THE ROLE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN SOUTH SUDAN

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DEFINITION OF TERMS
Diplomatic relations: It refers to international diplomacy, the conduct of international relations through the intercession of professional diplomats with regard to issues of peace-making, trade, war, economics, culture, environment and human relations (Berridge, 2005).
Conflict Resolution: A process of resolving conflict designed to build relationships and address the roots of conflict through such tools as dialogue, mediation and negotiation (Schirch 2004).

Abstract: -

The study investigated the investigated the role of diplomatic relation on conflict resolution in south Sudan
The major findings of the study were that there is a significant positive correlation between; Diplomatic relations on conflict resolution (r = 0.632, P-value < 0.01), conflict resolution (r = 0.512, P-value < 0.01) and the attributes explained 59% of the variance of Conflict (R Square =.518) as the level to which they can predict the level of Conflict resolution in State of South Sudan. Such that unit change in Diplomatic relations processes will contribute to a change in the
The study recommends that the State and Country leaders should develop diplomatic relations with other international communities that aim at empowering people with education values and

Keywords: - *diplomatic relations, conflict resolutions*

CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION AND BACK GROUND TO THE STUDY
1.0 INTRODUCTION
This chapter presents the introduction, back ground of the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, general and specific objectives, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study and the conceptual frame work.

Globally, some progress is being made towards achieving the MDGs, but societies affected by armed conflict and criminal armed violence are often off track. These countries are usually in the lower ranks of the Human Development Index (HDI) or are experiencing specific risk factors shaping armed violence onset. For example, in 2012, the UN stated that 22 of the 34 countries farthest from reaching the MDGs are in or emerging from armed conflict (UN's MDG Review Summit, September 2010). This suggests that armed violence is both a cause and consequence of certain forms of underdevelopment. At the time when conflicts have become major impediments to development, the donor community recognizes the need for a special focus in assisting post-conflict recoveries.

Since all the developing countries, including those affected by conflict, attract aid from the same pool of donor funding World Bank, (2011), investigation of the patterns and the determinants that drive aid to post-conflict countries is warranted. The current crisis in South Sudan has worsened humanitarian conditions in a country facing acute needs and 2.5 million people are displaced due to the armed conflict and therefore it embarked to conflict resolution (UNHCR, 2014). Since the outbreak of violence in South Sudan on 15 December 2013, the humanitarian needs have quickly been growing with a total of 195,416 persons have been displaced from the 4 states of South Sudan, namely; Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile, and 75 171 of them taking shelter in the UN peace keeping bases in Juba, Bor, Malakal, Bentiu, while an estimated 58 000 others are displaced in Aweriel County Lakes state (UNMISS, 2014). The current study tries to investigate how Armed Conflict, and Social Capital Institutional Response influence Peace Building in South Sudan.

1.1 Background to the study
Diplomacy refers to the conduct of human affairs by peaceful means, employing techniques of persuasion and negotiation (Barnett and Duvall, 2010). It is known that refers to international diplomacy, the conduct of international relations through the intercession of professional diplomats with regard to issues of peace-making, trade, war, economics, culture, environment and human relations (Berridge, 2005). But it not known that diplomatic relations brings about diplomatic initiatives by outside parties to transform a conflict by enhancing communication between warring parties and providing information about the conflict that can help generate movement toward negotiated outcomes (Little, 2007). The functions of diplomatic relations are also particularly closely related to evolving events and issues such as international crises, human and natural disasters or outbreaks of violence, which shift the diplomatic spotlight on to previously remote geographic areas or issues (Guzzini, 2009). Diplomatic relation is measured by the following attributes; economic relations, political relations, cultural relations and environmental relations (Claude, 2012).

Conflict resolution is a process in which one party perceives that its interests are being opposed or negatively affected by another party. It promotes human rights, to improve good governance and rule of law. It is based on the concept that conflicts are a normal part of human interaction and are rarely completely resolved or eliminated, but they can be managed by such measures as negotiation, mediation, conciliation, and arbitration (Gleick, 2012). Conflict resolution encompasses all the activities involved in raising, discussing, and resolving both inter-user and content-centered conflicts (Abadi, 2011). Conflict resolution supports the longer-term development of societal systems and institutions that enhance good governance, rule of law, security, economic sustainability, and social well-being, which helps prevent future conflicts (Leung, 2009). It also enhances learning and group outcomes, organization setting, properly managed conflict reduces direct and indirect suffering and deaths among the people involve (Mwagiru, 2011). Conflict resolution is measured by attributes like; need for management, judicial mechanisms, negotiation, mediation and arbitration (Hossein Abadi, 2011).

1.2 Statement of the Problem
Globally conflicts have led to loss of more than 1.8 billion lives and 75% of total deaths and suffering comes from Sub-Saharan Africa Countries. Conflict hinder the achievement of the conflict management and more generally, social, economic, political and human development (UNSG, 2009). Conflict/ or Violence affects all societies, cities and population groups at all income levels. According to recent estimates, at least 740,000 people die annually directly or indirectly due to armed violence (UNDP, 2014).

