

South Sudan – Complex Emergency

DECEMBER 4, 2020

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

7.5
MILLION

Estimated Population
in South Sudan
Requiring Humanitarian
Assistance

UN – Nov. 2020

1.6
MILLION

Estimated Number
of IDPs in
South Sudan

UN – Oct. 2020

2.2
MILLION

Estimated Number
of South Sudanese
Refugees in
Neighboring Countries

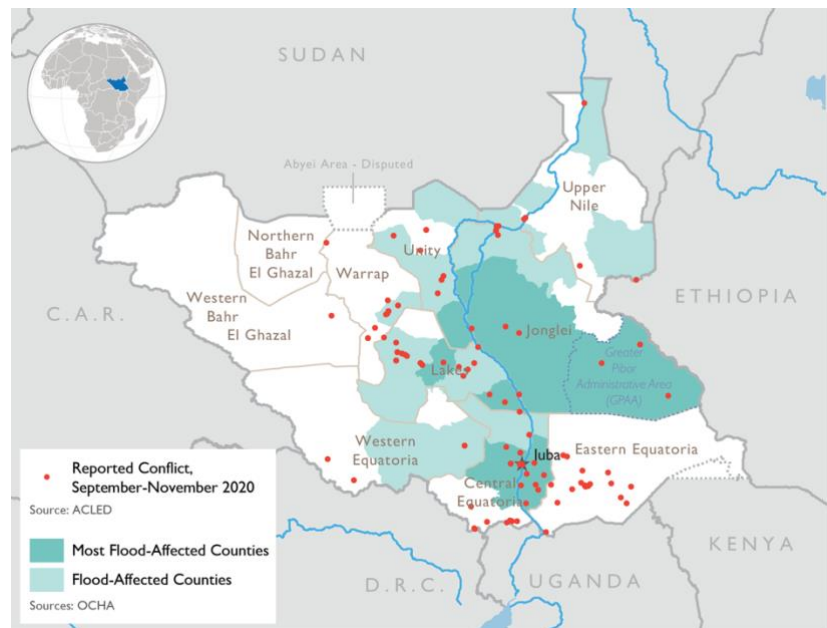
UN – Nov. 2020

11.2
MILLION

Estimated
Population of
South Sudan

UNFPA – July 2020

- Heavy rains and seasonal flooding since July have adversely affected more than 1 million people and resulted in widespread agricultural and property damage.
- FAO and WFP analysis indicates continued severe acute food insecurity in South Sudan as of October.
- USAID/BHA partner WFP provides food assistance in response to increased COVID-19-related humanitarian needs in South Sudan.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the South Sudan Response in FY 2020

USAID/BHA^{1,2} \$ 583,848,635

State/PRM³ \$ 107,763,910

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

Total \$691,612,545^{4,5}

¹USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

²Total USAID/BHA funding includes non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace.

³U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴This total includes approximately \$45.2 million in supplemental funding through USAID/BHA and State/PRM for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) preparedness and response activities.

⁵This total does not include approximately \$290.1 million in FY 2020 U.S. Government (USG) funding for South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries, of which nearly \$19.1 million is towards responding to COVID-19. This increases total USG emergency funding for the South Sudan crisis in FY 2020 to more than \$981.7 million.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Floods Adversely Affect More Than 1 Million People in South Sudan

Above-average rainfall since July has resulted in the Lol, Nile, Pibor, and Sobat rivers breaching their banks and flooding large areas of central and eastern South Sudan. As of late November, the flooding had affected more than 1 million people—including the displacement of approximately 481,000 people—and caused widespread agricultural and property damage across eight of South Sudan's 10 states, the UN reports. Additionally, as of early December, the floods had adversely affected approximately 380 schools in South Sudan, of which nearly 130 were serving as temporary shelters for flood-affected internally displaced persons (IDPs), according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). Jonglei State had more than 400,000 people affected by floods as of late November, the greatest number of any state; flooding has also inundated areas of Central Equatoria, Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap, and Western Equatoria states.

In response, USAID/BHA partners continued to scale up emergency food and non-food assistance to flood-affected populations in November. In particular, USAID/BHA partner WFP reached more than 550,000 flood-affected people with emergency food assistance countrywide during the month, including approximately 23,000 individuals in Jonglei. Additionally, through the USAID/BHA-supported International Organization for Migration (IOM) Rapid Response Fund—a flexible funding mechanism that enables rapid responses to humanitarian crises through grants to international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs)—humanitarian partners are providing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, including hygiene promotion sessions and WASH commodities, to flood-affected households across Jonglei.

