SOUTH SUDAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE - ETHIOPIA
PROTECTION AND EDUCATION FACTSHEET

May 2026

Highlights

Protection monitoring missions across key border and camp locations identified critical humanitarian needs among asylum seekers fleeing conflict in South Sudan, including gaps in shelter, food assistance, healthcare, and access to safe water. Engagement with local authorities and affected communities informed prioritization of urgent protection interventions. Coordination was strengthened through Protection Working Group discussions, with agreement to update child protection and gender-based violence referral pathways and reinforce inter-agency collaboration. The response capacity was further expanded through the onboarding of a new partner supporting protection and peacebuilding activities, alongside continued community engagement efforts to strengthen representative structures and community-based protection mechanisms.

Response & Challenges

Response efforts focused on sustaining life-saving protection services, including case management, psychosocial support, and awareness raising, while enhancing coordination to ensure continuity of assistance. However, operations were constrained by challenges, including limited staff mobility due to fuel shortages, high turnover of trained personnel, and delays in delivery of humanitarian assistance linked to access and administrative constraints. Poor infrastructure and limited road access to key locations further affected operational reach, with conditions expected to deteriorate during the rainy season, increasing the risk of isolation and service disruption. These constraints, combined with already fragile conditions on the ground, heightened protection risks and underscored the need for urgent intervention and improved access to affected populations.

Achievements

- **6** Child Friendly Space Attended by **400** Children Daily
- **307** Best Interest Procedure (BIP) Case Management
- **23** Unaccompanied Children Placed in Foster Care
- **30** Foster Families Trained
- **25** GBV Case Management
- **103** Dignity Kit Distributed
- **19** Community-Based Protection Committees Established
- **9** Feedback Mechanism Established And Functioning
- **4** Protection Desk Deployed
- **193** Home Visit Conducted
- **105** Focus Group Discussions With Refugees
- **36** Awareness Raising Sessions on SEA

Key Figures

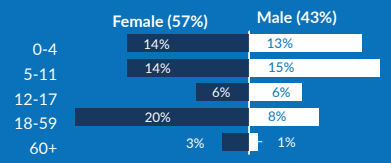
100K
Population Planning Figure
(New arrivals)

446K
Refugees from South Sudan in Ethiopia

18
Response Partners Under Emergency Response Plan

50,030
Total Individuals Registered Refugees Level 1 (Since 22 July 2025)

Demographic (Registered Refugees Level 1)



11,908
Refugees Registered With Different Categories Of Vulnerability

10,482
Children At Risk

8,438 Separated Children
794 Unaccompanied Children
1,250 Other Vulnerable Children
5,777 Girls (of them)

Working in partnership with

For more information please visit : UNHCR Ethiopia Operation https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/eth

UNHCR declared Level 2 Emergency in May 2025