

BULLETIN

Quarterly update on UNDP's work across Sudan

Volume 4



Skilled midwives help make motherhood safer in Blue Nile State

By Jaime Jacques, Communication and Advocacy Officer - RRP, UNDP Sudan

"The first time I delivered a baby I felt so nervous. I thought can I or can't I really do this?" says 18-year old Nafiza Abdallah as she sits outside her home in the small fishing village of Ofud in Blue Nile State.

"But then I thought about my community and how I wanted to make it better, so I just went ahead and did it."

This brave young woman has been delivering babies ever since she has completed a midwife training provided by the Recovery and Rehabilitation Programme (RRP); a community-based initiative funded by the European Commission and managed by the UNDP.

"I have delivered more than 12 babies since then," she says proudly, "at first with the help of others and now on my own".

Nafiza is one of the 73 women who recently completed an 18-month long midwife training programme in Damazine. The course, organized and funded by the RRP, provided theoretical and practical training for women, bringing the total number of registered midwives in Blue Nile State to 364.

"Before the course started I didn't have much to do. I spent most of my time learning to read, farming and harvesting. When I heard about the midwife training programme being offered by the consortium I decided to go because I wanted to help my friends and relatives with their pregnancies," says Nafiza.

"I learned that I can time exactly when the baby will be born; and if they are going to have twins I will know. I can hear two heartbeats instead of one," she added.

The course focused on other issues besides delivering babies. The women received literacy training, learned about proper nutrition and attended awareness sessions on issues such as tribal scarring and female genital mutilation. They can now act as advocates against these harmful practices when they return to their respective villages.

This was the ninth midwife training programme offered in Damazine. The consortium expects to facilitate more in the future. Nafiza encourages other women in Blue Nile to attend the course even if they feel apprehensive.



Midwife in Blue Nile State

"At first it didn't really have a lot of meaning, I just felt scared, but after a while I saw how happy the mothers are; and feel grateful that I am able to save not only one life, but two."

Funded by the European Commission and managed by UNDP on behalf of the Government of National Unity and the Government of Southern Sudan, the RRP is the largest recovery initiative across Sudan. The initiative is implemented through 44 national and international NGOs who strive to use community driven approaches that focus on sustainable development rather than relief.

News Brief: JIPUs receive medical aid

UNDP handing over medical items to JIPUs in Abyei

To ensure the good health of Joint Integrated Police Units (JIPUs) officers and to enhance policing services and access to justice, the Support to the Abyei Civil Administration project provided JIPUs with medical kits including antibiotics, painkillers, syringes and needles, bandages, and gauzes.

Procured by UNDP and distributed by UN Police, the medical aid was funded by the Netherlands and Norway through a UNDP supported project in Abyei.



UNDP handing over medical items to JIPUs in Abyei

Since August 2008, the project has supported the training of 324 JIPUs' officers on democratic policing, human rights, the Sudan Police Act, crime scene investigation, and gender and Internally Displaced Persons issues.

In a continued effort to improve the working environment of JIPUs, the project will also establish three police stations and provide temporary accommodation for the officers.

As of April, the total number of JIPUs officers has reached 324, with 168 policemen from the Government of Sudan Police and 156 from the South Sudan Police Service.

In accordance with the Abyei Road Map signed on June 8 2008, JIPUs are responsible for restoring the rule of law and ensuring the safe and secure return of Internally Displaced Persons to Abyei

Code of conduct for prisons staff approved

By Danielle Botti, Information Officer, Rule of Law Unit, UNDP Southern Sudan

Decades of war and instability in Southern Sudan have devastated the delivery capacity of local law enforcement institutions. The Prisons Service in the region is largely staffed with ex-combatants with little or no formal correctional training, and the majority have been working without compensation or on a voluntary basis.

There is fragmented documentation of operating procedures and guidelines for the Prisons Service to lead the staff in carrying out their duties, and little funding to modernize prisons to acceptable levels of hygiene and safety.

To build capacity and professionalism within the Prisons staff, UNMIS and the Southern Sudan Prisons Service, supported by UNDP, recently developed a Code of Conduct for Prisons Staff that is in line with international standards. It outlines the appropriate standard of care for prisoners, including general rules, accountability, professionalism, integrity, and security. The Code was approved by the Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr. Paul Mayom Akec on the 20th of March.

More than five hundred posters, with the Code of Conduct produced and printed in both Arabic and English, will be placed for public display at prison facilities across Southern Sudan.

As a component of the criminal justice system, prisons must abide by principles of justice that are expressed through a belief in the inherent human rights of all people, dignity and worth of individuals, fairness and equality under and before

the law, and the management of prisoners and detainees with honesty, openness and integrity.

The Southern Sudan Prisons Service seeks to enhance the safety of the community by providing secure and humane incarceration or detention and facilitating the rehabilitation of prisoners through the improvement of overall conditions for inmates and increased capacity for staff to function within an effective institution.

