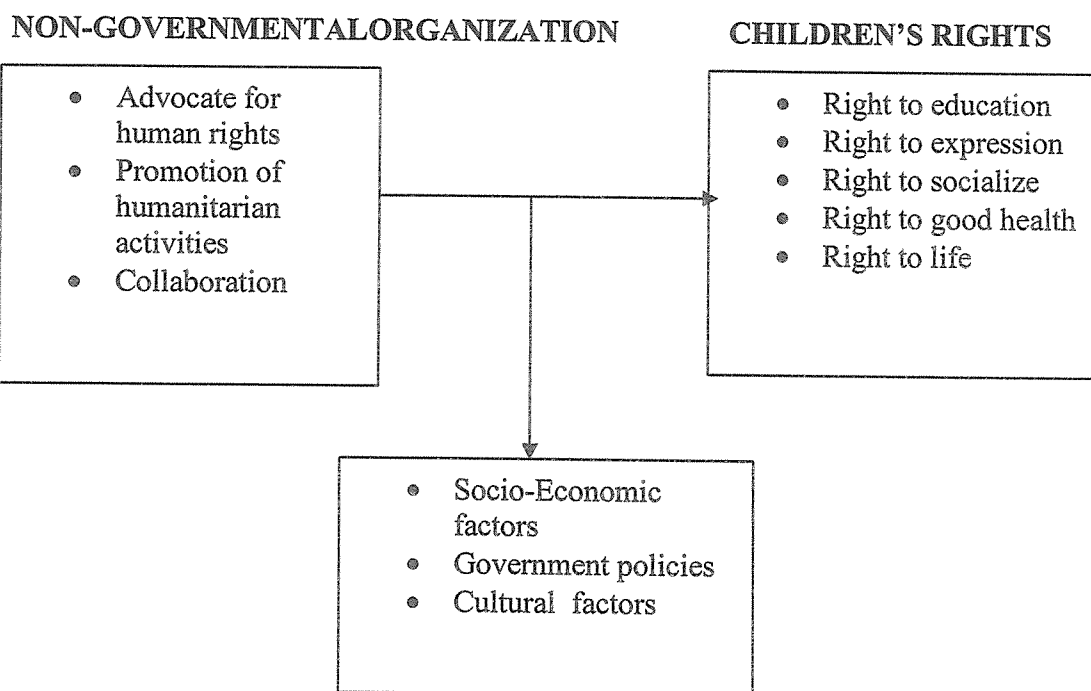
The study will hopefully provide a source of reference for future studies on non-governmental organizations' work in the promotion of child rights' protection. It should also acts as a source of literature for academics.

The study will help the researcher broaden his understanding on the promotion of children's rights' protection and be able to substantiate the situation with regards to children's rights in the area of the study.

### 1.8 Conceptual frame work.

The conceptual framework is informed by literature and observation of what is pertained in promotion of child rights protection by non-governmental organization.

**Figure1: Conceptual Framework**



**Source:** Adopted and modified from Armstrong, 2006

Conceptual frame work above has two variable dependent variable and independent variable Independent Variables focuses on the work of non-governmental organizations which includes: advocacy for human rights, promotion of humanitarian action, collaboration and involvement in children's rights: Whereas Dependent Variables are the several rights of children which includes Rights to education, Rights to expression, Rights to good health and rights to socialize while those will be influenced by intervening variables such as: socio-economic factors, cultural factors and government policies. For instance in a case where government policies are in support of activities of non-governmental organizations children's rights will be promoted in the area and in a case where their policies are against non-governmental organization performing their work child rights will be violated.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.0 Introduction

This chapter contains a review of the existing literature on Non-Governmental organization and the promotion of child rights protection. It is done mainly from the survey already conducted in South Sudan.

#### 2.1 Nature of NGOs in promotion of Children's Rights.

NGOs are non-Governmental organizations that attempts to improve social, economic and productive activities at the village, district and national level.

In the non-state sphere, NGOs are characterized by their non-profit motivation conversely, the private sector is fuelled by profit. In reality, these spheres are not always easy to distinguish. The interdependency may be even more present or at least more visible in a developmental context, where the political sphere often encounters difficulties in matching the capacities of the other two types of actors. NGOs are intermediaries between individuals and the government in transmitting ideas and concepts, Most of the NGOs are independent from the government. NGOs can be categorized as described below;

*Community - Based Organizations (CBOs)* arises out of people's own initiatives. These include sports clubs, women's organizations, religious organizations or educational organizations. Large varieties of these Organizations are supported by either National NGOs or International NGOs sometimes bilateral or international agencies and others are independent out of help. Some of these CBOs are devoted to raising the consciousness of the urban poor and help them understand their rights in gaining access to the needed services where as others are committed in providing such services to the communities.

*National NGOs* Includes Organizations such as the Red Cross, Save the Children, War Child etc. Some of these give assistance to the local NGOs i.e. The Community Base Organizations (CBOs) to implement some of the Children's rights promotion activities on their behalf.

*International NGOs* range Includes agencies working internationally such as Save the Children, CARE, and International Rescue Committee etc. Their activities vary from mainly funding local NGOs, institutions and projects, to implementing the projects themselves. (Gurtong, 2016).

Development NGOs are committed to working towards economic, social or political development in developing countries. The Norwegian bilateral aid agency Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) (2004) defines development-oriented NGOs as organizations that “attempt to improve social, economic and productive conditions and are found both as small community-based organizations at village and district levels and as large professional development agencies at state or national level”. One can distinguish between Northern and Southern NGOs within the diverse group of non-state actors. Additional distinctions are often made between advocacy and rights-based NGOs; relief, welfare and charity NGOs; network NGOs and professional support NGOs, (NORAD 2004)

Research on NGOs is vast, and NGOs have been subject to rich academic debates related to global governance, democratization and development. Diversity has become an NGO trademark and it is a nearly impossible task to enumerate the various NGO characteristics when it comes to their aims, strategies, resources, target groups, tools, effectiveness, impact and sustainability. A preliminary attempt to define NGOs would imply referring to the civil sphere of society. Nerfin’s famous words “neither prince nor merchant: citizen” are often quoted in the literature in order to illustrate how we can conceive of civil society as a separate sphere, distinct from the political and economic spheres,(Nerfin, 2000)

In South Sudan International NGOs like UNICEF works in partnership with the ministries of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, Justice and Interior, the Sudan people’s Liberation Army, the Ministries for Social Development at State level, the South Sudan Police service, the South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, the South Sudan Demining Authority, UNMIS Child Protection Section, UNMAO, UNDP, UNHCR and UNFPA, international and local NGO’s as well as community-based organizations and faith based organizations, (Gurtong, 2016)

