

SOUTH SUDAN - CRISIS

FACT SHEET #9, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

JULY 24, 2020

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

7.5 million

Estimated People in South Sudan Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – November 2019

6.5 million

Estimated People in Need of Food Assistance in South Sudan
IPC – February 2020

1.6 million

Estimated IDPs in South Sudan
UN – March 2020

181,000

Estimated Individuals Seeking Refuge at UNMISS Bases
UNMISS – June 2020

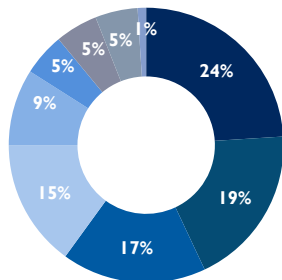
2.3 million

Estimated Refugees and Asylum Seekers from South Sudan in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – June 2020

302,000

Estimated Refugees from Neighboring Countries in South Sudan
UNHCR – June 2020

USAID/BHA NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2020



- Logistics & Relief Commodities (24%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (19%)
- Health (17%)
- Protection (15%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (9%)
- Shelter & Settlements (5%)
- Agriculture and Food Security (5%)
- Nutrition (5%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (1%)

USAID/BHA FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2020



- Local & Regional Food Procurement (58%)
- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (38%)
- Complementary Services (3%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (1%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Relief actors continue to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak
- Looting of humanitarian supplies increases in 2020
- Staple food prices remain stable but elevated in early July

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020

USAID/BHA^{1,2} \$466,157,346

State/PRM³ \$17,829,000

\$483,986,346^{4,5}

Total USG Humanitarian Funding for the South Sudan Response in FY 2020

\$5,112,320,523

Total Humanitarian Funding for the South Sudan Response in FYs 2014–2020, Including Funding For South Sudanese Refugees in Neighboring Countries

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Increasing intercommunal violence—concentrated primarily in Jonglei State—continues to exacerbate humanitarian needs, limit humanitarian access, and endanger relief workers across South Sudan, the UN reports. Between late June and mid-July, armed attacks resulted in the deaths of three relief workers, bringing the total number of aid workers killed in South Sudan since 2013 to 122. U.S. Government (USG) and UN officials have called on the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GoRSS) to quell the violence and provide greater protection to humanitarian workers in the country.
- Acute food insecurity is likely to worsen in parts of South Sudan in the coming weeks, as households face rising food prices, limited food supplies, continued insecurity, movement restrictions, and reduced livelihoods opportunities at the peak of the lean season in July and September, relief actors report.

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² Total USAID/BHA funding includes non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) and emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP).

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ This total includes approximately \$33.1 million in supplemental funding through USAID/BHA and State/PRM for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.

⁵ This total does not include approximately \$41.8 million in FY 2020 USG funding for South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries, which increases total USG emergency funding for the South Sudan crisis in FY 2020 to nearly \$526 million.

