

South Sudan


November 2024

South Sudan hosts over **500,000 refugees** and **asylum seekers**. Sudan is the primary country of origin constituting **95%** of refugees, followed by DRC (**3%**), and Ethiopia (**1%**). Most refugees, (**97%**) reside across **12** camps/settlements, while **3%** live in urban areas.

Since the start of the **Sudan emergency**, some **840,000** new arrivals have sought safety in South Sudan. Most, (**77%**) are South Sudanese nationals returning home, whilst the rest includes **180,000** Sudanese refugees as well as smaller numbers of other foreign nationals.

In addition to the Sudan response, UNHCR continues to assist over **two million** people forcibly displaced by civil war, sub-national conflict and four years of consecutive flooding and climate-related shocks.

Population Figures

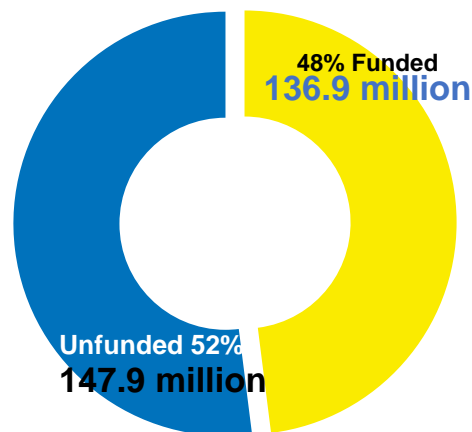
Refugees 	500,000
IDPs 	2 million
Refugee Returnees 	1.4 million

Country of Origin

Sudan	472,852
DRC	13,982
Ethiopia	5,728
Eritrea	2,751
Others	3,859

USD 284.5 million

requested for South Sudan as of 31 October



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

344 National Staff

105 International Staff

Offices:

01 Country Office in Juba

02 Sub Office in Maban and Jamjang

07 Field Offices in Bentiu, Bor, Malakal, Torit, Wau, Yambio and Yei

04 Field Units in Renk, Abyei, Juba, and Aweil


Figure 1 Sudanese refugee offering coffee in Gorom Refugee Camp

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works closely with the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) on the refugee response, Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) in returnee and IDP settings, and the Directorate of Civil Registry, Nationality, Passports, and Immigration (DCRNPI) to address statelessness.
- UNHCR and UNMISS have been cooperating based on a "Principles of Partnership" since 2021 to jointly advance peace and the pursuit of durable solutions.
- UNHCR actively engages with the UN Humanitarian Country Team and leads the protection and CCCM clusters. UNHCR also works with over 21 NGOs (16 international and 5 national NGOs) to provide protection and assistance.

Key Priorities

In recent years, South Sudan has faced increasing political instability, a worsening economic crisis intensified by ongoing conflict in Sudan and severe flooding, alongside other climate-related shocks. Approximately 75% of South Sudan's 12 million population are in-need of humanitarian assistance. These needs have intensified against a backdrop of shrinking resources and a fatigued funding environment. As a result, UNHCR has had to change its working modalities and reprioritise, focusing on delivering critical life-saving assistance to those most in need, while also advancing sustainable solutions and area-based approaches.

Level 3 Emergency: Responding with lifesaving support.

- In response to the Sudan emergency, UNHCR rapidly scaled up to meet urgent protection and humanitarian needs at border, transit, and refugee-hosting sites.
- UNHCR, together with the Government of South Sudan and IOM, are present at 27 border points monitoring arrivals; and has established 12 transit/reception centres across the country where new arrivals can access basic health, protection, food, and shelter assistance before receiving onward transportation to their areas or origin for returnees or to refugee receiving camps and settlements. Once settled, refugees receive access to already established health, education, protection, shelter and water and sanitation (WASH) assistance.

Protection: Upholding fundamental human rights

- UNHCR works closely with the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) to build national asylum capacity, [advocate with authorities](#) to uphold the rights of refugees and asylum-seekers and support national inclusion of those displaced in national services such as education, healthcare, and birth registration.
- UNHCR also works with displaced and local communities to carry out regular [protection monitoring](#) in locations with internal displacement and refugee return, while also leading coordination with humanitarian actors under the Protection and CCCM cluster.

