



Peace Palette Project Report

The 2nd Sport for Peace (S4P)

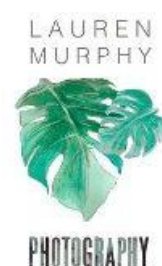
PEACE & RECONCILIATION

BASKETBALL LEAGUE (PRBL)



TURALEI, TWIC STATE, SOUTH SUDAN
27TH – 30TH December, 2018

"I would have never met people from other states, if not for this tournament"
"We lived together as brothers and sisters" – Players from other states



Project Title: Sport for Peace Project (Peace and Reconciliation Basketball League)

Name of implementing agency: [Peace Palette](#)

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PeacePalette/>

Names of major funding agencies:

Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Wakachiai Project

Project duration: February 2018 – January 2019

Event dates: December 27 – 30, 2018

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The report at a glance:



6 states, 7 teams

84 players & 5 coaches



trained

Cultural dancers from 2 states



5 girls across states as
players



11 boys (U-14) as players



6 referees employed



4 Government officials



Over 3,000 spectators

Executive Summary

This report highlights the outcomes of the three components of our Sport for Peace project: 1) cultural dialogue, 2) peace-building training, and 3) Peace and Reconciliation Basketball League (PRBL).

These three components resulted in increasing positive engagement and harmony with neighbouring states that were otherwise enemies of cattle raids and conflicts. Peace Palette has received overwhelming feedback about the peace-building message behind the PRBL initiative.

In summary, the outcomes include the following:

- **Nurturing inter-state peace-building training** which benefited 84 players, 5 referees, 6 coaches, to be **Peace Ambassadors**.
- **5 girls** across states came to participate in the PRBL.
- **11 boys under 14** joined the PRBL to play with girls.
- 3 individuals received **Noriaki MVP Award**: men, women, and U-14.
- Government officials joined and acknowledged **the growth of PRBL**.
- **Absence of conflicts**: No verbal and physical conflicts observed in PRBL. Participants all demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. No negative incidents (eg. misplaced personal belongings) witnessed and reported.
- **More pronounced unity, inclusiveness and forgiveness**: Training participants embraced the new ideas introduced by guest trainers.
- **Strengthened companionship**: shared meals, accommodation and laughter mean players felt safe and enjoyed the company, breaking the invisible barrier.
- **The seed of volunteerism spirit** has been planted among many young people who demonstrated their service towards the PRBL running process.
- Greater **ripple effects** observed through 5 different aspects
- **South Sudan National TV** covered all 4-day PRBL live. Invited to Mayardit FM and Miraya FM to promote the idea of PRBL.
- **Additional 4 states** expressed their interest to join the third PRBL in 2019/2020.
- **10 organisational challenges** identified for future development.

The Organisation

Peace Palette is a non-government organisation based in Turalei, Twic State, South Sudan as well as Melbourne, Australia. We at Peace Palette take a strength-based, locally relevant, culturally appropriate approach to cultivate home-grown solutions with a view to sustain a stronger, resilient, and harmonious society. Since our start in 2012, Peace Palette has grown into a strong and well-supported organisation providing effective and essential support to people in Turalei.

Peace Palette consists of two teams – firstly an Australian team consisting of 5 volunteers who facilitate financial mobilisation for operational costs, and secondly a core operational South Sudanese team consisting of various volunteers and project-based employees as well as one Field Coordinator with extensive local knowledge. The local team closely works with the Turalei communities – men, women, young and old, the local and national authorities and international agencies to achieve many aspects of post-conflict development and peace-building processes.

Background

In war-torn countries like South Sudan, youth and many orphans are generally underestimated in their capacity of life / survival skills. They are rather seen powerless and without direction – with the absence of their parents, who used to be the care-takers, cattle keepers, hunters, gatherers, and predominantly farmers.

