

## **Article 9 on South Sudan**

### **Developments in South Sudan Conflict: Fragility of South Sudan**

Our Articles 1 to 3 and 5 to 8 were situation analysis of the conflict in South Sudan. Our article 4 (A) and 4 (B) were the first of our series on “Who is Who”. Our article 4 (C) is under editing. This article (9) is dedicated to Fragility of South Sudan.

The accounts of Articles 9 will demonstrate that South Sudan is not ” Resilient” enough to absorb any major shocks: Nature-made or Man-made.

### **FRAGILITY OF SOUTH SUDAN**

#### **Background to Fragility**

##### **The sad news:**

Countries around the world (All 193 member states of the UN) are rated for various indicators. We have selected 7 international indicators and logged the rating of South Sudan in the various indicators. The result is as follows:

1. Corruption Perception Index that measures the perceived corruption in the country: South Sudan ranks 173 out of 175 countries assessed or 2 marks from the worst country.
2. Failed State Index: South Sudan ranks 4<sup>th</sup> out of 171 countries assessed. That means it the in the top 4 most failed states in the world.
3. Credit Rating which measures if the country is worthy of lending: South Sudan is not even mentioned in the top 3 institutions (Standard and Poor’s, Fitch and Moody’s). It is mentioned in Dogang which is the Chinese rating tool and has a rating of (CC) out of the top AAA. It was rated as “stable” for 2013. South Sudan will not get that status in 2014. The rating of CC is the second lowest rating after Sudan which was give (C). China’s Chengxin does not even mention South Sudan.
4. The Global Hunger Index does not mention South Sudan as they have no access to any credible data.
5. In the Freedom of the Press, South Sudan ranks 124 out of 179 countries.
6. External Debt: South Sudan is not mentioned by the World Bank in their 2013 report. Not in the ratings and aggregates and not in the country tables for lack of data.
7. South Sudan does not feature in the Global Competiveness Report either. This is a measure of how lucrative and how safe a country is to invest in.

In short, South Sudan has not got any credible indicator to make it a deserving member of the international community.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> All the figures were taken from the relevant 2013 reports.

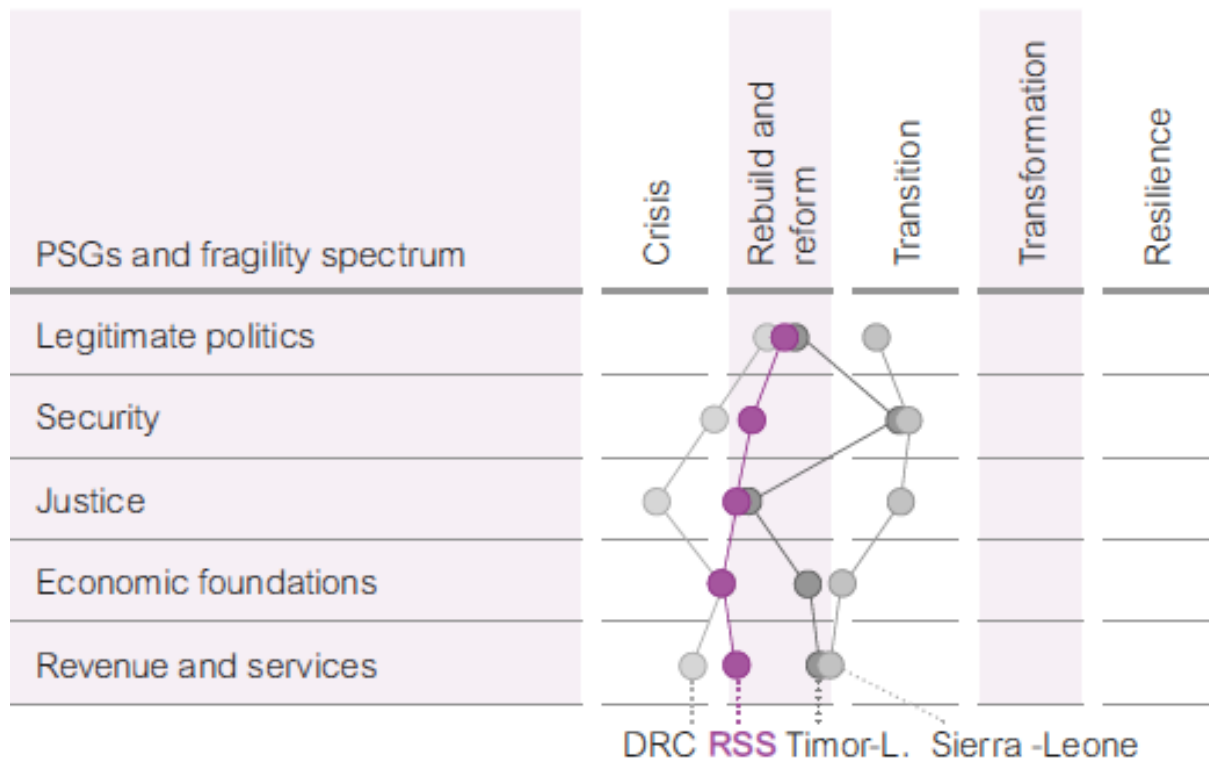
There is no “conspiracy” in that. For 2 main reasons:

1. All the indicators reports are produced in the West and the West has no quarrel with South Sudan
2. These kinds of reports use “Conflict Assessment Software Tool” CAST. This is an internet “siphoning tool” capable of collecting up to 60,000 documents per day from any region in the world. In cases they also use Pre-Conflict Management Tools” PCMT. This is a massive tool that couples intelligence issues with CAST.

## State Failure and Fragility

In August 2012, South Sudan took a bold step of measuring its own fragility. We have seen the very alarming “Summary of the Report” put out in December 2012, but we failed to get the full report. We must commend the openness and transparency exhibited in developing the report. The gist of the report is summarised in its illustrative table in page 2 of the report. The table carries comparative analysis with East Timor, DRC and Sierra Leone. All 4 countries were, and still are, in Post Conflict Reconstruction state. The table is below.

2



**(PSGs) stand for Peace and Statebuilding Goals. Those are 5 goals:**

1. Legitimate Politics
2. Security
3. Justice

<sup>2</sup> Borrowed from the Fragility report summary

4. Economic Foundations
5. Revenue and Services

**Where did each of those stand in the horizontal scale?**

1. Crisis stage
2. Rebuild and reform stage
3. Transition stage from fragility to resilience
4. Transformation stage from fragility to resilience
5. Then into resilience.

When a country is safely in the resilience stage, they have the capacity for absorption of major blows and the ability to bounce back. South Sudan did not have that.

It ranked at the bottom of all the four countries that the International Community has been trying to help.

None of its PSGs moved even past “Rebuild and Reform”. Security is now shattered. Justice is shattered. Legitimate policies are shattered.

What is left?

South Sudan is getting deeper into fragility.

But why worry?

***You cannot do statebuilding in a fragile state. A country will have to deal with that first***

**Subsahara Centre, Canada**

[elkhazin@subsaharacentre.ca](mailto:elkhazin@subsaharacentre.ca)

[www.subsaharacentre.caa](http://www.subsaharacentre.caa)