



South Sudan crisis

ECHO FACTSHEET

Facts & Figures

4.9 million people are currently at risk of food insecurity with **1.5 million** at immediate risk.

An estimated **3.8 million** people will be in need of humanitarian assistance by the end of the year.

Additional internally displaced persons (IDPs) since December 2013: **1.4 million**

(IDPs before the outbreak of violence: over **180 000**)

Number of new South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries since December 2013: over **469 000**

Number of refugees from neighbouring countries in South Sudan: over **245 000**

EU humanitarian assistance

EU contribution including Member States in 2014: over **€254 million**

European Commission: over **€110 million** for 2014 with an additional **€20 million** for South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries

Other facts

Population: Officially 8.26 million (estimation: 11.5m)

Child mortality: 110/1000

Access to clean water: 30%

<5 Global Acute Malnutrition (deaths of under-5 year olds): 18.1%

* Sources: National Bureau of Statistics of South Sudan; UN OCHA; UNHCR; ECHO

Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: (+32 2) 295 44 00

Fax: (+32 2) 295 45 72

email:

echo-info@ec.europa.eu

Website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo>



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1.4 million people internally displaced and over 469 000 South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries

Around 1.9 million



An estimated 3.8 million people will be in need of humanitarian assistance by the end of the year

EU humanitarian funding 2014



EU's work*



protection



shelter



health care



food assistance and nutrition



drinking water



sanitation



logistics

Source: OCHA, ECHO/EDRIS - * European Commission and EU Member States

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Key messages

- Since the outbreak of civil war in December 2013, around **1.9 million people** have fled their homes, including **469 000 who have sought refuge** in neighboring countries. At the same time, South Sudan hosts around a **quarter of a million refugees**, mainly from Sudan.
- Principal humanitarian needs include food, clean water, health care, sanitation, shelter and protection.
- South Sudan continues to face a food security crisis though humanitarian assistance helped to avoid famine of the most vulnerable. Despite the onset of the harvest season, **1.5 million people** are predicted to remain in crisis or emergency level food insecurity. The outlook for 2015 is bleak particularly for the conflict-affected areas where displacement is high and cultivation of land and harvesting hardly possible.
- **3.5 million** people in South Sudan have been reached with some humanitarian assistance since the beginning of the crisis. The EU, Member States and the Commission, has so far provided assistance worth over **€254 million in 2014** – more than one third (34.4%) of all humanitarian funding, according to the UN. The Commission has provided **€20 million** for the urgent needs of South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries.
- The United Nations has declared South Sudan a level-3 emergency – the worst level of humanitarian crisis. The country ranks second in ECHO's Global Vulnerability and Crisis Assessment index (after the Central African Republic). South Sudan is the world's most fragile State (see Fragile States index).

Humanitarian situation and needs

Background

As the youngest and one of the least developed countries in the world, South Sudan suffers from decades of conflict and neglect, combined with frequent natural disasters and disease outbreaks. It is estimated that 3.8 million people are currently in need of humanitarian assistance.

1.4 million people have become internally displaced (IDPs) mostly because of widespread violence against civilians. In addition, 469 000 South Sudanese have taken refuge in [Ethiopia](#), Uganda, Sudan and [Kenya](#). Inside South Sudan, over 100 000 IDPs fled the violence by seeking shelter in over-crowded protection-of-civilian (PoC) areas in UN bases. Additionally, South Sudan hosts more than 245 000 refugees from neighbouring countries (mainly Sudan). Overall, the need for food, health care, clean water, shelter, sanitation as well as for protection has been rising rapidly. The situation has been worsened by unpredictable mass floods, which hit also some of these PoC "safe havens", drastically worsening the humanitarian situation. A cholera epidemic and other diseases (malaria, kala-azar, hepatitis, etc.) have been on the increase partly due to the rainy season but also because displacement has further weakened populations. As soon as the rainy season comes to an end in November, the pre-positioning of humanitarian supplies close to beneficiaries will become a priority in order to avoid expensive airlifts when next May's rains render the roads unusable.

The conflict and recurrent natural disasters are also taking a toll on the already weak economy of the country. Because of flooding, droughts and displacement, harvests are disrupted and food production is reduced, which has led to currently 4.9 million people being food insecure and 1.5 million of them suffering severe food insecurity.

