

SUDAN PEOPLE'S LIBERATION
MOVEMENT (SPLM)
WARRAP STATE
GENERAL ELECTIONS · 22
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THE PEOPLE'S AGENDA FOR WARRAP

Peace First.
Service Always.

**Dr. Benjamin Bang Bang
Lual**

Candidate for Governor
Warrap State



FOREWORD

To the people of Warrap State,

I am asking for your trust to serve as your Governor, and I want to begin by telling you plainly why.

My working life started here. In 2004 I was a vaccination supervisor in Tonj North, carrying cold boxes to villages that no vehicle could reach in the rains. I then served this state as an education supervisor and later as Director for Training in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Resources and Fisheries. I have sat with teachers who had not been paid, with cattle keepers who had lost a herd to disease in a single season, and with mothers who walked a full day to find a health worker. Those years are the reason I am standing.

In 2014 the youth of this state elected me chairman of their union, and I later served the national youth union as Secretary General and Deputy Chairman. In those same years I managed projects for the ICRC in Wau and for VSF-Germany in Aweil, and I have held senior management posts in our national oil sector. I learned how large organisations plan, budget, account for money and deliver on time. I also learned that none of it is magic. It is discipline, honest reporting and people who are held to their word.

Warrap has given this country a great deal. Our sons and daughters fought for its freedom, and many did not come home. We honour them. But honour is not enough for the child in Marial Lou who has no classroom, for the family in Gogrial East that moves to high ground every August, or for the young man in Tonj East who sees a rifle as his only inheritance. We lose our people to revenge killings and cattle raids in numbers that no community should accept as normal.

I will not promise you everything. A state government in South Sudan has limited money, and anyone who tells you otherwise is not being honest with you. What I promise is this: peace will come first, because nothing else stands without it. Every pound the state receives will be published. Chiefs, women and young people will sit at the table where decisions are made, not outside the door. And I will come back to you every year, in every county, to report on what was done and what was not.

This manifesto is our agreement. Read it, question it, and hold me to it.

Dr. Benjamin Bang Bang Lual Kuajok, 2026

ABOUT DR. BENJAMIN BANG BANG LUAL

Dr. Benjamin Bang Bang Lual is a veterinary doctor, public policy graduate, lawyer by training and manager with more than twenty years of service across government, humanitarian work and the national oil industry. He is a former elected Chairman of the Warrap State Youth Union and a former Secretary General and Deputy Chairman of the South Sudan National Youth Union. He began his career in the villages of Tonj North and has worked in Warrap, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal and Juba.



Education

Qualification	Institution	Year
Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	University of Juba	2024
Master of Arts in Public Policy	School of Public Service, University of Juba	2022
Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	University of Juba	2021
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Veterinary Medicine	University of Bahri, Khartoum, Sudan	2014

Four degrees in four fields that matter to Warrap: animal health, the environment, public policy and the law.

Service in Warrap State

Dr. Benjamin's first three posts were in this state, and they covered health, education and agriculture in turn.

- **EPI Supervisor, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Tonj North (2004-2006).** He led childhood immunisation campaigns, trained health workers and community mobilisers, and kept the vaccine cold chain working in places without roads or power.

- **Education Supervisor, State Ministry of Education (2006-2009).** He supervised schools, mentored teachers and worked with parents and chiefs to bring communities into the running of their schools.
- **Director for Training, State Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Resources and Fisheries (2009-2014).** He designed training for farmers, extension workers and ministry staff, managed the training budget and advised the ministry's leadership on workforce needs.

Humanitarian and development work

- **Project Manager, VSF-Germany, Aweil (2015-2018).** He ran livestock projects: vaccination campaigns, disease surveillance and treatment, training of field teams, and contingency plans for disease outbreaks. He reported to international donors on budgets and results.
- **Project Manager, International Committee of the Red Cross, Wau (2018-2020).** He planned and delivered projects with cross-functional teams, managed budgets and worked daily with government agencies and community leaders in a conflict-affected area.

Leadership in the national oil sector

- **Section Head, Nile Petroleum Corporation (2020-2021).** He led a section of the national oil company, with responsibility for staff, work plans, resources and reporting to senior management.
- **Health, Safety and Environment Manager, SIPET (2021-2024).** He set safety and environmental standards, led risk assessments and incident investigations, and designed emergency response plans.
- **Human Resources and General Services Manager, SUDD Petroleum Operating Company (2024-2025).** He managed recruitment, performance, procurement, logistics and facilities, and dealt with government regulators.
- **Training and Development Manager, Dar Petroleum Operating Company (January 2026 to date).** He plans and evaluates training for one of the country's largest oil operators.

Experience in Sudan

Dr. Benjamin trained as a veterinarian at the University of Bahri in Khartoum, graduating in 2014. He knows Sudan and its institutions at first hand. For a state that borders Abyei and trades northwards through Aneet, that familiarity has practical value. [To confirm: any further study, work or community roles in Sudan.]