In Nigeria, conflicts have resulted in the deaths of thousands of civilians, over 2.1 million people were internally displaced in northern Nigeria; 92% of them lived in host communities, while the remainder lived in camps (Amnesty International, 2016). In Chad,130,000 people have been displaced by the war. In South Sudan, 740,000 people are displaced due to the armed conflict (UNDP, 2014).

Despite several attempts to breach or resolve conflict between South and North of the then Sudan, in Naivasha, Kenya, which gave birth to Independent South Sudan in 9.July.2011 and; the ongoing effort or process to bring to an end the recent internal Armed Conflict in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, yet fragility remains unabated. Such journeys have prompted question as to what is direly /or barely needed to achieve permanent peace resolution which will intern to peace Build in South Sudan (CPA, Jan, 2005).

Prospectively, whenever an Armed Conflict erupts there is no peace. Conflict resolution can only be achieved once there is permanent peace (when atmosphere is conducive), which can also lead to achievement of permanent peace. South Sudan

had been engaged in bloody conflicts between Sudan and its own self. To quell those disturbances into peaceful settlements, the government of South Sudan has tried many ways, but all efforts were frustrated to a continuation of the conflict between the warring parties (UNDP, 2014).

Delivering assistance to those in need is a top priority for relief agencies, where security allows. Hygiene and sanitation have emerged as problems in areas where the displaced are gathering, and U.N. officials indicate that food, water, healthcare, and shelter are urgently needed a fact which shows that armed conflict, institutional response, social capital, and peace building have been put at stake. The study investigates the effect of diplomatic relations and institutional response on conflict resolution South Sudan.

CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW
2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews the existing literature put forward by different scholars and personalities on Diplomatic relations, Institutional response and Conflict resolution as well as the relationship among the three variables based on the objectives of the study.

2.1 The impact of Diplomatic relations on Conflict resolution
2.1.1 Diplomatic relations

Diplomacy refers to the conduct of human affairs by peaceful means, employing techniques of persuasion and negotiation (Barnett and Duvall, 2010). It usually refers to international diplomacy, the conduct of international relations through the intercession of professional diplomats with regard to issues of peace-making, trade, war, economics, culture, environment and human relations (Berridge, 2005). Diplomacy is typically carried out by government officials, who use bargaining, negotiation, and other peaceful means to negotiate treaties, trade policies, and other international agreements, including agreements to prevent, limit, manage, or settle conflicts (Claude, 2012).

Diplomatic relations are often thought of as being concerned with peaceful activity, although it may occur within war or armed conflict or be used in the orchestration of particular acts of violence, such as seeking over-flight clearance for an air strike (Lake and Powell, (eds) 2013). International treaties are usually negotiated by diplomats prior to endorsement by national politicians (Lake and Powell, (eds) 2013). In an informal or social sense, diplomacy is the employment of tact to gain strategic advantage or to find mutually acceptable solutions to a common challenge, one set of tools being the phrasing of statements in a non-confrontational or polite manner (Barnett and Duvall, 2010). Diplomatic relation is measured by the following pillars;

• **Peace diplomacy**

Underlying Country's peace and security diplomacy is the recognition of peace and stability as necessary pre-conditions for development and prosperity. A country should have a conviction that its own stability and economic wellbeing are dependent on the stability of the sub-region, Africa and the rest of the world (Berridge, 2005). The objectives of this pillar are to: Promote the resolution of conflicts by peaceful means; Collaborate with other African countries to strengthen the conflict prevention, management and resolution capacity of regional institutions, including the EAC, IGAD, COMESA and AU with the aim of promoting sustainable peace and development. And to support peace efforts by the African Union and the United Nations through contributing troops and providing leadership in peacekeeping missions within the continent and globally (Claude, 2012).

• **Economic diplomacy**

Countries' quest for a peaceful and stable environment is linked to its socio-economic development and prosperity, and that of the region (Choi & Choi, 2008). A robust economic engagement is necessary to secure the Country's regional and overall economic objectives. The objectives of this pillar are to: Increase capital flows to the Country; Support export promotion and investment by enterprises within the region and beyond; Promote the country as a favorite destination for foreign direct investment, tourism, and conferencing; Expand access to traditional markets and explore new destinations for the Country's exports; Enhance technological advancement by exploring new sources of affordable and appropriate technology (Claude, 2012). And Strengthen regional economic communities and organizations to serve as competitive spring boards to emerging and global markets (Cohen & Westbrook, Eds. 2012).

• **Diaspora diplomacy**

The Government should recognize the huge and untapped potential of her citizens abroad which can contribute to the country's national development agenda (Claude, 2012). The Diaspora pillar aims to harness the diverse skills, knowledge, expertise and resources of the citizens living abroad, and facilitating their integration into the national development agenda (Guzzini, 2009). This informs the Diaspora Pillar which seeks to harness the contribution of citizens living abroad through the implementation of the National Diaspora policy (David and Powell, (eds) 2013).

