



HONORING AID WORKERS

THE HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR CALLS FOR JOINT ACTION TO ADDRESS HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SOUTHSUDAN AND AN END TO ATTACKS AGAINST CIVILIANS AND HUMANITARIANS

On the eve of World Humanitarian Day, Ms. Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Humanitarian Coordinator in South Sudan, called for joint action to address the humanitarian crisis in South Sudan and an immediate end to attacks against civilians and humanitarian workers.

"It takes a village to raise a child. In the same way, it takes an array of partners to support crisis-affected people. We need urgent collective efforts to help the vulnerable population in South Sudan," stated Sara Nyanti. The Humanitarian Coordinator expressed gratitude, appreciations and respect to the aid workers, communities, local authorities and first responders that provide life-saving assistance to thousands of people experiencing dire humanitarian needs. *"I commend the humanitarian workers and all those risking their own lives to alleviate the suffering and save the lives of others,"* she added.

South Sudan continues to be the most violent context for aid workers, followed by Afghanistan and Syria. Five humanitarian workers were killed in the line of duty in South Sudan since the beginning of 2022. Across the country, humanitarian workers, and overwhelmingly national humanitarian workers, are affected by the impact of armed violence, bureaucratic impediments, and targeted violence. 232 incidents related to humanitarian access constraints were reported between 1 January and 30 July this year. To date in 2022, the areas where humanitarian access constraints were the highest experienced were Jonglei and Central Equatoria which account for 40% of all reported incidents since the beginning of the year. People

across the country, especially women and girls, face many protection risks including conflict-related and gender-based sexual violence, armed violence, crimes, abductions, and destruction of properties. These critical protection risks are compounded by rule of law and access to justice deficits. *"Impunity is a perpetuating factor and a driver of conflict and insecurity. There is an urgent need to bring perpetrators to justice. We need strengthened joint action, multidimensional dialogue, and engagement to address this,"* stated Ms. Nyanti. *"All armed factions must immediately cease targeting civilians, humanitarian personnel and their assets. Impunity must end,"* she added.

As the crisis in South Sudan continues, the humanitarian community and partners step up to respond every day by providing food and livelihood support, health, nutrition and

HIGHLIGHTS

- Honoring aid workers
- UN RC convenes a dialogue with the ministers of finance and planning, foreign affairs, and international cooperation
- South Sudan celebrates international youth day
- Updates and news from UN agencies, funds, and programs



clean water, protection services and emergency education to millions of women, children, and men. *“I would like to highlight and honour the humanitarians, especially women, who work tirelessly on the frontlines in most difficult environment, trying to reach thousands of crisis-affected people,”* said Ms. Nyanti. *“On this day, we come together to pay tribute to all responders supporting people in need of humanitarian assistance, and we should do so every other day,”* she added.

In 2008, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution designating 19 August as World Humanitarian Day.

This was to commemorate the 22 humanitarian workers killed in a bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, on 19 August 2003, including the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello.

Each year on 19 August, World Humanitarian Day advocates for the survival, well-being and dignity of people affected by crises, and for the safety and security of aid workers.

This year, on World Humanitarian Day, a worldwide campaign highlighted the hundreds of thousands of volunteers, professionals and crisis-affected people who deliver urgent health care, shelter, food, protection, water and much more.

Despite challenging environment, access constraints, mounting humanitarian needs and immense funding gaps, humanitarian workers step up to respond every day by providing food and cash, health and clean water, protection services and emergency education to millions of women, children, and men. Because as the saying goes, #ItTakesAVillage.

Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a whole community to help people in need. In an emergency, the first people to respond are always crisis-affected people themselves. They are joined by local volunteers, emergency services, local and national authorities, NGOs, UN agencies, and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, among many others.



The World Humanitarian Day advocates for the survival, well-being and dignity of people affected by crises, and for the safety and security of aid workers. Killing humanitarians is not normal and it should not be normalized. There are no exceptions. Civilians and humanitarians are not a target.



UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR IN SOUTHSUDAN CONVENES A MEETING WITH THE MINISTERS OF FINANCE AND PLANING, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Dier Tong Ngor, the Minister of Finance and Planning(L), Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Resident Coordinator(C) Deng Dau Deng the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation(R) during the dialogue at Radisson Blu hotel in Juba. Photo Credit: RCO

The United Nations Resident Coordinator in South Sudan and Representatives of the UN Agencies in South Sudan convened a dialogue with the Ministers of Finance and Planning, Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on the draft of the 2023-25 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), due to be signed by the UN and the Government of the Republic of South Sudan in September 2022.

