**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE:**

**RESILIENCE EXCHANGE NETWORK**

**13 February, 2018**

**Background**

NGOs in South Sudan work in all sectors across relief, recovery, rehabilitation, and development. The majority deliver humanitarian and basic services including: health, water and sanitation, education, shelter with others working in governance, human rights, civil society, and infrastructure development.

The Resilience Exchange Forum is proposed to discuss issues around resilience programming, financing, delivery of humanitarian and development assistance to populations in need in South Sudan as a potential solution to the increasing cost of the delivery of goods and services in an increasingly fragile context with burgeoning costs (USD 1.7 billion in 2017 increasing from USD 1.3 billion in 2016).

There is a growing in shift towards resilience programming and opportunities exist to ensure that communities can be supported to be more self-reliant. Efforts and approaches to resilience are fragmented; and medium to long-term funding is limited in the South Sudan context. This is due, inter alia, to a history of cycles of violence eroding gains, the difficulty building partnerships with Government institutions at national and sub-national levels and a perception that resilience programming is not a viable option in conflict settings. There are, however, examples of successful and appropriate resilience programming which present opportunities to the current situation.

**Principles of the Resilience Exchange Network**

* The Resilience Exchange Network will be a voluntary body with an annually elected Steering Committee of three NGOs.
* It will be comprised of national and international NGOs[[1]](#footnote-1) served by a Steering Committee. All organisations proposing themselves as members of the Resilience Exchange Network should also be members the South Sudan NGO Forum.
* The initial selection of the Steering Committee will be by consensus among organisations proposing themselves as a member. Future selection of the Steering Committee will be by consensus or election as decided by the sitting members.

**Main Aims of the Resilience Exchange Network are as follows:**

* To facilitate networking of NGOs engaged in resilience programming in South Sudan, to enhance coordination, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of available aid resources.
* To provide a platform through which NGOs exchange information, share expertise and learning on resilience programming.
* To provide a platform for representation and communication on resilience topics with the wider humanitarian infrastructure through external engagement.

**The proposed objectives of establishing a Resilience Network in South Sudan are as follows:**

* To develop a common understanding of resilience: what principles guide effective resilience programming? What are the challenges of resilience programming?
* To identify the scope of resilience programming across actors and mapping of project locations and actors in South Sudan
* To share information and learning to develop a learning agenda on intervention models, good practice, innovations and value for money
* To explore measurement of resilience programming and how this differs from conventional M&E Tools
* To mainstreaming the resilience agenda within and across development and humanitarian interventions in South Sudan

1. All member organisations agree to provide humanitarian and/or development assistance to the South Sudanese people regardless of ethnic background, political affiliation, or religious belief. Member organisations are nonpartisan, non-proselytising and do not participate in military activities. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)