



A child reading a book at a school in Torit

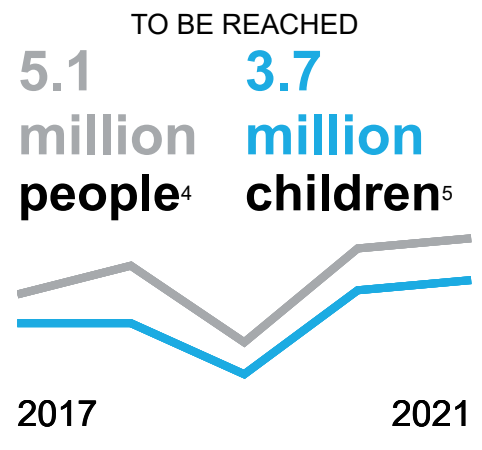
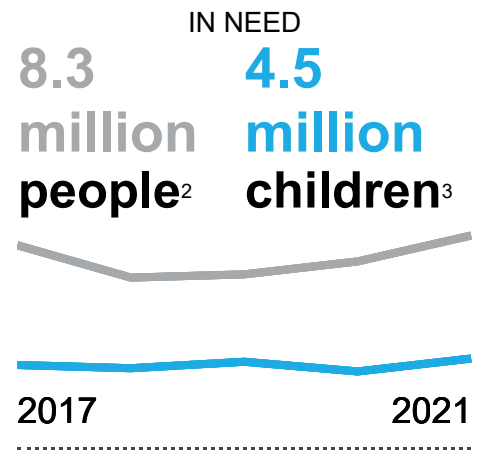
unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Action for Children

South Sudan

HIGHLIGHTS

- South Sudan is facing multiple humanitarian crises. More than 8.3 million people, including 4.5 million children, need multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance.¹
- In 2021, UNICEF and partners will aim to reach more than 3.7 million children (82 per cent of those in need) affected by multiple shocks, including conflict, multiple and often concurrent disease outbreaks – including coronavirus disease (COVID-19) – drought and flooding with services designed to improve their physical and mental health, nutrition, safety and learning.
- UNICEF requires US\$180.1 million to provide a humanitarian response that meets critical basic needs in South Sudan. The largest financial requirements are in nutrition to help children survive and thrive (33 per cent); education to support access to safe learning (26 per cent); and WASH to prevent waterborne diseases such as cholera (20 per cent).



KEY PLANNED TARGETS



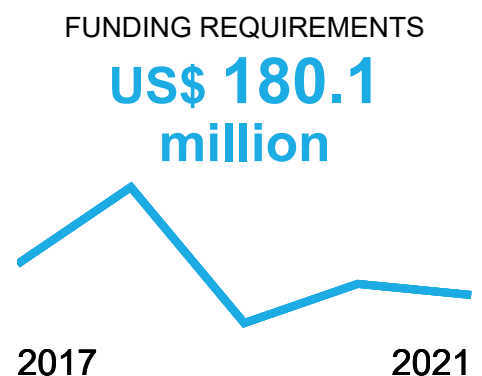
1.4 million

people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services



770,000

children accessing educational services



UNICEF/2021/Chad

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

While there has been relative stability for children in South Sudan since the formation of the Transitional Government in February 2020, the situation remains fragile and the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance is the higher than ever. Many areas of the country are still affected by localized violence, armed conflict, cyclical drought and perennial flooding. The cumulative effects of years of prolonged conflict, chronic vulnerabilities and weak essential services have left 8.3 million people, including 4.5 million children, in need of humanitarian assistance. The state fiscal situation is weak, with very little expenditure on social services, including salaries for social and health sectors. Nearly four million people are displaced, including 1.5 million who are internally displaced and 2.2 million refugees in neighbouring countries.

The country is now facing its highest levels of food insecurity and malnutrition since attaining independence 10 years ago. The latest food security analysis estimates that the current lean season which runs until July is the worst ever in terms of severity, with 108,000 at the brink of suffering from famine. A total of 7.7 million people are expected to need food assistance, including 7.2 million acutely food insecure South Sudanese in rural areas, 130,000 people in urban areas and 314,000 refugees in South Sudan. The nutrition situation is critical, with 57 (72 per cent) counties projected to be in the IPC Acute Malnutrition (AMN) Phase 3 and above during the period April to July 2021. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition remains high at 12.6 per cent. An estimated 1.4 million children under 5 years are acutely malnourished, including 313,391 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

Over 6 million people are at risk of disease outbreaks, including cholera. There is a risk of annual measles outbreaks due to low immunization coverage. South Sudan is also experiencing significant protection concerns and affected populations continuously express fear over persistent insecurity, threats to their safety, human rights violations and gender-based violence. Only 6.5 per cent of at-risk children have access to psychosocial support and other child protection services. Critical social services such as primary health care and education are facing significant disruptions due to inter-communal violence, flooding, operational interference, and lack of state funding. Limited coverage of health and WASH services, combined with high levels of food insecurity, have given rise to preventable diseases.