The UNSDCF represents the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) collective and coherent support to the South Sudan National Development Strategy involving 21 UN Agencies working in the country.

Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Resident Coordinator, who serves in a triple-hatted role, with other portfolios (Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Humanitarian Coordinator), reiterated the fundamental need for peace in achieving durable solutions and setting the country on the trajectory to development. “The humanitarian and development approach as a pathway for recovery and resilience can only make sense when there is sustained peace” stated DSRSG/RC/HC Sara Beysolow Nyanti.

Representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at the meeting, Hon. Deng Dau Deng, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, stated that South Sudan’s development agenda is informed by liberation ideals, where its citizens lead improved lives in a progressive and prosperous society. “The government commits to a meaningful partnership with the United Nations and the entire international community to ensure total peace and development in South Sudan,” said Deng Dau Deng.

Dier Tong Ngor, the Minister of Finance and Planning, noted that the dialogue retells the national development aspiration

and how the United Nations can be a partner in its realization. He also reiterated the commitment to address significant challenges to peace and development.

The dialogue held in Juba, was also attended by Heads of the United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programs.

SOUTH SUDAN CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

Glamor and delight characterized the international youth day celebrations in Juba, South Sudan. Thousands of young people, some dressed in traditional attires, school uniforms and international youth day branded T-shirts flocked Nyakuron Cultural Center to celebrate the International Youth Day.

The day is officially marked on the 12th of August globally, but this year, South Sudan decided to push the formal celebration event to 24th August to allow ample time for the youth to organize and host a memorable event.

Speaking at the event, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Ms. Sara Beysolow Nyanti applauded the youth and encouraged them to work hard, seek and take advantage of the available opportunities to contribute to sustainable development and nation building.

She called upon the government and all stakeholders to empower youth and give them a chance to find their future.

“International Youth Day is about what the youth want, what they think, what they feel and what they dream about. It is important to build inclusivity around youth and their vision for the nation that they will be responsible to sustain tomorrow” stressed the DSRSG/RC/HC in her remarks to commemorate the international day of the youth 2022.

Commenting on the theme **“Intergenerational Solidarity: Building A South Sudan for All ages”**, the DSRSG noted that efforts need to be geared towards exploring ways of preserving culture and embracing the future, urging that it is not adequate to talk about the challenges that the youth face without empowering them to find solutions and innovations to transform the challenges into solutions and opportunities for a sustained future.



Secondary School students join the celebrations at Nyakuron Cultural Center Photo Credit: RCO

The Minister of youth and Sports Dr. Albino Bol Dhieu advised the youth to work together with the elderly to enable continuity and exchange of innovative ideas.

“No one should be left behind, youth and the elderly should work together and support each other, that’s what intergenerational solidarity is all about”, stated the minister. Adding that when the young and old work together, the intergenerational gap will be bridged, and continuity and sustainability will be achieved.

The celebration event held at Nyakuron cultural center in Juba, also saw young men and women exhibit work from creative innovations including youth led performances and presentations on the current state of youth in South Sudan.

The event was attended by youth from different walks of life, representatives of UN agencies, funds and programs, government representatives and representatives of the International Community in South Sudan.



Maale dance group from greater upper Nile performing at the youth day celebration. Photo Credit: RCO



DSRSG/RC/HC CONVENES A MEETING TO GALVANIZE PARTNERSHIP FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION TO ADDRESS SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE IN SOUTH SUDAN



Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (DSRSG/RC/HC) Sara Beysolow Nyanti and the Humanitarian and Development Director for the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in South Sudan, Mr. Andre Koelln commit to support NGOs and all their partners to achieve zero tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. **Photo Credit: RCO**

On 30th August 2022, over a hundred people, representing various international and national non-government organizations, donors, UN agencies, funds, programs, UNMISS and community representatives gathered at Pyramid hotel in Juba to discuss and explore ways of working together to ensure that sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) is completely wiped out in South Sudan.

The full day meeting was hosted by the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator Sara Beysolow Nyanti.