Youth leadership

Dr. Benjamin has led young people at state and national level, in office for most of the decade from 2014.

- **Chairman, Warrap State Youth Union (2014-2016).** He was elected by the youth of the state to lead their union.
- **Secretary General, South Sudan National Youth Union (2019-2022).** He ran the secretariat of the national body that speaks for young people across the country.
- **Deputy Chairman, South Sudan National Youth Union (2022-2023).** He served as the union's second-ranking officer.

He has stood before the youth of Warrap in an election and won their vote. He then worked alongside youth leaders from every state, and he knows from the inside what young South Sudanese ask of their leaders and how seldom they are answered.

What this record means for Warrap

- **He knows the three services people ask for first.** He has worked inside health, education and agriculture in this state, at field level.
- **He understands cattle.** As a veterinarian who ran vaccination and disease control programmes, he can speak to cattle keepers in their own terms.
- **The youth have already chosen him once.** He was elected Chairman of the Warrap State Youth Union and went on to national youth office. He knows the young people of this state, and they know him.
- **He has managed money under scrutiny.** Donor-funded projects and oil companies are audited. He has worked for years in systems where spending must be explained.
- **He knows emergencies.** Outbreak response, safety management and ICRC field work have prepared him for floods and crises.
- **He can read the law and the budget himself.** Public policy and legal training mean he will not depend on others to tell him what a document says.

Personal

Dr. Benjamin is a son of Tonj North County and lives in Juba. [To confirm: home payam, family details, languages spoken, church affiliation, as the candidate wishes to share.]

VISION

A peaceful Warrap where every family can farm, keep cattle, trade and send its children to school without fear, and where the state government is known for doing what it says.

MISSION

To end the cycle of revenge and raiding through dialogue, fair justice and jobs for young people; to restore basic services county by county; and to run a government that publishes its accounts and answers to its citizens.

We will do this in three ways:

1. **Settle before we build.** Peace agreements between sections come first, backed by courts and compensation that people trust.
2. **Fix what exists before starting what is new.** A repaired borehole, a roofed classroom and a stocked clinic do more than a grand project that is never finished.
3. **Spend in the open.** Every transfer from Juba, every tax collected and every contract signed will be published.

CORE VALUES

Value	What it means in practice
Integrity	The Governor and every commissioner declare their assets on taking office and on leaving it.
Service	Officials are judged on what citizens received, not on meetings held.
Accountability	A public report in every county, every year, on promises kept and promises missed.
Transparency	Budgets, revenues and contracts published on notice boards and read on radio.
Unity	One Warrap. No section of Gogrial, Tonj or Twic is treated as a stranger in its own state.
Equity	Resources shared by need and population, with the hardest-to-reach payams given priority.
Inclusion	Women, youth and persons with disabilities hold real posts, not ceremonial ones.
Peace	No project, appointment or statement that sets one community against another.
Youth leadership	Young people are trusted with responsibility now, and trained to carry more.

UNDERSTANDING WARRAP STATE

Warrap is home to roughly 1.4 million people in six counties, most of them agro-pastoralists who depend on cattle, sorghum and fish. The last national census was in 2008, so every figure below is an estimate and should be read as approximate.

The state at a glance

- **Capital:** Kuajok, in Gogrial West County.
- **Neighbours:** the Abyei area to the north, Unity State to the east, Lakes State to the south, Western and Northern Bahr el Ghazal to the west.
- **History:** created in 2005, divided into Twic, Gogrial and Tonj states in 2015, and re-established as one state in February 2020 ([Warrap State profile](#)).
- **Population:** 920,045 in the 2008 census; about 1.37 million on the 2025 UN OCHA projections. Some National Bureau of Statistics estimates from 2021 are far higher. A new census is overdue.

Counties, payams and services

County	Headquarters	Payams	Population 2008 census	Population 2025 OCHA estimate	Primary schools	Secondary schools	Functional health facilities
Gogrial West	Gogrial	9	243,921	347,953	299	25	31
Twic	Turalei	6	204,905	291,675	244	17	31
Tonj North	Warrap Town	9	165,222	271,487	122	11	15
Tonj East	Romic	[to confirm]	116,122	190,959	100	4	13
Gogrial East	Liet-Nhom	6	103,283	138,793	190	19	15
Tonj South	Tonj	5	86,592	126,289	104	12	13

Figures are from the Conflict Sensitivity Resource Facility county profiles. School counts include many that operate under trees or without trained teachers. The state has about 118 functional health facilities and very few hospitals; the profiles list none in Gogrial East or Tonj East.

How people live

- **Cattle** are wealth, marriage, status and savings. Herds move to the toic (swamp grazing) in the dry season and back to the highlands with the rains.
- **Crops:** sorghum, groundnuts, sesame, millet and maize, grown by hand on small plots. Between 60 and 80 percent of households farm, and yields are about one tonne per hectare.
- **Fishing** along the Jur, Lol, Tonj and Kiir river systems. Dried fish from Tonj North is sold in Wau.
- **Trade** runs through Kuajok, Tonj, Wunrok, Turalei and the Aneet border market, and depends heavily on goods from Sudan and Uganda.

