

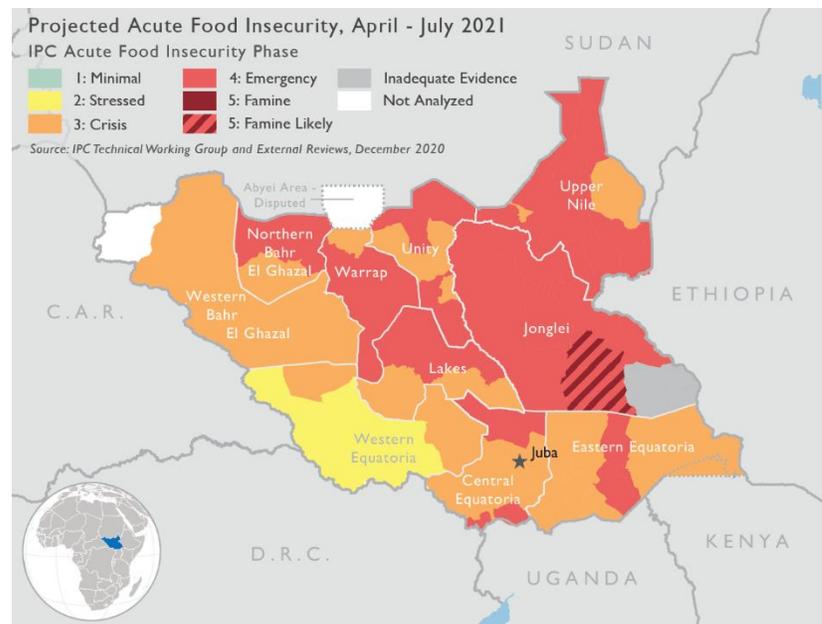
# South Sudan – Complex Emergency

JULY 23, 2021

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<b>12.1</b> MILLION	<b>8.3</b> MILLION	<b>7.2</b> MILLION	<b>1.6</b> MILLION	<b>2.3</b> MILLION
Estimated Population of South Sudan	Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in 2021	Estimated Population Requiring Emergency Food Assistance	Estimated Number of IDPs in South Sudan	South Sudanese Refugees in Neighboring Countries
<i>UN – January 2021</i>	<i>UN – March 2021</i>	<i>UN – April 2021</i>	<i>IOM – June 2021</i>	<i>UNHCR – June 2021</i>

- Attacks by unidentified armed actors result in the deaths of four humanitarian workers between late May and June.
- Relief actors report rising food needs during the June-to-September lean season.
- USAID/BHA partners highlight protection risks, including child protection and GBV concerns, in Akobo and Pibor.
- USAID/BHA staff monitor the humanitarian response effort in Kajo Keji.



### TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the South Sudan Response in FY 2021

USAID/BHA<sup>1</sup> \$622,850,974

State/PRM<sup>2</sup> \$10,100,000

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

**Total<sup>3</sup> \$632.950,974**

<sup>1</sup>USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

<sup>2</sup>U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

<sup>3</sup>This total does not include approximately \$32.7 million in FY 2021 U.S. Government (USG) funding for South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries. This increases total USG emergency funding for the South Sudan crisis in FY 2021 to nearly \$665.7 million.

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Armed Actors Kill Four Humanitarian Workers in May and June

Attacks by unidentified armed actors resulted in the deaths of four humanitarian workers between late May and June, bringing the total number of aid workers killed in South Sudan in 2021 to eight, according to a security-focused non-governmental organization (NGO). On May 21, unidentified armed actors killed a doctor working for a U.S. Government (USG) international NGO (INGO) partner in Unity State's Panyijar County. Unknown gunmen subsequently ambushed a humanitarian convoy traveling through Lakes State's Yirol West County on June 7, resulting in the deaths of two staff members working for Doctors with Africa, an NGO. Later in the month, unknown armed actors fatally shot an individual working for a USAID/BHA international INGO partner in Panyijar on June 15.