However, it is important to bear in mind that in practice the boundaries between these categories rapidly become blurred. Potentially, NGOs can participate in all phases of the policy cycle and on all levels of the public sector; as contributors to policy discussion and formulation, advocates and lobbyists, service deliverers (operators), monitors (watchdogs) of rights and of particular interests, and as innovators introducing new concepts and initiatives. Some NGOs combine two or more of these activities, whereas others choose to focus on one. However, in this paper the primary focus will be the traditional NGO role of filling gaps in state-provided services which would include health, welfare etc. We will trace the evolution of NGO activities on the supply side of capacity development, making occasional references to advocacy and watchdog activities on the demand side of service provision, (Armstrong, 2006)

## **2.2 Nature of Children's rights promotion**

Children's rights law is defined as the point where the law intersects with a child's life. That includes juvenile delinquency, due process for children involved in the criminal justice system, appropriate representation, and effective rehabilitative services; care and protection for children in state care; ensuring education for all children regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, color, ethnicity, or other characteristics, and; health care and advocacy, (Lansdown, 1994)

Consensus on defining children's rights has become clearer in the last fifty years. A 1973 publication by Hillary Clinton (then an attorney) stated that children's rights were a "slogan in need of a definition". According to some researchers, the notion of children's rights is still not well defined, with at least one proposing that there is no singularly accepted definition or theory of the rights held by children. (Clinton, 2000)

Children have two types of human rights under international human rights law. They have the same fundamental general human rights as adults, although some human rights, such as the right to marry, are dormant until they are of age. Secondly, they have special human rights that are necessary to protect them during their minority. General rights operative in childhood include the right to security of the person, to freedom from inhuman, cruel, or degrading treatment, and the right to special protection during childhood. Particular human rights of children include, among other rights, the right to life, the right to a name, the right to express his or her views in matters

concerning their welfare, the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, the right to health care, the right to protection from economic and sexual exploitation, and the right to education, (Anzar, 2002)

### **2.2.1 Child**

The ACRWC defines a "child" as a human being below the age of 18 years. It recognizes the child's unique and privileged place in African society and that African children need protection and special care. It also acknowledges that children are entitled to the enjoyment of freedom of expression, association, peaceful assembly, thought, religion, and conscience. It aims to protect the private life of the child and safeguard the child against all forms of economic exploitation and against work that is hazardous, interferes with the child's education, or compromises his or her health or physical, social, mental, spiritual, and moral development. It calls for protection against abuse and bad treatment, negative social and cultural practices, all forms of exploitation or sexual abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation, and illegal drug use. It aims to prevent the sale and trafficking of children, kidnapping, and begging of children, (Clayton, 2000)

Children in Africa are affected by many different types of abuse, including economic and sexual exploitation, gender discrimination in education and access to health, and their involvement in armed conflict. Other factors affecting African children include migration, early marriage, differences between urban and rural areas, child-headed households, street children and poverty. Furthermore, child workers in Sub-Saharan Africa account for about 80 million children or 4 out of every 10 children fewer than 14 years old which is the highest child labor rate in the world, (Fisher, 1995).

The Committee of the ACRWC was formed in July 2001; one and half years after the Children's Charter came into force. The members are elected by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union. The criteria for the selection of members are: Members must be nationals of a State Party to the Children's Charter; They must be individuals of high moral standing, integrity, impartiality and competence in matters of the rights and welfare of the child; Members are nominated by signatory countries and elected by the Assembly of Heads of State of the African Union; Members are elected for a term of five years and serve voluntarily in their individual capacity. They may not be re-elected, (Foley, 2008)

### 2.2.2 Children's rights

Children's rights are defined in numerous ways, including a wide spectrum of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Rights tend to be of two general types: those advocating for children as autonomous persons under the law and those placing a claim on society for protection from harms perpetrated on children because of their dependency. These have been labeled as the right of empowerment and as the right to protection, (Eade, 2007)

United Nations educational guides for children classify the rights outlined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child as the "3 Ps": Provision, Protection, and Participation. They may be elaborated as follows: Provision: Children have the right to an adequate standard of living, health care, education and services, and to play and recreation. These include a balanced diet, a warm bed to sleep in, and access to schooling. Protection: Children have the right to protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination. This includes the right to safe places for children to play; constructive child rearing behavior, and acknowledgment of the evolving capacities of children. Participation: Children have the right to participate in communities and have programs and services for themselves. This includes children's involvement in libraries and community programs, youth voice activities, and involving children as decision-makers, (Bandman, 1999).

In a similar fashion, the Child Rights International Network (CRIN) categorizes rights into two groups: Firstly the economic, Social and Cultural rights whereas the other is the physical rights.

#### **Economic, social and cultural rights,**

These are related to the conditions necessary to meet basic human needs such as food, shelter, education, health care, and gainful employment. Included are rights to education, adequate housing, food, water, the highest attainable standard of health, the right to work and rights at work, as well as the cultural rights of minorities and indigenous peoples. Environmental, cultural and developmental rights, are sometimes called "third generation rights," and includes the right to live in safe and healthy environments and that groups of people have the right to cultural, political, and economic development. (Hendrick, H. 2005)

Amnesty International openly advocates four particular children's rights, including the end to juvenile incarceration without parole, an end to the recruitment of military use of children,

ending the death penalty for people under 21, and raising awareness of human rights in the classroom Hendrick, H. (2005). Human Rights Watch, an international advocacy organization, includes child labor, juvenile justice, orphans and abandoned children, refugees, street children and corporal punishment.

### **Physical rights**

A report by the Committee on Social Affairs, Health, and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe identified several areas the Committee was concerned about, including procedures such as "female genital mutilation, the circumcision of young boys for religious reasons, early childhood medical interventions in the case of intersex children and the submission to or coercion of children into piercings, tattoos or plastic surgery". The Assembly adopted a non-binding resolution in 2013 that calls on its 47 member-states to take numerous actions to promote the physical integrity of children, Jenks, C. (1996)

#### **2.2.3 Nature of children rights**

Scholarly study generally focuses children's rights by identifying individual rights. The following rights "allow children to grow up healthy and free"(Edward.2000)

- Freedom of speech

- Freedom of thought

- Freedom from fear

- Freedom of choice and the right to make decisions

- Ownership over one's body

#### **2.2.4 Promotion of Children's Rights.**

In recent years progressive strides have been made advancing children's rights and increasing children's rights promotion through advocacy, capacity building, and partnerships among several agencies, programs and cooperation of the international community for the common goal. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is the primary international instrument for the protection and promotion of Children's Rights outlining the necessities for the full and harmonious development of children, All while ensuring their safety and well - being. In addition, International Law, and human rights law, governs the promotion and protection of children's rights around the world.

