



In this issue:

- Sudan referendum: swords into ploughs
- From Bolivia to the Lloyd's award
- The Big Give Christmas Challenge—a success
- Merry Christmas and thank you!



Sudan referendum: swords into ploughs

On 9th January, the people of South Sudan will vote on a referendum that, if passed, will effectively create two new countries: North Sudan and South Sudan. This referendum is one of the provisions of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which ended Sudan's most recent civil war.

Shona Passfield, one of Five Talents' Trustees, visited Sudan in March this year and met a Five Talents loan group comprised of blacksmiths. They were making farm implements and it now reminds Shona of the passage in Isaiah 2:4 "They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation,

nor will they train for war anymore." Please pray for a peaceful political process in Sudan. Read about our work at <http://www.fivetalents.org.uk/page-sudan.html> and make a donation at <http://www.fivetalents.org.uk/page-how-to-give.html>



From Bolivia to the Lloyds award

In October, John Hunter, a Five Talents supporter and volunteer, visited the Five Talents programme in Bolivia. John joined staff from the Five Talents US office and the team visited savings groups in and around Tarija as well as attending a special community fair where more than half of the stalls were Five Talents' clients! You can read more about John's trip at <http://www.fivetalents.org.uk/page-trip-reports.html>. Read about our work in Bolivia at <http://www.fivetalents.org.uk/page-bolivia.html>.

To follow up, John and Jonathan Warwick - both from the insurance industry - won the employees within the Lloyd's market to their chosen charity. Five Talents received a grant of £1,000. Thank you John and Jon!

theBigGive.org.uk
helping your donations go further

**Christmas
Challenge 2010**

The Big Give Christmas Challenge—a success

Five Talents completed the Big Give Christmas Challenge just three days after the challenge opened. Five Talents not only met but surpassed our target of raising £20,000 online. These donations will be

doubled by the Big Give and are now worth over £45,000 to Five Talents enabling us to provide up to 1,800 clients with business loans and training. Thank you to everyone that supported Five Talents.

If you missed this opportunity to double your donation and would still like to make a donation to Five Talents please do so at <http://www.fivetalents.org.uk/page-how-to-give.html>.



Merry Christmas and thank you!

Thank you for your support which has increased our fundraising by an amazing 20% this year. Five Talents now serves an additional 5,000 people with business training, small savings and loans programmes. This brings our total membership to around 25,000 hard-working and talented entrepreneurs in the developing world, each equipped to run a successful business supporting their family. Thank you!

From all the team at Five Talents, Merry Christmas!

Contact Us

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