In addition to deadly attacks, USAID/BHA partners continued to report instances of armed actors looting humanitarian assets and destroying relief commodities between May and July. Unidentified gunmen looted a UN World Food Program (WFP) warehouse in Warrap State's Marial Lou town during intercommunal clashes between opposing Dinka groups in Tonj North County from July 8 to 9, resulting in at least 13 deaths and the displacement of approximately 5,000 people, according to the UN agency. The theft marks the largest looting incident in South Sudan since May, with armed actors stealing more than 230 metric tons (MT) of emergency food commodities from the warehouse and nearly 1 MT of nutrition commodities from a nearby hospital. The incident follows a May 13 incident in which unidentified armed actors destroyed approximately 800 MT of food commodities stored in warehouses operated by USAID/BHA partners during sub-national violence in Jonglei State's Gumuruk town. Relief actors have expressed concern that the recent attacks may exacerbate existing vulnerabilities among food-insecure households in conflict-affected communities—particularly in Pibor and Tonj North, which are both counties experiencing Catastrophe—IPC 5—or worse levels of acute food insecurity—and called on the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GoRSS) to hold the perpetrators accountable.<sup>4 5</sup>

### South Sudanese Face Heightened Food Needs During Lean Season

More than 60 percent of the population of South Sudan will likely face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity as the country enters the height of the June-to-September lean season, when food insecurity traditionally peaks, according to relief actors. Humanitarian agencies project that populations in Jonglei's Akobo County will experience particularly severe food insecurity outcomes due to limited income-generating opportunities and delays and gaps in the provision of emergency food assistance due to access impediments, recent flooding and procurement challenges in Ethiopia. Conversely, food insecurity has declined in Jonglei's Pibor County, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State's Aweil South County, and Warrap's Greater Tonj Area, where scaled-up emergency food assistance from USAID/BHA and other donors has helped prevent Famine—IPC 5—conditions in Pibor and likely reduced the number of households facing Catastrophe levels of acute food insecurity in Aweil South and Greater Tonj.

### USAID/BHA Partner Highlights Protection Risks in Akobo and Pibor

Armed conflict, the effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and widespread food insecurity have exacerbated intercommunal tensions and generated significant protection risks and

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

<sup>5</sup> A Famine—IPC 5—classification applies to a wider geographical location, while the term classification of Catastrophe—also IPC 5—refers to a household. A household in Catastrophe has an extreme lack of food at the household level even with full employment of coping strategies. Famine is determined when more than 20 percent of households in an area are experiencing Catastrophe, when global acute malnutrition levels exceed 30 percent, and when the crude mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 persons per day.

violations among vulnerable populations in Akobo and Pibor, according to a USAID/BHA partner INGO. In Akobo's Buong and Walgak *payams*, challenges registering internally displaced persons (IDPs) have prevented many displaced households from receiving emergency food assistance, contributing to heightened tensions between host community members and IDPs struggling to meet their basic food needs. The recent arrival of hundreds of returnees adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic has further strained local food resources, according to the INGO.

In addition, the USAID/BHA partner noted heightened child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) risks in Akobo and Pibor, citing numerous reports of forced marriage and intimate partner violence. The INGO also warned of the possible forced recruitment of children into organized armed groups, having received reports of youth participating in ongoing hostilities with neighboring Murle communities and witnessing several young children carrying firearms through the community. In response, relief actors are coordinating to ensure the mainstreaming of protection principles within multi-sector response activities, such as food assistance, as well as the continuation of protection services. In response to the humanitarian needs that the INGO identified in Pibor, USAID/BHA supported the INGO to provide multipurpose cash and individual protection assistance to more than 1,800 women and girls—primarily former abductees—in June, helping them rebuild their lives and seek protection services. The INGO also provided approximately 1,300 dignity kits to women and girls, as well as assistive devices, such as wheelchairs and walkers, to 21 persons with disabilities in Pibor.

