



SOUTH SUDAN

COUNTRY REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

January – December 2025

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH: Amira Muhammed Ibrahim, a refugee from Sudan, sows sorghum at her farm in Ruweng's Ajuong Thok refugee camp. In Jamjang, refugees and host community farm alongside each other to boost food security and promote resilience.

Photo: © UNHCR/Samuel Otieno

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At a Glance

South Sudan Planned Response

January - December 2025



680 K

Projected refugee population



67 K

Projected assisted host-community members



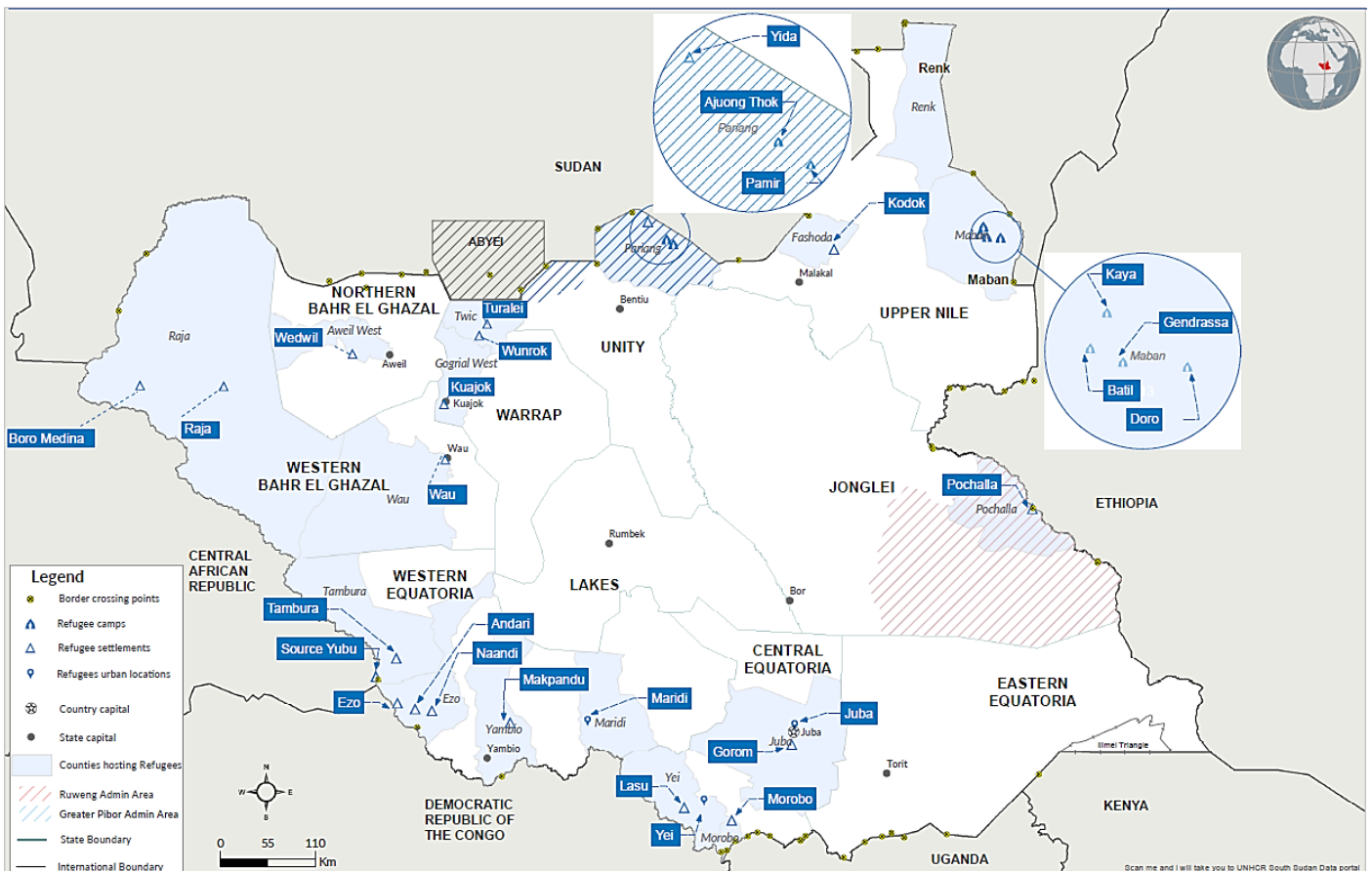
468 M

Total financial requirements



48

RRP Partners



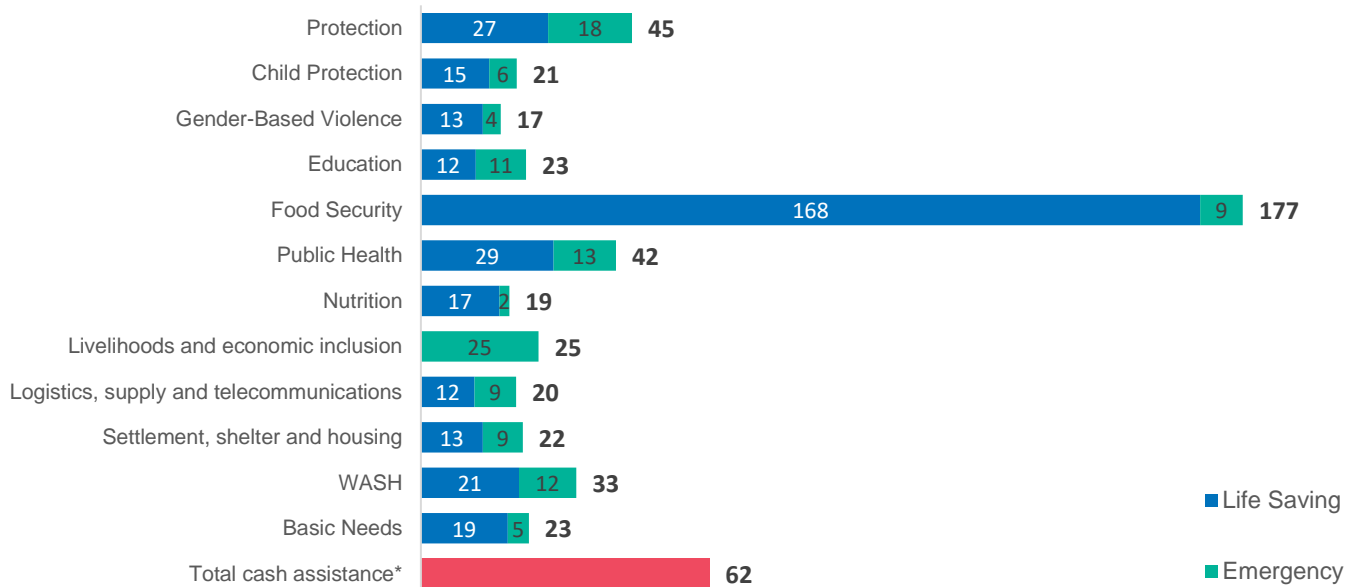
Overview of the locations in South Sudan covered by the refugee response in 2025

Financial Requirements



Budget summary by sector

Million in USD



*This is the total cash assistance requirements which are included in the above total sectoral budgets. Cash assistance is pursued and reflected as a key modality of assistance contributing to protection outcomes in line with UNHCR's CBI Policy 2022-2026. Cash assistance can be used as sectoral modality and as a cross-cutting modality of assistance across the various sectors and is budgeted for accordingly. Unrestricted/multipurpose cash grants for basic needs are budgeted under the basic needs sector. As the modality of choice of the people we work for and with, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and to contribute to protection outcomes.

Budget summary by type

PARTNER	NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS ¹	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN USD
UN agencies	8	371,363,277
International NGOs	27	86,648,163
Faith-based Organisations ²	5	15,531,219
Women-led Organisations ²	3	5,521,342
National NGOs	13	2,434,468
Refugee-led Organisations ²	1	15,000
Faith-based Organisations ²	2	1,930,000
Women-led Organisations ²	4	3,606,000
TOTAL	48	467,751,907

¹ This list only includes appealing organisations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with implementing partners to carry out RRP activities. See 'Annex I - Budget Summary by Partner' for partner breakdown per type.

