



DMI
GLOBAL MISSION

DMI MISSION SOUTH SUDAN

ANNUAL REPORT
2025



dmiglobalmission



dmimission



dmi-global-mission



**“War tests the courage of nations,
Yet it’s worth is not in conquest or fear.
True valor lies in defending justice,
In upholding the dignity of every soul,
And in fighting so that peace may endure”**

- DMI Mission South Sudan

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MESSAGE FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,



With heartfelt gratitude and deep joy, I share the key milestones and achievements of DMI South Sudan in 2025 a year marked by resilience, hope, and transformation. Guided by our mission to *“Love God and Serve the Poor,”* we remained committed to empowering underprivileged communities, especially women, children, and youth.

- **Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods:** We improved agricultural productivity and household incomes through farmer trainings, agricultural inputs, and the formation of farmer groups and cooperatives, strengthening sustainable livelihoods for poor and landless families.
- **Education and Employable Skills:** Access to quality education was expanded in remote areas through improved school infrastructure. Youth and vulnerable women received vocational and life-skills training, enabling dignified livelihoods and active participation in community development.
- **Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality:** Women’s leadership and financial independence were strengthened through self-help groups and VSLAs. We worked to prevent gender-based violence and early marriage, while providing legal support, counselling, and reintegration services to GBV survivors.
- **Humanitarian Response and Community Resilience:** During emergencies and natural disasters, we delivered life-saving humanitarian assistance, including food, shelter, and hygiene kits. We supported IDPs with safe housing, psychosocial care, reintegration, peacebuilding, and disaster risk reduction initiatives.

These achievements were made possible through the dedication of our country leadership, program, and field staff, whose commitment brings our mission to life. We are deeply grateful to our donors, partners, government agencies, and well-wishers, as well as to our Father Founder, Superior General, and Provincials for their guidance and support.

As we move forward, we reaffirm our commitment to serve the poor with love, uphold human dignity, and build a South Sudan where all people can thrive, not just survive.

May God bless you all and our mission.

**Sr. Vijili Dali, DMI
Mission Director.**

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Dear Well-wishers,



The year 2025 remained a good and impactful year for the SDMIC mission in South Sudan. Throughout the year, SDMIC delivered valuable support to communities living in some of the most fragile and vulnerable situations. The mission served needy communities across three states of South Sudan, where people continue to face serious challenges.

In all the states where SDMIC operates, communities experienced political upheavals, insecurity, flooding, and ongoing humanitarian crises. These situations greatly affected livelihoods and well-being, increasing the need for sustained and reliable support. Despite these difficult circumstances, SDMIC remained committed to standing with the affected communities.

Although the missionary sisters and staff team faced mobility challenges, health risks, and life-threatening security situations, the mission successfully achieved its planned objectives. In 2025, SDMIC impacted the lives of 3,865 children through the education program, 4,688 people through the women empowerment program, 1,800 households through the humanitarian assistance program, and 2,869 farmers through the food security and livelihood program. Notably, 75% of the beneficiaries were women and girls.

I extend our sincere gratitude to our donors who continue to stand with us in our community development efforts. We are also deeply grateful to our religious superiors, board members, missionary sisters, and the SDMIC staff team for their unwavering support and commitment during the challenging year of 2025.

As we look forward to accelerated service delivery in 2026, I remain committed to the realization of our mission and vision. SDMIC believes that through collective efforts, we will continue to bring positive change to the lives of the communities we serve.

I sincerely thank you for all the support and remain with humble prayers.

Sr. Rengis Mary, DMI
Country Director- South Sudan

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report portrays the key programs, activities, and achievements of the Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate and Collaborators (SDMIC) in South Sudan during 2025. Since gaining independence in 2011, the country has continued to face prolonged conflict, economic instability, displacement, and recurrent humanitarian crises compounded by climate shocks. These challenges disproportionately affect women, children, youth, and internally displaced persons, limiting access to food, education, health services, and sustainable livelihoods.

Responding to the call of the Archbishop of Juba, the DMI Sisters extended their mission to South Sudan to serve communities affected by war and displacement. Today, SDMIC works across Central Equatorial, Upper Nile, and Warrap States, implementing community-based and development-oriented programs in the dioceses of Juba, Wau, Rumbek, and Malakal.

DMI's South Sudan Country Program focuses on strengthening community resilience and restoring dignity through an integrated approach that combines food security and livelihoods, education and vocational skills, women's empowerment, and humanitarian assistance. The program contributes directly to seven Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

In 2025, SDMIC strengthened climate-smart agriculture and livelihood opportunities, expanded access to quality education and employable skills, enhanced women's economic resilience and protection mechanisms, and delivered lifesaving assistance to crisis-affected households. Guided by its 2021–2025 Strategic Plan and sustained through partnerships and community participation, SDMIC remains committed to promoting inclusive development, resilience, and long-term recovery in South Sudan.





Our Vision

Loving God and Serving the Poor to Be Fully Human and Fully Alive.

Our Mission

To enable underprivileged communities especially women, children, and youth, to become champions of change by providing them with the best opportunities for their education and development.

