

# The Riimenze Community Newsletter - July 2023



Sustainable Agriculture Project and Community Development

Monthly newsletter is one of the tools used by the Solidarity Community in Riimenze (Agricultural Project, Kindergarten Project and Elderly Project) to report on ongoing activities



## Staff Days

The principal of the Solidarity Agricultural Project in Riiminze, has initiated a new tradition at the farm: Staff Days. Staff Days will occur once a week and are designed to inform and enable all of the team members to fully participate in the various activities taking place on the farm. This kind of collaboration will model, for all of the clients of the project, the high standard of communication and collaboration that will lead to quality agricultural production. Here, Mr. Onyango Samuel, the Livestock Officer, is addressing the staff, explaining how soil and organic manure are to be placed in each sack before the planting of a small cabbage. This method has a high yield potential and is ideal for urban kitchen gardening.



Activities during the 1<sup>st</sup> Staff Day

## Agricultural activities

The SAP-R started harvesting agricultural products for the first season in 2023; in the photos, peanuts and maize on the driers are examples of proper drying methods.

During the first “staff day”, a total of 260 small bags filled with fertile forest soil were planted with cabbage seedlings to improve vegetable production.



Mount sack vegetable production in greenhouse at the farm



Groundnuts and maize on the driers



## Field visits

In these photos, the Project Manager and the Livestock Officer joined the Monitoring and Evaluation officer for monitoring visits to some project locations: Screening Program for Child Malnutrition in Kasia Boma, as well as the livestock farms in Kasia Village and the pig farm in Makpandu. The goal of the visits is to offer supervision that will enhance the quality and productivity of all of the SAP-R activities being conducted in the vicinity, including cultivation, nutrition, and animal husbandry. Among the crops inspected was the multifunctional vegetable garden created for the community at the demonstration farm. This kind of vegetable garden can thrive even when there is very limited space for cultivation. In this method, soil is brought in from the neighboring forest and put into bags into which are placed the seedlings of various vegetables.



*"Monitoring Team" on the field*



*Multifunctional vegetable garden*



*Pig farm in Makpandu*



*Nutrition child screening*

## Thank you Sr Josephine!

After fifteen years of incredible commitment to the people of South Sudan and to the Solidarity Agricultural Project in Riiminze, Sister Josephine has returned to her congregation, the Religious of Our Lady of the Missions (RNDM). Before her departure, the nursery and primary school students gathered to show their appreciation and to say good-bye. Among other things, thanks to Sr Josephine, a large tree, or 'Ngu' in the Zandi language, on campus had to be cut down in order to give the children more room to run and play safely (Zandi is one of the many tribal languages spoken in South Sudan). Believing that everything in God's creation can be recycled and repurposed, Sr Josephine turned the old tree into a teaching aid! She created a suspended walkway to help the children improve their psycho-motor skills.



*Sr Josephine with her beloved students*



*Children walking on the 'Ngu' converted into a teaching aid*