

# SOUTH SUDAN - CRISIS

FACT SHEET #7, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

MAY 9, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**2.0 Million**

IDPs in  
South Sudan  
OCHA – May 9, 2017

**217,700**

Individuals Seeking Refuge at  
UNMISS Bases  
UNMISS – May 2, 2017

**1.8 Million**

Refugees and Asylum Seekers  
from South Sudan in  
Neighboring Countries  
UNHCR – May 3, 2017

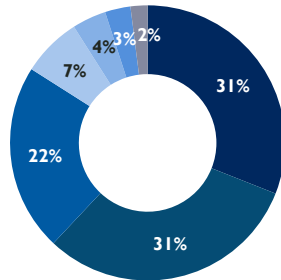
**895,800**

South Sudanese Refugees in  
Uganda  
UNHCR – April 24, 2017

**268,300**

Refugees from Neighboring  
Countries in South Sudan  
UNHCR – April 30, 2017

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2017



- Agriculture & Food Security (31%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (31%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (22%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (7%)
- Shelter & Settlements (4%)
- Nutrition (3%)
- Protection (2%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2017



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (61%)
- Regional Food Procurement (38%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (1%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- High-level USG delegations visit South Sudan
- Violent clashes prompt internal displacement, additional refugees
- Insecurity results in temporary suspension of relief operations

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE<sup>3</sup>

USAID/OFDA	\$142,633,131
USAID/FFP	\$565,605,719
State/PRM <sup>4</sup>	\$122,725,439

**\$830,964,289**

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR  
THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017

**\$2,216,975,498**

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING  
FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN  
FY 2014–2017, INCLUDING FUNDING FOR  
SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES IN  
NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Conflict in Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Western Bahr el Ghazal states generated additional internal displacement, as well as population movements into neighboring countries, during the month of April. Attacks on aid workers, which resulted in the deaths of four USAID partner employees, prompted humanitarian organizations to relocate staff from conflict-affected areas and temporarily suspend relief operations.
- Health actors in South Sudan recorded nearly 1,500 suspected cholera cases in April, increasing the total number of cases to 7,700 since June 2016, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GoRSS) and UN World Health Organization (WHO) report. The cholera outbreak has affected all 10 states in South Sudan. Relief organizations express concern that the upcoming May-to-September rainy season could accelerate cholera transmission and result in increased humanitarian needs.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of April 7, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## CURRENT EVENTS

- Several high-level U.S. Government (USG) delegations—including U.S. Senators Bob Corker and Christopher Coons, U.S. Representative Thomas J. Rooney, and USAID Counselor Thomas H. Staal—traveled to South Sudan and neighboring countries in mid-April to observe humanitarian conditions and meet with GoRSS officials and U.S. Embassy in Juba staff. During separate trips, Senator Coons and Representative Rooney met with USAID partners at a UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) protection of civilians (PoC) site in the capital city of Juba to discuss USG-supported response efforts. Senator Coons also traveled to Unity State’s Ganyiel town to observe USG-funded food assistance, health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities. During the visit, Senator Coons noted the critical need for continued humanitarian assistance in South Sudan, as well as ongoing access constraints for relief organizations, according to international media.
  - In mid-April, Senator Coons, Senator Corker, and Acting USAID/FFP Director Matthew Nims visited the Bidi Bidi refugee settlement in northern Uganda, which hosts more than 270,000 South Sudanese refugees, according to the UN. The delegation observed USG-supported relief operations at Bidi Bidi, including an emergency food distribution by USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP). State/PRM continues to support the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and non-governmental organizations to provide assistance for South Sudanese refugees in Uganda and other neighboring countries.
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## INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Violence throughout South Sudan in April resulted in population displacement and additional humanitarian needs. Insecurity also obstructed relief activities in Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Western Bahr el Ghazal, resulting in aid worker deaths, relief staff relocations, and the temporary reduction and suspension of humanitarian operations. The relief worker deaths included three South Sudanese aid workers employed by USAID/FFP partner WFP and a South Sudanese staff member of a USAID/OFDA partner. The UN reports that at least 83 aid workers have been killed since the crisis in South Sudan began in December 2013, including 16 aid workers in 2017.
- In late April, clashes between armed actors in and around Upper Nile’s Kodok and Tonga towns displaced an estimated 35,000–50,000 people, according to the UN. Continued fighting in Upper Nile could displace thousands of additional civilians, most of whom are likely to flee to Upper Nile’s Aburoc town or neighboring Sudan. The clashes in Upper Nile prompted relief organizations operating in Aburoc and Kodok to relocate staff and limit or suspend activities in late April. According to the UN, humanitarian organizations relocated more than 30 staff members from Aburoc and Kodok to Juba.
- The UN reported that nearly 20,000 South Sudanese people had fled to Sudan between April 29 and May 6, due to insecurity. In response, relief actors are conducting rapid registrations and providing emergency assistance for populations arriving at the South Sudan–Sudan border. UNHCR estimates that more than 95,000 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in Sudan since January. Sudan hosted nearly 390,000 South Sudanese refugees as of late April.
- A mid-April spike in violence in Western Bahr el Ghazal’s Wau town displaced more than 22,000 people and resulted in at least 28 civilian deaths, including three WFP aid workers, according to local officials and relief organizations. The attacks prompted civilians to flee to the protected area adjacent to the UNMISS PoC site in Wau, according to the UN. Since April 10, relief staff at the PoC site have recorded approximately 17,000 new internally displaced persons (IDPs), bringing the total number of IDPs sheltering at the site to more than 39,000, according to USAID/OFDA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In addition, relief actors at a collective center in Wau have recorded at least 5,000 new IDPs since early April; IOM reports that an estimated 14,000 IDPs are now sheltering at the collective center.
- The deterioration of security conditions in Wau has led humanitarian organizations to limit operations and relocate staff from the town. In an April 21 press statement, USAID partner the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) announced a temporary 40 percent staff reduction in Wau, due to staff safety and ongoing insecurity concerns.
- Fighting in Jonglei’s Waat and Walgak towns during the week of April 10 affected up to 100,000 people, according to the UN. Due to the fluidity of the situation, the UN has not been able to verify displacement figures. The attacks

