

# PEOPLE'S UNITED FORUM MANIFESTO



**People's United Forum**

**We Must Speak Out If We Want  
Freedom**

**2022 - 2026**

# Acronyms

**BSS:** Bank of South  
Sudan

**NSS:** National Security  
Service

**PUF:** People's United  
Forum

**SPLA:** Sudan Peoples'  
Liberation Army

**SPLM:** Sudan Peoples'  
Liberation Movement

# Table of Contents

Foreword .....	1
Introduction .....	2
1. Security.....	3
1.1 Establishment of Professional Army.....	4
1.2 Establishment of Professional Police.....	6
1.3 Demilitarization of the Country .....	7
1.4 Civilians Disarmament .....	8
1.5 Docilization of Hostile Communities .....	9
2. Economy .....	10
2.1 Food Production .....	11
2.2 Health .....	12
2.3 Education .....	14
2.4 Mining .....	16
2.5 Infrastructure Development.....	17
2.6 Public Financial Management Reform.....	18
2.7 Trade .....	19
3.0 Governance .....	21
3.1 Executive .....	22
3.2 Legislature .....	24
3.3 Judiciary .....	25

# Foreword

For over 67 years, South Sudanese have been facing different political conflicts and over 100 years of communal and inter-communal conflicts. Those conflicts compounded by the absence of sustainable governing institutions keep South Sudan in insecurity, poverty, and under development. Though our fathers fought to liberate us from the oppressive Sudanese regime, we are still not independent because of insecurity, poverty, underdevelopment, and lack of democracy in South Sudan. Thank the surviving members of Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army (SPLA) Political-Military High Command (1984-1993) who successfully led South Sudan to independence. We thank all SPLA fighters who successfully sacrificed their time, lives, and bodies to make South Sudan secede from Sudan.

Though we have an independent country, we are still facing insecurity, poverty, and underdevelopment because the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM) led government has abandoned the course of the liberation struggle and prioritized interests that benefit individual members of the ruling inner circle. We can achieve complete independence when we all accept the failures of the SPLM led government and unite to support change in South Sudan.



Dr. Gai Chol Paul,  
Chairman.



# Introduction

The People's United Forum (PUF) grew out of people's frustration from SPLM led government. After completing her mission of liberating South Sudan from the oppressive Sudanese military regime, the SPLM led government failed to maintain peace, reduce poverty in all its forms, and establish trusted and accountable public institutions. Since the SPLM led government institutions of governance have reached the dead end and have little or no opportunity to improve so long as the current leaders are stirring the wheels, there was a need to establish a nonviolence political party to fill the political gap in South Sudan.

Our aims of forming PUF are 1) to empower South Sudanese to claim their democratic rights. 2) Transform South Sudan from a war-ravaged country to a peaceful, democratic, and prosperous country in Africa. 3) Build an inclusive and sustainable economy. 4) Establish the rule of law and promote the doctrine of separation of powers. 5) Strengthen the capacities of public and private institutions to eliminate corruption in South Sudan.

We call on all South Sudanese to mobilize and join us in the fight against insecurity, poverty, lack of development, corruption, the absence of the rule of law, and kleptocracy. We can defeat the mentioned-above monsters if we unite and vote SPLM led government out in all our constituencies.

PUF believe we can positively change South Sudan from a war-ravaged country to a peaceful, democratic, and prosperous country if we address the underlying factors that undermine the **security**, **economy**, and **governance** in South Sudan.

# 1. Security

Security is the state of being free from threats and danger. It is the role of the government to provide security to the people to protect their lives and properties. However, South Sudan has been facing protracted insecurity since independence in 2011 due to the lack of accountable government to provide the security needed by the people.

Tens of thousands of people had been killed, millions had been displaced, and uncountable properties destroyed. The SPLM led government, which should have provided the security, failed and caused insecurity due to the internal power wrangle between their senior leaders resulting in the December 15, 2013 incident that pushed the country back to war. Lack of security in South Sudan begets insecurity resulting in the absence of peace among the populace. South Sudan cannot economically grow and provide essential services to people without a government prioritizing security and peace for the people. Since security and peace are the determining factors for economic growth and nation development, it is a time for South Sudanese to take courage and bring up a government which will prioritize security, peace, and development to positively change the lives of the people to be physically, socially, psychologically, and economically secure.

Insecurity in South Sudan attributes to the SPLM government's failure to establish a professional army and police and disarm the civil population holding guns which they use to terrorize vulnerable people across the country.

