



OXFAM

PROGRAMME NEWSLETTER

Mid-Year Edition

This newsletter highlights some of Oxfam's work across South Sudan in 2026. Featuring stories from our different areas of operation, it showcases the progress being made, the challenges communities continue to face and the positive changes achieved through collaboration. We hope these stories offer valuable lessons, inspire action and deepen understanding of the impact of our work.



2026

Yar is challenging gender stereotypes through welding training at Rumbek Vocational Training Centre. She hopes to inspire more women and girls to enter male-dominated trades.

Photo Credit: Lakoyo Shakira/Oxfam



A photograph taken during the launch of the TPED Manuals in Juba, bringing together education leaders, government officials and partners working to strengthen teacher development in South Sudan.
Photo credit: Hala Alzarif/Oxfam

South Sudan has launched the new Teacher Professional Education Development Modules aimed at strengthening teaching practice and supporting the continuity of learning in crisis-affected areas.

The modules were produced by Oxfam in South Sudan in collaboration with the Ministry of General Education and Instruction and partners, with funding from DANIDA through the Building Resilience in Crisis through Education (BRICE) programme, under the Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa (RTIA).

Designed around the realities teachers face in challenging environments, the modules provide practical guidance on inclusive teaching, classroom management and the delivery of relevant, quality education. They are intended to help teachers respond more effectively to learners with different needs while maintaining meaningful instruction during emergencies and prolonged crises.

The launch brought together education leaders and development partners, including Omot Okony Olok, Undersecretary at the Ministry of General Education and Instruction; Shabnam Baloch, Oxfam Country Director in South Sudan; Bullen Daniel Parongwa, Director General of the National Curriculum Development Centre; and Ester Akumu Achire, Director General for Inclusive Education.

“ This document was long overdue, Olok said. Now that we are launching it, our teachers will benefit from it whether they are working in emergency situations or in stable environments. The next step is implementation, so these modules do not remain on paper, Omot Okony Olok, Undersecretary at the Ministry of General Education and Instruction

Beyond providing materials for individual teachers, the initiative contributes to wider efforts to strengthen South Sudan’s education system. Developing professional resources with the Ministry helps align teacher support with national priorities and provides a foundation for consistent practice across schools and learning environments.

In a country where conflict, displacement and climate-related shocks continue to interrupt education, teachers require more than subject knowledge. They also need practical tools to maintain inclusive classrooms and support learners affected by crisis.

The launch marks an important step in making structured professional development available to teachers working in some of South Sudan’s most challenging contexts. Continued training, use and institutional support will determine how effectively the modules translate into improved classroom practice and stronger learning experiences for children.



Poni tending to crops on their farm in Luri Payam
Juba County
Photo Credit: Lakoyo Shakira/Oxfam

Luri, Juba — Jacinta Poni works among rows of vegetables in Luri Payam, tending crops that provide food and income throughout the year. The mother of six is one of 50 members of the Kabo Vegetable Farmers' Group in Juba County and serves as deputy leader.

The group brings together 30 women and 20 men who are strengthening their farming practices and working collectively. Through training facilitated by Oxfam in South Sudan, members have gained knowledge they can apply in their gardens.

Poni says the sessions have improved her understanding of field hygiene, integrated pest and disease management, and the preparation of organic manure using locally available materials. These practices help farmers protect crops, maintain soil fertility and reduce losses.

“ I have learnt a lot from the training sessions, Poni says. We now know how to keep our fields clean, manage pests and diseases, and prepare manure from materials available in our community. With year-round production, we can sell vegetables and support our families. We can buy basic necessities, pay school fees and meet medical costs when someone needs treatment. We also eat some of what we grow.

Access to a productive garden has changed how members meet household expenses. Vegetables harvested from the plots are sold in local markets, while a portion is kept for consumption at home.

The initiative is implemented by Oxfam in South Sudan through UNDP, under the project Empowering Women and Youth to Drive Sustainable Agriculture in South Sudan, with funding from the India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation (IBSA Fund).

At the Rumbek Vocational Training Centre, Nyandeng leans over her classmate's hair, carefully separating strands as she practises a new technique. The exercise is part of a hairdressing course that she hopes will lead to her own small business.

