What We Heard This Week

Feedback from the Community

**We Thank IRC**
Women in Bentiu town appreciated IRC and other protection partners for celebrating the International Women’s Day in Bentiu town. “I feel happy because our day was recognized by humanitarian protection partners”. They said that they need humanitarian protection partners to increase on advocacy for women’s right.

*Adult Females, Bentiu Town*

**Shortage Of Water**
Residents in Sector 1 Block 6 raised a complaint that they have suffered shortage of water for a week and requested wash partners to help and provide them with adequate water supply.

*Adults, Sector 1 Block 6 Bentiu PoC*

**Theft Cases Increased**
A resident in Sector 2 market raised concerns about an increase in theft cases in their area. “A thief stole my good clothes,” said a 36-year-old man. They requested the CWG to intensify their patrolling.

*Adult Male, Sector 2 Market Bentiu PoC*

**Lack Of Cultural Activities**
Adults and youth in Bentiu PoC requested the IOM psychosocial department to resume traditional dances and performances. “I feel boredom because there are no Sunday and Saturday cultural shows” They requested IOM to resume the weekend cultural shows.

*Adults and Youth, Bentiu PoC*

**Child Beating**
Adults and youths in a listening group in the PoC raised a concern that there is an increase in cases of child abuse like child beating in Bentiu town and the PoC. “Women are always fond of beating children,” said a 29-year-old man.

*Adults and Youth Listening Group Bentiu*

**Denial Of Education**
Adults and youths in a listening group in the PoC raised concerns that most of children are denied education by their parents to look after cattle. “My neighbor forcefully refuses his children to go to school,” said 30 years old woman.

*Adults & Youth Listening Group Bentiu PoC*

**Child Labor**
Adults and youths in a listening group in Bentiu reported that there is an increase in cases of child labor across Unity State. They force children to do heavy work, they added. “I found three kids being forced to work and do heavy work,” said a 29-year-old woman.

*Adults & Youth, Listening Group Bentiu PoC*

**Denying Children Food**
Adults and youths listening group in Bentiu POC raised a concern that there are some families who deny their children food after refusing to work or do heavy work. “My neighbor is fond of denying her children food when refusing to work,” said 30 years old man.

*Adults & Youth, Listening Group Bentiu PoC*

**Child Kidnapping**
Adults and youths listening group in POC reported cases of increased child kidnapping across the Unity State. “My child was kidnap last year but found,” said a 34 years old man.

*Adults & Youth, Listening Group Bentiu PoC*
SPECIAL EVENT: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY / IWD
International Women’s Day is an event commemorated annually on March 8th. This year’s theme was: “I am generation equality: realizing women’s rights”. South Sudan joined the rest of the world to celebrate the day under the national theme: Each for Equal: Implement 35% Affirmative Action for Peace and Development”.

In Bentiu, the Internews-supported radio station, Kondial FM, produced a special program led by female journalist to observe the day. During the program, women activists from humanitarian GBV partners, officials from State Ministry of Gender, Child And Social Welfare and the Community High Committee chairperson in PoC were involved. The discussion revolved around women support for fair treatment and provision of equal chances in life. Several messages gathered from women in form of songs dedicated to women’s rights were also included on the program. Kondial FM fully covered of the event organized by humanitarian partners in collaboration with Unity State Government in Bentiu town on March 9th and in the PoC too.

EDUCATION PROGRAM: PRIORITIZE CHILD EDUCATION
State Ministry Of Education and its partners celebrated success in Bentiu of Unity State, as they managed to score the best performance in 2019’s South Sudan Primary Eight Examinations. Unity State managed to get the best performance under Lich Primary School in Bentiu PoC. Kondial FM played a significant role in prioritizing child education by producing a weekly child education program to remind parents about the importance of child education in the IDPs. During the event, Lich primary school administration said 40% of the children don’t attend school because their parents deny them the opportunity due to ignorance. The education partner UNICEF reported that more children joined schools this year compared to other years during the South Sudan conflict. During the same event, parents and guardians expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Education and education partners for uplifting child education. They promised to uphold the importance of child education and would continue to tell parents and guardians to send their children to schools this year.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Internews Bentiu collects feedback on a weekly basis through listening groups, over the phone or by SMS and through direct interactions our staff have with community members. The chart below illustrates the overall categories in which feedback was collected this period.
What We Heard This Week
Feedback from the Community

Allocate More Land For Farming
Some refugees who were not allocated farmlands last year during agricultural season are requesting IRC to help them with plots so that they can farm this season.

