What We Heard This Week
Feedback from the Community

Help! Measles Is A Dangerous Threat
“Our children are dying. They are being badly affected by measles,” said 40-year-old woman in Southern Unity. She was among many community members who shared feedback on the health issue and requested for assistance from humanitarian agencies.

Adults, Youth & Children, Leer and Mayendit Counties

Plenty Of Malaria But No Nets
People living in Kurkal camp complained that while IDPs in the PoC get full service, they are not being considered because their mosquito nets are worn out and it’s been two years since they got any. They requested for assistance.

Adults, 40-50 Years Old: Kurkal Camp

Stop Forced Marriages In The PoC
A mixed group of girls and boys in Bentiu Town Youth center said they their rights were being violated by being forcefully married off in the Bentiu PoC. They said that they need to be respected and to allow them to decide and when and whom to get married to.

Youth: Males 7 And Females 6

Teachers Lack Incentives
Teachers in Leer and Mayendit County complained that they have been teaching on voluntary basis without being paid for many months. They requested humanitarian agencies implementing education activities to pay teachers’ incentives.

Adults And Youth In Southern Unity Leer

Word Of Thanks You To HR
Women and girls from Tuoch Rieh in Leer appreciated Hope Restoration for the support given to them in protection and GVB related activities. They requested them to continue supporting them.

Adults And Youth In Tuoch Rieh

We Need Help On Whooping Cough
Children in Mayendit are suffering from whooping since the onset of the cold spell in December last year.

Adult & Youth, Mayendit
SPECIAL EVENT: COMMEMORATION OF WORLD RADIO DAY

In commemoration of the World Radio Day, Kondial FM produced a radio program that highlighted the cultural diversity among the people living in both the PoC and beyond. The global theme for the year 2020 was “Radio And Diversity”. The message on the radio focused on peaceful coexistence, the dispelling of rumors and misinformation, and drama that educated people on access to latrines, use and maintenance. Appearing on the radio show, a community elder stressed the need for peace and encouraged unity in diversity among South Sudanese communities and other nationals within the PoC and beyond. On rumors doing rounds in the community about biometric machines failing to recognize thumbs because people have low red cell blood count, an official working with World Relief disapproved the rumour. The official said that anemia cannot not be associated with failure of biometric machines. IOM- DTM also told Kondial FM listeners that they are aware of the rumor but attributed the problem to rough fingerprints or faulty machines. Listeners expressed gratitude to Kondial FM for the timely and reliable information.

HEALTH PROGRAM: MALARIA CONTROL

Kondial FM correspondent received feedback about an upsurge in malaria cases and an increase in the population of flies. In response to concerns from the community, Kondial FM invited a health expert working with Mentor Initiative to talk about the issues. The MI prevention manager informed the communities that an action plan was underway for a massive larviciding and fumigation of fly infested areas in the PoC and beyond. The NGO official said that they are using chemicals to spray mosquito breeding sites and filthy areas that attract flies to limit or eliminate chances of getting malaria and other diseases like cholera and diarrhea.

BEYOND BENTIU RESPONSE: MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH AWARENESS

Recently, Internews visited Southern Unity where communities expressed great concern about outbreaks of diseases. In Leer and Mayendit, residents said that they have lost children to measles and whooping cough. While talking on Kondial FM, the Mayendit County Commissioner appealed to humanitarian agencies to carry out immunization of children against measles and whooping cough. The two diseases were cited as the major causes of death of children 5 years and under. When Kondial FM spoke to WHO after receiving complaints and feedback from the community, the agency said that they are going to carry out routine vaccination in the areas.
What We Heard This Week
Feedback from the Community

Repair Our Pipeline
A chief in Block 30 said that a group of men and women raised a complaint to Samaritan Purse about the low pressure of water flow at their water points. An employee of Samaritan Purse said that they sent a fact-finding officer to check on the problem of weak flow of water. The employee assured the community that they are dealing with the issue.

Male, 40 Years, Block 30–Ajuong Thok

Thanks for the Community Building
The refugee community thanked DRC for building them a community center. They said before the construction of the center they were facing challenges of where to hold meetings.

Male, 42 Years, Block 37–Ajuong Thok

Thanks for the Improved Treatment
Refugees in Pamir expressed happiness with the improved medical services now that there are enough drugs provided by IRC at Hope Center for Primary Health Care.

Male, 45 Years, Block 15–Pamir

Provide Scholastic Materials
The refugee community complained that their children have not received any books since the opening of schools. They are asking humanitarian agencies for book distribution to the students. They added that they cannot afford books from the market.

Adult Female, Block 37–Ajuong Thok

Waiting for Bigger Space
The big sized families said that they are waiting for humanitarians to expand their living quarters and extra rooms to ease congestion and create privacy. They said they expect this to be addressed before the onset of the rainy season to avoid inconvenience and accidents.

Adults – Mixed Group: Block 30 – Ajuong Thok

A Community Correspondent with Jamjang FM interviewed a Mentor Initiative official on the malaria awareness campaign and insect-borne diseases in Ajuong Thok.

Photo @Internews
February 20, 2020

IRC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON FEMALE CIRCUMCISION AT CAMP PAMIR

Raising awareness on female genital mutilation (FGM) was highlighted through an awareness campaign organized by IRC on 6th February. IRC highlighted the dangers of female circumcision to raise the level of awareness within the community in Pamir Camp. The goal of the campaign was to increase awareness and give guidance to the community about the harmful practice. They appealed to the community to stand together to fight harmful customs and traditions. And, if there are cases of female genital mutilation, the community members should report the incidents immediately to the department of women at IRC.

