

South Sudan

Voices from an Emerging Democracy

13 June 2012



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Methodology Overview

- Face to Face Interviewing
- Field Period: November 7 – December 7, 2011
- Target Population: Urban South Sudanese, 18+
- Sampling: 5 key cities in South Sudan, total n=1,050
 - Juba (260 interviews)
 - Malakal (235 interviews)
 - Rumbek (235 interviews)
 - Yambio (160 interviews)
 - Wau (160 interviews)
- Respondents were selected using a multi-stage random sample, from PSU selection (random draw selection of sampling points within Bomas throughout each city), to household selection (random route) and respondent selection (Kish grid).
- Margin of sampling error, assuming a simple random sample with $p=0.5$, final $n=975$ and a 95% confidence interval, is ± 3.14 .
- These data were weighted using city and gender population estimates from the “5th Sudan Population & Housing Census – 2008”; these post-stratification weights adjust the disproportionate sample allocation to match the final sample to the aforementioned population figures for analysis.

July 9, 2011 – South Sudan Independence



November 7 – December 7, 2011

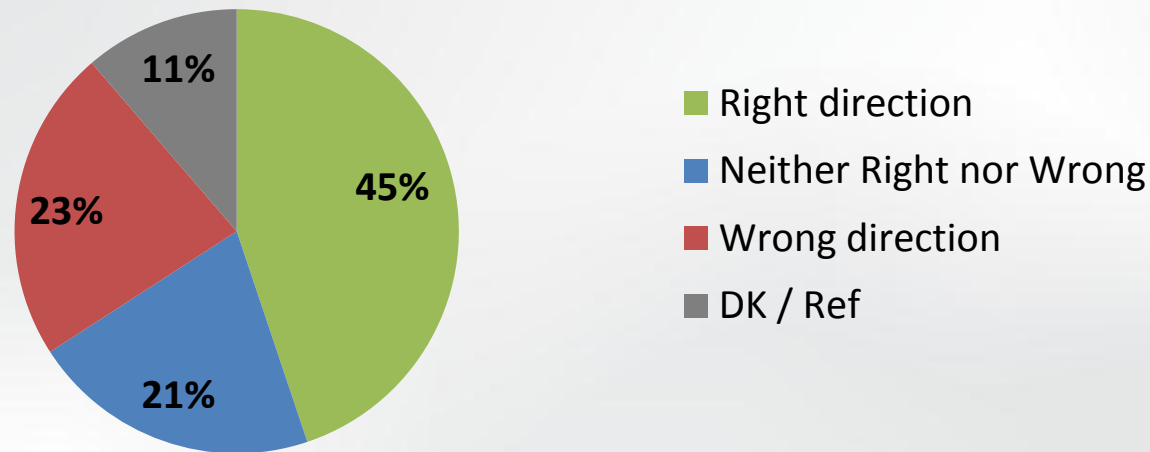


Overview of Findings

- Optimism about the future of the country consistently shows throughout the results
- With the field period coming 4 months after independence (July 9, 2011), urban respondents were likely experiencing a 'honeymoon period' with regard to perceptions of their newly independent government.
- The period between independence through the end of 2011 was relatively calm with few reports of conflict between Sudan and South Sudan.
- Attitudes, especially with regard to security and violence, have likely changed over the past 6 months with wide reports of violence, especially in South Kordufan, Unity State, Blue Nile and Jonglei.
- Attitudes toward the United States are consistently positive while attitudes toward other current economic and security partners, most notably China, remain far more mixed.
- Hydrocarbon policy, at the center of much of the violence, remains a difficult issue; most respondents prefer a solution favoring autonomy even though that solution is estimated to be at least 15 years out and no progress has been made toward that goal to date.
- Research in post-conflict zones is challenging; challenges will be discussed at the end.