PUF strive to establish a government accountable to the people, the government which will establish professional army and police, the government which will disarm the civil population, the government which will demilitarize the country, and the government which will docilize the hostile communities.

## 1.1 Establishment of Professional Army

A professional army is a unit of armed experts serving under civilian authority, entrusted to defend the constitution, the rights, and the interests of the people. Although the major role of an army is to defend the country, the constitution, and the citizens, it assists the police in ensuring internal security exists and provides humanitarian services to the people at the time of disasters.

South Sudan has never been having professional army since time immemorial. What people claim as the army is the amalgamation of the different militia groups with different materialistic interests that supersede the national interest and the people's welfare. The few soldiers who received professional military training have been sidelined and denied resources to carry out their duties, and the vast majority have voluntarily left the army. The current army does not represent the nation's interest except the interests of their respective tribal warlords.

They rape, displace, and kill civilians perceived to be supporting opponents of their tribal warlords. They do it because they are not trained, lack the ethics of professional army, and have not received the national ideology of defending the constitution, the lives of the people, and their properties. They are tribal militias paying allegiance to their respective tribal warlords. Their brutal action against civilians shows they don't know what they are doing. If they could have been trained and equipped with the ethics of a professional army, they would not have been doing it.

The SPLM led government intentionally failed to professionalize the army because they intended to capitalize on the state of anarchy to prolong their stay in power and continue looting the national resources for personal gains. They intentionally failed to do it not because they lacked the capacity to do it, but because they lacked political will.

The PUF led government will recruit, train, and equip 120,000 young women and men aged 18-30 (with a minimum completion of secondary education) across the entire country, reflecting the national diversity perspective of the national army for South Sudan.

## 1.2 Establishment of Professional Police

The professional police is a unit of trained and armed personnel entrusted to enforce laws and orders within a country. The primary roles of police include crime prevention, detection and tracking of criminals, crime investigation, enforcement of laws and orders, and protection of people and their properties. South Sudan has no professional police; the current police forces are a mixture of different militia groups with civilians in police uniforms. The few available trained police personnel are deprived of resources to enable them to ensure that laws and orders are in place. They are corrupt because the government is not paying them to sustain themselves and their families.

The SPLM led government has intentionally neglected police and handed police responsibilities over to the National Security Service (NSS). The incapacity of the police to render its duties to the country is the primary catalyst to urban insecurity in South Sudan. The lack of professional police creates loopholes for criminal to rob, kills, rape, and steal in both urban and rural areas of South Sudan.

The PUF led government will recruit, train, equip, and deploy 118,500 (1,500 personnel per county) educated (minimum of secondary education completion) and strong young women and men aged 18-30 years to police service in South Sudan.



## 1.3 Demilitarization of the Country

To demilitarize mean to disarm and disband militias from operating in the area. The availability of different militia groups with conflicting interests is the major cause of instability in South Sudan. Militias from different tribes of South Sudan have infested the country's security environment resulting in intercommunal violence conflicts which have claimed many lives, displaced many people, and destroyed uncountable properties across the country.

SPLM led government has been investing national resources in creating and sponsoring different militia groups to counteract the militia groups from their armed political opponents. Every year, SPLM led government bought militias from their armed political opponents but failed to train and fully integrate them into their military system.

The availability of different militia groups in the country without a central command system is the major cause of insecurity in the countryside and along the major highways connecting the country to the neighboring countries. The SPLM led government used militias to create a state of anarchy which they used as a stool to prolong their stay in power and facilitate their corruption to loot the country's resources for their personal gains.

PUF led government will demilitarize (disarm and disband the militias) the country, bringing an end to the ever-emerging cycle of militia groups in South Sudan.

## 1.4 Civilians Disarmament

Civilians' disarmament is the removal of dangerous weapons from the hands of civilians. Civilians in South Sudan carry dangerous combat modern weapons such as rocket-propelled grenades (RPG), 12.5 mm machine guns, mortars, and different automatic rifles used to attack vulnerable populations to kill, destroy, displace, and loot resources. The availability of dangerous weapons in the hands of civilians has increased cattle rustling, child abduction, revenge killing, and the high crime rate in South Sudan.

The SPLM led government has failed to remove guns out of the hands of civilians; instead, commanders of their affiliate militias supply weapons to their tribes or clans to defend themselves or attack their perceived enemies.

