

# Disaster Risk Reduction and Conflict Sensitive Programming

## Case study from Sudan

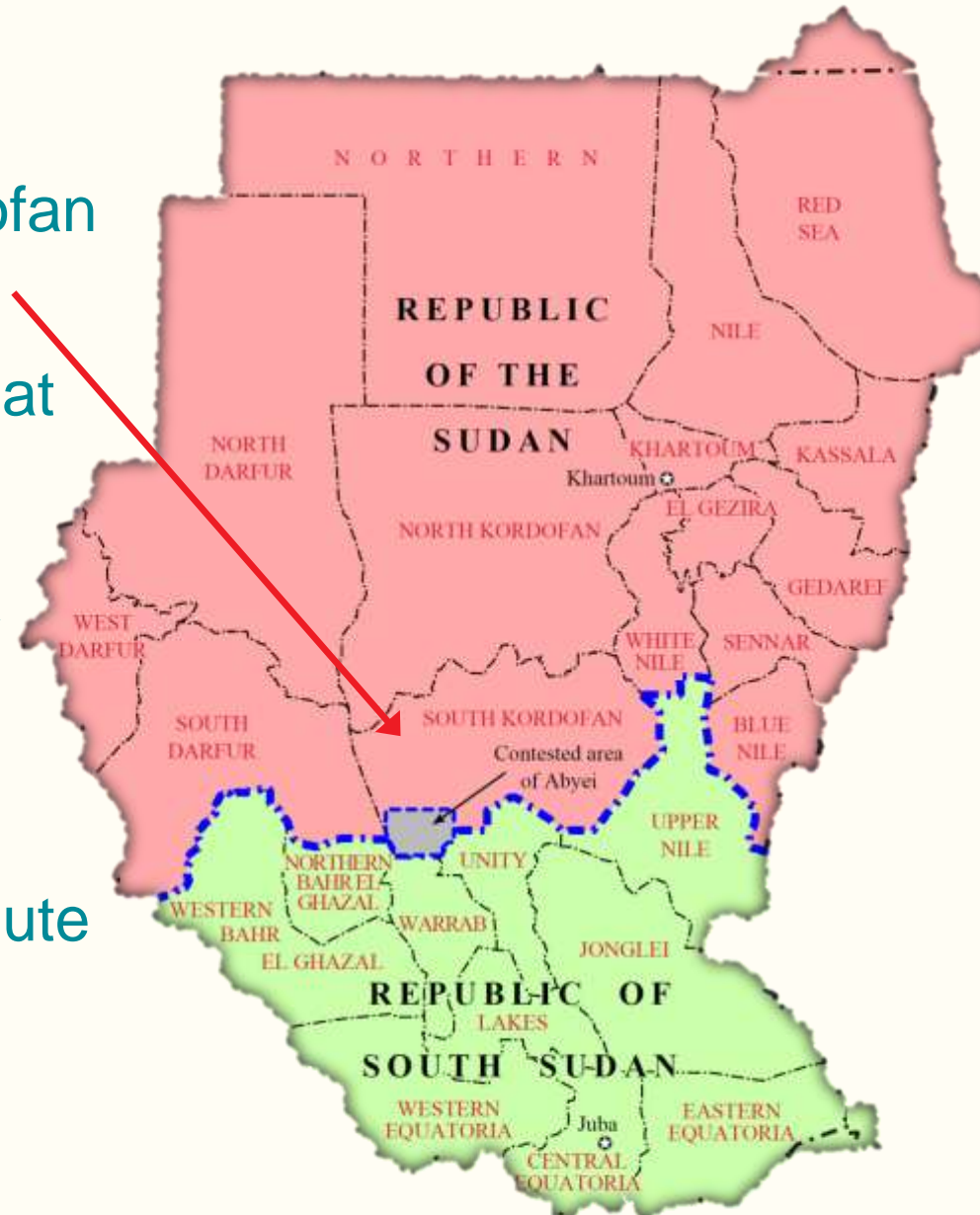
The colliding worlds of the nomadic Misseriya pastoralists and Ngok Dinka agriculturalists

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# Muglad Locality – between Sudan and South Sudan