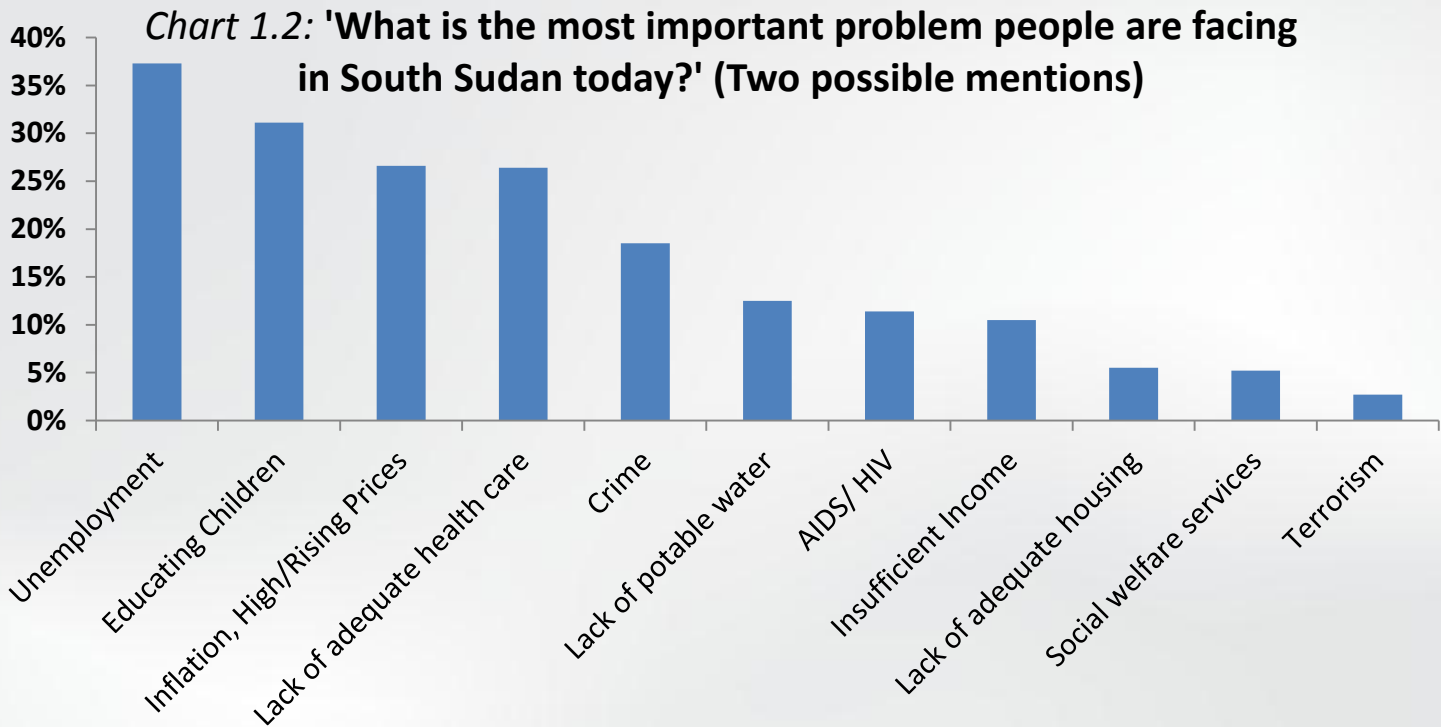
General Satisfaction

Chart 1.1: 'Do you think that things in our country are generally headed in the right direction or are things headed in the wrong direction?'



- Optimism about the future is very high among urban South Sudanese
- Results are likely an effect of a “honeymoon period” after independence
- Uncertainty is also high with 1/3 giving a neutral or non-response

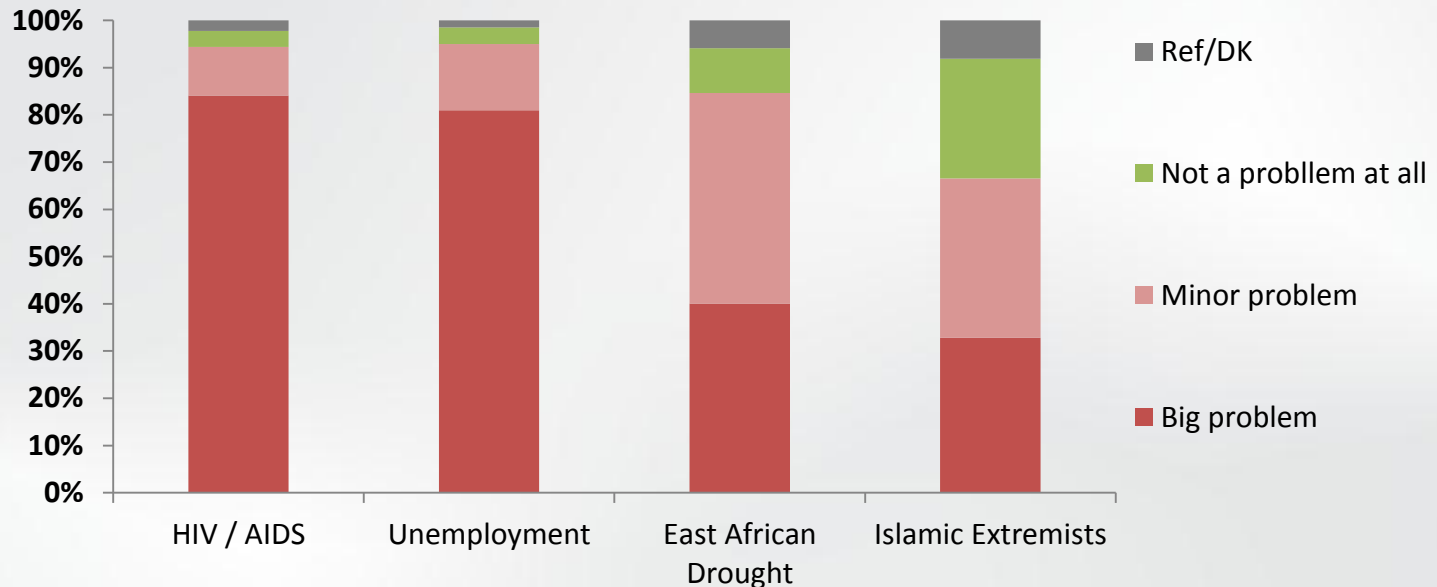
General Satisfaction



- Unemployment was cited by 37% of respondents out of two possible mentions
- Education (31%), inflation (27%) and health care (26%) follow closely behind
- Notably, HIV/AIDS (11%) and terrorism (3%) were lower than might be expected