Since 2017 S4P project, there had been no cattle rustlings reported within Twic State¹. “Sport for Peace” (S4P) plays a pivotal role to divert their engagement from criminal activities into sports. The 2nd S4P, the Peace and Reconciliation Basketball League (PRBL) aims to provide a continued platform for young people to shine and engage in that promotes friendship, companionship and well-being.

In Twic State where Peace Palette operates, there is a basketball court built by the former NBA player, late Manut Bol whose legacy continues to inspire youth today. Twic State is home to approximately over 400,000 people², of which 75% of them being under 30 have enormous life and survival skills. This project will use such precious assets to take youths away from vicious cycles and bring opportunities to unite together for the better future of South Sudan as one nation.

¹ In the beginning of January 2019, there was one cattle rustling incident reported at the border of Northern Liech and Tonj. Northern Liech was one of the states in discussion to participate in the PRBL 2018, yet due to the security at the border, they were unable to be part of it. Northern Liech State, however is considering to participate in the PRBL 2019 and currently in contact with the Project Lead

² Through personal communication with community members and local NGOs and estimation from information at the UN OCHA South Sudan <<https://www.unocha.org/south-sudan>>.

Donors and Stakeholders

The second Sport for Peace (S4P) project was mainly funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT) and Wakachiai Project in Japan. The project was implemented by Peace Palette.

In 2018, we had a significant government engagement at county and state levels.

We received endorsement and support from:

1. **State Deputy Governor:** Mario Ajak Akuei
2. **Turalei County Commissioner:** Hon. Santino Amuol Majok
3. **Twic State Minister of Culture, Youth & Sport:** Hon. Teeng Deng Ring
4. **Minister of Finance:** Hon. Nyariak Manuat
5. **Local Chief:** Deng Longar
6. **South Sudan National TV**
7. **Mayardit FM**
8. **Miraya FM** organised by UNMISS
9. **Guest local peace-building trainers:** Kim Bany from Unity, Aluel Atem from Jonglei, and David Domuto from Mvolo

The involvement of State and Local Government was important to establish a holistic, inclusive peace-building processes.



Sport for Peace

"So happy to be here again... really appreciate; would never have met people from other states, if not for this tournament ... if not for basketball" --- Player A



This project contributes to the peace-building process at grass-roots level in reducing conflicts, tackling prejudice and increasing positive and harmonious interaction as a 'S4P movement' among and within participating states. Six states that were part of S4P in 2018 are:

- 1) Abyei,
- 2) Gogrial,
- 3) Ruweng,
- 4) Tonj,
- 5) Wau and
- 6) Twic.

In particular, Tonj State has been experiencing communal conflicts/attacks for decades because of their survival method – cattle keeping or rearing. Lack of interaction with neighbouring communities often leads to cattle raiding, conflicts over grazing lands and water bodies.

In 2018, we have added one component to the second S4P. There are three components that include:

- 1) cultural dialogue through dance (new in 2018)
- 2) peacebuilding training and
- 3) inter-state basketball league.

I. Cultural Dialogue

"...It was so much fun!!" --- Player B

Ruweng Dance Group from Ruweng State and Majak Amiol Dance Group from Twic State were invited to showcase their traditional performance to deepen appreciation of differing cultural performance.



Ruweng performers provided extra 'mingling' dance performance at the accommodation during the breaktime of PRBL. They quickly gained attention from staff and participants in the compound, and naturally they all joined together. Players from Gogrial, Abyei, Twic, Tonj and Wau teams all joined the dance and enjoyed the harmony together. Girls from Wau team were trying on the costume of Ruweng dance girls to imitate and learn from their moves to dance in sync. In particular, Wau team was very unique because there were three tribes within the team. There were at least seven different tribes interacted in the 2018 PRBL. All had smiles on their faces and built genuine friendship with no questions of tribalism.





