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Country sheet

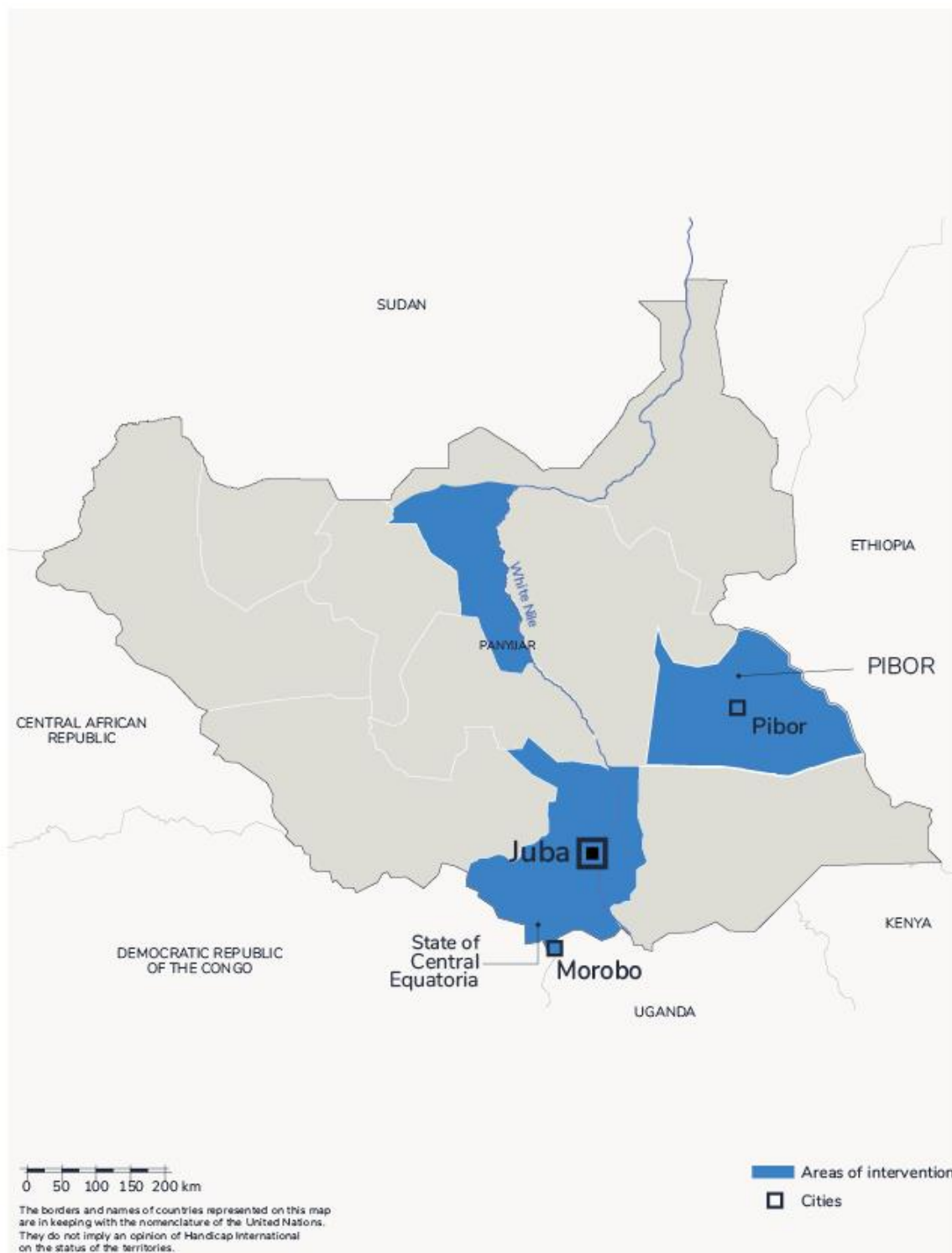
# South Sudan



## HI Team and intervention areas

The HI South Sudan programme has 42 staff members.