Article 19 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child enjoins parties to "take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation". The Committee on the Rights of the Child interprets article 19 as prohibiting corporal punishment, commenting on the "obligation of all States Party to move quickly to prohibit and eliminate all corporal punishment." The United Nations Human Rights Committee has also interpreted Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights prohibiting "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" to extend to children, including corporal punishment of children, (Lansdown, G, 2005)

Newell (1993) argued that "...pressure for protection of children's physical integrity should be an integral part of pressure for all children's rights." The Committee on Bioethics of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) (1997), citing the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), asserts that "every child should have the opportunity to grow and develop free from preventable illness or injury." The United Nations adopted the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in 1966. The ICCPR is a multilateral international covenant that has been ratified or acceded to by nearly all nations on Earth. Nations which have become state-parties to the Covenant are required to honor and enforce the rights enunciated by the Covenant. The treaty came into effect on 23 March 1976. The rights codified by the ICCPR are universal, so they apply to everyone without exception and this includes children. Although children have all rights, some rights such as the right to marry and the right to vote come into effect only after the child reaches maturity.

According to *Bandman, B. (1999)* some general rights applicable to children include:

The right to life

The right to security of person

The right to freedom from torture

The right to freedom from cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The right to be separated from adults when charged with a crime, the right to speedy adjudication, and the right to be accorded treatment appropriate to their age Article 24 codifies

the right of the child to special protection due to his minority, the right to a name, and the right to a nationality.

The researcher's view on nature of child right promotion is that children go through many forms of abuse and NGOs have come up to help promote their rights such as; right to life, speech, education, religion and many others. Therefore for a child to have grown up and develop well, the child's rights need to be preserved and people in general must be taught about children's rights.

### **2.3 Challenges NGOs Face today in the promotion of Children's Right.**

#### **Lack of Funds**

Many NGOs find it difficult to garner sufficient and continuous funding for their work. Gaining access to appropriate donors is a major component of this challenge. They may have limited resource mobilization skills locally, so instead they wait for international donors to approach them. Current donors may shift priorities and withdraw funding. The NGO might suffer from a general lack of project, organizational and financial sustainability, (Chapman, 2004)

#### **Absence of Strategic Planning**

Many NGOs suffer from the lack of a cohesive, strategic plan that would facilitate success in their activities and mission. This renders them unable to effectively raise and capitalize on financial support, (Blagescu, 2006)

#### **Poor Governance and Networking**

Anzar, (2002) A lack of effective governance is all too common in NGOs. Many have a deficit of understanding as to why they must have a Board and how to set one up. A founder may be too focused on running the NGO for their own purposes; however, governance is foundational to transparency.

Poor or disorganized networking is another major challenge, as it can cause duplicated efforts, time inefficiencies, conflicting strategies and an inability to learn from experience. The more NGOs communicate with one another, with International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) and with the community at large, the more effective all of them can be. However, many NGOs perceive INGOs as hindering or even threatening to their goals and missions.

Many NGOs do not maximize the use of current technologies that could facilitate better communication and networking for example sat phone, Twitter, Facebook etc. More effective use of technology can assist NGOs in staying abreast of important regional, national and global concerns, (Baker, 2007)

### **Limited Capacity**

Brinkerhoff, (2003). NGOs often lack the technical and organizational capacity to implement and fulfill their mission, and few are willing or able to invest in training for capacity building. Weak capacity affects fundraising ability, governance, leadership and technical areas.

### **Development Approaches**

Many NGOs favor a “hardware” approach to development through building infrastructure and providing services instead of empowering people and institutions locally. Overall, their development approaches are not as flexible, sustainable and relevant to the community as they could be. (Mohammed, H, 2006)

## **2.4 The solutions to those challenges faced by NGOs in the Promotion of Children’s Rights.**

### **Grant Funding.**

In order to receive grant funding from the international donors like European Union, US, Great Britain etc. according to (Eade, 1997) an NGO must do the following:

1. Locate Opportunities. Find an appropriate grant and funder for their focus and mission. This involves choosing what best suits the communities which would promote children’s rights protection by identifying the local sources.
2. Solid Concept Note / First Round Application. NGOs must answer all criteria and provide all of the information the donor/funder requires. Not following the guidelines will result in immediate disqualification.
3. Proposal. Once an NGO passes the first application state, a proposal will be requested. The proposal must be well-written and error-free. Most importantly, it must contain all of the necessary elements to show the donor that the NGO has a strategy and high-quality team members, (Wiseman, 2007)

Clayton, (2000) Challenges such as poor governance, a lack of strategic planning, and poor networking can all be addressed through:

### **Capacity Building**

Capacity building and training can help to provide crucial new skills. NGOs can then more readily train staff and cultivate the necessary skills within the organization to address challenges going forward, (Brinkerhoff, 2003)

### **On-Demand Advice from Experts**

Blagescu, (2006). The ability to reach out for needed advice and guidance whenever required during a project or to optimize NGO operations is extremely valuable. Access to qualified experts will inspire confidence in donors and contribute to the project's success. NGOs will naturally become more efficient, streamlined and effective.

### **Information, Communication and Technology**

All NGOs should be using a minimum of internet, email, a basic website and relevant social medial platforms. This would help to disseminate information regarding children's rights protection.

### **Income Generation**

NGOs with assets can use any surplus to help generate income. Renting out buildings, offering training, providing consultancy, creating and selling products and trading on your name are just a few examples by Helland, J, (2004). Support to Community-based Programmes for the Protection of Children Affected by Armed Conflict – This includes preventing the recruitment and use of children by armed forces or armed groups; supporting the release and reintegration of children who are still associated with armed forces and groups; preventing and responding to violence against children, including gender-based violence; protecting children from harmful traditional practices; protecting children from abduction, including by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA); providing psychosocial support services, family tracing and reunification of separated and unaccompanied children; providing family-based care services for children without parental care, including children who live and work on the streets; strengthening

community support groups to enhance the protection of children; and supporting the provision of mine risk education to protect children from landmines and explosive remnants of war.