prompted humanitarian organizations to evacuate nearly 60 staff members from the area on April 14–15, the UN reports. With staff relocations and ongoing conflict, most relief organizations in the affected areas had suspended permanent operations as of May 5; however, mobile response teams are traveling to the region to provide assistance, as security permits.

- More than 895,800 South Sudanese refugees are sheltering in Uganda, including approximately 60,000 individuals who arrived during the month of April, UNHCR reports. Conflict in Eastern Equatoria’s Pajok town, located approximately 10 miles from the South Sudan–Uganda border, contributed to a mid-April surge in population movement to Uganda’s Lamwo District. In response to the increased arrivals in Lamwo, UNHCR and the Government of Uganda opened a new refugee settlement on April 12 in Lamwo’s Palabek town, which has the capacity to accommodate approximately 30,000 refugees.

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## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

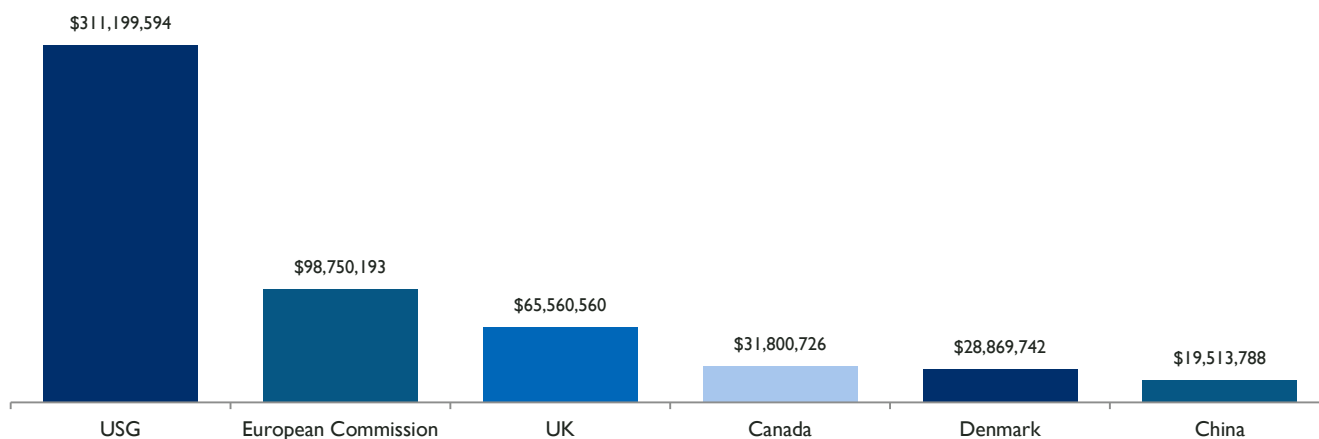
- Acute levels of food insecurity persist across South Sudan, with more than 5.5 million people expected to experience Crisis—IPC 3—and higher levels of food insecurity between May and July, an increase from the 4.9 million people projected to experience IPC 3 or higher levels from February to April, according to the IPC Technical Working Group.<sup>5</sup> In addition to conflict-related displacement, continued depreciation of the South Sudanese pound, persistent increases in food prices, and limited availability of foreign currency are contributing to deteriorating food security. According to a recent WFP report, the average cost of cereals—the primary component of food baskets for low-income households in South Sudan—increased more than 500 percent between February 2016 and February 2017. WFP anticipates that food commodity prices will remain elevated or possibly increase as the country enters the May-to-August lean season, during which elevated transportation costs due to seasonal rains and deterioration in road conditions could also adversely impact access to food.
- Despite ongoing conflict, USAID/FFP partner WFP has provided life-saving food assistance to approximately 2.5 million people in South Sudan to date in 2017. Since January, WFP has provided more than 57,000 metric tons (MT) in urgently-needed food assistance for immediate distribution directly to food-insecure populations, including approximately 27,000 MT by air. In addition, WFP recently collaborated with Oxfam/Great Britain to airlift more than 5 MT of nutrition supplements and WASH commodities to support approximately 2,500 IDPs in northern Jonglei’s Kaikuiny town.
- WFP has also delivered approximately 7,200 MT of food commodities through the humanitarian corridor between Sudan’s El Obeid town, North Kordofan State, and Unity’s Bentiu town in South Sudan, since the Government of Sudan (GoS) opened the corridor in late March. The GoS opened a new humanitarian corridor between Sudan and South Sudan on April 27, connecting El Obeid to South Sudan’s Aweil town, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. The new corridor will allow WFP to deliver up to an additional 7,000 MT of emergency food assistance to approximately 420,000 food-insecure people in the coming weeks, according to the UN.
- In addition to food distributions, WFP continues to pre-position food assistance for distribution during the May-to-September rainy season, which renders many areas of South Sudan inaccessible by road. As of May 9, WFP had pre-positioned more than 98,500 MT of food commodities—approximately 86 percent of the nearly 115,000 MT designated for pre-positioning—in strategic locations across the country.
