



Press release
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Casting Hope: 1,351 fishing nets delivered to strengthen livelihoods in Lakes and Jonglei

Juba - South Sudan.— In a major step towards strengthening climate resilience and restoring livelihoods, the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, in partnership with the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), has successfully distributed 1,351 fishing nets to vulnerable households in Lakes and Jonglei States today.

The distribution is part of the Rehabilitation of Flood Mitigation and Flood Control Infrastructure Project funded by the World Bank, streamlined to the Regional Climate Resilience Program (RCRP) for Eastern and Southern Africa, which is being implemented to address the escalating impacts of climate change—particularly flooding—on communities, infrastructure, and livelihoods across South Sudan.

Targeting some of the most flood-affected and vulnerable populations, the initiative directly supports 222 households, benefiting approximately 1,332 individuals across seven counties in Lakes and Jonglei states.

Mr. Andrew Yunda Stephen, RCRP Project Coordinator at the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, emphasized the importance of the intervention:

“The provision of fishing nets is part of the no-regret interventions planned under the RCRP. It is meant to offer more than immediate relief—it equips communities with sustainable tools to rebuild their livelihoods, improve food security, and adapt to increasingly unpredictable environmental conditions.”

Fishing, as a locally viable and climate-adaptive livelihood, enables households to generate income while utilizing available natural resources.

“This intervention reflects a shift from short-term assistance to long-term resilience,” said UNOPS Country Manager, Mrs Petronella Halwindi. “By empowering communities with practical livelihood assets, we are helping them better withstand and recover from climate shocks.”

The activity forms part of a broader, multi-state resilience programme currently being implemented across Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, and Upper Nile, aimed at enhancing adaptive capacity and reducing disaster vulnerability in flood-prone and refugee-hosting communities.

By combining climate-smart interventions with community-driven approaches, the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation and its partners continue to deliver impactful solutions that promote resilience, dignity, and sustainable development in South Sudan.

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