**In Conclusion,** According to the researcher there is much more emphasis is needed to address the challenges faced by NGOs in the promotion of children's rights. More funding is needed to help in promotion of children's rights in South Sudan but Human capital will help by investigating child abuse in our community and informing the concerned NGOs so they can help solve the situation. While analyzing the major contribution of the NGOs in the promotion of children's rights in South Sudan, NGOs have reach the communities by creating awareness in the communities about the rights of a child so as to make a real impact. In a nutshell it should be noted that much is still needed to address the major cases of children's rights protection so that communities will be able to know the value of a child. Ignorance is the major cause of several children's rights abuses in many communities since this is the outstanding factor, the proliferation of NGOs in the state would curb the high rate of abuses by; creating awareness, capacity building and creating some activities like income generating activities both for the youth and the people in general. These activities include; sports, theatre, dance etc. Youth can therefore work to help the old. Involvement of the youth in useful activities can make the old consider children have rights.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction**

This chapter focuses on the methodology that was used while conducting research in Imotong state. It includes the research design, study population, sample size, sampling procedure, and methods of data collection, validity and reliability of research instruments, data analysis, and ethical considerations of the study. It describes the methods the researcher used to collect data and its analysis.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

The study employed a descriptive correlation and cross sectional survey design. The study adopted a survey research design because data is collected from respondents at a particular time. This survey research design according to Amin (2005) is helpful to the researcher to obtain systematic data from a sample. Correlation is necessary to explain the relationship between variables. Purposive sampling was used to ensure that the respondents have equal chances of being selected to participate in this study. Quantitative and qualitative approaches were used because it helps to ensure that data collected is quantitatively analyzed and descriptively interpreted.

#### **3.2 Study population**

The study population targeted both male and female from 18 years and above. This is because it is this category that provided accurate information to the study, It focuses on NGOs either International NGOs or national NGO where participants will purposively be selected from the management and the workers. However this study targets three (3) Organizations; UNICEF, Save the Children and War Child in Imatong State – South Sudan with a total participants of 70 workers.

#### **3.3 Sample size**

The sample size of the study was determined according to Slovene's formula of sample determination. Under this, there is a target population of 70 but it is zeroed down to a sample size

of 60 respondents respectively as stated by Slovene's formula (1978). Slovene's formula is used to determine the minimum sample size.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(0.05)^2}$$

where

With                      n=number of sample  
                               N=total population=70  
                               e=level of significance 0.05

$$\frac{70}{1 + 70(0.05)^2}$$

$$\frac{70}{1 + 70 \times 0.0025}$$

$$\frac{70}{1 + 0.175} = \frac{70}{1.175}$$

=60 Respondents.

$$n = 60$$

### 3.4 Sampling Techniques and Procedures

The participants in the study were selected using purposive sampling method and simple random sampling. Purposive sampling is best because it involved selecting participants that possess the required characteristics and qualities as defined by the researcher (Gay, 2006). For example Managers in the Organizations studied.

### 3.5 Methods of Data Collection

The researcher used the followings to collect data, secondary data, questionnaires and Interviews as the major data collection methods to get first-hand information.

#### 3.5.1 Secondary Data

A secondary data source is kind of information that the research study used which is already published in regard to the study topic. It includes all written, audio and visual information that is readily available on the study. This included information from text books, internet, newspapers, reports, brochures and news prints are used in the study.

### **3.5.2 Questionnaire**

This is the main data collection tool. It consists of questions that are set in relation to the research objectives so as to get the real answers to the set research questions. These were administered on the Management and staff of different Non-Governmental organizations in South Sudan. The questionnaires were used because they are easy and convenient to use in collection of data from busy respondents like community members from Imatong state.

### **3.5.3 Interviews**

For the purposes of obtaining deep-rooted and concise data, the researcher used interviews. These were conducted in a period of 30 minutes per selected respondent. The researcher based on an interview guide.

## **3.6 Validity and Reliability**

### **3.6.1 Validity**

Validity is the ability of the research instrument to measure what it aims or is supposed to measure. According to Amin (2005), the research instrument must be appropriate for the study objectives to be achieved. The researcher consulted and discussed validity of instrument with colleagues and supervisor to limit errors as much as possible.

Out of the total number of items of the questionnaire, the questions that were considered are very relevant and quite relevant are rated. The content validity indexes for the questionnaire indicate 0.7 to confirm them valid since it is 0.74790 it meant that the instrument is valid.

### **3.6.2 Reliability**

Reliability of an instrument is the dependability or the trustworthiness of an instrument. According to Amin (2005), it is the degree to which the instrument consistently measures what it is supposed to measure. This method is picked on a single pre-test group and shows the degree to which the items in the questionnaire are inter-correlated. That is, a respondent who would have completed the questionnaire was again politely asked to complete another fresh questionnaire (retest) after two weeks to prove the answers earlier filled for consistence or how close they relate (Amin (2005)). Internal consistence of the items in the questionnaire is established using Cornbach's formulae to computer the alpha co-efficiency of reliability. To get the reliability, the

data was entered in the computer and analyzed using the statistical package for social scientists (SPSS), which are useful for providing a Cronbach Co-efficient Alpha test for testing reliability.

### **3.7 Data Analysis**

Data collected was edited and coded. It was summarized and analyzed so as to make sense of the data to ensure completeness and consistence. Quantitative data is analyzed in form of percentages and frequencies. Qualitative data is analyzed through sketchy and generalized summary of the findings from observation and conclusion in the process of data collection.

### **3.8 Ethical consideration**

The researcher was given a letter of introduction from the Department of Public Administration Kampala International University and which was presented to the management of the Non-governmental organizations visited. To get approval by the authorities, the researcher was given an acceptance letter before starting to administer the research tools in their organization. The researcher conducted interviews with the selected participants. He distributed questionnaires to respondents; then after 2 days, he collected then filled in questionnaires. In any publication based on the findings of this study, the data collected contained no identifying information that would associate it with the respondents; therefore information collected was treated with confidentiality.

### **3.9 Limitations of the study**

The researcher had to go through various bureaucratic processes to receive permits to issue questionnaires to the participants in the identified NGOs at Imatong State which took some time. Some respondents were reluctant and slow in completing questionnaires; as a result it was difficult to complete the research within the specified time.

Poor time management by employees of the NGOs like UNICEF, Save the children and War Child also hindered the data collection process. Therefore retrieving back from the respondents not answered on time which delayed the work to be done on time.

Climate Changes such as too much rain also made the work delayed because most of the roads were impassable hindering travels to meet other respondents in their respective working places.

Insecurity also limited the collection of the data this is because the researcher had to face more challenges in traveling to those risk areas where conflicts takes place and worst of all main roads were often threatens by the opportunist/ bandits who ambushed travellers hence making this work difficult for the researcher to meet his targeted respondents.

Deliberate refusal by some respondents to fill the questionnaires hindered the effectiveness of the work. The researcher faced difficulties in the collection of the information from the respondents as others refused deliberately to hand in their questionnaires and/ or hand in without filling the questionnaires.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA PRESENTATION, DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

#### 4.0 Introduction

This Chapter presents data, analysis and interpretation of the findings.

