



FAMINE

SOUTH SUDAN

FAST FACTS

South Sudan is one of the youngest countries in the world. It was only in 2011 that it declared itself as an independent nation when it broke off from the country of Sudan.



Capital: Juba



Population: 11-12 million



Total Land Area: 239, 285 square miles



Borders: South Sudan is a landlocked African country with no coastline. It is bordered by Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda



Official Language: English and Arabic. There are also more than 60 indigenous languages spoken in South Sudan. It is one of Africa's most linguistically-diverse countries



Religion: Christianity or fellow traditional African religions



Currency: South Sudanese Pound



Climate: Tropical with wet and dry seasons



Terrain: The landscape of South Sudan is primarily made up of tropical forests, swamps and grassland



Natural Resource: Petroleum



National Day: 9 July (Independence Day)



National Symbol: African Fish Eagle



National Anthem: "South Sudan Oyee"



Key Landmarks: Sudd Wetland, Nimule National Park, Imatong Mountains



Wildlife: Lions, leopards, and cheetahs as well as elephants, giraffes, zebras, buffalo, hippopotamuses, warthogs, and numerous varieties of antelope

SOUTH SUDAN: A COUNTRY IN CRISIS



2005



COMPREHENSIVE **PEACE AGREEMENT** BETWEEN SUDAN AND SOUTHERN SUDAN IS SIGNED

2010



15 APRIL, SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT ELECTED PRESIDENT WITH **93% OF THE VOTE**

2011



98% VOTE FOR **SEPARATION FROM SUDAN**



9 JULY, SOUTH SUDAN IS RECOGNISED AS AN **INDEPENDENT NATION**

2013



15 DECEMBER, **CONFLICT ERUPTS**

2014



FAMILIES FLEE LEAVING THEIR, HOME, LAND AND BELONGINGS



MARCH, UN REPORTS THAT MORE THAN **A MILLION HAVE FLED THEIR HOMES**, INCLUDING OVER 800,000 INTERNALLY DISPLACED



JULY, UN SECURITY COUNCIL DECLARES SOUTH SUDAN **WORLD'S WORST FOOD CRISIS**



LARGEST NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN ETHIOPIA **250,000+**

2015



IN MAY, RAINY SEASON **FLOODS CAUSE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC** WHICH INCREASES MALNUTRITION



UN ESTIMATES **2.2 MILLION** HAVE BEEN DISPLACED

2016



CONFLICT BREAKS OUT **60,000 PEOPLE FLED SOUTH SUDAN**

2017



1.6 MILLION PEOPLE ARE REPORTED TO HAVE FLED SOUTH SUDAN



20 FEBRUARY, **UN AND SOUTH SUDAN DECLARE FAMINE**

KEY WORDS

- **FOOD INSECURITY:** being without reliable access to a sufficient amount of affordable, nutritious food
- **FAMINE:** a situation in which there is not enough food for a great number of people, causing illness and death
- **INFLATION:** a continuous increase in prices
- **CIVIL WAR:** a war between citizens of the same country
- **INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSON:** is someone who is forced to flee his or her home but who remains within his or her country's borders
- **HUMANITARIAN AID:** is materials and action designed to save lives, alleviate suffering and maintain human dignity during and in the aftermath of emergencies



The world must work together to help achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2 and 16 in South Sudan



GOAL 2 ZERO HUNGER

What can be done to ensure that every child has sufficient and nutritious food in order to grow up healthy?

End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

GOAL 16 PEACE AND JUSTICE



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all.

A FAMINE HAS BEEN DECLARED IN SOUTH SUDAN, THE FIRST TO BE ANNOUNCED IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD IN SIX YEARS.



The South Sudan government and the United Nations report that some 100,000 people are facing starvation and a further 1 million more are on the brink of famine.

A combination of civil war and economic instability has been to blame. This recipe defines it as a man-made disaster.

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) said that 4.9 million people – more than 40% of South Sudan's population are food insecure.

Across much of the country, household access to food and cash income has declined as conflict has disrupted planting, harvesting, and other livelihood activities. This has severely affected the economy with 800% inflation pushing the price of staple foods out of the reach of many.

Almost two million people are internally displaced in South Sudan and the resurrection of conflict in July 2016, has caused over 450,000 people to flee the country, worsening the food insecurity and bringing the total number of refugees to 1.6 million.

Food is the fuel necessary to get through a normal day. Food insecurity has taken a huge toll on the children in the world's youngest country. 270,000 children are already severely malnourished. Many children cannot go to school. Food insecurity and conflict continue to disrupt education. The closure of schools have serious consequences for children in South Sudan. Children are at risk of recruitment by armed forces and groups, exploitation and forced child marriages.

The breakdown of the national healthcare systems and low vaccination rates has given rise to measles outbreaks. Cholera and guinea worm disease are growing threats where families lack access to clean water.



CONCERN
worldwide

Concern Worldwide is on the ground in South Sudan, providing emergency support to those who need it most. We're providing emergency nutrition, food distributions and water support in critically affected areas. Our emergency response is delivered in addition to long-term development work focusing on health, agriculture and livelihoods. In **Northern Bahr el Ghazal**, we have up scaled our nutrition response from 42 to 49 nutrition sites and we have also established 3 static nutrition sites outside **Bentiu PoC** in **Unity State**. We're maximising our life-saving assistance in the worst affected areas.



"AID NEEDS TO GET THROUGH NOW. A LACK OF ACTION COULD RESULT IN THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT WOMEN, CHILDREN AND MEN DYING BECAUSE OF HUNGER AND THIS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN."

Feargal O'Connell, Concern's Regional Director for the Horn of Africa

Want to Learn MORE

Concern Worldwide's Active Citizenship Team run workshops for students during the academic year. If you are interested in exploring and critically examining global issues in the classroom please contact us on schools@concern.net



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READ



- Concern Worldwide CEO, 'South Sudan famine results from failure of political will', The Irish Times, 24 Mar, 2017
- 'Why 20 Million People are on the brink of famine in a 'World of Plenty', NY Times, 23 Feb, 2017

WATCH



- 'We Built this City' www.youtube.com/user/concernworldwide
- 'South Sudan Food Crisis: The Struggle to Survive in Leer County' www.youtube.com/user/concernworldwide

ACT



- Raise awareness about South Sudan in your school and local community
- Support Concern's work in South Sudan by donating to www.concern.net/checkout/5170637

WRITTEN BY: Jessica Maguire - Active Citizenship, Concern Worldwide