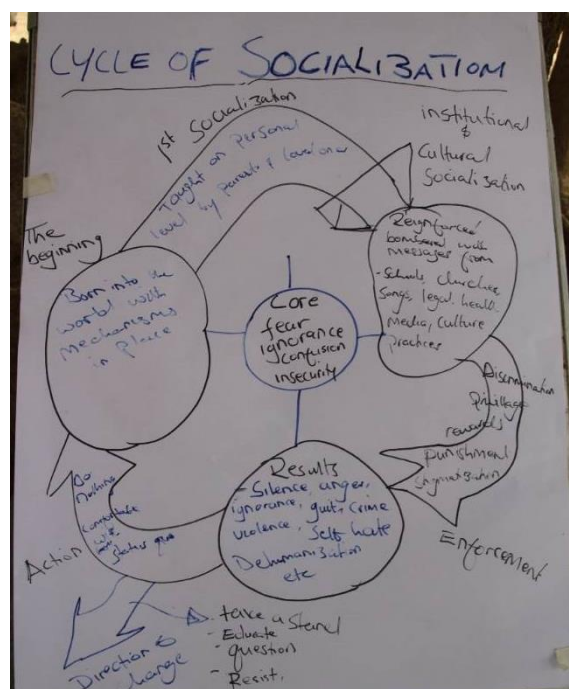
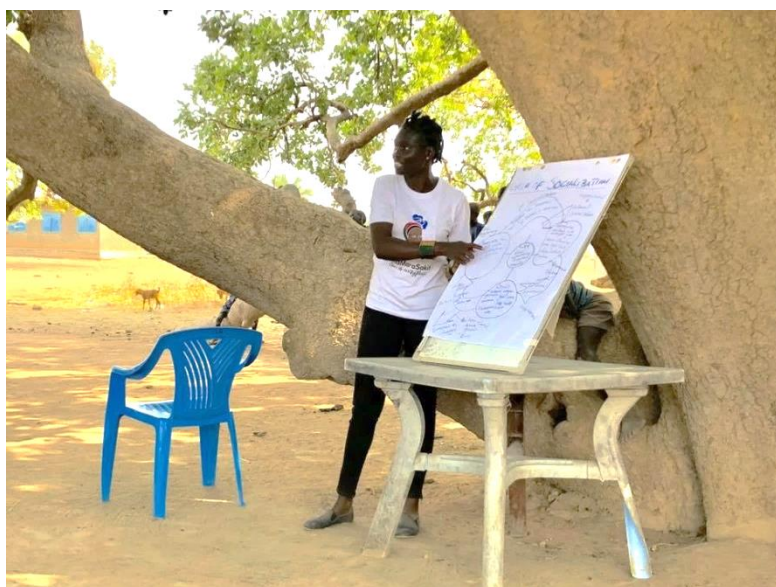


II. Peace-building training

The second component of PRBL, a peace-building training in 2018 was focused on the area of cultivating soft skills to build peaceful communities - awareness of entrenched cultural values that inform our behaviour and promotion of “inclusiveness” in sport and forgiveness.

Reconciliation among neighbouring states first requires recognition of the past, as discussed last year. Three guest trainers were invited to reinforce the message from last year and further build capacity of PRBL participants to take action. They are the fellow colleagues of the Project Lead, Ajing Chol Giir who are all from different tribal backgrounds. Their extremely powerful courage in coming to Twic State was acknowledged by all participants and staff members – despite the tribal conflicts and their tribe-related traumatic experiences.

1) Cycle of Socialisation



Aluel Atem is a Co-Founder of Crown the Woman. Aluel has demonstrated the concept of “cycle of socialization” to explain the set norms, customs and prejudice embedded in their culture that subconsciously drive our behavior and expectations of others. Aluel used Cycle of Socialisation as a framework of reducing subconscious prejudice towards gender differences. Strong masculinity imposed in the society in South Sudan and clearly defined gender roles were deconstructed to empower women to participate in more activities including sports where women can equally shine as men outside the domestic household. Aluel engaged all young players and staff to create a dialogue and encourage their own ownership of actions as change-makers. Her session was conducted in the mixture of English, Arabic and Dinka.

