In Bentiu, Internews’ Humanitarian Information Service (HIS) implements a communicating with communities (CwC) program to increase information sharing. The program operates Kondial 97.2 FM, a humanitarian radio station inside the Bentiu 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 Nimaya Manasseh (nmanasseh@internews.org) or Team Leader Pout Tuor (ptuor@internews.org).

**What We Heard This Week**

**Feedback from the Community**

### Shortage Of Water Causing Fights

Members of a listening group complained about shortages of water in sector 4 blocks because of a damaged borehole. An elderly person lamented that people are fighting at the watering points every day due shortage of water. They requested WASH partners to repair the boreholes.

*Age 30-65 Years: Sector 4 Block 12*

### Under 14 Not For GFD Authentication

Adults in a listening group are concerned that their children under the age of 14 years are being stopped from going to the general food distribution during biometric card authentications yet they have cards. They urged food distribution partners to allow children have their thumbs authenticated.

*Age 30-65 Years: Sector 4 Block 12 Listening Group*

### Delay In Distribution of School Materials

Feedback from Sector 4 Block 12 listening group indicates that community members are complaining about the delay in providing scholastic materials to the PoC schools. They urged the education partners to expedite the distribution of scholastic materials because children are not joining school due lack of books.

*Age 30-65 Years: Sector 4 Block 12*

### Desludging Of Latrines Very Slow

Men and women raised concerns that WASH partners are slow in desludging latrines in the PoC. They requested WASH teams to hasten the process to stop people from resorting to open defecation which could lead to diseases like Hepatitis E.

*Adults: Sector 4 Block 12*

### We Are Happy For The Dollar

The community in Bentiu town and PoC said that they are happy because of the drop in the US dollar exchange rate. The drop will enable families start affording food for malnourished children.

*Adults: Bentiu Town and Bentiu PoC*

### Well Done Protection Partners

Youth in Bentiu PoC appreciated protection partners for organizing protection training. The youth said they now understand the importance of protection. A 19-year-old said that they need protection partners to organize more protection training for girls.

*Youth: Bentiu PoC*

### Challenges In Food Distribution

Sector 4 Block 12 listening group composed of 4 men and 7 females complained about partners cutting off beneficiaries during the general food distribution in the PoC because they have been assigned specific days to receive food. They urged the food partners to change the process. Women said that some beneficiaries are missing food due to distribution challenges.

*Age 30-65 years. Sector 4 Block 12*

### We Are Happy For The Dollar

The community in Bentiu town and PoC said that they are happy because of the drop in the US dollar exchange rate. The drop will enable families start affording food for malnourished children.

*Adults: Bentiu Town and Bentiu PoC*
EVENING SHOW: DOLLAR RATE DROPS AS HOPE RISES IN SOUTH SUDAN.

Responding to feedback from the community about the rising cost of living, Kondial FM produced a prerecorded program which explored ways in which the economic situation in Unity State can be transformed and improved. Unity State Trade Chamber And Commerce Director announced the drop in the exchange rate of the South Sudanese pound against the dollar in greater Bentiu. He said that the exchange rate had drastically reduced in the last two weeks. He added that the USD rate had dropped because of the formation of the unity government and that the rate will continue to drop as the situation improves. On the same radio program, traders in PoC said dollar has gone down because of the ongoing peace process in Juba. The community in greater Bentiu requested traders to try and restore the economic situation by reducing markets prices with the drop in the US dollar.

HEALTH SHOW: STOP DEFEICATIONS IN BATHROOMS

There’s feedback from the community complaining about practicing open defeacion in the bathing shelters in the PoC. They said that it is a bad practice because shower rooms are used for bathing only. In a prerecorded program on Kondial FM, a community leader beseeched sector leaders and block leaders to warn all bathroom users not to defecate in the shower facility. One of the leaders said that whoever is found defecating in shower room will be fined and reported to the UN police because such a practice is against the promotion of good hygiene and environmental practices in the PoC. He added that defecating in the bathing shelter can spread diseases like Hepatitis E, cholera and diarrhea. The WASH cluster urged all communities to use latrines instead of bathing shelters.