FAO-WFP Analysis Indicates Severe Acute Food Insecurity in South Sudan

The cumulative effects of conflict, severe flooding, worsening economic conditions, and prolonged household asset depletion continue to result in high levels of acute food insecurity in South Sudan, according to the October UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)–WFP early warning analysis of acute food insecurity hotspots. A February Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis estimated that approximately 6.5 million people in South Sudan would experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity between May and July; IPC partners plan to release an updated analysis in the coming weeks. FAO and WFP warn that further intensification of violence and the consequent displacement of civilians and disruption to agriculture and markets could result in additional people experiencing severe acute food insecurity in the coming months.⁶ In particular, insecurity in Jonglei, Warrap, and parts of Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, and Lakes continue to displace civilians, result in livestock losses, and disrupt harvesting activities, humanitarian assistance, and market access. Moreover, economic shocks associated with COVID-19-related restrictions—along with the exhaustion of foreign currency reserves, elevated food prices, and the depreciation of the national currency against parallel markets—are reducing household purchasing power and further exacerbating food insecurity, FAO and WFP report. However, the analysis indicates that continued humanitarian presence in South Sudan, coupled with the prospects for subsiding rainfall and the start of the main harvest season, could help protect against a significant deterioration of food security.

Insecurity, Displacement Exacerbate Humanitarian Needs in Warrap State

Sub-national violence, including cattle raids and revenge attacks, in Makuac and Wulnit villages of

⁶The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

Warrap's Tonj East County on November 8 and 9 resulted in the deaths of at least 17 people and the displacement of an estimated 5,000 others, according to the UN. Humanitarian partners reported that at least 40 people who were injured during the fighting were unable to access health services, as many facilities in Tonj East have been unable to replenish their medical supplies due to persistent insecurity, as well as flooding and resultant road damage.

Overall, flooding and intermittent communal violence have displaced nearly 14,900 people in Tonj East and at least 50,700 people in Warrap's Tonj South County to date in 2020. Despite the ongoing insecurity, relief agencies in Warrap have provided life-saving assistance—including emergency food, health, nutrition, and WASH support—to people affected by communal violence and conflict in several locations of Tonj East in recent weeks.

Two Aid Workers Killed in Separate Attacks in Jonglei in Late October

Two separate attacks on aid workers in Jonglei on October 29 and 30 resulted in the deaths of two people and injuries to three others, according to the UN. On October 29, unidentified armed actors attacked three staff members of NGO Plan International, who were returning to Pibor town in Jonglei's Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA) on foot after providing nutrition services to conflict- and flood-affected beneficiaries. The attack resulted in one aid worker's death and injuries to two other staff members, the UN reports. In addition, armed youths attacked staff members of national NGO Nile Hope in Jonglei's Canal/Pigi County on October 30, resulting in one humanitarian worker's death. The aid worker was traveling from the local Nile Hope headquarters to provide supplementary feeding and outpatient therapeutic care to malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women at the time of the attack. A second Nile Hope staff member escaped the attack with minor injuries. Plan International and Nile Hope temporarily suspended humanitarian services in the area following the incidents; however, the organizations had resumed humanitarian activities as of late November.

The UN issued press statements on November 2 and 3 condemning the incidents and calling on authorities and communities to guarantee aid workers' safety. USAID/BHA partners report that sub-national violence and attacks against aid workers continue to hamper the delivery of humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities, particularly in the GPAA, one of the areas most affected by ongoing flooding and high levels of acute food insecurity.

Relief Agencies Respond to COVID-19-Related Humanitarian Needs

The number of COVID-19 cases in South Sudan continues to increase amid persistent disease surveillance and testing challenges. As of December 2, the World Health Organization (WHO) had reported more than 3,100 confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Sudan, including 61 related deaths. As testing capacity has been a significant constraint on the COVID-19 response in South Sudan, health actors are establishing additional testing sites across the country. Between November 3 and 10, health actors installed new testing equipment in seven locations in Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile, Warrap, and Western Equatoria states, according to the UN.

Relief actors are responding to heightened humanitarian needs resulting from the compounding shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic and recent flooding. In particular, WFP expanded the USAID/BHA-funded urban COVID-19 response program to include vulnerable populations in Jonglei and Unity, in addition to those in the capital city of Juba, Central Equatoria. As part of the program, WFP provided food assistance to more than 8,500 people in Jonglei's Bor town in November. WFP also commenced distributions of double food rations targeting 114,400 beneficiaries in Juba on November 13.

