

New Hope



Diocese of

Bethlehem : Kajo-Keji

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DOB.



Editorial

By Stephen Tomor Kenyi

Microfinance institutions

Microfinance is commonly defined as “financial services for poor and low-income clients who do not have access to other formal financial institutions.” In practice, the term is often used more narrowly to refer to loans and other services from providers that identify themselves as “microfinance institutions” (MFIs). These institutions deliver very small loans to unsalaried borrowers, taking little or no collateral. MFIs deliver loans through group lending and liability, pre-loan savings requirements etc. Typical microfinance clients are usually self-employed, household-based entrepreneurs. Their diverse “microenterprises” include small retail shops, street vending, artisanal manufacture, and service provision. In rural areas, micro entrepreneurs often have small income-generating activities

such as food processing and trading; some but far from all are farmers. More broadly, microfinance refers to a movement that envisions a world in which low-income households have permanent access to a range of high quality financial services to finance their income-producing activities, build assets, stabilize consumption, and protect against risks.

Microfinance helps the poor

If well managed, microfinance can help the poor to increase income, build viable businesses, and reduce their vulnerability to external shocks. It can also be a powerful instrument for self-empowerment by enabling the poor, especially women, to become economic agents of change.

Governments and development agencies often use microfinance as a tool to address socio-economic problems such as relocation of refugees from civil strife, generating employment among demilitarized soldiers, or assistance following a natural disaster. Microfinance may or may not be able to respond to these situations effectively, and certainly not as a stand-alone intervention.

Governments and development agencies are therefore encouraged to use microfinance to alleviate poverty in communities.

A Word from the Bishop.



**By Rt. Rev. Anthony Poggo,
Bishop, Diocese of Kajo-Keji.**

This week we heard the final announcement of the result of the referendum where 98.83% Southern Sudanese voted for secession. The journey to this referendum has been very long with innumerable challenges.

Before the referendum one senior official of the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission (SSRC) was quoted to have said that due to many difficulties, to hold the referendum on 9th January 2011 would be a miracle. We thank God that this miracle did happen; not only was the referendum done on time but it was peaceful and met international standards as affirmed by local and international observers. I believe that this was an answer to the many prayers that were offered in many parts of the world. We thank all those who prayed in Cathedrals, churches, chapels, fellowships, schools and in homes. God heard these prayers and gave us a peaceful referendum whose outcome was accepted by the two partners who signed the

Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). Someone said that every answer to prayer is a miracle as we cannot answer our own prayers.

There are still many issues that need to be agreed upon before the 9th July 2011, the day when the new independent nation will begin. These issues include Abyei, citizenship, Sudan's foreign debt, how to share the oil revenues, the boundary between the North and the South will be agreed upon. Please pray for those who are negotiating on these issues.

As we prepare ourselves for this new nation, expectations are still very high from Southern Sudanese. Pray for our leaders so that God will grant them the needed wisdom to lead South Sudan and that peace will prevail.

In Kajo-Keji, we are making good progress on the construction of our Cathedral. We plan to have it completed by the end of March so that we can have a dedication service on the 10th April 2011. Although we have now received over 74% of the money needed, we still have a shortfall of close to US\$ 30,000. Pray that the funds will be available before April and that those who made pledges will honour their pledges by then.

Thank you very much for your prayers and partnership in the ministry.

New Hope is surely getting there.

By Stephen Tomor Kenyi

When New Hope started, it had a target to build in Canon Benaiah Poggo College:

- Two blocks of student dormitories,
- Three blocks(three units each) of married students' houses – these are now used as staff houses due to lack of staff housing,
- A library block,
- An administration block,
- A classroom block (four classrooms),
- The college kitchen/dining hall
- The bishop's house is built as part of the college construction project

This is now done. On the school constructions, New Hope had a target to build five primary schools and a secondary school.

The start of school construction in Dwani and the secondary school in Romogi will bring New Hope to the conclusion of college and school construction projects.

Whatever lies ahead, New Hope is leaving it to the Lord's hand.



Dwani Primary school construction starts

FUNDRAISING FOR EMMANUEL CATHEDRAL CONSTRUCTION.

By Maziina Fred

One of the main activities of the Diocese of Kajo-Keji in 2010 was raising of funds for the Cathedral. We had two fundraising events in March and November 2010. The fundraising of the 21st November 2010 was attended by hundreds of well-wishers and friends from Kajo-Keji and others parts of the Sudan. We appreciate the presence and participation of the government delegation from the Central Equatoria State led by H.E. Major General Clement Wani Konga, the Governor of the Central Equatoria State. He was accompanied by the Hon, Naphtali Hassan Gale, the Speaker of Parliament CES, and a high level delegation of Advisors and Ministers.

We appreciate all those who supported us prayerfully and financially. Our target was to raise the balance of **US\$ 65,000** needed for the completion of the Cathedral

construction. On that day, we raised the equivalent of **US\$ 4,500** in cash. Pledges that we made were totalled to around US\$ 48,000. Pray that the pledges will be honoured as only around US\$ 1,110 from these pledges have been honoured two months later. We are still following up most of the pledges made at the March fund raising event. Even if all these pledges were honoured, we still would need at least US\$ 11,000 to complete the Cathedral.