PROGRAM ON THE ROLE OF CCCM AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Kondial FM prerecorded a program during the training conducted by IOM CCCM as a result of feedback collected last month by correspondents in Sector 2 Block 7. The group of youths asked IOM to provide them with training in conflict prevention because they said that most cases of fighting in the PoC are caused by youth groups. As a result of the feedback, IOM CCCM Camp Assistant said that among others, it ensures that service delivery is well coordinated. He encouraged the youths to prevent conflict before it happens, like avoiding angry responses to provocative statements to stop conflict. The group of youth said that they learnt a lot of the skills in the training and were quoted saying that IOM CCCM trained them in prevention of conflict through responsible and respectful interactions with other people. They appreciated IOM CCCM for fulfilling their request by responding to their feedback.
In Jamjang, Internews’ Humanitarian Information Service (HIS) implements a communicating with communities (CwC) program to increase information sharing. The program operates Jamjang 89.4 FM, a humanitarian radio station in Ajuong Thok, conducting listening groups to gather community feedback. If you have information to be shared with refugees or humanitarians, please contact: Humanitarian Project Manager Akiiki Tusiime (atusiime@INTERNEWS.ORG).

What We Heard This Week
Feedback from the Community

Stop Fire Incidents
Residents in the Ajuong Thok camp said that fire outbreaks in the blocks worry them. They requested for fuel stoves to mitigate fire incidents.

Adults, Block 33, Ajuong Thok

We Love Sporting Activities
“We would like to have sports items to help us practice and engage in sports”, said youth in Ajuong Thok. They are requesting for balls and other materials.

Youth, Block 33, Ajuong Thok

Fight Hepatitis Through Vaccination
Youth from the refugee community said that they are worried about cases of hepatitis in the camp and appealed to health implementing partners to provide vaccinations to the population.

Youths, Block 31, Pamir

Nutrition Awareness Is Good
Women support group in Ajuong Thok appreciated the awareness that was being created by health workers on the importance of breast feeding. They requested for continued sensitization because they learn a lot.

Women, Block 11, Ajuong Thok

“We Need More Water Containers”
Pupils at Kings of Nuba Primary School are grateful for the buckets that were provided for drinking water. However, they are requesting for more containers because their numbers have now increased.

Youths, Block 31, Pamir

Help With Scholastic Materials
Parents in Ajuong Thok said that the cost of exercise books is prohibitive. They said that they would like some support from the education implementing partner.

Adults, Block 2, Ajuong Thok

Provide Charcoal, Please
Women from the refugee community expressed concern about the long distances they walk to the forest to collect firewood. They requested for charcoal to help them stop going to the bushes where they are exposed to risks.

Women, Block 11, Ajuong Thok

More Soap, Please!
Beneficiaries in the refugee camp are grateful to humanitarian agencies but requested an increase in the amount of soap being distributed.

Elderly, Block 2, Ajuong Thok

This week Internews collected 49 unique feedbacks:
(Ages 11-17) 20%
(Ages 18-35) 54%
(Ages 36-45 yrs) 24%
(Ages 46-60) 2%

Internews interacted with people through:
• Listening Group 92%
• Informal Meeting 8%

Data collected from interactions with non-unique individuals:
Females (92%)
Males (8%)
PROMOTE COEXISTENCE BETWEEN REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITY

Security is an important aspect in all communities, be it host or refugee. To foster peaceful coexistence, the committee tasked to ensure that people live peacefully side by side conducted a meeting in Mankua, an area in the host community. Speaking to Jamjang FM, the local chief who attended the event at Makua area said that the meeting brought together the refugees and host community. He stressed that the meeting came up with ideas to promote security within the refugee and host communities.

The local chief of Jamjang area pointed out that the traditional chiefs have a crucial role to play in promoting the culture of peace and boosting security. The participants interviewed by Jamjang FM urged the refugees and host members to join hands and fight against insecurity.

OUTCOMES ON AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The International Rescue Committee held a joint meeting with the Agricultural Committee from the refugee and host communities. Speaking after the meeting, the IRC Department of Economic Recovery and Development ERD manager told Jamjang FM that the meeting discussed the challenges that faced the farmers last year and came up with new ideas that could push and improve the cultivation next season. “Forty or more farmers will be included on the list of beneficiaries for seed distribution and will be allocated farmlands,” he added. The head of Joint Agricultural Committee said that they are happy with IRC for the strong support they give to the farmers and asked for early seed distribution.

EDUCATION: OVERCROWDED CLASSES AFFECT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

The headmaster of Napata Primary School told Jamjang FM in a prerecorded program that, there is congestion in classes at the school. He said that pupils from refugees and host communities share education services at Napata Primary School. The Lutheran World Foundation Education Manager said that there is not enough money in the budget to build new classes. He appealed to the parents whose children are not registered to register their children in other schools because the classes at Napata Primary school are full. Families interviewed by Jamjang FM thanked the school administration for their hard work for both communities.

