



UNMISS NEWS

United Nations Mission in South Sudan

SRSR supports the launch of “Back to Learning Campaign”



SRSR Ellen Margrethe Loej
UNMISS Photo / JC McIlwaine

The ‘Back to Learning’ campaign was launched by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the President of South Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit, to reach out to school children in all ten states, including areas currently engulfed in conflict.

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNMISS Ms. Ellen Margrethe Loej said during the launch “I am deeply concerned that the education of a generation of children is being badly affected by the ongoing conflict occurring in an already fragile education situation.

The war has effectively ended learning for some 400,000 children and adolescents across the country, bringing the total number of children out of school to 1.4 million”, SRSR Loej continued. “This initiative is just the start and a vital necessity. I must also bring to your attention the dreadful fact that 70% of the 1,200 schools in the major conflict-affected states are closed, forcing children out of education. This is unacceptable”.

The SRSR called on all parties to open schools, help the pupils to go back to their studies, and ensure that all children everywhere

throughout the country have equal access to, and benefit from, the education and social resources of the Government of South Sudan.

The Back to Learning Initiative will target all ten states and provide tailored education support to children in both conflict and non-conflict affected areas.

As part of the USD 42 million campaign, UNICEF has partnered with 20 local and international non-governmental organizations and aims to reach 200,000 children in schools and learning spaces in conflict zones.

An additional 200,000 children will be enrolled in 1,000 schools in non-conflict areas. Training will also be provided for 4,000 teachers and early childhood development facilitators, as well as 1,500 Parent Teacher Association members.



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Canadian contingent education initiative in South Sudan



First graduating class of eight students
UNMISS Photo / Major Chris Lindsay

Canadian Armed Forces are not only deployed in South Sudan as peacekeepers, but they are leading the way with valuable initiatives that promise to have a great impact long after their mission ends. One of the most promising of these initiatives is the Canada House Business School where forty-eight new students are learning basic computer skills which they can use to improve their lives. From starting small, the military members enrolled eight students in a fledgling school focused on teaching them Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and basic accounting skills.

They worked on old outdated computers during evenings and weekends. The popularity of the school took off. Soldiers gave personal donations and approached their families to help raising money. Eventually ten brand new computers loaded with up-to-date software were bought. The school rapidly expanded and now has forty-eight students, most of whom have never used a computer before. A full time teacher was hired and there are plans to expand to 96 Students within a month.

UNMISS provides water system for thousands in Magwi

“We hope other organizations will come in to do similar projects in the other payams of the Magwi county”

Easing a severe water shortage in Magwi, Eastern Equatoria State, UNMISS handed over a USD 60,000 pipe-born water facility to the town. The solar-powered water system, expected to serve over 1,500 households, was built with funds from UNMISS Quick Impact Projects (QIPS). “We hope that this new facility

will help make life a lot easier for the people, especially women and girls who walk to far away streams and on unsafe paths to fetch water on a daily basis,” said UNMISS Eastern Equatoria State Coordinator Ms. Hiroko Hirahara.

Magwi County Executive Director Osuru Atana said, “we hope other organizations will come in to do similar project in other payams of the Magwi County.”



UNMISS provides water in Magwi
UNMISS Photo/ Edward Kargbo

UNMISS chief SRSG Loej and US Charge D’Affaires Twining visits Malakal



SRSG Loej, with U.S. Charge D’Affaires, Charles Twining, the Mongolian commander of UNMISS peacekeepers in Sector North Brig. Gen. Bayarsaikhan Dashdondog and UNMISS State Coordinator Deborah Schein
UNMISS Photo/ JC McIlwaine

As part of her plans to regularly tour UNMISS bases and Protection of Civilians Sites around South Sudan, SRSG Loej and the U.S. Charge D’Affaires Charles Twining visited the Upper Nile state capital Malakal on 10 March. During the visit SRSG Loej and Ambassador Twining met with the Upper Nile Deputy Governor Gwinye Philip Chan and ministers of the state government to discuss reports of the continuing recruitment of child soldiers in the state, as well as other

issues of concern. The SRSG and the U.S. Envoy also visited the UNMISS PoC site which host over 21,000 civilians and met with community leaders.

In February the SRSG was in Bor where she visited the Sri Lanka hospital at the mission’s base and attended the Ethiopian medal parade in Bor. She commended medical personnel for treating 1,360 patients since the facility was inaugurated in June 2014.

UNMISS welcome Chinese peacekeeping infantry battalion



Chinese peacekeeping infantry battalion

UNMISS Photo / JC McIlwaine

In support of the UN Security Council Resolution 2155 to strengthen the military presence of peacekeepers with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS); one hundred and forty-four members of a Chinese peacekeeping infantry battalion have been deployed to join UNMISS.