2) Inclusive sport



Kim Bany, of Nuer background, was particularly optimistic of the peace-building effect of sport. Kim is a founder and director of South Sudan Wheelchair Basketball Association. His own experience of having permanent physical disability which he shared with young trainees have inspired them to be consciously inclusive in all aspects of their sport activities. Constant questions raised were centred around effective ways of engaging people with physical disability to genuinely enjoy sport together. His training in a lecture style emphasised the importance of conscious awareness in identifying ways to engage people with disability, and the trainees echoed the very importance. His session was done in English, later translated in Dinka with a help of Aluel.

3) Forgiveness as a human essence



David Damuto is a Founder and Executive Director of Mvolo United Youth and Sports

Association (MUYSA). MUYSA, established in 2014, conducts peace-building campaigns through sport, gathering over 130 teams of boys and girls across East Africa to play football and volleyball. David works in Western Equatoria to promote the message of peace. With his experience and sense of humour, he equipped young participants with ways to start the emotional beginning of forgiveness. As David states, "to not be able to forgive is to live in the past". He used various analogies to explain the importance of forgiving and letting go of hatred and trauma from their genuine willingness³. His session was conducted in the mixture of Arabic and English.

4) Reinforced message of PRBL



Ajing Chol Giir, a Project Lead of Sport for Peace, is a trained Peace Mobiliser in South Sudan. He reinforced the key messages of three guest trainers above and reminded all participants of the essence of PRBL. "We must infect everyone with the virus of peace", said Chol – he re-positioned every single participant as a catalyst of peace-building processes – to start with ourselves. This was particularly important because there were voices raised by young trainees who asked the trainers to "go and tell that to our leaders". It is common knowledge that national leaders often use young people for their political gain. However, Chol demonstrated himself as an example of being a catalyst for change as a Project Lead, influencing basketball players from six different states, compared to three states last year. Chol's strong message about being a catalyst for change was

³ People in his community was extremely worried about him going to Twic State and questioned whether he could ever come back alive. As depicted in the photo, he has spoken in a humorous manner that would not offend participants who are of different – in some cases, opposing – tribes.

reinforced as a final message in this training series.

5) Questions and comments from trainees:



Trainees voiced the importance of realizing their own role to play – no matter how small they are – to counteract the systemic/endemic influence of corrupt leadership. Deconstructing the idea of forgiveness and situating themselves in cycles of socialization were particularly helpful in identifying their own individual roles and inspiring others to do the same for collective actions. In such collective actions, more inclusive approach is required, emphasised further by Kim's training session. After the training sessions, several individual players approached these three trainers to exchange contacts and ideas.



III. Peace & Reconciliation Basketball League (PRBL)

The final component of our 2nd Sport for Peace is Peace & Reconciliation Basketball League. The below two types of uniforms were designed and ordered in Australia to be used for the PRBL.



For the second PRBL, there were six states that participated in the PRBL.

They include:

1. Abyei Administrative Area



2. Gogrial State



3. Ruweng State (Cultural dialogue through dance)



4. Tonj State



5. Wau State



6. Twic State team 1



7. Twic State Team 2



8. Under 14 Boys



9. Girls Team formed across States



Major outcome highlights include:

1. PRBL

- ◆ Six states participated in S4P – including cultural dialogue and PRBL.
- ◆ Under 14 boys played with girls who formed a team across states.
- ◆ We had three Noriaki MVP awards⁴ for men, women and Under 14.
- ◆ Monetary prize has increased to 35,000SSP (from 30,000SSP), 20,000SSP (from 10,000SSP), and 10,000SSP (from 5,000SSP).
- ◆ We have distributed 130 t-shirts to players, coaches, and staff members.
- ◆ Radio Coverage – Mayardit FM and Miraya FM organized by UNMISS.
- ◆ SSTV Coverage (live) country-wide as in 2017 that generated interest from additional 4 states (Jubek, Yirol, Northern Liech and Aweil) to join the PRBL 2019.
- ◆ Shared accommodation and food that generated interaction and formed friendship.
- ◆ All players and supporting staff members involved in the project received the Certificate of Completion to acknowledge their contribution to playing their part in the peace-building process in Northern part of South Sudan as well as making the project a success.