- With \$9 million in FY 2017 funding, USAID/OFDA is supporting FAO to respond to the emergency agricultural needs of up to 500,000 vulnerable households—or nearly 3 million people—across South Sudan. On April 25, FAO distributed fishing supplies, seeds, and tools to approximately 1,500 households in Central Equatoria State’s conflict-affected Lainya County. As FAO activities in Lainya are conducted amidst ongoing insecurity, USAID/OFDA partner the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is assisting FAO to provide relief items to populations in need by identifying and negotiating access to affected communities.

<sup>5</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

## HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND WASH

- Relief organizations continue to monitor and respond to the ongoing cholera outbreak in South Sudan. Health actors recorded nearly 1,500 suspected cases of cholera in April, according to the GoRSS Ministry of Health and WHO. Health actors report that the recent number of weekly cases reported exceeds peak weekly cholera case levels recorded during the 2016 rainy season. During the week of April 24, health actors recorded new cases in Jonglei’s Ayod, Duk, and Fangak counties and Lakes State’s Awerial, Yirol East, and Yirol West counties. The GoRSS and WHO report that cholera transmission in Awerial, Ayod, and Yirol East is primarily related to cattle camps, where humans and animals frequently utilize the same contaminated water sources. Relief organizations have expressed concern that the upcoming rainy season could accelerate cholera transmission and result in increased humanitarian needs.
- Through the USAID/OFDA-funded Rapid Response Fund, managed by IOM, four USAID/OFDA partners are responding to the cholera outbreak in South Sudan, including conducting vaccination campaigns in cholera-affected areas, establishing cholera treatment units and oral rehydration points, and delivering WASH items to prevent further spread of the disease.
- On April 25, IOM deployed a health rapid response team to assist with cholera response efforts in Ayod, where the GoRSS and WHO recorded nearly 20 suspected cases during the month of April. Health facilities in Ayod lack sufficient health workers, medical supplies and equipment. WHO is also providing cholera response kits, including disinfectants, gloves, intravenous fluids, medicines, and equipment for oral rehydration points and cholera treatment units.
- Critical acute malnutrition levels persist across South Sudan, particularly in Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, and Western Bahr el Ghazal states. Nutrition actors had treated approximately 46,200 children experiencing severe acute malnutrition as of April 30, reaching 22 percent of the more than 200,000 children targeted in 2017. In April, USAID partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) screened more than 106,000 children for acute malnutrition, identifying approximately 19,200 acutely malnourished children. UNICEF also trained more than 630 nutrition staff and 80 health outreach volunteers, rehabilitated nine health centers, and provided safe drinking water at 21 outpatient therapeutic program sites.
- UNICEF often responds alongside WFP’s registration and food distribution activities, which provides beneficiaries with an integrated response that includes health care services, acute malnutrition screening and treatment, protection resources, and critical WASH support. UNICEF and WFP have provided emergency assistance to more than 150,000 people in Jonglei, Unity, and Upper Nile since late February. UNICEF also vaccinated more than 31,400 children against polio and nearly 32,500 people against measles.