Core Values

**Accountability
Justice
Integrity
Dignity
Collaboration**

COUNTRY GOVERNANCE

THE BOARD MEMBERS OF SDMIC



Sr. S. Gnanaselvam

President



Sr. C. Reetha Mary

Vice - President



Sr. Rengis Mary

Member Secretary



Sr. D. Sasirani

Treasure



Sr. Vijili Dali

Member



Fr. Nicholas Kiri Kiriba Bate

Member



Fr. William Joseph

Member



Fr. Charles Busak Celestino

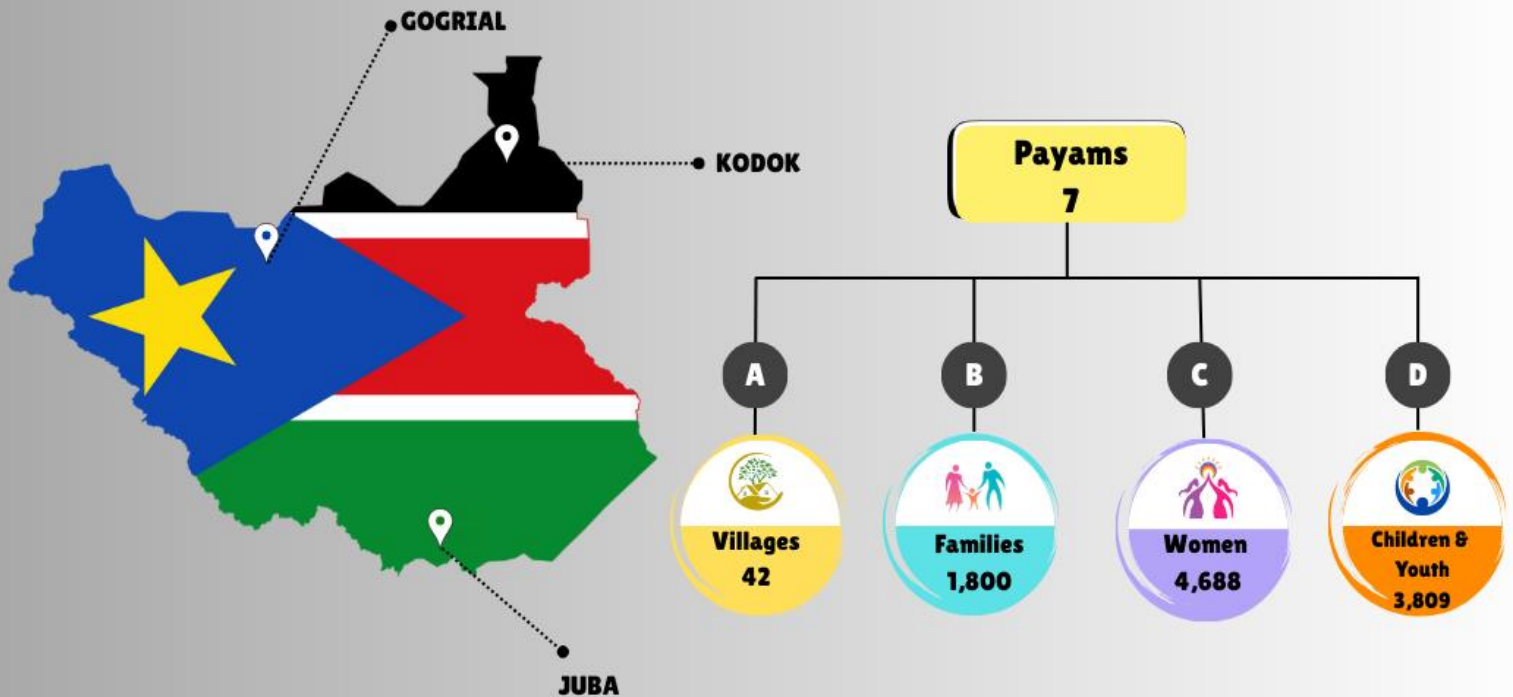
Member



Fr. James Pitia Marcello Tombe

Member

PROGRAM COVERAGE



Major Programs

Food Security & Livelihood

- 1,680 farmers practicing 3 good agriculture practice (GAP)
- 2,865 smallholder farmers in Juba, Gogrial, and Kodok were trained in sustainable agriculture and received inputs.
- 317 farmers cultivated 3 times in a year using irrigation pumps annual yield increased by 25%

Women Empowerment

- 4,688 women engage in saving & lending practice adhering to VSLA concept
- Trained 1,065 women on micro business plans and effective business management
- 534 women earn an average profit of SSP 120,000 (26 \$) SSP per week by doing micro business

Vocational & General Education

- Awarded TVET certificate with start-up kits for 99 trained youths
- 35 youths self employed & 27 youths employed after completing vocational skills training
- 1,935 children access quality education in 4 DMI-managed schools

Humanitarian Assistance

- Food ration distribution to 1,800 most vulnerable HHs during lean season
- 150 Returnees (from Sudan) households supported with temporary shelters and NFIs
- Constructed 15 flood prevention structures, 20 Km roads & 24 bridges over water crossing points

COUNTRY FACT SHEET -2025

S. No	Particulars	Status for 2024	Status for 2025
A	Geographic Coverage		
1	Number of Program States	4	3
2	Number of Program county	4	3
3	Number of Payams	17	7
4	Number of villages	53	42
B	Participant Coverage		
5	Women's Village Saving & Loan Association (VSLA) members (Juba, Gogrial & Kodok units)	3,585	4,688
6	Children accessing quality education in four DMI-managed schools (Juba IDP school, DMI Global school Juba and DMI school Kodok)	1,450	1,930
7	Number of children & teachers received education support in three community schools, Juba	1,658	1,935 children 48 teachers
8	DMI projects-sponsored youths trained at DMI Vocational School, Juba	115	101
9	DMI projects- sponsored youths and women trained on short -term skills	125	219
10	Smallholder-farmers (Juba, Gogrial & Kodok) trained on sustainable agriculture training and received inputs	3,580	2,865
11	Humanitarian assistance provided to households falling on IPC -3&4 in Fashoda County	1,800	1,800
12	Returnees (from Sudan) households supported with temporary shelters and NFIs	0	150
C	Key program results		
13	DMI trained Small-holder farmers practicing at least three "Sustainable Agriculture Techniques"	710	1,680
14	Cash-for-work program used to build flood prevention infrastructure and road Clearance in 3 Bomas in Fashoda country	5 flood prevention structures & 15 Km road	7 flood prevention structures and 20 Km road
15	Food ration distribution to most vulnerable households during food in secured period	780	1,800
16	Small-holder farmers federations managed "Cargo motor-cycle" for collective marketing in Juba	4	4
17	Small holder farmers federations managed "flour grinding mills" making value addition products in Juba	2	2

18	DMI trained women & youth members earn an average profit of 50,000 SSP per week by doing micro business (beads making, embroidery, catering soap liquid and bar soap and sandal making)	151	182
19	DMI formed adolescent/children clubs and its members attended life skills training for one year	0	16 clubs- 506 adolescents
20	Number of Youth group and its members in IDP camp engaged in regular saving & addressing social issues in their community	80	5 youth groups- 85 members
21	DMI Supported GBV victims with counselling and related services (referral, dignity Kit) for overcoming their trauma and moving towards self- reliance	285	480
22	DMI trained youths who are self-employed or employed after completing Vocational skill training course	130	62
23	Number of Primary-8 pupils from DMI managed IDP Camp-3 School in Juba appeared in the National Examination	162	204
D	Revenue Generation Program		
24	In kind donation received	Solar panel, Toyota Pick Up & Quad bike Big Printer, computer system, books, and furniture for the library	1) Learning materials for 1,200 children 2) Solar unit installation for Kodok unit
E	Technical Assistance, Capacity Building & Knowledge Products		
25	Number of contracts signed with donors & INGOs for technical assistance services	2 contracts signed: CAFOD & Trócaire in Partnership (Juba) & Oxford Policy Management (UK) – POF2	
26	Number of field-level training conducted under technical assistance	CTP: 10 trainings, 25 days, 30 participants POF2: 11 trainings, 44 days, 169 participants	
27	Number of Master Trainers trained in Community Institutions	27 Master Trainers from two POF2 partner NGOs	
28	Number of annual assessments of VSLAs conducted & reports submitted	1 Assessment – TOCH (81 VSLAs); report submitted	
29	Number of technical manuals and workbooks developed	3 publications: 1) CI Model Manual 2) Proposal Development Manual	

		3) Proposal Development Workbook
30	Number of technical models, tools, and concepts developed	3 models/tools: 1) CI Model & Guidelines 2) Peace & Livelihoods Integrated Model 3) Eco-based Flood-Proofing Farm Model
31	Number of leaders provided with leadership coaching & strategic guidance	3 leaders coached: 1 POF Livelihoods Lead 2 NGO Leaders



The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.

