



## Key Figures

2.5 Million

Facing severe food insecurity

754,400

People provided with humanitarian assistance

1.5 Million

Internally Displaced People (IDPs)

500,000

Refugees from South Sudan in neighbouring countries

100,000

Estimated number of displaced people in UN bases

235,000

Children suffering from severe acute malnutrition

## Current situation

Since the beginning of the crisis, more than 1.5 million people have been internally displaced and over 500,000 have fled to Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. Severe food insecurity and disrupted livelihoods and markets has left 2.5 million people facing severe food insecurity.

## How Oxfam is responding

Oxfam has a dedicated team to respond to emergencies across South Sudan. We focus on public health, livelihoods and emergency response with gender, diversity, conflict-sensitive programming and advocacy work intertwined. We are currently supporting over 400,000 people in South Sudan with humanitarian assistance using a four pronged approach:

- **Increased access to safe water** through water treatment and supply
- **Improved sanitation** through waste management and environmental cleanliness
- **Empowerment of community structures and capacity building** and through **promotion of safe hygiene practices** and distribution of relevant water sanitation and hygiene materials
- **Emergency food security and livelihoods** through provision of charcoal, milling and commodity vouchers.

Above: Martha Nyandit receiving a share of grain, oil, and beans at an Oxfam food distribution in Mingkaman. Photo: Pablo Tosco/Oxfam

### Providing Clean Water

Oxfam is providing water to over 300,000 people in South Sudan through a network of taps, pipes, and water tanks that ensure that safe and clean water is accessible to as many people as possible. This is achieved through the treatment of water and the drilling of strategic boreholes.



In Awerial County, water is pumped from the Nile river alongside the Mingkaman settlement and is thoroughly treated before it is pumped to water points that serve over 38,000 people settled in the camp. In Melut, Oxfam is supplying clean water to over 33,000 people in the county. In Nyrol and Uror counties, Oxfam has repaired over 40 boreholes to supply water to the host and displaced communities in need there.

### Public Health Promotion

Public health and hygiene promotion plays a key role in changing collective and individual behaviour and fostering ownership and sustainable use of water and sanitation facilities. Oxfam is contributing to targeted behaviour change through public health sessions, house to house visits and educational sessions with children to improve hygiene practices in the camp.

Activities include training on safe hygiene practices like hand washing, waste disposal, environmental cleanliness, proper use of latrines, cleaning of water containers, washing hands and distribution of relevant water, sanitation and hygiene material.

Hand washing is one of the most effective ways to prevent spread of infections in all settings. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community. Children participate in child to child sessions using games, pictures, songs and drama to learn messages related to importance of hand washing with soap, personal hygiene, latrine use and covering water for drinking.

Oxfam is supporting people in public health in all programme areas in South Sudan. This includes activities in Melut, Malakal, Lankien, Waat, Nyal, Minkaman and Bor. In Awerial county, over 38,600 people have received services related to the improvement of public health. These services have also supported over 28,000 people in Juba, over 15,000 in Malakal and over 30,000 in Melut.

### Sanitation

Access to sanitation is a basic human right, but access to sanitation facilities for people living in the UN House compound in Juba and Malakal, and in settlements for displaced people in Awerial, Lankien and Melut was extremely poor. Lack of sanitation has serious health implications, as defecating in the open puts people at constant risk of preventable diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and typhoid.

In response to this, Oxfam has constructed latrines across all project areas supporting more than 300,000 people. People can now access safe, private and hygienic sanitation facilities.

### Emergency Food Security and Livelihoods

Lack of fuel to cook food was one of the greatest challenges facing the people housed in camps in Juba and Melut. Leaving the camp to collect firewood was too risky and buying charcoal from vendors was out of the question as it was too expensive. Oxfam's charcoal distribution project has so far reached over 35,000 individuals, providing a safe alternative.

Oxfam has also provided fuel-efficient stoves to some members of the camp so that charcoal can be burned more economically and efficiently. Women are less exposed to risk as they do not need to make as many dangerous trips to collect fuel. This is also

Oxfam also introduced commodity vouchers that complemented the general food distribution at the UN House. Over 700 families received vouchers worth 150 SSP which they could use to buy food and other items they might need in any of the 30-plus Oxfam affiliated vendors within the camp. This not only provides choice in the type of food bought, but also supports the vendors who were also affected by the conflict.

Furthermore, Oxfam distributes milling vouchers once a month alongside the general food distribution so that people can grind their grain with the millers inside the camps.

The Emergency Response and Preparedness team has supported food drops from aeroplanes in Jonglei. Our teams on the ground collect food as it is dropped from the air, and ensure that it is distributed to those who need it. So far, over 100,000 people have received badly needed food aid. Oxfam is also providing food aid in Minkaman to over 85,000 people.

In Melut, Oxfam distributed seeds and farming tools that were used to cultivate vegetable gardens, easily accessible and economically viable. Oxfam is also providing fishing gear and training to fishermen on effective use of the gear to help increase their daily catch as well as fish processing, handling, and marketing.

For more information:

<http://www.oxfam.org/en/emergencies/southsudan>  
<http://www.oxfamblogs.org/eastafrica/?cat=4>