

## **Empowering Resilience: Restoring Livelihoods in Heipang Community**

In the heart of Heipang Community, where conflict shattered lives and dreams, a ray of hope emerged when Justice Development and Peace Caritas (JDPC) with support from Mission 21 extended a lifeline to the resilient souls affected by the farmer-herder clashes in Barkin Ladi LGA.

To assess the impact of the project among the beneficiaries affected by farmer-herder clashes in Heipang Community, Barkin Ladi LGA, a monitoring visit was carried out on December 20, 2023, where 20 displaced women with age bracket of 20 to 45 years old were met.

Participants expressed gratitude for the support, citing increased opportunities to rebuild their lives and the chance to become self-reliant. They highlighted improvements in their economic status, enhanced access to healthcare and education for their families, and a newfound sense of agency within their community.

Following the support, beneficiaries were able to diversify their income sources, resulting in improved economic stability. They could cover essential needs such as medical expenses, educational fees, and enhanced food security for their households.

The initiatives implemented are expected to have a lasting impact. For instance, the businesses established by beneficiaries will continue to grow, providing sustained income. Agricultural initiatives will contribute to long-term food security and possibly lead to community-wide agricultural development. Furthermore, the empowerment of these women is anticipated to have a ripple effect, influencing future generations positively.

The monitoring visit highlighted both successes and challenges. Successes included the remarkable resilience of the beneficiaries and their ability to transform the support received into sustainable livelihoods. However, persistent challenges such as insecurity, economic hardships due to inflation, health issues, and occasional absenteeism during group meetings remain barriers to full recovery. The visit emphasized the need for ongoing support, security

improvements, innovative interventions, and consistent engagement to ensure sustained progress and empowerment.

Photos

