



SOUTH SUDAN

2025-2026 IFRC network country plan



Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 44.3M**

25 June 2025

In support of the South Sudan Red Cross



21

National Society
branches



120

National Society
local units



19,785

National Society
staff



261

National Society
volunteers

People to be reached



500,000

Ongoing
emergency
operations



100,000

Climate and
environment



100,000

Disasters
and crises



2.2M

Health and
wellbeing



300,000

Migration and
displacement



67,000

Values, power
and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

- Floods
- Population movement

Longer-term needs

- Multi-layered protracted crisis

Capacity development

- Digital transformation
- Internal systems strengthening
 - Risk management
 - Resource mobilization
 - Branch development

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating

Very high

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

Very high

Human Development Index rank

192

World Bank Population figure

11.5M

World Bank Population below poverty line **82.3%**

Head of Delegation IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for
South Sudan, Uganda & Tanzania, Juba

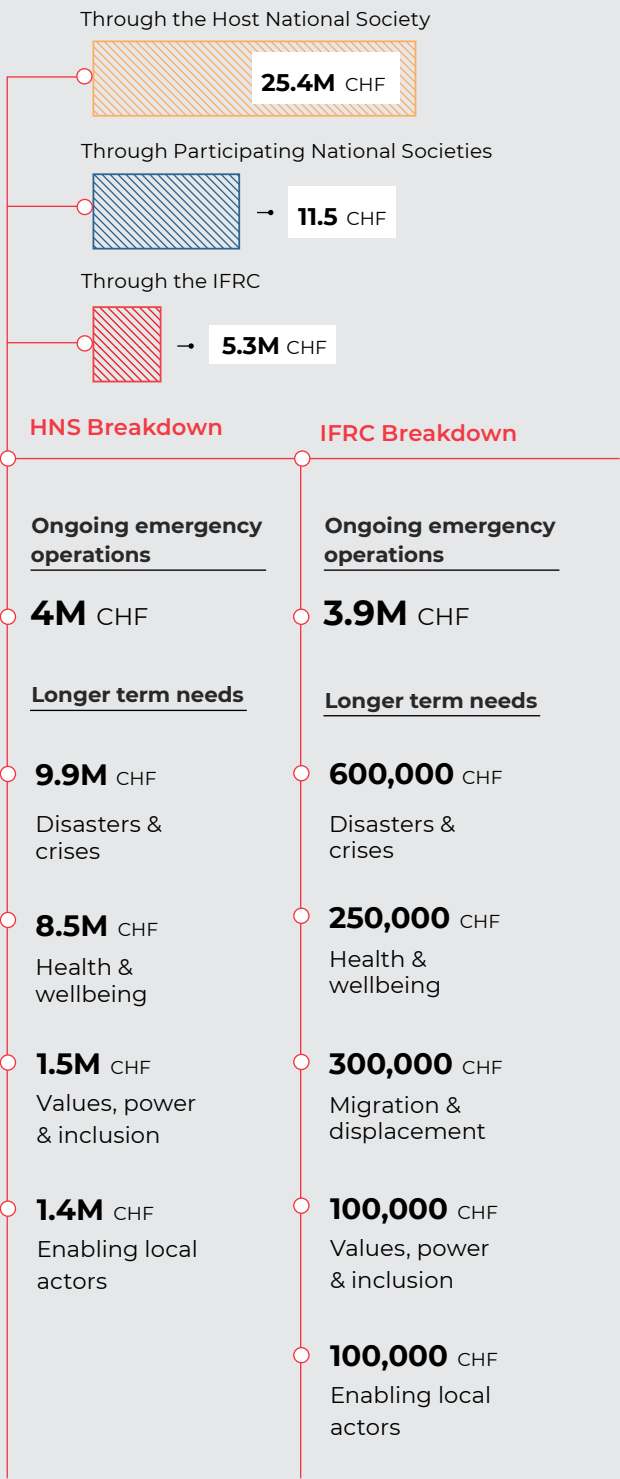
Funding requirements

2025

2026

Total 42.2M CHF

Total 2.1M CHF



Through Participating National Societies

2.1M CHF

Participating National Societies

- Australian Red Cross*
- Danish Red Cross
- Finnish Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- The Netherlands Red Cross
- Norwegian Red Cross
- Saudi Red Crescent Authority*
- Swedish Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross

*National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in the first half of 2024

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency Appeals:

- MDRSS014** South Sudan Floods
- MDRS1001*** Sudan Crisis Regional Population Movement

Long-term needs:

MAASS001

*The revised funding requirement for this emergency is not yet available

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

Participating National Societies bilateral support for 2025

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
Danish Red Cross	2.5M						
Finnish Red Cross	2.5M		●	●	●	●	●
German Red Cross	1.3M		●	●			●
Netherlands Red Cross	2.3M	●					●
Norwegian Red Cross	480,000			●		●	●
Swedish Red Cross	1.3M	●	●	●		●	●
Swiss Red Cross	1.2M	●	●	●		●	●

Total Funding requirement **CHF 11.5M**

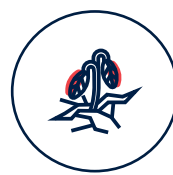
Hazards



Food insecurity



Economic Hardship



Drought



Floods



Population movement



Conflict

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

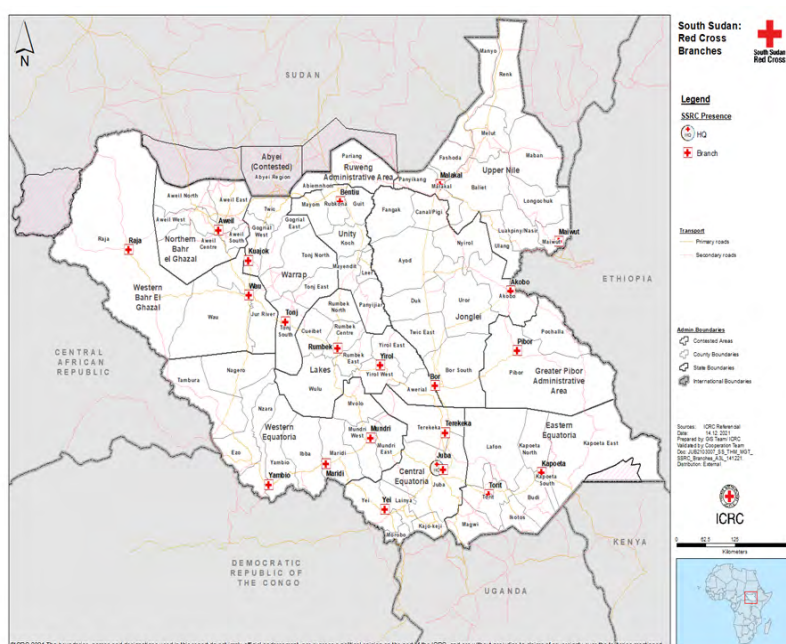
The **South Sudan Red Cross** was established by an act of Parliament in March 2012 and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 2013. Formerly a part of the Sudanese Red Crescent Society, its staff and volunteers have decades of experience responding to emergencies, providing health services and promoting social inclusion. In its auxiliary role to public authorities during emergencies, the South Sudan Red Cross works closely with relevant government ministries, including the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Humanitarian and Disaster Management Affairs. This engagement is at both at national and state levels. The National Society maintains autonomy and acts in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

South Sudan Red Cross wide network of volunteers, 21 branches and 120 local units enables it to reach people in need across the country. There are teams in all the branches that are trained and equipped for emergencies and are capable of mobilizing volunteers to respond to both low and medium-level emergencies. The National Society works to improve public awareness on health and to provide community-based services, empowering people to manage their own health. It also advocates for a wider understanding and fuller application of the Fundamental Principles, by promoting social inclusion through all its activities and services.