In her opening remarks, she advised all stakeholders to work together and rally all efforts to address sexual exploitation and abuse. Adding that when international actors commit actions that are contrary to their commitment, they betray the communities they are supposed to serve, especially the innocent boys, girls and women, and the donors who entrust them with resources.

She committed to bring all actors together and strengthen capacity of local NGOs to prevent and address sexual exploitation and abuse and promote accountability to affected population.

“Most victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, blame themselves, do not speak up and feel too ashamed to seek for assistance, they decide to isolate and hide. Its unsafe and inhumane, all stakeholders need to work together to prevent SEA”, emphasized the DSRSG/RC/HC.

South Sudan is one of the top four countries considered as a hot spot for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse globally. People’s extreme poverty, economic hardship, conflict and violence, food insecurity, limited access to basic social services, presence of a substantial number of peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, poor living conditions and the profound power differential between the United Nations personnel, humanitarian workers, and the local population in South Sudan drive these heightened incidents of SEA.

Representing the donor community at the meeting, the Humanitarian and Development Director for the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in South Sudan, Mr. Andre Koelln advised that collective action from all stake holders is required to address sexual exploitation and abuse. He committed to ensuring that all partners who receive funding from FCDO will be given the resources they require to effectively prevent, report allegations of, and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse in their programming. Adding that all partners will also be held accountable for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

This meeting also saw the launch of the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Task force Co-chairs forum. The forum is comprised of PSEA taskforce leaders from the states and Juba. This team will lead system-wide mechanisms for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse both in the state and in Juba. They will coordinate with other community-based complaint mechanisms to support communities, detect, report, prevent and support victims to get assistance.



NEWS FROM UN AGENCIES, FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

PROVIDING NEW CLIMATE RESILIENT FACILITIES HELP PREVENT MALNUTRITION IN JONGLEI STATE

UNICEF provides access to clean water before, during and after the floods

The people of South Sudan have been hit by devastating floods for the last three years, and Jonglei State in the north has been one of the most affected. Nearly 300,000 people have been impacted in Jonglei state alone forcing them from their homes. The flooding has upended and destroyed basic livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure was damaged, submerged or destroyed.

The impact of flooding has severely impacted WASH services for women and children. Many have not had access to basic safe water and more than 60 people have to use one latrine in some of these flood-affected and food insecure counties.



Elevated water points and boreholes are climate resilient. Photo Credit: UNICEF

As safe water points have become submerged, most people have resorted to using unsafe stagnant water and unsafe sanitation practices which has resulted in poor hygiene habits and high levels of open defecation. This exposes children to water borne diseases and increases their vulnerability to malnutrition.

Due to the flooding, many communities in these areas were forced to move from their homesteads in search of safer ground, away from the water. The floods destroy crops and submerge grazing areas for cattle and livestock, compounding the food insecurity of these communities and resulting in high rates of malnutrition among children. The counties of Pibor, Akobo, Bor South, Ayod, Twic East and Duk in Jonglei State are some of most affected by the flooding even during the dry season, due to the impact of climate change.

In mid-2021, UNICEF scaled up WASH activities in prioritized food insecure counties with financing from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and designed climate resilient WASH infrastructure to protect water points from flooding and guard household latrines from collapsing. Read More: [New climate resilient facilities help prevent malnutrition in Jonglei State | UNICEF South Sudan](#)

WHO AND WORLD BANK BOLSTERED DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE IN SOUTH SUDAN



South Sudan is experiencing multiple diseases outbreaks and floods, thus, increase the risk of transmission of infectious diseases and other health conditions such as severe malnutrition.

Dr John Rumunu, Director General for Preventive Health Services at the Ministry of Health said, “given the current humanitarian setting in the country, an effective disease surveillance system is essential to detecting disease outbreaks quickly before they spread”.

“Infectious diseases can cost lives and become difficult to control if they are not detected and responded timely”, said Dr Fabian Ndenzako, WHO Representative a.i. for South Sudan. “With generous World Bank funding, we are strengthening EWARS reporting by training healthcare workers countrywide”.

Before the rollout of EWARS in the South Sudan, the integrated disease surveillance and response (IDSR) weekly reporting rates were as low as 30%, far below the target of 80%. Following the completion of the EWARS rollout to the health facilities, the reporting rates improved and surpassed the target of 80% on completeness and timeliness of weekly IDSR reporting.