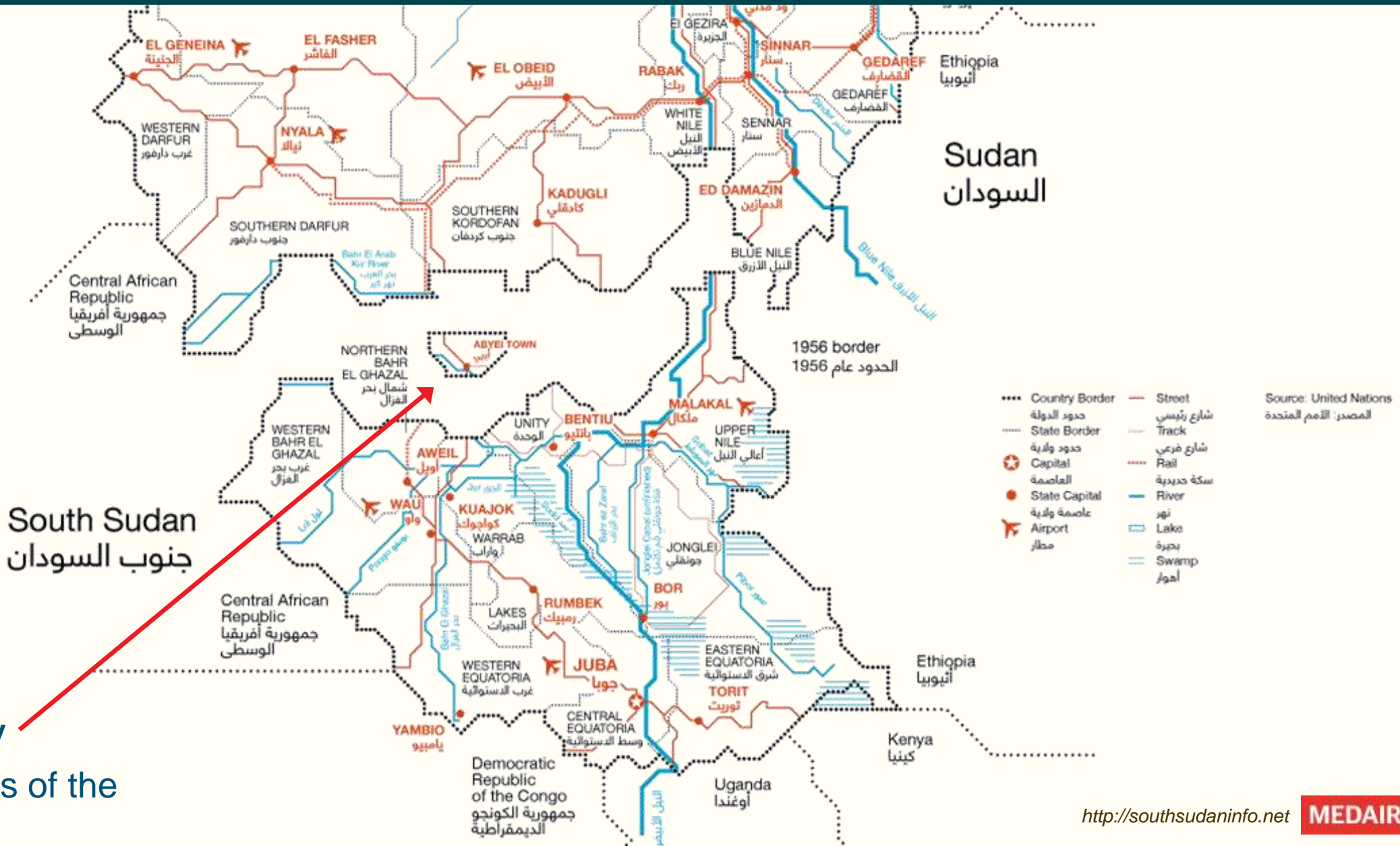
- Programming since 2003 in South Kordofan among the Nuba
- Assessed in 2009 that there were growing tensions between Misseriya and Dinka
- Leading up to referendum in Jan 2011, decided that Medair could contribute to reducing such tensions



# Background

- Two groups; Misseriya and Dinka
  - previously, cattle would arrive after harvest and graze
  - both sides were happier with this arrangement
- But...with encroaching desertification
- Water scarcity

# Water scarcity



# Case Study

# Migration Routes of the Misseriya

# Background

- Two groups; Misseriya and Dinka
  - previously, cattle would arrive after harvest and graze
  - both sides were happier with this arrangement
- But...with encroaching desertification
- Water scarcity
- Misseriya annual cattle migration starts earlier
- Before Dinka have a chance to harvest crops, they are destroyed by cattle  sparks conflict
- A real clash of worldviews – *um katiti*
- Complex context
  - border dispute, oil, land ownership, delayed referendum
- Both natural and human (conflict) related risk present

# Key to reducing conflict



Medair had already been implementing WASH programmes in South Kordofan from 2009-2012, so decided to;