PUF led government will disarm all civilians carrying guns and deploy professional police among the civil population to protect them with their properties.

## 1.5 Docilization of Hostile Communities

To docilize means to make the members of a hostile community psychologically docile. The objective is to make the community abandon hostile cultures and behaviors and embraces the culture of peace, tolerance, and justice. Some communities in South Sudan have hostile and harmful traditions and cultures which condone violence, murder, raping, cattle rustling, and child abduction. Some communities are hostile to their internal security as well as the security of their neighboring communities. These hostilities are the major threats to peace and peaceful coexistence in the countryside, and they undermine the overall security of South Sudan.

The SPLM led government has given up and left everything to nature to sort it out, which will never happen because the hostilities grow wider yearly and claims thousands of lives, displaced millions, and destroy uncountable properties.

PUF led government will docilize the hostile communities across South Sudan by investing resources to address underlying causes that led to the hostilities. Introduce compulsory education to the children of hostile communities to change their mindset. Deploy professional policepersons in the areas occupied by the hostile communities. Empower the judiciary system to execute criminals within hostile communities. Support non-governmental organizations that focus on conflict resolution and peacebuilding to interact with the adversarial communities

## 2. Economy

The economy is defined here as the efficient and concise use of material and nonmaterial resources to maximize a country's wealth and improve people's well-being, health, education, income, and living standards. South Sudan has been operating without a transparent and accountable economic system since 2005 when the SPLM led government was formed by merging the rebel Sudan People Liberation Army (SPLA) with different Southern Sudanese militia groups.

The failure of SPLM led the government to establish credible governing institutions created an ecosystem conducive to corruption, theft, impunity, and embezzlement. This weak SPLM governing ecosystem has been infiltrated by the cartel of selfish individuals who had mortgaged the country to the international criminal chain for selfish gains and who believe that if they eat and get satisfied, then the entire population of South Sudan has no problem.

The PUF led government will establish strong governing institutions that will prioritize investment in food production, health, education, mining, infrastructure development, public financial management reform, and trade.

## 2.1 Food Production

Food production is defined here as an investment in activities that empower the local population to identify and capitalize on available opportunities that they can exploit to produce food for household consumption and market exchange. It is the responsibility of the government to create a conducive environment for people to use available resources to produce food for their consumption and market exchange. South Sudanese depend on humanitarian food distributed by UN agencies and their partners due to insecurity, natural calamities, and failure by the SPLM led government to prioritize food production in the country.

The failure of the SPLM led government to create a conducive environment for people to produce food has made South Sudan overdependent on food imported from neighboring countries; as a result, ordinary citizens cannot afford to buy basic food commodities because of high prices which keep increasing monthly.

PUF led government will prioritize food production by investing in agricultural projects at the national and state levels. 1) supporting local farmers with extension services. 2) Procuring modern gardening tools to enable government farms to produce enough food. 3) Establishing food processing plants to convert access produces to fine products for future consumption. 4) Training personnel from the agriculture ministry to acquire skills that will enable South Sudan to achieve sustainable food production.



## 2.2 Health

Health is defined here as a state in which a person's physical, mental, and social well-being is free from illness or injury. Countries with healthy populations achieve economic growth because a healthy person is productive and contributes to a country's economy. However, the SPLM led government has neglected the health needs of the people of South Sudan, denying them to have access to health services.

The SPLM led government officials starved the health system and used national resources to purchase weapons and ammunition to protect their seats from their armed opponents and seek medication in foreign countries. Since 2015, the South Sudan government has never procured any medicines, leaving the citizens to live by the mercy of God and the humanitarian support from WHO and health partners.

PUF led government will establish a health system that will ensure citizens are physically, mentally, and socially free from illnesses and injuries by constructing national health centers and upgrading the existing health centers to improve services to the people. Review salaries of medical staff to meet the cost of living. Improve medical personnel's working conditions to enable them to provide quality services. Purchase diagnostic and therapeutic medical tools to strengthen South Sudan's healthcare services, and allocate funds to hiring and training medical staff to improve the delivery of healthcare in South Sudan. Procure medicines essential to the treatment of diseases.

Prioritize health awareness to empower citizens to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, among others.  
Establish pharmaceutical factories to ensure the availability of medicines at prices affordable to the people.

