

HIGHLIGHTS (7 hours ago)

- More than 75,000 children to receive education in emergency services
- Nearly 20,000 people received Yellow Fever vaccine in Sakura, Nzara County
- Food insecurity increases, humanitarian urge for scale-up of aid
- Humanitarian access remained constrained in 2018, impacting aid to people in need



At a WFP food distribution, women are waiting with their cards, used to determine the family's food entitlements. Credit: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua

KEY FIGURES

7.1M

People in need

5.7M

People targeted

1.9M

Number of IDPs

6.45M

Severely food insecure (Feb-Apr)

FUNDING (2019)

\$1.5B

Requirements

\$92.4M

Funding



6%

Progress

FTS: <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/713/summary>

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE (7 hours ago)

More than 75,000 children to receive education in emergency services

On 26 March, a joint United Nations programme on education in emergency was launched in Aweil town, Northern Bahr el Ghazal. The programme aims to provide hot daily meals to over 75,000 school children, train some 1,600 teachers, equip learners with educational supplies and provide psychosocial support services for more than 40,000 children and adolescents.

The five-year programme, funded by the European Union, will be implemented in 150 schools in the former Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap and Eastern Equatoria states.

“For children to develop their full potential and continue learning, access to safe and protective learning environments is crucial, and this is what the programme will do,” said UNICEF South Sudan Representative, Mohamed Ag Ayoya. “This combination of essential services provided to the children will be an important contribution to more resilient and peaceful communities.”

“Every day, countless children across the country turn up for school on an empty stomach,” said Ronald Sibanda, WFP’s Acting Country Director in South Sudan. “For all of them, food at school every day makes the difference. It means better nutrition and health, but also increased access to and achievement in education as well as a strong incentive for parents not only to send children to school but also to keep them there.”

The joint activities implemented by UNICEF and the World Food Programme will also help participating schools establish school gardens, where children can learn good farming practices, while supplementing their school meals with fresh produce from the garden.

The five years of violence and insecurity have taken a devastating toll on children across the country. An estimated 1.2 million children are acutely malnourished – the highest number since the conflict began. Some 2.2 million children are not receiving an education, giving South Sudan the highest proportion of out of school children in the world.



Caption: School children receive school bags, books and other school materials in Aweil town. More than 75,000 children will be reached by the joint programme on education in emergencies. Credit: UNICEF

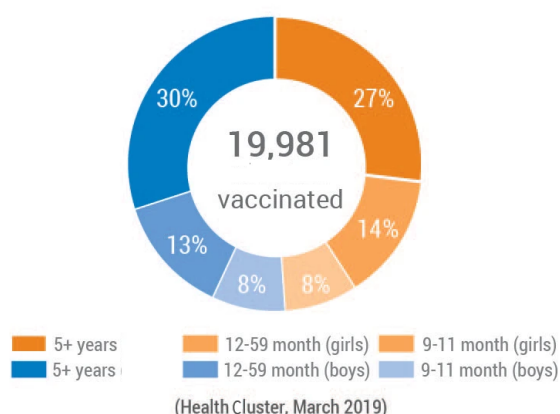
ANALYSIS (7 hours ago)

Nearly 20,000 people received Yellow Fever vaccine in Sakura, Nzara County

The Ministry of Health, with support from humanitarian organizations, conducted a reactive yellow fever vaccination campaign in Sakura, Nzara County.

Nearly 20,000 individuals aged between nine months and 65 years received the vaccine. The reactive yellow fever vaccination is part of the global strategy to Eliminate Yellow Fever Epidemics by 2026, said Dr Olushayo Olu, WHO Representative for South Sudan. “It serves to protect high-risk populations against the yellow fever virus in the immediate term and will serve as a bridge towards the introduction of yellow fever vaccine into the routine immunization system in the long term.”

The vaccination campaign followed the declaration of a yellow fever outbreak in Sakura on 29 November 2018, where a total of three confirmed cases, with no deaths, were reported.



Yellow fever vaccination campaign – sex disaggregated data

While the yellow fever vaccine is 95 per cent effective, there is no specific treatment for the illness, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). Vaccination is the most important preventive measure against yellow fever.

ANALYSIS (15 days ago)

Food insecurity increases, humanitarians urge for scale-up of aid

Nearly 6.5 million people – 57 per cent of the population – are estimated to face severe food insecurity from February to April, with an estimated 45,000 in 'catastrophic' conditions, said the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Technical Working Group in South Sudan.

This is expected to increase to an estimated 6.9 million people facing severe food insecurity at the peak of the lean season – the time when people's food stock runs out before the next harvest – in May-June. An estimated 50,000 people will be in 'catastrophic' conditions, which means they will be facing a famine-like situation.