What holds the state back

Insecurity. Cattle raiding and revenge killings between sections have cost thousands of lives. In Tonj East, clashes between Luach-Jang and Pakam sections killed more than 200 people in the first months of 2023. In June 2025 fighting in Greater Tonj led the President to declare a state of emergency, followed by a forced disarmament campaign ([Radio Tamazuj, July 2025](#)). Disarmament has been tried many times. It has not held, because communities that give up guns are raided by neighbours who have not.

Borders. The dispute between Twic and Ngok Dinka over Aneet and Agok displaced about 70,000 people from 2022. Raids cross from Unity State into Tonj East, Tonj North and Gogrial East, and tensions continue along the Lakes and Western Bahr el Ghazal boundaries.

Floods. In 2022 the state Relief and Rehabilitation Commission counted 416,166 people displaced by floods, about a third of the population ([Radio Tamazuj, September 2022](#)). Up to 70 percent of Twic County is under water in a heavy rainy season.

Hunger. Counties across the state were classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in late 2024, with several projected to reach Emergency (Phase 4) in the 2025 lean season.

Roads. Only the Wau-Tonj-Rumbek and Wau-Kuajok-Abyei routes function as main roads, and both close in places during the rains. Tonj East and Tonj North have no primary road at all.

Institutions. Civil servants, teachers and health workers go months without pay. Most clinics are run and supplied by NGOs. The state collects little revenue of its own and depends on transfers from Juba that arrive late or short.

Social cohesion. Three years as separate states left rivalry between Gogrial, Tonj and Twic over posts and resources. Chiefs' authority has been weakened by armed youth and by political interference in their courts.

What the state has

Warrap has more than its problems: one of the largest cattle populations in the country, fertile land that is mostly uncultivated, rivers rich in fish, a border market with Sudan, a young population, and a diaspora and professional class spread across Juba, East Africa and beyond who want to help.

THE PEOPLE'S AGENDA FOR WARRAP

Ten pillars, in order of priority. Each lists what we will do and how citizens can check that we did it. Commitments that depend on national or donor funding are marked as such; we will not present them as certain.

Peace, security and rule of law

No road, school or clinic survives where people are killing each other. Peace is the first job, and the Governor will lead it personally.

What we will do

1. **A Governor's peace tour in the first 30 days.** The Governor will sit in the cattle camps and with the chiefs of the sections in active conflict in Greater Tonj, Gogrial and Twic, before sitting in the office.
2. **Section-by-section peace conferences** modelled on what has worked before in this region, including the Wunlit and Marial Bai traditions: chiefs, cattle camp leaders, women, spear masters and churches, with agreements written down, witnessed and broadcast.
3. **A standing State Peace and Reconciliation Commission** with a small secretariat and monitors in each county. Its work is to follow up agreements monthly, so that they do not die once the conference tents are folded.
4. **Fast, fair compensation.** Work with the chiefs' courts and the judiciary to settle blood compensation (apuk) cases within fixed periods. Delayed justice is the main fuel of revenge.
5. **Mobile courts and more judges.** Request the Chief Justice to deploy mobile courts to Tonj East, Tonj North and Gogrial East, and provide them with transport and security.
6. **Cattle identification and recovery.** Pilot branding and registration of herds with the Ministry of Animal Resources and partners. Set up joint recovery committees with Unity, Lakes and Northern Bahr el Ghazal so that raided cattle are returned across borders and raiders have nowhere to sell.
7. **Disarmament that is fair.** Support civilian disarmament only when it is simultaneous across neighbouring communities and states, voluntary first, and followed by real protection. We will ask the national government for police posts and reliable deployments in the corridors where disarmed communities have been attacked before.
8. **Cattle camp youth as part of the answer.** Recognise cattle camp leaders (majokwut), register them, meet them quarterly, and tie youth livelihood support under Pillar 6 to the sections that keep their agreements.
9. **Border diplomacy.** Regular governors' meetings with Unity, Lakes, Western and Northern Bahr el Ghazal and the Abyei Administration. On Aneet and Agok, support the national process and keep the market and the road open to both communities.

10. **Professional policing.** Push for regular pay, training and equipment for state police, and establish community policing committees with chiefs in every payam.

How you will know: the number of people killed in communal violence, published every quarter by county. That number is the test of this government.

Roads and infrastructure

The state cannot build tarmac highways from its own budget. It can keep feeder roads open, fix crossings and lobby hard and competently for the national roads.