Vince Lombardi

PROGRAM IMPACTS

1. Food Security & Livelihood (FSL)

- Supported 20 farmer associations across six villages in Central Equatoria, focusing on leadership, governance, record-keeping, equitable profit-sharing etc.
- 1,680 farmers practicing 3 good agriculture practice (GAP)
- 2,865 smallholder farmers in Juba, Gogrial, and Kodok were trained in sustainable agriculture and received inputs.
- 317 farmers cultivated 3 times in a year using irrigation pumps – annual yield increased by 25 % .
- 715 farmers were equipped with agricultural tools and seasonal training in Warrap.



PROGRAM STRATEGIES

DMI's South Sudan Program focuses on strengthening community resilience and restoring human dignity in regions deeply affected by protracted conflict, displacement, economic instability, and recurrent climatic shocks.

The program contributes directly to seven Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health & Well-Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water & Sanitation), and SDG 8 (Decent Work & Economic Growth).

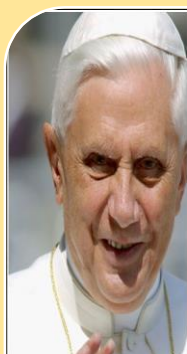
Operating across Central Equatorial, Upper Nile, and Warrap States, DMI adopts community-led and market-oriented approaches. Farmers are supported to adopt climate-smart agriculture, children and youth gain access to quality education and employable skills, women strengthen their economic and social agency, and crisis-affected households receive lifesaving humanitarian assistance. Together, these interventions foster peaceful, resilient, and self-reliant communities capable of withstanding future shocks and advancing sustainable recovery.

Major Program Areas

- Food Security & Livelihood (FSL)
- Vocational & General Education (VGE)
- Women Empowerment (WE)
- Humanitarian Assistance (HA)

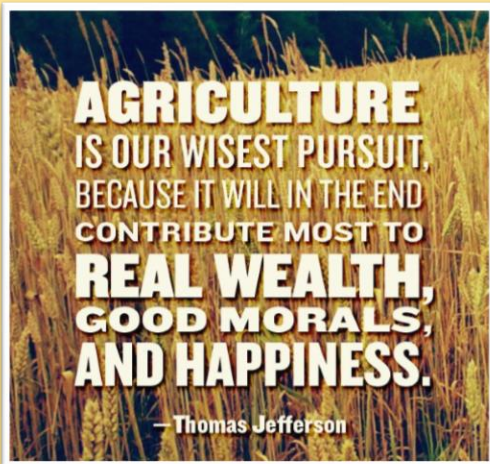
1. FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD (FSL)

In South Sudan, prolonged conflict, displacement, climatic shocks, and weak market systems have severely undermined agricultural livelihoods, leaving smallholder farmers trapped in low productivity, seasonal hunger, and economic vulnerability. DMI's Food Security and Livelihood program responds through a resilience-focused, systems-based approach that strengthens farmers' capacity to adopt climate-smart, market-oriented agriculture while promoting collective action through strong farmer associations. By combining improved production practices, shared productive assets, income diversification, and market engagement, the program supports farming households to transition from subsistence and dependency toward resilient, productive, and self-reliant livelihoods, contributing to



Food security is an authentically human requirement. Guaranteeing it for present and future generations also means safeguarding ourselves against the uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources. Indeed, the process of consumption and waste seems to overlook any concern for... biodiversity, which is so important for agriculture.

— Pope Benedict XVI —



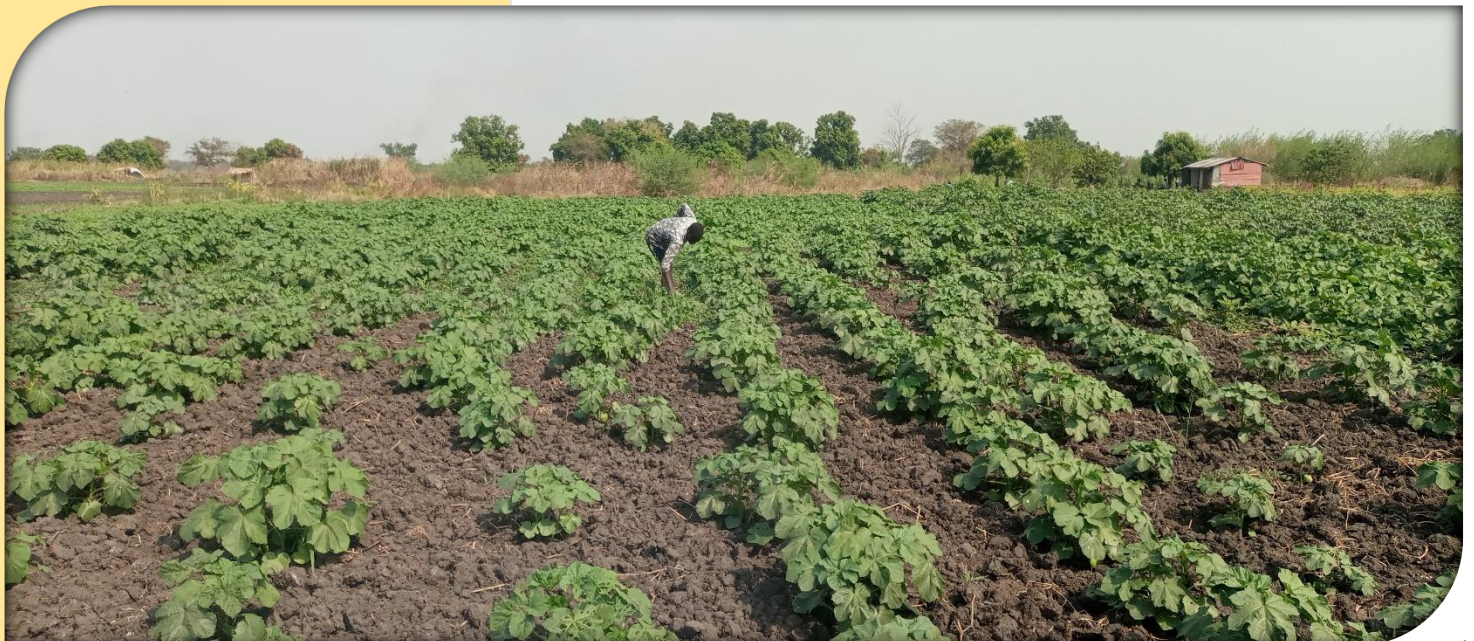
improved food security, household nutrition, and long-term community stability in fragile contexts.

Objectives

- Strengthen farmers' capacity to adopt climate-smart, market-oriented agriculture for improved productivity and food security.
- Improve community governance, asset management, and collective income generation through strong farmer associations and federations.