The Ministry of Health, WHO and partners continue to strengthen disease surveillance and response to attain the International Health Regulations of (2005) core capacity requirements for surveillance and response.

Read more: <https://www.afro.who.int/countries/south-sudan/news/who-and-world-bank-bolstered-disease-surveillance-and-response-south-sudan>

NEWS FROM UN AGENCIES, FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

IOM HANDS OVER REHABILITATED PRIMARY SCHOOL IN WAU TO THE GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) handed over a primary school that was rehabilitated under the Enhancing Community Resilience and Local Governance Project (ECRP).

Rehabilitation works on the school started early this year after the Wau North Payam Development Committee (PDC), comprised of representatives from each Boma Development Committee (BDC) in the Payam, identified rehabilitation of Janain Primary School as one of the community's priority development objectives. Janain Primary School is in Hai Fahal, a highly multicultural community which is home to persons from different social, cultural, and ethnic groups, many of whom fled their former communities during the civil conflict.



The IOM team briefs the Community about the rehabilitation of Janain Primary school. Photo Credit: IOM

Under the supervision of ECRP's technical teams, contractors constructed a wall around the school, one block of two classrooms, and a gender segregated latrine that also accommodates the needs of people with disabilities.

More than 350 students, including host community members, returnees, and IDPs will benefit from the this newly rehabilitated infrastructure.

Speaking at the handover event, Esterina John, the head mistress at the school, expressed her happiness about the project.

"I am excited that my school has seen this rehabilitation. The classes are looking beautiful. My pupils will be protected inside this wall from anything bad that could harm them while at school and their concentration in class will be focused," said Esterina John.

South Sudan is home to more than 2.8 million children, over 70% of whom are out of school. Furthermore, most of those who are in school do not have access to the school infrastructure that is essential for effective teaching and learning to take place.

Read more: <https://southsudan.iom.int/news/iom-hands-over-rehabilitated-primary-school-wau-government-and-community>

IOM EMPOWERS MORE THAN 200 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WITH FUNCTIONAL LITERACY AND MOBILITY SKILLS



Persons with disability during orientation & mobility training in Tonj South. Photo Credit: IOM

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has empowered more than 200 persons with disabilities after completing a six-week training in English Braille, Sign Language, and Orientation and Mobility.

The graduation in Tonj South on 4 August was officiated by the Governor of Warrap State, Aleu Ayieny Aleu in Tonj South County, where 102 persons with disabilities including 26 females gained skills and knowledge in the use of English Braille, Sign Language, and orientation and mobility. A similar event also took place in Aweil South County, where 140 people—40 of them female graduated with skills in the different categories.

The training involves teaching people who are visually impaired to read and write in Braille system and sign language to enhance the participation in education of persons with speech impairment, as well as orientation and mobility, where visually impaired persons use white canes for their mobility and learn other skills for independence and socialization.

"Now I have my white cane, at least I can be able to slowly move around on my own without the help of an assistant," says Deborah Nyanut, a visually impaired woman in Tonj South County.

"It is like IOM has given us new eyes because, with the training, we now know how to be aware of the environment and use the white cane for our mobility." Read more:

<https://southsudan.iom.int/news/iom-empowers-more-200-persons-disabilities-functional-literacy-and-mobility-skills>

NEWS FROM UN AGENCIES, FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

UNFPA, AMREF AND GOVERNMENT LAUNCH AN IN-COUNTRY STANDARD TRAINING ON OBSTETRIC FISTULA SURGICAL TREATMENT FOR SPECIALIZED MEDICAL TEAMS

Following the development and launch of The National Obstetric Fistula Strategy (NOFS) 2019-2023 for South Sudan, the Ministry of Health together with its partners aim to prevent occurrences of fistula through increased access to quality maternal health services and provision of surgical repair and rehabilitation services to cases with Obstetric Fistula, the move is part of the international agenda to eradicate Obstetric Fistula (OF).

Obstetric Fistula is an abnormal medical condition whereby there is an opening between the vaginal wall and the urinary bladder, urethra, or rectum of a woman that results in leakage of urine and or faeces through the vagina. During prolonged/obstructed labour, the wall tissues of the hollow organs are hard pressed between the baby's head and the pelvis bone.