What we will do

1. **A state road maintenance unit** with a small fleet: graders, a roller, tipper trucks and an excavator, shared between counties on a published schedule. [Cost and source of funding to confirm; partners and oil companies' community funds to be approached.]
2. **Priority feeder roads**, chosen with the county legislative councils. Candidates include Warrap Town-Romic-Marial Lou, Kuajok-Liet-Nhom-Lunyaker, and Wunrok-Turalei-Aneet.
3. **Culverts and small bridges first.** Many roads fail at three or four crossing points. Fixing those gives the most access for the least money.
4. **Labour-based road works.** Hire local youth for bush clearing, drainage and spot repairs, with partners such as WFP and UNOPS where they already run such programmes.
5. **The national roads.** Make the case in Juba, with data, for the Wau-Kuajok-Abyei and Wau-Tonj-Rumbek roads. Organise Warrap's MPs behind one list of priorities.
6. **Markets.** Rehabilitate the main markets in Kuajok, Tonj, Wunrok and Warrap Town with drainage, stalls, latrines and lighting, financed in part from market fees that are accounted for.
7. **Public buildings.** Complete or repair county headquarters, courts and police posts before commissioning new ones. Publish an inventory of unfinished state buildings in year one.
8. **Water.** Repair broken boreholes before drilling new ones, train and equip pump mechanics in every payam, and build haffirs (water pans) along cattle routes so that herds do not have to cross into hostile areas for water.
9. **Power and connectivity.** Solar power for hospitals, schools and markets, and negotiations with mobile operators to extend network coverage to county headquarters that lack it.

How you will know: kilometres of road opened and maintained, crossings repaired and boreholes working, reported by county twice a year.

Education

A generation of children in Warrap has been taught under trees by volunteers. We will start with teachers, because a building without a teacher is not a school.

What we will do

1. **A teacher headcount and clean payroll** in the first six months, so that those who teach are the ones who are paid.
2. **Teacher training.** Reopen or strengthen a teacher training institute in the state, and run in-service training during holidays. Aim to train 300 teachers a year.
[Target to confirm against ministry data.]
3. **School rehabilitation.** Roof, floor and furnish existing schools on a ranked list, starting with payams that have no permanent classroom. Communities contribute labour and local materials; the state and partners provide iron sheets, cement and desks.
4. **Girls' education.** Keep girls in school with cash transfers through the existing Girls' Education South Sudan programme, separate latrines, female teachers, and firm work with chiefs against early and forced marriage.
5. **Cattle camp schools.** Mobile teachers who move with the camps, on the pastoralist education model already tested in South Sudan.
6. **Adult literacy and accelerated learning** for youth and women who missed school, through evening classes, churches and radio lessons.
7. **Technical education.** One working technical and vocational centre in each of the three former state capitals (Kuajok, Tonj, Turalei), linked to Pillar 6.
8. **Scholarships.** A Warrap State scholarship fund, with public selection, for teaching, nursing, midwifery, veterinary science, agriculture and engineering. Graduates commit to serve in the state for a fixed period. Seek diaspora and private sponsorship per student.
9. **School feeding.** Expand school meals with WFP, buying sorghum and groundnuts from local farmers where possible.

How you will know: trained teachers on payroll, girls completing Primary 8, and candidates sitting the secondary certificate, published every year.

Health services

Most of our clinics are run by NGOs with donor money that is shrinking. The state must take more responsibility, step by step.

What we will do

1. **Keep clinics open.** Agree a transition plan with the Ministry of Health and partners so that no facility closes when a project ends without the state knowing six months ahead.
2. **Health workers paid and present.** A verified health payroll, with incentives for those who serve in remote payams.
3. **Maternal health.** A maternity wing with a trained midwife, solar lighting and clean water at every primary health care centre. Train community midwives from the payams they will serve.
4. **Referral and emergencies.** At least one working ambulance per county, with fuel budgeted, and a boat or tractor ambulance for flooded areas. Upgrade Kuajok and Tonj hospitals for emergency surgery and safe caesarean delivery.
5. **Child health.** Push routine immunisation coverage up, payam by payam. This is work Dr. Benjamin did himself in Tonj North.
6. **Boma Health Workers.** Support the national Boma Health Initiative so that every boma has trained community health workers treating malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia in children.
7. **Drug supply.** A state medical store with proper records, and a public display at each facility of what was delivered. Drugs supplied free must be given free.
8. **Nutrition and disease outbreaks.** A state rapid response team for cholera, measles and malaria peaks, and nutrition screening in every flood season.
9. **A health training school.** Work with partners to train nurses, midwives and clinical officers inside the state.

How you will know: facilities open, deliveries attended by a skilled worker, immunisation coverage and drug stock-outs, reported quarterly.

Agriculture and food security

Warrap has the land and the cattle to feed itself and sell a surplus. It imports sorghum instead. Dr. Benjamin is a veterinarian and a former Director for Training in the state Ministry of Agriculture; this is his own field.

