## **HUMAN INTEREST STORIES**

October 2022

## Initiatives Taken by Pibor's Boma Development Committees Under the Enhancing Community Resilience and Local Governance Project





Pibor Centre BDC members clean and clear brush and debris in the area surrounding Pibor PHCC to improve accessibility, quality, and appearance of the facility © September 2022/ John KIRERU

Since undergoing Boma Development Committee (BDC) capacity building training in May 2022, Kuyi and Pibor Centre BDCs have innovatively applied their newly acquired knowledge and skills to stimulate local development in their communities. During follow up visits to these locations, these BDCs have kept ECRP project staff abreast of their hard work and achievements.

- Pibor Centre BDC, embracing their role as advocates for their community to mobilize resources from humanitarian and development entities, conducted outreach amongst some of these organizations in Pibor to obtain assistance to repair a defunct wateryard in Munduria town block in Pibor Town. The BDC reported that they mobilized local authorities and representatives of humanitarian agencies and development to hold a meeting on the matter, which was led by BDC secretary Moses Nyalwen. BDC members have since informed the ECRP team that, as a result of their efforts, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization has repaired the wateryard in Munduria, which services a population of approximately 15,500 across Munduria, Jalaba West, and Jalaba East town blocks in Pibor Town.
- Pibor Centre BDC recently informed ECRP staff that they had carried out a monitoring visit at Pibor PHCC, thus undertaking their obligation to monitor and contribute to the betterment of existing public services. They explained that, upon recognizing that the exterior of the health facility had been overrun with tall grasses, shrubs, and debris, they approached the County Health Department to report their findings. Subsequently, the Health Department supported them in the cleaning up of the exterior of the facility.



- Kuyi BDC, citing inspiration they received from the BDC training session on local government and coordination with local authorities, reportedly called a community-wide meeting with local government officials to discuss a broken borehole in Lukurnyang village, Kuyi Boma. The BDC Chair led the meeting, with the active support of block administrators in facilitating the discussion. The BDC noted that, during the meeting, they shared information about the broken borehole and posed solutions for its repair. Ultimately, block administrators, as well as some community members who were able, provided contributions for the borehole repair. The BDC proudly informed ECRP field staff that the borehole is again functional, supplying clean water for an estimated 16,000 persons in the surrounding area.
- Also harnessing BDC training guidance on lobbying and advocacy, Kuyi BDC informed ECRP staff during a recent visit that they convened local officials and humanitarian and development partners to convey some of their development priorities.
  - \* Kuyi BDC noted that they had conveyed

- to local humanitarian organizations their shortage of latrines in the boma and the issues this posed to persons seeking to conduct daily livelihoods work outside of the home and to persons who wished to utilize public services in the community. As a result, the BDC reports that Polish Humanitarian Aid has constructed 15 latrines which are now functional in the boma.
- \* The BDC also highlighted that they lobbied for a food for work project to rehabilitate a community road that would connect all the villages in Kuyi Boma. Utilizing their mobilization skills, the BDC stated that they reached out to organizations active in the area and succeeded in obtaining Oxfam as a partner for their proposed project. The BDC reported that the road has now been cleared, with minor repairs conducted, allowing for easier access between villages in the boma.
- \* Additionally, the BDC informed ECRP staff they had succeeded in mobilizing Oxfam to repair another broken borehole in Dura village as a result of BDC advocacy at this partner meeting.



ECRP community meeting with Kuyi BDC and Kuyi Boma community members during BDC capacity building training © May 2022/ Yohana KONYI



BDC training with Kuyi BDC © May 2022/ Yohana KONYI

