

# Martha Clinic is a lifeline for many



The Martha Clinic, run by CMSI associate Poppy Spens, (pictured left outside the clinic) is literally a lifeline for thousands of families in and around Yei. When Poppy arrived three years ago the clinic comprised only one building.

Since then it has grown, with further expansion planned. There is now an immunisation centre and a new waiting area. A modern new building (below), with tiled floors, running water and a fridge (for storing vaccinations) boasts an office and consultation and treatment rooms.

Previously medical waste was dumped in the garden. Now the clinic has an incinerator.

Poppy hopes to extend into the garden to provide a staff room, and work will soon begin on the conversion of an empty building into a children's ward, eye clinic, and dental clinic. It is hoped these will open in June, and so should be in place for the Connor META visit.



When Poppy first came to Yei the clinic saw 20 patients a day. On January 18 it saw 120 ante natal patients and gave 120 immunisations. The main illness affecting patients is malaria, and before coming to Yei Poppy, an experienced nurse, trained in tropical diseases.



The Martha Clinic also runs a mobile clinic, which takes medicine and vaccinations out to the very many rural villages in Yei Diocese, helping people who may not otherwise have access to any treatment or preventative medicine.

**Above: Poppy Spens explains plans to convert a disused building into a children's ward to David Cromie and Stephen Forde.**