Adverts, Block 38, Ajuong Thok

Relocate Us
Families in Yida settlement said after humanitarian services were halted, they started some small businesses, which couldn’t provide for their daily needs and ended up failing. So, they said they prefer being relocated to Ajuong Thok and Pamir to access humanitarian services and education for their children.

Adults Yida Refugee Settlement

Help Needed To Assist Orphans
Parents and guardians caring for orphans in Ajuong Thok expressed gratitude to UNHCR for the assistance given to orphans. However, they said that they haven’t receive any assistance from any agency for them to be able to help the orphans in the best way they can. They requested the protection unit to help them with soap, shoes and clothes since they can’t afford them from market.

Adults, Block 38, Ajuong Thok

Thanks For Repairing Water Taps
Inhabitants in Yida refugee’s settlement expressed happiness to UNHCR and Samaritan Purse for starting the repair of water taps which got damaged in Block One. They appealed to humanitarian agencies to keep on providing water services because water is life.

Adverts Yida Refugee Settlement

Thanks For The Training
Some women in Ajuong Thok expressed gratitude to IRC Department of Women Protection and Empowerment WPE for training women in different fields. They requested IRC to add business, arts and handcrafts as part of the training saying that they will help improve their lives.

Female Adults Ajuong Thok Refugee Camp

Thanks For The Good Education
Parents in Ajuong Thok expressed happiness with education partners for enabling their children score high grades this year. They requested humanitarian agencies to continue with the good work.

Adults, Ajuong Thok Refugee Camp

Help Us With Household Materials
Parents in Ajuong Thok appreciated UNHCR for the cooking utensils they have always given them. However, they requested UNHCR to help them with new ones because the ones they were given are worn out, leaving them with nothing to use.

Women, Block 38, Ajuong Thok

Help Us With Household Materials
Parents in Ajuong Thok appreciated UNHCR for the cooking utensils they have always given

Jamjang FM community correspondent recording the proceedings during the International Women’s Day celebrations in Ajuong Thok. Photo @Internews
March 19, 2020

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).

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY REPORTING OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

While appearing on Jamjang FM’s pre-recorded Protection Program, the UNHCR Protection Officer said that the commemoration of International Women’s Day will help the community understand the crucial role that can be played by women. The official explained that the community should give a chance to women to represent themselves. “UNHCR is working hard to ensure that the women and girls are protected from gender-based violence”, she added. She appealed to the community to report any form of GBV to IRC women centers to help the victims access the protection.

COMMUNITIES COMMEMORATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

The international Women’s Day is a global celebration that acknowledges the contributions made by women in their communities. Speaking to Jamjang FM during the commemoration, the IRC Women Protection And Empowerment WPE Manager said that the commemoration of women's day would strengthen the efforts toward empowering women. In addition to that, the chairperson of the Women Union in Pamir camp urged IRC to do more workshops on GBV for men and women to help create gender equality. Ajuong Thok camp Women Union Chairperson appreciated the humanitarian agencies for organizing the celebration and stressed that the celebration would reflect the true image of women in the community.

JAMJANG FM LAUNCHED THE RADIO DISTRIBUTION IN PAMIR

On a number of occasions, refugees have given Internews feedback about lack of radios to listen to timely and lifesaving information. In order to increase the refugees’ access to the humanitarian information, Jamjang FM carried out a radio distribution in Pamir camp. Speaking during the distribution, Pamir camp chairperson thanked Jamjang FM and Internews for distributing radios and he said that the radios would ease ways of getting the necessary information from agencies and the community.

EDUCATION PROGRAM: UPDATES ON UNIFORMS DISTRIBUTION, LWF.

Several parents of school going children expressed concerns about lack of uniforms for their children. This feedback gathered by Jamjang FM's community correspondent was shared with the agency responsible for implementing education activities in Ajuong Thok and Pamir refugee camps. To address the parents concerns regarding the lack of uniforms, the Lutheran World Foundation Education Manager told Jamjang FM that they had 1,000 pieces of uniforms in the store and he stressed that the uniforms will be distributed to the different child friendly spaces in the camp and the distribution will only target those with no uniforms. The education manager called on the parents to take a good care of the uniforms by washing them.

This program was produced based on the feedback collected from refugees with children at Gaboush Child Friendly Spaces.