### South Sudan





## General data of the country

### General Data

Country	South Soudan	Uganda	France
Population	11 088 796	48 582 334	67 935 660
IHDI	0.222	0.377	0.825
SIGI Score	38	27.4	10.1
Maternal mortality	1223	284	8
GINI Index	44.1	42.7	30.7
Population within UNHCR mandate	1 595 370	1 702 288	693 598
INFORM index	8.3	6.5	2.3
Fragile State Index	109	91.1	28.8
Public social protection	16.40	2.80	100
Net official development assistance received	2077.1	2113.8	

### Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	11 November 2011: Notification of accession to the Convention on Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction done, but is yet to ratify the treaty, which remains under process at the Transitional National Legislative assembly.
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Non-signatory. Position Paper Reading done in parliament, November 2019.
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ratified in February 2023. Pending implementation.</li></ul>
Other Disability Policies and guidelines relevant to HI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National Disability and Inclusion Policy</li><li>• The National Inclusive Education Policy 2014</li><li>• South Sudan National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2022</li><li>• National Technical Standards and Guidelines (NTSGs)</li></ul>

### Geopolitical analysis

#### Social, cultural, demographic elements

The Republic of South Sudan gained independence on July 9, 2011, becoming the world's newest nation. Renewed conflicts between two factions of the government in December 2013 and July 2016 have heightened insecurity and access challenges throughout the country. A heavy flooding



affected half of all counties and 750 000 people every year from 2019 to end of 2023. Over million people were forced to leave their homeland to higher grounds with limited services<sup>1</sup> and worsened the humanitarian situation. Therefore, South Sudan remains caught in a web of fragility, economic stagnation and instability a decade after independence. Food insecurity is ubiquitous and is being reinforced by ongoing intercommunal conflict, displacement, and external shocks. Beyond the immediate humanitarian needs of over 9 million people, the underlying issues affecting the delivery of transparent and unified governance, economic development, security sector reform and investment in public services urgently need to be addressed.

### **Political context**

The signing of the latest truce in September 2018 and subsequent formation of a unity government in February 2020 have provided a large measure of hope for recovery and peace building in South Sudan. Conflict events decreased significantly in 2022 and 2023, allowing some refugees previously dispersed in the region to return. In 2023, the political turmoil in Sudan has led to limited adverse impact politically in South Sudan, against earlier speculations that it could spill over and cause uptick of localized conflicts within South Sudan, or worse at the national level. However, the protracted nature of the conflict has continued to cause unprecedented human displacement. As of 16 October, 317,993 people have been recorded crossing into South Sudan from Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023<sup>2</sup>. Initially, only returnees were dominant at the border points, but gradually the number of Sudanese refugees has continued to increase. Initial lacklustre posture of the donors has caused severe lack of funding within South Sudan, leading to a humanitarian crisis of unparalleled proportion.

The progress in the implementation of the Revitalized peace agreement has continued at a lesser pace than planned. The East African Community has continued to play a stringer role in Supporting South Sudan peace efforts and stabilizations as part of efforts to strengthen integration and joint economic initiatives. The risk going forward remains protracted, nonetheless.

In 2024, South Sudan's political landscape is marked on the delayed electoral processes which led to the national elections initially planned in December 2024 and postponed to 2026 due to logistical and security issues. This delay was mainly due to challenges in implementing the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict (R-ARCSS), particularly in constitutional reforms and the unification of armed forces. The Tumaini Initiative peace talks, held in Kenya in 2024, are among the development in South Sudan's political landscape. The initiative, led by Kenya facilitated dialogue between the South Sudanese government and various opposition factions, including the South Sudan Opposition Movement Alliance (SSOMA). These talks were to address unresolved issues stemming from the 2018 peace agreement that ended the civil war but left several factions and conflicts unresolved. A critical milestone was reached in July 2024 when the parties agreed on eight key protocols,

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/southsudan/what-we-do/climate-change-and-flooding>

<sup>2</sup> South Sudan: Response to the Sudan Crisis Situation Report No. 16





covering areas such as security, ceasefire enforcement, humanitarian access, land dispute resolutions, and measures to reduce communal violence and disarm civilians. This agreement represents a commitment to rebuilding trust and moving forward with the implementation of peace across South Sudan's political and ethnic divides.

