

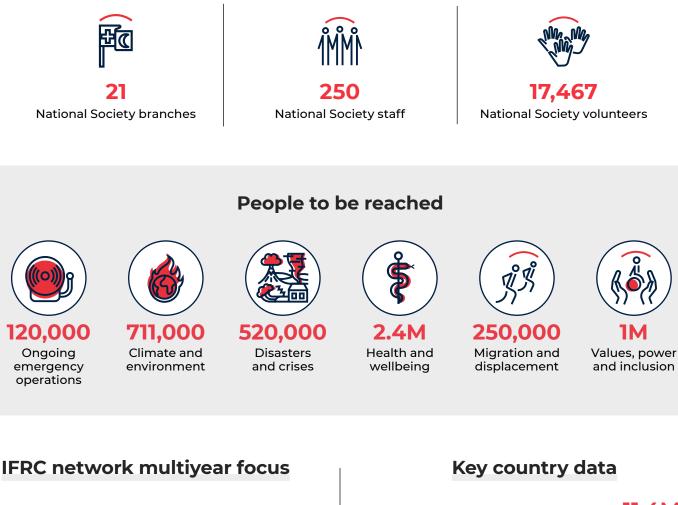
SOUTH SUDAN

2023 IFRC network country plan

Funding Requirement CHF 67.9M

Appeal number **MAASS001**

In support of the South Sudan Red Cross



Emergency response

floods, food insecurity

Longer term needs

multi-layered protracted crisis

Capacity development

- digital transformation
- internal systems strengthening
 - risk management
 - resource mobilization
 - branch development

Population	11.4M		
INFORM severity rating	very high		
Climate ND-GAIN Index r	ank 133		
Human Development Inc	lex rank 185		
Population below povert	y level 82.3 %		



Hazards



Food insecurity





Drought





Population movement



Conflict

Funding requirements



Through the IFRC



19.2M CHF

Through Participating National Societies



Host National Society



IFRC Breakdown

8M CHF Ongoing emergency operations

Longer term needs

800,000 CHF Climate and environment

5.5M CHF Disasters and crises

3.2M CHF Health and wellbeing

200,000 CHF Migration and displacement

500,000 CHF Values, power and inclusion

950,000 CHF Enabling local actors

Ongoing emergencies

MDRSS010

South Sudan Floods and food insecurity folded under MGR60001 Africa Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal Floods and food insecurity

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross* British Red Cross* The Canadian Red Cross Society Red Cross Society of China* Danish Red Cross Finnish Red Cross German Red Cross Japanese Red Cross Society* Red Cross of Monaco* The Netherlands Red Cross Norwegian Red Cross Swedish Red Cross Swiss Red Cross Turkish Red Crescent Society



This document details IFRC network-wide figures and actions in areas agreed with the country National Society. For additional information, see last page of this plan. * National Societies which have contributed multilaterally through the IFRC in the past two years.

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The South Sudan Red Cross was set up by an Act of Parliament on 9 March 2012 and formally recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in June 2013 and admitted as a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in November the same year.

Formerly part of the Sudanese Red Crescent, the South Sudan Red Cross has decades of experience in responding to emergencies, providing health services and promoting social inclusion in South Sudan. 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.

In its Strategic Plan 2022–2026, the South Sudan Red Cross focuses on four key priorities: disaster risk

management; health; water, sanitation and hygiene; and protection, gender and inclusion.

The National Society currently has about 250 staff and 17,467 volunteers (of which 10,355 are male and 7,112 female) with 4,234 registered members, split across 21 branches and 102 units.

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 heath 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.

Its overarching vision is to reduce suffering for those affected by conflict, crises and climate change, build healthy and resilient communities, foster human dignity and promote social cohesion.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION IN 2023

Joint situational analysis

The Republic of South Sudan became Africa's 54th country on 9 July 2011, following its independence from Sudan. The country is now experiencing a complex humanitarian crisis as a result of many years of conflict, aggravated by droughts, floods, epidemic outbreaks, food insecurity and internal displacement. The socio-economic landscape has been damaged by inadequate investment in health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene. Localized conflicts continue against a backdrop of social inequality, currency depreciation, a lack of opportunities for youth employment and ongoing instability, with food insecurity and malnutrition causing high levels of suffering across the country.

There was a temporary period of relative calm after the Revitalized Peace Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan in 2018, and the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in February 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic destroyed any hope of economic recovery, and the population became increasingly dependent on humanitarian aid. Most people live in severe poverty, and an estimated 80 per cent live below the absolute poverty line, leaving 8.9 million people in need of assistance. South Sudan ranks 185 out of 189 countries in the Human Development Index.

Conflicts and violence continue to take a heavy toll on lives and livelihoods, forcing thousands of communities out of their homes and leading to widespread displacement across many regions. By the beginning of 2022, 4.5 million people had been displaced, about half of whom had fled to other countries. As the violence spreads, the most vulnerable people are becoming more exposed to protection risks such as child abduction and child marriage, physical assault, and sexual and gender-based violence. Forced recruitment into armed groups, family separation, looting and extortion are become increasingly common.

Three consecutive years of severe flooding made the fragile situation in South Sudan even more challenging, damaging farmlands and leading to crop failure, poverty and malnutrition. As a direct result of environmental

disasters, malnutrition and a lack of water, sanitation and hygiene, South Sudan also experiences deadly outbreaks of disease, including cholera, malaria and COVID-19.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a profound effect on the population of South Sudan, as economic activity slowed and people were unable to meet their basic needs. The pandemic continues to have a negative impact, because there is a very low vaccination rate, and basic health infrastructures are scarce and under-developed.