General Satisfaction

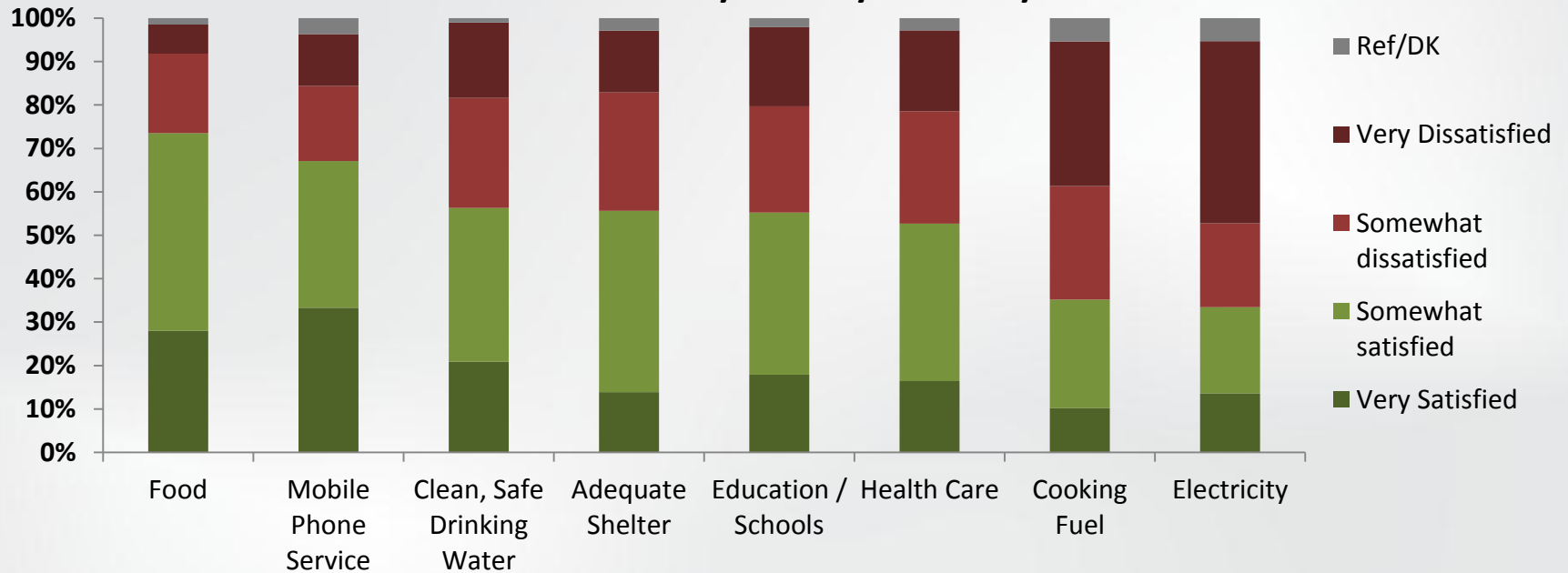
Chart 1.3: 'Please tell me if this issue is a big problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all in South Sudan...'



- When asked about specific issues, HIV/AIDS considered the biggest problem
- Unemployment remains a major concern
- Islamic extremism is not as likely to be perceived as a problem

General Satisfaction

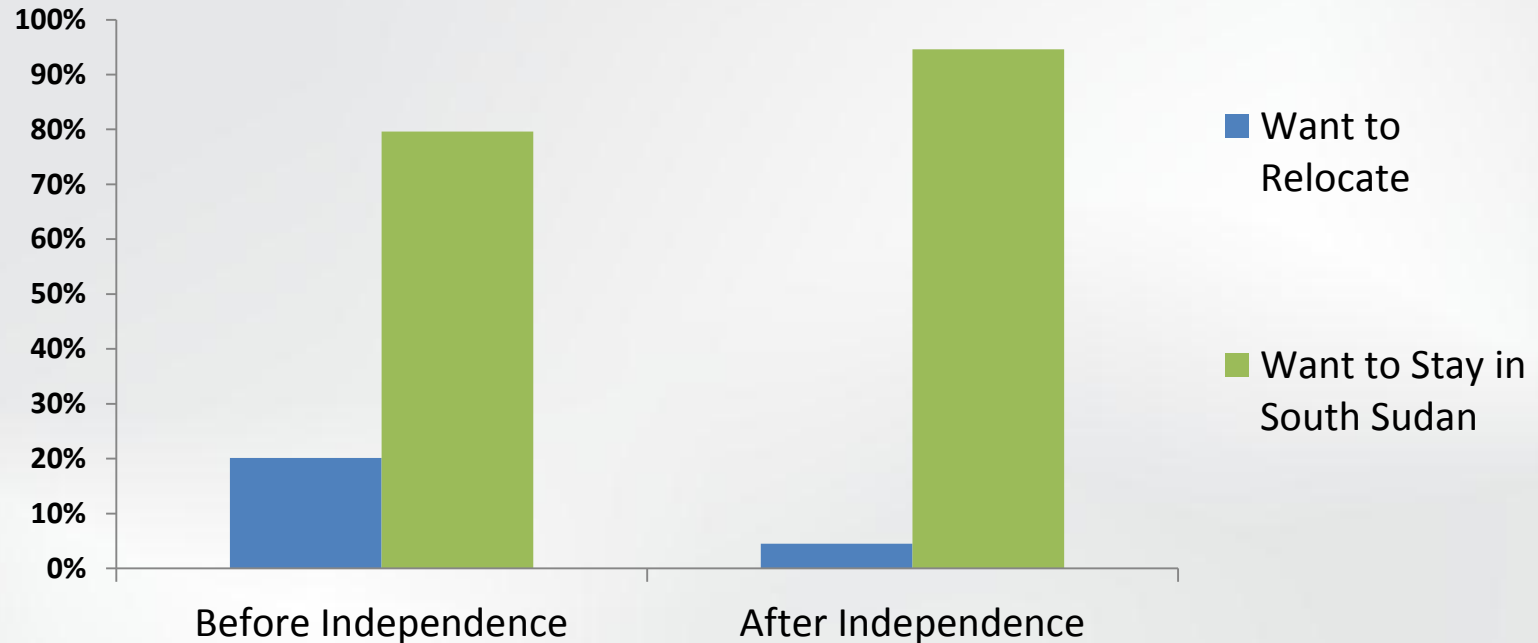
Chart 1.4: 'How satisfied are you with your ability tot get the following goods or services for you and your family?'