For the last four years, UNDP has been working with government counterparts and local authorities to improve Rule of Law institutions and systems throughout Southern Sudan. The UNDP Police and Prisons Project provides support to the Southern Sudan Prisons Service as it strives to adhere to the highest standards of prisoner care and community protection.

The project aims to develop the capacity of the Prisons Service to manage larger and more complex projects



under the next phase, with funding from the Government of Southern Sudan through the Multi-Donor Trust Fund. The project also incorporates the rehabilitation and construction of State Central Prisons, Juvenile Training Facilities, Prison Headquarters and Training Centers. Nine facilities have been completed to date. By June, 17 facilities will be completed for both Police and Prison.

Through support from the Multi-Donor Trust Fund as well as bilateral support from DFID and DFAIT-Canada, UNDP and UNMIS have been working to strengthen the capacity and resource-base of the Southern Sudan Prisons Services by providing technical advice, equipment, and rehabilitation of key infrastructure projects and capacity building.

News Brief: Sudan Judiciary trains 60 judges

In a continuing effort to strengthen the capacity of Sudanese judges, Sudan Judiciary's Training Department with support from the Capacity Building of the Sudan Judiciary project, is holding a series of capacity building sessions aimed at training 60 judges in several areas of law from 15 February to 30 June 2009 in Khartoum.

Designed and implemented by the Judiciary's Training Department, the training programme aims to train 60 judges in several areas of law. Conducted by senior judges and law professors, the sessions cover a wide range of legal fields from criminal and civil law to commercial and Islamic law.

The first round of training targeted public court and 1st grade judges from several Northern Sudan states from 15 February to 11 March. The second session (5-30 April) is currently targeting 2nd and 3rd grade judges. Focusing on appellate court judges, the final round of training will kick off around mid-May.

This training program is funded by the Capacity Building of the Sudan Judiciary project that also provides

technical support to help the Judiciary in further strengthening the capacity of Sudanese judges.

The three-year project is managed by UNDP in collaboration with the Sudan Judiciary, and funded by the World Bank-administered Multi Donor Trust Fund and the Government of National Unity.



Twenty judges completed their training on 11 March

Southern Sudan road safety campaign

By Danielle Botti, Information Officer, Rule of Law Unit, UNDP Southern Sudan

Traffic accidents, particularly motorcycle accidents, are a widespread problem across Southern Sudan. More vehicles on the roads increase the availability of transportation for people, goods, and services, but when road safety procedures and laws are neglected, drivers, passengers, and pedestrians are all at risk.

To establish workable public policies for safety, observance of traffic rules, and public conformity with the law, UNDP, UNMIS, and the Southern Sudan Police Service (SSPS) launched the third Southern Sudan Road Safety Campaign, "Protect the Peace: Share the Road".

Students from schools across Juba, officers from the Southern Sudan Traffic Police, and the SSPS band took to the streets on Saturday, the 14th of February, to march for Road Safety. The march ended at the South Sudan Hotel, where the students staged a number of creative arts performances including drama, poetry readings, songs, and an exhibit of paintings designed to raise awareness on road safety challenges being faced in Southern Sudan.

Under the guidance of UNDP Rule of Law Officers, students crafted their own performances, which encouraged others to support the infrastructure development and safety regulations being launched by the police.

By empowering students to use road safety messages to protect themselves and their fellow citizens, the campaign introduces the public to basic regulations and laws, and enables them to take control of road safety in their communities.

The Southern Sudan Road Safety Campaign, backed by the Southern Sudan Police Services, UNDP and UN Police began in 2007. This highly publicized campaign encouraged



Students, Police, UN staff, and others marched from UNDP's main office to the South Sudan Hotel

communities to keep livestock off Juba's roads and respect general road safety measures.

In December 2008, the Southern Sudan Traffic Police, UNDP and UNMIS followed up by facilitating a workshop to train traffic police officers from all 10 states on Sudan's traffic laws and regulations. During the workshop the officers were taught how to collect evidence after a road accident, how to follow proper procedures for road safety, and how to administer basic first aid to accident victims.

The campaign continued in March with the training of 300 traffic control police officers, 30 from each of the 10 states across Southern Sudan. Traffic safety equipment such as reflective vests, stop signs, computers for managing road safety data and other supplies were provided to local traffic police stations to better manage road safety throughout the region.

The Road Safety Campaign fits in with the strategic partnership between UNDP, UNMIS and the Southern Sudan Police Service. It strives to increase awareness and adherence to rule of law and justice throughout Southern Sudan. UNDP, through its Support to Police and Prisons project, funded by the Government of Southern Sudan and the Multi-Donor Trust Fund, is committed to supporting the South Sudan Police Service to enhance rule of law for the people of

News Brief: Demobilization in Eastern Sudan enters its second phase

Demobilization of 2,254 ex-combatants under the second phase of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programme in Eastern Sudan kicked off on 1 April, in Kassala State.

