

22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Apr. 2016

The digest provides highlights of economic issues in the print and electronic media on South Sudan. UNDP's interest is on how the economic issues affects human development and vice-versa.

**Media Outlets:**

1. Eye Radio South Sudan
2. The National Today
3. Radio Tamazuj
4. Bloomberg
5. The East Africa
6. The Star
7. Daily Monitor
8. Capital FM
9. All Africa
10. The Daily Beast

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## WEEKLY MEDIA ECONOMIC DIGEST SOUTH SUDAN



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### PRICES AND MARKETS

#### Cross border market opens between Budi County and North Uganda

[The National Today- 29 Apr. 2016](#)

A cross border market between the people of Budi in South Sudan's Eastern Equatoria was established in Beri in Uganda earlier this month, according to the commissioner of the County. Daniel Narui Lochiek told Radio Tamazuj Tuesday that market days would be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to allow citizens from Budi to exchange cattle for corn from Uganda. "We have opened a cross border market between Toposa, Boya, Didinga and Dodoth with people in North Uganda", said Lochiek. He pointed that the market will help reduce the hunger which hit Eastern Equatoria and to provide them with corn by exchanging their cattle. Separately, Governor Louis Lobong urged citizens of Kapoeta to start gold mining instead of depending on humanitarian assistance from NGOs.

#### Oil Plunge Casts Doubt on South Sudan Plan to End Civil War

[William Davidson: Bloomberg- 27 Apr. 2016](#)

South Sudanese rebel leader Riek Machar returned to the capital of the world's newest nation to rejoin the government and end a two-year civil war. An economic crisis caused by the conflict and a plunge in oil prices could derail everything. The government is almost bankrupt due to sliding crude revenue, while inflation in the city, Juba, is raging at more than 240 percent. The economy shrank 5.3 percent last year and millions of people face starvation. If the state can't find the cash to pay the thousands of government soldiers and rebel fighters, violence could flare again. "Power-sharing needs a rapidly expanding budget," Alex de Waal, executive director of the World Peace Foundation at Tufts University in Massachusetts, said in a interview in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa. "The same formula is unworkable at a time of extreme austerity."

## BUSINESS

### SABMiller confirms shutdown of South Sudan brewery

[Radio Tamazuj- 22 Apr. 2016](#)

Beer giant SABMiller on Thursday confirmed the shutdown of its South Sudan brewery earlier this year in its yearly trading update. The company stopped importing raw ingredients in February and expected to stop production by March. "The continuing turmoil in South Sudan and the acute shortage of access to foreign exchange in the country has significantly impacted our performance in the second half of the year. As a

result, we have now closed the brewery and are operating as an import business," said CEO Alan Clark. The beverages conglomerate opened South Sudan Breweries, Ltd. in 2009, offering such popular beer brands as White Bull, Nile Special, and Club, among other products. [Also reported by Mabior Philip in Eye Radio South Sudan- 22 Apr. 2016: Why SSBL shut down production activities.](#)

### Eye Media launches shortwave broadcast

[Emmanuel Akile: Eye Radio South Sudan- 26 Apr. 2016](#)

Eye Media, the mother-organization of Eye Radio, has launched a new shortwave broadcast service to complement its existing FM broadcasts in South Sudan. The broadcast, which commences today, brings listeners news and information in Arabic, Shilluk, Dinka, Bari, Zande, Lutoho, and Nuer. "The Eye Radio Shortwave will

cover the whole of South Sudan including remote areas in which communities are not able to access FM radio stations," Eye Media Stephen Omiri CEO said in a statement. Eye Radio's new broadcasts will run from 7:00 to 8:00 each morning on 11730 kHz on the 25 meter band and 17730 kHz on the 17 meter band from 19:00 to 20:00.

## ECONOMY AND PUBLIC FINANCE

### Juba begins three-year voyage to EAC

[Christabel Ligami: The East Africa- 23 Apr. 2016](#)

After signing the East African Community Treaty on Accession on April 15, South Sudan now has three years to implement the Treaty in order to become a full member of the economic bloc. According to a report on 'South Sudan's Accession to the EAC,' Juba has to align its laws and policies on monetary issues, free movement of Labour, capital and people with those of the EAC before becoming a full member. This will be done progressively to allow South Sudan to build the relevant capacity and strengthen its

institutions. Within the first 12 months, Juba committed itself to enacting all the relevant legislations to give effect to the Treaty. The South Sudanese parliament will then ratify the Treaty of Accession by enacting relevant legislation to give it effect. The South Sudanese lawmakers will be tasked with harmonizing the relevant laws and policies with those of the EAC and ensuring enforcement. "This calls for a public awareness campaign by the government to build political consensus," reads the report.