MOTHERS’ ROLE IN DIARRHEA PREVENTION

In an effort to raise the health and hygiene awareness in the community, Jamjang FM interviewed a health official at AHA who advised mothers to observe hygiene in their day to day activities. He advised them to wash hands before, during and after food preparation. The health official added that mothers should wash children’s hands before eating and after use of toilet to prevent diarrhea. The health official appealed to the mothers to take their children to health centers if they start passing watery stool, for early treatment.
What We Heard This Week
Feedback from the Community

Residents Call For Fire Awareness
Residents in the PoC expressed worry about the possibility of fire outbreaks which could occur next to Tri-Star fuel company. They called upon humanitarian agencies to help raise awareness about the dangers of fire.
Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1,2&3

Residents Thank IOM
PoC residents thanked IOM-WASH department for desludging the toilets which will prevent the unpleasant smell in the areas where the facilities are located. They thanked IOM for repairing water taps for pupils because water is essential for life.
Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1

Students Request More Classrooms
The secondary school students said many of them are out of school because there aren’t enough classrooms to accommodate them. They requested the concerned agencies to plan and construct more classrooms.
Youth & Adults: Location : Sector 2

Parents appreciate INTERSOS
Parents in the PoC appreciated INTERSOS for registering their children in kindergartens. They said that their children attending kindergartens will prevent their children from roaming in the streets and being exposed to danger.

Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1

MSF Appreciated
Parents appreciated the education cluster for providing their children with exercise books. However, they said that the books were not enough and needed support with more books because they cannot afford buying them from the market.

Youths & Adults, Location: Malakal Town & PoC

Thanks DRC For Repairing Footbridge
Residents in the PoC appreciated DRC for repairing the footbridge in their area. They said that the bridge will ease their movement in accessing service centres which was previously challenging.

Youths & Adults, Location : Sector 1 Block E

Renovate Our Shelters
Elders and people with special needs in the PoC requested the protection cluster to help renovate their shelters before the next rainy season.

Elders, Location : Sector 1, 2, 3 & 4

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Nile FM correspondent records the training of First Aid volunteers in the Malakal PoC
PEACE & RECONCILIATION: CONTRIBUTE TO THE PEACE PROCESS

While appearing on Nile FM’s Peace And Reconciliation Program, some community members shared their views on how to contribute to social peace within the community. A community member said that people should stop fighting and hating each other in the communities but instead cultivate a spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation. He added that existence of peace has many advantages such as encouraging the restoration of human dignity and improving the economy. He added that peace can help uplift the financial status of community members. Another community member said that people should avoid causes of division among the communities and seek ways that reunite and bring peaceful co-existence within the community. Another community member with the Peace for Drama group said that they are planning to produce dramas that focus on encouraging positive behavior among the communities. An elder said that adults in the community play a very important role in fomenting social peace among the people, through respecting others, forgiving and living in peace with the community.

EDUCATION PROGRAM: WAYS OF FIGHTING ILLITERACY IN THE COMMUNITY

Feedback from the community indicated that there are some youth or children who dropped out of school for various reasons but need encouragement to return to school. On the Nile FM education program, some community members suggested ways that can help youth go back to schools. A community member said that the only way to fight illiteracy is through education. He added that education is the only way to achieve a better life because it enlightens people. Other members added that education is not age specific and that youth must all go to school to reduce illiteracy in their communities. One of the youths said that they have a big role in encouraging education among themselves using different platforms. Another youth member added that educated youths should volunteer and educate their brothers and sisters during their spare time which will encourage them to learn more. The World Vision education officer urged the community to realize the importance of education for everyone.

SPECIAL COVERAGE: FIRST AID TRAINING FOR EMERGENCY CASES

Nile FM correspondents interviewed some community volunteers who are working with South Sudan Red-Cross (SSRC) to train the community in first aid. They talked about the first training they attended and their experiences. A community volunteer said that he learnt how to stop bleeding when people are injured and had acquired experience to helping the community whenever there’s need for any first aid. Another volunteer added that, before the first aid training, it was very difficult for her to handle broken bones, but after the training, she said she can, and is able to deal with people who have gone into a coma or fainted. Also, the South Sudan Red-Cross director in Upper Nile, explained that the training which targeted 13 male and female volunteers is to enhance their role in helping the community in the first aid process before sending people to the hospital.