

SITUATION OVERVIEW

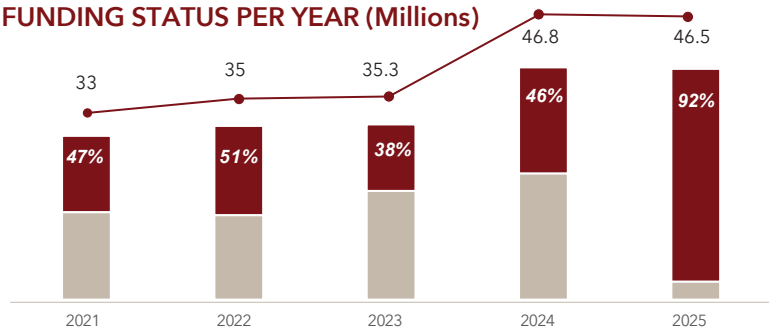
The year 2025 is set to be extremely challenging for South Sudan, which is grappling with multiple crises, including disease outbreaks and ongoing internal conflict that escalated in February. The situation is worsened by the war in neighboring Sudan, forcing many to flee, and the effects of past floods, compounded by the upcoming rainy season. Many internally displaced persons (IDPs) lack proper shelter and essential items, facing deteriorating living conditions, all while donor funding is significantly reduced.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The response to SNFI assistance in South Sudan is critical, with partners exhausting funds and scaling back operations as humanitarian needs rise. Supplies are dwindling and there are few new donor commitments to restock hubs. The lack of funding before the rainy season is further hampering resource preparation. Consequently, many newly displaced families are receiving no assistance, and conditions in existing shelters are worsening.

- The ongoing fighting in Upper Nile, Jonglei, and Equatoria is displacing millions and increasing protection risks for those living in makeshift shelters or under trees. Few have received emergency shelter or NFI support, leaving families vulnerable.
- In the Bentiu and Malakal IDP sites, many shelters are damaged and need urgent repairs before the rainy season.
- Many conflict-affected individuals arrive with just the clothes on their backs and need support to obtain essential non-food items (NFIs) to rebuild their lives.
- Cluster partners in South Sudan rely on prepositioned items in field hubs to respond quickly to needs. However, as donor commitments decrease and supplies run low, they struggle to meet the needs of displaced individuals.
- Typically, items are prepositioned during the dry season when roads are accessible. However, with the rainy season now underway, any delays in funding can lead to challenges in reaching the locations where displaced people are currently seeking shelter.
- As of June 2025, the Cluster has secured less than 8% of its requested funding, with many partners to close or scale back operations and reduce staff, raising concerns about its response capacity.

FUNDING STATUS PER YEAR (Millions)



(In millions) ■ Funding Received ■ Funding Gap — Funding Requested

*Funding as of June 2025



People displaced by floods in Unity State

Shelter and NFI response in South Sudan is critical, with partners exhausting funds and scaling back operations as humanitarian needs rise.

HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

- Over 2 million individuals are at significant risk due to simultaneous crises and ongoing funding cuts, resulting in a lack of SNFI assistance.
- The economic downturn has stretched hosting capacities thin, meaning that previous community coping mechanisms can no longer support the influx of newly displaced individuals.
- Families are forced to sleep outdoors or in overcrowded emergency shelters, exposing them to increased protection risks, especially for women, children, and persons with disabilities. Inadequate privacy and safe spaces heighten their vulnerability to exploitation and violence.
- Gaps in response capabilities hinder the effectiveness of interventions, jeopardizing our ability to save lives.
- Limited resources mean many displaced households lack support, increasing the risk of secondary displacement.
- As the rainy season approaches, the inability to preposition supplies while roads are open further exacerbates the situation. The core supply pipeline is on the brink of collapse, and without timely funding, effective SNFI responses will be challenging.

URGENT CALL FOR ACTION

With cluster response capacity limited, immediate action is vital to prevent further deterioration of shelter conditions for displaced families in South Sudan. The ES/NFI Cluster urgently appeals for:

- Activate the cluster's core pipeline as a contingency stock for timely responses to save lives.
- Partners should swiftly mobilize resources for planned ES/NFI activities in Jonglei and Upper Nile before the rainy season disrupts access, ensuring safe access first.
- All partners to highlight funding gaps in SNFI programming when engaging with donors.
- Donors to prioritize resources for Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Unity States, which are experiencing high displacement levels due to ongoing conflict and routinely impacted by flooding.
- Strengthen the capacity mobile responders (IOM, NRC, DRC) under the rapid response mechanisms to address new crises, especially with the reduced presence of partners in the field.
- All cluster partners are urged to align efforts with the Cluster's Priority Response Plan
- Donor to increase support for local NGOs as part of localization.
- Immediate action is crucial; delays will worsen conditions and endanger millions of South Sudanese currently sheltered under trees, collective centres or even congested in unsafe shelters.