

# The Niles

Building bridges through joint reporting

By MiCT | Dominik Lehnert

The Niles is produced by MiCT in collaboration with the NBI and with support from GIZ, commissioned by the German Federal Foreign Office (AA).

Like its namesake,  
the river Nile, the  
project flows on,  
and on, and on...

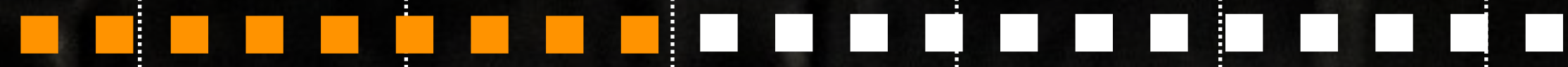
# PROJECT STREAM & OFFSPRINGS

sudanvotes.com



Country: Sudan /// Objective: Contribute to peaceful elections /// Components: 1) Journalist capacity building & online publishing; 2) Electionaire; 3) Music production (Sudan Votes Music Hopes) -> Video Tip: [SUDAN VOTES MUSIC HOPES](#) ↗

theniles.org & The Niles Print



Countries: Sudan & South Sudan /// Objective: Referendum/secession coverage; contribute to a peaceful separation process & reconciliation /// Components: Journalist capacity building, online & print publishing -> Video Tip: [The Niles: Should I stay or should I go?](#) ↗

theniles.org & The Niles Print



Countries: Burundi, Rwanda, DRC, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sudan, Egypt /// Objective: Covering Nile Basin Affairs /// Components: Journalist capacity building, online & print publishing -> Video Tip: [The Nile: A shared destiny](#) ↗

