



OCHA



SOUTH SUDAN

THE COST OF INACTION

as of May 2021

Photo: UNICEF

THE SITUATION IN SOUTH SUDAN

The people of South Sudan are facing their highest levels of hunger since independence 10 years ago. The lean season from May to July 2021 is expected to be the worst on record. The crisis, however, is about much more than just hunger. Conflict, displacement, flooding, loss of livelihoods, COVID-19, and an inability to reach health care and schools have created urgent humanitarian and protection needs, especially for women and children. Without security and stability, humanitarian needs will continue to grow.

8.3M

people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in 2021

7.2M

people will face severe acute food insecurity between April and July 2021 (IPC 3 to 5)

3.8M

people remain displaced inside and outside the country

1.4M

children under age 5 are expected to be acutely malnourished in 2021

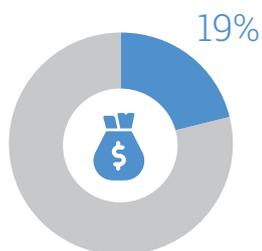
1 in 3

one in three girls in South Sudan becomes pregnant before turning 15

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN

6.6M people targeted in 2021

The Humanitarian Response Plan's three objectives are to save lives and protect people; ensure people's access to basic services; and enable people to recover from the crisis.



\$1.68B

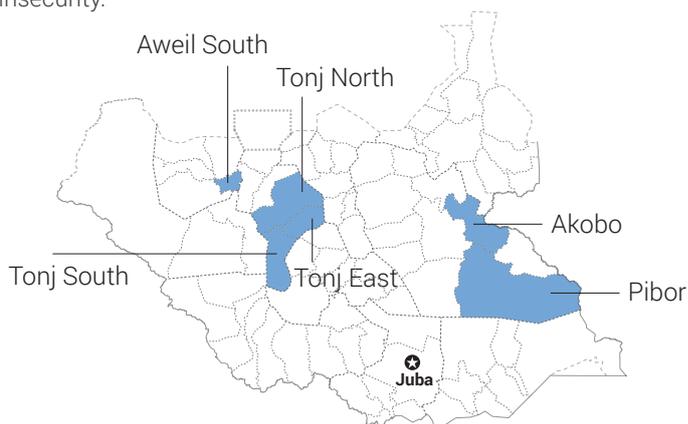
required

\$314M

funded (FTS as of 3 May 2021)

RESPONSE SCALE-UP IN PRIORITY AREAS

Based on projections of people's food security and nutrition needs released in late 2020, humanitarian organizations commenced a scale-up of life-saving operations. The multi-sectoral response focuses on vulnerable people in areas of most severe acute food insecurity.



WHAT IF WE FAIL TO RESPOND?



Food Security and Livelihoods: Limited funding has already led to cuts in food rations provided to internally displaced people and refugees from 70% down to 50%. Lack of funding would further reduce planned food assistance to 4 million people and livelihoods support to 5.7 million people.



Nutrition: Without adequate treatment, more than 300,000 children anticipated to suffer from severe acute malnutrition are at risk of dying. Another 1.1 million children who are acutely malnourished could become severely malnourished and affected by diseases and infections.



Protection: Some 1.6 million internally displaced people, particularly children, women, women- and child-headed households, older people and people with disabilities, will continue to face protection risks including neglect, abuse, exploitation, child labour, forced recruitment and gender-based violence.



Camp Coordination and Management: Some 900,000 internally displaced people living in camps and camp-like settings will lose access to camp management and equitable access to basic services and assistance. Displaced families living in camp-like settings will not be supported with their self-reliance and lasting solutions to their displacement.



Refugee Response: The increasing needs of 320,000 refugees in South Sudan, 4 in 5 of whom are women and children, will not be addressed in the areas of protection, food, health, education and infrastructure support. Peaceful co-existence and community-based initiatives among refugees and local communities will not be sustained.



Health: Some 2.4 million people, including women and girls, older people and people with disabilities, will remain without access to life-saving health services. This will worsen the already high maternal and under-five mortality rates in women and children. The risk of disease outbreaks will increase.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Some 5.6 million people will not have access to safe water. People will continue to face high levels of mortality and morbidity. The risk of disease outbreaks, such as cholera, will increase and children will face increased levels of malnutrition.



Education: Some 2.8 million out-of-school children will not be able to access education. They will be less likely to escape the cycle of poverty and fulfill their potential. They will remain vulnerable to abuses, exploitation and gender-based violence, including child marriage and early pregnancies.



Shelter and Non-Food Items: More than 1 million people will not have access to safe shelter and other essential household items. This will expose them to harsh weather, diseases such as pneumonia and malaria, and under-five malnutrition. Returnees will not receive support to rebuild their lives, including through improved access to housing, land and property.



Logistics, Coordination and Common Services: More than 300 humanitarian organizations will not receive the required logistics, coordination and common services support needed to reach the 6.6 million people targeted with assistance. Relief items will not reach remote areas. Needs assessments and access negotiations will be delayed.

WHAT IS REQUIRED?

Immediate collective action is needed to prevent the worst-case scenario, save lives, protect women and girls, and uphold people's dignity.

Urgent funding is needed to pre-position food and essential aid supplies to remote areas before people facing the mid-year hunger season are cut off by floods.

The drivers of the protection crisis must be addressed through political, security and development solutions, so violence can stop and people can safely return home.