COVID-19 IMPACT AND RESPONSE

- The GoRSS Ministry of Health (MoH) had confirmed nearly 2,260 coronavirus disease (COVID-19) cases and 45 related deaths as of July 23, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO). This figure includes approximately 120 health workers who had tested positive for COVID-19, the MoH reports; additionally, nearly 70 UN employees had contracted the disease as of July 10, according to the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS). Relief actors note that the official number of confirmed COVID-19 cases significantly underrepresents the true extent of the COVID-19 outbreak in South Sudan due to limited testing capacity at the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in South Sudan’s capital city of Juba. However, on June 27, the MoH installed equipment to enable COVID-19 testing in Eastern Equatoria State’s Nimule town, on the South Sudan–Uganda border. The new testing equipment will supplement COVID-19 testing capabilities at the NPHL, facilitate faster testing of transport personnel, and ease the movement of goods and services, including humanitarian supplies, across the border.
- In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in South Sudan, USAID/BHA partners continue to provide emergency food assistance and health care, logistics, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support to populations directly and indirectly affected by the disease. USAID/BHA has provided approximately \$2 million in supplemental funding to the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to scale up the COVID-19 health care response in South Sudan, enabling the procurement and pre-positioning of essential medicines for home-based case management for approximately 83,000 people experiencing mild-to-moderate COVID-19 symptoms. In addition, the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)—managed by USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP)—used nearly \$590,000 in USAID/BHA supplemental funding to procure a 14-seat aircraft for dedicated COVID-19 response activities, such as transferring samples from field locations to the NPHL and evacuating severe COVID-19 cases. Moreover, with an additional \$4.5 million in USAID/BHA support, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is scaling up critical WASH services in at-risk urban areas, constructing more than 90 hand-washing stations and facilities in public areas, including markets, places of worship, and transportation centers.
- Since April, USAID/BHA partner International Medical Corps (IMC)—the primary health service provider for internally displaced persons (IDPs) residing in the UNMISS protection of civilians (PoC) sites in Juba, Upper Nile State’s Malakal town, and Western Bahr el Ghazal State’s Wau town—has responded to the COVID-19 outbreak in South Sudan, working to reduce the negative impacts of the disease in crowded and unsanitary camp environments. With \$2.2 million in supplemental funding from USAID/BHA, IMC has worked to strengthen disease surveillance measures, bolster infection prevention and control procedures, and implement COVID-19 risk communication programming at the sites. In addition, USAID/BHA funding is ensuring continuity of basic, lifesaving health care for IDPs in the sites. The non-governmental organization (NGO) also manages the Juba Infectious Disease Unit (IDU), the only treatment facility for COVID-19 in South Sudan. As of early June, IMC had provided care to more than 80 patients at the IDU, including more than 30 confirmed COVID-19 patients. USAID/BHA had supported IMC with more than \$7.1 million for health and protection activities in South Sudan during FY 2020 as of mid-June.
- As part of WFP’s COVID-19 urban food response, the UN agency commenced food assistance distributions in Juba’s Mangateen IDP settlement on July 13, intending to reach nearly 4,000 people adversely affected by COVID-19-related impacts on food security. WFP plans to provide food and nutrition assistance to more than 71,000 people in more than 20 locations in the coming months. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in South Sudan, WFP has supported 3.7 million people with food assistance rations sufficient for one to three months, and the UN agency is currently providing a second round of one-to-three month food assistance distributions to 3.8 million people across the country.

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS, INSECURITY, AND POPULATION MOVEMENT

- Humanitarian access continues to deteriorate across South Sudan due to increased intercommunal violence and COVID-19-related movement restrictions, resulting in delayed humanitarian assistance deliveries and increased risks to relief workers. Between April and June, the UN recorded an approximately 20 percent increase in the number of reported humanitarian access incidents compared to the same period in 2019. In particular, incidents of looting and

theft of humanitarian supplies from relief facilities and convoys have increased substantially in 2020 compared to previous years, with the UN reporting nearly 40 looting incidents to date in 2020 compared to just 14 total incidents in 2019. In addition, relief actors reported several ambushes of vehicles transporting humanitarian supplies in early July, as well as instances in which bureaucratic impediments limited the provision of humanitarian assistance.