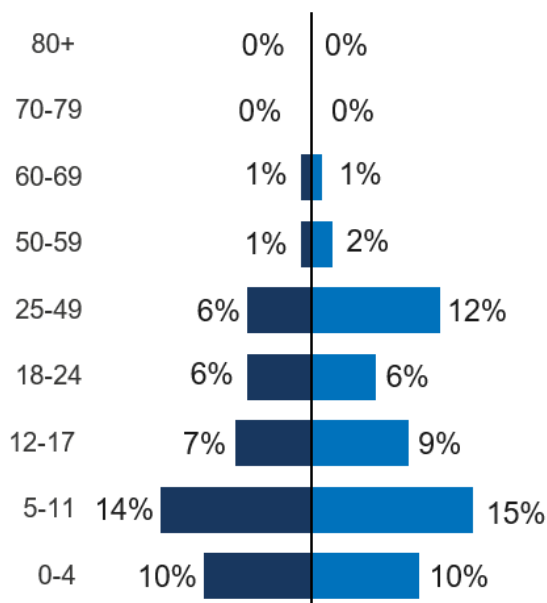
² One organisation can be classified in multiple sub-categories (women-led, refugee-led, faith-based, etc.); therefore, the individual sub-categories cannot be added to arrive at the total.

Population Planning Figures

Population	Projected population as of end of 2024 ³	Planning figure for new arrivals in 2025	Planned population as of end 2025
Refugees from Sudan ⁴	497,264	144,103	641,367
Refugees from Other Countries	32,736	5,897	38,633
Sub-total refugees	530,000	150,000	680,000
Third Country Nationals	1,760	1,000	1,000
Host Community	90,000		67,000
Returnees from Sudan	590,000 ⁵	192,000	461,000 ⁶
Returnees from CAR, DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda	290,000	85,000	202,000
Total Returnees	880,000	277,000	663,000
TOTAL	621,760	151,000	748,000

Age and gender breakdown

■ Female ■ Male



16%

Persons with disabilities



55%

Women and girls



45%

Men and boys



65%

Children

³ This figure includes actual arrivals as of Sept 2024 and projected arrivals Oct-Dec 2024.

⁴ Includes Sudanese nationals and refugees of other nationalities that arrived from Sudan. The needs of refugees from Sudan are included in the 2025 Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan

⁵ This includes returnees in 2023 and 2024, which are included in the [2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan for South Sudan](#).

⁶ Only returnees who arrived between 2024 and 2025 are included in the [2025 South Sudan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan](#) as a separate category. Returnees who arrived in 2023 and before are included as part of the residential population.

Part 1: Current Situation

Situation Overview

South Sudan – the world’s newest country – faced significant challenges even before the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, with large numbers of people displaced by conflicts and disasters. The recent crisis in Sudan has led to a large influx of people crossing South Sudan’s northern borders seeking refuge, adding strain to an already complex displacement situation. With an estimated 2 million people displaced within South Sudan⁷ and another 2.3 million South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries⁸, South Sudan’s displacement crisis remains one of the largest in Africa. In 2025, approximately 9.3 million people within South Sudan are projected to require humanitarian aid and protection services⁹. Floods affected 1.4 million people in 2024 alone, displacing 379,000 and compounding existing vulnerabilities.¹⁰

South Sudan has a strong tradition of offering asylum to those in need, guided by its Refugee Act (2012)¹¹ and bolstered by the resilience and generosity of local communities. Before the Sudanese conflict erupted in 2023, South Sudan was already hosting 300,644 refugees and asylum-seekers, primarily from Sudan. Since then, between April 2023 and October 2024, an additional 848,540 South Sudanese returnees and refugees from Sudan have arrived, including 189,963 refugees and asylum-seekers¹², bringing the total refugee population to 501,798 as of the end of October. Projections indicate that 150,000 more refugees, predominantly from Sudan, will arrive in 2025.

Over 55% of the refugee and asylum-seeker population in South Sudan is made up of children under the age of 18. More than 95% of refugees originate from Sudan, with the rest coming from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, and the Central African Republic, and smaller numbers from Eritrea and Somalia. Recently, a growing number of refugees have opted to settle outside of camps, with 58% of new arrivals from Sudan settling in urban locations.

South Sudan’s economy is characterised by high poverty levels, low GDP, and ongoing hyperinflation exacerbated by a rapid depreciation of the South Sudanese pound. Heavy reliance on oil exports has further strained the economy, particularly in 2024, as the conflict in Sudan disrupted oil transit, causing a sharp decline in national revenue. Although South Sudan has significant agricultural potential, with the sector accounting for 36% of non-oil GDP and 80% of households dependent on agriculture, this potential remains unrealised mainly due to limited agricultural inputs, restricted market access, and insufficient infrastructure, including a severe lack of all-weather roads^{13,14}. Chronic food insecurity affects an estimated 6.3 million people¹⁵, with the humanitarian crisis resulting from compounded factors such as historical conflicts, sub-national violence, climate impacts, and economic challenges. The situation has been further destabilised by the ongoing conflict in Sudan, which threatens South Sudan’s fragile stability.

As a result of the South Sudanese pound depreciating sharply, the import of essential goods was hindered. The multi-sectoral survival minimum expenditure basket saw a 146% increase between July 2023 and July 2024, with inflation reaching 54.8% by August. Disrupted supply routes from Sudan have driven up the costs of consumer goods, especially in northern areas where most refugees reside.

Amid this crisis, humanitarian actors are increasingly coordinating with stabilisation and development partners to address longer-term needs arising from the arrival of over 800,000 people into already fragile communities. In locations like Renk, response efforts are shifting to focus on expanding infrastructure, improving access to basic services, and mitigating tensions between host communities and new arrivals, including refugees and returnees.

⁷ [South Sudan: Humanitarian Snapshot \(September 2024\)](#)

⁸ [UNHCR Operational Data Portal: South Sudan](#)

⁹ [South Sudan: Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025](#)

¹⁰ [South Sudan: Floods Snapshot \(As of 29 November 2024\)](#)

¹¹ [South Sudan: Refugee Act of 2012](#)

¹² [South Sudan Joint Border Monitoring](#)

¹³ [AFDB: South Sudan: A Study on Competitiveness and Cross Border Trade With Neighbouring Countries \(2013\)](#)

¹⁴ [FAO: COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK FOR SOUTH SUDAN 2016- 2017. \(2015\)](#)

¹⁵ [South Sudan: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for September - November 2024 and Projections for December 2024 - March 2025 and for April - July 2025](#)

In South Sudan, the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) under the Ministry of the Interior holds primary responsibility for the management and coordination of refugee and asylum matters, playing a key role in preparedness and overseeing reception mechanisms for refugees. Moving forward, sustained and strengthened collaboration across humanitarian and development sectors will be crucial in addressing both immediate needs and the long-term stability of host communities and refugees alike.

Country Risks and Needs

A rapid deterioration of the security situation in Sudan, leading to an abrupt influx of people into South Sudan, is one of the main risks in the planned response. Changes in the dynamics of the conflict in Sudan, such as increased fighting around the area of Khartoum, in Darfur, and the Kordofans, as well as the heightened risk of fighting spilling over into the White Nile and Blue Nile, have escalated the situation. This escalation, along with the further alignment of various armed actors in Sudan with the parties involved in the conflict, including ethnic militias, could lead to further displacement from Sudan and overwhelm the already overstretched response capacity of the government and partners.

Sudden, large-scale population movements profoundly impact South Sudan's fragile infrastructure and social services. Limited safe passage routes expose those fleeing to violence, exploitation, and extortion. Congestion at transit and reception centres due to funding and logistical constraints exacerbates protection risks, heightening the likelihood of communicable disease outbreaks and compromising the physical and mental well-being of refugees and returnees. Cramped conditions in these centres foster tensions and increase the risk of gender-based violence (GBV), a deeply rooted issue in South Sudan exacerbated by socioeconomic pressures, cultural norms, and conflict dynamics.

South Sudan's socio-economic challenges, including inadequate access to livelihoods, limited financial services and lack of employment opportunities and income, exacerbated by hyperinflation, currency devaluation, and competition for limited resources, further intensify the needs of refugees and hinder the integration of new arrivals. The economy is characterized by economic shocks, unemployment, and poverty. Disruptions in supply chains for essential goods drive up costs, worsening food insecurity for over 7.7 million people (57 per cent of the total South Sudan population) expected to be food insecure in 2025. Food shortages can lead to negative coping mechanisms, such as child labor, school dropouts, and child marriage, and increase the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse.

The ongoing health crisis poses significant risks, as diseases like acute watery diarrhea, cholera, measles and hepatitis E threaten the well-being of refugees, particularly women and girls. Their roles in caregiving and domestic work increase their exposure to infectious diseases, further straining community resources and potentially generating stigma or discrimination against affected individuals. Limited access to healthcare exacerbates high maternal and child mortality rates, with maternal mortality reaching 789 per 100,000 live births. The influx of people into an already fragile healthcare system threatens to worsen these conditions.