In its Strategic Plan 2022-2026, the South Sudan Red Cross focuses on three strategic and two transformative goals:

- People mitigate the effects of climate change and preserve the environment by performing risk reduction and preparedness initiatives, and possess capacities to respond to disasters, conflicts, and other emergencies while ensuring food security and livelihoods
- People live healthy lives with access to health care and water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, and practice health promotion based on knowledge and changed attitudes
- People who are marginalized and vulnerable are included, protected, empowered and actively engaged in their communities
- A stronger National Society that is a trusted and accountable national actor, with increasingly well-functioning and self-reliant structures throughout the country
- A partner of choice acknowledged by partners and stakeholders for strong coordination and evidence-based communication and advocacy efforts on behalf of vulnerable populations

In 2023, the South Sudan Red Cross reached more than 37,000 people under its disaster response and early recovery programmes.



The map does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the IFRC or the National Society concerning the legal status of a territory or its authorities

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

South Sudan is a landlocked country bordered by Sudan to the north, Uganda and Kenya to the south, and Ethiopia to the east, covering an area of 644,329 square km. The country has plains in the north and centre, highlands near the borders with Uganda and Kenya, and the White Nile, which originates from Central Africa. This river supports the Sudd, a large swamp in the middle of the country. South Sudan's population has a notable young demographic, reflected by its median age of 18.6 years.

Since its independence from Sudan in 2011, South Sudan has faced political challenges, and the civil wars in 2013 and 2016 have further affected the country's development, increased poverty and worsening the humanitarian situation. However, there was a sign of progress with the 2018 peace agreement and the establishment of a Transitional Government in 2020, although there have been delays due to disagreements over power-sharing. The implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan is falling behind its intended timeline, adding to the ongoing challenges in the political, peace and security landscapes. Additionally, intercommunal violence remains a persistent issue. Ethnic divisions continue to shape the power dynamics in the country, as different groups compete for control over land and other valuable resources.

The economic situation of the country remains precarious. A potential disruption in South Sudan's crude oil movement through Sudan could severely dent government revenues, as 90 per cent of these revenues are sourced from the petroleum sector. This could further strain the government's fiscal capacity and escalate inflation. Over 8 million people live in extreme poverty, and there are significant gaps in food security, healthcare and education. The country also faces significant challenges in health, education and gender equality. South Sudan has one of the world's lowest life expectancies and the highest maternal mortality ratios. The literacy rate stands at a mere 34.5 per cent, with 2.8 million children out of school, while gender-based violence and discrimination continue to impede social and economic development, particularly for women and girls (ECOSOC July 2023 Session).

Despite relative stability at the national level following the 2020 revitalized peace agreement, sub-national conflicts have been on the rise, displacing thousands and exposing populations to various protection risks, including child abduction, child marriage, sexual and gender-based violence, forced

recruitment into armed groups, family separation, assault, looting, extortion and intimidation. The humanitarian situation is compounded by recent influxes of returnees and refugees, especially from Sudan, recurrent flooding and droughts, epidemic outbreaks, currency depreciation, food insecurity, malnutrition, and social inequality and exclusion.

Since the conflict erupted between the Government of Sudan Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces in Sudan on 15 April 2023, over 901,000 people have been recorded crossing into South Sudan as beginning of December 2024 – with an additional 337,000 people expected to arrive in 2025. People fleeing Sudan face extreme protection risks along treacherous routes to South Sudan, with many – especially women and girls – exposed to violence and gender-based abuse and arriving in poor physical and psychological conditions.

South Sudan is highly vulnerable to climate-related disasters, particularly droughts and flooding. The country witnessed its worst-ever flooding in 2024, a disaster that will have lasting humanitarian repercussions into 2025. These recurrent climatic shocks have displaced communities, destroyed crops, and further exacerbated the food insecurity crisis. From 2019 to 2022, South Sudan has experienced four consecutive years of flooding, exacerbating the existing humanitarian crisis. The floods caused significant damage to farmlands, resulting in loss of crops and pastures. While there has been a marked improvement in the flooding situation since January 2022, there is a very high risk of renewed flooding, coupled with possible dam spillages from the upper streams along the White Nile. Severe food insecurity persists in flood, drought and conflict-affected areas, like Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria (FewsNet, January 2022). As per the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) for the period of April to July 2023, approximately 6.6 million people (55 per cent of the population) in South Sudan are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity.

South Sudan faces multiple public health crises driven by low immunization coverage, disrupted vaccination services, widespread displacement, poor nutrition, and inadequate access to safe water and sanitation. Natural disasters like floods further increase community vulnerability. The fragile, aid-dependent health system struggles with timely disease detection, reporting, and response. Communities often endure multiple outbreaks at once, with cholera being the most recent. Nineteen of the 20 neglected tropical diseases are present in the country, underscoring the severe health service challenges.

Humanitarian access in South Sudan continues to be adversely affected by sub-national and intercommunal violence, bureaucratic impediments and physical constraints due to unprecedented flooding, combined with poor road conditions.

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For real-time information on emergencies, see [IFRC GO page South Sudan](#)

1.

Emergency Operation	Sudan Crisis: Regional Population Movement Emergency Appeal: The Emergency Appeal is under revision
Appeal number	MDRS1001
Duration	31 months- 15 May 2023 to 31 December 2025
Funding requirement	Total through the IFRC Emergency Appeal: CHF 33.5 million (Federation-wide: Swiss francs 42 million) For South Sudan: through the IFRC Appeal (CHF 8M) and Federation-wide (CHF 10.5M)
Emergency Appeal	Sudan Crisis Regional Population Movement Emergency Appeal
Revised Emergency Appeal	Revised Emergency Appeal
Link to South Sudan response	South Sudan National Society Response Plan
Latest Operation Update	Operational Update No. 4

The ongoing conflict in Sudan has led to widespread displacement, with over 1.4 million people fleeing active conflict areas to find safety elsewhere in the country or across borders, primarily in Chad, Egypt and South Sudan, but also in Ethiopia, Central African Republic (CAR) and Libya. The situation in Sudan is still very volatile and as the fighting persists, the trend of displacement is likely to continue. Most affected by this crisis are the elderly, women (especially pregnant women) and children. Among the refugees are many separated and unaccompanied children, as well as people with disabilities and mental health problems. More than 215,000 people were estimated to flee through Ethiopian borders in Amhara or Benishangul-Gumuz regions by end 2023. These include people of other nationalities using the Ethiopia border crossing either as a secondary displacement destination or in transit to third countries.

This Emergency Appeal enables the Ethiopian Red Cross, along with five other National Societies in the region, to respond to the needs of those fleeing the conflict into the country, as well as strengthening the National Society's response capacity and readiness for further influx.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The Ethiopian Red Cross is planning to support about 50,000 people, comprising returnees (25,000), asylum seekers (17,500) and the host community (7,500). The targeted population on the move is anticipated to enter through the two border points of Metema and Kurmuk mainly. Humanitarian support will be provided through three approaches:

1. Humanitarian service points (HSP) with integrated support for displaced people in transit

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2. Humanitarian assistance for displaced people hosted in camps and other settlements
3. Humanitarian support to returnees

The main sectors of intervention to affected communities are shelter; livelihoods and basic needs (including the use of cash and vouchers); health; and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). The strategy will focus on the three core cross-cutting approaches: migration; protection, gender and inclusion (PGI); and community engagement and accountability (CEA).