KEY FIGURES



**\$396.8
Million**

In USG funding for emergency food assistance and livelihoods support in FY 2020



\$2.5 Million

In USG funding for emergency flood response in South Sudan in FY 2020



\$35.3 Million

In USG support for life-saving health care programming in FY 2020



3 Million

People supported with USG-funded WASH activities in FY 2020

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports four UN agencies and nine NGOs to bolster food security, livelihoods, and early recovery efforts in South Sudan. With more than \$396.8 million in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA partners provide emergency food assistance, agricultural inputs, fishing kits, and livelihoods trainings to support vulnerable populations across the country. Emergency food assistance includes U.S.-sourced commodities, locally and regionally procured commodities, and cash-based resource transfers where feasible. USAID/BHA partners reached approximately 1.3 million beneficiaries with food assistance monthly in FY 2020.

FLOOD RESPONSE

USAID/BHA supports the IOM Rapid Response Fund in South Sudan to quickly implement emergency programs in response to humanitarian crises, such as flooding, through grants to local partners. Since September 2020, IOM has distributed \$2.5 million to 21 sub-partners implementing agriculture, food security, health, protection, shelter, and WASH programming in flood-affected counties of Jonglei, Lakes, Unity, and Western Equatoria states.

HEALTH

With approximately \$35.3 million in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA provides health care services in South Sudan through community health facilities and mobile medical units (MMUs). Through MMUs, partners provide a range of primary care, mental health, and maternal and newborn health services. USAID/BHA also supports integrated community case management services in South Sudan, which deliver life-saving curative interventions for common childhood illnesses, particularly where there is limited access to facility-based services. To mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, USAID/BHA partners are training local healthcare workers in infection prevention and control methods and strengthening community health coordination. Additionally, State/PRM supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to address the specific health care needs of refugees and other vulnerable populations in South Sudan. Health interventions are integrated with nutrition and WASH services wherever possible to ensure a sustainable system of clinical services and support.

WASH

USAID/BHA prioritized nearly \$33 million in FY 2020 funding for WASH programming in South Sudan to provide access to safe drinking water, handwashing facilities, sanitation services, and solid waste disposal to more than 3 million people—including more than 1 million IDPs. WASH programming includes interventions to help prevent cholera outbreaks among vulnerable populations as well as mitigate gender-based violence (GBV) risks by providing safe access to latrines, sanitation services, and

other WASH assets. USAID/BHA also supports hygiene promotion activities through public health campaigns and the distribution of essential supplies, such as buckets, soap, and dignity and hygiene kits.



\$43.2 Million

In USG funding for life-saving nutrition programming in FY 2020

NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports partners in their efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition across South Sudan. In partnership with the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and NGOs, USAID/BHA nutrition assistance reaches children and pregnant and lactating women nationwide with specialized food products to treat malnutrition and provide supportive supervision to frontline health nutrition staff. Using a community-based approach, USAID/BHA partners promote recommended infant and young child feeding practices through one-on-one counseling and group education to manage acute malnutrition. With more than \$43.2 million in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA reached nearly 2.5 million people—including more than 325,200 IDPs—with life-saving nutrition services.



\$22 Million

In dedicated USG support for critical protection interventions in FY 2020

PROTECTION

With \$22 million in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA supports multi-sector protection interventions that ensure the safety and dignity of more than 5 million people—including approximately 200,000 IDPs—in South Sudan. Protection activities include assistance to GBV survivors through case management, emergency protection-led assessments, mobile emergency response teams, psychosocial support, and referrals to health specialists. Additionally, State/PRM partners provide protection services to meet the needs of IDPs, refugees, and conflict-affected communities countrywide, including through GBV prevention and response programs, mental health and psychosocial support activities, family reunification, and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documentation. USAID/BHA is also working to strengthen protection coordination and capacity-building by funding the GBV Sub-Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian GBV response activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—in South Sudan.



\$26.4 Million

In USG funding for logistics support in FY 2020

LOGISTICS

With \$26.4 million in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA provides countrywide support to the humanitarian response through the WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and Logistics Cluster for South Sudan. UNHAS offers air transportation to relief actors throughout the country, while the Logistics Cluster provides coordination and information management services for humanitarian workers, delivery of essential humanitarian relief items, common warehousing of basic relief commodities, and geographical information system mapping. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner IOM supports fellow humanitarian partners' responses across South Sudan by procuring, storing, and transporting critical relief supplies, including emergency shelter and WASH commodities.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- The January 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the southern-based Sudan People’s Liberation Army officially ended more than two decades of north–south conflict during which famine, fighting, and disease killed an estimated 2 million people and displaced at least 4.5 million others within Sudan. In July 2011, South Sudan became an independent state following a referendum earlier in the year.
- On December 15, 2013, clashes erupted between factions within the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GoRSS) in Juba and quickly spread into a protracted national conflict, prompting displacement and humanitarian needs. On December 20, 2013, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG response to the crisis in South Sudan and stood up a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to support the DART.
- After nearly seven years, USAID transitioned the South Sudan DART and RMT to a normalized response under BHA on November 6 and November 20, 2020, respectively. USAID/BHA remains committed to maintaining a robust humanitarian response in South Sudan, and USAID/BHA partners continue to carry out life-saving programs to meet the ongoing humanitarian needs of the South Sudanese people.
- On November 12, 2020, Chargé d’Affaires, a.i. Jon Danilowicz redeclared a disaster in South Sudan for FY 2021 due to ongoing conflict and population displacement; restricted humanitarian access; and disruption of cultivation activities, markets, and trade, all of which have significantly exacerbated food insecurity and humanitarian needs.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
FUNDING IN SOUTH SUDAN FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY			
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
Action Against Hunger USA (AAH/USA)	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Health, Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$4,803,069
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	HCIM, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,950,000
Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA)	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$1,944,000
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Upper Nile	\$3,441,830
CONCERN	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Central Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity	\$6,500,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$8,100,000
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	HCIM, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Unity, Upper Nile	\$3,314,295

FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Upper Nile	\$4,929,000
IOM	Agriculture and Food Security, HCIM, Health, Logistics Support, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$23,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	ERMS, Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Unity	\$5,500,000
MEDAIR, SWI	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Jonglei, Upper Nile	\$8,000,000
Mercy Corps	WASH	Unity, Western Equatoria	\$3,260,576
Nonviolent Peaceforce	Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity	\$4,105,061
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	HCIM, Protection	Countrywide	\$1,346,531
Relief International (RI)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Upper Nile	\$6,800,000
Samaritan's Purse	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Central Equatoria, Unity, Upper Nile	\$4,300,000
Save the Children Federation (SCF)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Eastern Equatoria	\$3,015,788
Tearfund	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Central Equatoria	\$2,500,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection	Countrywide	\$3,500,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIM	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
VSF/G	Agriculture and Food Security	Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile	\$2,164,501
WFP (UNHAS)	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$23,221,609
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$500,000
World Relief International (WRI)	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Jonglei, Unity	\$3,540,325
World Vision, Inc. (USA)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, HCIM, Health, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$4,531,938
Program Support			\$231,536
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$141,500,059
Food Assistance			
CRS	7,520 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Jonglei	\$6,788,960
Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI)	Other	Countrywide	\$610,000
FAO	Complementary Services, Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$25,000,000
UNICEF	1,470 MT in Local, Regional, and International Food Procurement (LRIP)	Countrywide	\$25,225,000
WFP	84,180 MT in U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$144,770,197
	102,688 MT in LRIP	Countrywide	\$182,187,413
	Cash Transfers for Food	Countrywide	\$22,567,587
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$407,149,157
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$548,649,216
STATE/PRM			
Africa Humanitarian Action	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$1,495,243
Internews Network	Protection, HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,499,928
IRC	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$2,000,000

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$30,000,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Education, Protection	Countrywide	\$1,993,329
Lutheran World Federation	Education, Protection	Unity, Upper Nile	\$2,140,689
Mentor Initiative	Health, Protection	Unity, Upper Nile	\$2,096,024
Relief International	Health	Upper Nile	\$4,983,089
SCF	Education, Protection	Upper Nile	\$2,226,608
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$49,300,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$97,734,910
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2020			\$646,384,126

FUNDING IN SOUTH SUDAN FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE²			
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
Doctors of the World	Health	Jonglei	\$300,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Health	Countrywide	\$500,000
IMC	Health, Protection	Central Equatoria, Upper Nile, Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$6,228,300
Internews	Health	Countrywide	\$700,001
IOM	WASH	Countrywide	\$6,864,000
Nonviolent Peaceforce	Protection	Central Equatoria	\$450,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$734,020
Samaritan's Purse	Health	Central Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal	\$1,533,577
SCF	Health	Central Equatoria	\$300,000
UNICEF	Health, WASH	Central Equatoria	\$2,000,000
WFP (UNHAS)	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$589,521
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$20,199,419
Food Assistance			
CRS	Cash Transfers for Food, Complementary Services	Central Equatoria	\$5,099,506
FAO	Complementary Services	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$2,200,494
WFP	4,712 MT of LRIP	Urban and Peri-Urban Areas, Countrywide	\$7,700,000
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$15,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$35,199,419
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,879,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$5,150,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$10,029,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE IN SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2020			\$45,228,419

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$583,848,635
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$107,763,910
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$691,612,545

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2020.

² Figures represent supplemental International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities as of September 30, 2020.

³ This total does not include approximately \$290.1 million in FY 2020 U.S. Government (USG) funding for South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries, of which nearly \$19.1 million is towards responding to COVID-19. This increases total USG emergency funding for the South Sudan crisis in FY 2020 to more than \$981.7 million.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

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

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)