Recurrent floods are expected to continue limiting access to essential services, especially for vulnerable populations, further straining health, livelihoods, and protection systems. Floods affecting farmers have long-term effects in undermining the small resilience that communities have built over the years. Food insecurity is closely linked to conflict, acting both as a cause and a consequence of violence, which in turn threatens agricultural production and heightens the risk of poaching and cattle raiding.

Refugee and asylum-seeker children are particularly vulnerable to protection risks, including involuntary family separation, child labor, child marriage, and limited access to education. Children with disabilities face additional challenges in obtaining the support they need. The prevalence of GBV, mental health issues, and psychosocial distress is widespread, stemming from exposure to conflict, violence, and deprivation in Sudan and along migration routes to South Sudan.

South Sudan ranks among the highest in East Africa for GBV risks, with a significant proportion of women and girls affected. Studies¹⁶ reveal that 34% of women have experienced physical violence, and 13.5% have faced sexual violence, with 34.6% impacted by child marriage. As of September 2024, women and girls constitute 51% of the refugee and asylum-seeker population, with 98% of GBV survivors being female and 28% of the survivors being

¹⁶ UNFPA South Sudan | South Sudan ranks second in GBV prevalence rate in East Africa – a new study indicates. 24 March 2023.

children and adolescent girls. The ongoing crisis has heightened risks of intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and exploitation, often compounded by inadequate humanitarian resources.

Children among new arrivals represent over 53% of the population, with many requiring educational services. The proportion of children and young people enrolled in schools decreased significantly, with primary and secondary gross enrolment rates dropping to 48.44 per cent and increasing to 14.19 per cent, respectively, from 50.93 per cent and 13.72 per cent in 2023, attributed to the significant increase in the primary (6-13 years) and secondary (14-17 years) age population because of Sudan crisis. Additionally, many new arrivals from Sudan are adolescents enrolled in universities, now having limited opportunities to continue their education.

Most recently, SENS survey in Maban refugee camps has shown a GAM rate of 17.3 per cent among the refugee population, which is beyond the emergency threshold of 15 per cent. WFP has been providing food assistance to refugees living in camps and settlements. However, the resource constraint has reduced it to a 50 per cent ration of the standard at 2,100 kcal per person per day since April 2021. Additionally, starting in September 2024, four refugee camps in Maban and two refugee camps in Jamjang switched to targeted seasonal food assistance, benefitting 15-25% of the most vulnerable refugee population in each camp, compared to the previous blanket coverage.

SENS survey conducted recently in May 2024 in the refugee relocation sites have shown that 17% of children under five are acutely malnourished¹⁷, far surpassing emergency thresholds. Partners have been providing food aid, but challenges such as stock shortages, pipeline issues, and inadequate cooking facilities continue to undermine efforts. The state of nutrition for protracted refugee populations has deteriorated, with the global acute malnutrition (GAM) level in some camps exceeding WHO and UNHCR emergency thresholds. Chronic malnutrition remains a concern, with high rates of anaemia among children indicating severe nutritional deficiencies.

Health needs have risen sharply with the arrival of refugees, particularly women and children, many of whom arrive in poor health. Recent disease surveillance data show high rates of respiratory infections, acute watery diarrhoea, malaria, and eye infections among arrivals, with low vaccination coverage in their home countries contributing to increased mortality among children.

Newly arrived refugees need help accessing livelihoods, including limited land allocation and constrained market access, which worsen their already low purchasing power. At the same time, many new arrivals are highly skilled and have professional backgrounds in education and healthcare, with the potential for further integration and employment in urban centres. This opportunity allows these refugees to become self-reliant and not dependent on humanitarian aid.

Infrastructure challenges further complicate the timely delivery of humanitarian aid. Poor road and telecommunication networks, seasonal flooding, and high transportation costs make reaching remote areas where refugees reside difficult. Access limitations delay the provision of essentials and increase the cost of the response, necessitating substantial investments in transportation, road construction, and flood mitigation measures.

Funding constraints are a critical issue for the humanitarian response. Due to a shortage of funding, food assistance had to be targeted already in 2024, with another round of targeting in 2025 threatening the well-being of refugees and host communities in the mid-to long term. Without an increase in livelihood support and essential services, protection risks, including GBV and exploitation, are likely to rise. Securing adequate funding is essential to meet the basic needs and ensure the safety of refugees.

¹⁷ SENS Survey in Maban, 2024

People on the Move: Spontaneous Refugee Returns

2.3M

South Sudanese refugees in the neighbouring countries

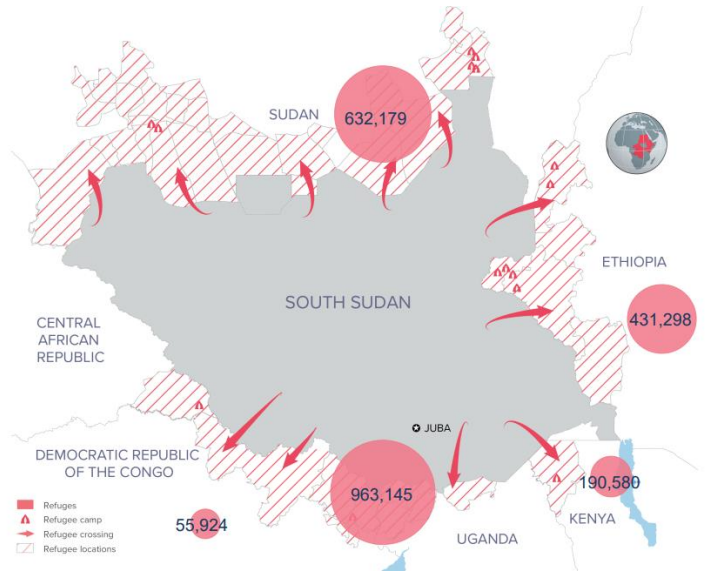
590,000

Returnees from the neighbouring countries in 2023-2024

277,000

returnees projected in 2025

As of October 2024, an estimated 2,280,468 South Sudanese refugees remain in neighbouring countries, including Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. While the current surge in returns is primarily from Sudan, steady return flows have continued from other neighbouring countries since 2018. Since the conflict between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) erupted in Sudan in April 2023, an estimated 643,280 South Sudanese have fled to South Sudan. An additional 277,000 returnees are expected to arrive, primarily from Sudan, in 2025.



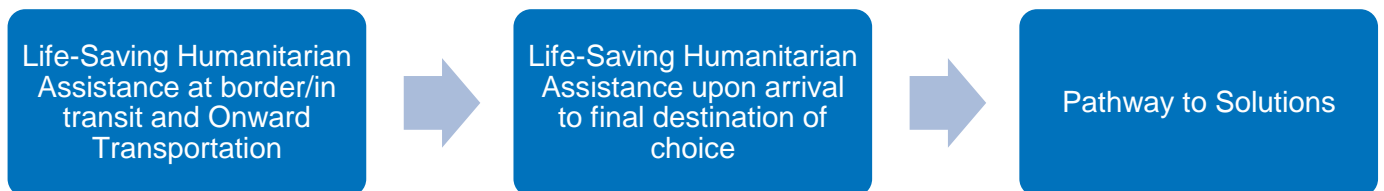
While spontaneous returns reflect returnees' right to return, these movements do not imply that South Sudan is fully safe for returnees. Conditions vary widely across South Sudan, and many

returnees face significant reintegration challenges, such as inadequate shelter, food insecurity, limited access to clean water, and insufficient health and education services. For those arriving from Sudan, these challenges are compounded by trauma and severe protection risks, including heightened exposure to gender-based violence (GBV) during transit. Returnees encounter further obstacles, such as limited employment prospects, an ongoing economic crisis, recurrent flooding, difficulties securing civil documentation, and challenges in claiming housing, land, and property rights.

The humanitarian needs of returning refugees are integrated into the 2025 South Sudan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan based on assessed vulnerabilities in areas of return. In response, humanitarian partners have adopted a three-phase strategy to support returnees and host communities.

To address these needs effectively, scaling up reintegration programs is critical. Such programs promote local development, reduce vulnerabilities, and build resilience within returnee communities. Additionally, ensuring comprehensive protection mechanisms, particularly in high-return areas, will safeguard returnees' rights and support safe, dignified, and sustainable returns. These measures, combined with expanded service provision in healthcare and education, WASH, and nutrition, aim to address the pressing needs of returnees and alleviate pressure on host communities, thereby promoting social cohesion and reducing potential tensions.