This prolonged pressure cuts off blood supply to the affected tissues causing tissue death leading to sloughing and eventually hole forms between the bladder and vagina and/or vagina and rectum leading to vesical-vagina fistula (VVF) and recto-vagina fistula (RVF) respectively or even both.

South Sudan has one of the highest maternal mortality ratio in the world standing at 1,150 per 100,000 livebirths¹ and a high obstetric case fatality rate of 3.5%. It is estimated that Obstetric Fistula prevalence stands at 3% of women in reproductive age group giving an estimate of about 60,000 backlogs of women living with Obstetric Fistula in South Sudan with less than 1,000 having received any surgical repairs and treatment.

The undersecretary Ministry of health Dr. **Victoria Anib**, thanked UNFPA, and Amref Africa for the continued efforts in trying to address the challenges of Obstetric Fistula, *“there is need to address issues of child marriage, and gender-based violence to effectively tackle the challenges of Obstetric Fistula in South Sudan,”* she said.

The Obstetric Fistula situation is particularly more precarious due to the high rate of teenage pregnancies estimated at 300/1000 and adolescent birth rate of 158/1000¹. However, there are interstate differences in the rates with Bahr-el-Ghazal, Western Equatoria and Lakes state identified as high prevalence states due to high prevalence of child marriages.



Participants at the launch of the in-country standard training on obstetric fistula surgical treatment for specialized medical teams.
Photo Credit: UNFPA

Early marriages and teenage pregnancies have been widely associated with inability to make informed decision about contraception hence increasing the risk for obstructed labour due to an immature bony pelvis. The weak health systems and poor referral systems coupled with delays to seek professional health care have not only increased the risk of pregnancy and childbirth complications but also limited the access to caesarean sections for women previously repaired and treated for Obstetric Fistula.

On his part, UNFPA representative, Dr. Olajide Ademola said, *“there is need for innovative approaches to deploy training and technical support of the diverse cadres of health workers”*

Exacerbated by negative culture norms, customs, and traditional beliefs, sexual and gender-based violence alongside child marriage tendencies have undermined the health and safety of many women in South Sudan. Some studies have indicated that that about a third of women and girls have experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime and about half have experienced intimate-partner violence (IPV). Such contextual realities underpin the chronic stress propagated by the fear of reprisals.

The Fistula camp saw a total of 41 survivors undergo corrective repairs at Juba Teaching Hospital over the past two weeks.

A total of 18 selected health workers comprising surgeons, medical/clinical officers, theatre nurses, anesthetists, ward nurses and medical social workers will benefit from this training to offer routine OF repairs.

MOTHER'S GROUP LEAD THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST MALNUTRITION IN SOUTH SUDAN

These community nutrition volunteers are on the frontlines of UNICEF's programme to prevent and treat malnutrition among children under 5

Angelina John is a 36-year-old mother of six in Yambio county, and the leader of a mother-to-mother support group. She and her team of mothers teach other parents and caregivers in their communities how to identify and detect malnutrition among their children, the first step in the battle to prevent and save lives of children under-5 threatened by malnutrition.

“Our main job is to inform other mothers about the ill effects of malnutrition. We teach them to monitor the health of their children, and how to use the MUAC tape to see if their children are at risk,” says Angelina.

The mid-upper-arm-circumference (MUAC) tape is a simple color-coded measuring tape that allows ordinary unschooled mothers to measure the circumference of their child's mid upper arm and to immediately detect whether their child is malnourished or not.

If the reading is at yellow the child is suffering from moderate acute malnutrition and if the reading is at red, then the child is suffering from severe acute malnutrition. “We always tell mothers to take their children to the primary health care center here in Bazungua – where they can get treatment for them,” she says. Severe acute malnutrition is a very serious condition among children under five. If untreated, it can lead to more health complications.



Mothers are taught how to use a MUAC tape.
Photo Credit: UNICEF

It can even result in death as the body does not have the strength and the immunity to fight simple illnesses such as diarrheal diseases and pneumonia. South Sudan is currently going through a nutrition crisis and malnutrition rates have continued to worsen. More than 300,000 are expected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition in 2022 which is the highest since 2013. Read more: [Mothers' groups lead the campaign against malnutrition in South Sudan | UNICEF South Sudan](#)

DUK PADIET COMMUNITY RADIO DESSIMINATES PEACE AND RECONCILIATION MESSAGES

In response to sustained intercommunal violence in some places, causing disharmony, displacements, fatalities, and destruction of property in some parts of South Sudan, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is using community media to strengthen community ties, restore broken relations and curb social evils.