### 2017 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of April 7, 2017. All international figures are according to OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2017 calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on FY 2017, which began on October 1, 2016.

## CONTEXT

- The January 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the GoS and the southern-based Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA) officially ended more than two decades of north–south conflict during which famine, fighting, and disease killed an estimated 2 million people and displaced at least 4.5 million others within Sudan.
- The GoRSS declared independence on July 9, 2011, after a referendum on self-determination stipulated in the CPA. Upon independence, USAID designated a new mission in Juba.
- On December 15, 2013, clashes erupted in Juba between factions within the GoRSS and quickly spread into a protracted national conflict with Jonglei, Unity, and Upper Nile representing the primary areas of fighting and displacement. On December 20, 2013, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG response to the developing crisis in South Sudan. USAID also stood up a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to support the DART.
- On August 26, 2015, GoRSS President Salva Kiir signed a peace agreement that the Sudan People’s Liberation Army-In Opposition (SPLA-IO) and other stakeholders had signed on August 17. Opposition leader Riek Machar returned to Juba and was sworn in as the First Vice President (FVP) on April 26, 2016; GoRSS President Salva Kiir appointed a Transitional Government of National Unity on April 28.
- Fighting between SPLA and SPLA-IO forces broke out in Juba on July 7, 2016, displacing thousands of people and prompting FVP Machar to flee. As a result, the U.S. Embassy in Juba ordered the departure of non-emergency USG personnel from South Sudan on July 10. Ongoing heightened tensions persist in the country, and the humanitarian situation remains precarious. On January 5, the U.S. Department of State ended the ordered departure status for the U.S. Embassy in Juba.
- Insecurity, landmines, and limited transportation and communication infrastructure restrict humanitarian activities across South Sudan, hindering the delivery of critical assistance to populations in need.
- On October 14, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Mary Catherine Phee redeclared a disaster in South Sudan for FY 2017 due to the humanitarian crisis caused by ongoing violent conflict, resultant displacement, restricted humanitarian access, and the disruption of trade, markets, and cultivation activities, which have significantly increased food insecurity and humanitarian needs.
- On February 20, the IPC Technical Working Group declared Famine—IPC 5—levels of food insecurity in Unity’s Leer and Mayendit.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2017<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
Food for the Hungry	Agriculture and Food Security	Jonglei, Upper Nile	\$1,400,000
IOM	Shelter and Settlements	Unity, Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$1,321,000
Mercy Corps	WASH	Unity	\$2,995,425
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,250,000
Relief International	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, WASH	Upper Nile	\$500,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,850,000

UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,993,600
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$7,500,000
	Program Support		\$561,592
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$33,371,617</b>

<b>USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup></b>			
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Jonglei	\$12,357,100
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$12,258,477
	Logistics Support	Upper Nile	\$800,000
	62,380 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$133,972,400
WFP	50,916 MT of Locally and Regionally Procured Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$96,930,000
	Cash Transfers for Food	Central Equatoria	\$3,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$259,317,977</b>

<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Livelihoods, Protection	Upper Nile	\$1,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$910,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$16,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$18,510,000</b>

**TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2017** **\$311,199,594**

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of April 7, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change once purchased.

#### **USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016**

<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>	<b>\$109,261,514</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>	<b>\$306,287,742</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>	<b>\$104,215,439</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>	<b>\$519,764,695</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017</b>	<b>\$830,964,289</b>

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).