SECTOR NEEDS



Nutrition

313,391 children in need of SAM treatment⁶



Health

5.2 million people need essential health care services⁷



Water, sanitation and hygiene

5.9 million people lack access to safe water⁸



Education

3.4 million children need education support⁹

STORY FROM THE FIELD



"I am so excited for completing my exams despite the long stay at home. This time, we worked so hard to complete the syllabus, thanks to our amazing teachers," says Wendy, a 16-year-old student. The Minister of General Education and Instruction (MoGEI) has just announced that all schools in South Sudan will reopen on 3 May 2021. "Overstaying at home is embarrassing us and erasing away the knowledge we acquired from our teachers. I am excited to hear schools will reopen and soon we shall get to reunite with friends and teachers to learn more," Lawrence said.

Wendy, a 16-year-old student who completed the recent Senior 4 exams in Juba

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In South Sudan, UNICEF will work with central and sub-national urban and rural authorities, as well as humanitarian and development partners, to provide health, nutrition, WASH, education, child protection and risk communication services. The response will effectively ensure a nexus between humanitarian action and development programming by maintaining services in crisis-affected areas and using pre-positioned supplies and partnerships. In highly food insecure areas, UNICEF will scale up famine prevention efforts and in flood-prone areas, the humanitarian programme will support overall preparedness and mitigation planning to strengthen local capacities for coping, reduce damage to health and WASH infrastructure and minimize disruptions to children's lives. Risk communication and community engagement initiatives will focus on the prevention and mitigation of disease outbreaks and the promotion of appropriate behaviours for preventing the transmission of epidemic prone diseases including COVID-19. UNICEF will continue to provide technical support in the preparation and implementation of the national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19. Key messages will be shared on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, including on safe and accessible reporting channels.

UNICEF will maintain an Emergency Response Team (ERT) to support Field Office-led response and support inaccessible areas. UNICEF will strengthen coordination in the humanitarian response through its co-leadership of the WASH, education and nutrition clusters and the child protection area of responsibility. Gender-based violence risk mitigation will be further integrated into multi-sector humanitarian action to ensure that survivors of sexual violence have access to and receive specialized and non-specialized services. Non-governmental organization staff members and front-line workers will be sensitized on the heightened risks of sexual exploitation and abuse, the Six Core Principles Relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse²⁰ and safe reporting channels.

As part of the transition of United Nations Protection of Civilians sites into camps for internally displaced persons, UNICEF will facilitate durable solutions to displacement and spontaneous returns, including integrated basic services. A needs-based approach will be used to prioritize the most vulnerable populations and prioritize resources for areas of return. Cash and voucher schemes may be used to facilitate the transition from blanket support to targeted support in urban camp settings. UNICEF will strengthen the linkages between humanitarian cash programming and social protection initiatives under the National Social Protection Working Group, and in coordination with the Cash Working Group. Humanitarian action will be implemented through decentralized operations conducted by 13 field offices that will assess, plan, supervise and support local partners.

Progress against the 2020 programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/south-sudan/situation-reports>

2021 PROGRAMME TARGETS



Nutrition

- **242,549** children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment
- **1,138,303** primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling
- **2,588,550** children aged 6 to 59 months receiving vitamin A supplementation every six months



Health

- **450,000** children aged 6 months to 15 years vaccinated against measles
- **300,000** pregnant women and children provided with insecticide-treated nets in malaria-endemic areas
- **165,000** children aged 0-59 months receiving treatment for diarrhea



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **1,375,000** people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services
- **800,000** people accessing the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene
- **200,000** people accessing appropriate sanitation facilities



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA¹⁰

- **80,000** children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support¹¹
- **100,000** women, girls, men and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions
- **40,000** women and children in humanitarian situations that benefited from GBV risk mitigation interventions through UNICEF-supported interventions



Education

- **770,000** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning¹²
- **1,560** teachers trained on child-centred teaching
- **394,000** children supported with distance/home-based learning