⁴ Since 2017, Peace Palette continues to deliver this PRBL project also to honour the legacy of late Noriaki Takamura and continue his mission of promoting peace and unity. Noriaki was a Youth Sport Project Coordinator who was working for a Japanese NGO Wakachiai Project in Kakuma Refugee Camp in 1993. Noriaki's life was deprived by a tragic car accident on his way to take the youth football players to the milestone football game. Our Executive Director, David Nyuol Vincent is one of many that continue to be inspired by the impact Noriaki left in their hearts. Peace Palette granted 3 significant individuals *Noriaki MVP Awards*. MVP Awardees were selected based on their talent and sportmanship demonstrated through the games. By naming the most valuable player award Noriaki, we were able to commemorate Noriaki's name and to also thank him for teaching many young people of refugee background sport can disarm and unite people. Noriaki is, and will be with us in his spirit.

2. Overall ripple effect

- ◆ Visible constant Facebook posts of young people in participating states advocating for peace through sport and creating peace dialogue.
- ◆ Participation of State Government (Deputy Governor) and local authorities and 5 executive chiefs (Paramount chief delegated 5 executive chiefs to participate throughout the games on his behalf).
- ◆ Overall physical well-being improved among young people. The spirit of sport was planted in young people's hearts. Young boys and girls in Turalei are approaching the Twic State coach, Mariak Chour (MC) to train them on a daily basis, even without proper shoes.
- ◆ 6 young females (4 single mothers)'s catering company was able to promote their business among people in Turalei.
- ◆ The seed of volunteerism spirit has been planted among many young people who demonstrated their service towards the PRBL running process.



This year, we aimed to increase women's participation and conduct women in peace-building training. Despite our objectives set amongst all teams on female participation, this was underachieved. There are two primary reasons why we failed to achieve them.

1. Entrenched gender roles within the families (emphasis on house chores over sport)
2. Additional teams and states expressing interest, fluctuating the tournament schedule

Female participation per se is inadequate to engage them to play basketball, but this process requires a more thorough planning and identifying necessary resources required to engage family members, unpacking gender roles, benefits of basketball and peace-building. In 2018, those who wanted to practice and had families who understand the benefits for their daughters to participate in PRBL were able to come to the PRBL, although we are still to reconcile the mindset gap.

Evaluation Outcomes



The Evaluation session was conducted on the last day in order to deepen our understanding of participants' perspectives towards the S4P project by Peace Palette and explore opportunities for improvement. Volunteers Sarah Williams and Yasamine Moslih from Australia facilitated the evaluation discussions along with Sylvester Yaach Vincent who simultaneously interpreted the dialogue. Several video-interviews with players, audience, and performers were also conducted for footage.



There were

mainly five questions that centred around:

1. Comfort in the accommodation (bed, food, environment)
2. Safety in mixing with different tribes
3. Perspectives towards the winners of the PRBL and referees
4. The most significant learning
5. The most enjoyable aspect of the PRBL

1. Comfort in the accommodation (bed, food, environment)

- Having come from far away by road, players are all exhausted⁵, so there needs to be a dedicated one whole day to get to know everyone and rest, and the game can start the next day.
- Dietary requirement maybe requested next time before registering all individuals and teams to ensure there is no complication (raised by one player)
- Food and cooks were acknowledged greatly for adjusting the amount of food despite changing numbers of participants daily.
- Geographic location of the school accommodation
The distance between the school accommodation, Turalei Centre and Basketball court takes about 30-minute walk one way, and even for staff members, there were continuous logistical difficulties. However, we all value the importance of sharing time, accommodation and food together.

2. Safety in mixing with different tribes

- Social interaction and eating together in the compound and during the game was very good as they now see each other as friends. "I can travel to Ruweng or Abyei now..."
- It will be more beneficial next time if Twic teams can also sleep together in the same compound rather than going home.
- Overall management of the tournament was perceived good.

