11 August 2011

Release of first Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross National Income (GNI) figures for South Sudan by the NBS

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), formerly known as the Southern Sudan Centre for Census, Statistics and Evaluation (SSCCSE), is the official statistical agency of the Government of South Sudan. It is mandated to collect, analyse and disseminate all official economic, social and demographic statistics. It has conducted a variety of statistical activities in the past 5 years including the 2008 Census, the 2006 and 2010 rounds of the Sudan Household Health Survey (SHHS) and the National Baseline Household Survey (NBHS), 2009. It has published numerous reports including the annual statistical yearbook, poverty estimates for Southern Sudan and the Key Indicators for Southern Sudan.

South Sudan nominal GDP and GNI figures have been produced for 2008-2010

GDP measures the value of all final goods and services produced in a country over a given period. *Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of South Sudan in 2010 was 30 billion Sudanese Pounds, equivalent to 13 billion USD.*

GNI is the primary income received by residents of a geographical area. Primary income is income received from production of goods and services as salaries or profits. *Gross National Income in 2010 was significantly lower than GDP at 19 billion Sudanese Pounds, equivalent to 8 billion USD.*

The GDP estimates for 2008 to 2010 were produced by NBS using the expenditure method, which estimates the uses of domestically produced goods and services in public and private consumption, public and private investment and exports.

Detailed estimates are attached in the Appendix. Please note that the estimates produced are nominal (in current prices) and therefore should not be used to calculate rate of economic growth.

South Sudan is the fifth largest East African economy

South Sudan is the fifth largest economy among its East African neighbours [See table 1].

Table 1. GDP of East African Countries in 2010, million USD, current

South Sudan*	13,227
Burundi	1,611
Ethiopia	29,717
Kenya	31,409
Rwanda	5,628
Tanzania	23,057
Uganda	17,011

^{*} South Sudan figure from the South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics. Other figures from the World Development Indicators by the World Bank

Oil exports contributed to higher GDP per capita than in neighbouring countries

GDP per capita of South Sudan in 2010 was SDG 3,564, equivalent to USD 1,546. This is high compared with its East African neighbours [See table 2]. The relatively high GDP per capita figures can largely be explained by oil production. Exports of oil amounted to 71% of the total GDP in 2010.

Table 2. GDP per capita of East African Countries in 2010, current USD

South Sudan*	1,546
Burundi	189
Ethiopia	350
Kenya	769
Rwanda	548
Tanzania	527
Uganda	503

^{*} South Sudan figure from the South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics. Other figures from the World Development Indicators by the World Bank

Household consumption was 10 billion SDG in 2009, amounting to a third of GDP. Total government spending for the same year was 7 billion SDG, or 23 per cent of GDP.

South Sudan has an open economy

In 2010, trade amounted to over 100 percent of the value of GDP. Export and import shares were 72 and 40 per cent of the value of GDP respectively.

GNI per capita was lower than GDP per capita

GNI per capita for South Sudan was SDG 2,267, equivalent to USD 984, in 2010 [See table 3]. Oil production is a major component of South Sudan's GDP and since foreign investors and the Northern Government received a large portion of the revenues, GNI in South Sudan was significantly lower than GDP. GNI per capita is still higher than other countries in East Africa, but the difference is smaller than for GDP per capita.

Table 3. GNI per capita of East African Countries in 2010, current USD

South Sudan*	984
Burundi	160
Ethiopia	380
Kenya	780
Rwanda	540
Tanzania	530
Uganda	490

^{*} South Sudan figure from the South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics. Other figures from the World Development Indicators by the World Bank

Detailed tables are in the attached Appendix.

Estimating GDP is ongoing

The estimates will be vital to the government in formulating monetary and fiscal policies of the new Republic of South Sudan, as well as establishing a baseline against which future economic progress will be measured.

The GDP estimates will also be used for accession to membership of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the GNI estimates will be used in determining access to South Sudan's borrowing at concessional rates under the World Bank International Development Association (IDA) window. Countries with GNI per capita \$1,005 or less in 2010 are classified by the World Bank as low income, and countries eligible for IDA are those with GNI per capita lower than \$1,175 in 2010.

These are the first official GDP estimates produced by the NBS. Accuracy is constrained by availability and quality of data, particularly data on imports and non-oil exports, private sector investment and donor expenditure, and population growth.

Production of GDP and other national accounts aggregates is a continuing process for the NBS. NBS is currently working on producing GDP and GNI estimates for 2008 onwards in constant prices, as well as producing GDP by economic sector. To ensure a strong information base for economic policy making, it will be important to produce high quality, timely estimates of GDP. This requires close cooperation with other official data producers as well as additional financial resources.

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Appendix

Final Consumption Expenditure 14,263 14,472 16,820 Private 9,619 10,493 11,145 Households 9,231 9,864 10,156 NPISHs 388 629 989 Public 4,644 3,978 5,674 GoSS 3,488 2,164 3,302 GoSS off budget 315 710 1,116 States 841 1,105 1,256 Investment Expenditure 4,816 3,921 4,005 Private 2,873 2,545 2,418 Oil 2,270 1,849 1,643 Non-oil 603 696 775 Public 1,943 1,377 1,587
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Public 1,943 1,377 1,587
GoSS 1,610 981 1,055
Goss off budget 175 188 296
States 158 207 236
Exports of Goods and Services 21,325 16,837 21,973
Goods (f.o.b) 21,135 16,618 21,729
Services 190 219 244
Imports of Goods and Services11,89810,28412,310
Goods (f.o.b) 8,914 7,245 8,719
Services 2,985 3,039 3,591
Net Exports (Balance of Trade) 9,426 6,553 9,663
GDP at Current Prices (SDG Million) 28,505 24,946 30,488
GDP at Current Prices (USD Million) 13,630 10,800 13,227
GDP per capita (SDG) 3,451 2,967 3,564
GDP per capita (USD) 1,650 1,285 1,546
Balance of Payment outflows9,6037,70111,093
GNI at Current Prices (SDG Million) 18,902 17,245 19,395
GNI at Current Prices (USD Million) 9,038 7,466 8,415
GNI per capita (SDG) 2,288 2,051 2,267
GNI per capita (USD) 1,094 888 984