

## Peace dividend



Pasquania Adut with her five goats received from the DDR Restocking Programme in Rumbek (Lakes



Nyanjong Puorich from Malek Payam poses with her bull as Albino from FAO looks on (Lakes State)



Ox-plough distribution in Rumbek East (Lakes State)

Total Demobilised  
in South Sudan

12,525

Fri 27 May 2011



from South Sudan



# DDR Digest

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## Calories and fruitcakes...



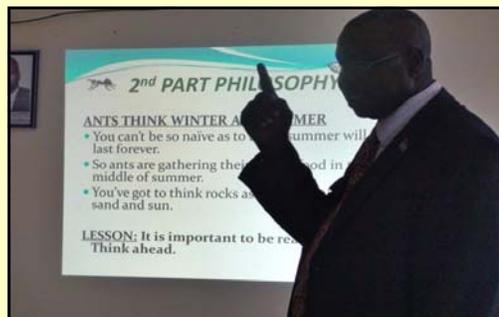
A total of 19 female former soldiers graduated from their two-month cooking and catering training in Torit. The training, provided by GIZ, was part of the Reintegration programme spearheaded by UNDP in Eastern Equatoria State. The graduates prepared a complete meal for their guests that included the SSSDDRC Coordinator, UNMIS and UNDP DDR team leaders, and other stake holders.

## ...and calories for work

The South Sudan DDR Commission donated 3,000 bags (150,000 kg) of maize, 400 bags (20,000 kg) of beans and 150 bags of salt to the Eastern Equatorial Government in support for the State's humanitarian efforts and disaster relief. The State Government has decided to use the food in exchange for labour on community infrastructure projects like building

feeder roads connecting payams to bomas in the State. This project will provide accessibility to food for the population. The State Minister for Humanitarian Affairs conveyed the Governor's appreciation of the SSSDDRC's gesture towards lending a hand in providing developmental support to the affected communities in the State.

## ANTS & ZEN



Left: SSSDDRC Advisor on Disability Aduot Ajang explaining to participants the Ant Philosophy. Right: SSSDDRC Director of Reintegration Kamilo Loku (right) receiving compliments from SSSDDRC Chairperson William Deng Deng.

How much more a sum of its parts can achieve when teamwork is mastered was highlighted in a learning session held at SSSDDRC Head Office on 26 May. Effective "team leading" was a key element in Director of Reintegration Reverend Kamilo Loku's presentations. Advisor on

Disability, Aduot Ajang Aduot summarised the Ant Philosophy: "Like the restless small animals, we should equally persistently pursue our goals, prepare for the future, stay positive and not give up." You can read this story on our website at [www.ssddrc.org](http://www.ssddrc.org)

**HOTLINES for former soldiers and WAAF available Mon-Fri 08:30-17:00**

Tel Zain +249 (0)901 33 2562 Tel Vivacell +249 (0)955 56 1752 or email [info@ssddrc.com](mailto:info@ssddrc.com)

Please don't forget you can access more information about DDR on the website <http://www.ssddrc.org>

Photos from DDR events also available on Google Picasa <http://www.google.com/profiles/ssddrpi>



Lusi Edwards in her new shop in Mundri, Western Equatoria State.



Right: Lusi serving one of her customers.

## Livelihood resumes for determined Lusi

Lusi Edward is one of the former SPLA soldier Disarmed and Demobilised in Central Equatoria State in 2009. She joined the SPLA in 1989, helping the forces with cleaning and cooking and gradually moved onto a regular combat role. When she got used to the military life she became an active soldier of the Fourth Division called *Katiba Sakus*. She had a terrible accident in the year 2000 and decided to voluntarily take leave from active duty. In 2009 she was called to Mangalla for formal Demobilisation and became a citizen. Ms. Lusi opted to return to her home village of Lo-zoh, in Mundri, Western Equatoria State (WES)

At the Demobilisation site she was briefed about the support that she would receive from the Government through the South Sudan DDR Commission. She was supported with Reinsertion money to help facilitate her travel to Western Equatoria State.

On arrival in Yambio she was counselled at the SSDDR State Office and given advice about her livelihood options. Ms Lusi selected small business as her Reintegration option, with vendor kiosk as her sub-option. Like other former soldiers settling in Ibba, Maridi, Mundri East, Mundri West and Mvolo Counties, Lusi received 10 days of training in Small Business Management. She also received training in other life skills such as malaria prevention, HIV/AIDs awareness, hygiene and sanitation, human rights and citizenship. The training was conducted by BRAC in October 2010, supported by some line Ministries (such as life skills training). After the training the participants were provided with a package of goods to help start their businesses. Four months after the training, Lusi had this to say, when visited to assess her progress.

“I did not have any skills in business, but I thought doing a small business would keep me busy and I would get something small for my family. The training I was given was very important and up to now I am remembering and sometimes applying what was delivered during the training. After the training I received two jerricans of cooking

oil, two bags of sugar, one small tin of milk, one bag of beans, two cartons of wheat flour, and one tin of coffee. After selling these items, I made a profit of 300 Sudanese pounds. I used part of the money to buy more goods and some for family use”.

Despite the progress, Lusi is facing many challenges as a small business dealer like any other trader of her kind in the market. She pays monthly rent since she doesn't have a place of her own. There is also very low profit since she buys her goods from retailers due to lack of wholesalers in the main market.

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Though all the challenges, she is determined to expand her business in the future. She is also planning to start some agricultural work to sell the products through her business, to keep the food that she may need for her home.

Keeping her chin high, she said: “I want to say thank you to DDR, UNDP, and BRAC for bringing a positive change to my life. Indeed I have a modest business that supports my family, though very small. However, we do not have a permanent shop to sell our items. Most of us are being moved from one place to the other by business colleagues so we put our request through DDR to ask the government on our behalf to provide us space which will reduce renting expenses.”

Lusi's story sends a message to South Sudanese and to post-conflict societies elsewhere that livelihoods can resume with the determination of the people themselves and the political and economic support of the world at large.