

Press Release

**A High-Level Delegation of UN Agencies and Members of the Donor Community Visited a Joint UN Recovery and Stabilisation Programme in Northern Bahr el Ghazal**



**08 December 2017, Aweil** – A two-day high level UN-donor mission concluded in Northern Bahr el Ghazal Region (NBeG) following a visit to a joint UN Recovery and Stabilisation Programme which aims to address the multi-dimensional needs of people in the region.

Funded by Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, USAID and UKAID, the integrated joint programming is in line with the ‘New Way of Working’ in South Sudan. The programme will respond to food insecurity, malnutrition, basic services, livelihoods and local economic revitalization in targeted communities in NBeG.

The programme delivers life sustaining services and strengthens local agricultural systems to produce and market food, earn incomes, ensure the delivery of basic services and livelihoods skills for vulnerable women and youth. The approach is designed to support the recovery efforts of communities and to build resilience against future shocks.

Speaking at a meeting with local government and partners, the DSRSG/RC/HC/RR, Alain Noudéhou, who was leading the delegation, re-iterated the commitment of the international community to support the substantial humanitarian needs in the area.

He also commended the relative stability of the region, and welcomed the joint initiative by FAO, UNDP, UNICEF and WFP. He underscored the importance of complementing humanitarian actions with multi-sectoral recovery and resilience building interventions.

The Deputy Governor of Aweil East and Acting Governor of Aweil State both commended the partnership and expressed appreciation for the support by the UN and the development partners.

“Our community is peaceful and I appeal to our partners to continue supporting us with development projects,” said Hon. William Ater Lual, the Acting Governor of Aweil East.

Hon. Lual Buolo, the Acting Governor of Aweil noted: “We face various challenges in the state and we are hopeful that we shall work as a team to address these issues,” he said.

The Ambassador of Japan, H.E Seiji Okada, said: “in a context of relative peace such as exists in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, there is a need to focus on a mix of agricultural projects to address the high food insecurity, institutional capacity building and vocational training for the youth.”

During the same meeting, H.E. the Ambassador of Norway, Lars Anderson, reiterated the need for capacity building at the community level and said: “while implementing this project, there is need for partners to prioritize the needs of women”.

The delegation also visited and met with implementing partners and beneficiaries of BRACE II Project (crop production) Nyoc Anoon, Aweil Vocational and Livelihoods Training Centre; Kuom Outpatients Therapeutic Programme (OTP); and Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP); and Hai Salaam Women’s market and women run milk bars in Aweil.

The recovery and stabilisation project is implemented in partnership with Joint Aid Management International (JAM); Action Against Hunger (ACF); Concern Worldwide (CWW); World Vision; Help Restore Youth (HeRY); International Rescue Committee (IRC); Premiere Urgency International (PUI) and MEDAIR.

The delegation included UN agency representatives from FAO, OCHA, UNDP, UNICEF, UNMISS and WFP, as well as representatives from the donor community including Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, and the United States.