Twic East County Commissioner Launches Rehabilitation of Panyagoor Secondary Dyke in Jonglei state

Compiled by Deng Kooch Diing, Twic East County Press Office, Panyagor, Jonglei State

Thursday, 26 September 2024 (PW) -- Twic East authorities, led by County Commissioner Hon. Juach Arok Juach, gathered outside the Education office in Panyagoor to officially launch the extensive renovation of a 12.7-kilometer dyke encircling Panyagoor town, the headquarters of Twic East County.

A high-capacity Caterpillar tractor, operated by the Eritrean company Masola Construction, commenced the renovation today. The project is scheduled to continue for the next 28 days. The primary objective of revitalizing this secondary dyke is to provide a mid-term solution should the efforts to repair two breached points on the primary dyke prove unsuccessful.

The primary dyke, which stretches from Jale in the neighboring Bor County to Porachuil area of Kongor Payam in Twic East County, has been compromised at two locations. These breaches, one at Mabior-gol in Bor County and another at Mayen Waai in Pakeer Payam, have been allowing water to flow towards Twic East County, causing widespread displacement across its five payams.

The procurement of the tractor for this project was made possible through community contributions. The Kongor Community Development Association donated \$10,000 USD, while two individuals contributed \$2,500 USD. County MP Hon. Deng Dau Deng donated \$1,000 USD, and Deng Daniel Atem Awuol contributed \$1,500 USD. To date, \$12,500 USD has been paid to the construction company as an advance. However, county authorities are appealing to Twic East citizens globally and within South Sudan to fulfill their pledges to meet the total requirement of \$28,000 USD, which would enable the completion of at least 70 percent of the wider rehabilitation around Panyagoor.

Concurrently, the World Food Program (WFP) is expected to commence rehabilitation work on the primary dyke. The exact start date will be determined once the necessary paperwork has been finalized between the concerned authorities. WFP's plan involves engaging 800 laborers from both Twic East and Bor County as casual workers, in addition to deploying machinery. Authorities are still in discussions regarding the distribution of these labor opportunities between the two counties. The workers are expected to be compensated by WFP or its designated implementing partner.

The County Commissioner, Executive Director, and Chiefs have issued an appeal for support to raise the projected amount. They are also open to exploring alternative solutions should the \$28,000 USD target prove insufficient to complete the dyke rehabilitation.

It's worth noting that Twic East County has been grappling with flooding for four consecutive years, resulting in widespread displacement to refugee camps in neighboring countries and internally displaced persons (IDP) camps within South Sudan.



County commissioner, Ag/Executive Director, Contractor and other dignitaries during the launching



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Community Chiefs under the auspice of Acting Paramount Chief Thon Diing Duot during the launching of rehabilitation in Panyagoor.



Actual work begins on the 12.7 Kilometers Secondary dyke



Commissioner Hon. Juach Arok witnessing the start of rehabilitation with the County Acting Executive Director Elijah Manyok Ayiei, beside them, TEYA Homeland Chairman Deng Atem Giet.



Youth members standing on the renovated part in Panyagoor



Hon. Juach Arok leading the public to the Dyke after launching at the SPLM ground in Panyagoor.