Sudan Crisis: Three-Phase Response and Support Framework



Part 2: Country Response, Resilience and Solutions Strategy

Role of the Government

In South Sudan, the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) under the Ministry of the Interior manages and coordinates refugee and asylum matters. It takes the lead in preparedness and regulating the refugee reception mechanisms. The Government of the Republic of South Sudan assumes a lead role in addressing the challenges of refugee response within its borders. Recognising the multifaceted nature of the issue, the government has formulated policies that define the legal status, protection, and integration of refugees. By taking the lead in creating an enabling legal environment, South Sudan ensures that refugees and asylum-seekers benefit from legal protection and access to services, aligning national policies with international standards.

Additionally, the Refugee Response Plan aligns with the [Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework \(UNSDCF\) for the 2023-25 period](#) developed by the United Nations in South Sudan and the latest [National Development Strategy \(NDS\)](#), originally launched in 2018 as a requirement of the first Agreement for Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS) signed in 2015.

The Refugee Response Plan supports and complements the government's lead efforts. By aligning with and bolstering national strategies and policies, the response plan amplifies the impact of government initiatives. It contributes resources, expertise, and coordination mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of the overall response. The plan serves as a collaborative framework that recognises the government's lead role, working in tandem to comprehensively address the challenges of displacement.

The response plan further supports the government's engagement through strategic partnerships with international organisations, NGOs, and donors. By actively participating in coordinating and implementing assistance programmes, the government receives additional support to mobilise resources and augment its capacity. This collaborative approach ensures a unified front in addressing the refugee crisis, emphasising the importance of a collective effort in meeting the diverse needs of displaced populations. The Refugee Response Plan supports the host government to take the lead and play a crucial role in the emergency response. In South Sudan, the line ministries playing a critical role in this response include, but are not limited to the following:

- National and State Ministry of Gender Child and Social Welfare;
- National and State Ministry of General Education and Instruction;
- Ministry of Health;
- Ministry of Health-County Health Department;
- Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management;
- Relief and Rehabilitation Commission;
- Commission for Refugee Affairs;
- Ministry of Interior;
- Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources;
- Ministry of Labour and Human Resource Development;
- Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development;
- Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.



Country Strategic Objectives

1: Support South Sudan authorities to ensure access to territory and asylum for all individuals in need of international protection, in compliance with principles and standards, including the principle of non-refoulement and the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum

The Refugee Response Plan (RRP) partners will support the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to ensure access to territory and asylum procedures for all individuals in need of international protection, especially those arriving from Sudan. The Government of South Sudan will grant access to its territory and a prima facie refugee status to all individuals arriving from Sudan, including refugees and asylum-seekers previously registered in Sudan. Border monitoring conducted jointly with the authorities and partners will allow for tracking new arrivals trends, documenting the most vulnerable, and triggering the subsequent humanitarian response.

1 Access to territory and international protection

2 Life-saving protection and humanitarian assistance

3 Resilience of refugees and asylum-seekers

2: Support South Sudan authorities to provide timely and life-saving protection services and humanitarian assistance for all refugees and asylum-seekers, with a specific focus on the most vulnerable and most at risk

With the new arrivals from Sudan, the partners will maintain transit and reception centres in border areas and refugee hosting locations that receive new arrivals. These centres shall facilitate the rapid provision of protection and life-saving assistance addressing the urgent needs of refugees, ensuring their basic survival and well-being during the initial stages of displacement. Refugees and asylum-seekers will be relocated from transit centres to established camps or settlements designated by the Government of South Sudan, enabling refugees in need of assistance to access long-term protection, shelter, education, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities. In 2023, a new refugee settlement was established in Aweil, Northern Bah el Ghazal, requiring significant investments in infrastructure, site planning, shelter, and access to water. The investments will continue in 2025 with further emphasis on the integrated settlement approach. Current camps and settlements were extended to accommodate new arrivals, providing them with shelters and ensuring access to basic services were expanded.

3: Support South Sudan to build the capacity and resilience of refugees and asylum-seekers, supporting long-term prospects for sustainable development, peace and security, and the attainment of human rights

The partners aim to take a comprehensive refugee response that extends beyond immediate relief efforts. The goal is to empower refugees and asylum-seekers with the skills, resources, and opportunities necessary for their long-term well-being and integration into the host society. This involves supporting the government in increasing a conducive legal environment and inclusive policies and providing refugees with access to education, vocational training, and other tools that enhance their abilities to contribute meaningfully to their communities. Refugees possess untapped potential and investing in their skills and capacities is key to fostering self-reliance and resilience. The partners will seek to lay the groundwork for sustained growth and progress. This will involve initiatives that align with broader development goals, such as infrastructure projects, economic empowerment programmes, and community-building activities. By addressing the refugees' and host communities' needs and aspirations, the partners aim to mitigate potential sources of tension and conflict, fostering an atmosphere conducive to peace and security. Further, more refugees settle down in urban areas, requiring a shift in approach and assistance, adopting a whole-of-community approach in setting up urban refugee response programme aiming at supporting self-reliance of refugees choosing such path.

HDP Nexus Approaches to Promote Protection, Resilience, Inclusion and Solutions

The RRP for South Sudan hinges on the interconnected pillars of humanitarian assistance, development, and peacebuilding, recognising their synergy in achieving sustainable solutions for displaced populations. Humanitarian efforts address immediate needs, ensuring refugees have access to protection, emergency shelter, food, sanitation, education and health care. Concurrently, development interventions lay the groundwork for resilience and self-sufficiency, offering educational opportunities, skills development, entrepreneurship and livelihood support to

empower refugees in rebuilding their lives. Wherever possible, interventions to address the humanitarian needs of those impacted by the emergency response will ensure a development-centred approach to ensure long-term, sustainable and resilient solutions.

Central to this plan is the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, which seeks to address the root causes of displacement and foster regional stability. A year and a half since the start of the conflict in Sudan and no tangible prospects of peace at the moment, return is not an option.

The peace element is particularly attuned to the potential for tensions between refugee groups, especially with the arrival of new populations. Specific measures are implemented to prevent conflicts and promote harmonious coexistence. Community dialogue forums and conflict resolution training are integral components to mitigate potential sources of tension and build understanding among diverse refugee communities.

Moreover, the plan strongly emphasizes equitable resource distribution and inclusive practices to reduce competition and foster collaboration among refugees and host communities. This approach ensures that refugees coexist peacefully, respecting cultural and ethnic diversity. Community-led conflict prevention mechanisms are established to address grievances promptly and constructively. By proactively managing potential conflicts between various refugee groups, the peace element contributes to a cohesive and stable environment, supporting the well-being of all displaced individuals and fostering long-term regional stability.

South Sudan GRF 2023 Pledges

The Government of the Republic of South Sudan in 2019 made five pledges to enhance services to refugees and host communities in the country and foster conditions for returns. Such commitments were made in education, jobs and livelihoods, environment, solutions, and statelessness. In preparation for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum (GRF), the government completed [a stocktaking exercise of its previous commitments, achievements, and challenges](#), and agreed upon the following six pledges: solutions and peacebuilding, education, jobs and livelihoods, climate/environment, statelessness and strengthening asylum system and documentation.

South Sudan Durable Solutions Strategy and Plan of Action for Refugees, IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities

In October 2023, the South Sudan Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) and the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) presented the [National Durable Solutions Strategy and Action Plan for Refugees, Returnees, Internally Displaced Persons \(IDPs\), and Host Communities](#), which the Council Ministers subsequently approved. This strategy, rooted in the [2017 National Framework for Return, Reintegration, and Relocation](#), as well as the South Sudan Action Plan for Return and Recovery, provides a comprehensive guide to addressing the challenges faced by displaced persons returning to their places of origin, integrating into host communities, or seeking refuge in South Sudan.

Developed through extensive consultations involving displaced persons and host communities, the strategy aligns with Chapter 3 of the 2018 Peace Agreement on Humanitarian Assistance and Reconstruction. It is grounded in principles of development-oriented, area-based, and rights-based approaches, emphasising national ownership and the active participation of affected communities.

Key objectives include:

1. Creating a safe environment for durable solutions;
2. Providing basic services to support returns and integration;
3. Promoting social integration and livelihoods for refugees, IDPs, returnees, and host communities;
4. Strengthening government capacity at all levels; and
5. Enhancing government ownership and coordination for effective interventions.

The strategy serves as a guiding framework for government and partners, including NGOs, international organizations, and UN agencies, in implementing durable solutions. It is anchored in the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) and the UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement.

Implementation is led by the South Sudanese government and supported by a Solutions Architecture comprising National and State Task Forces. This structure enhances coordination, mobilises resources, and fosters accountability

across all levels. UNHCR contributed technical expertise and supported consultations to ensure the strategy incorporates protection-focused and solutions-based approaches.