### **USAID/BHA Staff Observe Multi-Sector Assistance Activities in Kajo Keji**

USAID/BHA staff visited Central Equatoria State's Kajo Keji County—where armed clashes between South Sudanese security forces and organized armed groups continue to threaten civilian populations—on July 15 to assess the humanitarian situation, meet with government officials, and observe USAID/BHA-funded health, nutrition, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities. During the visit, the team met local government officials, who advocated for the provision of additional agriculture, food, and shelter assistance, as well as relief commodities, to support the county's residents. The team also inspected a women and girls friendly space providing psychosocial support to GBV survivors and visited the Lire and Kangai Primary Health Care Center, which provides complimentary medical services to residents of underserved areas.

#### **KEY FIGURES**



**\$371.6  
Million**

In USG funding for  
emergency food  
assistance in FY 2021

#### **U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

##### **FOOD SECURITY**

USAID/BHA supports multiple UN agencies and NGOs to bolster food security, livelihoods, and early recovery efforts in South Sudan. With nearly \$371.6 million in FY 2021 funding to date, USAID/BHA partners provide emergency food assistance, including U.S. in-kind food aid, locally and regionally procured commodities, and cash transfers, to food insecure households across South Sudan. USAID/BHA also provides agricultural inputs, fishing kits, and livelihoods training to support vulnerable populations across the country. USAID/BHA partners reached approximately 1.3 million beneficiaries with food assistance monthly in FY 2020.



**\$25.4 Million**

In USG support for life-saving health care programming in FY 2021.

## HEALTH

With more than \$25.4 million in FY 2021 funding, USAID/BHA provides health care services in South Sudan through community health facilities and mobile medical units (MMUs). Through MMUs, partners provide a range of primary care, mental health, and maternal and newborn health services. USAID/BHA also supports integrated community case management services in South Sudan, which deliver life-saving curative interventions for common childhood illnesses, particularly where there is limited access to facility-based services. To mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, USAID/BHA partners are training local healthcare workers in infection prevention and control methods and strengthening community health coordination. Additionally, State/PRM supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to address the specific health care needs of refugees and other vulnerable populations in South Sudan. Health interventions are integrated with nutrition and WASH services wherever possible to ensure a sustainable system of clinical services and support.



**\$21 Million**

In USG funding for life-saving WASH programming in FY 2021.

## WASH

USAID/BHA has provided more than \$21 million in FY 2021 funding for WASH programming in South Sudan to provide access to safe drinking water, handwashing facilities, sanitation services, and solid waste disposal to more than 3 million people—including more than 1 million IDPs. WASH programming includes interventions to help prevent cholera outbreaks among vulnerable populations, as well as mitigate GBV risks by providing safe access to latrines, sanitation services, and other WASH assets. USAID/BHA also supports hygiene promotion activities through public health campaigns and the distribution of essential supplies, such as buckets, soap, and dignity and hygiene kits.



**\$106 Million**

In USG funding for life-saving nutrition programming in FY 2021

## NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports partners in their efforts to prevent and treat wasting across South Sudan. In partnership with the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and NGOs, USAID/BHA nutrition assistance reaches children and pregnant and lactating women nationwide with specialized food products to treat wasting and provide supportive supervision to frontline health nutrition staff. Using a community-based approach, USAID/BHA partners promote recommended infant and young child feeding practices through one-on-one counseling and group education to manage acute malnutrition. USAID/BHA has dedicated nearly \$106 million in FY 2021 funding for nutrition assistance in South Sudan.



**\$21.5 Million**

In dedicated USG support for critical protection interventions in FY 2021

## PROTECTION

With nearly \$21.5 million FY 2021 funding, USAID/BHA supports multi-sector protection interventions that ensure the safety and dignity of more than 5 million people—including approximately 200,000 IDPs—in South Sudan. Protection activities include assistance to GBV survivors through case management, emergency protection-led assessments, mobile

emergency response teams, psychosocial support, and referrals to health specialists. Additionally, State/PRM partners provide protection services to IDPs, refugees, and conflict-affected communities countrywide, including through GBV prevention and response programs, mental health and psychosocial support activities, family reunification, and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documentation. USAID/BHA is also working to strengthen protection coordination and capacity-building by funding the GBV Sub-Cluster in South Sudan.



