Daniel Ogwok Ojwan Deng, M.A. in Islamic studies (Middle East University, Beirut, Lebanon). Ogwok is an ordained minister and has served as a global mission pioneer, church district leader, field departmental director, and field president. Currently he is the executive secretary of South Sudan Attached Territory. He is married to Akouch Orach, who has supported his ministry for 26 years. They have two sons and three daughters.

The territory of the South Sudan Attached Territory is comprised of the Greater Bahr el Ghazal, Greater Equatoria, and Greater Upper Nile Fields and recently Eastern Upper Nile Station.

As of June 30, 2018, the South Sudan Attached Territory had a total of 65 organized churches and 195 companies, church membership was 36,985, and total population was 12,965,000. The territory had 191 active church employees.

Institutions and Service Organizations

Juba Adventist Secondary School was established in 2017. The school was opened because of the high demand for a church school in the capital city, Juba. There was also the purpose to reach the unreached through the education of their children. In addition, it was necessary to provide a school for the children of church members and church workers.

Munuki SDA Clinic
The operation of the Munuki Seventh-day Adventist clinic started outside the Munuki Compound in 1980. Treatment began with those who came to work at the compound, particularly the builders. This happened after the arrival of the missionary Dr. Jared Whitehouse. Because there were no buildings in the church compound they started working from a rented property. Later, in May 1982, the building of the clinic was fully completed. That marked the official opening of the operation of the Munuki Clinic in the church compound, according to Judy Whitehouse.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)

ADRA started in Southern Sudan as SAWS, in 1980, after the arrival of Dr. Jerald Whitehouse. Later, in 1983, it was registered as Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in Khartoum. The first country director was David Taylor. Dr. Whitehouse was the mission director with headquarters in Juba, and as such he oversaw the work of ADRA as well.

In 1983 the civil war started. When the war reached the Equatoria region, it forced many citizens to run to the neighboring countries as refugees, and some were also displaced to the northern part of the country, forcing the SDA headquarters to be relocated to Khartoum. By 1989 the war became so intense that it required restructuring the work in Sudan. Thus, ADRA South Sudan was created and headed by Jerry Lewis and the South Sudan section of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was created and headed by Faustino Capailitan. However, when the comprehensive peace agreement was signed in 2005, ADRA South Sudan was relocated to the Munuki compound in Juba.

Significant Events in the Organization of the South Sudan Attached Territory

Before separation there were two fields in Sudan. One was the Sudan Field based in Khartoum and the other was the South Sudan Field, which was based in Arua, Uganda, which was moved to Juba in 2011. After the split of Sudan into two countries, Sudan and South Sudan, the majority of the members who had received the Adventist message while in exile moved to South Sudan, which is geographically near to the East-Central Africa Division. For this reason, South Sudan was reorganized to be part of the East-Central Africa Division (ECD) instead of staying under the Trans-European Division (TED). The two fields in South Sudan are the Greater Equatoria Field with headquarters in Juba, and the Greater Upper Nile Field headquartered in Malakal. These became part of ECD in November 2011. At the same meeting, ECD called a joint session for South Sudan to reorganize the territories of the two fields by creating a third entity called the Greater Bahr el-Ghazai Field, headquartered in Wau. The East-Central Africa Division further appointed the South Sudan Oversight Committee comprising mostly of members from the ECD departmental directors and the three field presidents with specific terms of reference.

On November 3, 2015, the South Sudan joint committee sent a recommendation to ECD to organize South Sudan into an attached territory to the East-Central Africa Division. The recommendation was approved by the ECD Executive Committee and South Sudan Attached Territory (SSAT) was born and its leadership appointed.

Mission and Strategic Plan of the South Sudan Attached Territory

The South Sudan Attached Territory follows the worldwide Church Mission Statement of “Making disciples of Jesus Christ who live as His loving witnesses and proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel of the Three Angels’ Messages in preparation for His soon return (Matt. 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Rev. 14:6-12).” The South Sudan Attached Territory fulfills this mission through various activities that include training and ordaining pastors to increase the work force.

The church plans to carry out evangelism in all ten of the former states once every year to increase membership by 80 percent with emphasis on discipleship as the core of mission. Additionally, the leadership intends to organize churches in all fields and create retention and nurture committees in all fields, stations, and churches. We intend to introduce prayer ministry in all churches throughout the South Sudan Attached Territory and to introduce the concept of camp meetings which has not been part of our practice in South Sudan.

SSAT plans to reach all unreached tribes and people groups by sending local missionaries, Global Mission Workers, evangelists, and church members. The leadership plans to intensify the encouragement of members to be faithful in handling tithes and offering; encourage all fields and churches to carry out yearly children’s programs such as Vacation Bible School and other children’s activities by 2020; and to educate members to work hard and discourage laziness. This will lead to financial independence. The image change concept has made a difference in the entire division territory for those who have embraced it. Thus, SSAT leaders intend to introduce it to all church members. A good-looking church building is a tool for mission.

In the area of education, the leaders have planned to encourage all organized churches to open SDA primary schools and for every field to open a secondary school. SSAT intends to register the Adventist University of South Sudan as an affiliate of the University of East Africa, Baraton.

Finally, SSAT plans to establish FM stations in its territory with the help of ECD and AWR.
Executive Officers

President: Clement Joseph Arkangelo Mawa (November 2015-present)
Executive Secretary: Daniel Ogwok Ojwan Deng (November 2015-present)
Treasurer: Dani Harelimana (2016-present)

SOURCES


South Sudan Field Executive Committee Minutes, Action SSF EXC 2009-76. September 8-9, 2009. South Sudan Field archives, Munuki, Juba.


South Sudan Attached Territory Executive Committee Minutes, Action SSAT2016-057, May 31, 2016. South Sudan Attached Territory Archives, Munuki, Juba.

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3. South Sudan Attached Territory Executive Committee Minutes, May 31, 2016, Action SSAT 2016-057, South Sudan Attached Territory archives, Munuki, Juba.

4. Ibid.

5. Judy, Whitehouse, letter sent April 19, 2019, to Lagu Charles, Juba, South Sudan.


8. Ibid. ECD2011-097.

9. Ibid. ECD2011-099.

10. Ibid. ECD2015-134.