By focusing on reintegration, recovery, and sustainable access to services and livelihoods, the strategy aims to reduce the dependence of displaced populations on humanitarian aid. Ultimately, it seeks to create conditions where displaced persons can fully exercise their rights and live without displacement-related protection needs.



30 year-old mother of three, Limiya David and her daughter have established their lives, constructed a semi-permanent house and started a small scale business – selling onions and other small household commodities – which she says helps compliment the assistance she receives from UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations.

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Country Cross-Cutting Response Priorities



Age, gender, and diversity (AGD) and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

RRP partners prioritise meaningful inclusion and diversity, focusing on age, gender, disability, and other identity aspects while ensuring strong accountability to affected populations. The 2025 RRP promotes transparent, inclusive, and two-way communication to actively engage refugees and asylum-seekers, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are incorporated into decision-making processes. Tools such as focus group discussions, participatory assessments, community dialogues, and household surveys provide vital insights into the diverse circumstances of refugees, ensuring interventions are responsive to their unique needs. By fostering a sense of ownership and partnership, the RRP enhances accountability, upholds dignity, and improves the effectiveness of interventions for the most vulnerable groups, ensuring that inclusivity is at the heart of the response.



Disability Inclusion

The South Sudan Refugee Response Plan places a strong emphasis on disability inclusion through the implementation of robust registration and profiling systems to effectively identify individuals with disabilities among refugees and asylum-seekers. Targeted interventions will encompass essential services such as healthcare, GBV prevention and response, education, and livelihoods, ensuring access to maternal and sexual and reproductive health services. The plan prioritises creating an accessible environment by ensuring that transit and reception centres, refugee camps, and settlements have accessible facilities. This focus on accessibility enhances the well-being, dignity, and independence of persons with disabilities within the refugee community.



Youth

Recognizing the pivotal role of young people in shaping the future, the 2025 RRP prioritises refugee youth's unique needs and aspirations. This includes providing targeted interventions such as education, skill-building, and vocational training programmes to empower youth to actively contribute to the socioeconomic development of refugee camps and settlements. The plan promotes youth participation in decision-making processes, ensuring their voices are heard and valued. Investing in youth, the RRP aims to enhance resilience, foster a sense of purpose, and promote a foundation for long-term sustainable development and positive community engagement.



Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

The partners are committed to creating a safe and secure environment that mitigates the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse. Comprehensive measures will be implemented, including awareness campaigns, training sessions, and community engagement initiatives. Clear reporting mechanisms will be reinforced to ensure that individuals can safely and confidentially report any concerns or incidents of abuse. By embedding a robust PSEA framework into its operations, the response plan will uphold the highest standards of integrity, accountability, and protection, safeguarding the dignity and well-being of all displaced people.



Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS)

Mental health and psychosocial well-being are essential components of the 2025 RRP. The plan integrates MHPSS services across all sectors, including health, protection, and education, providing community-based psychosocial activities and targeted mental health services for individuals requiring specialised care. MHPSS will strengthen supportive systems for families and communities while building resilience through scalable interventions. These services will ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers can cope with the trauma and stress of displacement, fostering recovery and well-being.



Localisation

The 2025 RRP will focus on expanding and deepening localisation efforts, recognising the crucial role of local partners and communities in the refugee response. A key priority is addressing the need for more local partners by investing in capacity-building initiatives, ensuring that local NGOs and refugee-led organisations (RLOs) are not only recipients of seed funding but also fully engaged in RRP planning and decision-making. RLOs will be included in the refugee response, providing the necessary visibility for them to continue their path towards securing independent funding. Additionally, the RRP will work closely with the NGO Forum to implement a comprehensive localisation strategy, which includes more robust engagement with the government of South Sudan. This approach promotes national ownership and fosters sustainable, locally-led humanitarian action.



Climate Action

Refugees and asylum-seekers face heightened vulnerabilities in the context of climate change, with increased risks of extreme weather events and resource scarcity. The RRP integrates climate-resilient measures into infrastructure development, resource management, and livelihood support with a strong focus on preventing the effects of climate shocks like floods. Sustainable practices, such as renewable energy solutions and environmentally conscious initiatives, will be prioritised to minimise the ecological footprint. Furthermore, community awareness and capacity-building programmes will enhance resilience in the face of climate-related challenges, with refugees and their hosts included in early warning systems.



Use of Cash Assistance

Cash assistance is a key component of the RRP's strategy to address refugees' immediate needs while promoting flexibility and efficiency. Through unrestricted multipurpose cash grants, RRP partners empower refugees and asylum-seekers to make choices best suited to their personal circumstances, whether to secure food, shelter, or other essentials. This approach upholds dignity and autonomy, allowing individuals more control over their resources and reducing the logistical challenges associated with traditional in-kind aid. The use of cash assistance also brings economic benefits, stimulating local markets, enhancing supply chain routes, and supporting local businesses within and around refugee-hosting areas. By prioritizing cash over physical aid where appropriate, the RRP maximizes the impact of humanitarian interventions, ensuring a cost-effective, adaptable, and responsive approach to the changing needs of displaced populations. Similarly, partners provide cash to GBV survivors through cash for protection initiatives and explore cash modalities within health sector.

UNHCR is central in coordinating cash assistance in South Sudan, serving as a lead for the Financial Service Providers (FSP) workstream and refugee workstream under the National Cash Working Group. In partnership with the National Cash Working Group, UNHCR is expanding the reach of multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA), providing technical support in targeting and selection processes to ensure effective distribution of cash aid.

Sectoral Responses



PROTECTION

The South Sudan government is encouraged to uphold its commitment to providing access and prima facie refugee status to individuals arriving from Sudan, in line with the 2012 Refugee Act, which guarantees the right to seek asylum and offers a solid legal framework for refugee protection. To maintain the civilian character of asylum, the government conducts screening to separate combatants from civilians, ensuring vulnerable populations are safeguarded. At key border points, authorities and humanitarian partners will monitor population movements, conduct vulnerability profiling, and perform nutrition and health screenings, with data systematically recorded on the [UNHCR-IOM joint dashboard](#) to support coordinated responses.

Refugees and asylum-seekers will receive immediate assistance and support for safe transit to camps and settlements, with special attention to individuals with specific needs, including unaccompanied minors, persons with disabilities, female-headed households, and survivors of GBV. Refugees will be registered and provided with necessary documentation to uphold their rights. As more refugees settle in out-of-camp and urban locations, mobile registration will ensure the delivery of protection, documentation, and identification of those with specific needs, along with referrals to protection services. Coordination with local authorities will be essential to facilitate access to basic services in urban areas, including healthcare, education, and legal support, which are often less accessible to refugees.

Community engagement and two-way communication will be prioritized, enabling refugees to participate in decision-making processes, provide feedback, and receive critical information on their rights and available services. This participatory approach will empower refugees to take an active role in their own protection and help refine service delivery based on their needs.

The protection response will also enhance specialized support for high-risk groups, including LGBTIQ+ individuals, older persons, and survivors of trafficking, who face distinct protection risks. Tailored interventions and dedicated referral pathways will ensure that these individuals receive appropriate and safe services.

Ongoing protection monitoring, safety audits, and assessments will identify and address evolving needs, informing prompt risk mitigation and advocacy efforts. The operation also aims to expand resettlement opportunities for those at heightened risk in 2025.



Sub-Sector: Child Protection

The Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare coordinates child protection programs across the country, with child protection actors progressively scaling up efforts to meet growing needs. In 2025, child protection programs will focus on enhancing services for children at risk, including identification, Best Interests Procedure, and family tracing and reunification for unaccompanied and separated children. Inclusive child protection systems will be strengthened to ensure that refugee and asylum-seeker children are identified and referred to appropriate multisectoral services. Support will also be extended to children, families, and communities to empower them in preventing and addressing child protection risks, fostering a protective environment that engages all levels of the community.

Child protection will be mainstreamed across other sectors, particularly in education, public health, shelter and settlements, livelihoods, and basic needs, to ensure comprehensive support for children's safety and well-being. Promoting child participation and child-friendly communication will enhance accountability and help prevent harm, encouraging children's voices in the response. Efforts to build resilience in children will be strengthened through psychosocial support and linkages to mental health services to support positive coping and well-being.

Collaboration between the child protection sub-sector, GBV, protection, and other sectors will ensure a cohesive, integrated protection response that meets the diverse needs of at-risk children. The child protection sub-sector will advocate for the inclusion of the growing number of refugee children in urban contexts to access national services.