- Deteriorating security conditions have also contributed to the deaths of three relief workers since late June. Unidentified armed actors attacked a clearly marked ambulance in Lakes State's Cueibet County on June 28, resulting in the death of the driver, a national staff member of an international NGO providing health services in South Sudan, the UN reports. At the time of the attack, the ambulance was transporting an injured person to a hospital for treatment, following an incident of intercommunal violence in the area. Two weeks later, unknown actors attacked an area in Duk County's Pajut town in Jonglei State on July 13, shooting and killing two South Sudanese NGO relief workers and four other civilians, according to the UN. The deceased aid workers had been providing health care and nutrition services to the local community prior to the attack. Following the two incidents, UN officials condemned the attacks, urged the GoRSS to bring the attackers to justice, and called on the GoRSS to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel in South Sudan. The deaths of the three staff members mark the fifth, sixth, and seventh aid worker deaths in South Sudan to date in 2020 and bring the total number of aid workers killed in the country since 2013 to 122; the vast majority of the fatalities have been South Sudanese nationals.
- Renewed intercommunal violence in Jonglei has resulted in hundreds of casualties, displaced at least 60,000 civilians, and prompted the suspension of humanitarian activities in affected areas since early June, relief actors report. Between June 17 and 20, unknown armed actors attacked six communities in Jonglei's Bor South and Twic East counties, resulting in 43 deaths and nearly 30 injuries, according to relief actors. A subsequent attack on Duk Padiet town in Duk in early July resulted in at least 39 deaths and more than 40 injuries, local officials report. The UN continues to verify the number of deaths and assess the scale of displacement from affected areas in Jonglei. Humanitarian organizations, including USAID/BHA partners, are conducting needs assessments and providing assistance where security permits. In early July, WFP conducted a needs assessment in Jonglei's Pibor County and distributed emergency food commodities to affected IDPs across Jonglei; however, insecurity and other access impediments continue to prevent food distributions throughout the state.
- In addition to the violence in Jonglei, insecurity in Central Equatoria, Lakes, Warrap, and Western Equatoria states continues to drive displacement and exacerbate humanitarian needs. Armed clashes in Western Equatoria's Tambura town displaced more than 5,400 people in June, and localized insecurity displaced nearly 1,400 people in Central Equatoria the same month. Fighting in Central Equatoria's Lirya County continued into July, with clashes between government forces and opposition elements resulting in the destruction of houses and prompting the displacement of an additional 1,000 people.
- Insecurity continues to escalate in South Sudan despite calls by the UN to limit hostilities globally during the COVID-19 pandemic. The UN Security Council (UNSC) unanimously adopted a July 1 resolution demanding an immediate 90-day cessation of hostilities in conflict zones around the world—including South Sudan—to assist the humanitarian and public health response to COVID-19. In addition, the UNSC issued a statement on July 13, expressing concern regarding the recent increase in intercommunal violence in South Sudan and calling on GoRSS leaders to act swiftly to halt the violence.
- Despite continued insecurity in many areas of the country and the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, nearly 11,400 South Sudanese refugees returned to South Sudan from neighboring countries during June, according to the GoRSS Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The total number of returnees represents a significant increase compared to the approximately 4,700 refugee returns reported in May and the 5,100 returns reported in April. Most of the returnees entered South Sudan via informal border crossings, with approximately 5,300 refugees returning from Uganda and 2,000 refugees returning from Ethiopia. UNHCR cites several reasons for the increased number of returns in June, including the onset of local harvests, reduced food assistance in refugee camps in Uganda and Ethiopia, increased cost of living in refugee-hosting locations, concerns regarding the spread of COVID-19, and continued insecurity in the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Humanitarian agencies, including USAID/BHA partners, are assessing options for providing assistance to the newly arrived returnees. Overall, more than 301,000 South Sudanese refugees have spontaneously

returned to South Sudan since November 2017, including approximately 180,000 refugees who returned after the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan in September 2018 and more than 24,000 refugees who have returned since the outbreak of COVID-19 in the region began, UNHCR reports.

FLOODING

- Heavy rains and associated flooding continued to result in mass displacement and the destruction of thousands of houses in Jonglei and Unity states in late June, relief actors report. Floods reportedly displaced nearly 8,900 people in Bor South on June 26, according to the local Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, which called on relief actors to provide the IDPs with urgently needed humanitarian assistance. Between June 25 and 27, relief actors distributed food assistance and relief commodities to approximately 9,200 IDPs displaced by earlier flooding in the area. Moreover, in Unity's Panyijiar County, torrential rains caused the Nile River to breach its banks on June 25, destroying approximately 45,000 houses, resulting in the deaths of 600 cattle, and displacing an unknown number of people, according to local authorities. Most flood-affected people reportedly relocated to higher ground in search of shelter, where they require urgent humanitarian assistance. Local officials have mobilized the community to rehabilitate dykes and open drainage channels in affected areas. Based on preliminary needs assessments, WFP plans to begin food distributions for approximately 81,000 beneficiaries in the coming days.