Strategies Adopted

- **Strengthening Farmer Associations:** DMI supported 20 farmer associations across six villages in Central Equatoria, focusing on leadership development, transparent governance, record-keeping, asset utilization, and equitable profit-sharing to promote collective accountability and sustainability.
- **Capacity Building:** Farmers received practical training in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), basic bookkeeping, and effective use and maintenance of shared productive assets such as tractors, irrigation pumps, grinding mills, tri-cycles, beehives, and storage facilities.
- **Market-Based Agriculture:** We promoted market-oriented production planning, crop diversification, and post-harvest handling, supported by the introduction of agricultural registers and production tracking to strengthen farmers' engagement with local markets by the end of 2025.
- **Support in Warrap State:** In Warrap, 715 farmers were equipped with agricultural tools and seasonal training, enhancing household food availability, reducing hunger gaps, and strengthening community self-reliance in a fragile context.



2. Vocational and General Education

- 101 youths trained in tailoring, beautician services, plumbing, and electrical trades.
- Awarded TVET certificate with start-up kits for 99 trained youths
- 35 youth's self –employed & 27 youths employed after completing vocational skills training
- 85 Youth group members in IDP camp engaged in regular saving & addressing social issues in their community
- Children access quality education in 4 DMI-managed schools
- 1,935 children access quality education in 3 DMI supported community schools in Juba
- Constructed pre-primary school with 3 class rooms and an inclusive toilet with 4 stances to a community school
- 327 children from 8 school clubs accessed improved life skill classes for one year
- Formed 16 adolescent / children clubs with 506 members.



2. VOCATIONAL & GENERAL EDUCATION (VGE)

In a context where conflict, displacement, and chronic poverty have severely disrupted education systems, many children and youth in South Sudan lack access to safe, continuous, and quality learning opportunities. DMI's education strategy promotes inclusive access to quality education and employable skills, with particular attention to displaced, conflict-affected, and economically marginalized children and youth. Education is positioned not only as a foundation for knowledge and skills, but also as a protective and transformative pathway that restores dignity, reduces vulnerability to exploitation, strengthens social cohesion, and builds long-term resilience for individuals and communities.

2.1. Vocational Skills Training for Youth

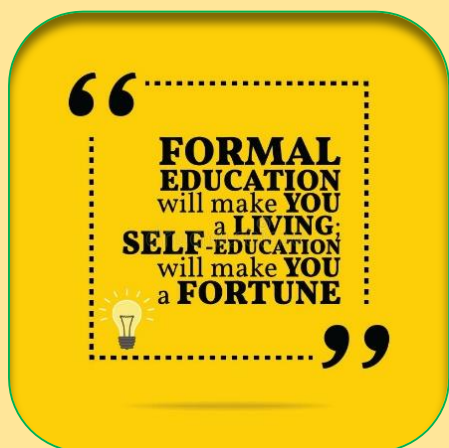
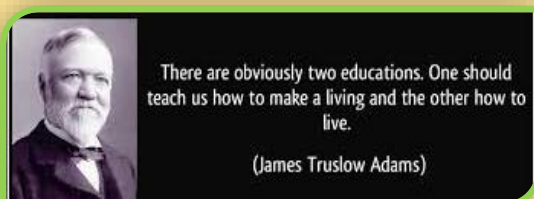
Widespread poverty, interrupted schooling, and the scarcity of formal training institutions leave large numbers of young people without marketable skills or viable livelihood options, increasing the risk of unemployment, negative coping mechanisms, and social instability. DMI addresses this gap through institutional and community-based vocational training programs designed to be accessible, practical, and market-relevant. With a strong focus on vulnerable young women and men, the program equips youth with technical, vocational, and entrepreneurial skills that enhance employability, support self-employment, and enable a transition toward economic independence and productive participation in local economies.

Objectives

- Equip youth with technical and entrepreneurial skills that enhance employability and income opportunities.
- Expand flexible, community-based skills training tailored for young women and vulnerable youth.

Strategies Adopted

- Provision of Vocational Skills: We have initiated our operation of a Vocational Centre in Juba (1 institutional and 3 community-based units). We provided training and created employment opportunities for the vulnerable youths in tailoring, beautician services, plumbing, and electrical trades. Youths trained in tailoring, beautician services, plumbing, and electrical trades. Three-month structured training cycles with mentorship from experienced trainers.



- Short-term skills programs: DMI delivered short-term skills training in beadwork, liquid soap making, sandal production, and embroidery, enabling vulnerable women and youth to rapidly access income-generating opportunities.

2.2. School Education for Children

South Sudan faced one of the world's lowest school enrollment rates, compounded by severe teacher shortages and conflict-related disruptions. In response, DMI worked to bridge learning gaps and create safe, child-friendly learning environments for marginalized and conflict-affected children.

Objectives:

- Improve access to inclusive, quality primary education for children in both DMI-managed and community-supported schools.
- Strengthen school systems through teacher development, improved infrastructure, and active community engagement to enhance learning outcomes.

Strategies Adopted

DMI-Managed Schools

DMI operated four schools in Juba, Kodok, and Gogrial, serving marginalized and war-affected children:

- IDP School – Juba
- St. Joseph Global School – Juba
- St. Joseph School – Kodok
- Mother Virgin School – Gogrial

Total students served: 1,935 (Nursery to Primary 8)

Community-managed Schools:

DMI supported three community-managed schools, ensuring access to quality learning for an additional 1,965 children.

Quality Improvement Measures

- Provided teacher training and ongoing pedagogical support
- Improved school infrastructure and supplied essential learning materials
- Distributed student uniforms to promote attendance and dignity
- Activated School Management Committees (SMCs), PTAs, and parents' clubs to strengthen.



- community participation and accountability
- Established school gardens to support nutrition education and practical learning

Together, these interventions enabled the provision of child-friendly, inclusive, and equitable primary education in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

3. Women empowerment (WE)

- 4,688 women engage in saving & lending practice adhering to VSLA concept
- Trained 1,065 women on micro business plans and effective business management
- 534 women earn an average profit of SSP 120,000 (26 \$) SSP per week by doing micro business
- 480 GBV survivors overcame their trauma and moving towards self-reliance
- Trained 182 women & youth members in micro business (beads making, embroidery, catering soap liquid and bar soap and sandal making)



3. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT (WE)

Women in South Sudan experienced compounded vulnerabilities arising from prolonged conflict, displacement, poverty, and deeply rooted gender inequalities. Limited access to education and livelihoods, combined with high exposure to gender-based violence (GBV), restricted women's economic participation, safety, and decision-making power at household and community levels. In this context, DMI's Women Empowerment program focused on strengthening economic resilience, social empowerment, and GBV prevention and response systems, enabling women to rebuild their lives with dignity and agency.

Through integrated economic and protection-focused interventions, the program enhanced women's financial independence, increased awareness of rights and protection mechanisms, and improved access to essential services.

