

Key Facts from Secretary-General's Report on "Implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support for South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system"

Read full report [here](#)

Situation in South Sudan

Climatic, conflict and economic shocks are at the root of food insecurity & displacement.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reported that in 2021 a delay in the onset of rain and then excessive rains, which caused floods in some parts of the country, affected both crops and livestock:



"In 2022 an estimated 8.3 million people, including refugees and returnees, are expected to experience severe food insecurity in the depths of the lean season (May-July) as shocks appear to be intensifying"

65,107 hectares of land planted with cereals were damaged



Estimated loss of 37,624 tonnes of grain in the flood-affected areas

Over 10 million head of livestock were affected in 8 of the 10 states.

2 million people malnourished in 2022
55% are woman & girls

1.3 million children under 5 years old



676,000 pregnant and lactating women



In South Sudan, climate change severely affects the agricultural sector. Food consumption gaps are extreme, and people have largely exhausted their emergency coping strategies. An estimated **835,000 people were affected by severe flooding** between May and December 2021, and 80 percent of those were from Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states.

13 counties

in South Sudan face extreme levels of food insecurity in 2022, compared to 6 in 2021.

95% of livelihoods depends on traditional **rain-fed agriculture, crop farming, pastoralism or animal husbandry.**



2/3 of 8.9 million of population in need of humanitarian assistance



Dramatic increase in **global food prices** due to the conflict in Ukraine



By December 2021, there were **2 million internally displaced people in the country (55 percent of whom are women and girls)**, an increase from 1.7 million in early 2021. There are also over **335,000 refugees in South Sudan**, mainly from Sudan (92.2%). An additional **2.3 million** South Sudanese remain refugees hosted in neighbouring countries.

UN Support & Action

The UN supported the strengthening of dialogue with national partners in the reporting of the UN Cooperation Framework for South Sudan 2019-2022, to ensure that international support during the transitional period is anchored in national ownership at both the country and local levels. Examples of UN support:

- UN agencies, funds and programmes have **increased their mobilization of resources** from USD 172 million in 2018 to over USD 200 million in 2021).
- UNHCR, in collaboration with the Commission for Refugee Affairs, supported the allocation of resources by the World Bank under IDA 19 Window for Refugees and Host Communities.
- UN entities, co-led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNMISS, have **increased efforts related to the linkages between climate change and security.**
- The new **UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for South Sudan, 2023-2025**, which will be completed in September 2022, was consulted widely in a spirit of comprehensive, inclusive consultations with all stakeholders, including government and other national partners, donors, UNMISS and civil society.
- The **South Sudan Reconciliation, Stabilization and Resilience Trust Fund (RSRTF)** remains a strong coordination and transparent mechanism to support the partnership and resilience agenda. The fund's budget increased from USD 11,729,287 in 2019 to USD 32,636,446 in 2021.
- In January 2022, the African Development Bank signed **three agreements** with the government, UNDP, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and FAO for projects on agriculture value chain development, youth and enterprise capacity development, and private-sector development estimated at a total of USD 46.7 million.

Recommendations

- Boost trade with its neighbouring countries**, including through initiatives such as the **African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)**, which the country has signed but not ratified.
- The Government of South Sudan must also continue pursuing **tangible economic reforms to foster transparency and accountability**, and to be able to pay its civil servants on time and honour arrears.
- Strong partnerships of UN country teams with World bank, African Development Bank, bilateral donors, operationalization of **South Sudan's Reconciliation, Stabilization and Resilience Trust Fund**, mobilization of efforts to secure additional resources from key pooled funds such as the Peacebuilding Fund.

Situation in the Sahel Region

In a context of chronic poverty and high population growth, economic and political insecurity and adverse impacts of climate change remained key drivers of the growing food insecurity in the Sahel in 2021.



Those challenges undermined critical services such as the provision of water and exposed soil to further degradation and severely impacted both the local populations and the Sahelian agro-sylvo-pastoral landscapes, aggravating food and nutrition insecurity and compromising the sustainability of livelihoods.