The Diocese of Kajo-Keji would like to appeal to all the sons and daughters of Kajo-Keji, friends and partners to support and pray for the successful completion of the construction of the cathedral project. Pray that the pledges will be honoured so that the Cathedral construction is completed by April 2011, which is our revised target

date for completion. For more information, please contact us on the Cathedral address below: emcathedralkk@gmail.com or visit our website at www.Kajo-Keji.anglican.org



The Governor addresses participants



Bishop addresses participants

MAF flights makes Diocesan work better

The Diocese of Kajo-Keji has been very pleased with the services of the Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Twice a week MAF has flights from Uganda to Southern Sudan, and also to Kajo-Keji. Bishop Anthony Poggo is one of the 'frequent flyers' with MAF. Why do you like using MAF? Bishop Anthony: "MAF is simply wonderful. They facilitate the travel for some of our Diocesan staff and a lot of our visitors fly in with MAF. It saves a lot of time and energy to use air transport. And when I travel by myself it is often cheaper than going by car especially if it is just one person going on a long trip on our Sudan roads". Also Jacob Haasnoot, tutor at

Canon Benaiah Poggo College, likes to using MAF. Jacob: "For this year I am based in Kampala with my family. It is great that I can fly to Kajo-Keji with MAF to do two weeks of teaching. It wouldn't make much sense to travel for several days by public transport to do a two week visit. Flying is, in my situation, the best option and MAF is a real blessing. Their service is affordable and reliable". Bishop Anthony adds: "MAF often goes the extra mile in order to facilitate my travels and I have really appreciated their help. It is our prayer that God may bless MAF and continue to make them a blessing to others".

CCMP AND THE ENVIROMENT

By: Wudu Ezbon

CCMP Coordinator

Where are we heading with our environment? Are we co-creators or bringing God's creation to an end?

Church and Community Mobilization Process (CCMP) is an integral Mission introduced by the Diocese of Kajo-Keji,

supported by TearFund. The program aims at empowering the Local Churches and communities in Kajo-Keji, awakening them to discover things for themselves e.g. The available Natural resources that we can use to address our needs in our individual families, Churches and communities in a

transformed and holistic manner and have poverty free life.

Environmental Degradation in Kajo-Keji

God intended us to live in conducive environment as Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden. To my dismay, some people in Kajo-Keji have destroyed the natural environment by setting fires to burn the trees, grass and other plants in the forests. This bush fire also heats up the top fertile soil with all its manure that would fertilize the soil for better food yields. There is also massive cutting of trees for brick burning and for timber.



Deforestation for charcoal burning



Wild fire burning hills in Mere Boma.

We promote erosion of the soil by over grazing, brick projects, sand excavation, no running stream, fish and swamps compared to 30 years back.



Environmental Degradation in Karila stream



Displacement of people in Goburi Lire Payam



Over grazing in Goburi village

CCMP ENVIROMENTAL PROTECTION AND RECOVERY STRATEGY.

We encourage people in all communities, individual families and churches to plant trees so as to recover the lost trees and have enough to use for our development activities .We may need to reduce the number of our livestock or develop a better way to care for them so that we can maintain and recover our environment. In regards to the brick and sand excavation for construction and rebuilding of south Sudan, We need to use the land in a better way. We may need to use a specific location within

our Bomas for the brick and sand excavation activities to avoid gully erosion happening in our areas.

We can get tree seedlings in Ariwa-Kiri Nursery bed. This project has various tree seedlings including fruit and non-fruit trees.



Ariwa tree nursery bed project in Kiri Boma –Kajo-Keji County

The war on HIV/AIDS

*By Rev Taban Israel Azaria
Bishop's Chaplain*

The two decades of armed conflict encouraged the spread of HIV/AIDS in Southern Sudan. This now is our biggest war to fight now that we have achieved peace and a new nation. The Diocese of Kajo-Keji ran a holistic HIV/AIDS awareness

programme for two years. This has had to be closed down due to lack of funding. Pray with us that funds will be available for us to continue this valuable ministry. As the rate of HIV infection continues to increase, the church and communities are faced with an increasing number of orphans and aged parents who have to take care of young children.

A Vision Conference in Kajo-Keji

By: Maziina Fred

Stephen Langa from SSA Uganda and Meshack Oduke - from SSA Kenya conducted a Vision Conference in Kajo-keji from 7th to 11th Feb 2011. The conference was attended by over 130 participants from all the parishes of the Diocese of Kajo-keji including some participants from sister dioceses of the Episcopal Church of the Sudan and from other Denominations.

One of the key topics during the Vision Conference was **“DISCIPLING NATIONS”**. This is to ensure that the Church needs to go back to the original mandate given to her by the Lord Jesus Himself “disciple the nations”. That the Church will act deliberately and intentionally in taking the principles of the Kingdom of God in all spheres of life, so that our Lord’s prayer **“...Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven...”**

will not just be a crammed prayer, but will be a reality in the nation. Indeed so ... Testimonies from some of the participants showed that peoples’ minds were opened and the conference left lives of many pastors changed. This shows how they are going to influence other Christians in Churches and communities to change.

The Mission of the Vision Conference is **“The transformation of the African continent through the Church”**

This was a 5-day Vision Conference that was designed specifically for Pastors, the Clergy, Church leaders and Christian leaders in business, education, politics, professionals etc.

It helped to lay the Biblical worldview foundation for the role of the Church, as God’s agent of healing, development and transformation for individuals, families,

communities, and nations, including every sector of society.



Left to right: Mesback Oduke Bishop Anthony and Stephen Langa



Group photo of Vision conference participants



Vision conference participants in the hall.

Our new reader

This is a special word of “Thank you and welcome” to all our new readers”.