• **Environmental diplomacy**

The Environmental Policy underscores that environment and natural resources are valuable national assets upon which the country's sustainable development is anchored. Countries recognize their enormous stake in the sustainable management of its own natural resources, those of the region and the world. Countries are encouraged to champion the strengthening of UNEP and UN HABITAT in prioritizing the global sustainable development agenda; Promote compliance with the relevant national, regional and international environmental legislation, regulations, standards, and other appropriate operational procedures and guidelines; Promote the integration of environmental management into national and regional economic activities, including agriculture and tourism to minimize negative impact on the environment and promote research as a mechanism to encourage innovation and reduce adverse environmental impacts.

• **Cultural diplomacy**

It is through cultural activities that a nation's idea of itself is best represented. A country's cultural diplomacy should aim at increasing awareness of her cultural richness and to generate interests in the country's cultural heritage. There should be respect and recognition of cultural diversity and heritage; Promotion of cultural exchanges and partnerships and promotion of global intercultural dialogue.

2.1.2 Conflict resolution

Conflict resolution is a general term that describes efforts to prevent, limit, contain, or resolve conflicts, especially violent ones, while building up the capacities of all parties involved to undertake peace-building (Muigua, 2011). It is based on the concept that conflicts are a normal part of human interaction and are rarely completely resolved or eliminated, but they can be managed by such measures as negotiation, mediation, conciliation, and arbitration (Gleick, 2012). Conflict resolution also supports the longer-term development of societal systems and institutions that enhance good governance, rule of law, security, economic sustainability, and social well-being, which helps prevent future conflicts (Leung, 2009). A closely related term is peacemaking, although peacemaking tends to focus on halting ongoing conflicts and reaching partial agreements or broader negotiated settlements (Stiftung, 2014).

Conflict resolution includes the various on-wiki spaces for discussing conflicts, as well as the formal and informal roles played by community members (e.g. mediators, admins, Arbitration Committees) (International Alert et al. 2011). The aim of conflict resolution is to enhance learning and group outcomes, including effectiveness or performance in organizational setting (Samuel, 2012). Properly managed conflict can improve group outcomes (Green, 2012).Conflict resolution patterns are often according to Desivilya *et al.* (2005) related to a dual concern model divided into concern for self and concern for others (Leung, 2009). Further different conflict management approaches are based on these two motives, some focusing more on concern for self or concern for others (David, 2012).

Conflict resolution in the high stress environment of the operating room (Somerville, 2012). Scott, (2011) concludes that conflict is inevitable, especially in highly stressed environments. Therefore, he believes, professional organisations and employers have a responsibility to recognise that people approach conflict differently and should provide opportunities for multidisciplinary audiences to learn and develop conflict management skills and thereby change their interpersonal environments (Segal & Melinda, 2011). Therefore, it is important to identify effective conflict management strategies for conflict resolution (Victor, 2012). The methods of performing conflict resolution in the traditional are as follows: mediation, adjudication, reconciliation, arbitration and negotiation. It also includes employing extra-judicial devices and usage of legal maxims to persuade or convince the disputants about the implication or otherwise of their behavior.

• **Need for management**

The need to achieve sustainable development calls for sustainable management of natural resources in the region through engaging all the relevant stakeholders (Kameri Mbote et al., 2011). It has been persuasively argued that in environmental conflicts where there is high level emotional intensity, several of the early casualties in verbal and non-verbal skirmishes are tolerance and communication with people stopping to listen to those espousing contrary views and begin associating exclusively with like-minded supporters (Fiske, 2011). It is imperative to look at each of the approaches with an aim to identify their efficacy in managing natural resource conflicts and disputes (Hossein Abadi, 2011).

• **Judicial mechanisms**

With the objective of settling disputes in a more justifiable manner, national governments and the constitutions of most nations establish institutions; judiciary organs of the government. It is the natural mandate of courts of law to entertain disputes (Fiske, 2011). Courts in Somalia and even elsewhere in the world have encountered a number of problems related to access to justice. These include high court fees, geographical location, complexity of rules and procedure and the use of legalese (Hossein Abadi, 2011). The court's role is also 'dependent on the limitations of civil procedure, and on the litigious courses taken by the parties themselves' (Kameri Mbote et al., 2011). Courts thus play an important and indispensable role in achieving sustainable development which means conflicts must be dealt with effectively (Abadi, 2011).

• **Negotiation**

Negotiation is a process that involves parties meeting to identify and discuss the issues at hand so as to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution without the help of a third party (Hamilton, 2014). It may be argued that negotiation is by far the most efficient conflict management mechanism in terms of management of time, costs and preservation of relationships and has been seen as the preferred route in most disputes (Hamilton, 2014). Negotiation can be interest-based, rights-based or power-based and each can result in different outcomes (Abadi, 2011). However, the most common form of negotiation depends upon successfully taking and the giving up a sequence of positions (Amendola, 2011). Negotiation can be used in facilitating the effective management of natural resources based conflicts (UNESCO-IHP, 2014).

