

South Sudan

Humanitarian Crisis



Photo Credit/Christian Aid-South Sudan.

Overview

The South Sudan situation remains the largest refugee crisis in Africa with close to 2.2 million South Sudanese refugees living in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda. In South Sudan, protracted conflict, environmental disasters, and outbreaks of sub-national intercommunal violence have left 1.6 million South Sudanese displaced across all 78 counties. An estimated 75 per cent of internally displaced persons (IDPs) are residing with host communities, whilst the remaining stay in camps or camp-like settings. Seven years after the outbreak of large-scale violence in South Sudan, the conflict persists, seriously impacting the protection environment and the ability of the population to access basic services. (UNHCR-RRRP 2021)

In February 2020, South Sudan formed a transitional government of national unity to leave 6 years of civil war behind. However, progress in the implementation of the peace agreement has been slow. A prickle in violence caused over 2,400 civilian deaths in 2020, more than double the previous year. Conflict, insecurity, and natural hazards have displaced nearly 4 million people since 2013, with many forced to flee multiple times.

Over the past few months, vulnerable communities have suffered the effects of conflict, major flooding, and COVID-19. As a result, some 8.3 million people require humanitarian assistance in 2021 which is 800,000 more than in 2020.

Increased insecurity hampers humanitarian access in which 9 humanitarian workers were killed in 2020 (compared to 3 in 2019)

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Fact sheet

8.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance

(HNO 2021)

Around 7.2 million people need emergency food aid between April and July

(IPC December 2020)

Over 1.6 million people are internally displaced

(OCHA)

Around 2.2 million South Sudanese refugees are in neighboring countries

(UNHCR)

Funding Requirement

\$ 1.68 billion required

\$ 503.5 million funded

\$ 1.17 billion unmet.

(HNO 2021)

ACT Appeal Funding

\$ 2 million required

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and already 4 have lost their lives in 2021. At least 22 looting incidents of humanitarian supplies took place in 2020, compared to 6 in 2019.

*Asunta Nyanut
Deng 55, at her
flooded garden
in Aweil South-
Northern Bahr El
Chazel State.*

*Photo Credit/Christian
Aid-South Sudan.*

Due to violence, flooding, South Sudan is currently facing its worst food crisis on record as an estimated 30,000 people are living in famine-like conditions and more than 7 million people face severe food insecurity-(IPC Report 2021).



Urgent Needs

The persistent intercommunal violence and localized conflicts in several parts of the country, combined with the disruptive impacts of the COVID-19 on markets, amenities, and travels, have led to a significant increase in vulnerabilities of communities and people, creating massive displacement, loss of livelihoods, inaccessibility to health care, education services and protection needs. Multifaceted, South Sudan is at this time facing its highest levels of food insecurity and malnutrition which has created urgent humanitarian needs more especially for women, children, elderly, and the majority displaced in Protection of Civilian sites and outside other territories in the country.

Current Actions

South Sudan humanitarian crisis in 2021 puts 8.3 million of the population in severe need of humanitarian assistance with 6.6 million being targeted with critical needs. To this effect, the European Union has allocated over €79 million for humanitarian actions covering the response to food insecurity, violence, and floods across South Sudan. This also includes almost €3 million in

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support of the national COVID-19 vaccination rollout, and additional funding for addressing famine and boosting food security.

With the highest levels of food insecurity and malnutrition on record across the country, the EU also with other humanitarian actors provides emergency food assistance and nutrition interventions, including in hard-to-reach areas to help curb the situation scaling to famine.

Since the Conflict of 2016, ACT members have responded to 7 joint Appeals and mobilized about \$ 4 million to address some of the critical needs of the communities and people affected by the dire humanitarian situation in the country.



Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) Food/NFIs distribution in Yei (2017)

Currently, the members are jointly responding to the complex humanitarian crisis through joint ACT Appeal SSD 211 with overall target of \$ 2million to help address needs of 90,000 people in severe need of food, nutritional supplement, education and protection services, livelihoods support, WASH activities, Shelter/NFIs materials, GBV and Cash Transfer support.

Funding Requirements and Gaps

For now, the humanitarian situation is worsening and require urgent intervention and funding. The funding gap remains significantly high as the country require \$ 1.68 billion for its humanitarian intervention but what has been received is about \$ 503.5 million leaving \$1.17 billion unmet. (Humanitarian Needs Overview-HNO 2021).

ACT Alliance members (Christian Aid, DanChurchAid, Norwegian Church Aid, Finn Church Aid, and the Lutheran World Federation) are appealing for \$ 6.616 million bilateral emergency funding support and \$ 2 million for joint ACT Appeal response. This funding request is critical in providing lifesaving and recovery needs urgently in South Sudan.