

### HIGHLIGHTS (22 minutes ago)

- Floods worsen living conditions as rains intensify across the country
- Humanitarian organizations respond as needs increase in Kajo-Keji
- Solar-powered, digital audio player launched to improve Ebola community engagement
- The 19 August is World Humanitarian Day – this year it honours Women Humanitarians
- Fighting triggers new displacement in Maiwut, Upper Nile



The 19 August is World Humanitarian Day. This year it focused on Women Humanitarians, like Rose Tawil, a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Officer at UNICEF. Credit: UNICEF

### KEY FIGURES

**7.2M**

People in need

**5.7M**

People targeted

**1.9M**

Internally displaced people

**6.96M**

Severely food insecure (May-Jul)

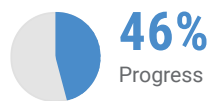
### FUNDING (2019)

**\$1.5B**

Required

**\$691.4M**

Received



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

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### FEATURE (19 minutes ago)

#### Floods worsen living conditions as rains intensify across the country

Floods caused by torrential rains have worsened the living conditions of South Sudanese people in many parts of the country in the past few months. Some of the areas affected include Lafon, Torit and Kapoeta South counties in Eastern Equatoria; Ayod, Akobo, Bor South, Duk, Twic East, Pibor, Pochalla and Uror counties in Jonglei; Aweil Center and Aweil North in Northern Bahr el Ghazal; Abiemnhom, Mayom, Mayendit and Panyijiar in Unity; Maban in Upper Nile; and Gogrial East, Gogrial West and Tonj North in Warrap.



The heavy rains have inundated shelters, water sources, crops and crucial productive assets in many areas. They have also damaged essential service infrastructure like schools and health facilities, impacting women and children in particular. The floods have rendered many roads impassable, constraining people's access to markets and humanitarians' ability to move across affected areas. Thousands of families have temporarily relocated from worst-affected to safer areas. The flooding has increased the risk of diseases among the communities. The most commonly reported ones include acute watery diarrhoea, respiratory infections and malaria.

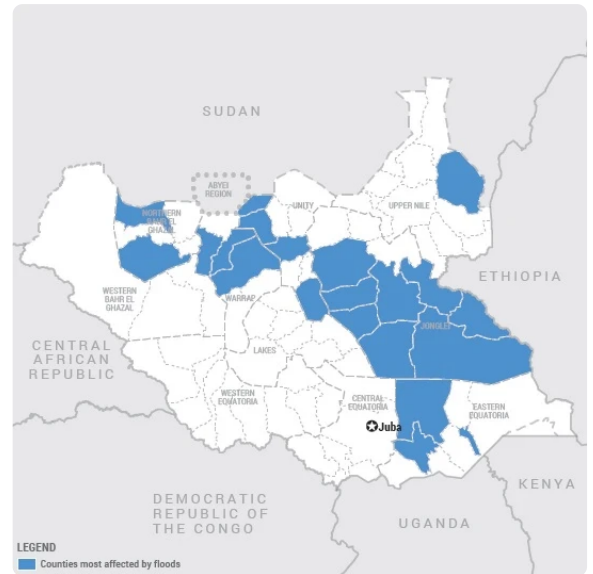
Across the country, authorities and aid organizations have reported that an estimated 234,800 people have been affected by the floods in the past months including about 132,800 people in Jonglei, 52,000 people in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, nearly 37,000 people in Unity, some 8,000 people in Eastern Equatoria and 5,000 people in Upper Nile. In Warrap, a joint needs assessment by partners to assess needs and ascertain the number of people affected by floods in Tonj North, Gogrial East, Gogrial East and Tonj North counties commenced on 11 September. Local leaders continue to report new affected areas and people daily.

The government with support from the humanitarian organizations are currently responding to needs in locations including Aweil Centre in Northern Bahr el Ghazal; Ayod, Bor South, Duk, Twic East and Pibor in Jonglei; Maban in Upper Nile; Torit and Kapoeta in Eastern Equatoria; and Mayendit in Unity.

Humanitarian response to floods is based on assessed needs and vulnerability index developed by the Humanitarian Country Team. According to the agreed criteria, response is triggered only if over 5,000 people have been affected; at least half of individual property has become uninhabitable as a direct result of the floods; the flooding is combined with more than one other event, such as conflict, disease outbreak, inter-communal conflict or cattle raid; the affected population is experiencing emergency or worse levels of food insecurity; more than 50 per cent of water infrastructure and health and nutrition facilities have been destroyed; and more than 40 per cent of productive assets and cultivated land have been lost.

In many parts of South Sudan, strong coping mechanisms are already in place to deal with annual flooding. Humanitarian and other organizations are working with local communities to support resilience initiatives as a sustainable solution to the flood emergencies and to reduce need for humanitarian assistance. These include community sensitization about appropriate locations for planting and cultivation.

Despite the challenges, floods also bring some positive benefits to affected communities, including increased fertility of farmland and availability of fish.