Eastern Sudan DDR is carried out under UNDP's Support to Human Security Project. During its first phase (2007-2008), the project succeeded in demobilizing 1,700 combatants, and providing them with several services including medical screening, food and clothing packages, and financial support.

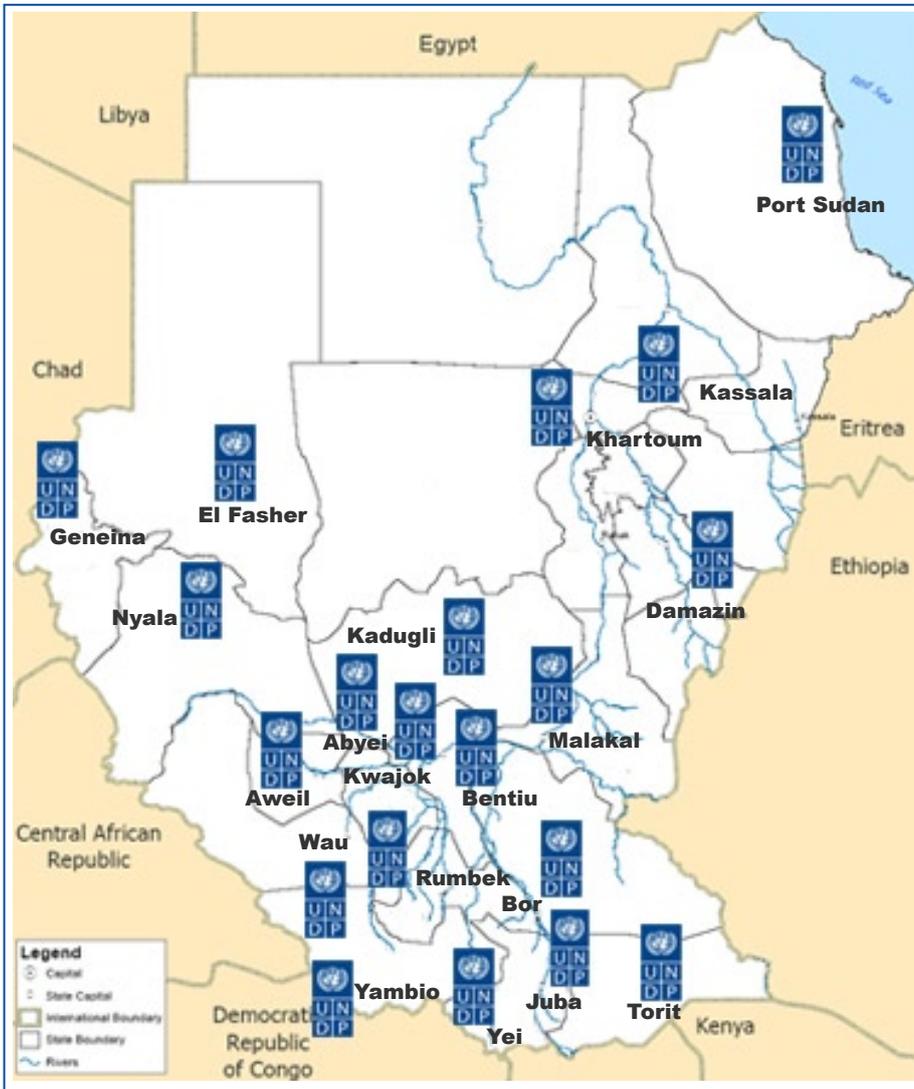
In a joint reintegration effort, NSDDRC, UNDP, FAO, and national NGOs, 1,251 ex-combatants were trained on veterinary and basic business management skills. They were also provided with goats, sheep and commodities to help them start up small businesses.

In addition to a significant government contribution, Canada, along with the UK's



ex-combatants showing their demobilization certificates

Department for International Development, the European Commission, Norway, Italy and UNDP have provided approximately \$6 million in support of the second phase of the project, which requires \$10 million in voluntary contributions.



Thank you

UNDP would like to thank the following development and funding partners for their generous contributions and support: The European Commission, the UK's Department for International Development, the Governments of Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Italy, Japan, France, Spain, Germany, Ireland, Switzerland, the Swedish International Development Agency, the Canadian International Development Agency, Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, The US Agency for International Development, The Swiss Development Corporation, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Global Environment Facility, the World Bank, and Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation.

UNDP's presence across Sudan:

UNDP Sudan works on the basis of "one country, two programmes", with two main offices: one based in Khartoum and the other in Juba. In addition to these two main offices, the organization operates through 18 locations across the country : El Fasher , Geneina, Nyala , Kassala, Port Sudan, Kadugli, Damazin, Abyei, Wau, Bor, Malakal, Bentiu, Aweil, Yei, Rumbek, Yambio, Torit, and Kwajok.

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