23.7 million people

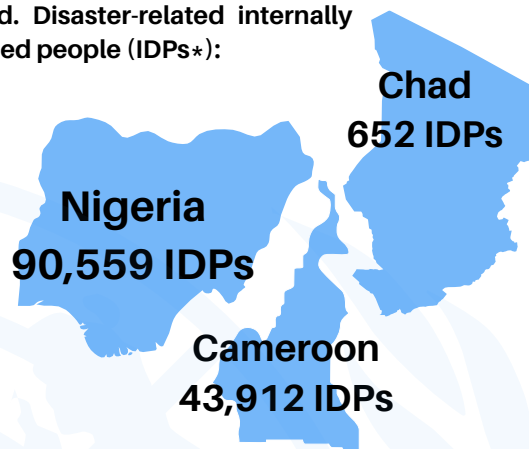


in West African countries food insecure (October - December 2021).

1.6 million children were projected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition



With regards to natural disasters and climate change, the Sahel region has been increasingly affected. Disaster-related internally displaced people (IDPs*):



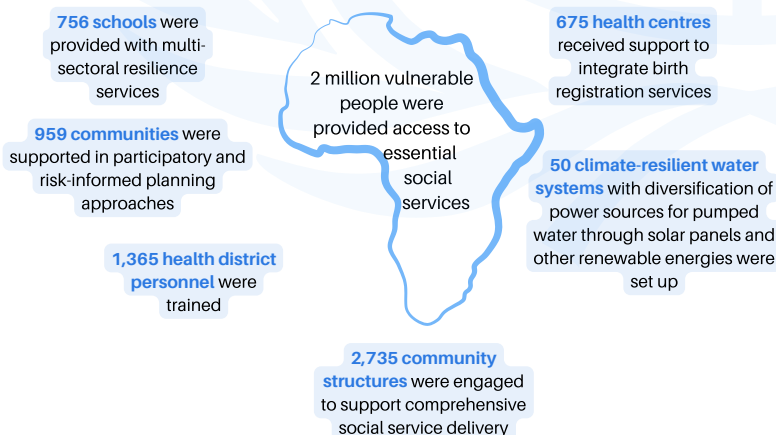
*NB: Emergency Tracking data reports on individuals' displacements by particular events. Baseline data refers to individuals displaced at a particular point in time (10.e. snapshot of displacement).

UN Support & Action

In 2021, the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) was implemented under constraining political, security, humanitarian, and social development contexts, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite those challenges, progress in implementation has been made:

- The Office of the Special Coordinator on the Sahel (OSCS), created in 2021, has **scaled the implementation of the UNISS with the support of the Joint Programme "Financing a Green, Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery"**. This has led to the co-creation and rollout of programmatic offers and project banks in the areas of **governance, renewable energy, climate resilience and sustainable agriculture**.
- The OSCS developed a **strategic and funding partnerships framework** which led to the Joint Thriving Sahel Fund pledge of US\$1.6 billion as well as US\$1 million raised for one of the cross-border, joint programmes in the Sahel.
- Coordinated framework in the Sahel:** UNISS programmes to conduct risk analysis and mitigation strategies considering the impact of geopolitical dynamics on development and stability of the region.
- OSCS has been **engaging women and youth** through the Group of Friends of Women in the Sahel, Generation Unlimited Sahel and Youth Connekt.
- WFP provided **blanket supplementary feeding** to 6,860 children and 5,281 women, and in collaboration with UNICEF, who provided **social behaviour change communication messaging on nutrition** to 14,600 households.
- In 2021, the three Rome-based agencies (RBAs), WFP, FAO, and IFAD, **joined forces with the G5 Sahel, its Member States and Senegal** to develop and launch a **joint programme for the Sahel** in response to the challenges of COVID-19, conflict, and climate change (SD3C). Building on solutions and approaches already capitalized by the RBAs and their local partners, the SD3C programme **aims to increase agro-sylvo-pastoral production and productivity of small-scale producers, especially women and youth through climate-smart agricultural practices, promote local and regional economic integration**, as well as strengthen policy dialogue, management, and coordination.

The United Nations continued to provide integrated resilience support in Mali, Mauritania, and Niger in 2021



Recommendations

- Doubling the support to the Office of the Special Coordinator for Development** for the Sahel and strengthening foundational enablers through **energy, transformative agriculture and climate resilience initiatives including Resilient Social Basic Services, the Great Green Wall, the African Continental Free Trade Agreement**, and others.
- Furthering the analysis of the **UNISS commissioned report (white paper) on "an emerging blueprint for the transformational change on a shared de-risking approach to the region and its people"** with a view to recalibrating the UN's approach to risk and resilience to address more effectively the root causes of crises in the Sahel; and leveraging existing and emerging opportunities.