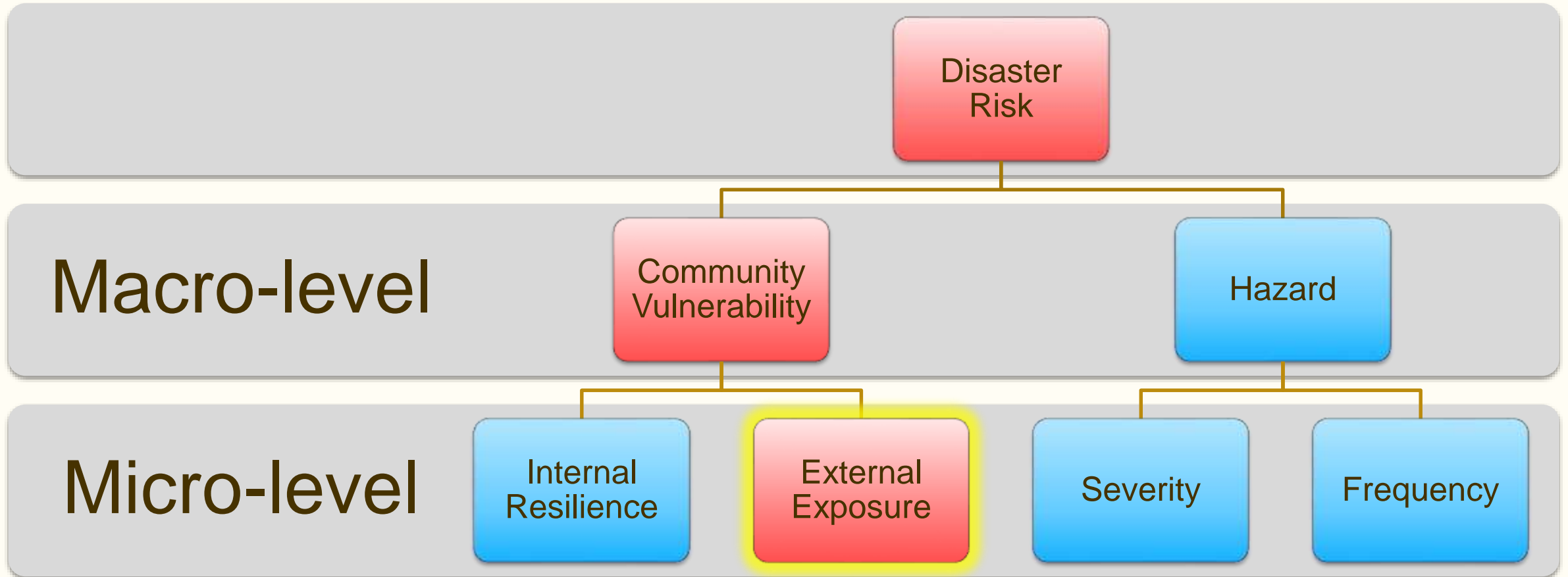
- create new water yards along Misseriya migration route to slow migration
- review the sustainability of current water points in Muglad locality



# In corporation with SOS Sahel and State Water Corporation, Medair:

- Organised a workshop for I/NGOS, local authorities, UN and local leaders in March 2011. Key outcomes were:
  - coordination between actors on strategic positioning of water yards
  - ensure sustainability through improved sharing of tariff revenue and generator installation
  - Shared experiences...e.g. need to look at who benefits (identity of staff, ownership of water yards etc.)
- Hired consultant to:
  - Review management of existing water yards in Muglad locality
  - Develop a comprehensive picture of water availability

...just my take on where this programme sits





# Challenges to the programme

- Justifying rarely used and costly water points
  - water is 400m deep, so 150,000 USD to construct one yard
- Keeping everyone happy
  - Decision to help communities with 60/40 Misseriya/Dinka divide...*but*
  - Current emergency WASH team in Agok (just south of Abyei) faces challenges with ensuring inclusivity; most actors in the area focus on either north or south
- Conflicts between SWC ownership of migration water points and local responsibility for fixed water points
- Restricted access due to security affected construction
- Tension over mistaking Medair for oil companies

# Conclusions / Lessons Learned

- A more holistic view of risk
  - analysing the wider context (important for our case study!)
- In fragile (conflict-affected) states, prioritising 'life-saving activities' can mean DRM is ignored
  - this is essential considering Medair's mandate
- Human conflicts and natural hazards are not mutually exclusive
  - *In Sudan*, when there is flooding during rainy season, fighting is reduced
  - *In Angola*, the environment was given a chance to recover because the people had fled from fighting

# Training in Maban, 2014: *keeping DRM simple and practical*