The response pillars comprise:

Health and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

First Aid, ambulance services for transportation of patients from primary healthcare points to secondary healthcare facilities, health awareness through house-to-house visits, tracing and early detection of communicable diseases of epidemic potential, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) at humanitarian service points.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Improved access to safe water through water trucking, water storage, repairs to water sources, provision of hygiene kits and dignity kits and hygiene promotion sessions.

Shelter, housing and settlements

Provision of tarpaulins (for construction of emergency shelters) and household items.

Cash and voucher assistance: three rounds of unconditional multipurpose cash assistance to returnees

Basic needs and livelihoods

Provision of general food supplies, as well as skills development aimed at reducing food insecurity and increase income.

Protection, gender and inclusion (PGI)

This will encompass minimum protection standards including prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and mapping of referral networks; the establishment of separate and safe spaces at humanitarian service points for vulnerable and minority groups including women, adolescents, children (including unaccompanied and separated children), people with disabilities, and sexual and gender minorities; and provision of dignity kits

2.

Emergency Operation	South Sudan Floods
Appeal number	MDRSS014
Duration	2 months: 17/10/2024 to 30/6/2025
Funding requirement	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: 5 Million CHF Federation-wide funding requirement: 9 Million CHF
Link to Emergency Appeal	South Sudan- Floods
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational strategy
Operation Update	Operational Update

Heavy rains since May 2024, combined with an overflowing Lake Victoria, have caused the Nile River to burst its banks, leading to unprecedented flooding in Sudan. By 10 October, over 893,000 people across 42 counties were affected, with more than 241,000 displaced. The floods have devastated homes, livestock, crops, and critical infrastructure, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks such as cholera and malaria. Displaced populations are sheltering in public buildings, churches, and open areas, with reports of rising cases of malaria, respiratory infections, and acute watery diarrhea. The situation is exacerbated by ongoing conflict, limited access to basic services, and high food insecurity, particularly in flood-prone areas like Jonglei, Unity, and Upper Nile states.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The South Sudan Red Cross Society has been responding to the floods since May 2024, focusing on community preparedness, early action, and evacuation support. With the allocation of DREF funds on 1 August 2024, the National Society aims to scale up its response to provide lifesaving assistance and early recovery support. The operational strategy includes integrated assistance through shelter, livelihoods, and multi-purpose cash support; health and WASH interventions; protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI); community engagement and accountability

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

Integration into different sectors including design and operations, with a focus on acceptance among host and migrant or displaced communities; establishment of community feedback mechanisms.

Migration and displacement

Establishment of fixed and mobile humanitarian service points, referrals for specialized services, and restoring family links to help people reunite or connect with their loved ones.

(CEA); and risk reduction and climate adaptation to strengthen community resilience. The highlights are as follows:

Shelter, Housing, and Settlements

The objective is to restore and strengthen the safety and well-being of disaster-affected communities through emergency shelter and early recovery solutions. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will provide 15,000 households with emergency shelter items such as tarpaulins, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, blankets, and solar lamps. Additionally, 10,000 households will receive conditional cash and voucher assistance to rebuild and repair their homes, prioritizing vulnerable groups such as single mothers, households with separated children, and those headed by the elderly or people with disabilities.

Livelihoods and Food Security

The focus is on improving income sources and food security for affected communities. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will distribute food parcels to 2,000 households as immediate relief and provide seed and tool kits to 2,000 households to support replanting crops after floodwaters recede. This will help restore family income generation activities and reduce food insecurity in the long term.

Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance

The goal is to improve access to essential food and non-food commodities and services. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will provide cash grants to 15,000 households based on the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB), which covers the minimum cost needed for a household to meet acute needs. Market assessments will ensure the feasibility and effectiveness of cash-based interventions.

Health & Care (Including WASH and Mental Health)

The objective is to reduce immediate health risks and lessen the psychosocial impacts of the emergency. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will strengthen community-based surveillance for early disease detection, distribute mosquito nets and Mama kits for pregnant and lactating women, and provide first aid services. Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) will be offered through Psychological First Aid (PFA), child-friendly spaces, and awareness sessions.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

The aim is to reduce the risk of water-related diseases in target communities. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will improve access to clean water by rehabilitating boreholes, installing surface water treatment systems, and distributing household water treatment items. Hygiene promotion sessions will be conducted, and 800 emergency latrines will be constructed to improve sanitation facilities.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)

The focus is on ensuring the safety and dignity of vulnerable groups. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will provide Psychological First Aid (PFA), establish safe spaces for women and children, and conduct awareness sessions on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Training for volunteers and community leaders on protection standards and referral pathways will be prioritized.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

The objective is to ensure active and meaningful participation of affected communities in the response. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will establish feedback mechanisms, conduct community meetings, and disseminate early warning messages through radio shows and information-education-communication (IEC) materials. A documentary will be developed to capture the response activities and community perspectives.

Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation, and Recovery

The goal is to strengthen community resilience and preparedness for future disasters. The South Sudan Red Cross Society will reactivate the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), conduct rapid needs assessments, and support early warning systems. Community disaster response teams (CBDRTs) will be trained and equipped to respond effectively to future emergencies. Advocacy for disaster risk management (DRM) laws and policies will also be prioritized.



South Sudan Red Cross volunteers distribute buckets sponsored by the DG ECHO-funded Pilot Programmatic Partnership to community members in Panthou, Aweil, South Sudan (Photo: IFRC)

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

The [INFORM climate change risk](#) index for South Sudan scores at very high, with 8.5 out of 10. Rainfall has been decreasing by 10-20 per cent since the mid-1970s, and more frequent and severe weather events, including droughts and floods have been observed. Predictions suggest that these climatic shifts will intensify, potentially leading to increased food insecurity and large-scale displacements. The climate changes will also likely affect pest infestation patterns, damage crops and productive infrastructure, and increase disease vectors. Rural households, specifically 86 per cent of rural households that depend on rain-fed agriculture and animal husbandry are profoundly affected, ([World Bank's Climate Risk Country Profiles for South Sudan](#)).

The rainy season often results in vast areas of the country becoming inaccessible due to flooding and infrastructure damage. South Sudan's water resources are intricately linked to the Nile River basin, a complex system that greatly influences the country's water availability, droughts and floods. Globally, South Sudan ranks 7th for the proportion of its population exposed to annual river floods.

The nation's environment is also under strain, with deforestation emerging as a primary concern. Data from [Global Forest Watch](#) reveals that South Sudan lost 3.46 thousand hectares of its tree cover by 2022, down from 13.3 million hectares in 2010. This loss has implications for global warming, local ecosystems and biodiversity. The South Sudan Government launched a campaign in June 2021 to plant 100 million trees in the next 10 years. The initiative aims to mitigate the effect of climate change and restore the degraded land-based ecosystem. The initiative plans to ride on modern innovations such as regenerative agriculture, climate-smart farming practices, and reforestation and afforestation efforts, which are at the core of ecosystem restoration in the rural areas of South Sudan.

South Sudan's government has issued its first National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021. The NAP nine priority sectors of intervention include water Resources; energy; ecosystems, environment and biodiversity conservation; human settlements; disaster risk reduction; tourism and recreation; health; industry and infrastructure; agriculture, livestock and fisheries. The NDC covers energy- and emission-intensive sectors such as petroleum and mining, which are key economic drivers for the country, and details how South Sudan has significantly increased its climate ambition of reducing emissions across its sectors by 109.87 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent while sequestering an additional 45.06 million tonnes by 2030.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The South Sudan Red Cross is part of the [IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme](#), which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts, and build community-level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The National Society gives priority to integrating climate risk management across all programmes and operations, and to advocacy. The National Society also seeks to contribute to climate change mitigation and environmental restoration through nature-based solutions. The National Society is part of the IFRC Pan-African Initiative on Tree Planting and Care, and will contribute to governmental efforts through countrywide awareness on fruit tree planting through the Go Green campaign.

