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From Dream to Success: Bol Oyath's Entrepreneurial Journey

Bol Oyath, a 27-year-old father of two children and a returnee from Sudan, always harbored a dream of owning his own business. However, he lacked the resources to turn his dream into reality until he was selected for the DRC Business Grants Support program funded by USAID through DRC project, Humanitarian Assistance Emergency Response in South Sudan in that started in 2022. This opportunity proved to be life-changing for Bol.

With the support from the program, Bol was able to purchase his first sewing machine. He initially started working from home but soon realized the need for a more professional space to better serve his customers and expand his business. In the early months of 2024, Bol achieved another milestone: he received another business grant, this time in the form of cash worth 400,000.

With the additional funds, Bol constructed a small shop in one of the streets of Kodok market, alongside other retail shops. This location proved to be ideal for his target customers: young, trendy women in need of clothing alterations and custom-made garments, as well as parents seeking school uniforms for their children. Bol understood the high level of competition in the market and knew he had to differentiate himself to attract customers.



Bol began by offering affordable prices for his services, which quickly garnered attention through word of mouth and led to an increase in customers. His customer base grew steadily, and he started earning more profits to support his family. Bol not only runs a successful business but also creates job opportunities for others.

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Through hard work, determination, and the support of programs like the DRC Business Grant Support, I turned my dream into a successful reality. I am now able to support my children and pay school fees for other two of my relatives. My wife is happy, my children are happy and I am happy.

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Bol Oyath

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Currently, Bol employs two people to assist him in various tasks, such as delivering finished projects to clients and managing sales in the shop, allowing him to focus on sewing clothes using his machine.

Thanks to the Business Grant Support program, Bol has been able to achieve his entrepreneurial dreams and overcome the challenges of running a business. He has learned to manage his finances better and reinvest his profits in expanding his business. Bol now earns approximately 250,000 per month in profit, a testament to his hard work, determination, and the support of the program. Bol is also a member of the DRC Village Saving Loans Association in Kodok, established early this year.

Bol's success story is not only inspiring but also demonstrates how the Business Grant Support program helps individuals like him, who have ideas and potential but lack the resources to execute them. Through the program, Bol has gained access to capital, training, and mentorship, enabling him to maximize his potential and achieve his entrepreneurial goals.

Today, Bol is a fulfilled man who has realized his dream of running a successful business. He is grateful to the Business Grant Support program and UNHCR who made it possible for him to achieve his goals. His story encourages people like Bol to pursue their dreams even in the face of adversity.

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