

The Riimenze Community

Newsletter – September 2026

Sustainable Agriculture Project and Community Development



Training of Horticulture

As we prepare for the final planting season of the year, farmer groups across the six different locations participated in refresher trainings on advanced horticulture methodologies to guide their upcoming planting activities. Conducted every three months, these quarterly capacity-building sessions equipped farmers with best practices such as seedbed preparation, pruning, row planting,

and mulching. This continuous hands-on guidance ensures that our beneficiaries remain fully supported and aligned with the strategic goals of the SAP-R project.



Engagement with the Ministry of Agriculture

The Sustainable Agriculture Project in Riimenze remains actively engaged with the State Ministry of Agriculture through its monthly cluster meetings, dedicated to strengthening food security and livelihood programs across Western Equatoria State. Implemented by a network of partners specializing in agriculture and livestock, these monthly sessions serve to review ongoing activities, align strategies, and share security updates across project locations to ensure safe and effective implementation.



Training in Better Nutrition Practices

A balanced and adequate diet is essential for maintaining a healthy body. Through the Sustainable Agriculture Project in Riimenze (SAP-R), targeted nutrition training sessions are conducted across all project locations for mothers and single fathers. These workshops empower parents with essential knowledge on balanced dietary requirements

to promote good health, foster child growth, and prevent undernutrition. We extend our sincere gratitude to our Nutrition Officer for his dedicated and consistent efforts in delivering these regular training sessions to local families.



Radio Talk Show

At the end of every month, the Sustainable Agriculture Project in Riimenze (SAP-R) hosts a dedicated radio talk show on ANISA FM 92.0 to connect with the broader community and share vital agricultural knowledge. Led by the SAP-R Livelihood Officer, these monthly broadcasts deliver essential training to farmers in hard-to-reach locations, ensuring that remote communities can also benefit from our services. This month's broadcast focused on key principles of good animal husbandry, covering essential topics such as proper housing and infrastructure, feed management, livestock reproduction and breeding, as well as disease control and animal health. Listeners expressed deep gratitude for these practical and informative sessions, acknowledging the continued support of SAP-R leadership in making this key community initiative possible.

Nutritional additives production

This month, in the Nutrition Section of the SAP-R farm, our nutrition workers have been hard at work producing a variety of nutrient-rich additives, including moringa powder, soy butter, and peanut butter. Pictured is Madeline, one of the dedicated nutrition workers at the demonstration farm, carefully spreading moringa leaves to dry. To preserve its vital nutrients from high heat, moringa is dried strictly at moderate room temperature. Known for boosting immune function, regulating blood pressure, and supporting healthy child development, moringa is a highly effective dietary supplement. Through SAP-R, this valuable local resource is systematically provided to children identified at risk of undernutrition.



Empowering Local Farmers: SAP-R Initiatives in Nangere

The Sustainable Agriculture Project (SAP-R) continues to empower vulnerable farming groups in Nangere, focusing on its innovative horticulture component. As part of this initiative, the SAP-R Principal officially handed over watering cans to the Nangere farmers' group leader. These tools will play a crucial role in enabling farmers to irrigate their seedbeds and crops effectively during dry spells. In addition to essential tools, the group received high-quality horticulture seeds and completed structured training sessions led by the Livelihood Officer, equipping them with practical skills to manage their plots successfully. To ensure long-term impact and offer on-site technical guidance, regular monitoring and evaluation (M&E) follow-up visits are conducted across all project sites.



In a recent field session, the Livelihood Officer guided beneficiaries through constructing recommended, high-quality seedbeds for optimal germination. Following these best practices, seedlings have successfully germinated. Farmers are now applying critical management techniques, such as targeted watering during drought periods, regulating shade to ensure adequate sunlight exposure, and preparing organic pesticides from locally available materials to protect crops against pest infestation. Through hands-on training, regular monitoring, and practical resources, the Nangere farming community is building long-term resilience and local food security.

Expanding Dragon Fruit Cultivation

Dragon fruit is a rare crop in Western Equatoria State and the first of its kind to be introduced in the region. Renowned for its rich nutritional value and potential health benefits, it also represents a highly lucrative crop that boosts the farm's economic sustainability. Because dragon fruit plants have weak, climbing stems, they require sturdy structures to grow effectively. To support this expanding crop, the Sustainable Agriculture Project in Riimenze (SAP-R) has embarked on constructing and erecting additional concrete support poles, laying the foundation for an increased and sustainable yield.