Severe food insecurity is endemic in the areas affected by the conflicts, floods and droughts, including Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria. Key supply routes are disrupted by violent conflict, particularly the Nimule to Juba highway, and this has led to an increase in food prices. Rising fuel prices stretch household budgets even further. According to the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC), approximately eight million people (60 per cent of the population) in South Sudan were facing crisis level (IPC phase 3) or worse in food insecurity by February 2022.

There is deep-rooted gender inequality in South Sudan, and women and girls have limited access to education and resources. Gender-based violence is widespread, and women and girls are disproportionately affected by crises and disasters. Furthermore, people living with disabilities are marginalized, stigmatized and unsupported in society.

The population of South Sudan is extremely vulnerable and urgently needs humanitarian action to enhance its resilience and protect lives in disaster-prone areas.

Ongoing emergency response

For real-time information on emergencies, see <u>IFRC GO</u> page South Sudan

EmergencyAppealMDRSS010<u>MDRSS010</u>–SouthSudan Floods, folded under <u>MGR6001</u> Africa Hunger Crisis

Appeal launch date: 16 October 2021

Appeal end date: 31 December 2023

People affected: 8 million people in food insecurity IPC phase 3 or worse

People to be assisted: 413,000 people

South Sudan has experienced severe flooding for three consecutive years since 2019. By October 2022, at least 623,000 people had been affected, causing widespread

damage to livelihoods, houses, schools and health facilities. Thousands of families had been displaced. The floods affected eight of the country's 10 states, with Jonglei and Unity states the worst hit. It is expected that the rain will continue, affecting even more people and increasing humanitarian needs. The impact of the floods has forced many families to set up makeshift camps along highways, embankments and areas of higher ground, where they are exposed to rain, heat and mosquitos and have limited access to food and drinking water.

The flooding has also caused significant damage to local food production, with many farms submerged and livestock drowned. Those animals that survived are being sold as families lack the resources to keep them. Consecutive years of widespread flooding have also destroyed seasonal livelihood opportunities in affected areas, such as planting during the lean season. The ongoing crises have seen a reduction in daily meals and people resort to eating wild foods, such as dried water lily bulbs. Displacement is placing additional pressure on already very limited host community food stocks in some locations too. The local market supply chain has been affected as a result, with reports of price increases across both food and household items.

At a time of intense global humanitarian need and competing demands, sub-Saharan Africa is now experiencing one of the most alarming food crises in decades. Roughly 146 million people – equivalent to half the entire population of the United States – are suffering from acute food insecurity and require urgent humanitarian assistance. The crisis has spread across all of Africa, including in South Sudan, already affected by severe flooding.

Hunger is one of the most undignified sufferings of humanity. It has severe and long-term repercussions on communities, compromising their lives, livelihoods and prospects. Driven by the interplay of insecurity and armed conflict, extreme weather events, climate variability and negative macroeconomic conditions, the food crisis is distinct in its magnitude and geographic scope. It requires an exceptional mobilization of resources and a massive effort by all institutions and states concerned, to address the drivers that underpin food insecurity.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

In October 2021, the IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal to support the South Sudan Red Cross response to the floods affecting the country. With food insecurity on the rise, South Sudan is one of the priority countries supported by the IFRC's regional Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal. Launched in October 2022, it embeds the floods response, and aims to scale up its regional immediate and life-saving response to the food insecurity crisis currently affecting South Sudan and the region. Country prioritization is based on a multivariate analysis, which includes the Integrated Phase Classification, and focuses on those communities experiencing a crisis or worse level of acute food insecurity (IPC phase 3+).

Of the 623,000 people affected by the floods, the South Sudan Red Cross's initial aim was to provide immediate and early recovery assistance to 120,000 of the most vulnerable. With the increase in food insecurity, the objective is now to support 413,000 people.

The IFRC network has supported the African National Societies to develop an emergency response that focuses on meeting the most urgent food, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene needs of the most vulnerable groups, while also addressing longer-term outcomes of protecting livelihoods and setting a foundation for resilience building.

The operational pillars are defined as:

- Response Pillar 1: Cash transfers for safety nets, safeguarding livelihoods, addressing acute food insecurity, improving food access and maintaining consumption levels through the scale-up of emergency food assistance
- Response Pillar 2: Health and nutrition surveillance, knowledge building and health promotion
- Response Pillar 3: Provision of water, sanitation and hygiene services, including the direct provision of safe water or the rehabilitation of water supply infrastructure, in-kind provision of water treatment and storage products, and the use of cash or voucher assistance
- Cross-cutting sectors protection and prevention: A community engagement and accountability approach, alongside attention to protection, gender and inclusion, is critical to the operation and vital in ensuring that it recognizes and values all community members as equal partners

The African National Societies continue to work based on their longstanding ability to reach people in the 'last mile', making sure that even the most isolated and hard-to-reach communities receive the assistance they need. They work to ensure that geographic, community and population targets are aligned between sectors and partnerships, including the rehabilitation of community livelihood assets that support food availability and access.

In addition to providing direct support, the IFRC network plays an important role in enabling and facilitating access to services and goods provided by the Government. It supports the targeting of specific regions and smaller administrative units based on data generated by the Integrated Phase Classification and other recognized references. Targeting is further refined through more detailed and disaggregated data from additional National Society assessments and partner agencies.

The groups targeted in this Emergency Appeal are acutely food-insecure households that are struggling to meet even their basic needs. When geographic targeting is completed, the next step is to target the most affected households based on food security and economic criteria, agreed with the community or, ideally, developed jointly with them. Within these food-insecure and poor households, social categories will be identified to further refine targeting. Protection, gender and inclusion considerations will be incorporated into the targeting process, in order to respond to individuals and groups based on their specific risks, needs and concerns.

The Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal sits within the IFRC's Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative, which informs longer-term food security and livelihood plans of National Societies in Africa. This initiative takes a holistic approach to food security, accompanying rapid support for food and nutrition security and livelihoods with a long-term strategy working towards zero hunger and more sustainable development. The regional Emergency Appeal focuses on responding to the immediate needs of those affected, and its approach assists the transition to longer-term programming. Upon the completion of the Appeal, the IFRC, together with the National Society, will continue the longer-term response through the Zero Hunger Initiative programming; these actions will be integrated into the 2024 South Sudan country plan.

Strategic priorities

Climate and environment

The humanitarian impact of the protracted crisis in South Sudan is exacerbated by climate extremes and environmental hazard risks, including floods and droughts. In recent years, hazards aggravated by climate change have increased in intensity, frequency and complexity, causing damage to infrastructure and widespread suffering. The human and economic costs of these events are significant, and have immediate and long-lasting effects on health, livelihoods and food security.

According to the World Bank's <u>South Sudan Climate</u> <u>Change Overview</u>, rainfall is expected to increase in intensity over the coming decades, elevating the risk of floods and the subsequent spread of water-borne diseases. Climate variability is likely to escalate too, and all of this will have a negative impact on agriculture.

Recently, South Sudan has experienced severe flooding for three consecutive years, with the latest floods taking place between May and November 2021. The floods affected 835,000 people across 33 of the country's 78 counties, and the damage caused to farmlands resulted in the loss of crops, pastures and livelihoods. This led to extreme poverty and poor access to fresh water and food, which resulted in severe malnutrition. Furthermore, entire communities were exposed to disease outbreaks caused by stagnant water, while displaced people crowded into makeshift camps that lacked essential services and basic amenities.

When the rainy season starts, there can be heavy rainfall of more than 200mm in the northwest of the country, and sometimes dams burst along the upper streams of the White Nile River. While there has been a marked improvement in the flooding situation since the beginning of 2022, there was still a very high risk of renewed flooding from August 2022 onwards.

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.

Main actions and areas of support

The South Sudan Red Cross is part of the IFRC <u>Global</u> <u>Climate Resilience Programme</u>, 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 is also 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 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 South Sudan Red Cross will focus on reducing both the current and future humanitarian impact of climate and environmental crises, and supporting people to adapt and thrive in the face of it. It will prioritize climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives through increased advocacy and by integrating climate risk management across all programmes and operations.

In 2023–25, with the support of the IFRC network, the South Sudan Red Cross will focus on:

- Strengthening its capacity for climate-smart solutions and environmental management
- Building awareness of climate change adaptation, environmental restoration and management
- Supporting the formation of relevant youth club activities in schools and communities
- The procurement and distribution of seeds and seedlings
- Rolling out 'clean up' environmental campaigns

- Establishing nursery beds for trees in local branches
- Increasing country-wide awareness on fruit tree planting through the Go Green Campaign

Statistics

835,000 people were affected by flooding in 2021, across 31 of South Sudan's 78 counties.

Disasters and crises

It is estimated that 8.9 million people in South Sudan, two thirds of the population, need humanitarian assistance in 2022 – an increase of 600,000 since 2021. The is largely driven by recurrent flooding, rising food insecurity, widespread conflict and violence, and the impact of COVID-19 – a complex combination of factors that are deepening an already dire humanitarian crisis. The INFORM Country Risk Profile estimates South Sudan's humanitarian crisis and disaster risk in 2022 to be very high, at 8.4/10. Its lack of coping capacity is estimated to be 9.5/10, and its vulnerability 8.8/10.

Extreme levels of acute food insecurity persist across the country and an estimated 8.3 million people were expected to experience severe food insecurity in the 2022 lean season. Approximately 4.5 million people have been displaced by the humanitarian crisis – 2.2 million are displaced internally and 2.3 million refugees have fled to neighbouring countries.

Severe droughts and floods have a profound impact on the people of South Sudan. Extreme weather conditions displace communities to camps on higher ground, and life-saving services become inaccessible. Families lack access to clean water and proper health care, which leads to sickness and malnutrition, while women and girls are at a higher risk of sexual and gender-based violence because they are forced to seek services and resources in faraway places. Children cannot access education because their schools are flooded, and this has a negative impact on their learning. Outside the school's protective environment, children are more vulnerable to rights abuses and exploitation, early pregnancies, recruitment into gangs and armed groups, child labour and gender-based violence.

Severe food insecurity persists and is increasing in areas affected by flood, drought and conflict, especially in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria. The deteriorating security situation along the Nimule to Juba highway, a key supply route, is disrupting commodity supplies and driving up food prices. The extremely high prices of food and fuel are significantly affecting people's ability to buy the things they need, compounding the worsening food insecurity problem.

Since December 2013, there has been a protracted civil war in South Sudan and intermittent spells of intercommunal and localized violence. Conflict continues to be a major driver of humanitarian needs in South Sudan, causing displacement and widespread loss of life and community livelihoods. Although the 2018 Revitalized Peace Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan led to a fragile truce and a reduction in hostilities between the Government and the main opposition, localized violence has surged because of competition for land and resources, cattle raiding and reprisal attacks.

Conflict exposes segments of the population to protection risks such as child abduction and child marriage, sexual and gender-based violence, forced recruitment into armed groups, family separation, physical assault, looting, extortion and intimidation. The surge in intercommunal violence throughout South Sudan affected fewer civilians in 2021 than 2020, but there were still 3,400 victims of killing, injury, abduction and conflict-related sexual violence in 2021. Warrap and Western Equatoria states are the areas most affected by the violence, accounting for 43 per cent of civilian victims.