3. Perspectives towards the winners of the PRBL. Referees

- Medals and trophies for the 3rd prize are also suggested on top of monetary prize to acknowledge their effort.
- More suggested awards such as "top-score", "most disciplined player" etc will incentivise teams to play fairer and better.
- Aim to be the next MVP.

4. The most significant learning

- *"Games were really very beautiful – interaction between teams"*
- *"Peace in our town is quite different from what we got here in Turalei"*
- Inclusiveness in sport was acknowledged and spreading the world and being more conscious of the aspect will keep it real.
- Encouraging to hear Aluel Atem speaking about gender equality - Girls team expressed that they are often oppressed by their families, discouraged to play basketball and told to stop playing. The ones playing are the ones resisting gender roles and it takes time for change.

⁵ Most teams opted to hire a car and travelled by road where road conditions are poor.

5. The most enjoyable aspect of the PRBL and take-away message

- Everyone clapped to the point made by the Tonj Team who said *"I can come to Turalei alone now... Twic is very peaceful, I will tell people"*
- *"Twic is a peaceful state"*
- *"Twic is a place of reconciliation"*
- *Twic state is peaceful, safe... you can leave your phone/ clothes and not get stolen"*
- *"We lived together as brothers and sisters" "We looked after each other"*

Additional comments and suggestions made

- Girls team would like to have more equipment to train e.g. uniform, shoes, basketballs, socks.
- Dedicated coach to train girls.
- The PRBL uniform can be shared and taken home to their own states to promote PRBL initiatives and Peace Palette.
- Scorecard is needed for transparency.
- Additional court to be built - one court for playing the whole tournament in 4 days was too difficult. Teams also need to practice during the games.
- Request was made to include referees from various states – due to our budgetary constraints, we were not able to provide transport cost for referees from other states. There were teams that felt that they were favouring Twic State teams.

Pre-event activities

In preparation for the 4-day PRBL event, the Peace Palette team implemented five stages of preparatory activities. These include 1) engagement with local authorities, 2) youth engagement dialogue, 3) court renovation & make-shift tent, 4) clean-up the accommodation, and 5) engaging female entrepreneurs and local businesses.

1) Engaging local authorities



From left to right: State Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport & Turalei County Commissioner



From left to right: State Governor and Turalei County Commissioner



Minister for Finance: Hon. Nyariak Manuat

2) Youth engagement dialogue

Pre-launch of the PRBL event took a form of engagement dialogue with Twic youth to prepare them with expectations of the PRBL and introduction of all Peace Palette teams from Australia/Japan and guest trainers from different states. We conducted several ice-breaking activities at the beginning which was critical to seed a plant of trust by having meals together cooked by the local catering service of six female entrepreneurs.



3) Court renovation & make-shift tent

The Manute Bol court was built in 2010, funded by an international agency. This legacy left by the late NBA Player Manute Bol from Turalei continues to be used for young people's sport engagement activities. However, the court now requires consistent maintenance each year due to the foundational structure and weather climate in Twic. This year, we spent a significant amount (unbudgeted) to renovate the court and re-paint it in preparation for the 2nd PRBL.



In addition, the court required a tent for honourable guests and guests with special needs. We have sought our support to the UNMISS, WFP, IOM and World Vision but our request was not met. We; therefore, made a temporary make-shift tent, using local resources. While this was sufficient for this time, as we increase our project scale and more participants, we will require a permanent tent that can be easily maintained and used by local players to practice.



4) Clean-up of the accommodation

Peace Palette arranged two accommodations for players and coaches – one in a primary school that holds 60+ beds, and the other local hotel in Turalei that housed 16 Ruweng dancers. The primary school with existing beddings was an ideal accommodation to house almost all players except Ruweng and Twic States' players who slept at home. The purpose of sharing an accommodation and meals was to encourage all players from different states to mingle and converse on a personal level. However, this required a lot of cleaning as this was not in use for a long period of time.