Sub-sector: Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

In 2025, the GBV sector will enhance survivor-centred services by strengthening case management, psychological support, cash assistance and health services, including the clinical management of rape, in collaboration with protection, child protection, and health sectors across transit centres, camps, and settlements. Systematic documentation of GBV services will be maintained through an improved information management system, while advocacy with authorities will address child and early marriage, improving prevention and response efforts. In urban context, GBV sector will advocate for the inclusion of refugees in the national GBV services. This includes facilitating access of refugees to existing service delivery points in urban settings, such as women and girls' friendly spaces, one-stop centres and temporary shelters (safe houses) for GBV survivors.

Specialised prevention programs like [SASA!](#), Girl Shine, and [Engaging Men through Accountable Practice \(EMAP\)](#) will empower women and girls, raise awareness, and engage men and boys to address intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and early marriage. Non-GBV sectors will be supported in GBV risk identification and mitigation, with joint multi-sectoral safety audits, risk mitigation training, and safe disclosure and referral practices to ensure comprehensive risk awareness.

In partnership with livelihood and education sectors, GBV initiatives will strengthen the resilience of at-risk women and girls by supporting safe livelihood and economic empowerment opportunities and continued education. Coordination will be reinforced through GBV sub-working groups in high-need areas, and capacity building for line ministries, government bodies, and women-led refugee organisations will promote localisation and sustainable community involvement.

To ensure ethical and safe data management, the use of GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS+) will be expanded, with training and monitoring to protect data integrity. GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response services will inclusively address the needs of women at risk, individuals with disabilities, and LGBTIQ+ persons. Inter-agency GBV SOPs will guide cohesive action across the sector, with regular monitoring of case management, referral systems, and programs at women and girls' safe spaces to support prevention and risk mitigation efforts in a secure, inclusive environment.



EDUCATION

Given the large number of school-aged children, the education response will focus on ensuring continuity of learning for all children and promoting refugee inclusion within South Sudan's education system, which faces significant challenges. South Sudan has approximately 2.8 million children who are currently out of school in addition to those who have recently returned and in need of education services. For refugee families, education is a top priority, often influencing their choice of settlement location. As refugee populations increasingly settle in urban areas, closer coordination with the Ministry of Education and partners will be essential to expand capacities in urban areas and ensure refugee children are effectively included within local schools.

RRP partners will adopt an area-based whole school package education response to address barriers to education through the establishment where needed and upgrading of learning spaces to increase the capacity of the national system to accommodate the new learners, providing support on foundational literacy and numeracy and social-emotional learning (for teachers and learners) and incentivising teachers including their Continuous Professional Development all for refugees, returnees and host community. Child-friendly spaces will provide learning through play and recreation in collaboration with child protection partners for children in transit. Families will also receive information about learning options at their destination, enabling quick enrollment and minimising learning loss.

To support the growing demand for higher education, the program will also prioritise adolescent refugees, many of whom abandoned university studies when fleeing Sudan. Working with higher education institutions, partners will explore pathways for university students to continue their education, including scholarship options and online learning support. Additionally, language and accelerated learning classes will be provided to help new arrivals who have previously studied Arabic to facilitate a smoother transition into the South Sudanese education system.



FOOD SECURITY

With a strategic shift from blanket food assistance toward a needs-based and self-reliant approach, UNHCR and WFP conducted a joint assessment (JPDM, 2023) to design targeted assistance. In 2024, this approach prioritised life-saving aid for the most vulnerable refugees rather than full implementation of tailored assistance. The first phase of needs-based targeting, including a protection-driven vulnerability top-up, was rolled out in 2024 through community consultations, and 2025 will focus on monitoring and adjustments based on available resources and continued dialogue with communities.

The primary focus will be on general food distribution (in-kind or cash, as feasible) for registered refugees in camps and settlements, prioritising based on needs, season, and vulnerability levels. Given the increasing number of refugees settling in urban areas, partners will work to design an urban response program to meet the specific needs of urban refugees. Scaling up emergency agriculture for immediate access to food through fishing and production of vegetables for use in 30 days will be prioritized alongside livelihood initiatives that will enable refugees meet at least half of their annual household food need. This will be augmented with engagement in viable value chains as an essential part of their community engagement and gradual transition refugee families from monthly food assistance toward self-reliance and economic stability. Key priorities include engaging development and livelihood partners to expand opportunities, particularly in agriculture, to address food gaps and promote self-sufficiency. Enhanced information-sharing and analysis—through food basket monitoring, post-distribution monitoring, and joint assessment missions—will enable evidence-based programming and adaptive responses. Emergency preparedness, including contingency planning for food security, will remain critical to ensure swift responses where needed.

For new arrivals, continuous food assistance from entry points to final destinations will support resilience and smooth transitions post-emergency. Upon arrival, high-energy biscuits or ready-to-eat food will sustain refugees during onward movement, followed by sustained food assistance in transit sites until they reach designated camps or settlements.

In camps and settlements, general food distribution will initially employ a blanket approach, gradually transitioning to needs-based targeting informed by ongoing monitoring and evaluation. This phased approach, alongside expanding livelihood support, will help build long-term resilience, reduce dependency on emergency food aid, and empower refugee families toward self-sufficiency.



PUBLIC HEALTH

Life-saving health services at reception and transit locations are a priority, with services offering essential health care and managing non-communicable diseases. Health screenings and immunisation efforts at border crossings and transit sites aim to prevent the spread of infectious diseases and reduce the risk of community outbreaks, with rapid response teams deployed for immunisation campaigns as needed. Water quality testing in transit areas will help prevent waterborne illnesses.

In transit and arrival areas, maternal sexual and reproductive health services and clinical management of rape will be coordinated with partners, the GBV sector, and public health facilities. Partners will ensure availability of essential supplies for clinical delivery assistance, post-rape treatment, sexually transmitted infections, miscarriage management and safe blood transfusion in health facilities providing sexual and reproductive health services in transit centres as well as in urban settings. Mental health and psychosocial support, along with necessary medications, will be scaled up to meet the increasing need. Disease surveillance and response will be strengthened, with enhanced health screening at border points, capacity-building for partner staff, and improved outbreak preparedness. Referral systems will support continued care at arrival points and destinations, including medical evacuations for patients with acute and chronic conditions requiring specialised care. Essential health screenings will be conducted for those registering for transport to ensure a safe journey.

In line with the Health Sector Transformation Project (HSTP), capacity-building efforts will aim to integrate refugee health services into the government system, focusing on continuity of care and sustainable handover of health facilities to local authorities. Critical medications and supplies will be prioritised for public health facilities and partners to support emergency care for new arrivals. This integrated approach, rooted in national health frameworks, strengthens the response's resilience and sustainability.

NUTRITION

Partners will deliver life-saving nutrition services in transit, refugee camps and settlements, focusing on prevention and treatment to improve and maintain nutrition among refugees. The response aligns with national systems, emphasising local capacity-building for sustainable, resilient outcomes.

At borders and transit sites, nutrition screening identifies malnourished children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW), who are then enrolled in nutrition services. Those with severe malnutrition and medical complications are referred to stabilisation centres with transportation assistance. Camp nutrition services will be strengthened to handle increased arrivals, with enhanced supply prepositioning and additional staffing. Mass Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screenings will be conducted quarterly, and caregivers will receive training to check MUAC at home, ensuring timely intervention. Treatment of micronutrient deficiencies, especially anaemia, will be implemented through a targeted strategy.

Preventative measures include distributing lipid-based emergency nutrition supplements at border points, with PBW and non-malnourished children under five receiving supplementary food in transit centres and one week's supply for those under two when leaving. In camps, supplementary feeding targets children under two and PBW. Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) counselling is provided to promote good nutrition and hygiene practices. Kitchen gardening demonstrations in camps encourage dietary diversity, while Vitamin A and deworming are administered to children to boost health. Primary school lunches will also help bridge food gaps, improving attendance and learning outcomes.

Community engagement is central, with nutrition partners using radio messaging, interpersonal outreach, and educational materials to promote essential life-saving practices. Volunteers, including community nutrition workers and Boma Health Workers, are trained to reinforce community feedback, messaging, and referrals. This integrated approach meets both immediate and longer-term needs, bolstering nutrition resilience for refugees and host communities.



LIVELIHOODS & ECONOMIC INCLUSION (LEI) AND ENVIRONMENT

As part of the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR) pledges, the Government of South Sudan has committed to expanding economic opportunities and equitable development in refugee-hosting areas through refugee-friendly policies, social protection schemes, and empowerment initiatives by 2027. The livelihoods and economic inclusion sector aims to ensure that forcibly displaced people, both women and men, avail of skills development, gain access to sustainable livelihoods, fostering greater self-reliance and promoting gender equality.

