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July 2020.

## The Episcopal University of South Sudan University Partnership.



On 19th June, the Rokon Community and The Episcopal University signed the land agreement, another step towards the building of the university's main campus following the laying of the foundation stone in December 2019.

### **Welcome to the July addition of the ECSSSUP newsletter!**

Despite the threat of Covid-19 and ongoing economic crises in South Sudan, June was an important month for The Episcopal University - find out more

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## Land Agreement signed between the Rokon Community and The Episcopal University.

A celebratory service marked the official signing of the Land Agreement between the Rokon community and The Episcopal University (TEU). Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Rev Canon Dr Joseph Bilal, spoke of education as an investment and Rokon elder, Stephen Doctor Matatias, said that the project is "history in the making ... we will never mishandle it - we will handle it like an egg! Support it, embrace it and protect it."

The TEU team will now be able to start the land deeds title required at the next administrative level. They will also continue working with architects to survey the land and design the new campus. The first important step will be raising funds to build a fence around the land to mark ownership and ensure the land is kept secure.



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## Meet three of our TEU team members!

Meet Florence, our Administrative Secretary, Joseph, our Academic Secretary, and Vicky, our Head of Finance (from left to right and top to bottom). All have been working from their homes due to Covid-19 but the staff come together to meet as a team every Wednesday in the TEU offices. They were also heavily

involved in planning and preparations for the land signing ceremony. They're able to use WiFi provided by TEU, thanks to the generosity of you, our

supporters. As many of us also experience, it's always harder to get the information needed when files are in the office! A huge thank you to them and the rest of the TEU team as they continue working so hard in a challenging environment.



ECSSSUP is committed to funding the salaries of the university staff throughout this period. If you would like to donate at this particularly challenging time to enable us to continue doing this, or to help fund the building of the new campus in Rokon, please click [here](#).

The political parties that form the transitional Government of National Unity have been respecting the ceasefire but new cases of violence in the country are a source of concern. Most of the violence seems to be related to inter-communal clashes, which is causing harm to civilians and risks pulling organised armed groups into conflict. There have been significant casualties in Jonglei, Lainya, Bahr el-Ghazal and Sharikat.

The number of Covid-19 cases continues to rise, with 1604 confirmed cases and 19 deaths as of June 2020, although there have also been 15 confirmed recoveries.

Restrictions on borders due to the pandemic means little food is coming into Juba from neighbouring countries and there are increasing signs of starvation across the country.

Please pray for South Sudan as it struggles to maintain peace and deal with a global pandemic in increasingly difficult circumstances.

### Verse of the month

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.  
Galatians 6:9

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