



USAID | SUDAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2014

Press Office:

Public Information:

Email:

www.usaid.gov

PRESS RELEASE

USAID CELEBRATES GRADUATION FOR 100 WOMEN VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING STUDENTS FROM THE WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER IN MAYO, KHARTOUM

Khartoum, Sudan – USAID/Sudan Mission Director Lawrence Meserve today addressed a graduation ceremony for 100 women in Mayo, Khartoum, following their completion of a USAID-supported vocational skills training course.

As part of its ongoing efforts to support peaceful coexistence among Sudanese communities and to build women's capacity to advocate for peace in their local communities, USAID, in collaboration with the Jebel Awlia Locality and Mayo Community Development Center, established a business center for women in Mayo district in August 2014. Mayo is composed of an ethnically diverse population, with deferent tribes.

The Center selected 100 women from this diverse community to complete a three-month training on basic management skills and accounting, as well as practical training in leather production, food processing, tailoring and sewing, and handicraft and accessories production. The women, ranging from young students and recent graduates to full-time mothers and housewives, learned how to successfully run their own micro-enterprises and contribute to increasing their household incomes.

USAID seeks to economically empower women to establish their position as leaders and ambassadors for peace in their communities, while also enhancing women's participation in national economic and social dialogues in Sudan.

"Economically empowered women are able to greatly improve their lives, the lives of their families, and their communities to work toward stability and a peaceful future in Sudan," Mr. Meserve said.

Through USAID's support, the women of Mayo community now run an established business center, which will provide much-needed services to their local community and contribute to an environment of peaceful coexistence through shared spaces where they collaborate on income generation and skills development.