Nyandeng is among 64 students enrolled at the centre through an initiative implemented by Oxfam in South Sudan with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The group includes 30 women and 34 men learning practical trades linked to economic opportunities in Rumbek and surrounding areas.



Adut James, a hairdressing student at Rumbek Vocational Training Centre, practices styling techniques during a training session in Rumbek Centre. The course equips students with practical skills for employment and self-employment.

Photo Credit: Lakoyo Shakira/Oxfam

Hairdressing appeals to Nyandeng because it offers a service with regular local demand and can be started with modest resources. Through practical sessions, she is building the technical ability and confidence needed to work with customers and earn an income.

Hands-on learning allows participants to develop services they can offer within their communities rather than waiting for scarce formal jobs. The programme is designed to equip them for employment, self-employment or small enterprise after completing their courses.

“ I want to become a skilled hairdresser and open my own business, Nyandeng says. With the income, I would be able to support my family and have more control skills and important route towards earning a living.

Nyandeng is currently focused on improving her technique. Her longer-term plan is to attract customers, establish a salon and contribute to her household expenses.

Renk, Upper Nile — More than 12,000 refugees, returnees and host-community members in Gosfami settlement depend on limited water sources as displacement from Sudan places growing pressure on services in Renk County.



Community members fetch water from a hand-dug shallow well in Gosfdamin. During the rainy season, water filters through layers of soil, sand and gravel, raising the water table and naturally replenishing the well after water is collected.

Photo credit: Lakoyo Shakira

In temperatures that frequently exceed 40 degrees Celsius, safe water is essential for drinking, cooking and hygiene. Yet ageing infrastructure, unpredictable rainfall and rising demand leave many families facing long waits or journeys to find water.

Oxfam has installed four 30,000-litre storage bladders, trucked treated water from the Nile, repaired boreholes and rehabilitated traditional rainwater reservoirs known as hafirs. With funding from the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund and in collaboration with the South Sudan WASH Cluster, Oxfam also established a surface-water treatment system that makes water from a rehabilitated hafir safer for community use.

However, these gains remain fragile. Water trucking requires fuel, transport, treatment supplies, maintenance and staff. Funding shortages are already limiting how much water can be delivered, while continued arrivals increase demand.

“ When water runs out at established water points, communities are left with very few safe alternatives. Many families are forced to walk long distances or rely on unsafe water sources, increasing risks to their health and well-being, said Addison Said Stephen, Oxfam’s Public Health Engineer in Renk.

The response must move beyond repeated emergency measures. Donors and humanitarian actors should sustain immediate services while investing in durable infrastructure, including expanded treatment, storage, borehole repair and community-led management.

Without predictable financing, families may again be forced to search for unsafe water in extreme heat.

JONGLEI, South Sudan — Oxfam in South Sudan with support from World Food Programme are delivering food assistance across Akobo, Nyirol and Uror counties as conflict, displacement and poor harvests deepen hunger.

The April 2026 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification analysis estimated that 7.8 million people—55 per cent of South Sudan's population, were experiencing food insecurity, with the figure projected to reach nine million by October. Parts of Jonglei are already classified in Emergency, while some communities risk deteriorating further.

Violence, delayed rainfall and displacement have prevented many families from cultivating crops or returning home. Households are reducing meals and relying on wild food, while acute malnutrition is expected to worsen during the rainy season.

Plans initially focused on resilience programming in Akobo and a lean-season response in Nyirol and Uror. However, rapidly increasing needs led to food distributions beginning across all three counties in March, covering up to 22 distribution points where access permits.



Community members receive assistance during a food distribution in Jonglei State. The activity forms part of ongoing efforts to help households meet immediate needs.

Photo Credit: Jacob Kim/WFP

Between March and July, 13,059.569 metric tonnes of food were distributed to 312,702 people. The assistance included cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and salt, together with specialised nutritious foods for children under two and pregnant and breastfeeding women. Despite the scale of the response, humanitarian needs across the state remain acute.

School meals reached 3,578 pupils with 22.113 metric tonnes of food. Yet delivery remains disrupted due to conflict. Schools in Akobo West remain closed because of conflict, while pipeline delays have affected supplies to Nyirol and Akobo East.