### **Economic elements**

South Sudan is an oil-producing country but increased global oil prices have not translated to improved economic conditions in the country. Prices of fuel at gas stations have caused an increase in prices of goods in the markets amidst the prevailing food insecurity in the Horn of Africa Region, and growing numbers of people living in extreme poverty. The Ukraine crisis has had an unprecedented impact on South Sudan, with inflation impacting the purchasing power of the population with limited to no sustainable livelihood options.

The peace agreement, which led to a reduction of hostilities in some regions across the country contributed to a mild recovery in a few oil and non-oil sectors. Slow growth in the non-oil sectors, coupled with limited expenditure on service delivery, and limited linkages between the oil and non-oil economy creates a disconnection between the observed oil-led growth and citizen welfare. At the same time, the gap between the official exchange rate and the parallel market rate remains high, indicating that the official rate is overvalued and does not reflect the underlying economic fundamentals.

In 2023, South Sudan has continued to experience inflation at 16.2%. The Ukraine crisis has made the situation worse. The ban use of dollar for market level transactions in February 2023, by the government of South Sudan has further fueled black market currency trade, suddenly increasing the rate from about 600 SSP in January to 1000 SSP in August 2023. The implication of this ban on service provision for international organization remains unclear. When the government issued a similar directive in 2016, most service providers shifted their trading accounts to Nairobi, Kenya, causing near collapse of the South Sudan Pound. HI is monitoring the implication or enforceability of the new directive impact on the economic and security situation of the country. In June 2024, the South Sudanese are experiencing the worst inflation at 450% of the SSP vs. USD. This was due to the disruption of oil production and the vandalization of oil pipelines due to the current civil war in Sudan. This has increased the deterioration of the living conditions of the citizens, and increased the crimes related to cash and money in the capital.

## **Summary of HI presence in the country**

Humanity and Inclusion (HI) has been operating in South Sudan since 2006, with a specific mandate to address the needs of persons with specific needs, heightened vulnerabilities, and protection risks across the country. This is achieved through a comprehensive range of activities, including: functional rehabilitation, individualized and group-based Mental Health Psychosocial Service Support (MHPSS), comprehensive protection case management, with disability inclusion a core transversal component. HI SSD interventions range



from emergency response to actions supporting long-term resilience and recovery due to the protracted nature of the crisis in the country.

HI operates in South Sudan from a Country Office in Juba. From 2020 to 2024, HI focused its operation in Pibor in GPAA, Wau, Aweil, Malakal to align response to areas with the highest humanitarian needs. While Morobo in Eastern Equatoria and Panyijar in Southern Unity have been closed due to lack of funding, but HI can return to those based anytime due to its strategic response to the need of the people. To strengthen its capacity in integrated programming, HI is currently working on complementary sectors including, MHPSS, Protection, Rehabilitation, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Peace Building and Basic Needs, Resilience and Economic Inclusion. Until September 2023, HI was also implementing cash for protection in Pibor and inclusive Primary Health care in Panyijar through a local partner.

Activities are implemented both through a static response and managed from HI's Field Offices, and in multiple locations across the country are implemented through outreach missions from Juba country office. HI works with and through long-established partnerships with organizations of persons with disabilities such as SSUPDO1, CESUVI, SSWDN2 as well as with humanitarian agencies such as International Rescue Committee (IRC), UNOCHA, and World Food Program. Recently, HI has engaged in partnership with other six OPDs based Malakal, Wau and Juba. HI has an in-country operational expertise in disability inclusion, functional rehabilitation, mental health and psychosocial support, and protection interventions.



## Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sectors of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project	Donors who finance the project
<b>Leave No One Behind Phase 3</b>  <b>IHA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tools for the identification and monitoring of disability-specific needs, capacities and barriers to access protection and assistance will be developed, and/ or existing humanitarian assessment tools will be adapted in line with the IASC Guidelines, piloted and disseminated to German and international humanitarian actors.</li> <li>The setup of sustainable technical and surge support mechanisms for disability-inclusion during rapid onset and in protracted emergencies in the targeted countries was supported within the framework of the IASC Guidelines.</li> </ul>	Humanitarian community in South Sudan  NGO partners	CBM and IFHV	Juba	January 2022 – December 2024	GFFO
<b>"Empower All,":</b> <b>Advancing Disability Inclusion,</b> <b>Empowerment of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and Gender Based Violence Prevention and</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification and assessment of the capacities of organization of persons with disabilities.</li> <li>Provide capacity building on organizational capacity structure through mentorship to 6 organizations of persons with disabilities (OPD) to reinforce the rights of children with disabilities and have a better access to basic services.</li> <li>Establish OPD funding mechanism to implement projects that meet identified needs of people especially most vulnerable including children and youth with disabilities.</li> <li>Develop and implement financial and project reporting requirement agreements with OPDs.</li> </ul>	OPDs  Individuals	OPDs	Pibor, Wau, Malakal, Juba	March 2023 – December 2026	UNICEF



Main sectors of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project	Donors who finance the project
response in South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support OPDs to run inclusive play and learning sessions for children and young people with disabilities, providing play and learning materials.</li> <li>• Conduct project kick-off workshop including OPDs and educational stakeholders, supporting the marking of international day (IDPWD) and other key events in the country.</li> <li>• Conduct Inclusive child education awareness campaigns in celebration of International Days.</li> <li>• Conduct training to teachers/health workers/ UNICEF partners staff on proper methods of data collection on Washington set of Questions and identification and provision of support to children with disabilities.</li> <li>• Service Mapping, referral and Safety Audit assessment.</li> <li>• Conduct community engagement and outreach.</li> <li>• Conduct capacity building training for frontline key service providers staff including. Ministry of gender's staff and community leaders.</li> <li>• Provision of dignity kits.</li> <li>• Provision of assistive devices for Women and girls with disabilities.</li> <li>• Provision of age-appropriate inclusive case management and PSS services to girls and women at safe spaces.</li> <li>• Strengthen GBV referral pathways to provide timely and comprehensive care to GBV survivors.</li> <li>• Reinforce GBV and non GBV staff capacity building.</li> <li>• Maintenance of women and girl centre/Safe Spaces.</li> </ul>					





Main sectors of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project	Donors who finance the project
<b>Leave No One Behind: Inclusive Food Security in South Sudan (LNOB: IFS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct accessibility and barriers assessments of current distribution points.</li> <li>• Carry out modifications such as ramps, tactile paths, and accessible signage.</li> <li>• Train distribution staff on assisting people with disabilities.</li> <li>• home delivery of food items for persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• Develop and disseminate awareness materials on disability inclusion.</li> <li>• Organize community awareness sessions and campaigns.</li> <li>• Partner with local media to broadcast disability inclusion messages.</li> <li>• Provide timely and relevant information dissemination of women and girls, men and boys through community awareness raising session</li> <li>• Review existing registration and data collection tools.</li> <li>• Adapt tools to include disability-specific questions and indicators.</li> <li>• Train staff in the use of the adapted tools.</li> <li>• Conduct focus group discussions, observations, and key informant interviews to identify barriers.</li> <li>• Compile and analyse data from assessments.</li> <li>• Develop action plans to address identified barriers.</li> <li>• Develop an interagency support plan for integrated service (Service Mapping)</li> <li>• Conduct training sessions for service providers on inclusive service delivery.</li> </ul>	Persons with and without disabilities affected by the flooding and feeling from Sudan		Aweil and Pibor	September 2024 – December 2024	WFP



Main sectors of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project	Donors who finance the project
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Facilitate access to integrated services for people with disabilities and their support members (Referral Linkages)</li><li>• Document case studies and success stories from the project (establish barriers and enablers in the first 6 months to that it can be built up on the implementation of the next year).</li><li>• Develop good practice documents based on project experience.</li><li>• Share documents and stories through relevant clusters and platforms.</li><li>• Partner with financial service providers to enhance safe accessibility of services to persons with disabilities</li><li>• Develop training programs for people with disabilities on using financial services.</li><li>• Monitor the usage of financial services by people with disabilities.</li><li>• Conduct regular monitoring visits and gather data on program performance.</li></ul>					



## Logos of donors

UNICEF



German Federal  
Foreign Office (GFFO)



World Food Programme  
(WFP)



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