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.

Main actions and areas of support

The South Sudan Red Cross will focus on improving its preparedness for crises by enhancing community risk reduction and resilience. This will include the development of early warning and early action tools, and greater anticipatory measures to mitigate the impact of hazards upon the lives, livelihoods, homes and living conditions of the most vulnerable, disadvantaged and hardest to reach.

As part of this work, the National Society is currently implementing the prioritization and analysis phase of the Preparedness for the Effective Response (PER) approach. This is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyse the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanisms, in order to make improvements.

Efforts of the South Sudan Red Cross align with the Government National Disaster Management Strategic Plan, and with the IFRC Pan-African Red Ready initiative.

In addition, the ECHO-funded Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) (see under IFRC network section below) will support this strategic priority.

With support from the IFRC network, the National society will implement actions in the following areas:

Disaster risk management

- Providing at-risk communities and disaster responders with actionable risk information
- Supporting communities and local and national institutions with developing contingency plans and disaster response mechanisms
- Supporting the development and testing of standardized early warning systems and early action triggers and protocols
- Working with communities on developing climate-smart, context-specific and innovative measures to protect their livelihoods and assets
- Supporting the effective management and governance of national disasters
- Ensuring emergency response reaches communities in a timely manner, with the development of Preparedness for Effectiveness Response (PER) guidelines
- Improving environmental sustainability and promoting green emergency response practices

Cash and voucher assistance

- Ensuring people affected by crises and disasters receive timely and appropriate medium- and long-term cash and voucher assistance
- Playing an active role in the coordination of cash and voucher assistance through participation in cash working groups
- Strengthening the cash preparedness of the South Sudan Red Cross by ensuring minimum requirements are in place for multi-purpose cash interventions

Statistics

Two-thirds of Sudan's 8.9 million population are estimated to need humanitarian assistance in 2022

8.3 million people are expected to experience food insecurity in the 2022–23 lean season

Health and wellbeing

For most people in South Sudan, accessing health care remains a big challenge because of poor infrastructure in remote areas and a lack of ambulances. For many people, the only way to reach health centres is on foot, with journeys taking several hours or even days, and some die on the way. As a result, there are many deaths from treatable diseases, especially in remote areas. The cost of medical care is an additional barrier to access, as 80 per cent of the population live below the poverty line.

Only 40 per cent of all health care facilities in South Sudan are currently operational. Efforts to improve the health care system have been hindered by the protracted conflict, the effects of climate change, high poverty levels and inadequate infrastructure, and public health facilities are understaffed because of insufficient government funding. Health workers are often subjected to violence in South Sudan, facing threats, intimidation and frequent attacks – in 2021, at least 12 health workers were killed and 12 injured – and many choose to work in private health facilities or for NGOs instead. Some NGOs have attempted to support the Government by offering health services, but they also face funding constraints.

There is a massive lack of access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in South Sudan. Only 41 per cent of people have a basic water supply, 63 per cent of the population practice open defecation and poor hygiene practices are widespread. This makes people highly vulnerable to outbreaks of diarrhoeal diseases which, along with malaria, are spreading fast in communities in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria in particular. Outbreaks of other infectious diseases like cholera and COVID-19 add to the disease burden across the country, and there is a strong need for action to reduce the risk of exposure and infection.

On 7 May 2022, the Ministry of Health declared a cholera outbreak in the Rubkona County of Unity State, the first since 2017. By 10 July 2022, there had been 255 suspected cholera cases – one person died and the others were treated and discharged. Limited access to clean water and inadequate sanitation and hygiene

facilities in Rubkona and migrant camps in Bentiu and elsewhere put internally displaced persons particularly at risk. Furthermore, measles outbreaks have been reported in Tambura County, Western Equatoria State.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Health introduced movement restrictions and curfews in South Sudan. As a result, commodity supplies, livelihoods and economic activities were disrupted and communities were unable to meet their basic needs. The pandemic continues to threaten entire communities, as there is a very low level of vaccine uptake, with only 2.1 per cent of the population vaccinated.

Although some gains have been made in maternal health, one of the biggest health challenges in South Sudan is the high maternal mortality rate, which stands at 789 per 100,000 live births. By comparison, neonatal and under-five mortality rates are 39 and 99 per 100,000 live births respectively, according to WHO 2017 data. Maternal mortality is largely caused by the poor availability of health facilities, a low uptake of antenatal and postnatal care services, and babies being delivered without skilled health care workers present. The ongoing effects of conflict and repeated shocks from natural and man-made disasters make childbirth even more precarious for women. Studies show that women who access health care throughout their pregnancy are more likely to seek health support and get positive outcomes for their newborn babies.

According to UNICEF data for 2019, South Sudan has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the world, at 62 deaths for every 1,000 live births. Less than a third of babies are delivered with the assistance of a skilled health professional such as a doctor, clinical officer, nurse, midwife or auxiliary midwife. Young and educated mothers, and those living in urban areas, are more likely to be assisted by a skilled birthing health care worker than very young mothers, older women, those with little or no education, and women living in rural or nomadic households in remote locations. Approximately 80 per cent of babies are delivered at home rather than in a health facility, and there are more deliveries in public health facilities than private ones, even in urban settings.

More humanitarian interventions are needed to assist women and their caregivers to make well-informed decisions about health care before and after birth in South Sudan. It is essential to help them overcome the barriers they face in seeking pre and postnatal care, including cost, safety and travel time.

