**Conflict Factsheet**

**Conflict between Didinga and Toposa in South Sudan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of conflict</th>
<th>Intensity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sub</td>
<td>2</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conflict Locality</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern Africa</td>
<td>1944–2014</td>
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<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Resources</th>
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<tr>
<td>S. Sudan</td>
<td>Agricultural / Pastoral Land, Water</td>
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**Conflict Summary**

Toposa and Didinga have repeatedly clashed over land, livestock and water in the past. In 2013, however, the two groups could reach a peace agreement and hostilities have ceased.
**Conceptual Model**

- **Climate Change**
  - Gradual Change in Temperature and/or Precipitation

- **Environmental Change**
  - Natural Resource Scarcity

- **Intermediary Mechanisms**
  - Change in Access / Availability of Natural Resources
  - Grievances between Societal Groups

- **Fragility and Conflict Risks**
  - History of Conflict
  - Low Level of Economic Development
  - Weak Institutions

**Context Factors**

- Agricultural / Pastoral Land, Water
- Water-stressed Area
Conflict History

Cattle raiding and disputes over land and water have plagued the Didinga and Toposa in the past. After the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) and the Government of Sudan in 2005 relations have improved and the two years following the signing of the peace agreement have been peaceful. However, in 2007 violence broke out again when a Didinga group was attacked by Toposa cattle raiders. At least 54 people were killed during the attack, including 48 women (The Didinga Community, 2007; UCDP, 2015).

One reason for the renewed violence between Toposa and Didinga can be seen in increasing competition over scarce resources, mainly grazing land and water. Maystadt et al. identified temperature anomalies as an important factor exacerbating this situation (Maystadt et al., 2014). From 1997 to 2009, high temperature deviations from the historical mean were found to correlate with an increased frequency of local conflicts in North and South Sudan (UNHCR, 2014; Maystadt et al., 2014).

Another factor contributing to the outbreak of violence in 2007 was the enrolment of many Didinga men in the Sudanese People’s Liberation Army (SPLA) after the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005, leaving the Didinga community unable to defend itself against Toposa attacks. A factor further compounded by the lack of adequate police protection in Didinga areas (The Didinga Community, 2007).

Resolution Efforts

In 2013 the Didinga and Toposa reached a peace agreement and vowed to end hostility (Nakimangole, 2013). In March 2014 a second peace conference was organized by the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the East Equatorian State Government, which was attended by leaders of both groups. During the peace talks, cattle raids were condemned and the state government agreed to deploy police personnel into the area (UNMISS, 2014). Since then hostilities between Toposa and Didinga have ceased.
### Intensities & Influences

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<td><strong>INTENSITIES</strong></td>
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<td>International / Geopolitical Intensity</td>
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<td><strong>INFLUENCES</strong></td>
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<td>Environmental Influences</td>
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<td>Societal Influences</td>
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### Resolution Success

**Reduction in Violence**

Violence has ceded completely.

**Reduction in geographical scope**

There has been no reduction in geographical scope.

**Increased capacity to address grievance in the future**

There is no increased capacity to address grievances in the future.

**Grievance Resolution**

Grievances have been mostly addressed.

**Causal Attribution of Decrease in Conflict Intensity**

Conflict resolution strategies have been clearly responsible for the decrease in conflict intensity.
Entry Points for Resilience and Peace Building

**Peacekeeping**
The state government agreed to deploy police personnel into the area.

**Dialogue**
A peace conference was organized by the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the East Equatorian State Government in 2014.

**Treaty/agreement**
The Didinga and Toposa reached a peace agreement in 2013.

Resources and Materials

References with URL

- Uppsala Conflict Data Program (Date of retrieval: 2015/05/18) UCDP Conflict Encyclopedia: [www.ucdp.uu.se/database](http://www.ucdp.uu.se/database), Uppsala University
- UNMISS (2014). Communities meet to curb inter-ethnic conflict.
- Maystadt, J., Calderone, M., You, L. (2014). Local warming and violent conflict in North and South Sudan

Further information

[https://factbook.ecc-platform.org/conflicts/didinga-toposa-south-sudan](https://factbook.ecc-platform.org/conflicts/didinga-toposa-south-sudan)