

# SCOPE SUCCESS STORY

## SOUTH SUDAN



Minisare Jenty shares a copy of her child's vaccination card.

USAID/World Relief: Photo by Moses Nyandi, Care Group Supervisor

### NAME AND ROLE

Minisare Jenty, mother

### LOCATION

Rastigi Village, Maridi County,  
Western Equatorial State

### SUMMARY

Through the support of SCOPE Health Promoters, mothers in Rastigi Village are accessing vaccines for their children.

[WORLDRELIEF.ORG/SCOPE](https://www.worldrelief.org/scope)

## SCOPE HEALTH PROMOTERS SUPPORT VACCINE ACCESS IN HARD-TO-REACH AREAS

Progress has been made in South Sudan to prevent mother and child deaths, but immunization remains low due to cultural fears around side effects and a lack of supply chain infrastructure for vaccines. The challenges in infrastructure include transportation and storage of vaccinations and a lack of health facilities to receive them. Once vaccines are at a local health clinic, rural communities often have challenges going to the clinic because of distance, while some communities have been affected by misinformation or fear around the side effects of the vaccine.

Because of this, SCOPE is working with community health workers, called SCOPE Health Promoters, to ensure that mothers and children under five access the vaccinations they need to protect from preventable diseases. SCOPE Health Promoters are community-based health workers who assist mothers and children in their communities. They do assessments on the danger signs for pregnant mothers and children, check for immunization status, signs of malaria, diarrhea and pneumonia, provide health education and make referrals to health facilities as needed. Minisare was a mother who decided to get her children vaccinated because of the lessons she learned from SCOPE Health Promoters.

### SCOPE HEALTH PROMOTERS HELP MOTHERS UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF VACCINES IN THEIR FAMILIES' HEALTH

Minisare Jenty is a mother of two and a resident of Rastigi Village in Western Equatorial State. Every week she is visited in her home by a SCOPE Health Promoter, who come to share various health topics affecting her family. As a young mother, Minisare Jenty did not know much about how to care for her children. Minisare Jenty shared, "I did not know how to take care of my baby. Among the lessons

they taught me was the importance of immunization and as well as following its schedule.” As a young girl, Minisare Jenty’s mother would not allow her or her siblings to be vaccinated and encouraged her children to do the same with their future children. This was because her mother believed that vaccinations were harmful to children and could kill them.

Because of that fear, when Minisare Jenty had her first child, she opted not to vaccinate them. During her second pregnancy, SCOPE Health Promoters began meeting with her and encouraged her to begin going to the health facility in her community. There she completed all of her antenatal care visits. Minisare Jenty shared, “Thank God I had a safe delivery at the health facility, and this second child of mine has completed his entire vaccination schedule and

is growing healthy.” Minisare Jenty further shared, “I want to confess today to my fellow women that vaccination is one of the reasons for the happy and healthy child that you are seeing.”

### SCOPE HEALTH PROMOTERS CREATING CRITICAL LINKAGES

SCOPE Health Promoters are critical to linking the hard-to-reach communities to local health facilities. Through the SCOPE Project, 108 SCOPE Health Promoters across South Sudan are reaching households throughout their communities.

*This story is written by Samuel Abuida, SCOPE Care Group Supervisor.*