In view of the rising costs posed by humanitarian crisis and consequent impact on the long-term development, there is a pressing need to invest in making vulnerable communities and people in South Sudan more resilient.

A March 22, 2018 meeting in Juba of donors, UN entities, and NGOs concluded:

“There is consensus that there is no recourse but for individual UN entities, donors, NGOs, and technical organizations to act together to reverse the trends of growing vulnerability. There is no silver bullet to solving the problem of declining coping capacity. We need to bring to bear all of the tools available to tackle the challenge, including conflict resolution, basic health, education, and WASH services; agriculture and livelihood support; infrastructure; reconciliation, social cohesion, and peace building efforts.”

The Partnership for Recovery and Resilience (PfRR) in South Sudan brings the UN’s “New Way of Working” together with the support of multiple donors and non-governmental partners in a commitment that shifts the focus from “meeting needs” to “reducing needs, risks, and vulnerability.”

The PfRR is emerging as an all-encompassing, unified approach to reduce vulnerability and build resilience through a multi-actor and cross-sector collaboration.

VISION
To simultaneously resolve the political impasse, deal with increasing humanitarian needs, and build the resilience of citizens, communities and institutions

SHARED PARTNER INTERESTS
1. Stop the trend of increasing vulnerability
2. Work together across peacebuilding-humanitarian-development efforts to meet basic needs and protect coping capacities
3. Improve coordination, collaboration and strategic integration
4. Advance comprehensive frameworks and partnerships in selected geographic areas to build resilience and reduce vulnerability
5. Scale up delivery of integrated efforts in Yambio and other selected geographic areas
6. Enhance mutual accountability and learning
STEPPING BACK, THINKING AFRESH

To advance the vision and joint interests of partners, the PfRR is creating the tools to support strategic integration through coordination, colocation, collaboration, and commitment. These change the way we work individually and together.

A PfRR Coordination Platform has been established, co-chaired by senior UN and donor leadership. It is guided by a Steering Committee (SC) composed of senior level representatives from NGOs, the UN, and Donors, reinforcing the shared commitment. While donors will preside over their respective use of funds, the Steering Committee will provide guidance and will facilitate the alignment of various interventions and the effective use of funds with the aim of achieving the common goal of increasing resilience.

Partnership Areas. Initial PfRR efforts are focused on seven geographic areas in South Sudan that represent the diversity of ethnicities, livelihoods, political groups, and institutions that are found in and characterize South Sudan. These include Yambio, Torit, Aweil, Wau, Rumbek, Bor and Yei. One of the criteria for determining candidate areas is the will of the local authorities to actively engage in and contribute to a partnership that seeks to build resilience.

The PfRR Partnership Framework includes four pillar objectives that shape and facilitate alignment around a shared agenda:

- Rebuild Trust in people and institutions
- (re) Establish Access to Basic Services
- Restore & Build Productive Capacities and Economic Opportunities
- Nuture Effective Partnership

Just as important as what the PfRR is doing, is how they are doing it, and the Partnership Common Framework calls for putting communities first. The new business model and PfRR-supported initiatives will have a strong focus on conflict sensitivity, peacebuilding, and strengthening governance and accountability at a community-level. They also will reflect a growing understanding of reconciliation and peace building as a bridge to resilience in South Sudan. By putting communities at the heart of the service delivery agenda, international assistance can increase its impacts while laying the foundations for future governance.

THE WAY FORWARD: MEETING THE CHALLENGE TOGETHER

As the PfRR embarks on a challenging journey towards recovery and resilience together, partners will develop consolidated programs based on joint analysis, common frameworks, and collective targets. These will then be the basis for undertaking integrated actions for recovery and resilience. Moving away from a sequential approach, PfRR will sequence, layer, and integrate a diverse range of mutually reinforcing activities that will be implemented by various actors. The unique context of each partnership area, including existing structures and ongoing activities, will be the starting point for determining further action. The PfRR will also utilize an online learning platform where individual efforts and experiences will be aggregated, shared, and lessons learned and best practices applied to future programming.