SOUTH SUDAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE - ETHIOPIA
PROTECTION AND EDUCATION FACTSHEET

FEBRUARY 2026

Highlights

Refugee children continued attending nearby host-community schools, where administrators noted persistent and additional support-requiring gaps affecting the learning environment for both refugee and host learners. Child-friendly-space activities remained active in Luakdong and Tormorok, with strong participation in structured play, cultural activities and sports supporting psychosocial well-being. Case management continued for unaccompanied and separated children, with foster-care arrangements maintained and referrals made for health and nutrition services. GBV response services remained available, including confidential medical and psychosocial care, dignity-kit distribution and home-to-home awareness, alongside engagement with refugee leaders to identify emerging protection risks.

Response & Challenges

Significant challenges persist across protection and education services, particularly for unregistered asylum seekers who remain excluded from food assistance pending government approval, heightening vulnerability and negative coping mechanisms. Delays in key education programming continue to slow expansion of learning spaces and child-protection systems. While coordination has improved through the camp-based PWG (P, needs still exceed current capacity. GBV partners are expanding women- and girls-friendly services, yet communities report concerns over unsafe shelters, limited water access and inconsistent services. Mobility constraints in the Nuer Zone hinder timely referrals and follow-up, underscoring the need for stronger community-based structures, safe relocation processes and contingency planning.

Achievements

- **6** Child Friendly Space Attended by **400** Children Daily
- **185** Best Interest Procedure (BIP) Case Management
- **92** Unaccompanied Children Placed in Foster Care
- **449** Foster Families Trained
- **48** GBV Case Management
- **1,766** Dignity Kit Distributed
- **19** Community-Based Protection Committees Established
- **4** Feedback Mechanism Established And Functioning
- **2** Protection Desk Deployed
- **123** Home Visit Conducted
- **73** Focus Group Discussions With Refugees
- **25** Awareness Raising Sessions on SEA

Key Figures

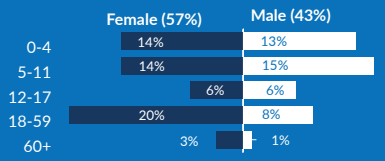
82K
Population Planning Figure
(New arrivals)

430K
Refugees from South Sudan in Ethiopia (prior Feb 2025)

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