Humanitarian aid is delivered in extremely challenging circumstances. Hostilities and attacks against humanitarian workers seriously constrain access to those in need. The commandeering of assets and other illegal obstructions further constrain the work of aid organisations.

The European Union's Humanitarian Response

The European Commission is making available more than €110 million in 2014 to respond to the unfolding and intensifying humanitarian crisis inside the country and an additional €20 million for the urgent needs of South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries.

The support covers the provision of food aid, basic health care, clean water, sanitation, emergency non-food items, shelter, protection, etc. for the most vulnerable people. The funds also support the response to epidemics such as cholera and Hepatitis E.

A team of the European Commission's humanitarian experts is permanently based in the country, working with partner relief organisations, coordinating response efforts with both EU and non-EU donors, closely monitoring developments and the efficient use of EU humanitarian funds.

EU Member States and European Commission humanitarian contributions to South Sudan crisis in 2014:

DONOR	AMOUNT
European Commission/ECHO*	110 550 000
Austria	1 040 000
Belgium	2 500 000
Czech Republic	328 820
Denmark	25 695 589
Estonia	200 000
Finland	9 150 000
France	1 910 000
Germany	22 886 464
Hungary	9 647
Ireland	5 158 496
Italy	3 500 000
Luxembourg	2 500 000
Netherlands	9 000 000
Spain	1 550 000
Sweden	20 563 259
United Kingdom	37 661 406
TOTAL	€254 204 682

* In addition €20 million for South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries. **Source: EDRIS** - European Disaster Response Information System

** Sources, such as the UN OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS), report higher numbers, which bring the total EU contributions to over USD 487 million.



Examples of ECHO funded projects

Health and nutrition



International Medical Corps staff treats patients in a field clinic in Yusuf Bathil camp, Maban County, Upper Nile.

South Sudan has some of the worst health and nutrition levels in the world. Access to quality primary healthcare is problematic due to underdevelopment, ongoing conflict and the difficult access to many areas. Poor health care affects in particular the most vulnerable, leading to high mortality rates amongst children and women. The EU funds field hospitals as well as mobile health services. Mobile clinics offer services to the population closer to their homes and allows for home visits and ambulance services for those that are too ill to reach the health posts. The most commonly treated conditions are diarrhoeal diseases, skin infections and respiratory tract infections. ECHO ensures that funded projects are sensitive to nutrition needs.

Water and sanitation



Water trucking is often the only way to provide clean drinking water for the population.

Access to clean water and sanitation services is a huge problem in the country and a large contributor to health conditions. The increasing number of internally displaced people adds to the challenge. By supporting emergency preparedness and response activities, ECHO supports that clean drinking water and sanitation facilities are available for uprooted populations, with the aim of reducing mortality due to water-borne diseases.

Food assistance



The continued conflict is threatening to increase hunger. @ WFP/Philipp Herzog

To address food insecurity in South Sudan, ECHO supports the UN World Food Programme (WFP) in providing life-saving assistance to the internally displaced, refugees and local populations. With ECHO's support, WFP plans to reach almost 1.3 million beneficiaries affected by conflict or food insecurity. Beneficiaries receive general food distributions and targeted supplementary feeding, addressing malnourished children from 6 months to 5 years and malnourished pregnant and nursing mothers.

EU Children of Peace



According to Unicef over 370 000 children under 18 years are affected by the recent crisis.

Under the EU Children of Peace initiative, the European Commission is funding a project in South Sudan, implemented by the Lutheran World Federation. Within the project, the partner organisation establishes education and protection initiatives for children between the ages of 12 and 17, with a particular focus on those who have been deprived of education due to conflict and displacement. The project will provide children with an accelerated learning programme and safe school interventions giving them the opportunity to catch up with their peers. To enhance child protection in the refugee camps, child rights clubs will also be established in schools, and teachers will be trained on how to recognise and respond to child rights violations. 5 400 children will benefit from this project.

Multi-Sectorial Assistance



According to Unicef over 370 000 children under 18 years are affected by the recent crisis. © UNICEF

UNICEF and the European Commission provide emergency assistance in the areas of child protection, health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) to vulnerable populations, especially children and women in South Sudan. Through ECHO's support, UNICEF is able to reach more than 2 million people with life-saving supplies for timely emergency response, including mobile water treatment plants, therapeutic food to address malnutrition, vaccines, and through establishment of child-friendly spaces, comprising recreational and early childhood kits.



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