- Urban respondents were most satisfied with food and mobile phone service
- Least satisfied with cooking fuel and electricity
- Interesting dichotomy where food and phones rely on fuel and electricity

General Satisfaction

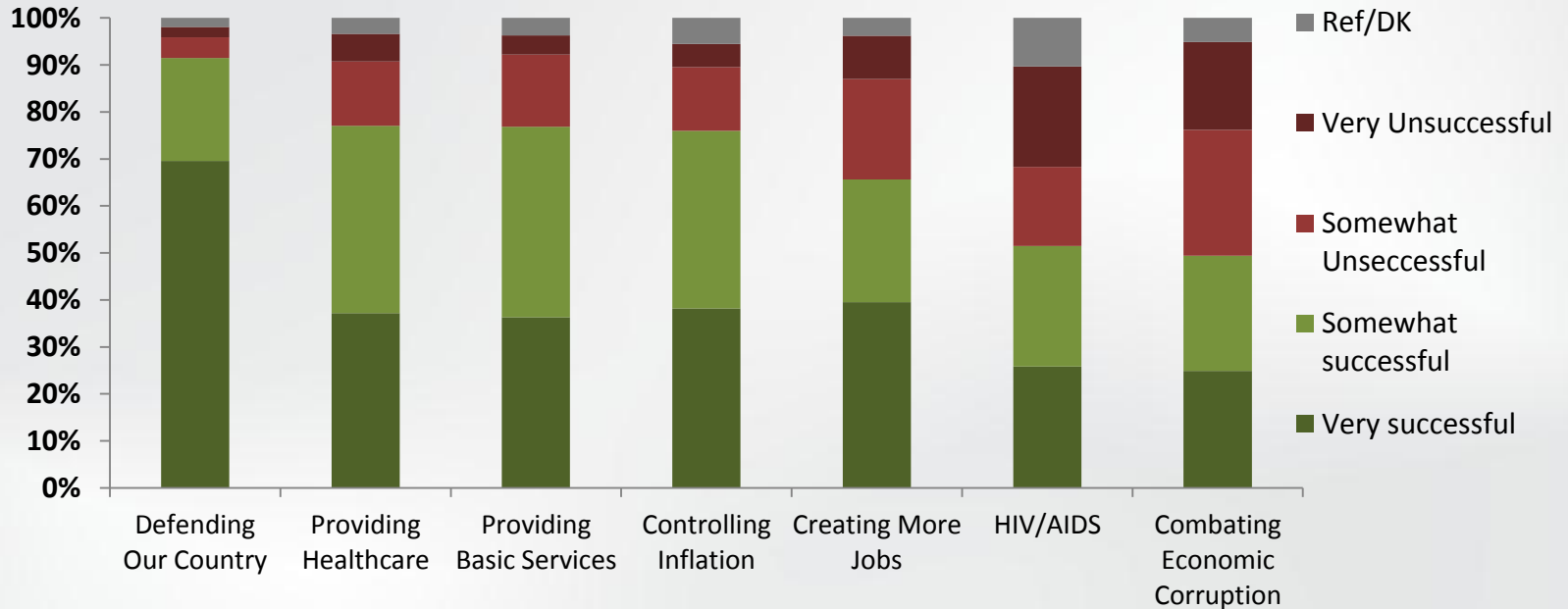
Chart 1.5: Desire to Relocate



- Most respondents wanted to stay in South Sudan prior to independence
- This increased post independence to a point where nearly all want to remain
- This finding underscores the optimism and potential 'honeymoon' period

Government Confidence

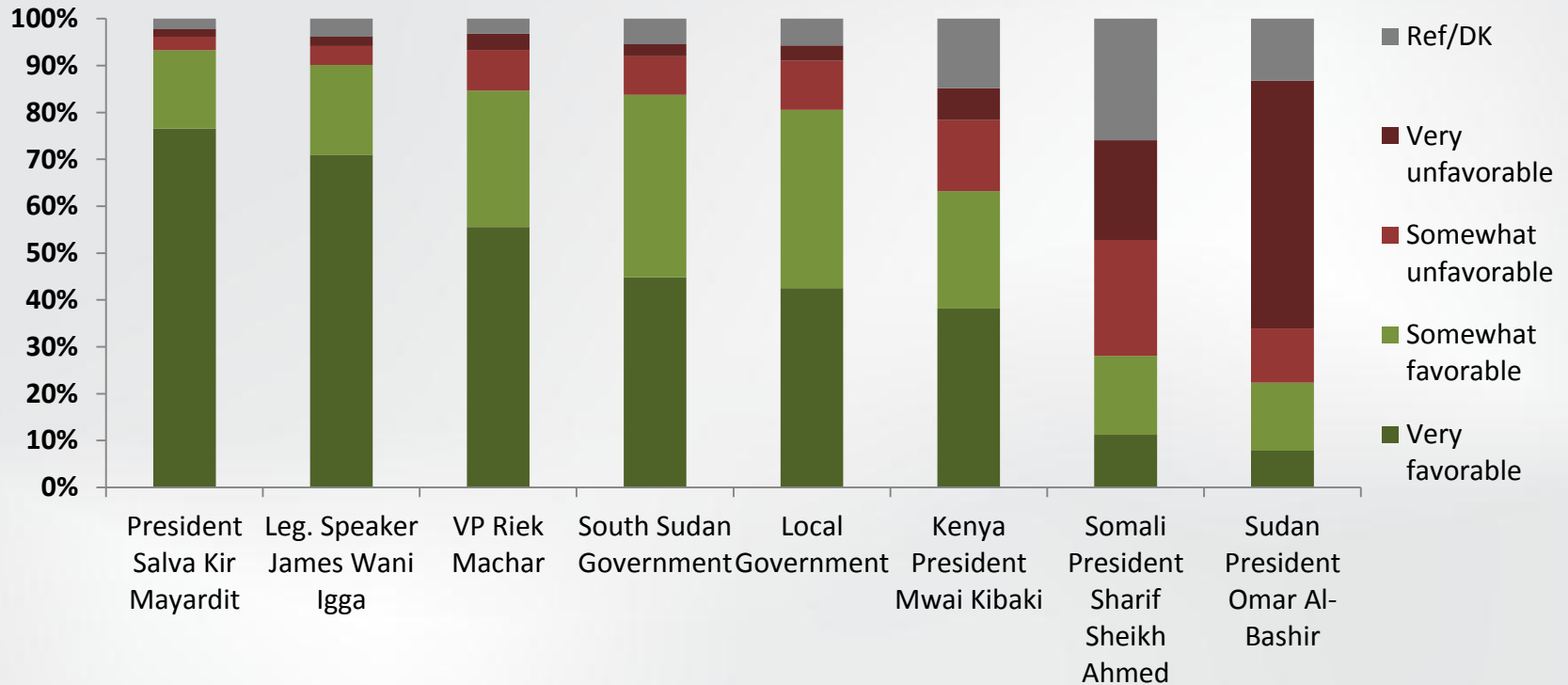
Chart 3.1: How successful do you think the South Sudanese government will be in dealing with...?