The South Sudan Red Cross is also engaged in the Water at the Heart of Climate Action (W@H), a new initiative geared towards mitigating the impacts of water-related risks and disasters, and increasing the resilience of vulnerable communities in Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. This initiative promotes a combination of early warning and early action measures that support integrated water management in vulnerable communities. The W@H programme has five technical areas, of which four are foundational pillars of an early warning system:

- Water-related risk knowledge and governance
- Observations, monitoring and forecasting of weather and water-related events
- Water specific early warning systems dissemination and communication
- Anticipatory action and locally led adaptation
- Crosscutting activities

Planned activities in 2025

- Engage with the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to support the access, understanding and use of climate information by South Sudan Red Cross branches

for their community-level planning, engagement and decision making

- Build awareness of climate change adaptation, environmental restoration and management
- Develop a strategy for the implementation of forecast-based action approaches into disaster management processes
- Roll out 'clean up' environmental campaigns
- Support tree planning and care campaigns/initiatives, such as supporting the formation and strengthening of youth clubs' activities in schools/communities, procurement/distribution of seeds and seedlings, establishment of nursery beds for trees in South Sudan Red Cross local branches and countrywide awareness on fruit tree planting through the GO GREEN campaign
- Strengthen its capacity for climate-smart solutions and environmental management

- Improve environmental sustainability of operations by promoting green response practices

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical support and coordination of programming for climate change adaptation, and facilitate new strategic partnerships that enable scaling up of environmental actions. As part of the IFRC Pan-African Initiative on Tree Planting and Care, the IFRC will support the South Sudan Red Cross in its promotional and advocacy efforts, aimed at Government agencies, the private sector, and the general public, to increase understanding of the value of diverse nature-based solutions.

The following participating National Societies are providing support in this area: **Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent.**



Disasters and crises

South Sudan continues to experience unprecedented multiple threats with very high levels of acute food insecurity indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes, with Emergency (IPC Phase 4) persisting in the worst conflict- and/or flood-affected areas. By 13 July 2023, the UN Humanitarian Country Team had raised concerns over the deteriorating food situation in South Sudan. The disruption in cross-border trade with Sudan led to a surge in food prices and localized shortages. The economic challenges were further intensified by the influx of people from Sudan, many of whom were dependent on external support. Notably, food prices rose significantly in areas adjacent to Sudan, with Rubkona witnessing an 81 per cent increase, Bunj 68 per cent, Aweil West 57 per cent, and Malakal 42 per cent. Although alternative supply routes from Juba and Uganda have been initiated, they have not fully compensated for the reduced trade with Sudan. The 2023 rainy season and associated flooding have further hampered transport, especially in northern South Sudan.

The [World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#) anticipates that the rise in food prices will continue through the 2023 harvest, leading to an early onset of the lean season. They estimate a 25-30 per cent increase in food assistance requirements. The return of displaced individuals has added to the number of vulnerable households, with many expected to remain vulnerable until the 2024 harvest.

Since March 2022, it was estimated that humanitarian needs in South Sudan have risen by 6 per cent, totalling 9.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. By 5 January 2023, the number of children in need had also increased by 6 per

cent, reaching 5 million. The [Conflict and Food Insecurity report by the Protection Cluster South Sudan](#) alerted on the escalating food crisis, with 7.76 million people (62.7 per cent of the population) at risk of acute food insecurity by July 2023 (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification phase 3 or above). Specific counties in Jonglei State and Unity State have around 43,000 people facing Catastrophic (IPC Phase 5) acute food insecurity. During this period, an estimated 2.9 million people are likely to face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity.

South Sudan has experienced increasing disaster complexities and magnitudes in recent years, particularly due to recurring floods. The year 2024 witnessed unprecedented heat levels, causing schools to close, further signaling the growing impacts of climate change. The ongoing Sudan conflict continues to place pressure on South Sudan, particularly in border regions. Economic burdens have caused internal migration, leading people to abandon productive lands for urban areas, increasing the strain on cities and contributing to rising crime rates.

The National Disaster Management Strategic Plan for South Sudan is an integrated framework that interconnects disaster relief and development. The Plan focuses on strengthening preparedness and response while alleviating poverty, engaging the affected communities in well-planned and managed public works that have disaster-proofing content, and supporting development programmes that combine disaster prevention and mitigation measures. It is envisioned that all development programmes will develop contingency

plans to avoid disruption of ongoing programmes when an emergency occurs in the disaster-prone regions.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The South Sudan Red Cross, with support from partners has continued to respond both to disaster and crisis related needs of people as well as carry out long-term projects to address rising risks across the country. South Sudan Red Cross seeks to maintain its focus on enhancing community risk reduction and resilience, and on their preparedness and readiness to respond to shocks.

The National Society is engaged in the IFRC Pan Africa Initiative on Preparedness and Readiness, and will monitor and analyse risks, vulnerability and capacities of communities, undertake early actions, strengthen emergency response systems, including trained Disaster Response teams, and swiftly deploy capacity in at risk/affected areas. The National Society will also continue to prioritise cash and voucher assistance as a key modality for humanitarian assistance and integrating risk communication, community engagement and accountability to ensure that communities are active partners at all stages of the programming cycle.

The National Society is exercising its auxiliary role and has continued to engage with the Government of South Sudan, through the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, to offer technical support. From the National Disaster Risk Management Policy to the National Disaster Risk Management Bill currently being drafted, the South Sudan Red Cross is seeking to ensure that the policy frameworks being developed reflect both the current context and the evolving impact of climate change in South Sudan.

Planned activities in 2025

- Ensure communities at risk and disaster responders receive actionable risk information
- Support communities to take climate-smart, context-specific and innovative measures to protect their livelihoods and assets
- Support development and testing of early warning/early action triggers and standard protocols
- Support communities and local and national disaster risk management institutions in the development and implementation of contingency plans and response mechanisms
- Ensure people affected by crises and disasters receive timely and appropriate cash and voucher assistance
- Support affected populations with medium and longer-term cash assistance as part of recovery efforts
- Develop an integrated emergency response strategy, and ensure close collaboration between all sectors in

emergency response, including with health and WASH, [shelter](#), livelihoods, cash and voucher assistance, climate adaptation, protection, gender and inclusion, community engagement and accountability etc.

- Strengthen its emergency response systems, including trained Disaster Response Teams and swiftly deploy capacity in at risk/affected areas
- Support national disaster risk management and governance
- Ensure response reaches communities in a timely manner by developing preparedness for effectiveness response (PER) capacities
- Play an active role in the coordination of cash and voucher assistance through participation in the cash working group
- Strengthen its cash preparedness by ensuring minimum requirements are in place for multipurpose cash interventions

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC The South Sudan Red Cross is part of the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership \(PPP\)](#) between the IFRC and the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) with implementation support from the **Danish Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross** and the **IFRC**. The South Sudan Red Cross will continue to strengthen disaster risk management through the ECHO PPP. Based on the vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCA), the National Society will support community disaster response teams to develop response plans and early warning systems. The National Society will pre-position essential household items in warehouses in regions with high flood risk. The South Sudan Red Cross will continue to strengthen capacities in cash and voucher assistance through the integration of digital tools and a cash information management system.