Main actions and areas of support

With support from the IFRC network, the South Sudan Red Cross will work to ensure that people in South Sudan have safe and equitable access to health, and water, sanitation and hygiene services (WASH) and adequate living conditions. To do so, it will expand its provision of integrated community-based health services, such as first aid and WASH programmes, to address the unmet needs of vulnerable or marginalized groups. This includes making a significant investment in epidemic and pandemic preparedness, and training local people, networks and volunteers as community-based responders. These responders will be able to detect and respond to outbreaks of disease or other health risks.

The IFRC network will support the South Sudan Red Cross with improving access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services throughout the country. It plans to:

- Operationalize the National Society's health strategy (being developed based on the IFRC Health and Care Framework and Strategy 2030, and in line with the Ministry of Health's aims) by setting annual targets and reporting on them
- Advocate within the National Society to develop a WASH strategy, linked to health, in line with the existing and already widely shared IFRC Health Framework 2030
- Align epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response plans with other sectors
- Scale up the use of community-based approaches

The South Sudan Red Cross will ensure the health and dignity of communities in emergencies and epidemic and pandemic crises. It will:

- Scale up health promotion in vulnerable and marginalized communities on disease prevention and control using the community-based health and first aid strategy.
- Implement community-based surveillance in all National Society branches that wish to participate
- Operationalize community engagement and accountability across all National Society programmes
- Establish first aid programmes in the vulnerable, marginalized and most at-risk communities, such as nomadic populations, internally displaced persons, and people in conflict-prone areas

- Establish a functional national team of psychological first aid trainers
- Contribute to efforts to achieve and sustain national immunization targets and promote fair and equitable access to important 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

The IFRC network will support the South Sudan Red Cross with preventing disease and promoting health-seeking behaviours among target groups. It plans to:

- 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 sex and gender-based violence – while raising awareness and incorporating health needs assessments into project design and implementation at all levels

In the area of delivering first aid education and services to a diversified range of people, including vulnerable communities and private and public sector institutions, the South Sudan Red Cross will:

- Lobby, advocate and network with relevant government bodies to engage in the commercial first aid concept
- Promote the commercial first aid model targeting the local private and public sector, including at petrol pumps and gas filling stations, with the UN, NGOs and insurance agencies
- Introduce first aid clubs in schools
- Produce and market first aid kits for commercial and domestic purposes

In order to provide essential blood donation services, the South Sudan Red Cross will:

- Procure and distribute blood donor recruitment equipment and tools, such as beds, chairs and tables
- Train National Society volunteers and community members on blood donor recruitment and first aid
- Conduct blood donor recruitment drives and outreach sessions to maintain stocks of blood units

- Establish and support two Club 25s, train 30 Club 25 members on voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, and conduct blood drives by Club 25s
- Train 88 National Society volunteers and eight staff on first aid

The South Sudan Red Cross will ensure access to safe and affordable water in target communities and institutions. It 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
- Procure spare parts and materials
- Conduct hand pump repair and rehabilitation
- Support communities to establish and train water management committees

The South Sudan Red Cross will improve access to sanitation facilities in target communities and institutions and promote improved hygiene practices among communities and schools. It plans to:

- Conduct sanitation needs assessments
- Construct institutional latrines, including in schools and health facilities, and support the construction of household latrines
- Train sanitation artisans
- Construct demonstration latrines
- Monitor the quality of latrines at a household and institutional level, to comply with safety, especially with waterlogged and loose soils
- Support communities to appoint WASH management committees
- Coordinate with state-level government authorities to review training needs and packages for WASH committees

The South Sudan Red Cross will strengthen the capacity of its branches to deliver WASH support in emergencies. It plans to:

- Develop community-level intervention teams for WASH-related outbreaks
- Support communities to work with health facilities on surveillance of WASH-related outbreaks

- Contribute to reducing environmental health risks
- Pre-position emergency WASH items
- Respond to WASH needs in emergencies
- Review, print and disseminate WASH policies and strategies
- Support external information exchange visits
- Conduct WASH forums

Through the ECHO-funded Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP), and with support from the IFRC Network, the South Sudan Red Cross will implement the following actions in epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response:

- Support communities to prevent, detect and respond to outbreaks
- Support communities to prepare for early detection and early actions
- Support authorities to adopt and strengthen relevant national plans, strategies, policies and laws related to epidemics, pandemics, and disaster preparedness and response
- Increase its capacity to prepare for, and respond adequately to, consequences of disasters and crises, including epidemics and pandemics

The fight against COVID-19 will be reinforced through a continent-wide initiative between the IFRC and Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to invest in building resilient public health security infrastructure in Africa. Under the USD 39 million Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative funded by Mastercard Foundation, the IFRC and African National Societies are building a programme that aims to ensure that 60 per cent of African people are vaccinated against COVID-19. The partnership between the Mastercard Foundation and Africa CDC will support the procurement and delivery of tens of millions of COVID-19 vaccines and hasten economic recovery on the continent.

Under this programme, the South Sudan Red Cross will deliver critical risk communication and community engagement activities to vulnerable communities, in support of COVID-19 vaccine uptake. Other programme partners will provide procurement and logistics services to a central warehouse (UNICEF), in-country logistics (World Food Programme), managing COVID-19 vaccination centres (Amref Health Africa and GHSS) and safety surveillance (Akros). Across Africa, the National Societies will work with partners in the Saving Lives and Livelihoods programme to achieve its objective of

reaching at least 60 per cent of the continent's population with COVID-19 vaccines.

