



welt
hunger
hilfe

For a world without hunger



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

SOUTH SUDAN

250 STAFF MEMBERS WORKED IN

5 STATES
IMPLEMENTING

27 PROJECTS IN 2021
WITH EUR

46.91 MILLION IN FUNDING
ALLOWING US TO SUPPORT

799,507 PEOPLE
WITH

1 GOAL TO ACHIEVE:

ZERO HUNGER

WELTHUNGERHILFE (WHH) IN SOUTH SUDAN

WHAT WE WANT

Welthungerhilfe's Vision	4
Interview with Country Director for South Sudan	5

WHAT WE ACHIEVE

Project Map and Figures	6
Humanitarian Assistance: Mitigating Crises	8
Sustainable Resilience: Boosting Resilience	10
Focus WASH: Empowerment through Knowledge	12
2021: Highlights of the Year	14

DONORS AND PARTNERS



OUR VISION

A world in which all people can exercise their right to a self-determined life in dignity and justice, free from hunger and poverty.

WHO WE ARE

Welthungerhilfe (WHH) is one of the largest private aid organizations in Germany and has no political or religious affiliations. It was one of the first global initiatives to defeat hunger when it was founded in 1962 as the German chapter of the Freedom From Hunger campaign, which was led by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

WHAT WE DO

We work on the principle of help for self-help: from rapid disaster relief to reconstruction and long-term development cooperation projects with local partners, we provide assistance based on the needs of people we work with and their context. In 2021, we supported nearly 800,000 people in South Sudan through 27 projects in five states.

HOW WE WORK

Globally, we follow the principle of providing help for self-help to sustainably improve people's living conditions. We work with local partner organizations to reinforce structures from the bottom up in order to ensure that projects are successful in the long term. We also inform the public and take on an advisory role to influence policies, both nationally and internationally. This is how we fight to address the causes of hunger and poverty. We share a common goal with many others active in development cooperation: to enable local populations to become fully self-reliant so that, one day, development cooperation will no longer be necessary.

HOW WE ARE FINANCED

Private donors provide the foundation for our work. Their donations allow us to receive additional funds from public donors such as the German federal government, the European Union, and the United Nations. In 2021, revenue from institutional and private donors for our program in South Sudan came to EUR 46.91 million. Globally, the revenue from donations amounted to EUR 77.5 million and institutional grants to EUR 229.4 million.

WITHSTANDING SHOCKS



In 2021 the youngest country in the world saw a further deterioration in the already dire humanitarian situation. Social and political instability due to violence and a series of internal and external shocks, including conflict, unprecedented flooding, inflation, and the impact and economic weight of COVID-19 drove more people into hunger and hampered initial success of development in various fields. Ania Okinczyc, Welthungerhilfe's country director for South Sudan comments on these developments and the effects it has on our work in the following interview.

Last year, South Sudan experienced unprecedented flooding. The effects of climate change are evident. How far has this affected your work and how do you try to mitigate impacts of climate change in your work?

Ania Okinczyc: Our projects in Rubkona County were particularly affected by the floods. 90 % of smallholder households that we supported there lost their fields and crops and had to leave their homes. This has undermined some of the successes that we were able to achieve together with the communities in the previous years. Nevertheless, the farmers that were participating in the self-organized saving groups under our projects, with the financial reserves, were able to compensate for their harvest losses and invest in new gardens. To better protect the communities from weather shocks, we put a lot of emphasis on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). The communities form and manage DRR committees and through us invest in infrastructure measures such as construction of dikes and wells. In emergency situations, we assist affected and displaced households with cash, hygiene, and shelter items, and fishing equipment.

2021 saw a deterioration in the already dire humanitarian situation causing more people being depended on humanitarian aid. What approaches are you taking to increase people's resilience towards shocks and reduce aid dependency?

Ania Okinczyc: We train farmers in improved natural resource management and aim to change behavior away from practic-

es that negatively impact the environment as well as building knowledge on climate change adaptation and disaster risk management. In the future, we will also place an emphasis on early warning and early action through weather forecasting by implementing early warning systems through the DRR committees that will improve preparedness. This in turn will enable smallholder households to better prepare their land for seasonal cropping, thereby increasing their harvests and food security. Economic development also plays an essential role in improving people's self-sufficiency. Therefore, we promote the economic prospects of young people and women by providing vocational trainings along the agricultural value chain and income-generating activities. Whenever we carry out emergency projects, we link them to our development activities - e.g., families we support with food distribution also receive seeds and agricultural tools to motivate them to cultivate their own gardens.