The IFRC will support the National Society in accessing tools and resources to respond to crises and fulfil its mandate in line with its auxiliary role. The IFRC will provide technical support across the pillars of Preparedness for Effective Response and will use IFRC emergency response tools to match operational requirements, including support with IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF)/Emergency Appeal capacity strengthening, surge tools, planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation (PMER) standardization. Support will be provided to the National Society in International Disaster Response Law (IDRL), to ensure [disaster law](#) analysis and frameworks are in place to support the National Society's work.

The IFRC, governments and the African Union are working on a food and nutrition resilience programme, which will support community-led socio-economic development

through a partnership of South Sudan Red Cross with its local stakeholders, including communities, community-based organizations and supported by the locality administration, township/regional government institutions and agencies. The programme is based on prioritized activities identified by local communities and developed through a consultative, participatory planning process, building on the existing natural resources base, communities' know-how, experience and lessons learned from development programmes led by the South Sudan Red Cross and government agencies. The

proposed key interventions intend to contribute to vulnerable people's access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

The following participating National Societies are supporting South Sudan Red Cross in this area of work: **Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross** and **Turkish Red Crescent Society**.



Health and wellbeing

South Sudan has very poor health indicators including low life expectancy and poor access to health services. The country's health indicators, as per the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), reveal a life expectancy of 60 years for males and 64 years for females, as of 2019. Maternal health in South Sudan is concerning, with a high maternal mortality rate and a notably low rate of skilled birth attendance. This underscores the challenges women face in accessing quality maternal health services. There is an acute shortage in the health workforce, inadequate health infrastructure and poor health service utilization. The exact expenditure on health remains undisclosed, but the evident underinvestment in health infrastructure and services has severely restricted healthcare access in South Sudan. The reported 44 per cent population access to health care does not reflect the actual quality of care, infrastructure, or workforce needed to deliver effective services. This limitation is further compounded by the repercussions of disasters and crises, such as conflict and flooding, which disrupt healthcare delivery, especially in rural areas and among displaced populations.

The health landscape is dominated by diseases like malaria, respiratory tract infections, diarrheal diseases and tuberculosis. Malaria is particularly rampant, with high transmission rates nationwide, making it the leading cause of morbidity and mortality, especially among children under five and pregnant women. South Sudan is placed among the 30 high tuberculosis burden countries as listed by WHO. The HIV/AIDS burden is significant, with a prevalence rate of 1.9 per cent among adults aged 15-49 years. Alarming, the prevalence among women is higher at 2.5 per cent, as highlighted by [UNAIDS in 2022](#). The country also grapples with Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) such as guinea worm disease, human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) and visceral leishmaniasis (kala-azar).

Epidemics are recurrent and pose a significant threat to the population. Measles outbreaks are not uncommon, and given the contagious nature of the disease, pose a significant risk,

especially to malnourished children and those with weakened immunity. Hepatitis E has been reported, with outbreaks particularly noted in refugee camps. Cholera, often linked to poor sanitation and unsafe drinking water, is a constant threat. In April 2023, South Sudan witnessed 1,027 cholera cases and two fatalities. Children between the ages of 1-4 are the most affected demographic, accounting for 48 per cent of the total cases, as detailed in the [WHO Cholera Situation Report](#).

On top of stretching the resources from the already strained health care system, the COVID-19 pandemic slowed down immunization services resulting in a decline in immunization coverage of childhood illnesses and the cancellation of supplementary immunization activities. Overall vaccination coverage remains suboptimal, with less than half of the children being fully immunized against common childhood diseases, as indicated by [WHO](#).

Malnutrition is a pressing concern in South Sudan. A [UNICEF report](#) indicates that 1.4 million children under the age of five are projected to suffer from acute malnutrition, with a staggering 313,000 facing severe acute malnutrition. Access to clean water and sanitation remains a significant challenge. Water and sanitation coverage in South Sudan is low, with 63 per cent of the total population practicing open defecation and only 41 per cent of the population having access to basic water supplies, making the population more vulnerable to outbreaks of diarrhoeal diseases. This has a cascading effect on the prevalence of waterborne diseases and overall poor health outcomes. The [World Bank's report](#) titled "Rising from the Depths: Water Security and Fragility in South Sudan" from February 2023 delves into the multifaceted challenges posed by these water-related issues, emphasizing their impact on health, displacement, gender disparities, and even conflict. The report advocates for a holistic approach to water security in South Sudan, emphasizing community readiness, efficient water use, and strategic water zone demarcation.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

South Sudan Red Cross reaffirms its commitment to improve the health of the most vulnerable people through community-based health services delivery and health system strengthening, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) initiatives. South Sudan Red Cross' health activities are guided by its Health Strategy of 2017 and support the Boma Health Initiative (BHI), and the Ministry of Health's work towards strengthening community health structures in South Sudan. South Sudan Red Cross contributes to the BHI's thematic areas of intervention which are child health, safe motherhood, family planning, gender-based violence, communicable diseases and first aid. The National Society contribution includes making a significant investment in epidemic and pandemic preparedness, and training local people, networks and volunteers as community-based responders, who are able to detect and respond to outbreaks of disease and other health risks. Recruitment of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors will also continue as one of South Sudan Red Cross's important tasks.

South Sudan Red Cross is working together with the Government in the South Sudan Resilient and Empowered African Community Health (REACH) programme, planned for 5 years and aiming to scale up the Community Health Workforce (CHW) in South Sudan. This is part of a continent-wide ambition of developing a cadre of two million community health workers in the African continent. South Sudan has been identified as one of the priority REACH implementation countries among the ten countries on the African continent. The REACH programme is designed to provide technical stewardship and coordination to strengthen the role and function of community health workers and volunteers in Africa. Each community health worker will support an estimated 250 people (50 – 100 households), or 40 households in the case of South Sudan. The main goal of the REACH programme in South Sudan is improved health outcomes for South Sudan communities through the scale-up of a strengthened, people-centred, and integrated community health workforce and system.

South Sudan Red Cross is also part of the Africa CDC Save Lives and Livelihoods initiative, and will deliver critical risk communication and community engagement activities to vulnerable communities in support of COVID-19 vaccine uptake by ensuring that vaccination activities are community-led and trusted. Other partners in the programme will be providing procurement and logistics to a central warehouse (UNICEF), in-country logistics (WFP), managing COVID-19 vaccination centres (African Medical and Research Foundation), Girls Education South Sudan and safety surveillance (AKROS). The National Society will work with these partners in the programme to reach the objective of the programme which is to reach at least 60 per cent of the African population with COVID-19 vaccines.