• **Mediation**

Mediation is defined as the intervention in a standard negotiation or conflict of an acceptable third party who has limited or no authoritative decision-making power but who assists the involved parties in voluntarily reaching a mutually acceptable settlement of issues in dispute (Muigua, 2011). Mediation has been defined as a continuation of the negotiation process by other means where instead of having a two way negotiation, it now becomes a three way process: the mediator in essence mediating the negotiations between the parties (Moore, 2009). It is also a mechanism worth exploring as it has been successfully used to achieve the right of access to justice for parties (Mwagiru, 2011).

• **Arbitration**

Arbitration is a dispute settlement mechanism. Arbitration arises where a third party neutral (known as an arbitrator) is appointed by the parties or an appointing authority to determine the dispute and give a final and binding award (Chau, (2007). Its advantages are that parties can agree on an arbitrator to determine the matter; the arbitrator has expertise in the area of dispute; any person can represent a party in the dispute; flexibility; cost-effective; confidential; speedy and the result is binding (UNCITRAL, 2008).

There is an influence of diplomatic relations on conflict resolution because the implementation of these pillars provides a guiding framework for diplomatic engagements. This will further guide the country as it pursues its vision of becoming peaceful, prosperous and globally competitive while promoting sustainable development (Welsh, 2014). Effective diplomatic relations, support and effective coordination in the conflict management process stimulates parties favoring the peace agreement to meet their commitments and thereby diminishes the possibility of hostility (Muigua, 2011). In most cases it is important for the strong diplomatic relations as it leads to commitment with international peacekeepers, whose presence can "deter defections from the peace treaty (Doyle and Sambanis, 2006). Shokouh Abadi, (2011) adds that diplomatic initiatives as attempts by outside parties can transform a conflict by enhancing communication between warring parties and providing information about the conflict that can help generate movement toward negotiated outcomes. In addition, the outside parties can tie information to explicit carrots or sticks by linking diplomacy to possible economic or military interventions.

CHAPTER THREE
METHODOLOGY
3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the research methodology that was applied in conducting the study. This involved the research design, target population, sampling design and sample size, data collection procedures and instrument, determination of reliability and validity as well as data analysis techniques.

3.1 Research Design

The research design was a case study and descriptive. In addition, the study adopted a triangulation of both quantitative and qualitative approaches for data collection and analysis. In this case, the quantitative approach allowed the researcher to solicit information expressed in numerical format while the qualitative approach complemented the quantitative approach by soliciting more detailed information expressed in textual format (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999).

3.2 Study Population

The research was carried out in Central Equatorial State. The population comprised of 193 people from the county. The researcher clustered this to 8 Administrative staff, 35 Operational staff and 150 citizens of Equatorial State (Table 3.1)

Table: 3.1: Population size

Target Group	Population
Administrative staff	8
Operational staff	35
Citizens	150
Total	**193**

Source: Primary Data

3.3 Sampling Procedure

The researcher used both probability and non-probability sampling techniques so as to be exhaustive in the research findings. Random sampling used as a probability technique to obtain a good representative sample of the area population of the residents. Purposive sampling technique was used as a non-probability technique for the leaders of the state only but as key informants.

3.4 Sample size and selection strategy

The sample size was calculated using the Krejcie and Morgan Table (1970) for determining the sample, as this gave a practical ratio based on the State's population size. According to Krejcie and Morgan Table, approximately 193 respondents will be used as a sample size of the entire population (182). The researcher clustered this population into one of 8 administrators, 30 operational staff and 108 residents of Central Equatorial State as explained in Table 3.2 below.

Table: 3.2: Sample size distribution

Target Group	Population	Sample
Administrative staff	8	8
Operational staff	35	30
Citizens	150	108
Total	**193**	**164**

Source: Primary Data

3.5 Data sources

3.5.1 Primary data

The study used primary data that was collected using questionnaire and observation these instrument are appropriate as it helped the researcher to collect information that was directly observable as it was about feelings, motivations; attitudes, accomplishments as well as experiences of individuals (Sutrisna, 2009).

3.5.2 Secondary data

Desk research method used on secondary data. Secondary data refer to data collected by someone other than the researcher conducting the current study (Saunders et al., 2009). Text books, annual reports, journals and magazines were some of the documents reviewed.

3.6 Research methods

3.6.1 Survey

A survey was used to collect data from Heads of Sections, supervisors and support staff. The choice of a questionnaire is on the basis that respondents can read and write and enables responding to the study questions without influence on the presence of the respondent. Kabanza (2001) affirms that questionnaires cover big area over a short period of time. It also allowed respondents to respond boldly and frankly to questions. The questionnaire enabled collection of vast amounts of data in a short time and was less expensive (Amin, 2005).

