



Women waiting for the group discussion in Nyamlel payam

Welcome Our Brothers and Sisters

In mid-March the ongoing DDR Public Information Rapid Assessment entered the Northern Bahr el-Ghazal State. The objective of the exercise is to assess communities information sources and their knowledge level on DDR. With solid support of the DDR field staff, nine Focus Group Discussions were conducted in three different payams, supplemented by several key informant interviews.

Community groups analysed their sources for information: "When the town criers have [public] announcements in Dinka we receive information too. Radio is a good source but not all families have radios, and women don't listen to it", tea shop women from Wedwil payam said.

Public rallies and community meetings were frequently mentioned as good and familiar sources for information.

A few questions were also posed on attitudes towards the returning former soldiers, they were overwhelmingly positive. "The combatants returning now will be welcomed, they are our brothers and sisters" Wedwil women's discussion group replied. "We don't have much to give to these returnees but we can teach them our traditional ways and activities. And it is good if the returning soldiers have skills to bring to the communities", said some women from Nyamlel payam.



from South Sudan



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12,000 Demobilised in South Sudan!

On the 4 April in Western Bahr el Ghazal the Wau Demobilisation Team resumed with the processing of 65 WAAF from the Mapel verification list. This new caseload takes the total for Demobilised soldiers and WAAF beyond the 12,000 mark for South Sudan.



Anyang Madut Ayali, 12,000th Demobilised

Anyang Madut Ayali (left) was identified as being the 12,000th person to be Demobilised in South Sudan. Anyang explained she was married to an SPLA soldier but unfortunately he died about eight years ago. She narrated that she used to stay in the barracks cooking for the SPLA soldiers, being given food items in return for her help. The DDR programme is giving her a new start; Anyang hopes to run a small scale business in order to support her family of five children.



Agungine Ding Keah WAAF from Mapel

In Wau the first WAAF member to be processed Agungine Ding Keah (left), expressed her satisfaction with the DDR programme. She opined that, with the full support of the Government they would bring peace and stability to their society. "In future, I would prefer to farm in order to support my two children, since I have no husband" Agungine noted.



Demobilisation Team resume with first group of WAAF from WBeG

In an interview with the Demobilisation Team (left), Anger Riak Deng noted that she was assured that the Government would take her "from grass to grace" in the coming future. "During the war period, I used to carry *ammunition boxes* for the SPLA and also involved myself in helping to treat the wounded soldiers" she explained. Anger, a mother of four children, has chosen to embark on a small business to cater for her needs and those of her children.

In Wau there are a large number of WAAF being processed but they are embracing this opportunity to join the DDR programme. The WAAF suggested that the DDR programme would

go a long way to alleviate their current poor living conditions. They hoped that, with the support of Government, their aspirations in life would be fulfilled. To make their futures brighter the majority of this first group of WAAF have chosen to start

Total Demobilised in South Sudan

12,480

Mon 15 April 2011

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

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