Objectives

- Strengthen economic resilience through VSLAs, livelihood skills, and micro-enterprise support.
- Enhance GBV prevention, awareness, and survivor support mechanisms to improve safety and dignity.

Strategies Adopted

- **Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs):** DMI supported 185 VSLA groups across three states. These groups functioned as community-based platforms for savings, access to small loans, financial literacy, and collective resilience, enabling women to meet household needs, invest in livelihoods, and cope with economic shocks.
- **Economic Empowerment:** Women participated in short-term vocational skills training, business development mentoring, and basic record-keeping sessions. These interventions supported income diversification, strengthened



micro-enterprise management, and increased women's confidence and economic decision-making within their households and communities.

GBV Prevention & Response:

- Conducted community-based awareness and prevention education to challenge harmful norms and promote women's rights.
- Delivered transformative life-skills training to strengthen women's self-esteem, negotiation skills, and leadership capacity.
- Distributed dignity kits and provided survivor-centered case management.
- Facilitated referrals to medical, legal, psychosocial, and protection services to ensure timely and coordinated support for GBV survivors

4. Humanitarian Assistance (HA)

- Food ration distribution to 1,800 most vulnerable HHs during lean season
- Constructed 15 flood prevention structures, 20 Km roads & 24 bridges over water crossing points using Cash-for-work program
- 150 Returnees (from Sudan) households supported with temporary shelters and NFIs
- 250 tons of construction & NFI materials transported free of cost through WFP barge service on the Nile river – (3 times)

4. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (HA)

Communities in Upper Nile and other conflict-affected regions of South Sudan continued to face acute humanitarian needs driven by armed conflict, recurrent flooding, large-scale displacement, returnee movements from Sudan, and economic collapse. These overlapping crises severely disrupted food systems, access to clean water, shelter, and basic services, leaving women, children, returnees, and internally displaced households at heightened risk of hunger, disease, and protection concerns.

In response, DMI delivered timely, lifesaving humanitarian assistance while intentionally linking emergency support to early recovery and resilience-building. Guided by humanitarian principles and community engagement, DMI's interventions addressed immediate survival needs and supported vulnerable households to stabilize, recover dignity, and rebuild pathways toward self-reliance.

Objectives

- Provide lifesaving food, water, and non-food assistance to vulnerable households and returnees.
- Support early recovery through cash-for-work, protection interventions, and improved access to safe drinking water.





Wars are getting longer, they are more complex, and the humanitarian need is great.

Peter Maurer



Strategies Adopted

- **Food Assistance:** DMI provided food assistance to 1,800 households classified in IPC Phases 3 and 4, helping prevent hunger, reduce malnutrition risks, and limit the use of negative coping strategies among highly vulnerable families.
- **Cash-for-Work:** Cash-for-work activities were implemented to improve immediate food access while supporting early livelihood recovery. These activities enabled households to earn income, restore dignity, and contribute to the rehabilitation of community assets.
- **Safe Water Access:** DMI improved access to safe drinking water by ensuring water points were available within 500 meters for targeted communities, reducing the burden on women and children and lowering the risk of waterborne diseases.
- **Protection for Women and Girls:** Protection interventions focused on improving safety, dignity, and access to essential services for women and girls, particularly in displacement and returnee settings, through referrals, awareness, and coordinated support.
- **Returnee Support:** DMI supported newly arrived returnee families from Sudan by providing 150 temporary shelters and essential non-food items (NFIs), enabling households to meet basic needs, regain stability, and begin the process of reintegration.

Together, these humanitarian interventions contributed to saving lives, protecting dignity, and strengthening the foundations for recovery in some of the most fragile and crisis-affected communities in South Sudan.