The sector focuses on four priority areas as key pathways to employment: access to market-driven skills training, land and productive assets, financial inclusion, and resilience to different shocks. With refugees facing seasonal targeting for food assistance, building stronger resilience and scaling up livelihoods interventions is essential to eliminate dependence on aid, improve food security, and avoid negative coping strategies. Successful implementation of livelihoods activities will rely on stronger partnerships with the private sector and development partners to create job opportunities and collaborate with financial institutions to increase refugees' access to financial services. Connectivity remains limited in many areas; however, new market developments offer hope for improved, cheaper digital access, which could significantly enhance refugee education and employment opportunities.

A key shift in South Sudan's approach to refugee assistance involves supporting the many new arrivals who bring valuable skills and experience. Many have university education and professional backgrounds in healthcare, education, engineering, and other fields. As many of these refugees choose to settle in urban areas, they require tailored support to secure employment and achieve self-reliance.

The sector will strengthen vocational training and capacity-building efforts to bridge the gap between secondary and postsecondary skills, preparing refugees for wage-earning employment. Sector partners will promote market-driven skills training across agriculture, industry, education, handicrafts, commerce, and private sector engagement. Apprenticeships and job placement schemes will be tailored to the diverse interests and needs of women, men, and individuals with disabilities.

The sector will promote graduation programs focused on business development, including revolving grants, mentorship, financial literacy training, and linkages to Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), as a pathway to building resilience and facilitating inclusion in social protection schemes. Climate-smart technologies, clean energy initiatives, tree planting, and sustainable land use practices will be prioritized, alongside measures to adapt to and mitigate climate shocks and enhance resilience for both refugees and host communities.



SETTLEMENT & SHELTER/HOUSING

Partners have developed a comprehensive strategy for shelter and infrastructure in response to the continued influx of refugees from Sudan. Capacity will be maintained and ready for expansion in high-risk influx areas anticipated for 2025, including Renk, Malakal, Yida, Abyei, Maban, and other key locations. This proactive approach aims to ensure a rapid response should displacement dynamics shift.

The strategy builds on the integrated settlement approach, emphasising expanding and improving Wedweil Refugee Settlement using best practices in integrated community planning. This approach aims to foster sustainable settlement solutions that promote social cohesion with host communities, enhancing access to shared services and infrastructure.

In the third year of this crisis, UNHCR and partners will work closely with refugee communities to develop durable shelters that are sustainable, environmentally friendly, and climate-resilient. These shelters will use locally sourced materials and consider long-term resilience, aligning with community needs and environmental factors.

In areas prone to regular flooding, such as Maban, flood mitigation measures will be further explored and implemented in partnership with communities. This includes elevated shelter designs, improved drainage systems, and community-led flood preparedness initiatives to minimise the impact of seasonal floods on shelter infrastructure.

With refugee camps and settlements reaching full capacity, UNHCR and partners, in collaboration with government authorities and the Ministry of Land, Housing, Public Utilities, and Infrastructure, will work to identify suitable land for expansion. Land selection will prioritise road connectivity, accessibility, and access to essential social services and infrastructure to support sustainable and organised settlement development. Standard guidelines for transit centers and settlement development—covering site planning, shelter layouts, service areas, and solid waste management—will be applied to ensure safe, dignified, and resilient living conditions for all refugees.



WASH

RRP partners will deliver life-saving WASH services at entry points and transit locations, ensuring access to 20 litres of safe drinking water per person per day through water trucking, treatment, or expansion of water networks. Building on the heavy lifting achieved in 2023 and 2024, efforts in 2025 will focus on maintaining, expanding, and enhancing self-reliance in existing infrastructure, such as installing solar-powered water systems to ensure sustainable access. Existing water points will be repaired or rehabilitated where possible, with water trucking used as a last resort. Additional water storage and distribution points will be installed to ensure equitable access and reduced wait times.

Safe, dignified, and gender-appropriate sanitation facilities will be expanded across transit and reception sites. This includes constructing or rehabilitating latrines, bathing shelters, and emergency septic tanks. Regular desludging and maintenance will ensure hygienic conditions, supported by hand-washing stations and cleaning mechanisms. Preventing cholera and other WASH-related diseases remains a priority, so WASH partners will collaborate closely with health actors to integrate health messaging, access to clean water and soap, and robust sanitation measures.

At transit sites, partners will distribute essential WASH items like soap and dignity kits for women and girls, accompanied by risk communication and hygiene messaging. In host communities, trained mobilizers and hygiene promoters will conduct house-to-house visits, megaphone announcements, and community sessions on cholera prevention. Additional communication efforts, including radio messaging and materials, will engage community leaders to advocate for WASH practices among refugees, migrants, and hosts.

In refugee camps and host communities, WASH partners, in coordination with camp management, will ensure sufficient water points and sanitation facilities by constructing, installing, and rehabilitating infrastructure to meet growing needs. Sanitation services will provide temporary latrines for new arrivals who are transitioning to household facilities. Risk communication and hygiene promotion will be continued across these settings to encourage safe practices and effective use of WASH facilities.



BASIC NEEDS

At national and sub-national levels, the cash response will be coordinated in line with the new cash coordination model, bringing together diverse stakeholders for a unified approach. This collaboration strengthens synergies across various cash assistance programs, with a strong focus on data to support coordination. With most refugees now biometrically registered, UNHCR will work closely with partners to ensure effective targeting and prevent duplication of assistance. Coordination with the Cash Working Group (WG) will be centralised nationally, aligning efforts across regions. Furthermore, RRP supports sectoral cash, like cash for protection and cash for health. The cash for protection prioritizes GBV survivors ensuring the financial needs of GBV survivors are identified during GBV case management and addressed accordingly.

An integrated approach centred on unrestricted multipurpose cash assistance complements sectoral responses, especially food security programs, as most cash addresses food needs. By synchronising with other sectors, the strategy delivers a more holistic response that empowers refugees and asylum seekers to prioritise their own needs, whether for food, shelter, or other essentials. The Age, Gender, and Diversity framework plays a pivotal role here, ensuring targeted, inclusive support that meets the specific needs of vulnerable groups. This inclusive targeting approach further enhances the precision and relevance of assistance.

In 2025, there will be a stronger push to monetise more assistance, recognising cash as a highly effective, cost-efficient delivery method. With more refugees settling down outside of camps and refugee settlements in an urban context, partners will pilot cash assistance programmes in an urban context. In addition to lifesaving aid, the response plan prioritises resilience-building activities that address both immediate and long-term needs. By intertwining resilience-focused activities with cash assistance, the plan helps communities develop critical skills, resources, and coping mechanisms that extend beyond the crisis. Linkages with government social protection programs further bolster resilience by integrating affected populations into broader social safety nets. This approach meets present needs and lays the groundwork for sustainable recovery, empowering individuals and communities to adapt to future challenges and reduce their vulnerability to new crises.



SUPPLY (LOGISTICS AND PROCUREMENT)

Given South Sudan's challenging and often impassable road infrastructure, especially during the rainy season, partners will emphasize a strategic mix of road, river, and air transport alongside early planning to avoid supply disruptions. River transport will remain a cost-effective option for moving non-food items (NFIs) and essential supplies including medical supplies from Juba to key field locations. The pre-positioning of emergency supplies before the rainy season will continue as a core approach, enabling operations to proceed with minimal disruption despite adverse weather. Coordination with WFP and the Logistics Cluster will support safe and efficient delivery of essential items using a consolidated cargo system, with careful planning to mitigate potential delays. Where feasible, cash-based assistance will increasingly be used to meet basic needs, providing flexibility and reducing the logistical burden.

Relocating refugees from entry points like Renk and Abyei will remain a top priority. In coordination with the government, refugees will be relocated to designated hosting areas such as Maban, Jamjang, Wedweil, and others, allowing refugees to select locations that best meet their needs while also balancing population flows and service demands across regions.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Strengthening connectivity and security communications systems will be essential on the telecommunications front. Following the successful installation of internet and satellite-based radio systems in Renk and Wedweil, efforts will focus on ensuring stable, high-performance connectivity across all strategic locations. Backup systems, including the VSAT link in Renk, will help reduce downtime and provide continuous internet access critical for registration and coordination activities. IT teams will maintain regular infrastructure upgrades, with expanded connectivity to additional transit centers to support seamless registration, coordination, and protection services for refugees.