*South Sudan map showing counties most affected by floods.*

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE** (17 days ago)

### **Humanitarian organizations respond as needs increase in Kajo-Keji**

An inter-agency team undertook a response mission to Kajo-Keji and the surrounding area in August, following increased humanitarian needs by displaced people, returnees and host communities. Emergency household items, food security and livelihoods support, and protection and health services were among people's priorities. Health services

were particularly poor. Some health centres were not functional. Others lacked medical supplies, especially anti-malarial medicine, and there were no health referral means in many of the places assessed.

In Kangapo County, nearly 25,000 returnees, including refugee returnees, have been reported by the authorities. In Liwolo, Kerwa and Sokare some 36,000 returnees were said to have arrived, but some were unable to reach their final places of origin due to the presence of armed groups.

Refugee returnees from Uganda were arriving daily to Kajo-Keji, according to the authorities, to maintain their homes and farms. Some of them went back to Uganda, where they could rely on assistance, while some of them remained in the area. Humanitarian organizations are working with the authorities to verify the number of returnees.

Humanitarian organizations have provided household items and shelter to almost 1,000 households in Kajo-Keji central and Liwolo. In addition, more than 3,500 households in Kangapo and Mere counties have been verified and registered for household items and shelter support. In Mere County, organizations have also distributed water and sanitation materials, and several boreholes have been repaired.

Humanitarian organizations have distributed school materials to children and teachers in 10 functional schools in Kangapo and Mere counties, but there were an inadequate number teachers in nearly all the schools. Jelimo, Bori and Sokare primary schools were occupied by Government soldiers.

Training of farmers on better agricultural practices was ongoing in Koriyo, Kangapo and Mere counties. At least 5,000 households were registered to receive agricultural tools and seeds for planting.

In Kajo-Keji town, the Government is planning to reopen the Out-Patient Department in Kajo-Keji main hospital with support from health organizations. Essential drugs and equipment have been delivered to the hospital. The authorities reported over 60 Government health workers who had fled the area during the conflict had returned to Kajo-Keji town.

The response team engaged with authorities to secure the necessary assurances regarding the safety of civilians reaching assistance, the safety and security of humanitarian workers, and the demilitarization of areas where assistance and protection was being provided.

In the past years, humanitarian presence in Kajo-Keji County has been intermittent due to a volatile security situation. Humanitarian organizations were forced to withdraw from the area in 2016 when fighting escalated and staff were threatened. Currently, six humanitarian organization work in Kajo-Keji County.



*Women receive emergency items in Kajo-Keji town. Credit: Liyong Soma/Titi Foundation*

## FEATURE (17 days ago)

### **Solar-powered, digital audio player launched to improve Ebola community engagement**

Solar-powered, digital audio players have been launched to improve Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) community engagement and risk communication in South Sudan.

At least 400 players will be distributed to about 8,000 listeners in high-risk areas of Morobo and Yei counties of Central Equatoria by an international NGO, Africa Committee for Rehabilitation of South Sudan (ACROSS). The people will be organized in groups under 'audio player leaders', who are trained on using the equipment.

The gadget will be loaded with tailored risk communication and community engagement messages in local languages on EVD, hygiene practices, including hand hygiene, and nutrition. The programme will be integrated with the organization's nutrition activities.

This is the first time that EVD risk communication and community engagement has used digital audio equipment in the country.

For nearly 10 years, ACROSS has been using the gadget in different locations in South Sudan to disseminate messages about peace building, water, sanitation and hygiene practices, health care and education. In Yei, Central Equatoria, and Rumbek in Lakes, the programme has improved teaching skills in primary schools through targeting of untrained teachers. While in Pibor, Jonglei, improved attendance at an antenatal health clinic was reported after broadcasting related programmes.

The Ministry of Health and humanitarian organizations have been working collectively on Ebola prevention and preparedness since the onset of the outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Preparedness activities include vaccinating front-line health workers, educating people about prevention and response measures, conducting screening at multiple locations to help with early detection of cases, training personnel in infection prevention and control.

The risk of transmission of EVD into countries that share borders with DRC, including South Sudan, has been classified as "very high" by the World Health Organization.

## FEATURE (32 days ago)

### The 19 August is World Humanitarian Day – this year it honours Women Humanitarians

World Humanitarian Day (WHD) on 19 August, is an annual occasion to commemorate humanitarian workers who have been killed or attacked in the course of their work, and to honour those who continue to take risks every day to provide life-saving aid to those who need it. This year the contribution of women humanitarians throughout the world, their strength, power and perseverance, are being honoured.

In South Sudan there are just over 40 national women-led organizations, out of 214 national NGOs. That's less than a fifth. But it is women – from national and international NGOs – that play a central role in the survival and resilience of families and communities. In South Sudan, they are active in every aspect of humanitarian response, from the delivery of emergency supplies to providing assistance for gender-based violence; and across every sector, from food and shelter to educational support.

