Overview

The construction of Jebel Kheir Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC) was completed and the opening ceremony held on 13 February 2019. Participants included community leaders and community members, government officials, the Acting Governor, the Ambassador of Japan, and IOM Chief of Mission. The PHCC will serve up to 45,000 people.

Works at the Liech Primary and Secondary School in Bentiu town is ongoing. The school is the only institution outside the protection of civilians (PoC) site offering education to diverse categories of youth through primary section, secondary section as well as the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) section. The ALP and secondary section in particular, help youth to restart their education after the disruption of their education primarily caused by the five-year conflict. IOM's Transition and Recovery Unit (TRU) is implementing rehabilitation works entailing the construction of a new block of three classes; renovation of old nine classes; rehabilitation of ten toilets; and fencing of the school.
Livelhood

In Bentiu town, IOM supported livelihoods recovery for youth through building their skills and providing startup support for small businesses. The intervention served 250 beneficiaries (73% female and 27% male). Examples of small businesses initiated by youth include tea kiosks, hair dressing salons, and a local eatery and bricklaying.

In Abyei, a total of 14 livelihood groups with 239 members were formed after a community consultation process. The beneficiaries formed five vegetable garden groups, two grinding mills groups, one bakery group, three village saving and loan association groups and three retail groups.

IOM provided supplementary startup kits for 15 business groups encompassing 110 individuals (15 men and 95 women) and continues to support them through regular monitoring and mentoring. Eight groups are running retail businesses, five groups are running bakeries and two groups are running vegetable farms. Retail business groups are making an average of 14,500 South Sudanese Pounds (SSP) of profit per month with the most successful group making 30,700 SSP in February 2019. The bakeries are very popular selling breads, biscuits, balakh sham, mandazi, and sambusa. The agriculture groups grow a varied range of vegetables including mulukhia (Jew’s Mallow), okra, tomatoes, and egg plants. Based on requests of customers, the farming groups have now expanded the vegetables on offer and also grow regila, girgir (arugula), and fegil.

Peacebuilding

IOM supported the promotion of social cohesion between youth based in the PoC and Bentiu Rubkona towns, through music and drama festivals. Over 300 youth were involved with cohesion and peace messaging through participation in the supported events.

IOM also held two conflict mitigation trainings in Abyei for 106 youth (98 young men and 8 young women) from both Misseriya and Ngok Dinka communities. In addition, as part of strengthening local peace clubs, IOM trained 36 peace club members (20 young men and 16 young women) in Mijak Primary School.

From 25 to 27 March 2019, IOM, in close coordination with the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the United Nation Interim Force in Abyei (UNISFA), held a two-day conference on peace between pastoralist Misseriya and agropastoral Ngok Dinka communities. More than 92 community leaders and members, including 18 women, attended the conference.

Youth and women empowerment

IOM conducted community consultations along the three main migration corridors (eastern, central and western) of Abyei to determine key priority needs of communities. Based on the consultations, IOM has identified the communities’ needs in infrastructure, trainings and viable income generating activities (IGAs). Through following community consultation, six water yards and five schools have been prioritized for rehabilitation.

In this reporting quarter, IOM conducted training on business management and conflict mitigation for 60 youth (21 young men and 38 young women).

In collaboration with UNISFA and the U.N. Police, IOM commemorated International Women’s Day at UNISFA headquarters in Abyei on 9 March 2019 with Ngok Dinka women, and on 19 March at UNISFA base in Diffra with Misseriya women and girls. In total, 39 women from both communities took part in the events.

Success story

Jamus Bakery Group started their bakery in Lokoloko neighborhood of Wau town, Western Bahr el Ghazal after receiving training and a startup kit from IOM. The team members come from different backgrounds and have diverse life experiences. In the beginning, the group struggled to overcome different standpoints amongst themselves, lacked trust and even sometimes quarreled amongst themselves. However, they have overcome their differences, operate well and have many customers for their fresh products.

Women of the bakery group in Wau, Western Bahr el Ghazal baking biscuits © IOM 2019 / Mandara PASQUAL

“I am happy to be in this group because before joining, I was just staying home doing nothing, now every day I am learning how to communicate with other group members and customers and learning to overcome the challenges together with the group members. We have started as a bakery, but now we have expanded the business and started to sell other items also. We are hoping to expand the business more.” Says Asha Karlo, 25 years old.