## 2.3 Education

Education is defined here as a process of teaching, learning, and facilitating the acquisition of knowledge, skills, morale, beliefs, habits, values, and personal development to achieve a positive change in a country. Education is the primary resource of change which help people acquire knowledge and skills, which they in turn use to acquire jobs. Education improves individual or household income because educated people stand a better chance of lifting themselves out of poor living conditions than uneducated ones. Education enhances the country's economy by increasing the collective ability of the workforce to execute existing tasks more quickly and efficiently. Education facilitates knowledge transfer about new information, technologies, and products developed by others. Education increases creativity, thereby boosting the country's capacity to innovate new knowledge, products, and technologies.

South Sudan has a poor education system due to the failure of the SPLM led government to invest resources for the welfare of teachers and the development of teaching and learning environments. The officials of the SPLM led government have neglected education and do send their children to study in foreign countries while leaving behind children of ordinary citizens without accessing quality education in South Sudan

PUF led government will invest resources to improve the education system in South Sudan by increasing the annual budget for education to help ministries responsible for education improve teachers' and professors' living conditions. Build capacities of teaching and administrative staff. Review salaries of teachers and professors to meet the cost of living in South Sudan. Improve teaching and learning infrastructure in all existing institutions while establishing new institutions across the country.

## 2.4 Mining

Mining is defined here as extracting valuable minerals from the earth to refine them to benefit a country economically. South Sudan has a variety of minerals; if well-mined with transparency and accountability, it can improve the economy to alleviate the people from poverty.

The SPLM led government's corrupt cartels are concentrating on oil, mortgaging it to international criminal networks, and dividing its income among themselves, leaving the citizens to languish in abject poverty. They are also individually mining gold for their personal gains.

The PUF led government will prioritize the exploration and mining of minerals for the economic benefit of South Sudan. In the oil sector, the PUF-led government will create a transparent and responsible system for selling crude oil, increase oil production, build a refinery to increase domestic consumption and revenue generation, and build pipelines to link neighboring nations to increase oil trading.



## 2.5 Infrastructure Development

Infrastructure development is the construction and improvement in the quality of facilities of transportation, communication, power supplies, water and sanitation, and housing to spark economic growth and improve quality of life. South Sudan lacks the basic infrastructure to jumpstart its economic development.

The failure of the SPLM led government to prioritize infrastructure development is the major contribution to poverty, illiteracy, insecurity, high mortality, and underdevelopment in South Sudan.

The PUF led government will prioritize infrastructure development by constructing 1) factories for essential products that will boost construction work such as cement, iron and steel, ceramic, aluminium, copper, and plastic production facilities. 2) Constructing food processing facilities such as beef and fish canning, fruit canning, and cooking oil production facilities. 3) Constructing major highways to connect states and counties, building bridges across the Nile River to connect the East and West Bank of the Nile, and building one international airport that will act as a hub for huge cargo planes worldwide. 4) constructing megawatt hydroelectric power along the Nile to provide energy for industrial and household consumption. 5) Connecting the ten states with internet and telecommunication networks. 6) Connecting water and sewage systems in all cities, towns, and villages of South Sudan to provide clean water to the people, thereby reducing common water-related illnesses.

## 2.6 Public Financial Management Reform

Public financial management reform is the process of improving efficiency, accountability, and transparency in public fund use with the purpose of delivering economically sustainable services to citizens.

The SPLM led government deliberately failed to establish a transparent and accountable public financial management system creating loopholes that facilitate their corruption and looting of national coffers for their personal gains.

The PUF led government will harmonize government's financial management processes and information systems to eliminate bugs that facilitate corruption to improve revenue collection, debt management, budgeting, budget implementation and reporting, procurement, and financial oversight.

In addition to public financial management reform, the PUF led government will restructure government profit-making institutions to increase outputs and minimize costs. Improve the banking sector to meet the growing needs of banking services in South Sudan. Review policies governing the Bank of South Sudan (BSS) to ensure independence from executive manipulation and strengthen BSS to conduct monetary policies, regulation of commercial banks, and financial service provision.

## 2.7 Trade

Trade mean the conduct of business providing goods, property, or service primarily for personal, family, or government purposes and includes the advertising, solicitation, offering for sale or rent, lease, and distribution. Trade is crucial in a country's economy: it expands product availability, lower prices for consumers, boost economic growth, benefits lower-income households, increases employment, and increases overall consumer welfare.

The SPLM led government has failed to create an environment conducive to trade in South Sudan. They failed to invest resources to enable government parastatals to generate income for the country, and they created an environment that threatened the survivability of new start-up entities by allowing criminals to intimidate traders in the markets.