3.7 Data collection instruments

3.7.1 Closed Questionnaire

A structured questionnaire was used to obtain information from respondents (Amin, 2005). The questionnaire is an efficient data collection method which has advantages of high complete responses within a short period. Use of questionnaires allowed the respondents ample time to reflect on answers to avoid hasty responses and thus enhance the validity (accuracy) of the responses (Mugenda&Mugenda, 2003). The questionnaire method also helped to reduce on the cost and time implications, besides enabling greater responses.

3.8 Validity and Reliability of Research tools

The validity of the questionnaires established using the content validity test. Using the ratings the content validity indices were computed. The Cronbach Alpha method of internal consistency was used to compute the reliability of the measures of the variables of the study using various questionnaire items administered to respondents (Kothari, 1990). When the Cronbach Alpha coefficients for the study variables are above 0.60, the scales used to measure the study variables was consistent and therefore reliable and meeting acceptance standards for the research. This is also similar with the sighting of Sekyawa (2009).

Table 3.3: Validity and Reliability of the Instrument Variable

Variable	Anchor	Cronbach Alpha Coefficient	CVR(Content Validity Ratio)
Diplomatic relations	5 point	0. 8250	0.8050
Conflict resolution	5 point	0.7525	0.7350

Source: Primary data

Since all Content Validity indices for all experts and Alpha coefficients were above 0.8, then the items/questions selected for the study were relevant to the study variables

3.9 Measurement of Variables

- Diplomatic relations was measured using a five point Likert type scale (1- strongly disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Not sure, 4-Agree and 5-Strongly agree) based on the based on the International diplomatic relations model by (Guzzini, 2009) which measured it using attributes like; economic relations, political relations, cultural relations and environmental

- Conflict resolution was measured using a five point Likert type scale (1- strongly disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Not sure, 4-Agree and 5-Strongly agree) based on the Rahim's meta-model, 2002with attributes like; need for management, judicial mechanisms, negotiation, mediation and arbitration (Hossein Abadi, 2011).

3.10 Ethical Considerations

Maximum effort was ensured to observe ethical principles to ensure that bias is eliminated and maximize meaning of information provided. Respect for all intellectual property where all the secondary data was properly documented and referenced. The respect for respondents was ensured regarding information provided, and non-discrimination to allow willing and equal participation. In addition, no client was coerced to give the information, but was convinced to give the feedback at will, in this study. The researcher recognized the rights of individuals to privacy, personal data protection and freedom of movement. Masculinity was put in consideration especially in cultures where it is associated with self-esteem. Finally, all the data collected was destroyed after capturing and analysis.

3.11. Data process and analysis

Statistical package for the social sciences (SPSS) was used to aid to process and summarize the information got from the questionnaires. The data was sorted, coded and fed into the SPSS data analyst to generate various results. The data was analyzed for descriptive statistics, that is, frequencies, percentages, mean and standard deviation. Using Pearson correlation coefficient of determination, inferential statistics like correlations was used to illustrate the existence of the relationship between variables (if any), while the regression analysis was used to explain how the independent variables affect the dependent variable.

3.12 Anticipated limitations and problems encountered.

The researcher encountered the following limitations

i. Sensitivity of information; some of the staff were reluctant to respond to some of the questions since they deal with government information. The researcher assured them of maximum confidentiality so they can provide all the required information.

ii. Busy schedules; some key informant respondents had busy schedules and lack time to participate in the study. The researcher made appointments with the respondents in order to meet at appropriate times for the interviews.

iii. Unwillingness to fill the questionnaires; some respondents were unwilling to share information about their leaders, supervisors, workmates and the service system. The researcher however endeavored to emphasize that it is a purely academic research and confidentiality was upheld.

iv. Interpretation of the questions may affect the meaning as some respondents can get difficulty in interpreting the questions correctly since English is not used as the national language. However the researcher tried to interpret the questions for them where necessary.

CHAPTER FOUR
ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF STUDY FINDINGS
4.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses the response rate, Bio data, Pearson correlation, factor loadings, Standard and Deviation

4.1 Respondents' Bio Data

The response rate was 85% (140 respondents).

4.1.1 Gender of respondents

Table 4.1 below presents the gender distribution of the respondents.

Table 1.1 Gender by respondent distribution

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	88	62.9
Female	52	37.1
Total	**140**	**100.0**

Source: Primary data computed

The result in table 4.1 indicates that at 62.9% were males and 37.1% were females.

4.1.2 Age Group of the Respondents
Table 4.2 below presents the age of the respondents
Table 4.2:   Age Group of the Respondents

Age group	Frequency	Percent
41 - 50 years	58	41.4
31 - 40 years	41	29.3
21 - 30 years	28	27.1
50 + years	13	9.3
Total	**140**	**100.0**

Source: Primary data computed
The results in table 4.2 indicate that 41.4% of respondents were between the age ranges of 41 – 50 years. In addition, those within the age bracket of 31 – 40 were 29.3%. Those who were between the ages ranges of 21 – 30 years were followed with a statistical representation of 27.1%. 9.3% were between the age range of 50 and above.

