In the year 2016, South Sudan celebrated its fifth year of independence and Internews completed the third year of the five-year USAID-funded media development project i-STREAM (Strengthening Free and Independent Media in South Sudan).

While 2016 was an extremely challenging time in South Sudan, the i-STREAM project continued to achieve many of its objectives. The fiscal year saw Eye Media make strides on its journey of building one of the largest and strongest national NGOs in the country, including the launch of shortwave radio service across the country and beyond. The Radio Community opened a new station in Kapoeta, and switched the station in Turalei onto 100% solar power. The Boda Boda Talk Talk projects in UN Protection of Civilian sites and other humanitarian locations provided more than 200,000 displaced South Sudanese with information that helped them make decisions about their lives, and increased the efficacy of aid delivery.

More than a dozen i-STREAM partners completed vibrant media projects – including the first-ever Juba Film Festival, a Peace Hackathon, training of 100s of journalists in media laws, graduating 19 students in the first-ever class of the Media Development Institute, and publishing teen health magazines.

Despite the difficult outlook for South Sudan by the end of 2016, communities continue to thirst for timely, accurate, and actionable information to help them make the decisions they need to take care of their families, plan their futures, and search for solutions for peace and accountability in their country. In 2017, i-STREAM will continue to serve local communities and internally displaced persons with information produced by them, for them, and in their own languages. This Year in Review highlights a few of the year’s achievements.

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OUR PARTNERS PRODUCE NEWS IN 11 LOCAL LANGUAGES

Broadcast languages include: Arabic, Dinka, Nuer, Toposa, Didinga, Acholi, Madi, Shilluk, Zande, Lotuho, Bari, and English.
INTERNEWS AND PARTNERS HAVE A BROADCAST FOOTPRINT IN ALL 10 STATES OF SOUTH SUDAN AND ABYEI ADMINISTRATIVE AREA, REACHING A POTENTIAL AUDIENCE OF MORE THAN 2.5 MILLION

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