#### 4.1 Demographic characteristics of respondents

The respondents demographic characteristics included; Age, Gender, education background and work experiences of the respondents.

##### 4.1.1 Age of the respondents

The respondents were asked to state their age and below in the table are their responses.

**Table 1: Presents Age bracket of the respondents**

Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
20-25 years	08	13
25-30 years	12	20
30-35 years	24	40
35-40 years	10	17
above 40 years	06	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Primary data, 2018**

**Source: Primary data**

From Table 1 above, It is indicated that majority of respondents were in the age group of 30-35years 40%, these were followed by those in the range of 25-30years 20% who were closely followed by those in the range of 35-40 years 17%, those who were in the range of 20-25 years were 13% and the least was 40 years and above with 10%. This age trend indicates that majority of the respondents in those Organizations were old and with relevant information required to complete the research.

##### 4.1.2 Gender of the Respondents

The researcher investigated about the gender of the Respondents. The composition of the respondents was by grouping the respondents' gender in different age groups. Studying the

gender composition of the respondents was deemed necessary because it was thought that people of different gender groups determine the level of satisfaction the services provided by the Non-Governmental Organizations in South Sudan. By studying these groups thus balanced views were achieved on the different factors that determine level of satisfaction and whether Non-Governmental Organizations contribution is appreciated. The results are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2: Gender of the Respondents**

Sex	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	25	42
Male	35	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: primary data, 2018**

According to the results in table 2 above, majority of the respondents 35(58%) were male respondents while 25(42%) were female respondents. The statistics shows the respondents were drawn from both genders though most of them were males. This suggests that the male are dominant in this organization compared to their female counterparts. This could be attributed to the multitasking capacity of the male groups.

#### **4.1.3 Education background of the respondents**

The researcher was interested in the level of education to find out the perceptions of respondents regarding the contribution of NGOs in delivery of basic children's rights protection in South Sudan. The responses were shown as below;

**Table 3: Presents Educational background of the respondents**

Level of Education	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Certificate	5	8
Diploma	25	42
Degree	30	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: primary data, 2018**

According to Table 3, the largest number of the respondents 50% had attained degree level of education and above, 42% had attained diploma and below and 8% attained certificates. Looking at the data in the Table, the majority of the respondents had attained an education level of university. This provided the researcher the opportunity of collecting dependable data as these with the help the researcher could give informed data about the issues under the study. The researcher's opinion information was valid because people of university, have learnt about rights of the children.

#### 4.1.4 Work Experience of the Respondents.

The researcher asked the respondents the period they had spent on their jobs to find out their experience and knowledge about NGOs and promotion of children rights in South Sudan as captured in table 4 below.

**Table 4: Presents the Work experience of the Respondents**

Period	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Less than 2 years	05	08
2-3 years	10	17
3-4 years	30	50
4 years and above	15	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data, 2018**

The findings on table 4 above indicate that out of the 60 respondents who answered the questionnaires, majority had spent 3-4 years on their current job 50%, they were followed by those who had spent 4 years and above on their current job 25%, those who had spent 2-3 years were 17% and those who had spent less than 2 years were only 8%. This implies that all the respondents had skills and knowledge about NGOs and promotion of children rights in South Sudan.

#### 4.2 The nature of children's right promotion in Imatong state South Sudan.

In relation to the first research question that required the examination of children's rights promotion in South Sudan, the respondents were asked to state the nature of children's right promotion in Imatong state South Sudan following the questionnaire and their response rates are indicated in table 5 below

**Table 5: Showed the nature of children's right promotion in Imatong state South Sudan**

Nature of children's rights	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Not Sure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Total (%)
The right to life	50	15	15	5	15	100
Right to freedom from torture.	45	13	10	17	5	100
Children have the right to protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination.	40	15	7.5	20	7.5	100
Children have the right to an adequate standard of living, health care, education and services, and to play and recreation	25	13	10	15	37	100
Children have the right to participate in communities and have programs and services for themselves.	75	10	5	5	5	100

**Source: primary Data (2018)**

The findings in table 5 above present the responses of respondents regarding the rights of the children. According to the findings, majority of the respondents 50% strongly agreed, that the children have a right to life. This was also agreed by 15% who added that no child deserves to die. Another 15% of the respondents was not sure and therefore provide no response at this stage. Some of the respondents on the other hand 15% strongly disagreed reporting that their cases that can lead to child loss of life and the minority 5% also agreed to this. These findings reveal that at least majority of the people or respondents are aware of children's right to life.

According to the findings regarding to children's Right to freedom from torture, majority of the respondents 45% of the respondents strongly agreed, 13% agreed that children should not be tortured. 17% and 5% disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively. 10% of the respondents were not sure and therefore showed no response. The findings indicated that not all of the respondents are aware that children should be free from torture.

When respondents were asked to give their opinion on whether Children have the right to protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination, majority of the respondents 40% strongly agreed and 15% agreed this right. 20% of the respondents on the other hand disagreed to this idea reporting that focus is no mainly given to children mainly in this country of wars where even children are rebels it becomes hard to trust them. 7.5% of the respondents were not sure of this and therefore showed no response

Majority of the respondents 35% strongly disagreed and 15% disagreed that children have the right to an adequate standard of living, health care, education and services, and to play and recreation. 10% were not sure 10% agreed and 25% strongly agreed. This indicates basing on the state of life in Imatong state, its defined with poor health, low standards of living, no access to food, with a lot of civil wars does not permit children to full have rights to good standards of living, health and education. .

When respondents were asked to give their opinion on if Children have the right to participate in communities and have programs and services for themselves, majority of the respondents 75% of strongly agreed and 10% agreed while 5% were not sure and others 5% disagreed and strongly disagreed. The respondents had ideas on the rights of children, they therefore reported that going to school would help them assume positions of teachers and headmasters when they grew up.

These findings are in line with research by (Lansdown, 1994) who argued that Children's rights are laws that he defined as the point where the law intersects with a child's life. That includes juvenile delinquency, due process for children involved in the criminal justice system, appropriate representation, and effective rehabilitative services; care and protection for children in state care; ensuring education for all children regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, color, ethnicity, or other characteristics, and; health care and advocacy (Lansdown, 1994)

#### 4.3 The challenges faced by NGOs in the promotion of children's rights in Imatong state South Sudan.

The study sought for the opinions of respondents regarding the challenges affecting NGOs in trying to promote the rights of children in South Sudan. The responses are provided in table 6 below.