Internews Jamjang collects feedback on a weekly basis through listening groups, over the phone or by SMS and through direct interactions our staff have with community members. The chart below illustrates the overall categories in which feedback was collected this period.

**Community Feedback**

**Collection Type**

- Community Meetings
- Block Meetings
- Listening Groups

**Age Groups**

- Ages 26-35: 37%
- Ages 36-45: 37%
- Ages 46-60: 42%
- Ages 60 plus: 16%
- Ages 60 plus: 5%
What We Heard This Week
Feedback from the Community

SCI Needs To Revitalize The Drama Group In Bunj
A resident from Bunj said that in 2019 Save the Children International formed a youth drama group which presented dramas that helped educate the community. However, since the group’s supervisor resigned, their activities ceased. And they asked Save the Children to reactivate the group.

Adult, Bunj Town

Youth In Kaya Request For Capacity Building
Youth in Kaya said they lack entertainment facilities in the center, and they are asking DRC and UNHCR to get for them a TV. They also asked for trainings in IT, leadership skills and management as well as a workshop in peaceful coexistence.

Youth, Kaya Camp

Better To Distribute Food To Families Than Groups
Women from Sheikh Ali at the new extension site in Doro camp said that during the GFD they received the food rations in groups in order for them to divide it among themselves. They said that it complicates the process and it creates conflict and misunderstanding. They asked Samaritan’s Purse to distribute the food to each family separately rather than to groups.

Women, New Extension Site In Doro Camp

Priority For Special Needs People
Refugees from Sheikh Ali at the new extension site in Doro camp asked UNHCR and Samaritan’s Purse to give persons with special needs like the blind, the elderly, pregnant women and lactating mothers special consideration not to stand in lines during the GFD.

Adult, New Extension Site In Doro Camp

Increase In Domestic Violence In The Camp
Refugees in Batil camp expressed unhappiness due to an increase in domestic violence between couples in the camps. They said some couples spend their time in taking alcohol rather than caring for their children, and that some couples separate. They asked the DRC Protection Unit to conduct awareness in the community.

Adult, Batil Camp

We Need GFD Center At The New Extension Site
Refugees from Sheikh Ali at the new extension site in Doro camp are asking UNHCR to build a GFD center in the area, as the distance to the distribution center in Doro is very far.

Adult, New Extension Site In Doro Camp

Maternity Ward In Bunj Is Small
Bunj residents said that the maternity ward is small with not enough beds forcing some women to at times share one bed. They asked the hospital administration and health partners to construct another maternity room to reduce the congestion.

Adult, Bunj Town

We collected 32 unique feedbacks:
- Ages 15-25: 34%
- Ages 26-35: 50%
- Ages 36-45: 16%

We interacted with people through:
- Listening Group: 91%
- Informal Meeting: 9%

Data collected from interactions with non-unique individuals:
- Females (69%)
- Males (31%)
Refugees and the host community in Maban celebrated the International Women’s Day. Radio Salam Community Correspondents covered the events in Kaya and Batil camps on March 9, 2020 and in Gendrassa and Doro camps on March 10, 2020. During the celebration in Kaya camp, the head of the Women’s Union said the right to education is one of the fundamental rights of girls, adding that society should encourage girl education and fight early marriage. UNHCR representative called for the necessity of gender equality and to give women the opportunity to participate in all areas for decision-making. DRC representative appealed to women to play a role in society by participating in camp management committees.

Few weeks ago, Radio Salam team has received feedback from refugees in Kaya camp that they have not received NFIs since 2018 and asked UNHCR to look into their issue. Through the radio program “With Community” that highlights the role of humanitarian agencies in providing services to persons of concern, UNHCR representatives from the Field Office said that the distribution of NFIs targeted the three camps that were affected by the floods and rains that hit Maban last year in Doro, Gendrassa and Batil and they explained that the NFIs received from donors was not enough. The distribution included kitchen kits, plastic sheets, blankets, mosquito nets, jerrycans and soap. They indicated that the refugees in the Kaya camp were not affected by the floods, but they have a plan to distribute provide them with some NFIs. UNHCR distributed NFIs to households affected by the floods and rains last year to refugees and the local community.

Save the Children supported primary school children in Gendrassa camp to hold a parliament session, the first of its kind at the camp level. Radio Salam covered the parliamentary session as the children presented their challenges, most notably about early marriages, forced marriages, sexual abuse, child labor and the problem of sending them to graze animals instead of schools. Save the Children representative said that the parliamentary session helps families and children to have good dialogue and understand their problems. She appealed to families to send their children to school. Parents applauded the session and promised their support to the children in resolving issues that were raised. They said that learnt from children how to listen to their issues without underestimating them and asked Save the Children to organize such sessions with children regularly.
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 916930440).