Peace Palette mobilised volunteers and local female who were employed to help clean blankets and mosquito nets. However, while we were working to clean, local children gathered and offered to help without any rewards⁶. In the end, we all worked together to expedite the process.



⁶ Because this event was held during the festive season, their school was on holidays.



5) Engaging female entrepreneurs and local businesses for food provision

Peace Palette is determined to consume local resources in our project, and many items except trophies, medals and t-shirts were purchased in Turalei. This includes sourcing food ingredients from local shops⁷ and a catering service that was locally formed by 4 single mothers and 2 young females as a way to support their own families (See the photo below).

The women in this photo below captures those who worked the hardest from early morning to late night to provide tea/breakfast, lunch and dinner with all participants, guests, and staff members that are over 100 people – for the entire duration of the PRBL event.



⁷ While many items available in Turalei are either imported from overseas or transported from within South Sudan, we chose to support local shops to build relationships and raise awareness of Peace Palette activities.



Hamid, the local shop owner in Turalei above offered to support Peace Palette during the PRBL event for any ad hoc purchases we had to make in order to facilitate the event smoothly.

Goats were auctioned daily for the entire event period, that meant change in its price. Goats were slaughtered and managed by Atem, a cattle keeper and security officer of Majak Aher (main accommodation).



Organisational challenges



The 2nd S4P has scaled to include additional two teams in the PRBL. This has stretched our resources and capacity, leaving us very little room to build capacity of local staff members in managing the overall running of the PRBL, effective communication as well as financial record-keeping.

There are mainly 10 challenges to be addressed.

1. Little room for negotiation in financial amount for service/goods and fluctuating price.
2. Indicators and metrics to quantify and qualify the outcomes and impact of the peace-building training – participating players as Peace Ambassadors in their home states.
3. Variable transport cost.
4. Peace Palette staff mobility needs to improve – we require a car for transport and delivery.
5. Dates/duration of PRBL must be reconsidered to suit most participants' availability.
6. Neutrality and cost of referees from other states.
7. Girls participation and harnessing the idea of gender equity.
8. Setting expectations of all participating states (responsibilities, transport, incentives for captains and coaches).
9. Lack of basketball equipment, uniform, basketball court (sustainability of the court quality).
10. Involving Northern Liech state as one of the most vulnerable state prone to cattle raids in the border with Tonj (due to security on the way and extra protection - more resources are required).



Planning for the 3rd S4P



The key aspects of our 3rd S4P project include:

1. Participation of additional state members (Nothorn Liech, Yirol, Aweil, and Jubek), subject to security.
2. Building of an additional basketball court in Turalei to cater for a larger PRBL and training.
3. Dividing the peace-building training into two components:
 - 1) revision of the training from 2018 and foundation of the content in each participating state, in preparation for,
 - 2) the more advanced training to be facilitated by national peace-building trainers coming from different states (tribes) of South Sudan.
4. Uniform to be purchased for each participating state.
5. Holistic planning to encourage girls' participation.
6. Peace Palette to have its own car to facilitate smooth logistics and transport for other state members.
7. Bringing other referees from other states to minimise the risk of potential bias.
8. More opportunities for capacity building among local people who can potentially support their own community and Peace Palette.
9. Hiring a video-recorder to record and edit the footage for promotional purposes.



Our march to the grave of late NBA Player from Turalei – Manute Bol





Acknowledgement

Peace Palette would like to thank many individuals and organisations who were all pivotal in our 2nd Sport for Peace project. Words are powerless to express our gratitude to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs for a major fund and Wakachiai Project and Lauren Murphy Photography for continuing to believe in us and providing recurring funding for our S4P project.

