Community Farming Flourishes in Riimenze Western Equatoria State

In spite of endless challenges facing South Sudan's agricultural sector, Solidarity with South Sudan has piloted a five hectare community agricultural project in Riimenze Parish. This farm project helps address critical needs for food in the area. The community farming project trains local families, especially women, to grow new crops, explore ways of water harvesting and processing of food for sale in the local market. Sustainable farming initiatives are also being planned in Yambio and Wau. Solidarity with South Sudan believes that the successful implementation of these pioneering agricultural projects are of fundamental importance to South Sudan.

Midwifery Training Started at CHTI

The first Registered Nursing (RN) program in the history of South Sudan started at the Solidarity run Catholic Health Training Institute (CHTI) in Wau in January 2010. In January this year the first group of midwifery students began the state certified midwifery program. South Sudan has the highest maternal mortality in the world, and the need for well-trained midwives is critical and urgent. Presently CHTI has 73 students enrolled from 8 of the 10 states of the country, 52 for the RN training and 21 for midwifery training.

Teacher Training Reaching out to the Most Needy

Education has a vital role to play in building a better future for South Sudan and Solidarity is working hard – alongside the Government of South Sudan – to train the 26,000 teachers needed so desperately to achieve universal primary education for the country’s children. Few of the teachers in primary schools are actually trained as teachers. Solidarity is working on up-grading the teachers’ skills and to date 1605 Sudanese teachers of whom 359 are women, have been trained through in-service programs.

Special Attention to Needs of Young Girls and Women

It is estimated that only around 8% of women in South Sudan are literate, possibly the lowest female literacy rate in the world. Young girls face extreme disadvantages as they are less likely to enter school and more likely to drop out early. In 2012, Solidarity began some special affirmative action programs working with girls in secondary schools. These programs are creating a new dynamic and alerting young women to the possibility of going for further professional training as teachers or health personnel – and girls are more than eager to take up this opportunity.
A four year distance learning in-service program has started at Leer, Nzara, Gumbo, Rumbek and Loreto Rumbek. In addition, the delivery of short course in-service programs are now offered in Juba, Renk, Nzara, Ezo, Tombura, Nandi, Yambio and Malakal. This year Solidarity is responding to the most needy people in Agok in the disputed border region of Abyei by sending tutors to provide three by three-week blocks of intensive English instruction to ninety teachers there.

Women Spearheading Peace Building Efforts

Women’s Voices for Faith and Peace, a group working with Solidarity with South Sudan, is continually expanding. This summer Women’s Voices for Faith and Peace are scheduled to visit the ten States in South Sudan. They will meet with women of different tribes and ethnic groups and discuss the important role that women have as peace builders.

Geographical Origin of Donating Congregations following the Christmas Appeal 2011

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Solidarity with South Sudan

Contact Details

c/o UISG, Piazza di Ponte S. Angelo 28
00186 Rome, Italy
Tel: +39.06.6840.0223

PO Box 144 Juba, South Sudan

Website: www.solidarityssudan.org
Email: solidarityssudan@gmail.com