**Table 6: showing the response on the challenges faced by NGOs in Imatong state South Sudan**

Challenges	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Not Sure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Total (%)
Lack of Funds.	40	25	10	15	10	100
Absence of Strategic Planning.	37	35	16	12	0	100
Poor Governance and Networking.	50	27	7.5	3	12.5	100
Limited Capacity	55	25	7.5	0	12.5	100
Development Approaches.	25	45	5	10	15	100

**Source: Primary Data, 2018**

Respondents were asked to give their opinion on whether Lack of Funds was a great challenge to the operations of NGOs. According to the findings 40% of the respondents strongly agreed, and 25% of the respondents agreed that the struggle to protect children's rights requires funding which lacking in some of the NGOs in the country. 10% of the respondents were not sure, 15% of the respondents disagreed and 10% of the respondents strongly disagreed reporting that not only funding impacts on the operations of NGOs. These findings indicated that NGOs truly lack enough fund to finance all the operations designed to protect the rights of children in the Country.

Majority of the respondents 50% strongly agreed that Poor governance and Networking the respondents strongly agreed and 27% of the respondents agreed, 7.5% of the respondents were not sure, 12.5% of the respondents strongly disagreed and 3% of the respondents disagreed.

These findings showed that the most of NGOs have got management with limited networking that can help link them to other NGOs from other nations to share ideas and resources.

Majority of the respondents 37% of the respondents strongly agreed, 35% of the respondents Agreed that Absence of Strategic planning is a challenge to proper management of NGO projects that involve children rights protection. 16% of the respondents were not sure, 12% disagreed and 0% of the respondents strongly disagreed. This indicates that the NGOs lack competent staff which explains why planning is poor and some of the policies are not implemented.

The respondents were asked to give their opinion on whether Limited Capacity is a great challenge to NGOs. Majority of the respondents 55% of the respondents strongly agreed and 25% of the respondents agreed reporting that they don't have enough knowledge on NGOs activities and specifically the right way to children's rights protection. 7.5% were not sure, and 0% of the respondents disagreed while 12.5% of the respondents strongly disagreed.

Majority of the respondents 50% a strongly agreed and 27% agreed that there is limited support from the government. Some of the respondents 13% were not sure while 10% disagreed. This indicates that there is limited support from the government to NGOs this may be due the fact that government has focus on political interests other than public interest

Majority of the respondents 45% agreed and 25% strongly agreed that NGOs lack proper strategic Development Approaches in their operations. 5% were not sure, 10% disagreed and 15% strongly disagree. These findings indicate that due poor development approaches, majority of the projects of NGOs fail to deliver the desired outcomes including children rights protection.

These finding corresponding with the study by (Chapman, 2004) who found out that access to appropriate donors is a major component of this challenge. They may have limited resource mobilization skills locally, so instead they wait for international donors to approach them. Current donors may shift priorities and withdraw funding. The NGO might suffer from a general lack of project, organizational and financial sustainability, (Chapman, 2004).

Many NGOs suffer from the lack of a cohesive, strategic plan that would facilitate success in their activities and mission. This renders them unable to effectively raise and capitalize on financial support, (Blagescu, 2006). Anzar, (2002) A lack of effective governance is all too

common in NGOs. Many have a deficit of understanding as to why they must have a Board and how to set one up. A founder may be too focused on running the NGO for their own purposes; however, governance is foundational to transparency.

#### 4.4 The solutions to above challenges facing NGOs in Imatong state South Sudan

In relation to the last research objective, the researcher sought information regarding the solutions to the challenges facing NGOs in Imatong state South Sudan. The opinions of the respondents were presented in the table below for better interpretation and analysis.

**Table 7: showing the response on the solutions to above challenges facing NGOs**

Solutions to challenges	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Not Sure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Total (%)
Grant Funding.	50	23	7	10	10	100
Capacity Building	45	30	8	7	10	100
On-Demand Advice from Experts	37	35	14	10	4	100
Information, Communication and Technology.	30	57	3	5	5	100
Income generation	43	27	10	15	5	100
Getting Government support	30	35	5	10	20	100

**Source: Primary Data, 2018**

The respondents 50% strongly agreed that Grant Funding will be a great solution to the challenge lack of enough funds for the projects of NGOs. 23% of the respondents also agreed to this statement while 7% weren't sure and therefore showed no response. 20% of the respondents disagreed reporting that grants cannot provide all the funding and therefore cannot fully be relied on. These findings indicate that grants can truly be a good source of funding to NGO in South Sudan.

The respondents 43% strongly agreed that writing proposals for government support would be a great idea and solution to the challenge of limited government support. Some of the respondents 15% disagreed to this opinion reporting that proposal have to be developed by competent personnel's to win government offer. Some of the respondents 8% showed no response because they were not sure. This finding shows that proposal writing for support is a good strategy but it cannot stand alone if organizations are to win full support from the government.

Majority of the respondents 45% strongly agreed that capacity building is another solution to the promotion of children's right simply this would create more awareness to the people hence effective children's rights promotion, On another note some 30% of the respondents agreed to the solutions whereas some of the respondents 8% were not sure to whether capacity building would be the best solution to the challenges facing NGOs in the promotion of children's rights or not. This indicates that capacity building would be a great solution since it will increase on the awareness of the public and government about the rights of children.

Majority of the respondents 37% strongly agreed that On-Demand Advice from Experts would be a solution to the challenges in NGOs probably because it will help in management decision making 35% of the respondents agreed, 14% of the respondents were not sure, 10% of the respondents disagreed and 4% strongly disagreed. These findings meant that to ensure strategic and developmental decision-making, NGOs can use experts' advice in their programs.

The findings showed that majority of the respondents 57% agree that Information, Communication and Technology need to be focused on as a way of improving the operations of NGOs in South Sudan. 30% of the respondents strongly agreed 3% of the respondents were not sure, 5% of the respondents disagreed and 5% of the respondents strongly disagreed. These findings show that to solve the challenge of lack of networks and relationships with other organizations worldwide can be solved through embracing technology to foster effective information flow and communication.

These findings were in with the proposal of Eade, (1997) who conveyed that Grants is among the major sources of NGO financing. He however reported that there is need to locate Opportunities in order to find an appropriate grant and funder for their focus and mission. This involves

choosing what best suits the communities which would promote children's rights protection by identifying the local sources.(Eade, 1997).