Social protection and cash transfers

- **30,000** households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors

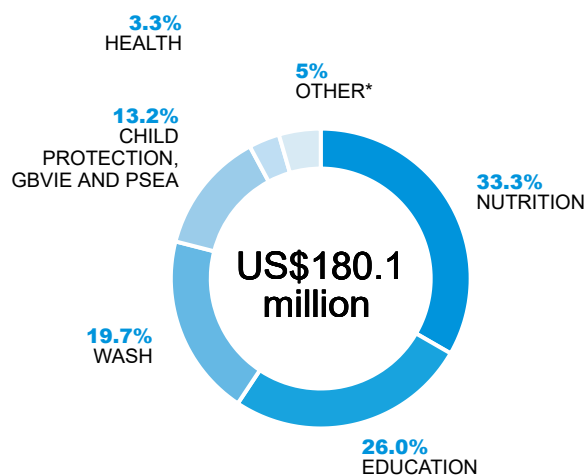


C4D, community engagement and AAP

- **4,000,000** people reached with messages on access to services
- **400,000** people who shared their concerns and asked questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2021

In 2021, UNICEF requires US\$180.1 million to meet the critical and lifesaving needs of children and women in South Sudan affected by multiple and concurrent shocks, including conflict, cyclical droughts, flooding, COVID-19 pandemic and other disease outbreaks as well as to scale-up famine prevention efforts. This funding will help UNICEF build the resilience of children and women through social protection, communication for development, health, nutrition, education, child protection and WASH services. This includes supporting marginalized children to safely resume learning and restart their education. Without adequate resources, UNICEF will be unable to fulfil the rights of affected children and positively impact their well-being. The largest financial requirements are in nutrition to help children survive and thrive (33 per cent); education to support access to safe learning (26 per cent); and WASH to provide survival allocation of water and prevent waterborne diseases such as cholera with hygiene and sanitation (20 per cent). There has been a moderate reduction in the funding requirement due to the Country Office strategy of mainstreaming COVID-19 programming within regular or ongoing programmes, this will ensure sustainability and cost effectiveness.



Appeal sector	Revised 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)
Nutrition	60,000,000
Health	6,006,000
WASH	35,388,764 ¹³
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	23,720,800
Education	46,839,920 ¹⁴
Social Protection	4,117,000
C4D	4,000,000
Total	180,072,484

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Social Protection (2.3%), C4D (2.2%).

Appeal sector	Original 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$)	Funding gap (US\$)	2021 funding gap (%)
Nutrition	60,000,000	60,000,000	35,529,589	24,470,411	40.8%
Health	6,776,000	6,006,000	1,154,547	4,851,453	80.8%
WASH	45,587,800	35,388,764 ¹³	14,638,195	20,750,569	58.6%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	25,292,600	23,720,800	4,677,939	19,042,861	80.3%
Education	52,032,200	46,839,920 ¹⁴	2,801,317	44,038,603	94.0%
Social Protection	4,117,000	4,117,000	102,659	4,014,341	97.5%
C4D	4,000,000	4,000,000	807,311	3,192,689	79.8%
Total	197,805,600	180,072,484	59,711,557	120,360,927	66.8%

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ENDNOTES

1. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'South Sudan: 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2021.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. This figure was calculated using the highest coverage programme targets of 2,971,471 children aged 6 to 59 months to be reached with vitamin A; 770,000 children aged 3 to 16 years to be reached with education; 1,133,148 pregnant and lactating women to be reached with infant and young child feeding counselling; and 179,740 men to be reached with WASH services (22 per cent of the total WASH target for safe drinking water to avoid double counting). The total figure includes 2,678,816 women/girls (53 per cent) and 2,375,543 men/boys (47 per cent). This also includes 401,822 women/girls and 356,333 men/boys with disabilities, based on a 15 per cent disability rate as per 'South Sudan: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview'. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
5. This figure was calculated using the highest coverage programme target of 2,971,471 children aged 6 to 59 months to be reached with vitamin A and 770,000 children aged 3 to 16 years to be reached with education. The total figure includes 1,982,984 girls (53 per cent) and 1,758,496 boys (47 per cent). This includes an estimated 297,447 girls and 263,774 boys with disabilities, based on a 15 per cent disability rate as per 'South Sudan: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview'.
6. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Assessment, Dec 2020
7. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'South Sudan: 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2021.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Due to space constraints, the following acronyms appear in the appeal: GBViE (gender-based violence in emergencies); PSEA (prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse); C4D (communication for development); and AAP (accountability to affected populations).
11. South Sudan: 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview
12. Ibid.
13. The cost for 2021 is largely the same due to reduced unit costs. The reduced costs are based on UNICEF's stronger focus in 2021 on cost-effective and sustainable systems for water provision, including the use of high yielding boreholes simultaneously for institutions and communities and the increased use of community engagement to maintain emergency latrines.
14. The total budget includes \$14,520,375 for core pipeline education supplies and \$ 32,319,544 for frontline education service delivery