What we will do

1. **Extension workers back in the field.** Retrain and deploy agricultural extension officers and community animal health workers in every payam, with bicycles or motorcycles and a work plan.
2. **Seeds and tools on time.** Coordinate with FAO and partners so that seeds arrive before the rains, and build local seed multiplication groups so that less is imported each year.
3. **Ox-ploughs first, tractors where they pay.** Train oxen and farmers in ox-ploughing in every county. Run a small number of tractor hire services through cooperatives or private operators, not through government offices where machines are left to rust.
4. **Small-scale irrigation.** Dry season vegetable gardens along the Jur, Lol and Tonj rivers with treadle and solar pumps, starting with women's and youth groups.
5. **Livestock health.** Annual vaccination campaigns against the main cattle diseases, a state veterinary laboratory in Kuajok, and a regulated private veterinary drug supply.
6. **Livestock markets.** Organised cattle auctions, a slaughter slab and hides handling in Kuajok and Tonj, so that cattle generate income and not only bridewealth.
7. **Fisheries.** Nets, drying racks, smoking kilns and cold boxes for fishing groups, and help getting fish to Wau and Juba.
8. **Farmer cooperatives.** Register and train cooperatives, and link them to WFP local purchase and to school feeding contracts.
9. **Grain storage.** Community grain stores in every county to carry families through the lean months of May to August.
10. **Land for investment, with consent.** Any large farm requires the agreement of the community and its chiefs, a written lease and local jobs.

How you will know: hectares cultivated, cattle vaccinated and tonnes of local grain bought by institutions, reported each season.

Youth empowerment and employment

More than seven in ten people in South Sudan are under thirty. In Warrap, a young man without school, work or cattle of his own has few routes to respect, and the gun offers one. This pillar is our peace policy as much as our jobs policy.

Dr. Benjamin led the Warrap State Youth Union as its elected chairman from 2014 to 2016 and held national office in the South Sudan National Youth Union from 2019 to 2023. He has also spent the last six years in management, human resources and training in the oil sector. He knows what employers look for, why our young people are passed over for jobs in their own country, and what kind of training changes that.

What we will do

1. **Skills that lead to income.** Three vocational centres (Kuajok, Tonj, Turalei) teaching masonry, carpentry, welding, motor and motorcycle mechanics, solar installation, tailoring, borehole repair and veterinary assistance. Courses of three to nine months, with a toolkit on graduation.
2. **Mobile training for cattle camp youth.** Short courses taken to the camps and payams: animal health, hides and skins, ox-ploughing, literacy and numeracy. Young men will not leave the herd for a classroom in town, so the classroom will go to them.
3. **A Warrap Youth Enterprise Fund.** Small start-up grants and loans, between USD 200 and USD 2,000 equivalent, for groups of five to ten young people with a business plan. Managed by an independent board with a bank or microfinance partner, not from the Governor's office. Half of all awards go to young women. [Fund size to confirm; seed money sought from the state budget, the diaspora, businesses and partners.]
4. **State contracts for young people.** Reserve a fixed share of small state works for registered youth enterprises: road clearing, drainage, school desks, building repairs, brick supply.
5. **Jobs in the oil and private sector.** A state register of Warrap graduates and skilled workers, shared with oil companies, banks, telecoms and NGOs. Internship agreements negotiated by the Governor personally.
6. **Graduate service.** One-year paid placements for new graduates as teachers, extension officers, clerks and health assistants in the payams.
7. **ICT and innovation.** A solar-powered digital hub in each of the three main towns, with internet, computer training and space for young people to learn digital skills, design, online work and mobile money services. Start with one hub, prove it works, then add the others.

8. **Sports and culture.** A state football and volleyball league across all six counties, an annual wrestling festival that brings sections together under agreed rules, and basic sports grounds in each county headquarters. Sport is one of the few places where youth from rival sections meet without weapons.
9. **Youth in government.** At least a fifth of state appointments to people under 40, a Governor's Youth Advisory Council with elected members from every county, and county youth unions that hold real elections.
10. **Civic service for peace.** Recruit and train youth peace monitors, including former cattle camp fighters, to work with chiefs on early warning.

How you will know: young people trained, businesses still operating after one year, and youth placed in jobs, reported every year by county and by sex.

Women's empowerment

Women in Warrap farm most of the food, raise the children, bury the dead of every conflict, and are rarely asked what should be done. The Revitalised Peace Agreement sets a minimum of 35 percent women in public bodies. We will meet it.

What we will do

1. **Leadership.** At least 35 percent women in the state cabinet, commissions and boards, and women among the county commissioners. Women members in every chiefs' court panel hearing family cases, agreed with the chiefs.
2. **Economic inclusion.** Support village savings and loan associations in every payam, with training and matching grants. A women's window in the enterprise fund.
3. **Market space.** Secure, lit and roofed stalls for women traders in every main market, and protection from informal fees and harassment.
4. **Access to finance.** Work with banks and mobile money operators to open agent services in county towns, and with microfinance partners to lend to women's groups without land titles as collateral.
5. **Maternal welfare.** The maternity commitments in Pillar 4, plus waiting homes near hospitals for women from distant payams in the last weeks of pregnancy.
6. **Protection from violence.** A one-stop centre at Kuajok and Tonj hospitals offering medical care, counselling, police and legal help in one place. Special protection units in county police stations, with women officers. Clear rules that rape and defilement cases go to the statutory courts.
7. **Ending child and forced marriage.** A sustained campaign led jointly by chiefs, churches and women leaders, with by-laws agreed in each county, and school support for girls at risk.
8. **Women in peace.** Women delegates with a full vote at every peace conference, and support for women's peace networks that already work across sections.
9. **Widows and female-headed households.** Priority in seed, tool and flood relief distributions, and legal aid on inheritance and land.