- Extremely high optimism around national defense
- Ability to combat HIV/AIDS and corruption is significantly more suspect
- Inability to deal with corruption could bring an end to the 'honeymoon period'

Government Confidence

Chart 3.2: Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of...?



- Most visible politicians within South Sudan enjoy extremely high favorability
- Favorability of both national and local government is similarly high
- Not surprisingly, Bashir and Ahmed are viewed very negatively

Government Confidence

Chart 3.3: Trust in South Sudanese Gov't Institutions

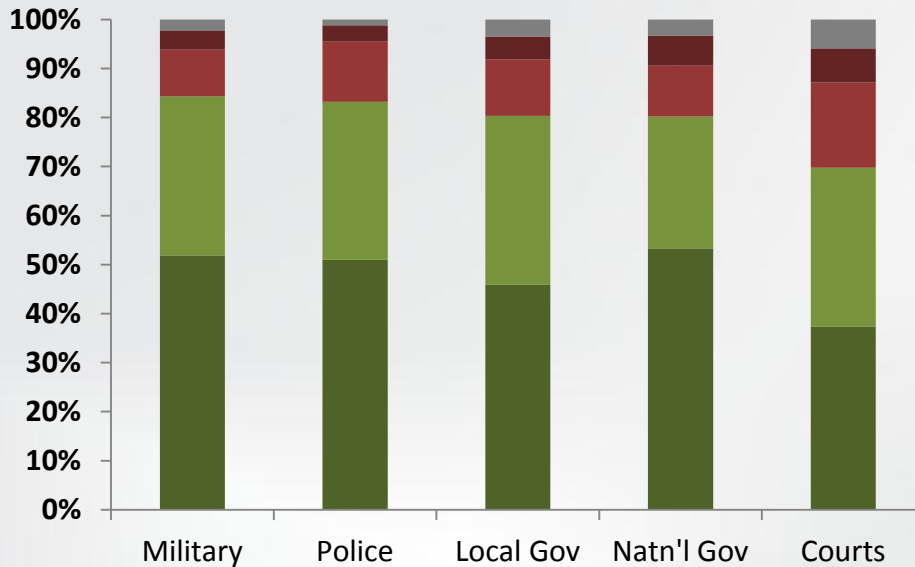
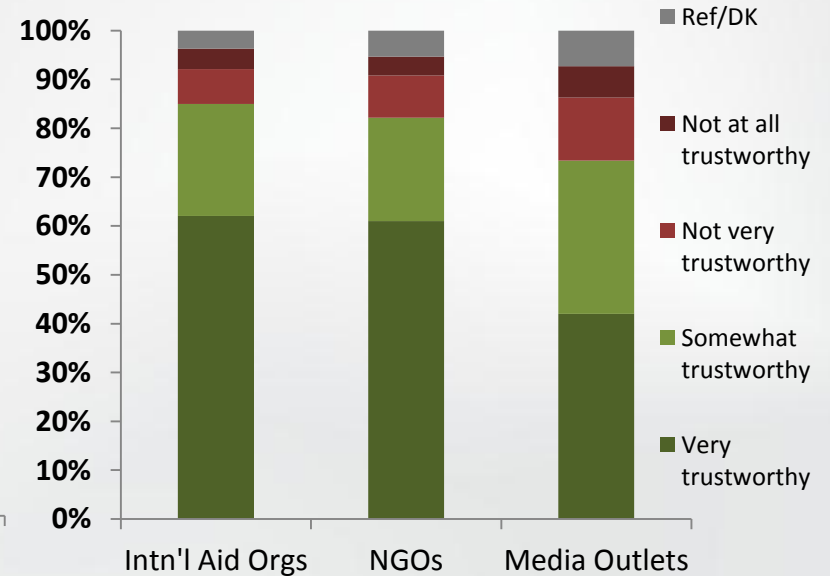


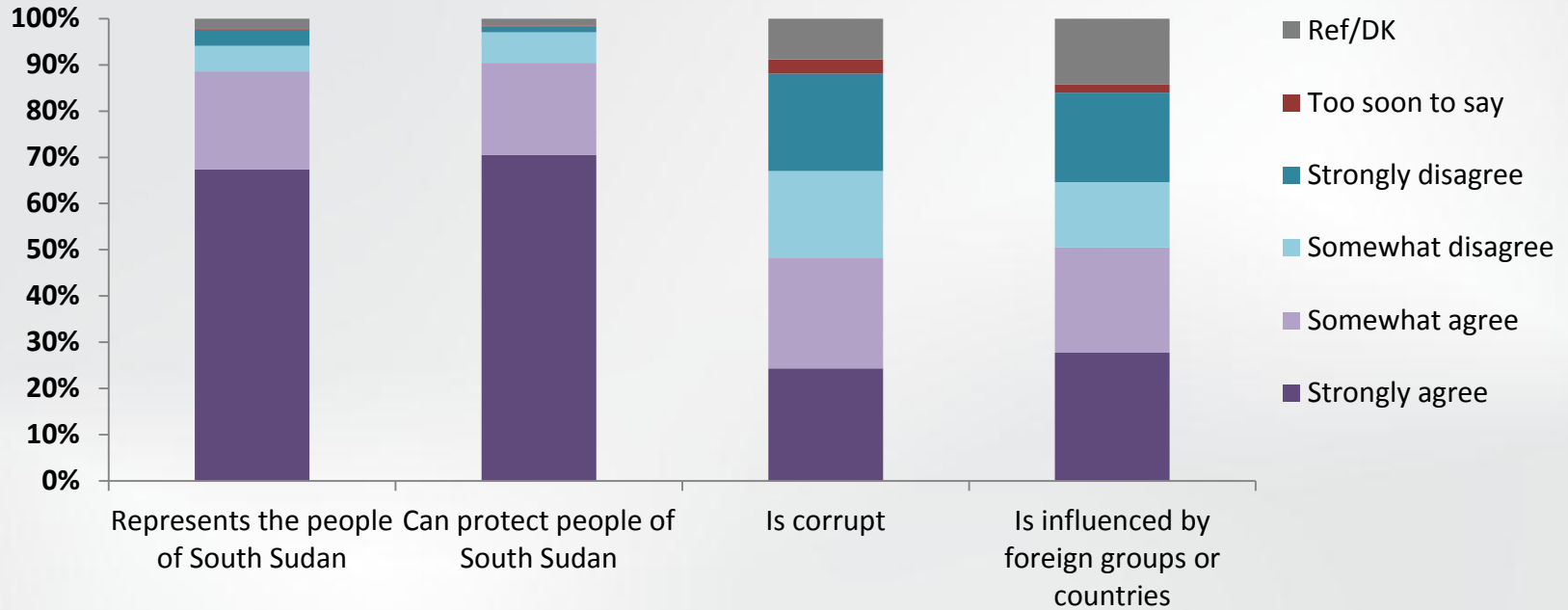
Chart 3.4: Trust in South Sudanese Non Gov't Institutions



