



JOINT PRESS RELEASE – PERMANENT TRAINING CENTRE - OVCI

JUBA – SOUTH SUDAN:

A Permanent Training Centre has been built and completed in Juba by OVCI Usratuna, thanks to the sponsorship of the Embassy of Japan in South Sudan, with the aim of organizing upgrading and refreshment training and improving the quality of professional education of the health staff in South Sudan.

Yesterday 25th November 2015 the inauguration ceremony of the Permanent Training Centre took place in Saint Mary's College Compound, Juba, in order to celebrate the opening of a centre which will operate very soon, through a program of upgrading and refreshment training for health staff working in government facilities of Juba County and Central Equatoria State. This initiative started in March 2015, when the Embassy of Japan and OVCI started a collaboration with the common interest of improving the maternal health and reducing the child mortality rate in line with the Millennium Development goals 4 and 5. Japan contributed 350 thousand USD to the OVCI's programme by the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Project. Now, after 8 months since the project started, a Centre properly set for upgrading training of the health staff is ready to be used.

The ceremony has been attended by important guests working for the development of South Sudan: Director General of State Ministry of Health Dr. Paul Tingwa, His Excellence Misahiko Kiya, Ambassador of Japan and President of OVCI Dr. Elio Cerini attended the inauguration ceremony and their speech generated interesting contribution for the development of the activities of the Permanent Training Centre. The event called the attention of important stakeholders who participated to the ceremony and showed their support to OVCI and Embassy of Japan action:

The representatives of State Ministry of Education and State Ministry of Social Welfare attended the ceremony, the Chief of Health of UNICEF Mr. Ketema Bizuneh, important NGOs like AVSI, CBM, CUAMM and the Provost and Deans of Saint Mary's College were present.

Now the construction is completed but the commitment of OVCI is not finished: OVCI will continue to organize upgrading or refreshment training for health staff through an active collaboration with Ministry of Health Central Equatoria State.

The activities of the centre will officially start in 2 weeks when a training on Infant and Young Child Feeding will be implemented for nutritionists and health staff of the facilities of Juba County.

OVCI is also committed in looking for partnership with International Organizations and NGOs in order to increase the number of organizations using the Permanent Training Center for improving the quality of education in South Sudan.

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