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

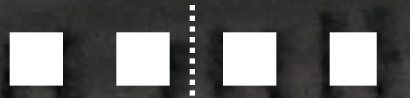
Media & Makers JUB



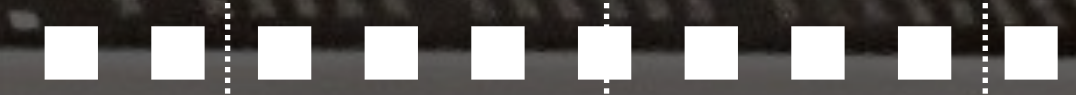
Media & Makers KHA



Radio Jonglei BLS



NBI Infographics



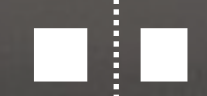
AlAdwaa.online



Towards a dem. SUD



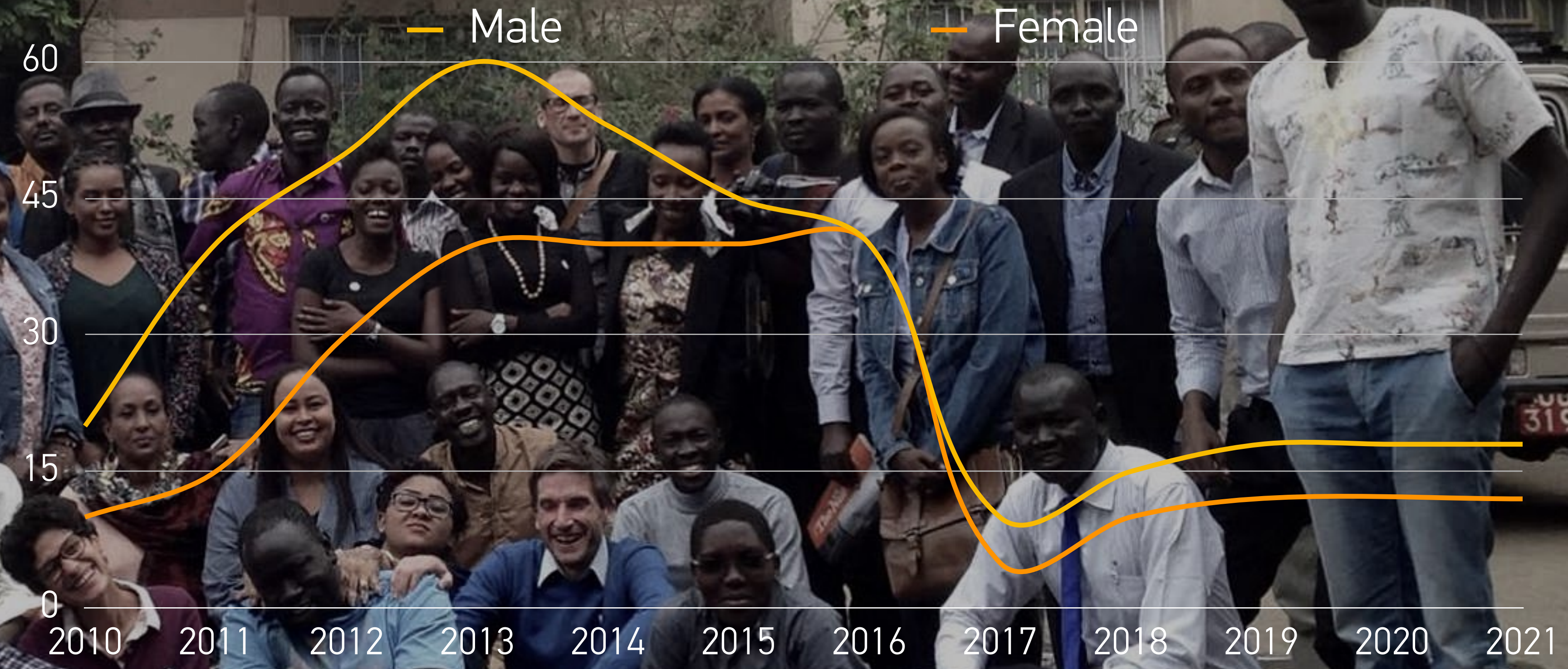
R&HC Radio UG



The Niles project was discontinued in Dec. 2016. -> Article Tip: [Ending a project that "is close to our heart"](#) ↗

-> Video Tip: [Reporting on South Sudan's crisis](#) ↗

Active contributors over time



164

Correspondents coached over the years

-> Video Tip: "You are really working on journalism" ↗

# THE NILES TRAININGS & EDITORIAL CONFERENCES

**The Niles**

**6** Countries in which  
The Niles hosted  
conferences

**5000+**  
Travel arrangements  
(flight, visa, hotel) made

**23** Workshops  
& Editorial  
Conferences

**9999+**  
Individual coaching hours

-> Video Tip: [Expanding video production in Sudan](#)

3,540

Entries on [theniles.org](http://theniles.org)

(articles & radio reports)

≈ 2,220 English entries

≈ 1,320 Arabic entries

138

Videos produced, published on [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)

The screenshot shows the Arabic version of The Niles website. The top navigation bar includes 'The Niles', 'Politics', 'Economics', 'Society', '2010 Election', 'Commentary', 'التعليق', 'السياسة الانتخابية', and 'سياسة المجتمع'. Below this is a search bar and a grid of article thumbnails. The left sidebar contains sections for 'The Niles Newspaper Issue 2', 'Sudan Media Study', 'Azibni Remake 2012', 'resources', 'newsletter', 'listen & watch', 'follow us', 'materials', and 'elections 2010'. The main content area features several articles with images and headlines in Arabic.