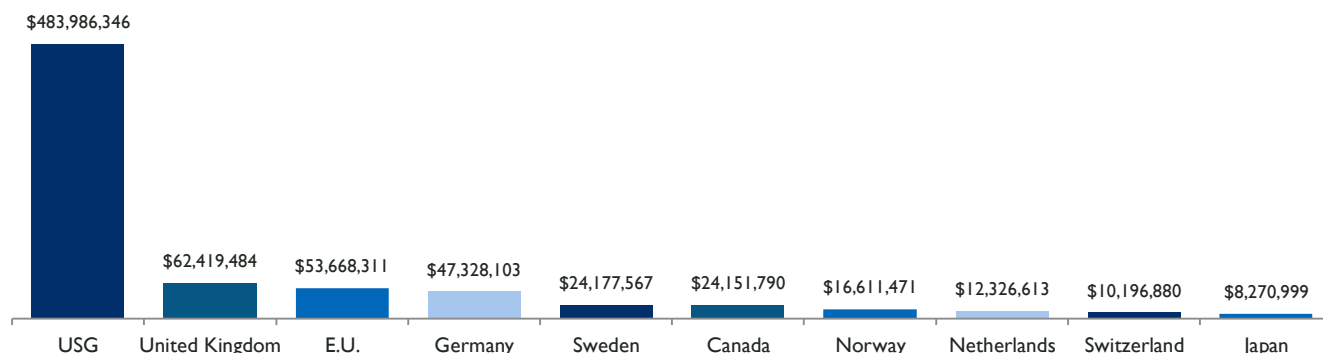
FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Acute food insecurity conditions are expected to increase as household food access becomes constrained by rising food prices at the peak of the annual lean season in July and August, according to the most recent food security outlook from the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), which forecasts conditions between July 2020 and January 2021. FEWS NET projects that food insecurity will be most severe in Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile, and Warrap states, where continuing intercommunal conflict is likely to disrupt livelihoods and drive displacement and where forecast above-average rainfall poses a high risk of flooding. Due to low food availability, high food prices, and limited livelihoods or coping options, many households will be extremely vulnerable to disruptions in access to markets, food assistance, and other food and income sources. Under such conditions, localized Catastrophe—IPC Phase 5—acute food insecurity conditions are possible among some households during the lean season.⁶ Even during the post-harvest period, Emergency—IPC Phase 4—levels of acute food insecurity are expected to persist in conflict-affected or flood-prone areas, where crop and livestock production levels are most likely to remain below normal. In the event that severe flooding in Jonglei or Upper Nile temporarily prevents households from accessing food sources, some households may also experience Catastrophe levels of acute food insecurity during the post-harvest period.
- Intercommunal violence and COVID-19-related movement restrictions continue to negatively impact the flow of goods within South Sudan and from neighboring countries, according to a recent WFP report. In addition, heavy rains have rendered many roads across the country impassable for large trucks, adversely impacting the delivery of food commodities from source markets and resulting in increased transport costs. As a result, markets in Abyei Area and parts of northern South Sudan reported a scarcity of staple food items during the second week of July. Food prices remained at stable but elevated levels in most markets through mid-July; however, some markets have experienced deteriorating terms of trade due to seasonal and COVID-19-related impacts on the food supply.
- As a result of a two-month closure of the South Sudan–Sudan border crossings in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State's Aweil town and Unity's Bentiu town due to COVID-19-related movement restrictions and insecurity in Sudan, WFP has reported a food commodity shortfall of up to 20,000 metric tons (MT) in Bentiu town—a primary logistics hub in South Sudan. Although cargo movement has resumed at the Bentiu border crossing in recent weeks, seasonal rains are complicating deliveries by rendering roads impassable. To meet food requirements in Bentiu, WFP recently determined

⁶ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5. A Famine classification applies to a wider geographical location, while the term Catastrophe—IPC 5—refers to an extreme lack of food at the household level even with full employment of coping strategies. Famine is determined when more than 20 percent of households in an area are experiencing Catastrophe, when global acute malnutrition levels exceed 30 percent, and when the crude mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 people per day.

that WFP boats will be capable of transporting the required commodities by river from Upper Nile’s Malakal town. The new route will allow WFP to transport food commodities by river to Bentiu during the rainy season and throughout the year.