- Trust is similarly high for most government and non-government institutions
- Courts and media both measure slightly lower but still show strong confidence
- Perceptions of corruption could quickly erode these high levels of trust

Government Confidence

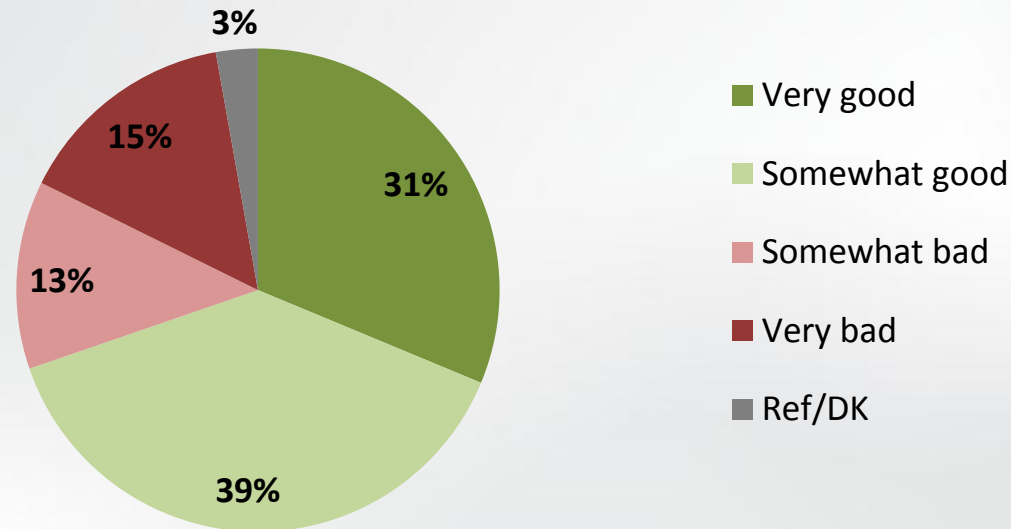
Chart 3.4: How strongly do you agree that the government of South Sudan:



- High optimism in representativeness of government and ability to defend
- However, perceptions of corruption and foreign influence are prevalent as well
- Inability to change perception of corruption could quickly erode overall confidence

Security and Violence

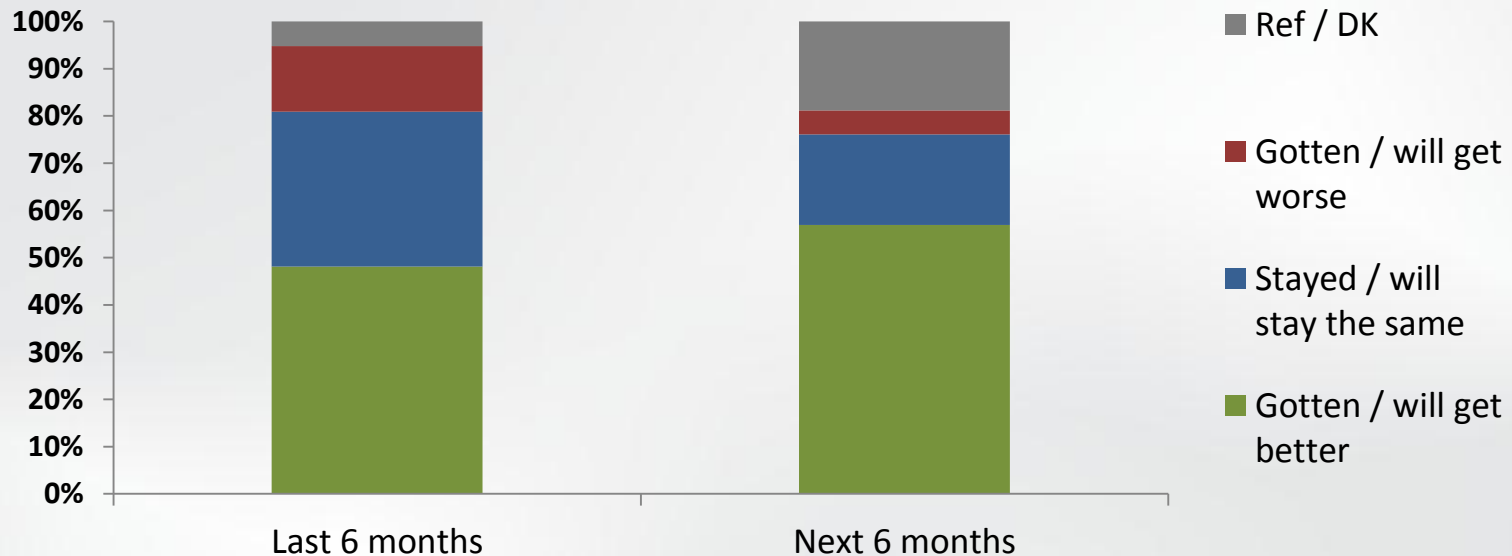
Chart 5.1: How would you rate the level of security in your neighborhood?