VOXPOPS: REFUGEES ON WORLD RADIO DAY

On World Radio Day, Jamjang FM talked to community members from Ajuong Thok and Pamir refugee camps. The refugee community expressed gratitude at the service rendered to the community by Jamjang FM. Some of them pointed out the importance of a radio in Ruweng and its role in delivering information, messages and programs for both the host and refugee communities. Refugees asked management to provide radios to the community so that they can have access to information and extend the broadcast time to 10 PM.

CHALLENGES FARMERS FACED IN AJUONG THOK & PAMIR CAMPS LAST YEAR

Jamjang FM interviewed IRC’s Director of Economic Recovery and Development on the challenges faced by refugee farmers. He said last year’s rains caused a major challenge for the refugee farmers particularly in western side of the Ajuong Thok, the southern and western sides of Pamir camp. He added that the refugee farmers who were affected last season are among the target groups to receive seeds for the new season. More land amounting to 4 thousand acres for new refugees arriving from Yida and the Nuba Mountains and Yida has been allocated. The agriculture field supervisor said that the challenges are a result of natural disasters and appealed to all refugee farmers and the host community to be patient and persevere in the face of climatic fluctuations. With the upcoming season, all farmers must speed up the clearing of their land and not rely on humanitarians in 2020.
In Malakal, Internews’ Humanitarian Information Service (HIS) implements a communicating with communities (CwC) program to increase information sharing. The program operates Nile 98.0 FM, a humanitarian radio station inside the Malakal PoC, conducting listening groups to gather community feedback. If you have information to be shared with the PoC or humanitarians, please contact: Humanitarian Project Manager and Trainer Nimaya Manasseh (nmanasseh@internews.org) or Team Leader Dau Chol (dchol@internews.org; +211 81630440).

What We Heard This Week

Feedback from the Community

Thanks For Our Children’s Success
Parents whose children passed class eight certificate appreciated the education cluster for their effort in enabling their children move to the secondary level. They encouraged the cluster to work hard and continue supporting them in the new level too.

Youths & Adults, Location: PoC & Malakal Town

Women & Girls Request For Dignity Kits
Women & girls requested humanitarian agencies to help them with dignity kits because the ones previously distributed have been used up. They said the items will help them maintain good personal hygiene.

Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1

Cater for the Needs of the Orphans
Residents in the PoC said that on various occasions orphans have not been able to access services from humanitarian agencies. They requested concerned agencies to ensure that they provide for the needy children like orphans.

Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1, 2, 3 & 4

Thank You For the Fire Fighting Training
Youth in Sector 1 & 2 appreciated DRC for training them in the use of fire extinguishers. They said the skills acquired will help to fight fires in case there is an outbreak in the camp.

Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1 & 2

Distribute New Curriculum Material
School children in the PoC and Malakal town requested the education cluster to help them with the new curriculum books. They said the books will help them in reading and revising the lessons to be studied.

Children, Location: PoC & Malakal Town

This week Internews collected 74 unique feedbacks:
- School Age (11-18 years old) 5%
- Adults (36-60 years old) 30%
- Youth (19-35 years old) 64%
- Elderly (Over 60 years old) 1%

Internews interacted with 540 people through:
- Listening Group 100%

Data collected from:
- 233 females (43%)
- 307 males (57%)

Thanks IOM – WASH Department
Members of the community in the PoC appreciated IOM-WASH department for desludging the toilets in their area. They said that they won’t have to go far to access the service.

Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1 Block G

A community member talking to Nile FM correspondent on on World Radio Day

- Photo@Internews
**SPECIAL PROGRAM COVERAGE: COMMEMORATION OF THE WORLD RADIO DAY**

The World Radio Day was commemorated on the 13th February under the theme “Radio & Diversity”. The national theme in South Sudan was “Radio & Diversity For Peaceful Co-Existence”. Nile FM talked to some community members from both the PoC & Malakal town and asked them how radio can play a role in diversity for peaceful co-existence. A community member explained that radio can connect and play a positive role in helping them share their peace messages with other community members. Another member said that radio is good for raising awareness among the community on a number of issues. She added that radio could be dangerous if people use it to create and advance hate speech in the community. Another person explained that radio could change bad behavior through talking about it and discussing how one can improve their interpersonal relationships.

**WASH PROGRAM: WAYS TO ENHANCE GARBAGE MANAGEMENT**

Community feedback indicated that there are some families mismanaging garbage disposal and need awareness in handling trash. Responding to the issue, the IOM WASH department appeared on Kondial FM to create awareness on garbage management. The IOM assistant hygiene promoter said that it is very important for families and shop owners to manage their garbage in a good way. He added that this could help create a healthy environment and avoid disease. The IOM assistant hygiene promoter said that families should collect their garbage and put it into barrels located in their sector and blocks. He added that this would allow for easy collection to the dumping site. He added that adults should avoid sending children under 10 years of age to dispose of garbage. This, they said will stop the children from accidentally or deliberately disposing of garbage in the water drainages. The IOM hygiene promoter assistant urged traders to collect their garbage in places designated for that to avoid scattering garbage everywhere.

**SPECIAL PROGRAM COVERAGE: INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST THE USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS**

On the International day against the use of child soldiers which is also known as “Red Hand Day”, Nile FM interviewed and hosted UNICEF, SSPDF & UNMISS child protection representatives to talk about the purpose of the day. The SSPDF division 2 commander said that they are working hard and will play their role with their colleagues to stop any attempts to use child soldiers. The protection officer with UNMISS Child Protection Department, emphasized that the day is very important in helping raise awareness on stopping armed forces from using child soldiers.