



Sudan Radio Service

Lack Of Resources Jeopardizing the DDR Program In South Sudan

24 June 2011—(Nairobi) —The United Nations says that the demobilization and reintegration of the army is facing challenges because of lack of alternative livelihood opportunities for the demobilized soldiers.

The UN regional coordinator for Southern Sudan, Mister David Gressley spoke to SRS in Nairobi on Thursday.

[Gressley]: "The demobilization activities that were planned were carried out by the UN mission here, but the reintegration program was slow to get started. And I think all of the partners agreed, including the government of southern Sudan and the DDR commission itself that there was a need to sit down and relook at the plan, and try to come up with a reintegration program that will really work. It is important for everybody to understand that reintegration is the most difficult part of that process, it is very straight forward to demobilize and disarm soldiers, but it is another to successfully reintegrate them into society, and I think that is what the government wants to relook at, and I think it is correct to do so. I do believe resources will be made available after this review is completed and a revised program is put into place, and as I mentioned earlier it is planned by the DDR commission, that it could start as early as January next year"

On Wednesday, the GoSS said that the DDR program was facing a number of challenges, because the international community alongside the UN did not avail the needed funds.