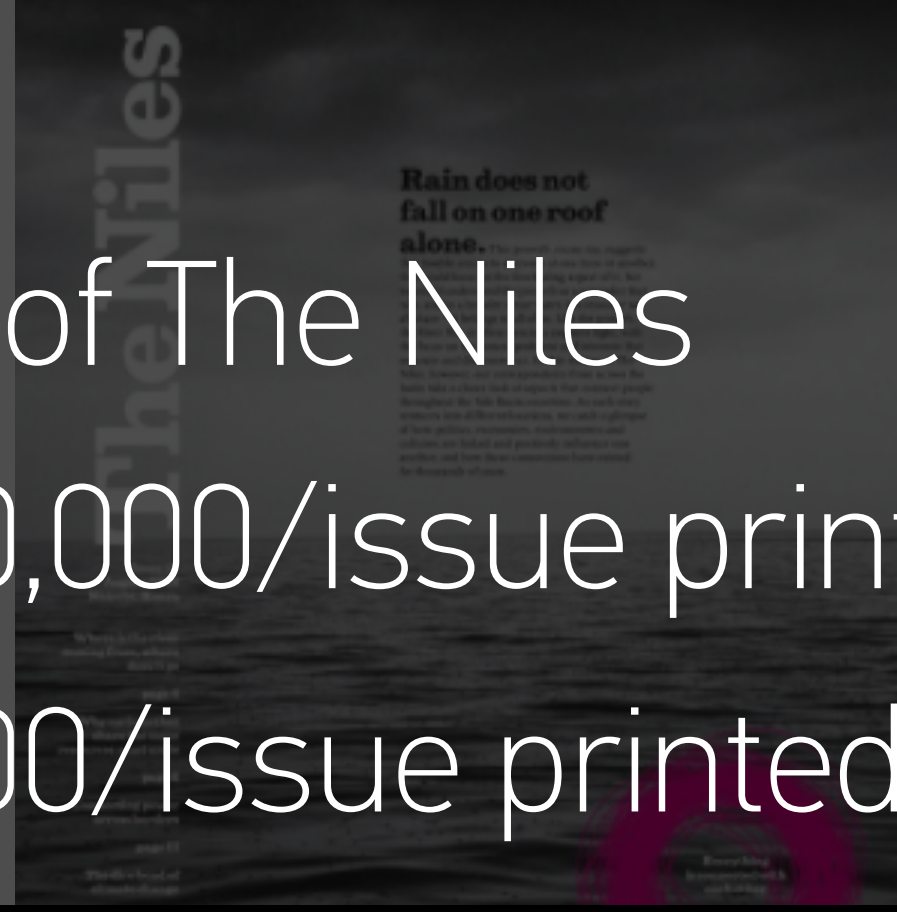
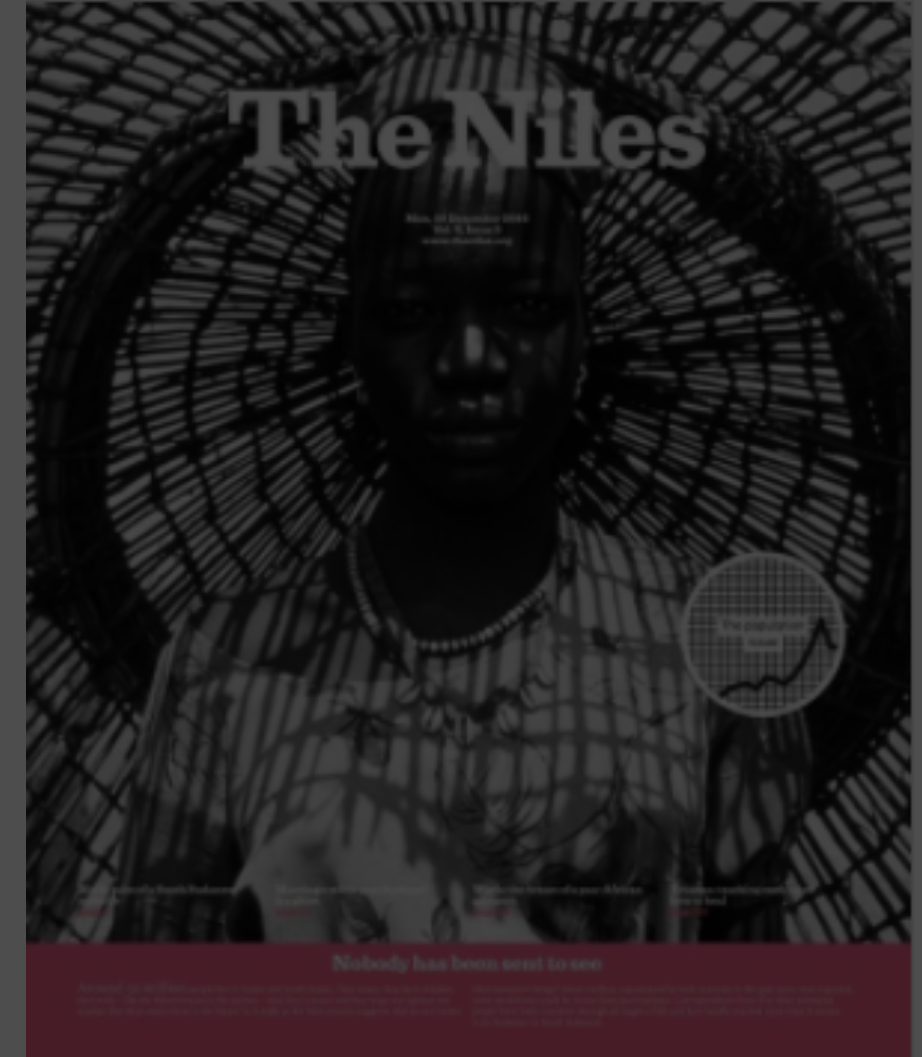
The screenshot shows the English version of The Niles website. The top navigation bar includes 'The Niles', 'Politics', 'Economics', 'Society', 'In Focus', 'Archive', and 'Contributors'. Below this is a search bar and a grid of article thumbnails. The left sidebar contains sections for 'The Niles Newspaper Issue 2', 'Sudan Media Study', 'Azibni Remake 2012', 'resources', 'newsletter', 'listen & watch', 'follow us', 'materials', and 'elections 2010'. The main content area features several articles with images and headlines in English.