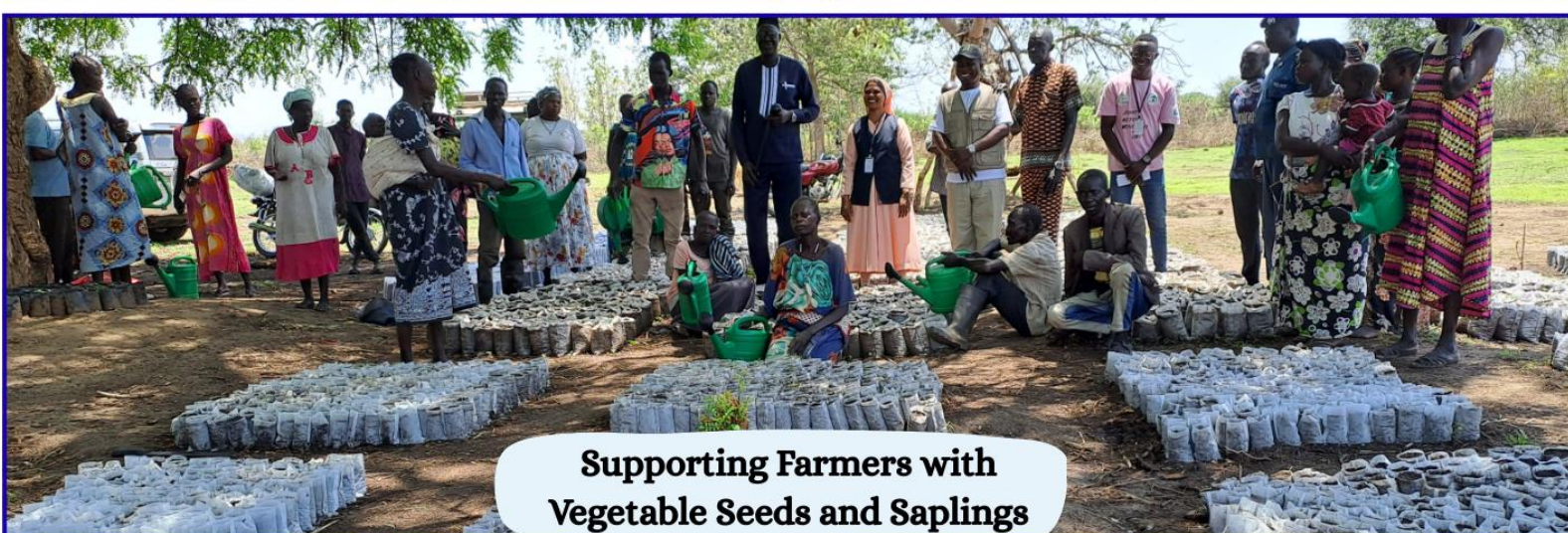


PROGRAM ALBUM

FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOOD



**Sustainable Agriculture
Training**



**Supporting Farmers with
Vegetable Seeds and Saplings**



**Support for Diversified Crop
and Vegetable Cultivation**



**Promotion of Good
Agricultural Practices (GAP)**



VOCATIONAL SKILL TRAINING FOR YOUTH



**Tailoring Skill Training
for Young Women**



**Electrical & Plumbing Skills
for IDP Youth**



**Life Skills Education
for Youth**



Beautician Training for Youth



Developing Leadership Skills

EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN



Educational Kits for Internally Displaced Children



School-Based Talent Show for Children



School Opening Ceremony



School Agriculture Program

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



VSLA Training for Women



Entrepreneurship Skills for Women



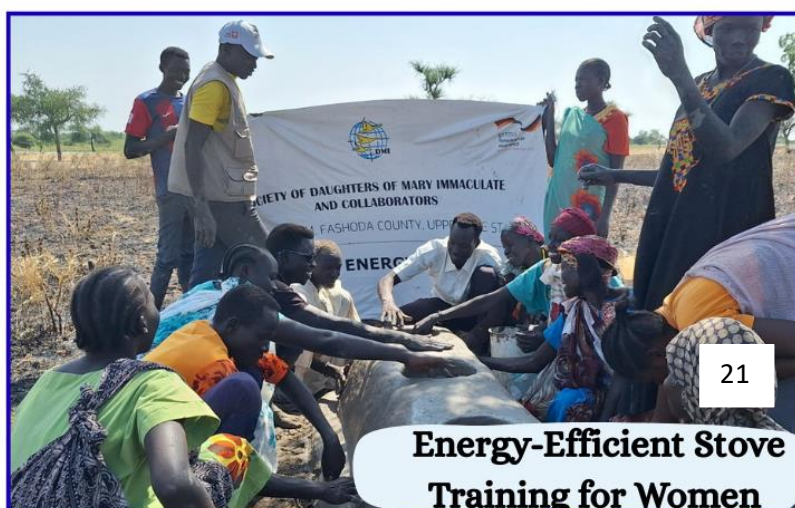
Women's Counselling & Support Sessions



GBV Awareness & Community Engagement



Dignity Kit Distribution for Women

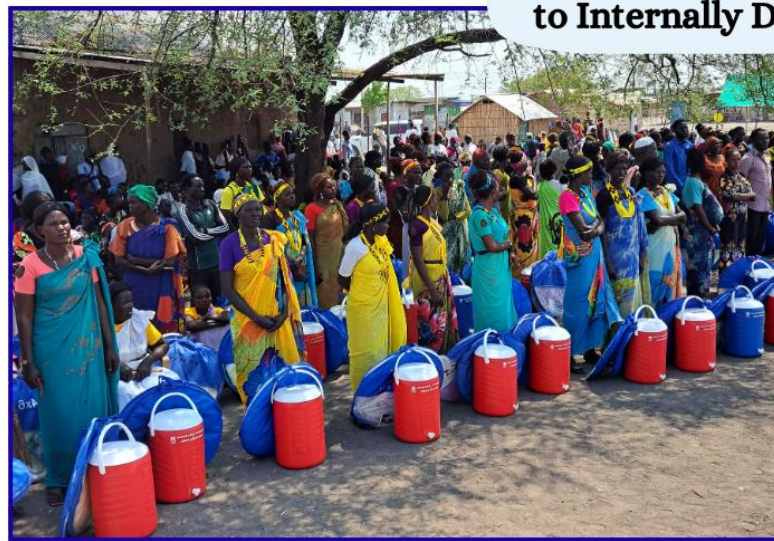


Energy-Efficient Stove Training for Women

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



**Provision of Food & Non-Food Items
to Internally Displaced Families**



**Distribution of Water
Container & Solar Lamp**



**Shelter Construction for
Displaced & Homeless Families**



CELEBRATIONS & ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



**International Peace Day
Celebration**



**Graduation Ceremony for
Certified Youths**



**Workshop for
Country Team**



**Visit by
Manos Unidas Team**



**Visit by
Caritas Team**

Story – 01: “Farming is Elixir of Life” – The Journey of Mrs. Mama Regina



Mama Regina Lumet lives in Jenglei Village and is a single mother caring for her five children. She is a smallholder farmer cultivating one feddan (1.04 acres) of land. Although a tributary of the Nile River passes through her village, providing year-round water access, Regina practiced only subsistence farming. Her farm produced very low yields, insufficient even for

household consumption, leading to persistent food insecurity. Over time, repeated crop failures caused her to lose hope and believe her farmland was unproductive.

Despite having access to water, Regina lacked knowledge of improved farming methods, access to inputs, and financial resources. Her subsistence farming could not meet her family's food needs, and the struggle for daily meals intensified. As a single mother, the pressure of providing for five children made the situation even more challenging, leaving her discouraged and uncertain about her future.

Regina's situation began to change when she joined a farmers' association in her village supported by the DMI Sisters. Through the group, she received training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and participated in Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) activities. She developed a strong habit of weekly savings and accessed loans, which she invested directly into farming. Applying the newly learned techniques such as proper spacing, pest control, mulching, and post-harvest management she improved her vegetable production. Access to a shared irrigation pump provided to the group enabled her to irrigate her garden regularly and cultivate vegetables four production cycles in 2025. She also used the group's cargo tri-cycle to transport surplus produce to markets.

With improved practices and access to irrigation, Regina's farm productivity increased significantly. She sold 126 kg of okra and 300 kg of eggplant, followed by 486 kg of okra and 245 kg of eggplant, earning a total of 1,220,000 SSP (USD 283). Her household food security improved, and she now earns a regular income from her farm. Regina's transition from subsistence farming to market-oriented agriculture has strengthened her family's livelihood and resilience.

Regina expresses her heartfelt gratitude to the DMI Sisters and staff team for their continuous guidance, training, and support. She proudly shares that her family now eats what they grow and sells what they produce, and she stands confident as a farmer practicing sustainable, market-based agriculture.

Innovations that are guided by smallholder farmers, adapted to local circumstances, and sustainable for the economy and environment will be necessary to ensure food security in the future.

Story – 02: “Combating Poverty with Micro Business” – The Journey of Mrs. Lona Bate



Mrs. Lona Bate is a 54-year-old woman living in Kapuri Hai-Gezera Residential Area. She is a single mother who depends on farming for her livelihood while carrying full responsibility for her

As a single mother relying on subsistence farming, Mrs. Lona faced continuous financial pressure. Her income was unstable and insufficient to meet household needs. Balancing family responsibilities with community leadership left her with limited opportunities to improve her economic situation, keeping her family vulnerable to poverty.

In 2025, Mrs. Lona joined the Yenet VSLA Group supported by the DMI team. She began saving regularly on a weekly basis and received motivation and guidance from DMI to start a micro business. Using a simple business assessment tool developed by DMI, she identified a viable enterprise and carefully planned her venture by assessing capital needs, equipment, business location, and target customers. She accessed a VSLA loan of SSP 250,000 (USD 60), which she invested fully as start-up capital to purchase a local oven, vessels, and containers.

