

The Riimenze Community Newsletter - May 2024

Sustainable Agriculture Project and Community Development



Monthly newsletter is one of the tools used by the Solidarity Community in Riimenze (Agricultural Project, Kindergarten Project and Elderly Project) to report on ongoing activities

Casual workers for maize weeding

Last April, the team of farmers from the Sustainable Agriculture project of Solidarity in Riimenze planted 7 feddans of maize of two different varieties. We are now at the second weeding, for which several casual workers from the community around Riimenze have been recruited. By earning money on a daily basis, these workers manage to pay school fees for their children and buy some products to meet their basic needs. In addition, the work also provides them with training that helps them improve their farming techniques, enabling them to acquire new skills that they can then apply on their individual farms.



Maize weeding



Br Joseph at work in the pepper garden

Green pepper garden

In the photo Brother Joseph, who is responsible for the agriculture project in Riimenze, applies manure to the vegetables to make them grow well. This is the green pepper garden planted this season. This vegetable garden is one of the income-generating activities of the project which helps the project to sustain itself.

Preparation of neem garlic extract to protect vegetables from insects

In our sustainable farming project, we do not apply chemicals to fight crop pests, but prepare our own natural pesticides from naturally available materials. In the photo, Charles Joseph, one of the casual workers, is instructed by the Livelihood Officer how to prepare a mixture of neem leaves, aloe vera, red pepper, vinegar and water, all crushed and mixed together. This amalgam must rest for 2 days before it is ready for use. This natural insecticide will be used against aphids and caterpillars, common pests that tend to destroy or damage vegetables.



Organic pesticide preparation

Activities Monitoring

The Agricultural Project Manager and the Quality Assurance Manager (QAM) from Solidarity with South Sudan carried out a special monitoring of the farm's activities. On this day, they supervised all areas of the farm, including the vegetable garden, crops, livestock sector and nutrition department, to verify the accuracy and evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented activities. During the visit, the QAM met individually with all staff officers to check the project documentation and offer advice and recommendations.



Solidarity staff monitoring the vegetable garden

Great artists in Riimenze Nursery School

The Head teacher Madeline introduced different activities in her baby class. It is amazing how quickly they learn how to hold the scissors and cut. The circle takes on many different shapes as it is still difficult to follow the drawing line but at least the tracing, using the round covers from plastic containers, is excellent. Children are happy and proud of their great achievement. They are also good at painting. The red tomatoes look very natural. Their little fingers also are made red during the painting process and they are looking for sympathy as they are saying that it is blood. Children are so fully involved in these precious activities that they are not eager to go for break and take delicious porridge. We congratulate them.



Children painting red tomatoes