

# The Riimenze Community Newsletter - April 2024

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

## Even more bananas

The sustainable agriculture project is extending its banana plantation (Matooke) by one more fedden (one fedden equals 4200 square metres). The photos show banana suckers being harvested from the existing plantation and planted in the new field. For this, one-metre square and one-metre deep holes have been dug. These hole will be filled with organic fertiliser mixed with forest soil, so that the new banana trees can find adequate and nutritious soil for lush growth.



*Planting banana suckers*



*The Livelihood Officer explaining to the students*

## A visit from students

On 18 April 2024, students from Our Lady of Assumption Vocational Institute in Riimenze visited the demonstration farm of the agricultural project of Solidarity with South Sudan. The Livelihood Officer gave them a guided visit to the different units of the project, which include: horticulture, field crops, livestock section and nutrition unit. The primary purpose for their visit was to learn about practical farming in different areas, so that they could learn, as vocational students, about both the theory and practice of farming.

## Nutrition Programme

The nutrition programme is one of the components of Riimenze's sustainable agriculture project. In the photo, workers in the nutrition project prepare moringa leaves for the drying, processing, and packaging procedure. Moringa processed in this way will make an excellent and nutritious food additive that will be distributed to people who need to improve their nutrition and health.



*Processing moringa leaves*

## Visit from Caritas Austria

On 26 April 2024, the communications officer for Caritas Austria, Elizabeth Sellancier, visited the demonstration farm in Riimenze where the sustainable agriculture project promoted by Solidarity with South Sudan and partly financed by Caritas is underway. The purpose of her visit was to monitor the progress of the project's activities and collect information that will aid in the future promotion of the project. Elizabeth met with project staff to learn about the strengths and challenges of the implemented activities.



*Meeting with project staff*

## A new teacher at the Riimenze Nursery School

The nursery school in Riimenze has a new female teacher. Her name is Joy, but her attitude is quite serious as she carries out her new responsibilities. It was urgent to divide the reception class, which now has around forty children per class, into two groups. Joy is in charge of one group, under the supervision of headmistress Madame Madeleine, who is in direct charge of the other.

Joy is a young local woman who speaks Pazande, the mother tongue of the children in and around Riimenze. She is kind, caring, knows how to take care of and relate to young children and is able to involve the children in their tasks. Her appointment has brought a great improvement in the running of the class: the children seem very happy, free and engaged. They welcome visitors with smiles, songs and greetings, showing that they are full of life.



*New teacher Joy in her baby class*