



Female representatives celebrate the establishment of the Customary Law Court. © IOM 2021



**213**  
individuals supported  
through different  
livelihoods activities



**446**  
individuals reached  
through peacebuilding



**26**  
individuals  
reached through  
MHPSS

### Livelihood and access to finance

245 beneficiaries constituting six farmers groups harvested an estimated 35,000 kgs (3.5 metric tons) of groundnuts in Abyei including 120 kg (0.12 metric tons) of assorted vegetables. This was through the diversified livelihoods support to vulnerable households in Abyei. This is expected to improve their nutrition and incomes to help households meet their basic needs.

18 beneficiaries (3 Males and 15 Females) were trained in small business management. Topics covered included introduction to small businesses, business and financial management, costing and price setting, marketing, customer care, and business records

### Infrastructure

IOM officially handed over rehabilitated traditional courts to the respective communities in Abyei, Agok and Abyei, while the rehabilitation of the Ngok Dinka traditional chiefs complex is ongoing. The rehabilitation works refurbished the court premises, putting up latrine blocks (stances) and chain-link fencing of the traditional court premises, improving the management of the traditional justice system.

In Wau, Western Bahr-el-gazal, IOM supported the rehabilitation of 48 km road between Kuajena and Pagol, as a means to foster social cohesion and peaceful co-existence through enhanced interactions and socio-economic connectivity between farmers of Western Bahr el Ghazal State and cattle keepers of Warrap State.

keeping. This provided beneficiaries skills and knowledge to operationalize their businesses to generate sustainable income.

Two village savings and loans associations (VSLAs) supported by IOM completed their savings cycle and shared the accumulative savings. In total 5,201,132 SSP (equivalent to around USD 13,000) were saved by 50 members (45 females and 5 males) generated from both interest on loans and savings. The savings and loans associations increased access to finance for vulnerable households in Abyei.

### Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

In Abyei and Agok IOM established a psychosocial mobile team of six members (4 males, 2 females), comprising two counsellors, two support group facilitators, and two animators. They were trained in basic counselling skills, group facilitation skills, and community-based animation skills. IOM also trained twenty mental health professionals (10 male, 10 females) on suicide prevention and management as part of mental health awareness month in October 2021.

## Peace building

In Wau, Western Bahr-el-gazal, with the support of the South Sudan Reconciliation, Stabilization, and Resilience Trust Fund, IOM continued to support actions to prevent and violence related to cattle migrations. Key achievements in the last quarter of 2021 were:

- IOM facilitated 11 interventions to prevent / resolve specific disputes between farmers and cattle keepers in the border areas of Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal State.
- IOM organized a High Level Inter-State Annual Conference on Seasonal Cattle Migration to enable stakeholders from the two States (WBG and Warrap) to develop concrete plans and strategies for peaceful and safer 2022 cattle migration season.



Dokura Farming Group showing their harvest @ IOM 2021

In Abyei, IOM organized a three day inter-communal dialogue conference in Agok, attended by 51 cattle keepers and 55 farmers from Unity, Ruweng, Warrap and Abyei Administrative Area. This conference facilitated dialogue to promote a peaceful coexistence and migration of cattle in the Abyei administrative area.

IOM also facilitated the review of the customary law process, engaging 340 people, examining the court structures, revision and documentation status of the customary laws of Ngok Dinka. This was done in order to ensure the communities have better understanding of roles and rights in the community and to align it with principles of human rights and equality. There are 16 female members represented across 13 customary law courts, marking an important step for women's representation.



Cattle herder and farmers discuss peaceful migration of cattle keeps @ IOM 2021

## Challenges and planned activities

In quarter four, **in Wau**, Western Bahr-el-gazal state, there were widespread insecurity in Greater Tonj area (Warrap State) due to intra-communal violence caused by cattle raids and revenge attacks. There were also insecurity in Abyei Administrative Area caused by recent conflict between Misseryia and Ngok Dinka, affecting IOM's ability to monitor and implement programme activities. In the coming period, IOM will focus on the following:

**In Wau**, Western Bahr-el-gazal, IOM will scaleup its engagements with the youth-at-risk through providing support for small business enterprises and amplifying youth voices with decision making processes while supporting regular forums between youth and local leaders. IOM will also support reintegration of juveniles and recently released delinquents through functional adult literacy (FAL) and psychosocial support.

IOM will also consolidate gains (achievements) made in reduction of community violence between cattle keepers and farmers

through sustained reconciliation dialogues, peace sensitization, and mobile conflict prevention and response interventions.

**In Abyei**, with regards to livelihoods, IOM will roll-out vocational skills training, digital literacy and functional adult literacy programmes, and form and capacitate small business groups and vegetable production groups. IOM will also support small ruminant restocking for elderly and destitute household members.

For continued support to peace building, IOM will carry out conflict mitigation training for Water Management Committees and offer support and mentorships. IOM will also follow up on the implementation of the resolutions of the inter-communal dialogue conference between farmers from Abyei and cattle keepers from Unity, Ruweng and Warrap states, while support the public hearing of the Legislative Draft for Ngok Dinka Customary Law Code and organize a training for traditional leaders.