This is the first time China deploys an entire infantry battalion with professional skills in hydroelectric, infantry, mechanized infantry, engineering and others. On 27 February Chinese elements joined

UNMISS in Juba to protect PoC sites, UN personnel and facilities.

The infantry battalion will also conduct humanitarian rescue operations and help the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in its supervisory and inspection mission. An additional five hundred and twenty peacekeepers are still scheduled to arrive after the Chinese peacekeeping camp is established.

“The road is strategically linking the protection sites with the town and airport”

Indian peacekeepers build new roads to assist Malakal IDPs

The Indian Engineering Contingent has begun building new roads from Malakal town and the airport from the protection site. This will boost the delivery of humanitarian aid to civilians at the Malakal UNMISS base in Upper Nile State. “The road is strategically linking the protection site with the town and airport,” said Major R.V. Krishnan, the project supervisor. “During the rainy season, roads are completely flooded.

This will help the civilians to receive assistance during the rainy season.”

Major Krishnan also stated that the 1.6 kilometer road would ease transport for other residents of Malakal, especially traders moving goods in and out of town. The Indians are also linking the drainage system within the protection site to the outside drainage.



New roads to assist Malakal IDPs
UNMISS Photo / Nyang Touch

UNMISS conducts peace conference in Jonglei



Peace conference in Jonglei
UNMISS Photo / Malish Nemaya

UNMISS concluded a workshop in Bor aiming to promote peace and encourage ways of resolving conflict through dialogue among people in Jonglei State. Over 40 participants from different ethnicities attended the three-day forum on peace management including representatives from the government, youth groups and civil society.

They were given the opportunity to learn about the role of UNMISS. The UNMISS State Coordinator Ms. Hazel De Wet said it was vital for participants to voice opinions about the mission’s mandate and also share with trainers how dialogue can achieve lasting peace in the state. Ms. De Wet explained that feedback from participants

was important, as it would help mission officials to better understand people’s feelings and find solutions to problems in communities.

“It is important that after this kind of forum, you are able to help us explain our mandate to the communities, and what is expected from UNMISS,” she concluded.

Photo of the month



Back to Learning Campaign
UNMISS Photo / JC McIlwaine

CLICK THE LINKS

PHOTO

Arrival of Chinese peacekeepers:

UNMISS facebook gallery:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.798245526917787.1073742381.1608395273250.60&type=1>

<http://everadio.org/chinese-peacekeepers-arrive-juba/>

Japanese peacekeepers celebrate contingent day

UNMISS facebook gallery:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.798729796869360.1073742383.1608395273250.60&type=1>

UNPOL search in POC 1:

UNMISS facebook gallery:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.795463803862626.1073742379.1608395273250.60&type=1>

FLICKR GALLERY

Arrival of Chinese peacekeepers:

UNMISS flickr album:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unmissmultimedia/sets/72157651055344472/>

VIDEO

Education: Margaret Tabu : IWD Message UNMISS

<http://bit.ly/1w15pPV>

Dropbox Link: https://www.dropbox.com/s/mhu38rs8jryo6l2/Tabu_Education_IWD.mp4?dl=0

Female Role Models: Sam & Anges IWD

Message UNMISS

<http://bit.ly/1F9FBLU>

Dropbox Link: https://www.dropbox.com/s/t83aj3h9cl22eyu/Sam_Agnes_IWD_Final.mp4?dl=0

Economic Empowerment : Alice of LuLu Life: IWD

Message UNMISS

<http://bit.ly/18PhkRw>

Dropbox Link: https://www.dropbox.com/s/i8v7n1s1x914de/FINAL_LULU_LIFE_IWD.mp4?dl=0

WEBSITE

Torit secondary school students learn to prevent crime

<http://bit.ly/1wDfsWD>

Lack of leadership threatens South Sudan peace, warns

UN official

<http://bit.ly/1Ave8zG>

WEBSITE

Polio campaign targeting millions launched in Malakal

<http://bit.ly/17JZgqw>

Partners expanding UNMISS protection site in Bentiu

<http://bit.ly/1GawYUX>

UNMISS organizes village debate in Bunj, Upper Nile State

<http://bit.ly/1BPsJNL>

UNMISS conducts peace conference in Jonglei

<http://bit.ly/18g68fk>

Indian peacekeepers build new roads to assist Malakal IDPs

<http://bit.ly/1wDfXQz>

South Sudan launches “Back to Learning Campaign”

<http://bit.ly/1ChXQRD>

UNMISS provides water system for thousands in Magwi

<http://bit.ly/1BPt0QR>

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