How you will know: women in appointed posts, savings groups active, and gender-based violence cases reported and concluded, published every year.

Flood and disaster management

The floods of recent years are not a passing event. The Sudd is expanding and the rains are less predictable. We must plan to live with water, not only to flee it.

What we will do

1. **A State Disaster Management Office** under the Governor, bringing together the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, line ministries and partners with one contingency plan, updated before every rainy season.
2. **Early warning.** River gauges on the Jur, Lol and Tonj, links to the national meteorological service and regional forecasts, and warnings passed through radio, chiefs, churches and phone messages in Thuongjang.
3. **Dykes and drainage.** Community-built dykes around settlements, schools and clinics in the worst-hit payams of Gogrial East, Tonj North and Twic, using cash-for-work and one excavator from the road unit.
4. **High-ground sites prepared in advance** with boreholes and latrines, so displaced families move to safety and not to open ground.
5. **Flood-adapted livelihoods.** Rice and flood-tolerant sorghum trials, fishing gear, canoes and raised grain stores.
6. **Protecting animals.** Emergency veterinary support and fodder during floods, when cattle diseases spread fastest.
7. **Environment.** Limit charcoal burning and tree cutting along riverbanks, plant shea, mango and neem at schools and compounds, and require an environmental assessment for any oil, mining or large farming activity in the state.
8. **Drought and fire.** Haffirs and boreholes on migration routes, and community rules on dry season burning.
9. **Climate finance.** Prepare proposals with the national Ministry of Environment for adaptation funds. Dr. Benjamin holds a master's degree in natural resources and environmental studies and will lead this work.

How you will know: warnings issued before floods, households protected by dykes, and time taken for relief to reach displaced people.

Economic growth and investment

A state that collects almost nothing of its own will always wait on Juba. We will grow the local economy and collect fairly from it.

What we will do

1. **One tax office, one receipt.** End multiple and unofficial checkpoints and fees on roads and in markets. Publish every lawful tax and fee, and pay all collections into a single state account.
2. **Electronic collection** of market fees, licences and livestock auction fees through banks and mobile money where networks allow.
3. **Support for local traders.** A state chamber of commerce that is consulted before any new fee, simple business registration in county towns, and preference for local suppliers in state procurement.
4. **Small enterprise support.** Business training, shared workshops with power for welders, carpenters and tailors, and links to the enterprise fund.
5. **Livestock, fish, gum arabic, shea and honey.** Organise producers, improve quality and connect them to buyers in Wau, Juba and across the border.
6. **The Aneet and northern trade corridor.** Work for safe, taxed and predictable trade with Sudan and Abyei when conditions allow, with customs revenue shared according to law.
7. **Banking.** Persuade at least one more commercial bank and mobile money agents to open in Tonj and Turalei.
8. **An annual Warrap investment and diaspora forum** in Kuajok, presenting specific, costed opportunities: a rice scheme, an abattoir, a fish processing unit, a guesthouse, solar mini-grids.
9. **Honest dealings with investors.** Written agreements, community consent, no private payments to officials, and local employment quotas.
10. **Fair share from Juba.** Press, with other governors, for state transfers to be paid on time and in full, and publish what is received each month.

How you will know: state revenue collected and published monthly, number of registered businesses, and checkpoints removed.

Good governance

People in Warrap do not expect miracles from government. They expect not to be robbed by it.

What we will do

1. **A published budget.** The state budget presented to the Legislative Assembly on time, and posted in every county headquarters. Quarterly spending reports read on radio.
2. **Asset declarations** by the Governor, ministers, commissioners and directors-general within 60 days of appointment.
3. **Payroll audit.** Remove ghost workers and pay real ones. Savings go to teachers' and health workers' salaries.
4. **Open procurement.** All contracts above a set value advertised and the winners published. No contracts to companies owned by serving officials or their immediate families.
5. **Working with oversight bodies.** Full cooperation with the State Legislative Assembly, the Audit Chamber and the Anti-Corruption Commission, including on matters that embarrass this government.
6. **Appointments on merit and balance.** Qualified people from all six counties and all sections. Posts advertised where the law allows.
7. **Functional local government.** Support county legislative councils, pay commissioners' offices a fixed, published allocation, and respect the Local Government Act on the role of chiefs.
8. **Citizens' participation.** An annual Governor's accountability forum in each county, a public complaints line, and budget hearings in county towns before the budget is passed.
9. **Public service reform.** Job descriptions, attendance, performance agreements for ministers and directors-general, and training through the state's own institute. This is the work Dr. Benjamin has done professionally for much of his career.
10. **A free press and civil society.** No harassment of journalists, radio stations or community organisations for reporting on the state government.