**\$22.6 Million**

In USG funding for  
logistics support in  
FY 2021

## LOGISTICS

With \$22.6 million in FY 2021 funding to date, USAID/BHA provides countrywide support to the humanitarian response through the WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and Logistics Cluster for South Sudan. UNHAS offers air transportation to relief actors throughout the country, while the Logistics Cluster provides coordination and information management services for humanitarian workers, delivery of essential humanitarian relief items, common warehousing of basic relief commodities, and geographical information system mapping. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) supports fellow humanitarian partners' responses across South Sudan by procuring, storing, and transporting critical relief supplies, including emergency shelter and WASH commodities.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- The January 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the southern-based Sudan People's Liberation Army officially ended more than two decades of north-south conflict during which famine, fighting, and disease killed an estimated 2 million people and displaced at least 4.5 million others within Sudan. In July 2011, South Sudan became an independent state following a referendum earlier in the year.
- On December 15, 2013, clashes erupted between factions within the GoRSS in Juba and quickly spread into a protracted national conflict, prompting displacement and humanitarian needs. On December 20, 2013, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG response to the crisis in South Sudan and stood up a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to support the DART.
- After nearly seven years, USAID transitioned the South Sudan DART and RMT to a normalized response under BHA on November 6 and November 20, 2020, respectively. USAID/BHA remains committed to maintaining a robust humanitarian response in South Sudan, and USAID/BHA partners continue to carry out life-saving programs to meet the ongoing humanitarian needs of the South Sudanese people.
- On November 12, 2020, Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Jon Danilowicz redeclared a disaster in South Sudan for FY 2021 due to ongoing conflict and population displacement; restricted humanitarian access; and disruption of cultivation activities, markets, and trade, all of which have significantly exacerbated food insecurity and humanitarian needs.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021<sup>1</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Action Against Hunger	Agriculture; Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management and Assessments (HCIMA); Nutrition; Protection; WASH	Countrywide	\$4,796,931
	Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications	Northern Bahr El Ghazal	\$8,285
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	HCIMA, Protection, Shelters and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
American Refugee Committee	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Upper Nile	\$3,478,170
CONCERN	Agriculture, ERMS, Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Central Equatoria, Northern Bahr El Ghazal, Unity	\$6,500,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	ERMS, Food Assistance—Complementary Services	Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei	\$20,058,615
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Jonglei	\$17,108,241
	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,350,000
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Agriculture, HCIMA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,185,692
	Shelter and Settlements	Upper Nile	\$770,519
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Upper Nile	\$6,500,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	HCIMA	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Western Equatoria	\$500,000
IOM	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, Protection, WASH	Abyei, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr El Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap, Western Bahr El Ghazal, Western Equatoria	\$17,034,320
	Health, HCIMA, Logistics,	Countrywide	\$8,340,680
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	ERMS, Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Unity	\$5,500,000
Internews	Health	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
MEDAIR	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jonglei, Northern Bahr El Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile	\$6,600,000
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, WASH	Unity, Warrap, Western Bahr El Ghazal, Western Equatoria	\$5,031,399
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Food Assistance—Complementary Services, HCIMA, Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr El Ghazal, Unity, Western Bahr El Ghazal	\$13,058,614
	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$151,651
Nonviolent Peaceforce	Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity, Warrap	\$5,423,424
Relief International	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Upper Nile	\$4,900,000
Save the Children Federation (SCF)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jonglei	\$2,798,898
	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$201,102
Samaritan's Purse	Agriculture, ERMS, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Unity, Upper Nile	\$5,000,000
Tearfund	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Central Equatoria	\$3,500,000
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$15,000,000

UNICEF	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$25,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics	Countrywide	\$21,500,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$220,000,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$175,968,424
Vétérinaires Sans Frontières	Agriculture	Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile	\$1,745,499
World Relief International (WRI)	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile	\$2,529,172
World Vision	Agriculture, Health, Food Assistance—Complementary Services, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Upper Nile, Warrap	\$10,725,726
	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$157,045
Program Support			\$228,567
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$622,850,974</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$10,100,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$10,100,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$632,950,974</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of July 23, 2021.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)