## **Kenya starts to lay oil pipeline after collapse of Uganda talks**

**Samuel Kisika:** [The Star- 28 Apr. 2016](#)

Keter says Ethiopia and South Sudan had approached Kenya to partner in pipeline construction before the Uganda deal, and the state is considering their request Kenya has started to lay crude oil pipelines from Lokichar in Turkana County to Lamu Port for refining after the collapse of Uganda deal. Energy CS Charles Keter yesterday told the Senate Energy Committee the Northern Route involves construction of a pipeline from Lokichar to Lamu. The Southern Route entails transportation of crude oil from Lokichar by road to Eldoret. The oil will then be transported by rail to Mombasa. He

said the road-rail Southern Route will ferry about 2,000 barrels of crude oil daily. It will be implemented by June next year. The CS said Ethiopia and South Sudan had approached Kenya for partnership in oil pipeline construction before the Uganda deal. The government is considering their request, he said. "The first negotiation on pipeline construction was South Sudan before Uganda came in 2013. We are also engaging Ethiopia after it approached us to set up a joint oil pipeline, because it has not completed its Djibouti one," Keter said.

## **Ladsous: South Sudan doesn't have enough money for 28 states**

**Radio Tamazuj-** [27 Apr. 2016](#)

The UN Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Hervé Ladsous said yesterday that efforts by South Sudan's President Salva Kiir to divide the country's 10 states into 28 new states have fueled violence, adding that the plan is also not practical because South Sudan lacks the money it needs to establish and run the new state governments. Kiir announced the creation of the 28 states in October last year in a decree known as the 'Establishment Order,' in which he claimed authority to change state boundaries and appoint state governors and MPs. An alliance of opposition groups said the decree was unconstitutional because the constitution establishes South Sudan's ten states and limits the president's power to appoint and remove

governors and MPs. At a briefing to the UN Security Council in New York yesterday, Ladsous criticized the Establishment Order, calling it a "conflict driver." "A unilateral implementation of this order would be detrimental to the peace efforts; it also requires tremendous resources that South Sudan cannot afford," said the top UN official, who is a French national and former member of the French foreign service. Ladsous stated, "Conflict drivers like the creation of the new 28 states should be addressed in accordance with the IGAD Summit Decision and the position of the JMEC." He was referring to a resolution by the East African bloc IGAD in January which called for suspension of implementation of the Establishment Order.

## **Opinion: Reforms, reforms, reforms: the most important benefit of RSS membership in EAC**

**Aggrey Tisa Sabuni:** [Radio Tamazuj- 23 Apr. 2016](#)

The author of this article argues that membership in the East African Community (EAC) is a great opportunity for South Sudan that will encourage

investment and reform. The author is the Presidential Advisor for Economic Affairs.

### **1. Introduction**

A lot has been said and written about the potential benefits and costs of South Sudan's membership in the East African Community (EAC). While most of it has been quite informative, educative and useful, there still remains enormous need for more public enlightenment on the issue. Reforms are likely to be the most important single benefit from South Sudan's membership in the EAC. The word reform is used here to mean putting government systems and operations into a new and improved form; or to amend or correct a defective condition. The treaty establishing the EAC, together with its various protocols, laws and Memoranda of Understandings, contain principles, tenets, requirements and obligations that make it a must for member states to conduct their respective public affairs according to internationally recognized best practices. In the

case of South Sudan, it means carrying out extensive and wide ranging reforms right across the board. This in turn means instituting improvements in institutional structures and set-ups as well as professional and technical performances. In practical terms it means improvements in institutional effectiveness and efficiencies, in recruitment practices in the public service, in budgeting and budget execution, in procurement practices, in revenue collection and administration, in investment policies and practices, leading to actual investment, production and export, in rule of law and legal practices. These reforms are also quite consistent with the reforms that are clearly spelt out in various chapters of the Agreement for the Resolution of the Crisis in South Sudan (ARCISS). [The entire article can be accessed through the link above.](#)