2020 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as July 24, 2020. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)’s Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments to date in 2020, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect publicly announced USG funding for FY 2020. The \$484 million in FY 2020 USG humanitarian funding for the South Sudan response does not include support for South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries.

CONTEXT

- The January 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the southern-based Sudan People’s Liberation Army officially ended more than two decades of north–south conflict during which famine, fighting, and disease killed an estimated 2 million people and displaced at least 4.5 million others within Sudan. In July 2011, South Sudan became an independent state following a referendum earlier in the year.
- On December 15, 2013, clashes erupted between factions within the GoRSS in Juba and quickly spread into a protracted national conflict, prompting displacement and humanitarian needs. On December 20, 2013, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG response to the crisis in South Sudan and stood up a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to support the DART.
- On October 3, 2019, U.S. Ambassador Thomas J. Hushek redeclared a disaster in South Sudan for FY 2020 due to ongoing conflict, population displacement, restricted humanitarian access, and disruption of cultivation activities, markets, and trade, all of which have significantly exacerbated food insecurity and humanitarian needs.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
FUNDING IN SOUTH SUDAN FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY			
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,950,000
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Upper Nile	\$3,441,830
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
IMC	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Upper Nile	\$4,929,000

IOM	Agriculture and Food Security, HCIM, Health, Logistics Support, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	ERMS, Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Unity	\$5,500,000
Mercy Corps	WASH	Unity, Western Equatoria	\$3,260,576
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	HCIM, Protection	Countrywide	\$1,346,531
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
Relief International (RI)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Upper Nile	\$6,800,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,500,000
Veterinaires Sans Frontiers/Germany (VSF/G)	Agriculture and Food Security	Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile	\$2,164,501
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$23,221,609
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$500,000
World Relief International (WRI)	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Jonglei, Unity	\$3,540,325
Program Support			\$165,927
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$75,320,298
Food Assistance²			
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	7,520 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Jonglei	\$6,788,960
FAO	Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
UNICEF	1,470 of Local, Regional, and International Food Procurement (LRIP)	Countrywide	\$25,225,000
WFP	81,014 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid and 102,958 MT of LRIP, Cash Transfers for Food	Countrywide	\$321,381,767
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$363,395,727
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$438,716,026
STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$5,100,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$7,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$12,200,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2020			\$450,916,026

FUNDING IN SOUTH SUDAN FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE³

USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
Doctors of the World	Health	Jonglei	\$300,000
IMC	Health, Protection	Central Equatoria, Upper Nile, Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$2,228,300
Internews	Health	Countrywide	\$700,001
IOM	WASH	Jonglei, Lakes, Unity, Upper Nile	\$4,500,000
Nonviolent Peaceforce	Protection	Central Equatoria	\$450,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$734,020
Samaritan's Purse	Health	Central Equatoria	\$639,478
SCF	Health	Central Equatoria	\$300,000
UNICEF	Health, WASH	Central Equatoria	\$2,000,000

UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$589,521
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$12,441,320
Food Assistance			
CRS	Cash Transfers for Food, Complementary Services	Central Equatoria	\$5,099,506
FAO	Complementary Services	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$2,200,494
WFP	4,712 MT of LRIP	Urban and Peri-Urban Areas, Countrywide	\$7,700,000
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$15,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$27,441,320
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,050,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,579,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$5,629,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE IN SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2020			\$33,070,320

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$466,157,346
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$17,829,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$483,986,346⁴

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 19, 2020.

² Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

³ Figures represent supplemental International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities as of June 30, 2020.

⁴ This total does not include approximately \$41.8 million in FY 2020 USG funding for South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries, of which \$3.3 million is towards responding to COVID-19. This increases total USG emergency funding for the South Sudan crisis in FY 2020 to nearly \$526 million.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.