The South Sudan Red Cross is also part of the community health workforce development initiative, supported by the Africa CDC. The goal of this initiative is to improve health outcomes for African communities by establishing a strengthened and integrated community health workforce and system, with people at its centre. This work will be part of a continent-wide ambition to develop a framework of two million community health workers across the African continent.

This will be achieved through the mobilization of a community health workforce to address the impact of COVID-19 and provide essential services. These community-level services will be integrated into a wider health infrastructure in South Sudan to address the secondary health impacts of COVID-19. These include, but are not limited to, health promotion, disease prevention, community-based care, contact tracing, scaling up mass testing at the community level, and accelerating COVID-19 vaccine access and availability.

The three expected outcomes of this initiative are:

- Scaling up the capacity of community health workforces and volunteers to provide and facilitate equitable access to essential health services, and assist communities affected by public health emergencies
- Reinforcing community preparedness and responsiveness to health emergencies, building community-led health resilience, and improving access to essential health services
- Strengthening the ability of national and community health systems, and the National Society's capacity to address community health needs

Statistics

63 per cent of the population practices open defecation

41 per cent of the population has access to basic water supply

Only 40 per cent of all health care facilities in South Sudan are currently operational

South Sudan has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the world, with **62 deaths for every 1,000 live births**

In 2021, at least **12 health workers were killed** and 12 were injured

Migration and displacement

Since 2013, 4.5 million people have been displaced from their homes in South Sudan, including 2.2 million internally displaced persons and 2.3 million refugees who have fled to Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In addition, South Sudan hosts another 341,000 people with refugee status from Sudan, the DRC, Ethiopia and the Central African Republic.

The situation in South Sudan represents the largest refugee crisis in Africa, the third-largest in the world after Syria and Afghanistan, and 63 per cent of South Sudanese refugees are under the age of 18. While most internally displaced persons have been uprooted by conflict and violence, disasters have become the biggest cause of displacement in recent years, particularly weather-related events such as droughts and flooding.

In March 2022, approximately 41,200 people were displaced by violence in 21 sites across the Abyei Administrative Area, Twic and Warrap. 5,000 people arrived in Akoong village in Aweil East County, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, while in Maiwut County in Upper Nile State, 14,000 people were displaced in Ethiopia due to conflict between armed factions in the area. The properties of the people who had fled were looted and their homes destroyed.

In Eastern Equatoria, attacks by armed cattle keepers displaced approximately 19,350 people in Magwi County, 10,000 of whom are now taking shelter in two schools and a women's centre in Magwi town. A further 600 people arrived at camps in Juba. In Central Equatoria, armed cattle keepers have attacked people in several locations, displacing 21,000 people in Langabur, Lirya Payam and 7,000 in Gumbo in Juba County.

According to a <u>UNHCR 2020 report</u> on returnees in South Sudan, many refugee return points are in remote and inaccessible locations with no mobile communication network. Most of the refugees who return to the country undetected have many unmet needs, including shelter, food and core relief items. For those returning through designated entry points, additional resources are required for return packages.

Main actions and areas of support

The South Sudan Red Cross does not have targeted activities to meet the needs of people affected by migration and displacement, and considers their needs 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. It will carry out this work with IFRC network support and in coordination with relevant local and international organizations.

Statistics

Since 2013, more than four million people have been displaced, including 2.2 million internally displaced persons and 2.3 million South Sudanese refugees.

South Sudan hosts about 341,000 refugees from Sudan, DRC, Ethiopia and the Central African Republic.

Values, power and inclusion

Work in this area is against the backdrop of young people in the country being disproportionately affected by the rapid and significant changes occurring in the world and around them: urbanization, violence, substance abuse, high unemployment, sexual exploitation and the global economic downturn, with the increasing complexity and spread of health, environmental and social issues.

Traditional gender roles and social norms create gender inequality in South Sudan. Women and girls are excluded from education, their mobility is restricted, they largely stay at home, they have limited decision-making power and little access to, and control over, resources. Women are also likely to be disproportionately affected by disasters, experiencing loss of livelihoods, gender-based violence and even loss of life during and after disasters. The lack of participation of women is also of concern in the South Sudan Red Cross's outreach and service delivery activities – for cultural reasons, most National Society volunteers are male. However, in the Equatoria regions, there are different local customs and traditions, so women generally have better opportunities to participate in society.

Gender-based violence affects 41 per cent of the population in South Sudan, and 70 per cent of people say they know someone who has been a victim of it. On 2 August 2022, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) raised concerns about emerging cases of conflict-related sexual violence, despite an overall decrease in the number of civilians affected by violence. The UNMISS report said that 922 civilian casualties had been recorded in the second guarter of 2022, which represents a 15 per cent decrease compared with the same period in 2021. However, there was a 218 per cent increase in conflict-related sexual violence, including rape, gang rape, and other forms of sexual violence. Furthermore, inter-communal conflict continues to be the primary source of civilian harm in South Sudan, accounting for 60 per cent of civilian casualties, while more than a third of casualties are caused by government forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Army in Opposition. There are reports of human rights violations and abuses, and the UN is urging the Government to hold the perpetrators to account.

People living with disabilities in South Sudan are socially and politically excluded, stigmatized and unable to access the support they need to live in dignity as equal members of society. Based on global estimates that 15 per cent of the world's population lives with a disability, it is likely that 1.2 million of them are in South Sudan. People living with disabilities in South Sudan have limited access to essential services and employment, and they are more likely than their peers to be illiterate, unemployed and marginalized. A household survey carried out by the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster in 2016 reported that about 15 per cent of households have at least one family member living with a disability. Nevertheless, awareness of disability issues among key decision-makers is low, and people living with disabilities are generally invisible in socio-economic development programming. For people living with disabilities, being excluded from the target population in this way has a negative impact on their quality of life and level of participation in society.

