

Aid agencies call on UK government not to cut aid to South Sudan



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Islamic Relief has joined more than 80 humanitarian agencies to urge the British government to reconsider its reported plans to cut aid to South Sudan by more than half.

International and National Non-governmental Organisations working in South Sudan call on the UK Government to reconsider urgently the reported 59% budget cuts to vital international aid. South Sudan is at a pivotal point, based on the recent Integrated Food Security Phase Classification of “Famine Likely” and “Catastrophic” food insecurity at a number of locations across the country, with over 60% of the population projected to face crisis or worse levels of food insecurity. Humanitarian assistance is one of the only factors keeping thousands of people from succumbing to the worst outcomes: malnutrition and death.

Severe humanitarian needs across the country have significantly worsened due to a combination of flooding, displacement, and protracted sub-national violence. The sustained support of the international community is critical. As humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding organisations working to support the people of South Sudan coming out of a painful civil war, we call on the UK Government to ensure South Sudan remains a funding priority.

The UK has long played an important role in bolstering South Sudan’s progress with humanitarian support. There is no doubt that the anticipated cuts will cost lives, and undermine significant, long-term progress made with UK funding to date – from saving lives with access to food and safe water, to reducing violence through support for locally-led peacebuilding, and interventions to reduce gender-based

violence.

It is vital that the UK continues to invest in both humanitarian response and longer-term action that builds resilience and integrates Disaster Risk Reduction in the country. There needs to be continued support for conflict prevention and peacebuilding – as an end in itself but also, as UK Special Envoy for Famine Prevention and Humanitarian Affairs Nick Dyer has rightly pointed out, because conflict remains closely linked with food insecurity.

After years of engagement and investment, for the UK to step back now would constitute a crushing blow to the people of South Sudan.

1. Action Africa Help – AAH
2. Action Against Hunger – ACF
3. Action For Children Development Foundation – ACDF-SS
4. Active Youth Agency
5. Adventist Development and Relief Agency – ADRA
6. Africa Development Aid – ADA
7. Africa Humanitarian Action – AMREF
8. Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development – ACTED
9. American Refugee Committee
10. Association of Volunteers for Service International – AVSI
11. BBC Media Action – BBCMA
12. CAFOD and Trócaire in Partnership – CTP
13. CARE International
14. Caritas Switzerland

15. Catholic Relief Services
16. Child's Destiny and Development Organisation – CHIDDO
17. Christian Aid
18. Christian Blind Mission – CBM
19. Concern Worldwide
20. Concordis International
21. DanChurchAid – DCA
22. Danish Refugee Council – DRC
23. Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe
24. Doctors with Africa – CUAMM
25. Dorcas
26. Food for the Hungry – FH
27. GOAL
28. Green Belt Initiative – GBI
29. Health Link South Sudan
30. HealthNet TPO
31. Help A Child
32. Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe – HELP
33. Humane – Aid for Community Organization
34. Humanitarian and Development Consortium – HDC
35. Impact Initiative (REACH)
36. International Aid Services – IAS
37. International Rescue Committee – IRC

38. INTERSOS

39. Islamic Development and Relief Agency

40. Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW)

41. Joint Aid Management International – JAM

42. Lutheran World Federation – LWF

43. Medair

44. MENTOR Initiative

45. Mercy Corps – MC

46. Mines Advisory Group – MAG

47. Mission Aviation – MAF

48. Nile Sustainable Development Organisation

49. Nonviolent Peaceforce

50. Norwegian Church Aid – NCA

51. Norwegian Peoples Aid

52. Norwegian Refugee Council – NRC

53. Organismo di Volontariato per la Cooperazione Internazionale – OVCI

54. Oxfam

55. Plan South Sudan

56. Plan UK

57. Polish Humanitarian Action – PAH

58. Populations Services International

59. Relief International

60. Rights for Peace
61. Saferworld
62. Samaritan Purse
63. Save the Children International
64. Smile Again Africa Development Organization – SAADO
65. SCIAF
66. Solidarités International
67. South Sudan Grassroots Initiative for Development
68. Stichting SPARK – SPARK
69. Street Children Ministry
70. Sudan Evangelical Mission – SEM
71. Sudan Peace and Education Development Program
72. TearFund
73. The Carter Centre
74. The Rescue Mission
75. Titi Foundation
76. Veterinarians Without Borders – Canada
77. VSF Germany
78. War Child Holland
79. Women for Change
80. World Concern Development Organization – WCDO
81. World Conservation Society – WCS
82. World Relief

83. World Vision International – WVI

84. World Vision UK

85. Youth Empowerment Organisation

The statement is supported by the South Sudan NGO Forum. The South Sudan NGO Forum comprises 120 international NGOs and over 400 national NGOs providing assistance to the people of South Sudan regardless of ethnic background, political affiliation or religious belief to save lives and improve lives.

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Press Contacts

1. **Jonaid Jilani**

Jonaid Jilani

jonaid.jilani@islamic-relief.org.uk

07872 403 534

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Islamic Relief

Newsroom: <https://mediapigeon.io/newsroom/islamic-relief>

Website: <https://www.islamic-relief.org/>

Primary Email: info@islamic-relief.org.uk

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