The respondents agreed that capacity building is another solution to the promotion of children's right simply this would create more awareness to the people hence effective children's rights promotion. They further agreed that On-Demand Advice from Experts would be a solution to the challenges in NGOs probably because it will help in management decision making. These findings meant that to ensure strategic and developmental decision-making, NGOs can use experts' advice in their programs. Findings match with the report by Brinkerhoof , (2003) where he asserted that Capacity building and training can help to provide crucial new skills. NGOs can then more readily train staff and cultivate the necessary skills within the organization to address challenges going forward, (Brinkerhoff, 2003)

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

This chapter dealt with the summary of findings, conclusion and present recommendations of the study. Conclusions are made on the role of NGOs in the promotion of children rights in Imatong South Sudan and suggested areas for further research.

#### **5.1 Summary of findings.**

The findings are summarized basing on the research objectives

##### **5.1.1 The nature of children's right promotion in Imatong state South Sudan.**

The findings revealed that at least majority of the people or respondents are aware of children's right to life. The findings however showed that not all of the respondents are aware that children should be free from torture this is due to the nature of the area which often under political instabilities. The findings on whether children have right to protection from abuse and neglect indicated that respondents agreed to this right though limited focus is given to it since the area is of conflict where everyone takes care of himself or herself. Majority of the respondents disagreed to Children having the right to an adequate standard of living, health care, education and services, and to play and have recreation activities. The results indicated basing on the state of life in Imatong state – South Sudan, it's defined with poor health, low standards of living, no access to food, with a lot of civil wars and conflicts which do not permit children to have full rights to good standards of living, health and education. The results also indicated that they had ideas on the rights of children; they therefore reported that going to school would help them assume positions of teachers, managers and headmasters when they grew up.

##### **5.1.2 The challenges faced by NGOs in the promotion of children's rights in Imatong state South Sudan.**

The findings regarding the challenges affecting NGOs revealed that Lack of Funds was a great challenge to the operations of NGOs in the promotion of children's rights as agreed by majority of the respondents reporting that the struggle to protect children's rights requires funding which is lacking in some of the NGOs in the country. The respondents agreed that Poor governance and Networking the respondents are a challenge in NGOs for the promotion of children's right

.These findings showed that the most of NGOs have got management with limited networking that can help link them to other NGOs from other nations to share ideas and resources. The findings further showed that the respondents strongly agreed that Absence of Strategic planning is a challenge to proper management of NGO projects that involve children rights protection. This indicates that the NGOs lack competent staff which explains why planning is poor and some of the policies are not implemented. They added that Limited Capacity is a great challenge to NGOs they don't have enough knowledge on NGOs activities and specifically the right way to children's rights protection. Majority of the respondents strongly agreed that there is limited support from the government due the fact that government has focus on political interests other than public interest

#### **5.1.3 The solutions to above challenges facing NGOs in Imatong state South Sudan**

The respondents provided their opinions regarding the possible solutions to the challenges of NGOs in Imatong State - South Sudan. According to the findings respondents strongly agreed that Grant funding will be a great solution to the challenge of lack of enough funds for the projects of the several NGOs in the promotion of children rights. The respondents also agreed that writing proposals for government support would be a great idea and solution to the challenge of limited government support. The findings showed that majority of the respondents agreed that Information, Communication and Technology need to be focused on as a way of improving the operations of NGOs in South Sudan. These findings showed that to solve the challenge of lack of networks and relationships with other organizations worldwide can be solved through embracing technology to foster effective information flow and communication.

## **5.2 Conclusions.**

The study assessed the role of NGOs on the promotion of children rights protection in Imatong state South Sudan. It answered three study objectives that included: To examine the nature of children's right promotion in Imatong state South Sudan, challenges faced by Non-Governmental organizations in the promotion of children's rights in Imatong State South Sudan and to find solutions to the challenges faced by NGOs in Imatong state South Sudan.

Based on the findings, the study came up with the following conclusions basing on objectives.

### **The nature of children's right promotion in Imatong state South Sudan.**

From the findings regarding children rights in Imatong State South Sudan, it's pointed out that people are aware children have Right to life. They are also aware that children have Right to freedom from torture. This means that no child is supposed to be subjected to torture to the extent of even losing his or her life.

The findings indicated that children living in Imatong state - South Sudan also have the Right to protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination. Children should also therefore have the right to an adequate standard of living, health care, education, access to other services, recreation activities and they also have the right to participate in communities and have programs and services for themselves. However it should be noted that it's the right of children to have freedom, to have education, to have food, to have health services among others in the communities they live.

### **The challenges faced by NGOs in the promotion of children's rights in Imatong state South Sudan.**

According to the findings regarding challenges of NGOs in Imatong State south Sudan, it was concluded that a number of challenges are affecting the Non – Governmental Organizations in their operations which included; Lack of Funds and this is the greatest challenge to the operations of NGOs since the struggle to protect children's rights requires funding hence affecting the smooth running of the children rights activities by the Organizations in the State. The Poor governance and Networking was noted to be a challenge in most of the NGOs this is

because most of NGOs have got management with limited networking that can help link the beneficiaries with NGOs agencies from other nations to gain ideas and resources.

There is Absence of Strategic planning in these organizations making it a challenge to proper management of NGO projects that involve children rights protection. This indicates that the NGOs lack competent staff which explains why planning is poor and some of the policies are not implemented. It was conclude that Limited Capacity is a great challenge to NGOs they don't have enough knowledge on NGOs activities and specifically the right way to children's rights protection. Many NGOs in South Sudan suffer from the lack of a cohesive, strategic plan that would facilitate success in their activities and mission. This renders them unable to effectively raise and capitalize on financial support.

#### **The solutions to above challenges facing NGOs in Imatong state South Sudan**

The study came up with some solutions to the challenges and basing on the findings, it was concluded that NGOs should focus on searching for Grant Funding will be a great solution to the challenge luck of enough funds for the projects of NGOs. The respondents also agreed that writing proposals for government support would be a great idea and solution to the challenge of limited government support.

It was concluded that capacity building is another solution to the promotion of children's right simply this would create more awareness to the people hence effective children's rights promotion. It was further concluded that On-Demand Advice from Experts would be a solution to the challenges in NGOs probably because it will help in management decision making.

The study concluded that that Information, Communication and Technology is needed to be focused on as a way of improving the operations of NGOs in South Sudan. This will help to solve the challenge of lack of networks and relationships with other organizations worldwide can be solved through embracing technology to foster effective information flow and communication.