How you will know: the budget and quarterly reports are in your hands. If they are not, we have failed this pillar.

FIRST 100 DAYS

The first hundred days are for listening, stopping the bleeding and putting the books in order. Nothing here needs new money on a large scale.

Days	Action	Result people can see
1-10	Swearing-in address sets out the ten pillars and the reporting calendar. Governor declares his assets publicly.	Declaration published.
1-30	Peace tour of Greater Tonj, Gogrial East and Twic: cattle camps, chiefs, women, churches.	Governor has met every section in active conflict.
1-30	Lean, balanced cabinet named, with at least 35 percent women and members under 40.	Cabinet list by county, sex and age published.
15-45	Meetings with the governors of Unity, Lakes, Western and Northern Bahr el Ghazal and the Abyei Administration on raids and recovery of cattle.	Joint communiqué and named focal persons.
15-60	Headcount of teachers, health workers and civil servants begins in all six counties.	Headcount teams in the field.
30-60	Order ending unofficial checkpoints and fees; list of lawful taxes published.	Fewer checkpoints on the Wau-Kuajok and Wau-Tonj roads.
30-60	State Peace and Reconciliation Commission appointed after consultation with chiefs and churches.	Commission sitting, with a work plan.
30-90	Development partners' round table in Kuajok: one state priority list for health, education, roads and floods.	Agreed coordination calendar.
45-90	Pre-season flood or dry-season plan (depending on the month of taking office) agreed with the RRC and partners.	Contingency plan published.
60-100	First peace conference in the area of worst violence, with a follow-up mechanism.	Signed agreement and monitors named.
60-100	Inventory of state assets, vehicles, unfinished buildings and debts.	Inventory presented to the Assembly.
60-100	Governor's Youth Advisory Council and Women's Advisory Council formed from county nominations.	Councils hold first sittings.
100	Public report on the first 100 days, read on radio in Thuongjang and English.	Report in citizens' hands.

FIVE-YEAR ROADMAP

Each year has one main purpose. Peace work and public reporting run through all five.

Year	Purpose	Main deliverables
Year 1 (2027)	Stabilise and put the house in order	Peace conferences in the main conflict areas; Peace Commission working; payroll cleaned; single revenue account; first published budget; road maintenance unit acquired; ranked lists of schools, clinics, boreholes and crossings for repair; enterprise fund designed and board appointed.
Year 2 (2028)	Restore basic services	Borehole repairs across all counties; first batch of schools and maternity wings rehabilitated; teacher and midwife training under way; first vocational centre and first digital hub open; cattle vaccination campaign; first enterprise fund awards; mobile courts operating.
Year 3 (2029)	Grow production	Ox-plough and seed programmes in every county; cooperatives selling to WFP and schools; cattle auctions and slaughter facilities in Kuajok and Tonj; second and third vocational centres; markets rehabilitated; priority feeder roads open year-round; mid-term public review of this manifesto.
Year 4 (2030)	Expand and connect	Dykes and drainage in the worst flood payams; solar power in hospitals and main markets; investment forum producing signed projects; health training school admitting students; state's own revenue covering a meaningful share of its running costs.
Year 5 (2031)	Consolidate and hand over properly	Independent end-of-term assessment published; systems for payroll, revenue and procurement fixed in state law; scholarship graduates returning to serve; full handover notes prepared for whoever the people elect next.

What could delay this plan: late or missing transfers from the national government, renewed conflict along the borders, a severe flood year, and shrinking donor funding. We will tell citizens when a commitment slips and why.

A MESSAGE TO THE YOUTH OF WARRAP

You are the majority in this state, and you have been treated as its problem. You are called to rallies and sent to the front of every fight, and when the posts and contracts are shared you are told to wait.

I will not flatter you. Some of the killing in our state is done by young hands, and it must stop. No job programme can reach a young man who is in the bush with a rifle, and no investor will come to a place where the road is an ambush. Peace is your interest before it is anyone else's.

Here is what I offer in return. Training that ends in a skill someone will pay for. A fund that lends to your business on its merits, not on whose nephew you are. A share of state contracts set aside for your enterprises. Seats in the cabinet and on the boards. A football league that takes you to counties you have only heard about in stories of war.

I was your chairman in the Warrap State Youth Union, and I served the national union as Secretary General and Deputy Chairman. I have sat in those halls with you, and I know how many of our resolutions ended on paper. I have also spent years hiring and training people. I know that our youth are passed over because they lack certificates and experience, not ability. Both can be fixed.

To the young men in the cattle camps: you protect the wealth of our people. I will come to your camp and sit with you, and I will ask you what it would take to keep the peace. To the graduates in Juba, Kampala, Nairobi and Khartoum: come home for a year. Teach, treat, build. The state will meet you halfway.

Register. Vote. And then hold me to this page.

A MESSAGE TO THE WOMEN OF WARRAP

You have carried this state. When the men fought, you kept the children alive. When the floods came, you carried the grain and the old people to high ground. When the clinics had no drugs, you walked to the next one.

