

# The Riimenze Community Newsletter – November 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

## Women learn how to prepare seedbed

Thanks to the support of Caritas Austria, our Sustainable Agricultural Project (SAP) team is conducting horticultural training for 150 women from local communities. This initiative aims to equip these women with the knowledge and skills necessary to improve their livelihoods through small-scale irrigation and horticulture production. By cultivating nutritious vegetables, these women will be able to generate income for their families and enhance food security within their communities. Following a successful initial training session on fundamental horticultural concepts, our team is now focused on practical training in seedbed preparation.



*Women trained on seedbeds*



*Br Joseph with the women group*

Brother Joseph, project coordinator, accompanied the beneficiaries in a practical field training. He showed them how to prepare seedbeds and what kind of seedbeds are good for vegetable production in the dry season. The participants then prepared their seedbeds following the instructions: after planting the vegetable seeds, they covered the beds and watered them. Good work! We hope for a flourishing growth.

## Horticultural training in Bazumburu

In the village of Bazumburu, 25 beneficiaries (mainly women) of the Solidarity Sustainable Agriculture Project have been trained in vegetable production, pest management and control. The main objective is to provide them with agricultural skills to increase production and to be able to sell the vegetables in surplus. The income generated will be used to buy other necessities and services and ensure a better life for their families.



Farmers training in Bazumburu

## Cooking demonstration

The nutrition programme is one of the key components of the Sustainable Agriculture project in Riimenze. The programme includes cooking demonstrations for the beneficiaries, explaining which foods to choose as more nutritious and healthier, how to cook them, and in general what diet to follow in order to eat in a balanced way as a family and to grow well and healthy children.



Nutrition officer shows how to cook

## Physical education and traditional songs in the Riimenze kindergarten

Mrs Madeline, a teacher at the Saint Dominic Nursery School in Riimenze, often takes her pupils outside the school for physical education lessons; this practice is very important for the pupils because it makes them physically fit and they are more active when they return to class. It also develops their reasoning skills. In the photos, the children hold each other while moving slowly, dancing and singing a song, expressing their happiness at participating in this type of activity all together.



Physical education lesson

Children also often learn traditional songs at school, which serve to reinforce the learning of the mother tongue. For the Azande people, who live in the state of Western Equatoria, particularly in Yambio and other neighbouring counties, learning to speak and write in their mother tongue is very meaningful, as part of the process of transmission of the Azande identity to new generations.