Main actions and areas of support:

The South Sudan Red Cross will focus on promoting a positive change for humanity through the adoption of humanitarian values and principles.

To help achieve this, the IFRC network will support the South Sudan Red Cross with increasing awareness and taking action, by empowering the youth and engaging with the education sector. It will work towards more inclusive working dynamics, greater diversity and better protection for people, their dignity, and a more resilient and peaceful environment.

The South Sudan Red Cross will make positive changes in communities by developing a wider understanding, ownership and application of humanitarian values and fundamental principles. The knowledge, skills and behaviour of young people will be at the core of the National Society's work in this area. It plans to:

- Increase evidence-based research, data collection and analysis to guide and strengthen multi-disciplinary approaches and the effectiveness of the IFRC's work in education
- Advocate on a policy for non-violence and peaceful co-existence, through the youth committee
- Develop effective partnerships with the Ministry of Education and other humanitarian actors focusing on education, meaningfully engaging with the education community and young people in decision-making
- Raise awareness about the humanitarian consequences of disrupting education, and the importance of ensuring safe, equitable and continuous access to education
- Promote equitable access to quality education for boys and girls affected by disaster, crisis or displacement, by identifying children in the most vulnerable households who are unable to return to school or get necessary documentation to enrol their child (such as birth certificates or transcripts)

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. It will:

- Support gender-responsive community-based safeguarding and response mechanisms for sexual and gender-based violence and child protection, established and maintained at the community level
- Scale up protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) activities by conducting a PGI organization assessment to fulfil National Society commitments towards ensuring safe and inclusive humanitarian action and focus on PGI through an organizational development lens

- Strengthen the referral pathways, dissemination of information, and service delivery through constant coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders
- Support sectors to ensure PGI integration in programming

The South Sudan Red Cross will ensure that people and communities vulnerable to and affected by crises are empowered to influence the decisions that affect them, and trust that they will serve their best interests. It will:

- Develop case studies to document the impact of community engagement and accountability (CEA)
- Launch and implement a CEA strategy for South Sudan
- Advocate for the inclusion of CEA in long-term plans and proposals
- Roll out CEA briefings to all staff joining the National Society

• Strengthen the National Society feedback mechanisms, focusing on ensuring that data is collected, analyzed and shared in a timely way and that the feedback loop is closed

The ECHO-funded Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) will support the work of the National Society on risk communication, community engagement and accountability. It will enable it to gain insights into communities by listening to community feedback, rumours and perceptions. It will ensure that these are systematically collected and analyzed by the South Sudan Red Cross, to inform its community engagement approaches and drive corrective action where necessary.

Statistics

Gender-based violence affects **41 per cent of South Sudanese people**, and 70 per cent of people know someone who has been a victim of it

Enabling local actors

In 2015, the South Sudan Red Cross carried out its first Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process, designed to identify the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies. This was followed by the development of its strategic plan, which was most recently updated in 2022 and will run from 2022 to 2026. In 2017, the South Sudan Red Cross also developed its first National Society Development Framework for 2018–2021, which outlined its key priorities for strengthening its capacity, and guidelines for other Movement partners involved in the process.

Engaged

Digital transformation is the key to improving community engagement, communications, fundraising, data-driven decision-making, reporting and accountability. For this reason, the South Sudan Red Cross will adopt relevant IT infrastructure systems, while exploring innovative ways of digitizing its systems and localizing its approach.

To this end, the National Society is already working alongside the Canadian Red Cross Society, Icelandic Red Cross and the Netherlands Red Cross, as well as the IFRC and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), to implement IT software and hardware, and put in place further planning and coordination. The ambition is to bridge the digital divide and ensure branch connectivity to all branches.

Main areas of support:

In 2023–2025, the South Sudan Red Cross will:

- Deliver on its wider mandate through collaboration with stakeholders, using advocacy to become a partner of choice in the humanitarian field in South Sudan
- Engage with local authorities to build upon its existing auxiliary role, building relationships with other stakeholders by demonstrating the National Society's unique position as a neutral and collaborative humanitarian organization
- Conduct a review of its corruption and anti-fraud policies, guidelines and practices, to improve its ability to respond to operational challenges
- Streamline management of all software licences and IT assets with the creation of a central focal point
- Improve and upgrade IT infrastructure on an ongoing basis

Accountable

In order to strengthen its ability to respond to humanitarian needs in South Sudan, the National Society will develop a resource mobilization framework and a clear implementation plan. This will be supported through capacity building sessions on resource mobilization at different levels across the National Society.

Trusted

Strong community networks are a critical part of the South Sudan Red Cross's countrywide work and profile. This will be ensured by a branch development framework, including key metrics and minimum criteria. Mapping out branch activity and agreeing a harmonized approach will proceed its development.