Planned activities in 2025

- Scale up health promotion in vulnerable and marginalized communities on disease prevention and control using the IFRC's community-based health and first aid strategy
- Implement community-based surveillance in National Society branches
- Support communities to prevent, detect, and respond to outbreaks
- Establish first aid programmes in vulnerable, marginalized and most at-risk communities, such as nomadic populations, internally displaced persons, and people in conflict-prone areas
- Contribute to efforts to achieve and sustain national immunization targets and promote fair and equitable access to vaccinations, including COVID-19
- Support efforts to achieve and sustain national targets for vector-borne disease interventions, including insecticide-treated nets for effective malaria prevention
- Develop and implement a contingency plan for the health consequences of disasters and crises, and standard operating procedures for the preparedness and response to health emergencies and other disasters or crises
- Ensure the integration of minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence
- Lobby, advocate and network with relevant government bodies to engage in the commercial first aid concept, and introduce first aid clubs in schools
- Train National Society volunteers and community members on blood donor recruitment and first aid, conduct blood donor recruitment drives and outreach sessions, and procure and distribute blood donor recruitment equipment
- Establish a functional national team of psychological first aid trainers
- Support authorities to adopt/strengthen relevant national plans, strategies, policies, and laws related to epidemics, pandemics and disaster preparedness response
- Ensure the National Society increases its capacity to prepare for and respond adequately to consequences of epidemics and pandemic

To ensure access to safe and affordable water and to improve access to sanitation facilities in target communities and institutions, the National Society plans to:

- Develop community-level intervention teams for WASH-related disease outbreaks, and support communities to link up with health facilities on surveillance of WASH-related disease outbreaks

- Conduct water point assessments, drill boreholes for the installation of hand pumps and solar pumps, repair hand pumps, and support communities to establish and train water management committees
- Conduct sanitation needs assessments; construct institutional latrines, including in schools and health facilities, and support the construction of household latrines, and support communities to appoint WASH management committees
- Strengthen the capacity of its branches to deliver WASH support in emergencies, developing community-level intervention teams for WASH-related outbreaks, supporting communities to work with health facilities on surveillance of WASH-related outbreaks, and pre-positioning emergency WASH items

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Under the global Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and DG ECHO, the South Sudan Red Cross will continue epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response in communities, particularly in Ebola virus hotspot areas. Based on comprehensive WASH assessments, priority water and

sanitation infrastructure will be rehabilitated or constructed in target communities and health centres. Health promotion activities focused on hygiene practices will be carried out by trained volunteers. In collaboration with national authorities, the National Society will continue to prevent the spread of Ebola virus through risk communication, community mobilization, dissemination of key messages, and distribution of personal protective equipment, chlorine and WASH supplies.

The IFRC will support the National Society in strategic and operational health and WASH action, including technical support and engagement with stakeholders. IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to health emergencies. In March 2023, the IFRC provided a DREF allocation in support of the National Society's response to cholera outbreak in Upper Nile. The South Sudan Red Cross has been allocated CHF 158,000 in funding from the IFRC-DREF to support 66,000 people over a period of four months.

The following participating National Societies are supporting the **South Sudan Red Cross** in this area: The **Canadian Red Cross**, **German Red Cross**, **The Netherlands Red Cross**, **Norwegian Red Cross**, **Swedish Red Cross**, **Swiss Red Cross** and **Turkish Red Crescent**.



Migration and displacement

Since 2013, millions of people have been displaced from their homes in South Sudan, with current figures estimating nearly 2.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 2.2 million refugees who have fled to Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). According to UNHCR, the South Sudanese refugee population, over 65 percent of whom are children, remains highly vulnerable. Over 700,000 South Sudanese refugees have returned to the country since the signing of the Revitalized Peace Agreement in 2018, further strained by the ongoing conflict in Sudan, which has driven additional returnees and refugees into South Sudan.

The armed conflict in Sudan, which began on 15 April 2023, has significantly exacerbated the displacement crisis, with South Sudan receiving over 813,000 multinational individuals as of September 2024, including South Sudanese returnees (75.81 percent of total arrivals). Displaced persons enter South Sudan through border points like Renk, Aweil, Raja, and Wau, with refugees relocated to camps in Juba, Maban, Ruweng, and Aweil, while returnees are integrated into host communities. This influx has further strained South Sudan's already fragile humanitarian situation.

In addition to internal displacement caused by conflict and violence, disasters, particularly weather-related events such as droughts and flooding, have become a leading cause of displacement in recent years. South Sudan also hosts approximately 330,000 refugees from Sudan, the DRC, Ethiopia, and the Central African Republic. The country serves as a transit route for migrants from Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Somalia, who are attempting to reach Europe or northern Africa. These migrant groups include refugees, migrant workers, unaccompanied children, and victims of human trafficking.

The porous borders and shared ethnic ties with neighboring countries, such as the Toposa, Nuer, and Turkana communities, further complicate border management and displacement dynamics. South Sudan's easing of entry restrictions for East African Community (EAC) nationals has also increased the risk of economic migration into the country. Additionally, the unresolved status of the Abyei administrative area, home to approximately 133,955 people, remains a contentious issue, with the community stateless and unrecognized by either Sudan or South Sudan.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The South Sudan Red Cross meets the needs of people affected by migration and displacement as part of its overall action in favour of people affected by multiple crises. Through its other sectoral areas of intervention, it works to ensure that all people who migrate and are displaced are safe, treated humanely and with dignity, and have the assistance and protection they need to thrive in inclusive societies.

Recognizing the specific vulnerabilities linked to migration and displacement, the National Society will put greater effort into enhancing its capacities to analyze migration dynamics and deliver appropriate humanitarian services to migrants, displaced people and those affected by migration and displacement. This includes families who stay behind.

Planned activities in 2025

- Ensure migrants and displaced people receive assistance responding to their needs as part of the National Society overall services and emergency response

- Set-up humanitarian service points at key transit points of the Sudan crisis population movement (part of the Emergency Appeal)
- Ensure that the already developed community engagement and accountability tools are used in situations of migration and displacement, including to collect data and feedback and generate ownership within communities
- Provide Restoring Family Links (RFL) services to migrants and displaced
- Analyse migration dynamics to improve the relevance of services
- Strengthen the capacities of staff and volunteers to respond to migration and displacement-related needs

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society in improving its capacity to address the needs of migrants and displaced, including as part of the Sudan crisis population movement Emergency Appeal.



Values, power and inclusion

South Sudan faces multiple protection challenges, as detailed in the “Conflict and Food Insecurity” report by the [Protection Cluster South Sudan](#). These encompass conflict, violence, systematic breaches of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law, cattle raiding, and notably, gender-based violence. The [UNMISS Human Rights Division \(HRD\)](#) documented 194 incidents of violence affecting 920 civilians between January and March 2023. The states of Jonglei and the Greater Pibor Administration Area bore the brunt of this violence, accounting for half of the recorded victims. Women and girls, in their pursuit of sustenance, are increasingly susceptible to gender-based violence, including sexual violence. Domestic tensions are escalating, intensifying the threat of intimate partner violence. Child marriage remains a significant concern, with 51.5 per cent of women aged 20 to 24 years having been married or in a union before the age of 18, as highlighted by the [UN Women’s Global Database on Violence Against Women](#).

South Sudan’s position at 150th in the [UNDP’s Gender Inequality Index](#) underscores the country’s gender inequality. Beyond the immediate threats of conflict and violence, gender discrimination intensifies poverty and hunger. The destruction of infrastructure due to intercommunity conflicts further heightens gender-based violence risks. Additionally, discrimination and stigmatization, denial of resources, forced

displacement, theft, extortion, and child exploitation are prevalent, disproportionately affecting women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

With the rise in [food insecurity](#), 3.1 million children urgently require protection and humanitarian relief. Alarming, 70 per cent of children, equating to over 2.8 million, are not attending school. Many of these children belong to pastoral communities, where their nomadic lifestyle hinders regular schooling. Girls, especially, confront barriers to education due to factors like poverty, early marriage and cultural norms. Moreover, children are at risk of forced recruitment into armed groups, especially during heightened food insecurity periods. The ongoing Sudan crisis, widespread flooding, and soaring food prices are exacerbating these risks, pushing families to the brink and increasing vulnerabilities.

According to the NGO “Light for the World”, South Sudan is home to 1.2 million individuals with disabilities, with a significant portion having impairments due to violence. A [survey by IOM](#) in Tonj South revealed that nearly one-third of the population experiences some form of disability. On 24 February 2023, South Sudan took a significant step towards disability inclusion by endorsing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as reported by [Disability rights](#). People with disabilities often face stigmatization, marginalization, exclusion,

and are left unable to access the support needed to live in dignity as equal members of society.