The study identified nature of children rights as; the right to life, right to freedom from torture, Children have the right to protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination and other rights, the challenges faced by the NGOs in the promotion of children's rights included;

Limited Capacity, inadequate funds, limited support from the Government, poor Governance and Networking. The solutions to challenges faced by the NGOs in the promotion of children's rights are; Grant Funding, writing proposal to donors, Capacity Building, seeking government support.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

The government should consider improving transforming structures like social welfare, education and the law enforcing systems. It should consider resuscitating the private sector by providing tax incentives to allow for gains that may motivate them to plough back into the community by improving facilities like playgrounds and adopting some OVC. Some laws and policies concerning OVC programming should be enforced through an introduction of quality assurance tools, and the supply of supervision resources from the Social services department down to the Ward Child Protection Committees to improve adherence to the NAP principles.

Child led child protection committees should be put in place and their opinions taken into consideration so that real children issues are addressed instead of assumed issues. This move could create an enabling environment for the success of OVC programs, and pave the way for an improvement in the well-being of the children and the community in the end. Both the child and adult led committees should do the selection of beneficiaries. The committees should be refreshed regularly to keep them up to date with the changes in policies and other emerging issues.

Some children drop out of school because of fragmented assistance offered by NGOs, yet the MDGs specify the need for free basic education for all not in the rural areas only as if it is in South Sudan at present. The orphans who are stuck in cities and are school dropouts do not have rural homes to go to in order to access free education. The government should consider extending the offer to all OVC. Article 28 of the CRC states that, "all children have the right to education and this right should be achieved progressively and on the basis of equal opportunity" yet in South Sudan, the opportunity is given to rural schools children. The state should assume its duty to ensure that primary education is free and compulsory.

The Government should consider making it a policy that before any project begins, three groups comprising NGOs, guardians and parents of OVC and the OVC undergo workshops on children participation, then regularly meet, and plan.

Children's opinions should be considered in decision-making and if they are not being taken, reasons should be given. Families should develop a culture of teaching children about their rights.

Children should be allowed to participate in the shaping of their lives, and in the end should be able to celebrate their own victory and adults should be there only to help children achieve their goals by assisting in overcoming life obstacles.

The local social services department should take the OVC programming organizations through an orientation exercise on how to work with all stakeholders, including children and this could be done before beneficiary registration.

NGOs should work with all stakeholders in the community to identify the OVC vulnerability context that needs to be addressed by the project under plan. Together they should identify the available livelihood assets that could be used to sustain the project and these could be human, natural, financial, physical, and/or spiritual as specified in the sustainable livelihoods framework by DFID (2004). This could help identify sustainable projects.

NGOs should also work towards identifying viable livelihood strategies to address the issue of poverty and improve family livelihoods. By so doing the gap created by the individual child targeting approach, which does not support family livelihoods for holistic, effective and sustainable child care and eventual graduation out of poverty will be addressed. They should mainstream child participation in all their programs.

All field officers should be trained in the administration of the Outcome Monitoring and Community Perception Index tools before they are deployed so that they are able to gather information about the successes and failures of their programs.

Community leaders should seek training in children's rights and child protection in order for them to have an understanding of child participation as a benefit to the whole community. They

should then mainstream the importance of child participation in all community meetings agendas. They should also recognize the existence of Child Protection Committees and support them with the updates of OVC registers in the ward in order to facilitate identity gaps in OVC programming. Once gaps have been identified, the registration of implementers could be done to address the holistic needs of OVC.

Families should treat children like important members of the family with inputs in the running of the family and encourage openness to boost children self-confidence from a tender age. The

#### **5.4 Areas for Further Research**

Role of NGOs in fighting Domestic violence.

Community awareness on good governance by the Local Government.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix A: Questionnaire for respondents

I am **Ohide Johnson Paula** finalist Bachelor degree in public administration of Kampala International University carry out a study on title "Non-Governmental organization and the promotion of child rights protection in South Sudan a case study of Imatong state". Your feedback is very important as your inputs will be used for academic purposes only. I greatly appreciate if you could take a few minutes to provide me with information. Your response will be kept confidential and it will not be divulged to any person or institution outside this corporation.

*Thank you in advance*

#### 1. SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION

##### 1. Gender

Male

Female

##### 2. In which age bracket are you?

20-30

40-50

30-40

50+

##### 3. Education level

Primary

Diploma

Secondary

Degree

Certificate

##### 4. Level of experience

1-4 years

10-14

5-9 years

15 and above

Direction: please respond to the options and kindly be guided with the scoring system below.

Rating	Score response	Description
1	strongly agree	(you agree with no doubt)
2	Agree	(you agree with some doubt)
3	Not sure	(you doubt)
4	Disagree	(you disagree with some doubt)
5	Strongly disagree	(you disagree with no doubt at)

Please evaluate the statement by ticking in the box with the number that best suits you.

**SECTION B: What is the nature of children’s right protection in South Sudan - Imatong state?**

NO	SCALE	1	2	3	4	5
1.	The right to life					
2.	Right to freedom from torture					
3.	Children have the right to protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination					
4.	Children have the right to an adequate standard of living, health care, education and services, and to play and recreation					
5.	Children have the right to participate in communities and have programs and services for themselves					

**SECTION C; What are the challenges faced by NGOs in Imatong state - South Sudan?**

NO	Scale	1	2	3	4	5
1	Lack of Funds					
2	Absence of Strategic Planning					
3	Poor Governance and Networking					
4	Limited Capacity					
5	Development Approaches					
6	Limited support from government					

**SECTION D; The solutions to above challenges facing NGOs in Imatong state - South Sudan?**

NO	Scale	1	2	3	4	5
1	Grant Funding					
2	Capacity Building					
3	On-Demand Advice from Experts					
4	Information, Communication and Technology					
5	Income Generation					

**THANK YOU**

#### APPENDIX B: PROPOSED BUDGET

ITEM	AMOUNT
Stationery	50,000
Transport to the study area	100,000
Binding	45,000
Printing 3 books	50,000
Printing	20,000
Library Research/fees	15,000
Internet Research	30,000
Consultation	300,000
Meals and refreshments	100,000
Miscellaneous expenses	50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>760,000</b>



**Office of the Head of Department**

**Date: 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2018**

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: INTRODUCTION LETTER FOR MR. OHIDE JOHNSON PAUL  
REG. NO.BPA/47024/152/DF**

The above mentioned candidate is a bonafide student of Kampala International University pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration.

He is currently conducting a field research for his dissertation entitled, **NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION AND THE PROMOTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROTECTION IN SOUTH SUDAN: A CASE STUDY IMATONG STATE.**

Your organisation has been identified as a valuable source of information pertaining to his research project. The purpose of this letter then is to request you to accept and avail him with the pertinent information he may need.

Any data shared with him will be used for academic purposes only and shall be kept with utmost confidentiality.

Any assistance rendered to him will be highly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Gerald Muzhaire

HOD-Administrative and political studies