4.1.3   Marital Status of the Respondents
The table below 4.3 presents marital status of respondents
Table 4.3:   Marital Status of the Respondents

Marital Status	Frequency	Percent
Married	87	62.1
Single	33	23.6
Separated	12	8.6
Divorced	8	5.7
Total	**140**	**100.0**

Source: Primary data computed
The result in table 4.3 indicates that 62.1% of respondents were married, 23.6% were single,   8.6% had divorced and 5.7% were separated.

4.1.4   Respondents' Number of Dependents
The table below 4.4 presents the number of dependents for the respondents.
Table 4.4: Respondents' Number of Dependents

Number of Dependents	Frequency	Percent
1 to 3	56	40.0
4 to 5	48	34.3
Above 5	25	17.9
None	11	7.8
Total	**140**	**100.0**

Source: Primary Data computed
The result in table 4.4 above indicates that 40% of the respondents were with dependents ranging from 1 to 3. In addition, 34.3% had 4 to 5 dependents, 17.9% had above 5 dependents and 7.8% had no dependents.

4.1.5   Respondents' Level of Education

The table below 4.5 presents the educational levels of the respondents.

Table 4.5: Respondents' Level of Education

Level of Education	Frequency	Percent
Tertiary	45	32.1
Diploma	32	22.8
Certificate	23	16.4
Primary	18	12.8
Never studied	17	12.2
Masters	5	3.6
Total	**140**	**100.0**

Source: Primary Data computed

The result in table 4.5 above indicates that 32.1% of the respondents were holding a degree as their level of education, 22.8% had attained diplomas, 16.4% were holding certificates as their level of education, 12.8% studied up to primary level of education and 12.2% had never studied while the remaining 3.6% had Master level of education.

4.1.6   Respondents' Working Experience

The table below 4.6 presents the number of years the respondents have been working/ using the company's products

Table 4.6: Respondents' Working Experience

Working Experience	Frequency	Percent
6 and Above	57	40.7
4 - 6 years	38	27.1
4 - 4 years	22	15.7
1 - 2 years	16	11.4
Less than 1 year	5	3.6
Total	**140**	**100.0**

Source: Primary data computed

The results in table 4.6 above show that 40.7% of the respondents had a working experience of 6 years and above. In addition, 27.1% had a working experience of 5 to 6 years, 15.7% had 3 to 4 years working experience, followed by respondents with a working experience of 1 to 2 years 11.4% and 3.6% as the least with an experience of less than 1 year.

4.2 Relationship between Study

Spearman correlation coefficient was used to determine the degree of relationship between the study variables as shown in the table 4.7 below.

Table 4.7 Pearson's zero order correlation matrix

	1	2	3
Diplomatic relations (1)	1.000		
Institutional response (2)	.432**	1.000	
Conflict resolution (3)	.632**	.512**	1.000

** Correlation is significant at the .01 level (2-tailed).
Source: Primary data

4.2.1 The impact of Diplomatic relations   on Conflict resolution

The results in table 4.7 above indicate a positive impact of Diplomatic relations   on conflict resolution (r = 0.632, P-value < 0.01) which implies that any change in diplomatic relations influence the conflict resolution processes in a state like Central Equatorial State and South Sudan as a whole.

4.4 The factor loadings of Diplomatic relations, and Conflict resolution
4.4.1 Factor Analysis of Diplomatic relations
Table 4.9: Factor Analysis of Diplomatic relations

Variables	Political relations	Economic Relations	Cultural relations	Environmental relation
There are mediations, international forums for conflict management	.930			
There were requests for diplomatic intervention during the conflict management processes	.918			
The Country tried to recall the ambassadors and explicit offers to mediate in the conflict management process	.901			
There has been lowering of barriers to such trade and it leads to trade wars and tariff		.893		
Economic relations affect global alliances, globalisation and the economic health of nations		.864		
There are recommends to develop, encourage, and maintain these relations among diverse nations and cultures		.841		
There are interactions, both direct and indirect			.832	
Cultural relations create pathways that can be leveraged to prevent or resolve conflict			.815	
The available cultural relations have created opportunities for engagement with the goal of preventing and resolving conflicts			.807	
There is management of the environmental relations between states and between states and other actors				.812
Diplomacy is concerned with advising, shaping and implementing environmental foreign policy				.804
States coordinate and secure particular or wider interests of the environmental policies				.773
Eigen Value	1.289	.183	.164	.064
Variance %	83.788	11.654	3.287	1.271
Cumulative	83.788	95.442	98.729	100

Source: Primary data computed

The results in table 4.9 show the factor analysis results of Diplomatic relations variables, four factors were extracted, component one (Political relations) explains 83.8%, followed by Economic Relations 11.7%, the third (Cultural relations) 3.3% and the last (Environmental relation) 1.3% of the variance of Diplomatic relations.

The factor analysis results of Diplomatic relations under Political relations attribute were explained that; there are mediations, international forums for conflict management93%, there were requests for diplomatic intervention during the conflict management processes92% and that the Country tried to recall the ambassadors and explicit offers to mediate in the conflict management process 91%.