Additional appreciation goes to:

- The United States Institute of Peace for their support in their guidance and supervision in 2017 from idea construction, feasibility research to seed funding which were all essential for the project implementation in 2018.
- The Embassy of Japan in South Sudan to provide safety advice and in-county support.
- Sarah Williams and Yasemin Moslih from Footprints Inc. for their dedicational support in coming to South Sudan and volunteering throughout the period.
- Daielle Hradsky for her monthly donations.
- The School of Global, Urban and Social Studies at RMIT University in Australia for their support through providing us a venue for an awareness-raising event.
- Erika Suzuki, a professional graphic designer for her pro bono design work on t-shirts.
- Southern Cross Trophies for giving Peace Palette discount for our activity.
- Custom Fit Design for giving Peace Palette discount for the new basketball uniform.
- Archangelo Nyuol Madut for providing free accommodation during our stay in Turalei.
- Salva Mayuen Dut from Water for South Sudan for arranging a car for transportation.
- Aluel Atem, Kim Bany and David Domuto for their engaging facilitation of peace-building training.
- Karmun Pon, a professional accountant for her pro bono work on improving the financial balance sheet.
- Helen Knipe, a Certified Accountant for her pro bono work on yearly financial reports.
- Beryl Chebet Vincent and Hameed Nida for constant administrative and logistical support in Melbourne.
- Late Manute Bol who left his legacy and the basketball court for future generations.
- Late Noriaki Takamura who continue to fuel our passion and inspire the work we do.
- All the young basketball players, captains, coaches, referees, dance performers, cooks and staff in Turalei who came together to choose peace – to whom the project success is attributed.

Main staff members

Position	Name	Profile
Executive Director	David Nyuol Vincent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Co-Founder & Executive Director of Peace Palette ● Significant international leadership figure ● Lead facilitator for South Sudan National Reconciliation Agenda ● Author of "The Boy Who Wouldn't Die" (Publisher: Allen & Unwin) ● Completed the Hague Symposium on Post Conflict Transitions and International Justice at Clingendael Institute in the Netherlands ● Double Degree – Bachelor of Political Science and Criminology from University of Melbourne ● Fluent in Dinka, English, Swahili, and Arabic.
Project Lead & Field Coordinator	Ajing Chol Giir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Significant leadership figure in South Sudan. ● Secretary to Peace Actors Forum in Warrap State (Current Twic State yet the scale is larger) ● Secretary to Twic State Basketball Association (2016 May – present) appointed by the State Ministry of Youth Culture and Sport. ● Peace Mobilizer of the National Reconciliation Agenda ● Fellowship recipient of the United States Institute of Peace in Washington DC (USA) on peace building and reconciliation. ● Ajing Chol has been working with Peace Palette for 5 years as a Field Coordinator, coordinating Bachuk Community Garden, Grinding Service, Peace Palette Kiosk and Nhomlau Children's Centre. ● Fluent in Dinka, English, Swahili and Arabic.
Project Officer	Sylvester Yaach Vincent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Awardee of Certificate of Honour and a graduate of Bachelor of Social Work at Catholic University of Eastern Africa ● Diploma in Social Work, Project Planning and Community Development at Regional Institute of Business Management. ● Engaged in various community services and projects (Global Hope Rehabilitation, Nyumbani Children of God Relief Institute, Mukuru Slums Development Project) in volunteer capacity. ● Fluent in Dinka, Bai, English, Kiswahili, and Arabic.
Communication Officer	Marko Makat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Current student of Bachelor of Communication (Journalism) in the University of Juba ● Engaged in various community services in Turalei to support young artists ● Senior Editor and Reporter of Twic Media Report ● Fluent in Dinka, Arabic and English
Project Administrator	Aya Ono	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Co-Founder & Operational Director ● Teaching in the School of Global, Urban and Social Studies at RMIT University, Australia ● PhD Scholar (Social Impact Investment for Sustainable Development)
Project Volunteer	Sarah Williams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community Cultural Development Professional ● Co-founder of Footprint Enterprises Inc. ● PhD Scholar (International Community Development)
Project Volunteer	Yasamine Bahar Moslih	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Worker ● President of Footprint Enterprises Inc. ● Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)