- Confidence in defense has led to a feeling of local security
- Data preceded recent outbreaks of violence which have likely altered perceptions
- This is a positive starting point for a new country with a long history of violence

Security and Violence

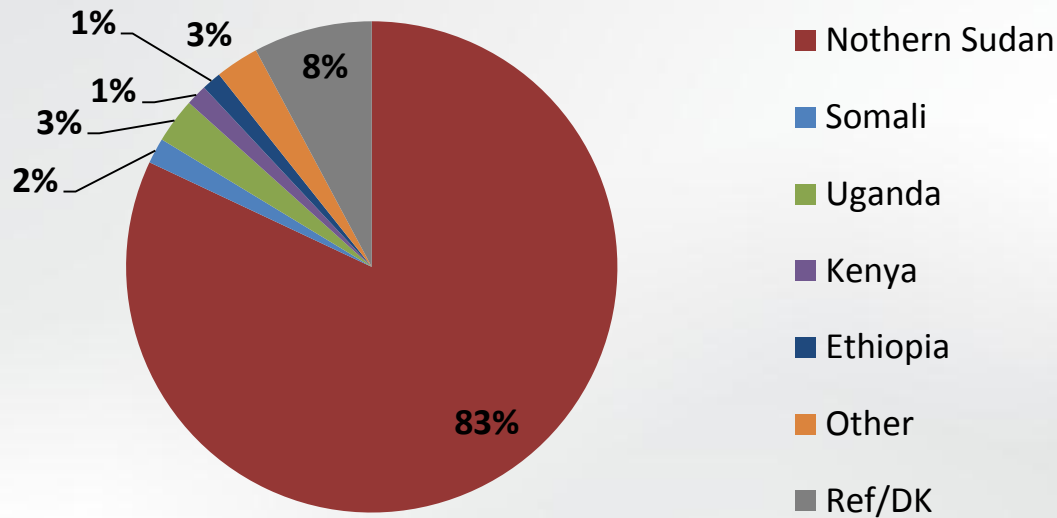
Chart 5.2: Do you believe the level of security in your neighborhood has / will...



- Nearly half believe local security has improved over past 6 months
- 57% believe it will continue to improve over next 6 months, though uncertainly also grew as non-response went from 5% to 19%
- Recent violence would indicate that early optimism may not have come to fruition

Foreign Influences

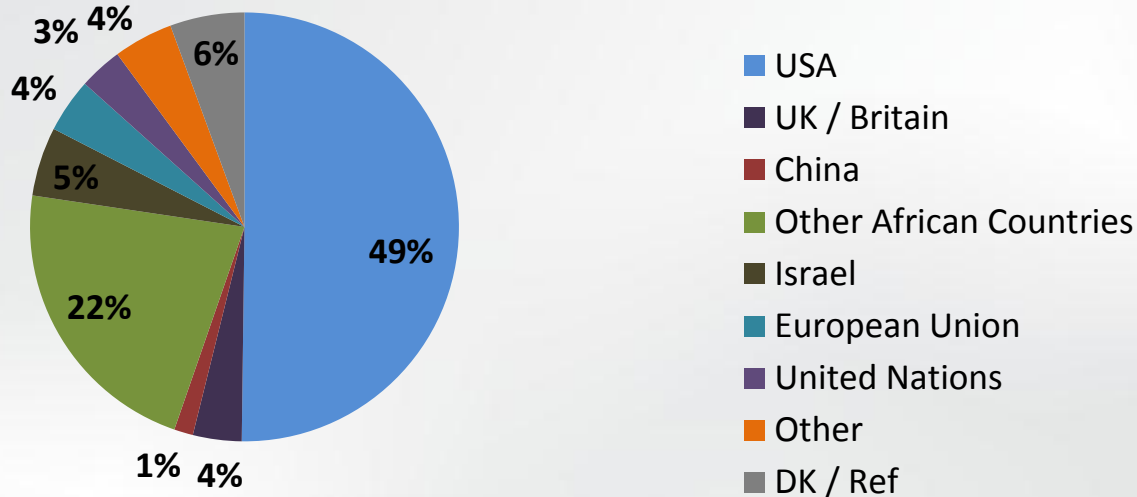
Chart 6.1: Which country currently poses the greatest threat to South Sudan?



- Sudan overwhelmingly acknowledged as the greatest threat
- Possibility of a new war seems to have justified these early fears
- Public perceptions of fear could fuel the recent conflicts over borders and oil