Mrs. Lona started her micro business by baking bread and later expanded into producing groundnut (G-nuts) paste using the oven. Her business quickly became profitable, generating an average income of SSP 300,000 (USD 72) per week. Encouraged by the success, she took a second loan after three months to expand the business further. Today, after meeting all expenses, she earns an average profit of USD 100 per week and employs two members of her VSLA group. Her business is now the main source of income for her household and has brought significant social and economic change to her family.

Mrs. Lona expresses her sincere appreciation to the DMI Sisters and staff for their guidance, training, and encouragement. Inspired by her success, seven members of her VSLA group have started their own micro businesses. She proudly supports and mentors her fellow group members whenever needed, contributing to collective growth and community empowerment.

Story – 03: “A Journey from Struggle to Hope” – The Journey of Mrs. Mary Nyanguon Koang



Mrs. Mary Nyanguon Koang Lam hails from Bentiu, Unity State, South Sudan. She is a single mother of six children. Due to ongoing conflict and instability, her family was forced to flee their home and seek safety in IDP Camp-3, Juba, leaving behind their livelihoods and possessions in order to survive.

Upon arriving at the IDP camp, Mary had no relatives or support system. Life in the camp was extremely harsh, with severe food shortages and uncertainty. Many of days, her children went to bed hungry, surviving only on water. Meeting

basic survival needs were a daily struggle, and providing education for her children felt like an impossible dream. As a mother, witnessing her children suffer caused her deep emotional pain and despair.

During this period of crisis, Mary learned about the emergency education services provided by the DMI Sisters. When she approached them, the Sisters and teachers welcomed all six of her children into the DMI School. Despite the challenging environment, her children were given access to safe, consistent, and quality education. The DMI team continued to support the children's learning journey with care and commitment, ensuring continuity in their education despite displacement.

Today, three of Mary's children have completed Primary 8 one has completed university education and two are currently in secondary school while the remaining three are studying in Primary 6. One of her daughters, who completed university, is now employed and earns a decent salary, supporting the family. Education has brought stability, dignity, and renewed hope to Mary's household, transforming their future in ways she once thought impossible.

Mary Nyanguon expresses her heartfelt gratitude to the DMI Sisters and teachers for their continuous support during her family's darkest times. She shares that education has become a source of strength and hope for her children and herself, bringing light into their lives when everything seemed lost.



The war is for the family. The battle for their children's education and their grandchildren's freedom is as real to them as if they could witness the clangs of bayonets on the field or hear the blasts of mortars in the harbor.

female lawyers.

Ms. Poni called for more involvement of female lawyers in all aspects of the transition, including the police reforms and constitutional-making process, stressing the need for space to voice their concerns and contributions.

She also noted FIDA's recent

inclusion.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Graham Maitland Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, highlighted the importance of a new document to be developed during the workshop.

He said the document would strengthen the contribution of wom-

men.

However, Mr. Graham noted persistent challenges, including the failure to meet the 35% women's quota, institutional and cultural barriers, and widespread gender-based violence.

Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Joseph Malek

imperative.

Arop highlighted the unique contributions of women in the legal field, noting their lived experiences and professional insights as critical to building inclusive institutions and advancing justice. He stated that women's participation is essential in

ing as a catalyst for action and a platform for reflection on both progress made and challenges ahead.

Over 90 students graduate from St. Joseph's Vocational Training Centre

By Chuol Chanyong

The Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI) has graduated 97 young men and women who completed a three-month vocational training program in Juba on Wednesday.

The trainees acquired practical skills in construction, plumbing, electricity, tailoring, and hairdressing. The training was supported by Stornu Foundation and the Spanish organization Manaseta.

Speaking at the graduation ceremony, the Director of the national Directorate of Vocational Training, Mr. Ben Valgo, said

vocational skills are the true weapon for nation-building.

"We are tired of carrying guns that bring destruction. Let this training be your new 'kalashnikov' that spreads life, work, and productivity."

Meanwhile, the Indian Ambassador to South Sudan, Anil Nautiyal, congratulated the graduates and invited them to visit the Indian Embassy to benefit from India's capacity-building and training programs.

"Now you know how to fish; you were not given the fish. Share what you have learned with your communities and make these skills a way of life."

Mr. Malish John Peter, a representative from Stornu Foundation, expressed appreciation in the government, emphasizing that their main role is to support such national institutions.

"The outcomes of this training are not only for Stornu Foundation but also for the Government and people of South Sudan. When we train young people who later contribute to rebuilding the country, it is the real gift we offer to this nation."

One of the graduates, Mrs. Sarah Lana, a mother of three from the beauty and hairdressing department, shared her gratitude, saying, "Before this training, I knew little about hair styling, but now I can create many different hairstyles and braids. I learned to manage a salon, I'm proud that I can now earn my own income and support my family."

Education and skill development are among the five strategic pillars of The Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI) mission in South Sudan.

Since the establishment of the St. Joseph Vocational Training Center seven years ago, the organization has trained more than 1,000 young people and women in nine different trades, including tailoring, plumbing, construction, electricity, basic computer skills, driving, and motorcycle repair.

This year, the DMI also launched a community-based training model in two villages, bringing vocational learning closer to youth in rural areas, making programs more accessible, cost-effective, and impactful.

About 25% of the graduates have already secured jobs, while others have started small businesses with initial support from the organization.

DMI continues to monitor its graduates to ensure that no youth is left behind on their journey toward economic independence.

In her closing remarks, the Country Director of The Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI), Rev. Sister Mary, said, "Today is not the end, it's a new beginning. You are not just receiving certificates; you carry hope for your families, inspiration for your peers, and skills that will help build our

Christian organization conducts expo to showcase agricultural potential

by Ajah Jennifer

The Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate and its collaborators conducted an agricultural exhibition yesterday to showcase agricultural potential in the Luri and Ladu ayam of Juba.

The exhibition was conducted just moments after the organization launched a development programme to empower local farmers to boost reliance on agriculture and better livelihoods. Under the theme, "Eat What We Grow", the exhibition aimed at promoting and commercializing agriculture, to cultivate peaceful coexistence in the communities.

Sister Rengis Mary, the country Director for the Christian Society said the program was started in South Sudan in 2012, with the aim



Women showcase their farm produce at the agricultural exhibition. (Photo: Courtesy)

of promoting food security in Juba counties of Kapuri, Ladu and Luri. Farmers have been the beneficiaries during the nine years.

"Several trainings were conducted to educate farmers on sustainable agriculture and fisheries, as well as marketing of their products by providing transportation for goods to the market. Grinding Mills were also provided to farmers as well as a raksha for transporting bee hives, irrigation systems along the river and trucks to plough farm lands," Sr. Mary said, adding that farmers were challenged to put in more effort to increase productivity and reduce reliance on exported food.

Ajo Samuel, Director General at the Ministry of Agriculture, said the country is capable of sustaining itself through local agricultural production.

"The government is in support of the program. We also welcome the statement from the Governor urging for the formation of a

cooperative society to boost the commercialization of agriculture and the fisheries sector, he said.

