

Addressing Hunger in South Sudan: A call to action to save and protect lives

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On **World Humanitarian Day 2022**, members of the South Sudan NGO Forum commemorate humanitarian workers who continue work to reach millions of people affected by the ongoing humanitarian crisis. The NGO Forum commemorates and remembers all the colleagues who have lost their lives in their service to the people of South Sudan. As humanitarians continue to be frontline service providers, the NGO Forum pledges to strengthen collaboration with the government and the wider humanitarian community to ensure a conducive humanitarian space.

Members of the NGO Forum are spread across the country delivering services to the most vulnerable populations in the country. With the increasing severity and frequency of humanitarian crises and competing priorities for resources globally, the humanitarian response in South Sudan is in a dire situation. In 2022 alone, UN OCHA estimated that 8.9 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. The effects of conflict and climate change in South Sudan continue to negatively affect the lives of individuals and communities, including the displacement of 4.2 million vulnerable people either as IDPs or refugees. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a whole community to help people in need.

We, at the NGO Forum, wish to celebrate and appreciate all the dedicated humanitarians, especially front-line workers, and the crisis-affected people themselves who are always the first people to respond. As members of the South Sudan NGO Forum, we renew our commitment to the millions of people in South Sudan who are facing some of the worst consequences of conflict, hunger, and climate crisis. And pledge continue to reach the most vulnerable with lifesaving interventions while continuing to work on a vision where humanitarian, development and peace actors coordinate and collaborate towards a shared and integrated outcome, realising comparative advantages to enable a more coherent and efficient collective response, the peace humanitarian and development nexus in South Sudan.

To affirm these commitments, the humanitarian community requires commitments by all actors, and duty bearers to ensure the motto of **#ItTakesAVillage** is upheld as we work towards unhindered humanitarian access and safe spaces for humanitarians and civilians.

Note to editors

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