Under Economic Relations attribute, they were explained that; there has been lowering of barriers to such trade and it leads to trade wars and tariff89%, Economic relations affect global alliances, globalisation and the economic health of nations 86% and that there are recommends to develop, encourage, and maintain these relations among diverse nations and cultures84%.

With the Cultural relations attribute, the results were explained that; there are interactions, both direct and indirect among two or more cultures 83%, Cultural relations create pathways that can be leveraged to prevent or resolve conflict 82% and that the available cultural relations have created opportunities for engagement with the goal of preventing and resolving conflicts81%.

Lastly under Environmental relation attribute, they were explained that; there is management of the environmental relations between states and between states and other actors 81%, Diplomacy is concerned with advising, shaping and implementing environmental foreign policy80% and that theStates coordinate and secure particular or wider interests of the environmental policies 77%.

4.4.3   Factor Analysis of Conflict resolution

Table 4.11: Factor Analysis of Conflict resolution

Variables	Need for management	Negotiation	Mediation	Judicial mechanisms
All the relevant stakeholders are engaged in the management of the natural resources	.914			
Leaders try to emotions manage the emotions of the citizens effectively to avert full blown conflicts	.893			
People can meaningfully benefit from the exploitation of the natural resources in an atmosphere of managed conflicts	.860			
Negotiation has been used in facilitating the effective management of conflicts		.853		
Negotiation has been involving parties meeting to identify and discuss the issues at hand		.841		
Leaders use efficient conflict management mechanisms in terms of management of time, costs		.828		
It is the natural mandate of courts of law to entertain disputes in Juba County			.749	
Courts in South Sudan have encountered a number of problems related to access to justice			.728	
The citizens have problems with paying court fees			.716	
There has been a continuation of the negotiation process by other means where instead of having a two way negotiation				.638
Leaders use efficient conflict management mechanisms with mediators				.620
Mediators have been successfully used to achieve the right of access to justice for parties.				.601
Eigen Value	2.776	.782	.403	.039
Variance %	66.398	19.549	10.069	3.984
Cumulative	66.398	85.947	96.016	100

Source: Primary data computed

The results in table 4.11 shows the factor analysis results of Conflict resolution variables, four factors were extracted, component one (Need for management) explains 66.4%, followed by Negotiation 19.55%, the third (Mediation) 10.07% and the last (Judicial mechanisms) 3.9% of the variance of Conflict resolution.

The factor analysis results of Conflict resolution under Need for management attribute were explained that; all the relevant stakeholders are engaged in the management of the natural resources91%, Leaders try to emotions manage the emotions of the citizens effectively to avert full blown conflicts89% and that Institutions have efficient teams for response 94%.

Under Negotiation attribute, they were explained that; Negotiation has been used in facilitating the effective management of conflicts 85%, Negotiation has been involving parties meeting to identify and discuss the issues at hand84% and that Leaders use efficient conflict management mechanisms in terms of management of time, costs83%.

With Mediation attribute, the results were explained that; it is the natural mandate of courts of law to entertain disputes in Juba County 75%, Courts in South Sudan have encountered a number of problems related to access to justice73% and that the citizens have problems with paying court fees 73%.

Lastly under Judicial mechanisms attribute,the results were explained that; there has been a continuation of the negotiation process by other means where instead of having a two way negotiation64%, Leaders use efficient conflict management mechanisms with mediators62% and that Mediators have been successfully used to achieve the right of access to justice for parties 60%.

CHAPTER FIVE
DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS
5.0 Introduction
This chapter presents interpretation of the study findings.
5.1 Bio Data

5.1.1 Gender of the respondents
The results indicated that at 62.9% were males and 37.1% were females. The results are attributes are attributed to the ongoing conflicts in the Country which have displaced a lot women. It also implied that most of the employees at the state were males. However, obtaining information from both male and female is an indicator that the information contained in this report is gender sensitive hence the report data being genuine.

5.1.2 Age group of the respondents
The results indicated that 41.4% of respondents were between the age ranges of 41 – 50 years. In addition, those within the age bracket of 31 – 40 were 29.3%. Those who were between the ages ranges of 21 – 30 years were followed with a statistical representation of 27.1%. 9.3% were between the age range of 50 and above. This implied that most of the employees and the citizens that participated in the study were between the age range of 41 - 50 years, an indicator that the state employs mature and energetic people who can effectively carry out all possible policies of diplomacy to avoid political instabilities as well as approaches towards better institutional responses for improved conflict resolution. Therefore, presentation of data obtained from mature respondents of above 41 years means that data contained in this study is good and reasonable.

5.1.3 Marital Status of the respondents
The result indicated that 62.1% of respondents were married, 23.6% were single, 8.6% had divorced and 5.7% had separated from their partners. This implies that most of the employees engaged in implementing policies possible policies of diplomacy to avoid political instabilities as well as approaches towards better institutional responses for improved conflict resolution and many of the stakeholders in the state were married which is a sign of responsibility.

