

# SOUTH SUDAN REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

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All statistics are provisional and subject to change.

For more information on the South Sudan crisis go to: [South Sudan Information Sharing Portal](#)

**FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:**

*South Sudanese refugees walk through Jewi refugee camp in Ethiopia.*

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# Foreword

The South Sudan situation remains the largest refugee crisis in Africa with close to 2.2 million South Sudanese refugees living in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. In South Sudan, protracted conflict, environmental disasters and outbreaks of sub-national intercommunal violence have left 1.6 million South Sudanese displaced across all 78 counties. An estimated 75 per cent of internally displaced persons (IDPs) are residing with host communities, whilst the remaining stay in camps or camp-like settings.

Seven years after the outbreak of large-scale violence in South Sudan, the conflict persists, seriously impacting the protection environment and the ability of the population to access basic services. Despite progress with the signature of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) by the warring parties in September 2018 and the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in February 2020, the implementation of core provisions of the Revitalized Peace Agreement (in particular Chapter III on the situation of IDPs) remain outstanding. The formation of a national parliament, a unified armed forces and rule of law institutions remain pending. While governors have been appointed in all states and agreement was reached to establish a hybrid court, impunity in the face of grave human rights abuses, including sexual abuse, continues to be perpetrated by armed groups. The UN Human Rights Commission Chair, Yasmin Sooka, noted in her latest 2020 report on South Sudan that the period between February and November 2020 saw violent conflict between allied Dinka and Nuer militias and Murle pastoralist militias in central and southern Jonglei State and Greater Pibor Administrative Area, resulting in massive violations against civilians, including the killing and displacement of hundreds of persons. Signatories to the peace agreement agreed to extend the Transitional Period up to 2023, which means that elections are postponed by another two years, a major setback in the originally agreed calendar.



In 2020, despite COVID-19 restrictions imposed by asylum states at border entry points, some 28,000 South Sudanese refugees obtained asylum in neighbouring countries. The tremendous generosity shown by asylum states to South Sudanese needs to be urgently sustained through greater international solidarity. Meanwhile, 120,000 South Sudanese refugee returnees were verified to have spontaneously returned to South Sudan from various countries of asylum of the region. Over 70 per cent of spontaneous refugee returnees cited drastic food ration cuts in countries of asylum among the reasons that prompted their return to their country, often ending up in IDP sites or experiencing further instances of forced displacement across borders.

The situation has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, limitations on humanitarian access, and severe flooding leading to additional displacement in 2020. Rising food insecurity is pushing some 7 million people toward famine conditions in South Sudan, and likely to increase further in 2021. Moreover, the conflict has also reinforced gender roles and deepened gender inequalities which are known root causes of gender-based violence. With 65 per cent of South Sudan's refugee population below the age of 18, the refugee situation is often characterized as a children's crisis. Over 66,000 refugee children have been registered as unaccompanied or separated from their parents or usual caregivers.

The complex nature of forced displacement faced by South Sudan in 2021 will require a surge in international support to the RRRP, combined with other humanitarian, development and peace instruments to address root causes and support the longer-term goals that are required for sustainable peace and development. Despite soaring needs, the South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan was among the most critically underfunded refugee situations globally in 2020, receiving only 25 per cent of the

resources required. This led to acute gaps in refugee response efforts, including severe cuts to food rations, deficient investment in WASH infrastructure, insufficient livelihoods activities and lack of access to basic medical services in refugee households during the COVID-19 pandemic. Refugees were unable to complement their livelihoods as they normally would, as the open markets were closed or heavily curtailed in an effort to contain the pandemic. In this regard, the RRRP also aims to ensure more effective social safety nets are in place in asylum countries which are imperative for South Sudanese refugees not to be left behind during the recovery and rebuilding phase of the pandemic.

A stronger investment in education and vocational skills, as well as diversified livelihoods support will contribute to the resilience of refugees at this critical juncture and allow them to participate in peacebuilding and development of their country. In recognition of the longer-term peacebuilding, resilience and early recovery needs of South Sudanese and Sudanese refugees, IDPs and returnees, the two governments have launched a Solutions Initiative under the IGAD Support Platform with the support of UNHCR. This initiative complements the RRRP by seeking to mobilize investment in longer terms development needs to make returns and other solutions sustainable.

In 2021, RRRP partners will prioritize the strengthening of national child protection systems including birth registration, family reunification and alternative care placement, as well as enhancing access to quality education. RRRP partners will also intensify GBV prevention and response, prioritize support to persons with specific needs, consolidate community-based protection mechanisms and scale up psychosocial and mental health support. The 2021 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan takes a comprehensive and solutions-oriented approach with emphasis on the inclusion of refugees in national systems and integrated service delivery with host communities to the extent possible. The goals of socio-economic inclusion and livelihood activities are to strengthen self-reliance of refugees and empower them to contribute to their host communities.

We appreciate the strong dedication of all partners to enhance the protection of South Sudanese refugees and work towards durable solutions to this long-standing refugee situation. We are also grateful to the host countries and communities for their support.