Foreign Influence

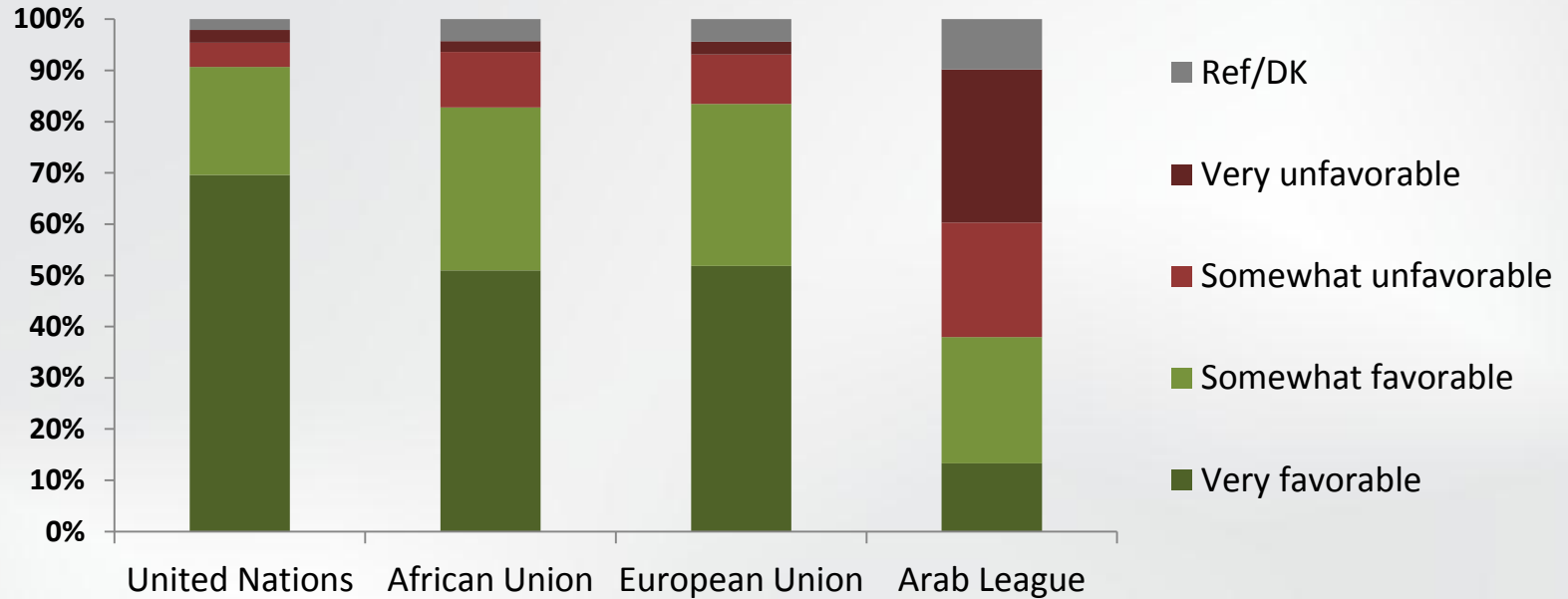
Chart 6.2: Which foreign country would you most want international aid or help from to help fight against violence or instability in South Sudan?



- Despite a lack of past military support, US perceived as greatest desired ally
- China has more UN troops than the US, but only 1% view them as preferred partner
- Indicates that if war breaks out, South Sudanese will look to the US for assistance

Foreign Influence

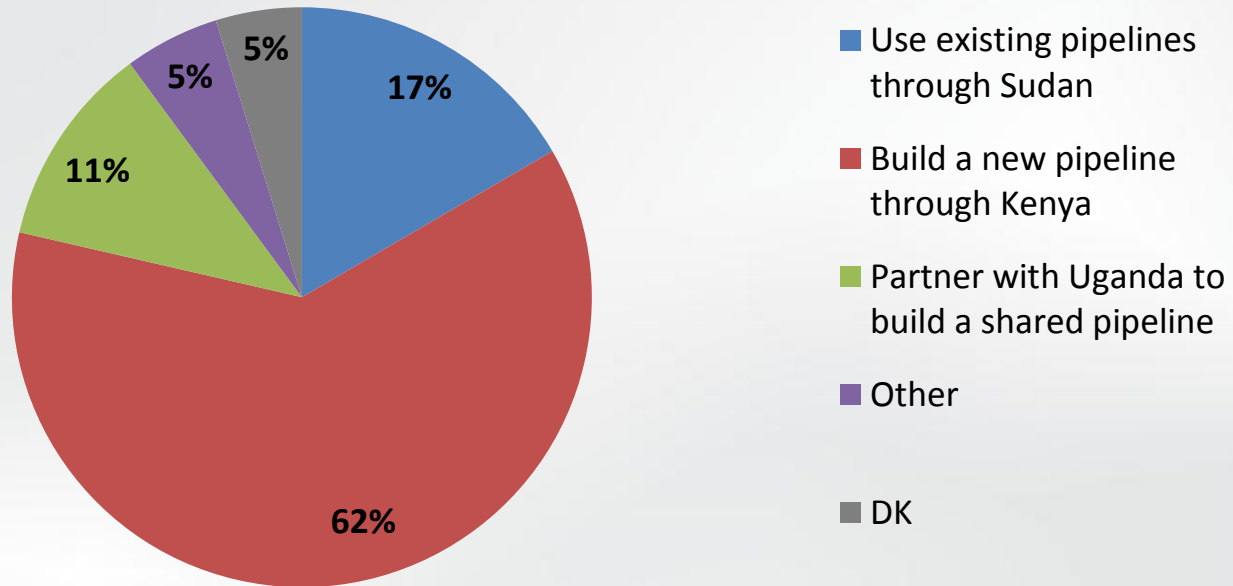
Chart 6.3: Favorability of global organizations



- UN viewed most favorably among international organizations
- African and European Unions are also viewed favorably
- Solutions to conflict brokered by the Arab league may not be accepted as readily

Hydrocarbon Policy

Chart 4.4: Best option for South Sudan to export oil



- Few (17%) respondents prefer continuing partnership with Sudan on oil
- A majority (62%) would like a new pipeline built through Kenya
- The preferred solution is estimated to take 15 or more years, so an intermediate solution needs to be found and public support needs to be fostered

Field Challenges

- Very few research resources are currently available in South Sudan.
- Teams in each city had to be recruited from universities and local contacts then trained for 2 days and monitored closely and retrained when necessary throughout the field period.
- Lack of reliable, current population statistics and detailed city maps created significant challenges in sampling and fielding.
- Large number of local languages and dialects also created a unique challenge.
 - Most interviews were able to be fully conducted in Arabic or English.
 - Respondents in villages around cities needed additional explanation in other languages.
- Although it proved labor intensive, the field teams were able to deliver reliable data within the urban areas sampled.
- Capturing a representative, national sample for future research will require a significant allocation of resources to build up rural research capabilities.

For Further Information

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