5.1.4 Number of dependents for the respondents
The results indicated that 40% of the respondents were with dependents ranging from 1 to 3. In addition, 34.3% had 4 to 5 dependents, 17.9% had above 5 dependents and 7.8% had no dependents. This implied that most of the employees and citizens of the state were responsible people since most of them had dependents to cater for.

5.1.5 Education levels of the respondents
Results indicated that 32.1% of the respondents were holding a degree as their level of education, 22.8% had attained diplomas, 16.4% were holding certificates as their level of education, 12.8% studied up to primary level of education and 12.2% had never studied while the remaining 3.6% had Master level of education. This implied that the workers had acquired some skills to work in the state since some of the workers had acquired a reasonable level of education. However the leaders in the County needed to lay strategies to improve education of the beneficiaries. The results also indicated that the information got during the research can be depended on as majority of the respondents were educated with capability of researching and making independent decisions.

5.1.6. Number of years the respondents have been working with the Juba County
The results showed that 40.7% of the respondents had a working experience of 6 years and above. In addition, 27.1% had a working experience of 5 to 6 years, 15.7% had 3 to 4 years working experience, followed by respondents with a working experience of 1 to 2 years 11.4% and 3.6% as the least with an experience of less than 1 year. Most of the respondents who participated in this study had stayed in the state for 6 and above years, an indication that data obtained was from people who were mature with working experience in the state and that information got from them was not biased.

5.2 The relationship between the variables
5.2.1 The impact of Diplomatic relations on Conflict resolution
The results indicated a positive impact of Diplomatic relations on conflict resolution (r = 0.632, P-value < 0.01) which implied that any change in diplomatic relations influence the conflict resolution processes in a state like Central Equatorial State and South Sudan as a whole.
The results are supported by Welsh, (2014) who said that the implementation of these pillars provides a guiding framework for diplomatic engagements. This will further guide the country as it pursues its vision of becoming peaceful, prosperous and globally competitive while promoting sustainable development. Muigua, (2011) adds that effective diplomatic relations, support and effective coordination in the conflict management process stimulates parties favoring the peace agreement to meet their commitments and thereby diminishes the possibility of hostility.
Shokouh Abadi, (2011) concludes that diplomatic initiatives as attempts by outside parties can transform a conflict by enhancing communication between warring parties and providing information about the conflict that can help generate movement toward negotiated outcomes.

5.2.2 The relationship between Institutional response and Conflict resolution

The results indicate a positive relationship between institutional response and conflict resolution (r = 0.512, P-value < 0.01) which implied that institutional responses influence the conflict resolution processes in a state like Central Equatorial State and South Sudan as a whole.

The results are in line with Nigel, (2013) who argues that in remote and marginalized communities where the rural economy is weak, opportunities are few and education resources are scarce, effective and efficient rural education, which incorporates practical and technical skills appropriate to the rural context, is important in the sustainable livelihoods of rural communities. Both Institutional response empowers people, organizations and society to systematically stimulate and develop their capabilities over time to achieve social and economic goal, observed DFID (2012).

5.2.3 The influence of diplomatic relations and institutional response   on conflict resolution

Results explained 59% of the variance of Conflict (R Square =.518) as the level to which they can predict the level of Conflict resolution in Central Equatorial State of South Sudan. Such that unit change in Diplomatic relations processes will contribute to a change in the possibility of Conflict resolution by (.581) while a one unit change in and Institutional response will contribute to a change in the Conflict resolution of the Central Equatorial State and other states of South Sudan (343).

The results are in line with UNESCO-IHP, (2014) and Warner, (2014), who attempt through diplomatic relations can alter the course of a conflict through providing material, intelligence and financial support to change the structure of the relationship among combatants, or alternatively, providing information through mediation and other diplomatic initiatives to change the information that they hold about their adversary. Ury & Goldberg, (2014) adds that the approaches reached at through diplomatic relation can have conflict management goals, although mediation has a much more direct link to a goal of containing violence and making peace.

CHAPTER SIX
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
6.0 Introduction

This chapter highlights the major conclusion and recommendations of the study. The findings are outlined in direct response to the specific objectives. Recommendations have been provided to incorporate diplomatic relations and institutional response on conflict resolution in Juba County and South Sudan as a whole and further research.

6.1 Conclusions

The study established that in general terms variables including public diplomatic relations play big role in improving on conflict resolution in any state and the country at large. This trend shows that there is actually a need for improvement in diplomatic relations and institutional response policies as the best way to improve conflict resolution.

The challenge however, is that the current diplomatic relations and natural resource policies have not been given a priority yet it greatly determine conflict resolution. in any Country.

If environmental justice and democracy are to be achieved, then there is need to adopt an integrated approach to both conflict resolution and dispute settlement mechanisms in order to promote peace, coexistence, justice for all and participation by all the involved parties. Therefore, Counties in any Country should set and implement clear and effective diplomatic relations to improve on conflict resolution in south Sudan

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