The background of the right side of the image is a dark grey calendar grid with a map of the Nile Basin overlaid. The calendar shows dates from 03 to 20. The map highlights the Nile Basin Initiative area. The text '3,540' is prominently displayed in the upper right, and '138' is displayed in the lower right. Below the numbers, there is text about the number of entries on the website and the number of videos produced.

-> Video Tip: "It has really built our careers as journalists" ↗

# THE NILES PRINT PUBLICATIONS

The Niles



# 15

Printed issues ↗ of The Niles

2011 -> 2016 | 10,000/issue printed in Khartoum & Juba

2017 -> 2021 | 800/issue printed in Kampala

-> Video Tip: The Niles Five printed and distributed in Sudan ↗

THE NILES | Sudan & South Sudan  
-> 2011 to 2016

Secession & Independence ↗

Nation building x2  
Sudan & South Sudan ↗

Land rights,  
distribution & access ↗

Small arms &  
light weapons ↗

Displacement  
& Migration (1) ↗

**WATER** ↗

Displacement  
& Migration (2) ↗

Two new nations:  
five years on ↗

**Population** ↗

THE NILES | NBI & GIZ  
-> 2017 to 2021

Water scarcity in  
the Nile Basin ↗

BEST OF NILE  
REPORTING ↗

Environmental resources  
& Conservation ↗

How everything  
is connected ↗

**20 years  
Nile Basin  
Initiative** ↗

Food & food security  
in the Nile Basin ↗

Dams & dam cascade  
management ↗



## PHASE A | Editorial Conference

1. Input session by selected expert(s) on topic selected by NBI & GIZ;
2. Individual research and ideation of content elements by all contributors and editors;
3. Conference during which all contributors present their ideas, feedback is provided, ideas are fine-tuned and put into context of the issue (avoiding duplication and content sequencing), and content is commissioned;

## PHASE B | Content Creation

4. Contributors work on content, whilst editors provide on-the-job coaching;
5. Approved, checked and edited content elements are incorporated in the draft design of the respective issue;
6. Draft PDF of the issue is submitted for review to NBI & GIZ;
7. Necessary corrections and changes are consolidated and incorporated;
8. Final print file is submitted for printing;

## PHASE C | Content Distribution

9. Printed issues distributed by NBI & GIZ individually and during key stakeholder events. Target group: decision makers, experts & other influential people;
10. All articles published in English and Arabic online and shared via The Niles social media channels.

# THE NILES IS A PROJECT THAT IS CLOSE TO OUR HEARTS

**The Niles**

Kiss Ghorraieel, Jess Smeo and Alexander Mackinn  
**Slow Cuban Hummus**

In Cuba, 1kg of black beans costs 2 US\$.  
On average, 1h of internet costs 4.50 US\$.

Here, you are eating 37.5g black beans –  
the equivalent of

1 minute of internet

Articles from The Niles have been featured by The Guardian Africa Network and other leading international media outlets.

“The Niles transfers important skills for expression [...] which helps journalists and expands their independence. It is a distinguished idea; the editing, the design, the translation are all excellent. The choice of themes and topics of every issue is outstanding.”  
Talal Afifi, Founder Sudan Film Factory

“The Niles is pioneering, presenting remarkable journalistic pieces.”

Ahmad Younes, Correspondent al-Sharg al-Awsat

“The Niles is a project that is close to our hearts because it has been extremely successful in the past. The publication is quite impressive.”

David Schwake, former German Ambassador to South Sudan

-> Video Tip: “The publication is quite impressive!” ↗

Output limitations  
(quantity)

MORE SOLUTION-ORIENTED  
JOURNALISM (DEPTH)

**The pickle: Physical  
interactions and limiting  
environmental footprint**

**Meaningful collaborations  
amongst NB media actors**

Languages: Unity  
in Diversity

Reach limitations

Like water, funding is a finite resource. Whatever the future might bring for The Niles, a legacy will remain – and experience is a solid walking stick.

Hope you enjoyed this raft & **THANK YOU**



-> And if your craving for information about The Niles is as insatiable as your thirst for water, here is one last article tip for you: [The Niles: challenging the accepted](#) ↗