On June 9th, 2022, UNDP commissioned Duk Padiet Community Radio located in Jonglei, one of the ten states that make up South Sudan. UNDP constructed the radio station in partnership with UNESCO, with funding from the governments of Sweden and Korea.

The station is currently transmitting across a radius of 40 kilometers and broadcasts in Dinka, Nuer, Arabic and English languages.

Besides construction of the building housing the radio station and installation of radio equipment, the support also involved formation of the radio's management board, the listeners' club, and training of community volunteers as citizen journalists and presenters to be able to manage radio operations. The station has a rich programme offer that promotes peace and addresses other contemporary issues such as health, reproductive health, laws, culture, and diversity.

Read more: [Duk Padiet Community Radio Preaches Peace and Reconciliation in South Sudan | United Nations Development](#)



DELIVERING VACCINES TO REMOTE COMMUNITIES

UNICEF and partners defy logistical challenges and vaccine hesitancy to provide COVID-19 vaccines

Pigi County, Jonglei State – Cruising along the White Nile, the Sobat River, and the Jonglei Canal for days may sound like a dream experience for many. However, navigating those same waters to deliver vaccines to communities divided by social and political lines, insecurity, and inaccessibility requires constant and heavy negotiation, resilience, and perseverance.

Delivering COVID-19 vaccines to people in remote and neglected parts of Pigi County is already a challenge, but countering vaccine hesitancy and misperceptions about the vaccine itself makes the job even harder.

One challenge began with logistics constraints at the state capital Bor, whereby UNICEF South Sudan deployed a team from its Malakal field office to conduct the intensified COVID-19 Vaccination Optimization (ICVOPT) campaign.

The National Ministry of Health and The State Ministry of Health (Bor) both sent supervisors for the campaign to support both the County Health personnel and UNICEF teams including health experts and social and behavior change practitioners. Using speedboats and a team of committed health practitioners, including vaccinators, the team spent many days travelling by along the waterways and sometimes up to nine hours on foot, wading through snake infested floodwaters to reach the targeted communities in rural and scattered locations.



Through the great cooperation from the authorities on the ground, vaccination teams tried to ensure that everyone gets access to vaccines regardless of the distance and the logistical challenges.

The efforts put forward by the different local authorities, traditional leaders, religious leaders, and influential members of the community resulted in over 8,000 people getting their single dose COVID-19 vaccinations in northern parts of Pigi County. Read more: [Delivering vaccines to remote communities | UNICEF South Sudan](#)

THE LONG-AWAITED CONSTRUCTION OF SOUTH SUDAN NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUILDING LAUNCHED IN JUBA

The construction of the South Sudan modern National Archives building was launched in Juba on Friday 8th July 2022 in Collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Museums and National Heritage and development partners.

The project is funded by the Royal Norwegian government through UNESCO and partners. The purpose of the building is to preserve and safeguard the documentary heritage of the country to build a democratic, transparent, and accountable South Sudan.

Vice President for the Gender Cluster H.E. Rebecca Nyandeng De Mabior appreciated the efforts of the development partners to achieving this milestone together with the government of the Republic of South Sudan.

“Today, we are finally here, it has been a long wait and with many challenges along the way. But it is my honor to finally stand at the site of our national archives building. This is a mere story of achievements that will be cemented in our history”, said Mama Rebecca.

Norwegian Ambassador to South Sudan, Ms. Siv Kaspersen, in her remarks acknowledged the contribution of the Norwegian Support Group for Sudan and South Sudan towards achieving this milestone.

“ I am proud to stand here to celebrate the achievement and partnership that has enabled us to accomplish things together that neither one of us could have done alone. The ground-breaking stands for far more than the breaking of ground, it stands for national archives as a cultural institution to preserve, safeguard the rich diversity, inform, and build synergies for development. It is about the wisdom in choosing to invest in a future that is difficult to predict.

Mr. Julius Banda, UNESCO country Representative to South Sudan



From the left: Ambassador Ms. Kaspersen, H.E Rebecca Nyandeng and UNESCO's Country Representative Mr. Julius Banda at the groundbreaking site. Photo Credit: UNESCO