SOUTH SUDAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE - ETHIOPIA
PROTECTION FACTSHEET

16 - 31 January 2026

Adolescents playing soccer in Luakdong

Highlights

Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) resumed in-person protection services following reduced movement restrictions due to improved security. 460 refugee students (190 girls) remain enrolled in Grades 1– 6 at the host community school, though additional support is still needed to improve learning conditions. Children actively participated in Child Friendly Space (CFS) sessions, with girls engaging mainly in indoor activities, while adolescents joined outdoor sports and cultural events that strengthened psychosocial well-being. Referral support was provided for boys requiring medical and nutrition follow-up. RRS and UNHCR also engaged traditional courts to reinforce lawful dispute resolution.

Response & Challenges

During the reporting period, the protection response continued to prioritize timely, survivor-centered support for individuals affected by violence. Reported GBV cases, including incidents of physical assault and rape, received immediate psychosocial assistance, with referrals made to RRS for protection follow-up and to DPO for essential medical care. Community awareness was strengthened through GBV education sessions and home-to-home sensitization across multiple blocks, focusing on harmful traditional practices, types of GBV, referral pathways, and available services, contributing to improved early reporting. Protection efforts for children included Best Interest Assessments for 32 unaccompanied and separated children, with foster care arranged for all unaccompanied minors in line with established standards. Despite these achievements, significant gaps persist. Unregistered asylum seekers remain excluded from food distributions, driving acute food insecurity. Additional concerns include unsafe shelter conditions and the discovery of an illegal clinic causing harm within Luakdong.

Achievements

- **3** Child Friendly Space Attended by **400** Children Daily
- **160** Best Interest Procedure (BIP) Case Management
- **69** Unaccompanied Children Placed in Foster Care
- **416** Foster Families Trained
- **38** GBV Case Management
- **1,766** Dignity Kit Distributed
- **19** Community-Based Protection Committees Established
- **4** Feedback Mechanism Established And Functioning
- **2** Protection Desk Deployed
- **85** Home Visit Conducted
- **66** Focus Group Discussions With Refugees
- **20** Awareness Raising Sessions on SEA

Key Figures

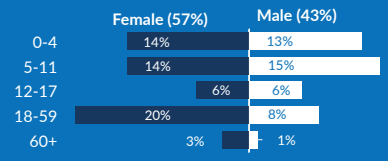
82K*
Population Planning Figure
(New arrivals)

430K
Refugees from South Sudan in Ethiopia (Prior to Feb 2026)

18
Response Partners Under Emergency Response Plan

49,751
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