Food assistance is helping families meet immediate needs, but it cannot substitute for safe access to land and livelihoods. Sustained funding, reliable supply pipelines and protection of humanitarian access are essential. Without them, disruptions will deepen hunger and leave already displaced families with even fewer options during the increasingly difficult months ahead.



Education
4,550



Governance
900

Gender &
Protection
18,758



Water, Sanitation
& Hygiene
120,544



Food Security and
Livelihood
315,702

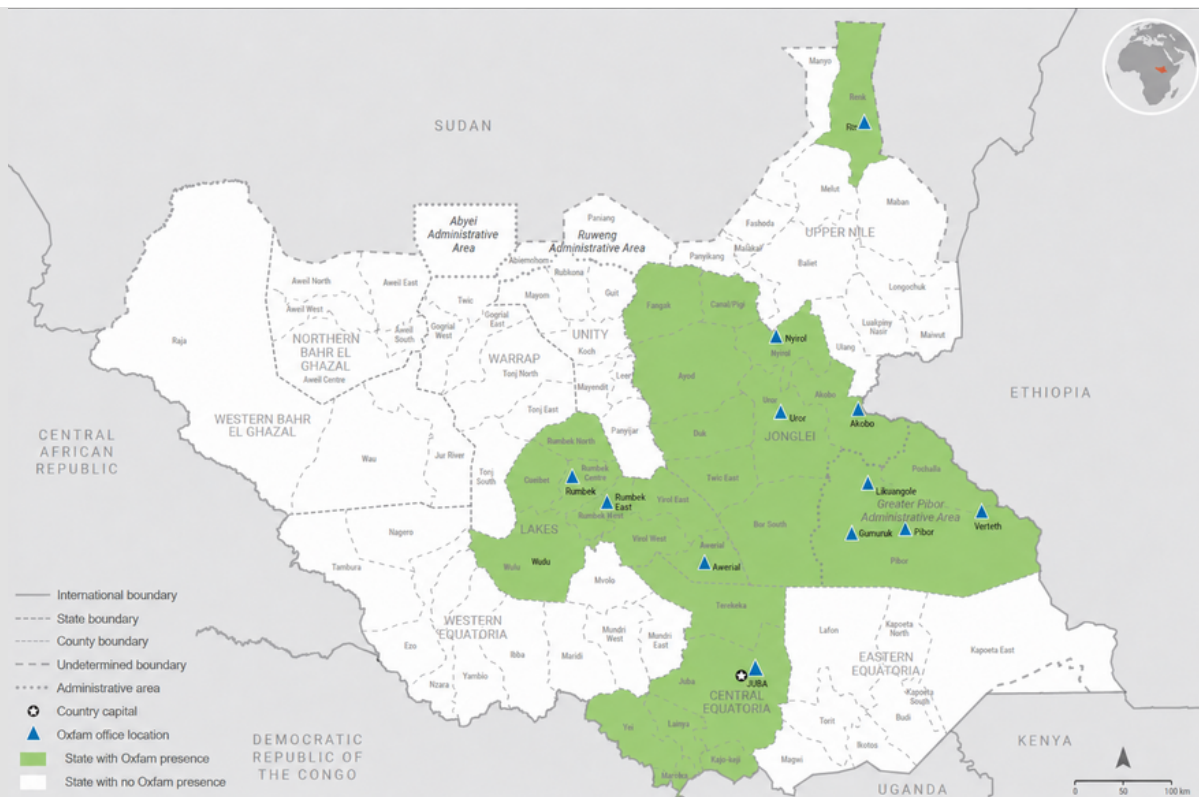


Humanitarian
Emergency
Response
403,184

We work closely in collaboration with key government ministries to strengthen coordination and support the effective delivery of our programmes:

- Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
- Ministry of General Education and Instruction
- Ministry of Health and Sanitation
- Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Forestry
- Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
- Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs

OUR CURRENT AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION – AUGUST 2026



THANK YOU!

OUR DONORS



OUR PARTNERS





OXFAM



Iman, a refugee who was living at Renk Transit Centre when this photograph was taken, received a dignity kit from Oxfam in South Sudan to support her personal hygiene needs. Photo Credit: Lakoyo Shakira/Oxfam