What We Heard This Week
Feedback from the Community

Distribute Bigger Exercise Books
School children in the PoC requested education implementing agencies to change the size of exercise books which they distribute. They said that the small ones last for only 20 days. They requested for exercise books with more pages.

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

Well Organized IWD Celebrations
Women from two communities appreciated the humanitarian organizations which organized the International Women’s Day (IWD) at Malakal stadium. They said the celebration gave them a chance to know their rights.

Youths & Adults, Location: PoC & Malakal

Encourage Children Through “Back To School Campaigns”
Community members in the PoC said there are some small children who are out of the school for unknown reasons. They requested for the “Back To School Campaigns” to encourage them value the importance of attending school.

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

Thanks For The Hygiene And Awareness
Community members in the PoC appreciated the IOM -WASH department for adding more garbage collection containers in their living quarters. They said that they are also happy with IOM-WASH department for the awareness on general hygiene.

Youths & Adults, Location: Sector 1 Bock A & B

Businesswomen Request For Support
Businesswomen in two locations said that they need to extend their business activities but do not have enough money to do so. They requested for support from any agencies so that they can increase their activities which will help sustain their family’s needs.

Youths & Adults, Location: Malakal Town & PoC

Town Cleaned
Residents in two locations appreciated UNYDA & SAFERWORLD for cleaning part of Malakal town. They said the cleaning will be helpful when people in the PoC decide to return to their original homes.

Youths & Adults, Location: PoC & Malakal

UNFPA specialist speaks to Nile FM’s correspondent during the International Women’s Day event on 9th March at Malakal stadium.

Photo@Internews
SPECIAL EVENT COVERAGE: COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY
Nile FM covered the commemoration of the International Women’s Day (IWD) on the 9th of March. The one-day event was organised by the GBV working group, at Malakal stadium. The upper Nile state celebrated the occasion under the theme: “Equality will not wait & Stop the early Marriage”. During the celebration, the PoC women representative said that there are some parents who prefer boys over girls when it comes to education. She added that the community must take seriously the equality between their boys and girls when sending them to school. Also, the Malakal women representative said that the community should be engaged to stop early pregnancies and early marriages among girls. She urged everyone to encourage the girl child education for future generations. Also, the UNFPA GBV specialist, said that people should work hard to stop the early marriage. Finally, the UNMISS representative and GBV specialist, said that women are exposed to a lot of challenges like injustices, discrimination, early marriage and several other issues which affect the girl child education.

HEALTH PROGRAM: AWARENESS ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)
Community feedback indicated that people do not know anything about the Coronavirus and that they need to know more about the disease. The World Health Organization (WHO) responded by raising awareness about the disease on the Nile FM’s health program. The WHO Epidemiological Coordinator in Upper Nile state said that the disease is called Coronavirus because it looks like the crown in shape. The WHO doctor added that Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses which may cause illness in animals or humans. The doctor said the disease affects every age with elders being the most affected because of low immunity. The WHO doctor said COVID-19 is the infectious disease caused by the most recently discovered coronavirus. He added that this new virus and disease were unknown before the outbreak began in Wuhan, China last year. WHO Epidemiological Coordinator explained that COVID-19 can spread from person to person through droplets from the nose or mouth which are spread when a person with COVID coughs or exhales. The WHO doctor added that the most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, tiredness and dry cough. The doctor concluded that until now, COVID-19 does not have a vaccine or treatment.

YOUTHS PROGRAM: THE ROLE OF YOUTHS PROMOTING SOCIAL PEACE
On the Nile FM peace & reconciliation program, some youth members mobilized themselves to share their experience on how to support and promote social peace in their communities. A youth member said youths have roles in supporting peace through activities like sports and individual commitment in creating peace at the workplace. Another member explained that there are some youth who lack peace promoting skills and if humanitarian or other partners help them, they can learn and become proactive in promoting peace. He urged the youth in different communities to work hard in seeking reconciliation among themselves and live peacefully, because youth are the backbone of the communities.

Community Feedback
Internews Malakal collects feedback on a weekly basis through listening groups, over the phone or by SMS and through direct interactions our staff have with community members. The chart below illustrates the overall categories in which feedback was collected this period.