Malnutrition levels remained critical in many areas, with some 860,000 children under the age of five estimated to be severely malnourished in 2019.

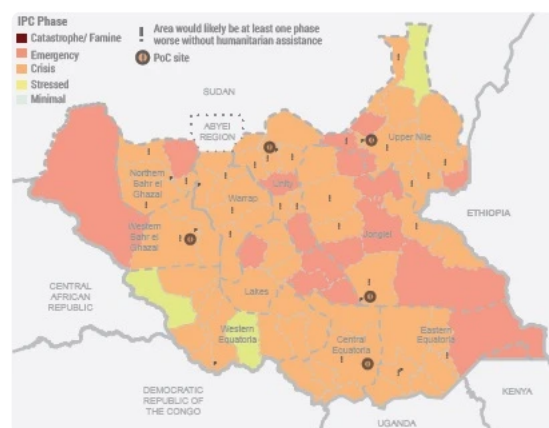
The Humanitarian Coordinator for South Sudan, Alain Noudéhou, said: "Sustained humanitarian support is required to address the immediate food assistance needs. It is also critical to support resilience activities to improve livelihoods and to increase families' ability to cope."

The number of acutely food insecure people has already increased by 13 per cent since January last year.

Humanitarian organizations said that funding and an urgent scale-up of humanitarian food assistance were needed to help vulnerable people across the country.

Around 80 per cent of people in South Sudan are farmers or pastoralists and depend on their produce or livestock for their livelihoods. But armed fighting and a lack of safety have made it hard for them to continue.

In 2019, the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization aims to provide 800,000 farming, fishing and pastoral households in severely food insecure areas with vegetable and crop seeds, agricultural tools and fishing equipment. The UN's World Food Programme, will, among other things, deliver emergency food assistance; while UNICEF, the UN's Children Fund, is targeting more than two million children and their mothers to provide quality nutrition services in 2019.



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification map February to April 2019

ACCESS (15 days ago)

Humanitarian access remained constrained in 2018, impacting aid to people in need

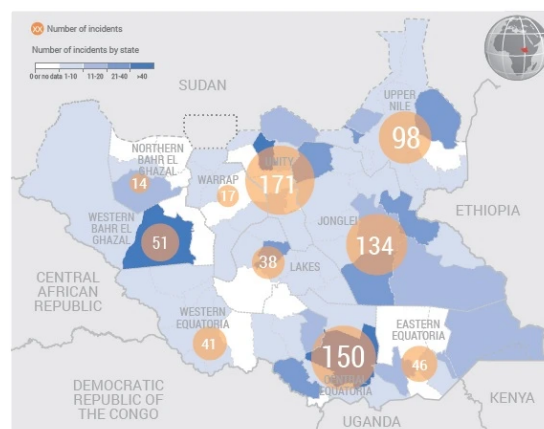
In 2018, at least 760 humanitarian access incidents were reported by humanitarian organizations across South Sudan. Although the overall number of access incidents decreased in comparison to 2017, the impact on humanitarian aid remained significant.

International NGOs experienced nearly half (48 per cent) of all incidents. A quarter of all incidents were significant in severity and caused serious impacts on aid workers, assets or humanitarian response.

Fifteen aid workers were killed while delivering humanitarian assistance during the year, resulting in at least 112 aid workers killed since the start of the conflict in December 2013. At least 117 staff were detained for prolonged periods in 2018, with the majority working for local NGOs. More than 575 staff were relocated due to insecurity, resulting in the temporary suspension of operations, including over 400 people in Maban, Upper Nile, that suspended operations for months.

Bureaucratic and operational interference continued in both Government and opposition held territories. This caused excessive delays and mounting costs to humanitarian operations. State security forces persistently denied access to several areas, which included areas outside Yei town in Central Equatoria and the greater Baggari area in Western Bahr el Ghazal. This cut off thousands of people from humanitarian support for several months.

Most of the reported incidents in 2018 affected humanitarian operations across sectors. There were notable incidents including attacks on food convoys; looting or theft of compounds that were storing programme supplies such as food, water and sanitation items, or shelter and essential household items; and harassment of staff.



Number of access incidents per state in 2018

MEDIA (15 days ago)



View this video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PaemJosmpBA>

We asked people who fled their homes because of the conflict in South Sudan to tell us about their lives. Watch this video, and hear what they said.

For more information see:

<https://www.unocha.org/south-sudan>

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/south-sudan>

<https://reliefweb.int/country/ssd>

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