Last but not least, the donor community plays a crucial role to sustain our collective efforts and to contribute toward progressively resolving this refugee situation across the humanitarian-development nexus. We are looking forward to working together through a whole of society approach and based on the principle of responsibility-sharing in a spirit of solidarity, as envisaged by the Global Compact on Refugees to achieve comprehensive solutions for South Sudanese refugees throughout the region.

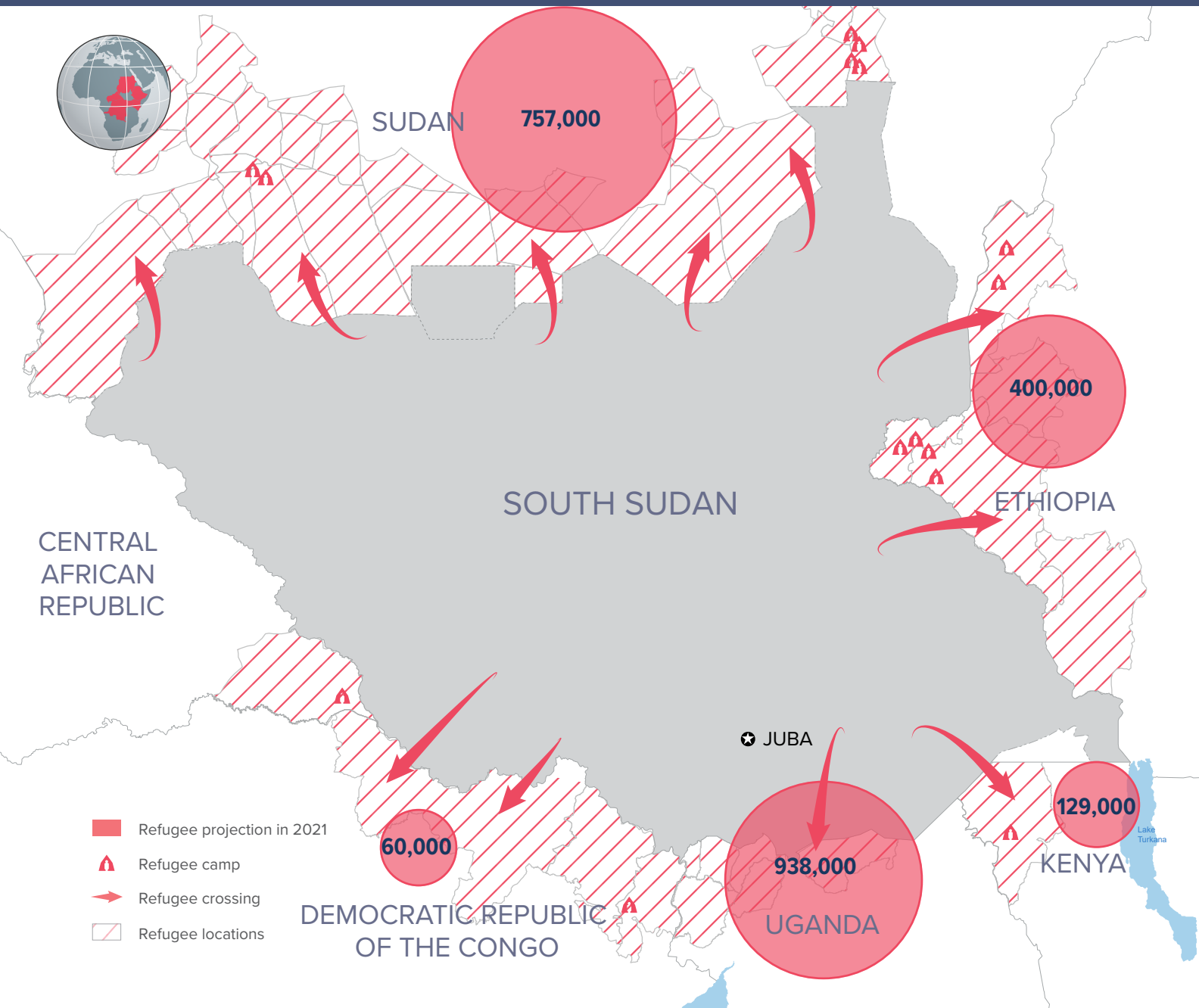


**Clementine Nkweta Salami**

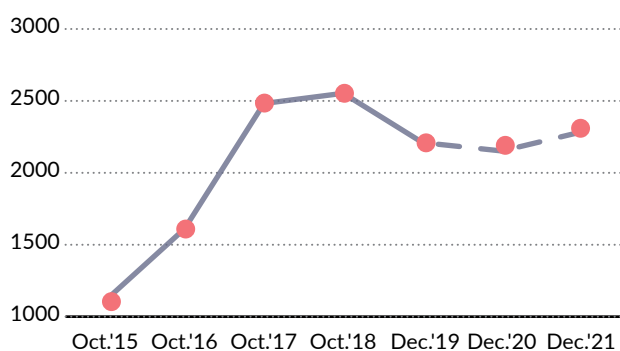
UNHCR Regional Director, Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes

**2.3 M**PROJECTED REFUGEE  
POPULATION BY 2021**US\$ 1.2 B**

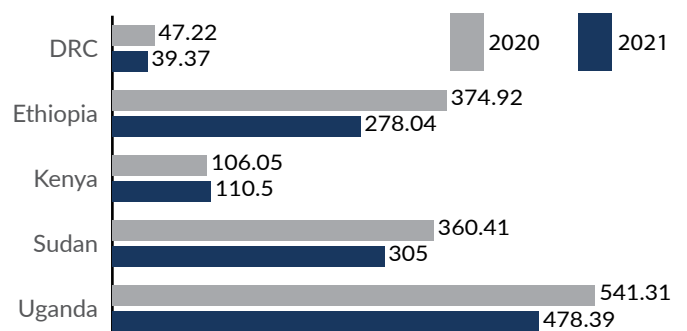
REQUIREMENTS 2021

**93**PARTNERS INVOLVED IN  
2021

Refugee Population Trends 2015 - 2021



2020 and 2021 Requirements | in millions US\$



# Introduction

The 2021 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) outlines the multi-agency response strategy and financial requirements of 93 partners supporting host governments to provide protection and assistance across the five main asylum countries. The updated plan developed in accordance with the Refugee Coordination Model takes a comprehensive and solutions-oriented approach and includes the impact on host communities. Given the need to move beyond emergency assistance to enhance the resilience and self-reliance for South Sudanese refugees and to support host communities to strengthen peaceful co-existence, the 2021 RRRP for the South Sudan situation envisages stronger engagement with development and peacebuilding partners.

Conditions have not yet been conducive to promoting or facilitating voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity to South Sudan due to ongoing pockets of armed conflict and human rights violations, despite the signature of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) by the warring parties in September 2018 and the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in February 2020. However, many South Sudanese refugees have spontaneously returned to their country since 2017, although often to situations of internal displacement while new displacement continues at a high scale within the country and new refugee flows have been registered in all asylum countries in 2020.

The situation has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the lack of services such as civil documentation, food insecurity (which resulted directly from the destruction of infrastructures and crops), displacement of health and education professionals, limited humanitarian access, and most recently flooding leading to additional displacement. Moreover, the conflict has also deepened the gender inequalities and

reinforced traditional gender roles which are known root causes of gender-based violence. Gross underreporting of GBV cases among South Sudanese women, girls, men and boys in refugee settings is a major concern.

The DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda have developed refugee responses in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) articulating prioritized multi-stakeholder responses. The launch of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Support Platform at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019 coupled with the pledges made by and to benefit South Sudan and the five RRRP countries will contribute to an integrated protection and solutions strategy for South Sudanese refugees.

RRRP partners in all countries are working with host governments to promote the inclusion of refugees in national systems and ensure their access to basic services alongside host communities. However, there remain considerable challenges. The majority of South Sudanese refugees in the region are hosted in relatively remote, under-developed and economically under-served areas. Host communities find themselves often in a precarious socioeconomic situation, impacted by food insecurity and malnutrition, suffering from limited access to basic social services and economic infrastructure, as well as scarce livelihood opportunities. The presence of refugees could further exacerbate their situation by increasing competition over limited social services, livelihood opportunities, and natural resources. These development-related challenges need to be addressed to prevent tensions between refugees and host communities and negatively impact the protection and safety of refugees.

In 2021, the RRRP is expected to cater for some 2.3 million South Sudanese refugees in the five asylum

countries. Whereas over 120,000 South Sudanese refugees returned to their country in 2020, many of the returnees ended up in IDP camps in South Sudan or secondary movements due to lack of basic services, inter-communal violence and armed conflict in parts of the country. As COVID restrictions start to ease and the situation in South Sudan remains volatile, the number of new refugee arrivals in all asylum countries is projected to match or outpace returns in 2021. Based on the current projections, the overall refugee population is expected to grow (new arrivals and population growth minus returns) by over 132,000 to an estimated 2,284,000 refugees at the end of 2021. It is therefore

crucial to further enhance the protection of South Sudanese refugees in the DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda, while at the same time reinforcing a solutions- oriented approach to resolve the protracted refugee situation.

The 2021 Regional Refugee Response Plan for the South Sudan situation seeks to provide a regionally coherent inter-agency response supported by host governments in the five countries of asylum:

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) hosts some 55,000 South Sudanese refugees. Despite border

### Projected South Sudanese Refugee Population

	Refugee Population 31 Dec. 2020	Projected Refugee Population 31 Dec. 2021	Host Community
DRC	54,755	60,000	43,000
Ethiopia	365,442	400,000	35,000
Kenya	123,921	129,000	44,000
Sudan	736,685	757,000	193,000
Uganda	889,054	938,000	1,506,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,169,857</b>	<b>2,284,000</b>	<b>1,821,000</b>

### Age and Sex Disaggregation

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_18096](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_18096)