The PUF led government will invest resources to empower government parastatals to embark on daily businesses that can generate income for the government.

The PUF led government will strengthen trade with Uganda and Kenya and open trade with Ethiopia and DRC to export internally produced products to their markets, and encourage national and international investors to invest in energy, food production, pharmaceutical products, construction and engineering materials, and education.

The PUF led government will review policies for establishing and operating a business to remove obstacles business leaders face, invest resources to train youth to acquire entrepreneurial skills and establish a funding program for business start-ups.

# 3.0 Governance

Governance is defined here as the act of overseeing the control and direction of a country. Good governance is characterized by transparency, accountability, stewardship, strategic vision, the rule of law, responsiveness to public demands, effectiveness and efficiency, fairness and inclusivity, and participation by all citizens in the affairs of a country.

South Sudan lacks an effective and sustainable governance system which respects the rule of law, a free press, effective independent public bodies, energetic civil society organizations, and the doctrine of separation of powers.

SPLM led government failed to establish a good governance system since it assumed leadership in 2005. There is no respect for the doctrine of separation of powers. The executive is everything, no independent judiciary and legislature. The executive rule by decrees, hiring and firing corrupt officials who are recycled year in year out. The SPLM led government institutions of governance have reached a dead end, and they will never improve whatsoever so long as the current leaders are stirring the wheels.



The PUF led government will establish a governance system characterized by transparency, accountability, stewardship, strategic vision, the rule of law, responsiveness to public demands, effectiveness and efficiency, fairness and inclusivity, and participation by all citizens in executive, legislative, and judicial affairs of the country.

### 3.1 Executive

South Sudan is being ruled by a self-imposed executive who denies citizens the right to elect leaders. The self-imposed executive creates wars, negotiates self-interest and fragile peace, and decrees themselves to power. They appoint their colleagues who facilitate their corruption and ignore citizens' dire needs for basic services.

The SPLM led government deliberately uses wars to oppress oppositions and facilitate their stay in power, depriving the citizens of the right to elect their leaders and hold those elected to power to account for their deeds.

The PUF led government will give power back to the citizens creating an environment conducive to political opinions, freedom of choice, and freedom of association and expression. The PUF led government shall be a lean technocratic government with a maximum of 16 ministries (Foreign Affairs, Justice, Defense, Interior, Finance, Agriculture, TIIT (Trade, Industry, Investment, and Tourism), Transport, Education and Sport, Tertiary Education and Research, Telecommunication and ICT, Labor, Petroleum and Mining, Health, Housing, and Energy).

## 3.2 Legislature

The legislature is a representative assembly that makes the laws of a country. Mature and independent legislature recognize people as the source of political power. Citizens choose legislators by popular vote to serve them.

South Sudan lacks an independent legislature that can provide checks and balances to the corrupt executive and weak judiciary. The president appointed the current inflated assembly, rendering its members powerless to provide legislative oversight to the executive and the judiciary. The current inflated assembly is draining resources preventing the financing of critical projects that would have improved the provision of basic services to the citizens.

The SPLM led government deliberately weakened the South Sudan parliament to facilitate their corruption, dodge accountability, rule with impunity, and prolong their stay in power.

The PUF led government will ensure the number of members of the legislative assembly should be equal to the number of constituencies inherited from Sudan until the legitimate parliament shall create the new constituencies. Help the parliament enact laws that will ensure check and balance among the executive, legislature, and the judiciary.

## 3.3 Judiciary

South Sudan has a weak judicial system that cannot provide checks and balances to the executive and the legislature. The SPLM led government has deliberately rendered the judiciary powerless by appointing surrogates to lead the judiciary. These corrupt surrogates leading the judiciary intimidate and harass judges, thereby crippling the justice system in South Sudan.

The lack of a proper judicial system in South Sudan has encouraged citizens to take laws into their hands. Some communities have adopted revenge killing since the judiciary is powerless, corrupt, and incapable of handling murder cases with impartiality and fair justice. Executive rule with impunity because of a weak judicial system. They kill people at will and continue to intimidate the relatives of those killed.

The PUF led government will establish an independent judicial system headed by professional judges and train judges, magistrates, and lawyers to acquire skills to run the justice system in South Sudan.

# PUF PRINCIPLES

1.

Stewardship

2.

Inclusivity

3.

Liberty

4.

Transparency and Accountability.