

**UN's emergency fund allocates \$11 million to help displaced South Sudanese return home**

**Juba, 4 April 2019:** The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) announced an allocation of US\$11 million to help 268,000 women, men and children who had been displaced by conflict within South Sudan to return to their homes.

“People who fled their homes with nothing are returning to nothing. They need urgent support. The CERF funding will ensure they have food, farming tools and seeds, shelter items and other basic necessities ahead of the rainy season starting in May, when access to most areas will be cut off,” said Mark Lowcock, Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. “They will need support to recover their lost livelihoods and rebuild their lives.”

Non-food items, including buckets and mosquito nets will also be provided in 10 priority areas. Healthcare, education, and clean water and sanitation facilities will also be strengthened in the areas of return, including to serve people with disabilities. Protection services will be provided as a central component of the plan.

Alain Noudéhou, the Humanitarian Coordinator in South Sudan, said: “Since the beginning of the year, we are observing an increasing number of population movements across South Sudan, including many people returning to their home areas. It is vital that they do this in a voluntary, informed and dignified way. Keeping people safe is central to our response and we will continue to put a particular emphasis on protecting women and girls from violence. This CERF funding, which is part of a larger humanitarian plan, is a strong start to help people find solutions after years of displacement. Additional funding is urgently needed to provide humanitarian support and essential services.”

Some 1.9 million people have fled their homes due to violence and conflict and now live in settlements and communities throughout the country. Many of these people have been displaced more than once since conflict broke out in late 2013. Another 2.3 million South Sudanese have fled to neighbouring countries.

The 2019 South Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan, seeking \$1.5 billion to assist 5.7 million people, is only 5 per cent funded. Life-saving assistance must be sustained.

*For further information, please contact OCHA South Sudan:  
Emmi Antinoja, Head of Communications and Information Management, [antinoja@un.org](mailto:antinoja@un.org) / +211 921 2963 33  
Christina Corbett, Public Information Officer, [christina.corbett@un.org](mailto:christina.corbett@un.org) / +211 922 4060 12  
OCHA press releases are available at [www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org) or [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).*