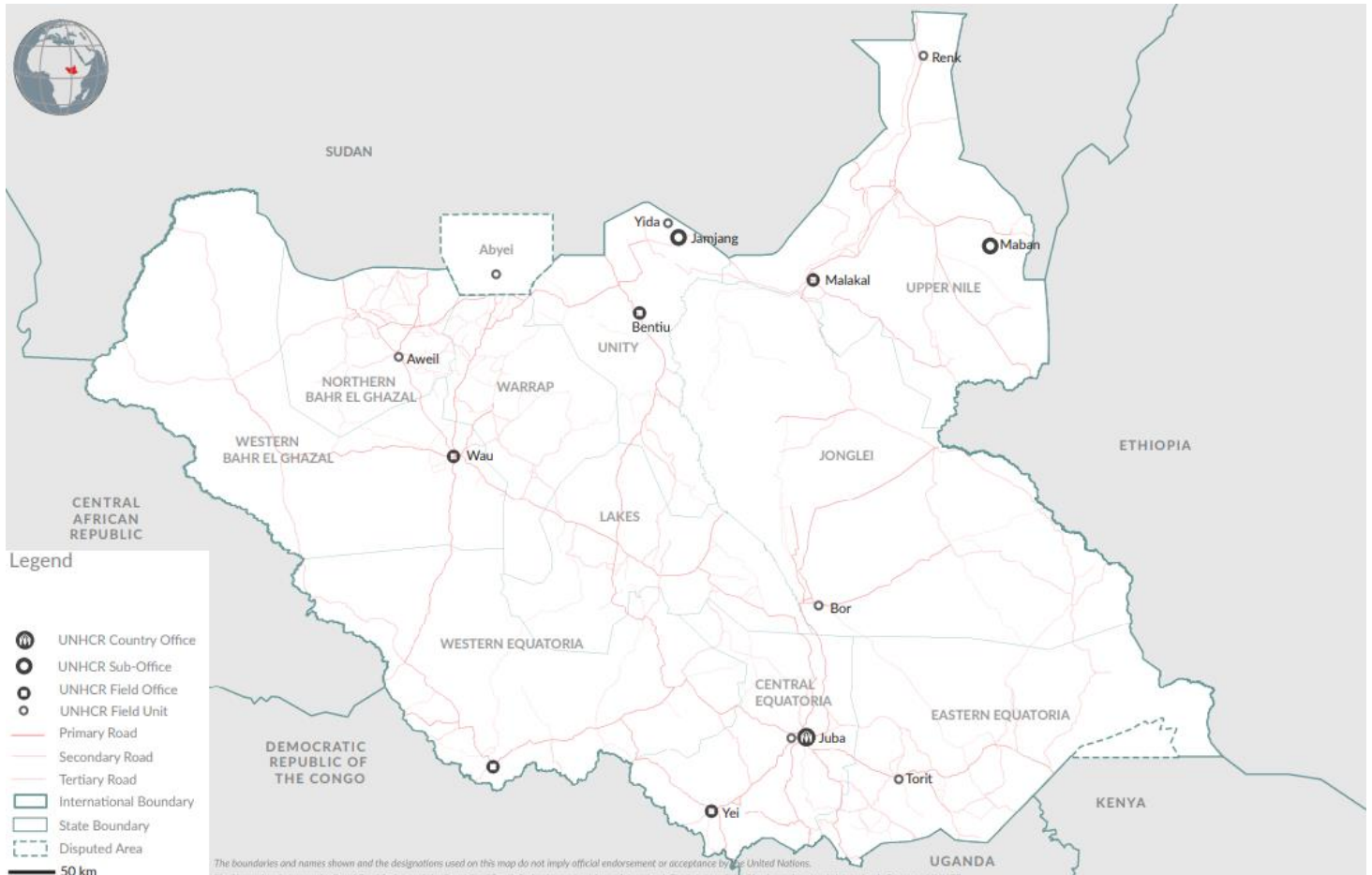
Solutions: Building hope for a better future

- UNHCR provides technical support and advocacy for endorsement of the [South Sudan Durable Solutions Strategy](#) to lay the legal foundation for solutions to forced displacement, while operationalizing solutions.
- Joint efforts ongoing with UNMISS and UN agencies to support the implementation of the [2018 Peace Agreement \(R-ARCSS\)](#) including restoring transitional justice mechanism and facilitating the IDP and refugee returnees' participation in the permanent constitution making process and election consultations.
- Supporting the Government of South Sudan in implementing the [Global Refugee Forum pledges](#) in Education, livelihoods, Energy and Infrastructure, Solutions, and Statelessness
- Leverage UNHCR's convening role and building [partnership with developmental actions](#) including World Bank, Africa Development Bank, EU INTPA.
- In addition, UNHCR has established the Pockets of Hope Initiative (PoH) an area-based collaboration between formerly displaced people – including both returnees and IDPs – returning to their homes, local communities, government, and partners working to ensure access to services, promote economic self-reliance and peaceful co-existence.

Main Challenges & Unmet Needs

- **Poor infrastructure**, flooding, heavy rains, sporadic violence, and security incidents, resulting in accessibility issues, security, and logistical challenges.
- **Lack of high-level political push for GRF pledges** and resource commitments to solutions for displacement issues, limited capacity of government to deliver on its responsibilities.
- **Resource constraints** in addressing competing operational priorities amid rising costs and inflation.

Map of UNHCR South Sudan Operational Presence



Special thanks to the generous donors who contributed with earmarked and unearmarked funding to the South Sudan Operation

Australia | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | Finland | France | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Luxembourg | Netherlands | Norway | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Sweden | Switzerland | United Arab Emirates | United Kingdom | United States of America | African Development Fund | Central Emergency Response Fund | Country-based pooled funds | Education Cannot Wait | South Sudan MPTF for Reconciliation, Stabilization, Resilience

UNHCR South Sudan is grateful for the support of private donors from Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the United States of America