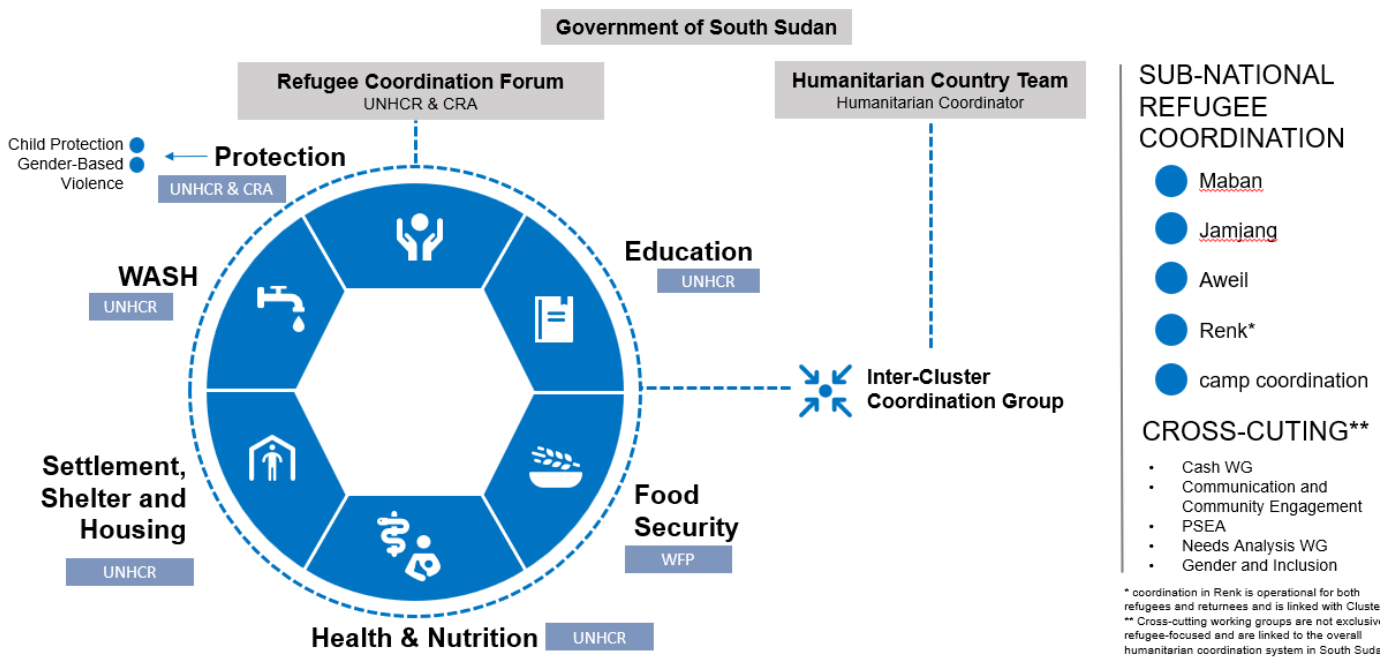
Partnership and Coordination

The refugee response in South Sudan follows the Refugee Coordination Model framework, jointly led by the CRA and UNHCR. At the national level, the Refugee Coordination Meeting serves as an inclusive platform for strategic discussions, fostering collaboration and information exchange among partners. Sectoral coordination mechanisms support these efforts, providing technical-level discussions that promote a comprehensive approach to meeting the diverse needs of refugees and asylum-seekers, while ensuring active engagement with government counterparts. In response to the increased arrivals from Sudan, coordination mechanisms will be strengthened in 2025 to support a cohesive and effective humanitarian response. Regular coordination at the camp level with partners and authorities will continue, and with more refugees now in out-of-camp settings, UNHCR will work to promote refugee inclusion in national services and broader humanitarian programs.

The response to the Sudan crisis for refugees and returnees is structured in three phases: reception at border areas, transit centers, and transportation; immediate intervention in camps, settlements, and return areas; and longer-term support for resilience, integration, and pathways to solutions through a humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus approach.

While refugee needs are addressed under this plan using the Refugee Coordination Model, returnee needs are met through the 2025 South Sudan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP), employing a cluster-based approach to ensure targeted support.












Refugee Coordination in South Sudan



Annex 1 - Budget Summary by Partner

Partner	Refugees from Sudan	Refugees from other countries	Total requirements
UN agencies			
Food and Agriculture Organization	11,300,000	700,000	12,000,000
International Organisation for Migration	250,000		250,000
United Nations Children's Fund	23,413,526	3,224,668	26,638,194
United Nations Development Programme	7,300,000	3,550,000	10,850,000
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	132,628,234	18,114,211	150,742,446
United Nations Population Fund	2,869,020	318,780	3,187,800
World Food Programme	158,979,854	7,864,983	166,844,837
International NGOs			
ACROSS	2,328,200	330,000	2,658,200
Adventist Development and Relief Agency	1,090,000	390,000	1,480,000
Africa Humanitarian Action	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
African Community Agency for Development and Relief	85,000	85,000	170,000
African Initiative For Relief And Development	2,500,000	-	2,500,000
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	1,880,400	59,600	1,940,000
Alight	2,275,036	100,000	2,375,036
Concern Worldwide	1,768,346	-	1,768,346
Danish Refugee Council	1,468,000		1,468,000
Food Against Hunger	1,638,000	462,000	2,100,000
GOAL	599,220	112,000	711,220
Humanitarian and Development Consortium	575,000	850,000	1,425,000
Humanity and Inclusion	3,600,000	1,800,000	5,400,000
INKOMOKO	3,000,000	2,000,000	5,000,000
International Rescue Committee	11,450,000	1,290,000	12,740,000
Lutheran World Federation	4,726,184	413,000	5,139,184
Medicaire	1,730,000	616,000	2,346,000
Norwegian Refugee Council	1,692,000	50,000	1,742,000
OXFAM International - GB	3,100,000	1,550,000	4,650,000
Plan International	3,296,622	554,720	3,851,342
Relief International	8,300,000	560,000	8,860,000
Samaritans Purse	2,543,835	1,200,000	3,743,835
Save the Children International	2,500,000	1,500,000	4,000,000
Solidarités International	4,000,000		4,000,000
War Child Holland	400,000	170,000	570,000
Welthungerhilfe	1,500,000		1,500,000
World Vision International	1,510,000	1,000,000	2,510,000
National NGOs			
Africa Development Aid	700,000	370,000	1,070,000
Agency for Child Relief Aid	950,000	-	950,000
Dialogue and Research Institute	350,000	100,000	450,000
Episcopal Development Aid	720,000	140,000	860,000
Greater Upper Nile Organization	250,000	200,000	450,000
Healthcare Foundation Organization	1,140,000	430,000	1,570,000
Humane-Aid for Community Organization	150,000	50,000	200,000
Integrated Humanitarian Aid	819,468	-	819,468
Peace and Education Development Programme	-	700,000	700,000
Refugee Development Organisation	15,000		15,000
South Sudan Women United	1,003,000	143,000	1,146,000
Women Agency for Resilience and Transformation	490,000	300,000	790,000
Youth Relief Organisation	402,000	318,000	720,000
TOTAL	415,785,945	51,965,962	467,751,907

Annex 2 – Country Monitoring Framework

Sector	Indicator	Target	
	Protection	# of people recorded at border crossing points	150,000
		# of people registered on an individual basis	150,000
		# of people who received protection services	90,000
		# of people assisted with onward transportation to their intended location	105,000
		Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms	100
	Child Protection	# of children and caregivers who received child protection services	15,232
		# of unaccompanied and separated children identified	1,500
	Gender-Based Violence	# of identified GBV survivors and persons at risk assisted with appropriate support (including dignity kits, life-saving services, psychosocial support, case management, referral)	81,600
		# of people reached through GBV prevention activities	217,600
		Education	Number of children enrolled in primary education
Number of children enrolled in secondary education			11,351
Number of children enrolled in tertiary education			700
# of people who benefitted from education programming			118,414
	Food Security	# of people receiving food assistance	472,000
	Health	# of individuals consultations supported in health care services	200,000
		Refugees are included in national health policies and plans	Yes
		# of births attended by skilled health workers	8,000
	Nutrition	# of children admitted to therapeutic feed program (TFP)	5,530
	WASH	# of people per communal toilets/latrines	20
		Average # of litres of potable water available per person per day	20
		# of people supported with access to sustainably produced water	408,000
	Shelter	# of emergency shelter provided/maintained	12,000
		# of people supported with more sustainable shelter/ housing	27,200
	NFI	# of people who have received non-food items	150,000
	Basic Needs	# of people benefiting from the multipurpose cash assistance (CBI)	45,000
		# of people supported with improved cooking options	3,583
	Livelihoods	# of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions	26,000
	Partnership	# of RRP Partners able to deliver in the response	48