### **South Sudan EAC entry key for regional integration, Kenyan businesses**

[Capital FM- 24 Apr. 2016](#)

South Sudan became the youngest, and sixth member of the East African Community (EAC), when its President, Salva Kiir Mayardit signed the accession treaty and requisite protocols in Dar es Salaam, at an event witnessed by the current EAC Chair, Tanzania's new reformist president, John Pombe Magufuli on Friday April 16, 2016. This event was poignant in history and meaning for the region. South Sudan has had a chequered, albeit conflict-prone history prior to gaining independence in July 2011 after voting in a referendum to secede from the Sudan. Its independence has been wracked by a war that started in December 2013, and that has killed at

least 50,000 people and displaced two million people according to aid sources. However, there is a silver lining all this as the cessation of hostilities brokered by IGAD last year is getting traction and it is expected that it will transition to a government of national unity this week after the negotiated settlement between the two protagonists, President Kiir and Dr Riek Machar. Stakes are high but regional leaders are optimistic that the two leaders will respect the terms of the agreement and work together towards bringing the benefits of the ideals of the EAC, and the benefits of regional integration to the long-suffering South Sudanese people.

### **East Africa: Major EAC Infrastructure Projects Were Long Overdue**

[Allan Brian Ssenyonga: All Africa- 24 Apr. 2016](#)

This past week has come with so much drama it feels like the week even had more days than the

weeks before. I have to keep reminding myself that South Sudan is now part of us (East African

Community) and so I make an effort to keep track of what is happening there. As I wrote this, the whole country was still waiting for Dr. Riek Machar, to fly back to Juba and be reinstated as the deputy to President Salva Kiir. Each time Dr. Machar is to fly a disagreement comes up on how many soldiers and weapons he can be allowed to come with to Juba. Journalists have been extending their hotel stays as they wait for this big man to show up. This standoff has put the whole peace process in question for a young country trying to recover from a civil war that cost

many lives and property. The above situation sometimes makes me wonder whether admitting South Sudan to the EAC happened at the right time or could have waited a bit for them to sort out their issues or if it in anyway serves to push them towards resolving their issues so they can look good when with other EAC members. In the same breath Burundi continues to ail with its political mess that is slowly eating it up. [Also reported by Martin Luther Munu in Daily Monitor- 27 Apr. 2016: South Sudan in EAC: What are Uganda's trade prospects](#)

### **Abyei govt sets conditions on use of new tractors**

[Radio Tamazuj- 27 Apr. 2016](#)

Abyei's Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources has laid some conditions for farmers to use the 15 tractors it received from South Sudan's government. The acting director of agriculture in the ministry, Francis Ayuel said only a farmer who has a garden measuring 3 fedans and above would be allowed to use a tractor. He added that a farmer has to provide fuel for the tractor by himself. "For a tractor to work on your farm, the condition is that your land should be a big, big size and clean. It should not be having tree

stumps," he explained. "Secondly there will be a fee to be paid but the amount is not fixed. So we urge a farmer or a group of farmers who have organized themselves to make sure that their farms are well prepared," added Francis. Also in Abyei, the South Sudan National Secondary Schools Examinations ended Monday. 45 students sat for the tests in Agok secondary, the only secondary school that had candidates this year. The results of the exams are expected to come out in July.

### **Over 60 doctors quit over salary arrears**

[Emmanuel Akile: Eye Radio South Sudan- 26 Apr. 2016](#)

More than 60 doctors at the Juba Teaching Hospital say they have stopped working for having not been paid salaries since December. They say their conditions at the hospital are too poor for them to continue working. Some say they requested the Ministry of Health to immediately solve their issue but the ministry only told them there was no money. "Situation has compelled us to stop the duties. When we forwarded this complain to the office of the undersecretary, they denied us all these things. No accommodation, no water, no feeding, no

whatever," said Thomas Thik, one of the doctors. For his part, the Undersecretary in the Ministry of Health denied that the doctors have stopped working. Dr Makur Matur Koriom said all the doctors in the payroll of the ministry have received their salaries. "What I know is that all the employees who work for the government of the Republic of South Sudan have not gotten up to this day their salaries for the month of March," he explained. However, the doctors say patients have now been left to the attention of only clinical officers and nurses.