According to Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) 2025, in 2025, over 5.5 million people will require urgent protection support due to conflict, displacement and climate crises. Economic hardship and cultural stigmas further marginalize survivors, limiting available support. Women and children are at increased risk of GBV, including sexual assault and intimate partner abuse. Conflict and displacement expose over 2.3 million people to heightened risks of theft, eviction and property destruction. Minority groups, people with disabilities and displaced individuals often face discrimination and lack essential resources and documentation. Armed checkpoints and road-blocks along key routes severely hinder freedom of movement, restricting access to services. Nearly 20,000 children remain separated, unaccompanied or missing, jeopardizing their safety. Arrivals from Sudan strain local services, raise tensions with resident communities and increase humanitarian needs.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The South Sudan Red Cross affirms its commitment to the minimum protection approach as a core aspect of its role in addressing protection needs, respecting the principle of 'Do No Harm', and referring cases that fall outside its mandate to protection actors. It seeks to integrate activities such as mental health and psychosocial support services, restoring family links, and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence in all responses. Building on an organizational self-assessment carried out with a protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) scorecard, a baseline and corresponding targets, South Sudan Red Cross will support mainstreaming of PGI with a specific focus on considerations related to cash and voucher assistance (CVA).

The National Society also gives priority to community engagement and accountability (CEA). It has a hot line from a local network provider which is activated throughout the emergency operations to receive community feedback. CEA will be mainstreamed in all programmes, operations and will be coordinated by the CEA focal point person who will work according to the national CEA protocols.

The South Sudan Red Cross engages in promoting a positive change for humanity through a wider understanding, ownership and application of humanitarian values and fundamental principles. It aims to expand its action in this

area, by empowering the youth and engaging with the education sector.

Planned activities in 2025

- Support gender-responsive community-based sexual and gender-based violence and child protection safeguarding, and ensure response mechanisms are established and maintained at the community level
- Strengthen the awareness of referral pathways and service delivery through constant coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders
- Prioritize initiatives like life skills and livelihood training for equal opportunities among youth (girls, boys), women, men, and people at risk
- Collaborate with the Ministry of Education, the education community, and young people to ensure continuous access to education promoting non-violence and peaceful coexistence
- Mainstream PGI across all programming, response activities, and for staff and volunteers
- Conduct a PGI organization assessment
- Launch and implement a community engagement and accountability (CEA) strategy, ensure the inclusion of CEA in all programmes, roll out CEA trainings to all staff and volunteers, and strengthen feedback mechanisms

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Under the global Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and DG ECHO, the South Sudan Red Cross will improve community feedback and complaint mechanisms according to the preferred channels identified by communities. The National Society will improve data collection through the use of mobile phones and the development of a data protection policy.

The IFRC will support the South Sudan Red Cross with ensuring it is safe and inclusive with dignity, making access, participation and safety for people of all identities central to its work. The IFRC network will also support South Sudan Red Cross to increase awareness and actions through the role of youth and engagement with the education community.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The South Sudan Red Cross' strategic direction and activities derive from its Strategic Plan 2022-2026, the new National Society Development Framework 2023-2026 and assessments that have been conducted. Assessments include the IFRC Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) carried out for the second time in 2022 and intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities, comprehensive finance assessments, and missions that were undertaken with specific objectives (e.g. information

communication technology, financial sustainability, leadership and governance, and board structure).

All assessments and mission reports highlighted similar development needs of the South Sudan Red Cross, as outlined in the National Society Development Framework, e.g., human resource management, financial management and development, financial sustainability, leadership and governance, information communication technology, boards and their members, branch development, youth and volunteer management and development.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

South Sudan Red Cross plans to strengthen its ongoing coordination and collaboration with key national and sub-national stakeholders including authorities, civil society, the private sector, and research institutions, at national and branch levels. With the support of the IFRC, it also plans to intensify its participation in interagency coordination platforms and mechanisms.

The South Sudan Red Cross will continue to ensure strong Movement coordination mechanisms are in place, providing coordination for all in-country Movement partners, and

ensuring that all support is in line with the strategic and development goals and objectives of the National Society.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society in engaging with multiple stakeholders and developing strategic and operational partnerships. It will also support coordination of IFRC network and Movement partners.

The IFRC network will ensure that all partners adhere to the Sudan Red Cross Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and the newly developed National Society Development Framework 2023-2026 for joint planning and priority setting both in short term crisis and longer-term planning.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Based on its new National Society Development Framework 2023-26, and recommendations of assessments and missions, the South Sudan Red Cross is committed to strengthening the National Society, with a focus on leadership and branch development. It will engage in several development initiatives, including:

- Finance development: to strengthen its financial management systems and procedures, including in related areas such as procurement and risk management
- Financial sustainability and resource mobilization: to diversify and increase the income of the National Society and make the South Sudan Red Cross financially more independent, including the development of a resource mobilization strategy and policy, conducting of an income generation survey in branches and development of guidelines for income generation opportunities (e.g., commercial first aid, utilization of land and assets, training modules for business skills training)
- Statutory, legal and policy base/framework, auxiliary role: ensuring regular dissemination of strategies

and policies to staff, board members and volunteers, and strengthening the understanding of the National Society's auxiliary role

- Branch development: including the development of a branch development plans and formation of branch development committees, as well as conducting of Branch Organizational Capacity Assessments (BOCA) in at least 50 per cent of branches, and support in development in income generation activities in branches
- Youth and volunteers: strengthening of the recruitment, management and retention of volunteers, enhancing their level of skills and knowledge, and a new volunteer management information system will be rolled out to all branches

- Operational capacity: strengthening the National Society's operational capacity to deliver, strengthening design and delivery of long-term programmes and services, and preparedness

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the National Society in all its development efforts. It will assist the South Sudan Red Cross to apply to the following funds in 2024: the IFRC's Capacity Building Fund, the IFRC-ICRC National Society Investment Alliance, and the Empress Shoken Fund.

The **Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross** and **Swiss Red Cross** provide support to the South Sudan Red Cross on targeted National Society development initiatives.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The South Sudan Red Cross considers that humanitarian diplomacy goes hand in hand with plans and activities related to its auxiliary role, communications, coordination, collaboration and partnerships. The South Sudan Red Cross will improve its communication and advocacy efforts to enhance impact, build public trust and improve understanding of the National Society's role and activities. Senior management, staff, board members, volunteers and members will be inducted and have the skills to effectively lobby and advocate for the interests of the National Society and people in need.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society's humanitarian diplomacy and communication efforts. Based on the detailed plan that will be developed for the implementation of the new National Society Development Framework, IFRC network partners will define the areas they can support technically and/or with funding, including humanitarian diplomacy.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The South Sudan Red Cross has invested in systems strengthening and has fraud and corruption prevention policy in place. With the support of the IFRC network, the National Society has secured funding for an information and communications technology (ICT) assessment and development of an ICT roadmap which started in 2023. As part of the National Society's new National Society Development Framework 2023-26, the South Sudan Red Cross plans to achieve the following:

- Human resources: carry out a comprehensive human resources review, including review of salary and benefits packages and staff development
- Finance: (see also National Society development section above) implement a finance development plan to strengthen its financial systems and procedures, and conduct annual external audits and project audits
- Integrity: establish additional safeguarding policies and procedures, strengthen its investigation committee procedures, establish an integrity line and develop a whistle blower policy

- Risk management: develop a risk management policy and framework, for headquarters and branches, establish dedicated risk management support in programmes and operations, and provide training for staff and board members
- Digital transformation: carry out a digital maturity assessment and identify needs and priorities for organization-wide digital strengthening

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the South Sudan Red Cross across its accountability efforts, as part of its National Society development priorities.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC has been present in South Sudan since 2011, and it signed a status agreement with the Government in September 2013. In June 2021, the IFRC country delegation in South Sudan was adjusted to become a country cluster delegation, which now covers South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

The IFRC supports the South Sudan Red Cross on strategic and operational coordination and humanitarian diplomacy, reinforcing its auxiliary role to the authorities in South Sudan. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the National Society through of a number of Emergency Appeals and Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) operations in relation to

floods, disease outbreaks, food insecurity and population movement. The IFRC also works closely with the National Society to support it on delivering a wide range of services, and has also supported the development of the South Sudan Red Cross Strategic Plan 2022–2026.