A key priority for the IFRC network is also to strengthen the South Sudan Red Cross's capacity as a whole, in order to ensure a better service is delivered to communities in South Sudan. The IFRC will therefore:

- Enhance human resources procedures at the National Society, including a full rollout of an appraisal system
- Strengthen financial systems and risk management frameworks
- Rehabilitate offices at headquarters and branch level, to maintain a good working environment
- Support the implementation of the National Society's safety and security framework

THE IFRC NETWORK

 Develop a risk management framework and develop standard operating procedures for staff and volunteers, as a member of the safety and security taskforce

In 2023–25, the IFRC network will support the South Sudan Red Cross to become the trusted partner of choice for delivering humanitarian action in South Sudan. It plans to:

- Ensure a harmonized approach across all branches, projects and programmes, through a branch development framework and the use of Branch Organizational Capacity Assessments (BOCA)
- Manage integrity and reputational risks through comprehensive policies and guidelines
- Increase and maintain youth and volunteer engagement, including the rollout of a volunteer management information system and database, a youth engagement strategy and policy, and volunteer induction process
- Strengthen peer support and protection for gender, diversity and youth in governing boards at a branch level
- Conduct a review of the different coordination mechanisms in South Sudan
- Strengthen the South Sudan Red Cross volunteer solidarity mechanism

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 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, and 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) <u>operations</u> in relation to floods, disease outbreaks and complex emergency. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IFRC, through its global Appeal, has supported the National Society in its COVID-19 response. The IFRC also works closely with the National Society on delivering a wide range of services, including the development of the South Sudan Red Cross's 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 Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative and support resource mobilization for the achievements that contribute to the achievement of zero hunger.

Name of Partner NS	Funding Requirements	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
Canadian Red Cross	CHF 1.00M								
Danish Red Cross	CHF 3.26M								
Finnish Red Cross	CHF 0.97M								
German Red Cross	CHF 1.59M								
Italian Red Cross	CHF 0.05M								
Netherlands Red Cross	CHF 1.41M								
Norwegian Red Cross	CHF 1.01M								
Swedish Red Cross	CHF 1.99M								
Swiss Red Cross	CHF 2.07M								
Turkish Red Crescent									
				Total					
				13.37M					

Participating National Society Support - Bilateral

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing common priorities; co-developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, development assistance, and the auxiliary role efforts to reinforce the role of National Societies in their respective countries.

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. Nine participating National Societies provide long-term support to the South Sudan Red Cross:

The **Canadian Red Cross Society** provides support on the Healthy Body, Healthy Minds initiative. It has also assisted the South Sudan Red Cross on its COVID-19 response and tackling sex and gender-based violence.

The **Danish Red Cross**, as well as being the lead EU National Society for implementation of the PPP in South Sudan, has engaged with the South Sudan Red Cross on intensively building up its capacities since 2006. It has a particular focus on disaster management, psychosocial support, reinforcing preparedness and response, community-based disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation. In regard to emergency responses, the Danish Red Cross has also supported the South Sudan Red Cross on the provision of cash and voucher assistance, and interventions that address basic health needs and non-communicable diseases, and building up community resilience (with a special focus on displaced citizens).

The **Finnish Red Cross** has supported the South Sudan Red Cross with community-based disaster risk reduction.

The **German Red Cross** has worked alongside the South Sudan Red Cross on enhancing food security and livelihoods in the country, as well as disaster risk management and water, sanitation and hygiene.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** has been officially providing support to the South Sudan Red Cross since 2003. It assisted with six primary health care units in the Juba branch, followed by projects spanning health, HIV/AIDS, sexual and gender-based violence, youth development and emergency preparedness and response. This long-term relationship has also seen the Netherlands Red Cross contribute to building up the overall capacity, effectiveness and resilience of the South Sudan Red Cross – with financial and technical support across the areas of water, sanitation and hygiene, health, livelihoods, and response preparedness since 2005.

Most projects have been implemented in the Juba branch of the South Sudan Red Cross and later with the Terekeka branch too. Current projects include one chronic crisis project aiming at building community resilience through provision of water, sanitation and hygiene, livelihoods and protection. It is implementing a COVID-19 response to mitigate the impact of the pandemic in Juba. The Netherlands Red Cross is also part of the Environmental Influence on Child Health Outcomes consortium implementing its disaster preparedness project alongside the South Sudan Red Cross in the Bor region. The aim of this project is to increase multi-hazard community preparedness.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** works with the South Sudan Red Cross to improve community-based health and implement water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives.

The **Swedish Red Cross** has supported the South Sudan Red Cross with integrating disaster risk management and climate change adaptation programmes to improve community resilience. It has also assisted in projects to improve menstrual hygiene management.

The **Swiss Red Cross** has worked on community-based health initiatives with the South Sudan Red Cross, including blood donation and integrated health improvements. It has also helped with the National Society's development and branch development.

The **Turkish Red Crescent Society** has supported the South Sudan Red Cross with emergency responses, climate change adaptation, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

Movement coordination

As part of the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) initiative, the South Sudan Red Cross, the IFRC, the ICRC and participating National Societies coordinate their work through established platforms such as the Technical Committee, the Movement Operations Committee and Movement Platform. These coordination mechanisms ensure a continuous flow of support and guidance to the South Sudan Red Cross. The IFRC has also signed a security management agreement with the ICRC, which oversees the security of both the IFRC and participating National Societies present in the country. Alongside other partners, the ICRC reinforces the South Sudan Red Cross's role in national emergency management forums and provides situational analysis of conflict areas to ensure action is aligned with Red Cross Red Crescent humanitarian principles. The ICRC also supports the South Sudan Red Cross and participating National Societies with logistics. This is carried out in line with the SMCC principles, and the newly adopted <u>Seville Agreement 2.0</u>.

The ICRC helps conflict-affected communities in South Sudan to reunite with family members and become self-sufficient. It visits places of detention, supports health care facilities and promotes respect for international humanitarian law. The ICRC has also supported the National Society with gaining recognition for its work in South Sudan, with ongoing support in the fields of emergency response, logistical capacity and infrastructure.

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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans
- Subscribe for updates
- Donor response on IFRC website
- Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) data
- Operational information: IFRC GO platform
- National Society data: IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with **192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** and around **14 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.

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