



Newsletter No. 6

25 May 2006

## **Acknowledgement for contributing to the emergency in Guinea Bissau**

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Dear Friends,

First of all, thanks to the one that contributed to the emergency in Guinea Bissau.

As soon as we will receive bank statements we will send the documents for tax relief to be applied to next year declaration.

Here follow an update on what has been done so far and what we would like to do in the future.

The immediate response to the Guinea Caritas appeal, made in collaboration with PIME in Milan, contributed in giving aid, started on the 18th April, to the 20,000 people isolated for over 3 weeks due to the conflict between the Guinea army and the MSF rebels (they are separatists FROM Casamance, that were relegated to the north of Guinea Bissau).

Suzana and São Domingos were the areas more affected.



Several goods were sent by river (since the road was close due to landmines): 4 ton of rice, 1 ton of oil, combustion and money for buying food of first necessity. Aid from larger associations started later, waiting for the government to organize the assistance.

Subsequently, the clashes stopped. People went back to their homes, however, most of them found their homes either destroyed from the bombardments or plundered.

Aid of first necessity (food, medicines, cloths and seeds for agriculture) have been a first help, but for re-starting production further involvement is necessary.

Therefore, we decided to include the area around Suzana among the sites to sustain with new technologies to produce palm oil. This is a project we started to study for the area of Prabis-Bor, closer to the capital Bissau.

A PIME mission is based in Suzana. We are in contact with the mission and we believe we can contribute to sustain the people more in need at the moment. The support we would like to give would have to be durable and aimed to their self-sufficiency.

You will find updates on the development programme on our website [www.ps76.org](http://www.ps76.org)