

# **INTRODUCTION TO NEWLY-SPONSORED SESCO**

## **STUDENTS - 2026**

### **Student 1 – Aduol, Male, Age 8, Grade 3, currently lives with stepbrother**

- Aduol has suffered unthinkable hardships at such a young age with his father disappearing while tending to cattle, and his mother losing her life to leukemia.
- He is living with his stepbrother, who is disabled, along with his two sisters.
- While the stepbrother has provided a stable and loving environment, his business has collapsed, and there is no money to fund Aduol's education.
- He has not given up hope, and dreams of continuing his studies and one day becoming a doctor.

### **Student 2 - Awak, Female, Age 9, Grade 3, currently lives with mother**

- Awak's father battled recurrent attacks of tuberculosis, which worsened in late 2023, and in July of 2024, he passed away.
- Her mother never had the opportunity to attend school, and works as a cleaner in a coffee shop striving to meet basic needs for Awak and her sibling.
- Awak has missed many classes because the limited income for their family cannot cover the costs of schooling.
- She loves school, loves math and wants to become an engineer.

### **Student 3 – Adit, Female, Age 10, Grade 5, Currently lives with mother**

- Adit's father was shot and died while working his farm in October 2025.
- With her father gone, financially, school has not been a possibility.
- Adit has held on to hope that someday she may be able to return to school and chase her dreams.

### **Student 4 - Mabior, Male, Age 11, Grade 6, Currently lives with maternal uncle.**

- Mabior's early life was shaped by war, including the death of his father before his birth and the displacement of his family from their peaceful farming life.
- Ongoing conflict and poverty forced repeated moves, separation from his mother (whose fate remains unknown), and difficult living conditions under his uncle's care.
- Despite hardship and being unable to attend school recently due to financial constraints, Mabior remains resilient and hopeful for education and a better future.



- He is excited about going to school, his favorite subject is science, and he wants to become a doctor to help his community.

**Student 5 – Gol, Male, Age 12, Grade 4, currently lives with mother**

- Gol’s father was a soldier who battled heart disease, but couldn’t afford the medical care that might have saved his life, and he passed away in 2022.
- His mother was left to carry the weight of survival for the family, and could barely provide basic needs.
- School tuition was too expensive, and Gol was unable to attend regularly.
- Gol longs for education, and dreams of becoming a teacher.

**Student 6 - Adau, Female, Age 12, Grade 6, currently lives with cousin.**

- In 2020, Adau’s life was deeply impacted at age seven when cattle raiders attacked her village, stealing livestock and killing her father.
- She continues to live with her mother and siblings, facing hardship and no access to public schools in the area, and no money for tuition fees.
- Despite falling behind in school, she shows resilience and determination, hoping to continue her education both for herself and family, and to honor her father’s memory.

**Student 7 – Job, Male, Age 13, Grade 2, currently lives with maternal uncle**

- Job lost his mother in February 2019, leaving him in the care of his father, a soldier.
- Soldiers and civil servants in South Sudan can go without pay for months, which has happened to Job’s father many times.
- With no pay, Job has not been able to attend school and has fallen behind, and is currently in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade when he should be in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Despite being so far behind, Job refuses to let go of hope... expressing that he knows that someday he will return to school, catch up, and reach his goal of becoming a pilot.

**Student 8 – Majur, Male, Age 14, Grade 6, Currently lives with mother**

- Majur’s father was killed during the 2013 war in South Sudan, leaving Majur and his mother and siblings behind.
- His mother runs a small business along the Nile River, but the income barely pays for food for the family, and education costs are too much.
- Majur holds on to hope that someday he will return to school, and pursue a career that will make a positive impact on his community.

