

# The Riimenze Community Newsletter - September 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



*Student ploughing a vegetable garden*

## Sard Institute Students on internship

On 11 September 2023, the Solidarity Agricultural Project - Riimenze (SAP-R) welcomed eleven (11) new students from the Institute for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARDI) for a two-month internship programme at the farm to learn practical skills in agronomy, horticulture, and animal production. The Livelihood Officer is accompanying them on the programme. In the photo, a student is ploughing a vegetable garden at the demonstration farm. She reports that she is happy to have an internship with Solidarity, where she has the opportunity to learn both theory and practice. At the completion of the programme, student performance will be evaluated by Solidarity staff, contributing to their graduation at the Institute.

## Visit of STTC non-teaching Staff to the Farm

On 14 September 2023, a total of 17 non-teaching staff members - 5 men and 12 women - visited the SAP-R demonstration farm, many for the first time. They visited all units of the farm from the vegetables to the livestock. They were all enthusiastic about their experience, finding the visit informative and inspiring. Some of the women have been inspired to start vegetable gardens in their homes when they return.



*STTC non-teaching staff visiting the SAP farm*





*Sweet peppers harvested*

## Sweet Pepper Harvested by the SAP-R Demonstration Farm

The Riimenze Farm is well known in Yambio and throughout the State of Western Equatoria for its agricultural output. This year we managed to produce even more crops, so much so that we had a surplus which we were able to sell to the Solidarity Teacher Training College (STTC) in Yambio. Many local people around Riimenze come to buy our produce, such as the green peppers in the photo.

## Mr. Uwe's visit to SAP-Riimenze

On 20 September 2023, Mr. Uwe Bergmeier of the German development agency Misereor, one of the many agencies supporting the work of Solidarity, visited the demonstration farm. During his visit, Mr. Uwe met students from the SARD Institute mentioned above. In the photo, the students are marking out the vegetable garden. Mr. Uwe was impressed by the dedication and passion demonstrated by our students in carrying out their work.



*Mr Uwe from Misereor visiting the farm*



*Saint Paul School staff at STTC*

## News from Saint Paul School

During the school holidays, there were many activities that the staff of St. Paul's kindergarten and primary school did. Teachers went to the Solidarity Teacher Training College (STTC) to learn more about the new National Curriculum. Meanwhile, the campus was cleaned up and crops were harvested.

During the holidays, a new energy-saving stove was built to save firewood and thus preserve the environment, part of our effort to reduce the impact of climate change as called for by our Holy Father, Pope Francis in Laudato Si'.

The students resumed school on 11 September. Every Monday and Friday they hold an assembly to pray and sing together.

## More plants for the School!

St. Paul's School thanks the SAP farm for giving them papaya seeds and banana seedlings so that we can plant more. Hopefully the seeds will be fruitful in feeding the students!



*Cleaning and planting work on the school campus*