There are many communities where women humanitarians can access people, and provide vital information, support and services, to women and girls who may otherwise be out of reach.



*Jesca Wude Murye, a Nutrition Officer with UNICEF, said: "Being a humanitarian worker is not something that everyone can do. It takes a special type of person. People who have compassion, love, and are willing to sacrifice their time." Credit: UNICEF*



In South Sudan, women humanitarian workers face a variety of obstacles in doing their work because of their gender, from risks to their personal safety, to sexism, discrimination and sexual harassment. More needs to be done to address these issues.

There are many women humanitarian workers in South Sudan, and every single one of them is being honoured.

For this WHD, OCHA asked women humanitarian workers what being a humanitarian worker was like. Jesca Wude Murye is a Nutrition Officer working for UNICEF, based in Juba. She lives in Hai Cinema. She is a mother of four, including twins. Here is her answer:

“Being a humanitarian worker is not something that everyone can do. It takes a special type of person. People who have compassion, love, and are willing to sacrifice their time, and take time to give a smile to someone else. In my case giving a smile to a mother who has lost hope and whose child is malnourished and bringing that child back to life is my joy. I enjoy working as a humanitarian because it is life-saving and I can see the results of what I do.

“I love going to the field to interact with children and mothers. Putting a smile on the face of a child and mother. But security is the most challenging part - conducting humanitarian activities under a tense political environment coupled with the lack of access to the most vulnerable people due to poor road infrastructure.”

### FEATURE (32 days ago)

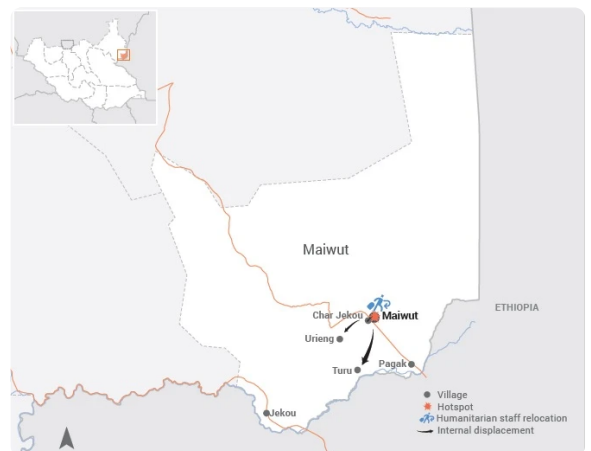
#### Fighting triggers new displacement in Maiwut, Upper Nile

Fighting in Maiwut town and surrounding areas has forced people to flee their homes and triggered the relocation of humanitarian workers, causing suspension of the delivery of much-needed humanitarian assistance.

From 31 July to 5 August, clashes were reported between the Cie-Wau clan and opposition forces. Civilians fled to villages around Maiwut town, some of which were already flooded by heavy rains. At least 10 humanitarian workers were relocated for safety reasons.

Unconfirmed reports put the number of displaced people at 10,000. Humanitarians have said more than 25,000 people could be affected if fighting carries on. Maiwut and surrounding areas host a significant population of refugee returnees and people already displaced.

Looting of civilian properties and humanitarian compounds were reported. Local authorities are mediating with the groups, and reassured civilians that they would be safe if they returned home. Humanitarians are advocating for access to the area to allow delivery of assistance and safety for workers.



*Maiwut County map showing hotspots and displacement. Source: OCHA*

### MEDIA (30 days ago)



View this Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqMQGDPMMLo>

**Watch Joyce Asha Francis, an OCHA National Field Officer in Malakal, talk about being a woman humanitarian and the challenge that it brings.**

Forty-six year old Joyce Asha Francis is an OCHA National Field Officer in Malakal, South Sudan's Upper Nile Region. She was born in Uganda and lives in Kenya, but her roots are in South Sudan. She has been a humanitarian for practically all of her working life. She is a mother of five children.

OCHA asked her about what being a woman humanitarian meant to her, the good parts and the challenges. She answered:

"Being a humanitarian to me means love, compassion, kindness, generosity, being cooperative, patient, caring, helpful, humble and being culturally sensitive, in order to save lives, relieve suffering and maintain the human dignity of the affected people. Without the above listed qualities, one can hardly endure to be a humanitarian worker.

"The most favourite part of my work is around general coordination and providing leadership to ensure that basic services reach the people in need. It is fulfilling to see us humanitarian workers running around to get work done and the people talk of how the services that are there now have changed their lives.

"The most challenging parts of my work are resource mobilization and access. In an event that resources are limited and are not able to reach the affected people, I feel terrible because a life could be lost due to the inability to provide basic services, or the inability to reach people due to poor communication networks or human-imposed barricades. This hurts a lot."



OCHA

# SOUTH SUDAN

## Situation Report

Last updated: 16 Sep 2019

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Watch this video to learn more about Joyce's experiences coordinating humanitarian action in one of the most challenging places in the world.

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*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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