National Society development is a key priority for the IFRC, and it works to strengthen the capacity of the South Sudan Red Cross through preparedness and response. The IFRC also supports the National Society's representation at strategic events and forums, to champion the IFRC Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative and support resource mobilization for activities that contribute to the achievement of zero hunger.



Delegation of the Netherlands Red Cross, South Sudan Red Cross, and local governors in Aweil South, South Sudan, under the IFRC-EU Programmatic Partnership (Photo: IFRC)

IFRC membership coordination

To support the South Sudan Red Cross, the IFRC works closely with it and member National Societies to assess the wider humanitarian context, and the National Society's particular needs and priorities, and develop strategies to address these. These include obtaining greater humanitarian access, improving acceptance in South Sudan, mobilizing funding and other resources, crafting consistent public messaging and monitoring the progress of various initiatives. It also ensures that all strategies and programmes adopted by the National Society have clarity on their humanitarian and development aims and work to boost the auxiliary role of the South Sudan Red Cross in the country.

There is a well-established mechanism for membership coordination in South Sudan. The IFRC coordinates the activities of all in-country participating National Societies, optimizing financial and technical resources. Most of the participating National Societies have signed an integration agreement with the IFRC, providing a legal basis for their work together.

The South Sudan Red Cross is part of the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) (PPP), a three-year partnership between DG ECHO and the IFRC. Through this partnership, the South Sudan Red Cross benefits from support from the Danish Red Cross (as lead EU National Society) and The Netherlands Red Cross for the implementation of the activities, which range across the areas of disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, and cash and voucher assistance. Risk communication, community engagement and accountability are cross-cutting themes integrated into all interventions. The partnership meets the realities of extended crises with longer-term predictable funding, facilitating actions and processes with greater impact. It leverages the IFRC's global network and unique access to people and communities, and it helps to fulfil the ambitions of the European Union as the biggest donor for international aid in the world.

The following nine participating National Societies provide long-term support to the South Sudan Red Cross:

The **Canadian Red Cross Society** provides support on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), psychosocial support,

protection, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, community health and National Society development in Warrap and Central Equatoria State.

The **Danish Red Cross** provides support in psychosocial support, disaster management, a non-communicable diseases pilot project, organisational development, forecast-based action and anticipatory action, in Jonglei, Eastern Equatoria State and Northern Bahr.

The **Finnish Red Cross** supports the South Sudan Red Cross in community-based health and first aid, WASH, disaster risk reduction, organizational development, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and psychosocial support in Rumbek.

The **German Red Cross** supports the South Sudan Red Cross on WASH and disaster preparedness in Western Equatoria State and Western Bahr.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** has been providing support to the South Sudan Red Cross in WASH, protection, livelihoods, disaster risk reduction / eco systems, climate change adaptation and resilience building in Jonglei and Central Equatoria State.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** supports the South Sudan Red Cross on health and WASH, organisational development, financial development and National Society development in Unity and Jonglei.

The **Swedish Red Cross** supports the South Sudan Red Cross in -protection, WASH and health in Upper Nile and Eastern Equatoria State.

The **Swiss Red Cross** provides support on health, blood safety and availability, WASH, psychosocial support, nutrition and National Society development in Eastern Equatorial State, Central Equatoria State, Western Equatoria State and Western Bahr.

The **Turkish Red Crescent** has supported the South Sudan Red Cross in the COVID-19 response (WASH), food security, WASH and health in Western Equatoria State and Central Equatoria State.

Movement coordination

The National Society ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross and participating National Societies, for the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. In times of emergencies, closer coordination is organized. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation ([SMCC](#)) principles, and the newly-adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The **ICRC**, present in Juba since 1980, opened a delegation in South Sudan in mid-2011. It works to respond to the needs of people affected by armed conflict and violence.

The IFRC has signed a security management agreement with ICRC which manages the security of IFRC and participating

National Societies present in the country. Each participating National Society has a bilateral security management agreement with ICRC. ICRC also supports South Sudan Red Cross in national emergency management forums together with other partners. ICRC provides situational analysis of the conflict areas to ensure Red Cross Red Crescent principled action. ICRC also support South Sudan Red Cross and participating National Societies with logistics support.

The ICRC helps conflict-affected communities in South Sudan become self-sufficient and reunites families. It visits places of detention, supports health care facilities, and promotes respect for International Humanitarian Law.

Coordination with other actors

In its auxiliary role to public authorities on emergency response, the South Sudan Red Cross maintains strong relations with a number of key governmental bodies, at ministerial and department levels. It contributes to national government campaigns, as well as the implementation of national plans.

The South Sudan Red Cross takes part in the monthly meetings of the Humanitarian Coordination Forum, a coordination mechanism co-chaired by the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The forum brings together key humanitarian partners at state level.

The South Sudan Red Cross also participates in the national Cash Working Group, and, with IFRC support, in other inter-agency coordination mechanisms at national level, as well as at state level through its branches. The National Society maintains an active presence in relevant cluster meetings at both national and local level to ensure effective operations and avoid duplication.

The South Sudan Red Cross coordinates with a number of other actors, including international and national humanitarian NGOs, and UN agencies at both branch and headquarters level.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 16 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

About the plan

This plan reflects the priorities of the South Sudan Red Cross, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2024 and subsequent years. It is aligned with IFRC's [Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process. It will serve for joint monitoring and reporting, and will be revised on an annual basis, to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

- The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network seeks to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities
- Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
- IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- Figures for the years beyond 2025 most often represent partial requirements that are known at time of publication. Many National Societies have annual internal approval processes for funding requirements, and lower figures do not mean a decrease in funding requirements in future years
- Missing data and breakdowns: data may not be available from all IFRC network members for funding requirements. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under-estimation of the efforts led by all
- Reporting bias: the data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain
- **Definitions:**
 - » **Local units:** ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
 - » **Branches:** A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

Additional information

Additional information

- [IFRC Global Plan and IFRC network country plan](#) • [All plans and reports](#)
- Data on National Societies on [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- Live data on active emergency operations on [IFRC GO platform](#)
- Live data on [IFRC-Disaster Response Emergency Fund Response and Anticipatory pillars](#)
- [IFRC Evaluation and Research Databank](#) • [Donor response reports](#)

Contact information

South Sudan Red Cross

www.ssdredcross.org

Mohamed Babiker

Head of Juba Country Cluster Delegation
Covering South Sudan, Uganda
and Tanzania

T +211912179511

mohamed.babiker@ifrc.org

Louise Daintrey

Head of Strategic Engagement
& Partnerships
IFRC Regional Office for Africa, Nairobi

T +254 110 843978

louise.daintrey@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

Lead
IFRC Global Strategic Planning &
Reporting Centre
New Delhi

sumitha.martin@ifrc.org