You have also paid for decisions you were never asked about. Daughters taken out of school for cattle. Sons buried after revenge attacks that mothers on both sides wanted to stop.

I commit to you that women will hold at least 35 percent of posts in my government, and that they will hold ministries with budgets. A woman in labour will find a trained midwife and light to deliver by. A girl who wants to finish school will have the state on her side, and I will say so to her father and her uncles in public. A woman who has been assaulted will find a door to knock on and someone behind it who helps.

Your savings groups already manage money more honestly than most government offices. We will put resources behind them.

At every peace table in this state, women will sit as delegates, with a voice and a vote. You know the cost of war better than anyone. Help me end it.

A MESSAGE TO OUR CHIEFS, ELDERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

Before there was a government in Kuajok, there was the chief's court under the tree. Our people still bring you their disputes first. No governor can keep peace in Warrap without you, and I will not try.

I come to you as a son, not as a rival to your authority. My generation has education, and we are grateful for it. But education has not taught us what you know: the history between sections, the boundaries of grazing land, the words that end a feud. We need that knowledge, and we need it before more of you are gone.

I ask three things of you. Guide me, and correct me in private before you correct me in public. Help me speak to the youth, who still listen to you more than to politicians. And sit with the women of your communities when decisions are made, because peace agreed by half the people does not hold.

I offer three things. Your courts will be respected, and politicians will not interfere in your judgments. Your role under the Local Government Act will be supported with the means to do it: transport to reach cases, records kept, and allowances paid regularly and openly. And a Council of Traditional Authority Leaders will meet the Governor every quarter, with an agenda you set.

To our spiritual leaders, the bany bith, and to the bishops, pastors and catechists: the people trust you. Stand with us in the peace work, and tell us the truth when we go wrong.

WHY BENJAMIN?

We honour those who went before

The generation that fought for this country gave what could not be asked of anyone: their youth, their health, and in many families their lives. Warrap gave more than most. The independence we have is theirs, and every candidate in this election, including this one, stands on ground they won.

Many of those leaders have served as governors, ministers and commanders. They held the state together through years when there was little to hold it with. This campaign will not speak against them, and Dr. Benjamin will seek their counsel in office.

The work has changed

Winning a country and running a state are different kinds of work. The struggle needed courage, command and endurance. Today's work is payrolls, drug supply chains, road maintenance schedules, donor negotiations, court backlogs and budgets that have to balance. It needs people trained for it.

The liberation generation fought so that their children could go to school and come back to serve. That is exactly what this candidacy is. It is the continuation of their purpose, and the proof that their sacrifice produced something.

What Dr. Benjamin brings

What Warrap needs now	What he has done
Services that reach the payams	Ran immunisation in Tonj North, supervised schools and trained farmers and extension staff in this state
A cattle economy that pays	Veterinarian; managed livestock vaccination and disease control programmes
Money that is accounted for	Managed donor-audited budgets at ICRC and VSF-Germany, and procurement and general services in the oil sector
A public service that works	Human resources, training and performance management at senior level
Readiness for floods and emergencies	Health, safety, environment and emergency response management; master's degree in environmental studies
Respect for law	Trained in law and in public policy
A leader who belongs to no old quarrel	A professional career outside the old contests between Gogrial, Tonj and Twic over posts and power

A bridge, not a break

Dr. Benjamin is old enough to have worked in this state when it was first being built after 2005, and young enough to work a full day in a cattle camp and another in the office. He led the youth of this state as their elected chairman and served the youth of the country in national office. He can sit with elders in the language of respect and with the youth in the language of their frustration.

His government will pair experience with energy: elders and veterans as advisers and peace envoys, trained professionals running the ministries, and young people brought in early and trusted with real work.

A fair test

We ask voters to apply one test to every candidate, including this one. Not "who is he, and whose son?" but "what has he managed, what did it produce, and will he show us the accounts?"

On that test, we are content to be judged.

Peace First. Service Always.

SOURCES

- [Warrap State, overview and administrative history](#)
- [2026 South Sudanese general election](#)
- Conflict Sensitivity Resource Facility county profiles: [Twic](#), [Gogrial West](#), [Gogrial East](#), [Tonj North](#), [Tonj East](#), [Tonj South](#)
- [Radio Tamazuj, floods in Warrap, September 2022](#)
- [Radio Tamazuj, disarmament in Greater Tonj, July 2025](#)
- Candidate's curriculum vitae, 2026

TEN PILLARS

1. Peace, security and rule of law
2. Roads and infrastructure
3. Education
4. Health services
5. Agriculture and food security
6. Youth empowerment and employment
7. Women's empowerment
8. Flood and disaster management
9. Economic growth and investment
10. Good governance

**Ask us what we have done.
Hold us to what we have promised.**

Dr. Benjamin Bang Bang Lual for Governor

Peace First. Service Always.

[Campaign office, phone and mobile money details]