On his part, Kwaje Saratino, a Director for Agriculture in Juba County, called on farmers to maximize the opportunity the program offers and embrace climate-resilient agriculture, among other adaptive farming techniques.

Chief of Ladu Payam, Steven wani, expressed his gratitude to the Society, saying it has improved the lives of his people due to the various training and engagement programs in the community. He stated that with the support, the community is poised for economic liberation.

The exhibitions showcased various farmers' produce, including maize, onions, honey, fish, poultry and livestock.

Religious sisters add voice on calls to end child, forced marriages

Chuol Chanyong

The religious sisters of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate (MI) have joined the calls to end early and forced marriage among the communities in South Sudan.

The nuns made the call on Tuesday at the International women's Day celebration at the protection of civilian sites (PoC 3) in Juba.

They stressed on the importance of empowering girls through education.

Speaking at the event, Rev SR. Rengis Mary said, "Women IDP Camps should start saying no child marriage, no forced marriage, and no early marriage."

"Allow your young girls to get education and open their mind and heart to educate them," she said.

The celebration at the PoC witnessed a wide participation women and children, as the issues of gender-based violence (GBV) and the importance of empowering women in society are highlighted.

The religious organization stressed on the need to take strict measures against the perpetrators of violence, and to



A group of women at the PoC 3 in Juba during International Women's Day organized by Daughters of Mary Immaculate. (Photo: Courtesy)

support the rights of women and children in education, health and protection.

For his part, Ayeko Wani Angustino the Director of Women, Child and Social Welfare in Central Equatoria State Ministry of Gender, stressed the commitment to standing with the

Daughters of Mary Immaculate.

"International Women's Day is a reminder of the strength of women and their abilities to change," she said.

"We appreciate the great work that DMI is doing in IDPs camps, it's not just here, and it's for the whole Central Equatoria State. We are committed to standing behind the organization to ensure women and children obtain their full rights, including education, health and protection from violence."

George Puoth Toch, a Project Coordinator for the IDPs camp, highlighted the importance of the campaign.

"The campaign is aiming to unite communities and families, to ensure that men stop abusing women, and respect women and children," he stated.

He urged the government to take tough action against perpetrators and empower young women and children.

Since 2014, the Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI) has been actively empowering women and children in the IDP camps. It has implemented numerous programs aimed at addressing critical issues such as Gender-Based Violence (GBV), by raising awareness and empowering women through various training skills.

OUR PARTNERS AND COUNTRY TEAM

With the support of our partners, we are strengthening vulnerable communities across South Sudan.



OUR TEAM



FINANCIAL STATEMENT-2025

(UNAUDITED)

Details	Receipts in USD	Payments in USD	Balances as of December, 2025
Opening balance as of January 1 st 2025	291,679	254,250	37,429
Total Receipts from DMI & Payments from that fund	50,000	50,000	0
Total Receipts from all donors and payments from that fund	2,097,222	2,088,801	8,421
Total Receipts from in-country donation/fee/sale and other minor incomes	25,000	15,600	9,400
Total (USD)	2,463,901	2,408,651	55,250

Responsibility equals accountability
equals ownership. And a sense of
ownership is the most powerful weapon
a team or organization can have.

Pat Summitt



ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2026

1. Food security & livelihood promotion

- 614 smallholder farmers will be supported to enhance their market- based agriculture
- 4 smallholders' farmer's federations will be strengthened to effectively manage the inputs (Cargo- Tri- Cycle, Grinding mill, irrigation pump and beehives)
- 20 small holder farmers' association members will be trained on climate smart agriculture & Good agriculture practice
- 13 smallholder farmers' associations will be supported with one additional irrigation pump
- 25 farmers will be provided beehives after the intensive training on beekeeping practice and marketing
- 250 smallholder farmers will be supported with tractor services to blow the farm lands

2. Vocational & General education

- 2,150 children will be supported to access quality education from Nursery to Primary-8 by four DMI managed schools (Juba, Kodok& Gogrial)
- Quality education will be accessed by 2,050 Children studying in three DMI supported community-based schools in Juba
- Community ownership for DMI managed and supported schools will be ensured by strengthening PTAs in each schools.
- Improved life skills trainings for 8 school based adolescent clubs with 342 members and 9 community based adolescent clubs with 284 members
- Employable opportunity will be ensured for 85 youths by training them on 4 types of vocational skills.

3. Women empowerment

- 4,688 women members will be supported on VSLA practice (Membership, saving, book keeping, loan management)
- 850 women member's income will be increased by training them on Micro business management
- 200 GBV survivors will be supported with counselling and referral services (medical, legal & protection)
- 15 women groups will be promoted to safeguard child rights through working with Camp management committee and Zonal leaders at IDP camp-3

4. Humanitarian assistance

- Creation of 15 flood prevention structures in villages using cash for work through cash for work program
- 89 returnees' households will be ensured the safe and secure living by constructing houses (44 Temporary house + 45 semi-permanent house)
- 1,000 HHs will be supported with solar lamp & 550 HHs will be supported with water container (20 Litres)

FINANCIAL PLAN FOR 2026

Programme	Proposed Budget - \$	Expected Donor commitments - \$	Fund to be Mobilized - \$
Humanitarian Assistance	8,77,000	4,77,000	4,00,000
Women Development Programme	2,02,000	80,000	1,22,000
Food Security & Livelihood Program	2,20,000	20,000	2,00,000
Vocational Training & General Education	3,82,000	3,82,000	--
Construction of Schools	1,00,000	42,000	58,000
School Income	1,85,000	--	1,85,000
Total budget in USD	19,66,000	10,01,000	9,65,000



CONCLUSION

Despite operating in a highly fragile and complex context marked by conflict, displacement, climatic shocks, and economic instability, DMI's South Sudan Program made meaningful progress in restoring dignity, strengthening resilience, and supporting recovery among vulnerable communities. Through an integrated approach encompassing food security and livelihoods, education, women's empowerment, and humanitarian assistance, DMI reached conflict-affected families with lifesaving support while laying foundations for long-term stability and self-reliance. Community-based structures, particularly farmer associations, schools, VSLAs, and youth training centers, proved critical in enhancing ownership, sustainability, and impact.

Looking ahead, DMI will deepen its humanitarian–development–peace nexus approach, strengthening the transition from emergency response to early recovery and sustainable development. Priority will be given to scaling climate-smart and market-oriented livelihoods, expanding youth skills training linked to local market demand, strengthening education quality and retention, and further integrating women's economic empowerment with GBV prevention and protection services. DMI will also enhance partnerships with government institutions, local actors, and humanitarian clusters to improve coordination, accountability, and reach. By investing in community resilience, local capacity, and inclusive systems, DMI aims to support South Sudanese communities to better withstand future shocks and advance toward peaceful, dignified, and self-reliant futures.





DMI MISSION SOUTH SUDAN

(SOCIETY OF DAUGHTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE & COLLABORATORS)

Gurei, Juba, South Sudan