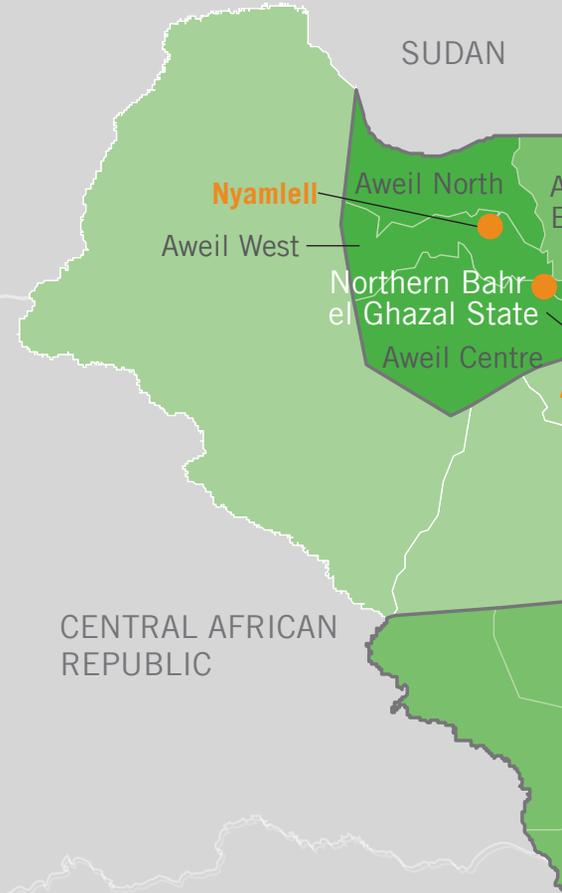
Protracted conflict, COVID-19 and the effects of climate change affect the youngest country severely. What can the humanitarian community contribute for stability and peace to prevail in the country?

Ania Okinczyc: More funding will be needed for crisis prevention, development of infrastructure and social security systems to create a sustainable and resilient communities. However, South Sudan is seeing a further decrease in humanitarian funding while needs are increasing. Access to more flexible and diversified use of funds to enable adaptive programming that responds to changes in the local context are crucial. We need to stop working in silos, which leads to only humanitarian, only development, or only peace projects. We need to advocate for a stronger commitment to peace, as well as a commitment to development and resilience. Investing in DRR and preparedness is key as extreme weather events are no longer the exception but are becoming the norm and jeopardizing successes.

WHAT WE ACHIEVE

Since the country's independence in 2011, Welthungerhilfe (WHH) has implemented 95 projects to the tune of more than EUR 350 million.

Through its 27 projects in five states Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Western, Central and Eastern Equatoria, Welthungerhilfe supported nearly 800,000 people—men, women, boys and girls—in 2021 alone. In real terms that means: many people can now feed themselves better through food assistance, agricultural and economic activities. They now have access to hygiene items, clean drinking water and toilets in schools and public places. For girls and women, Welthungerhilfe promotes menstrual hygiene management which is an integral part of our WASH in schools program and our community level work.



IN SOUTH SUDAN

5 states

799,507

people supported

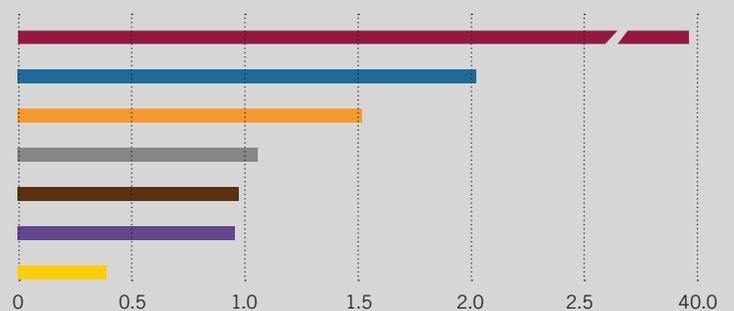
27 projects

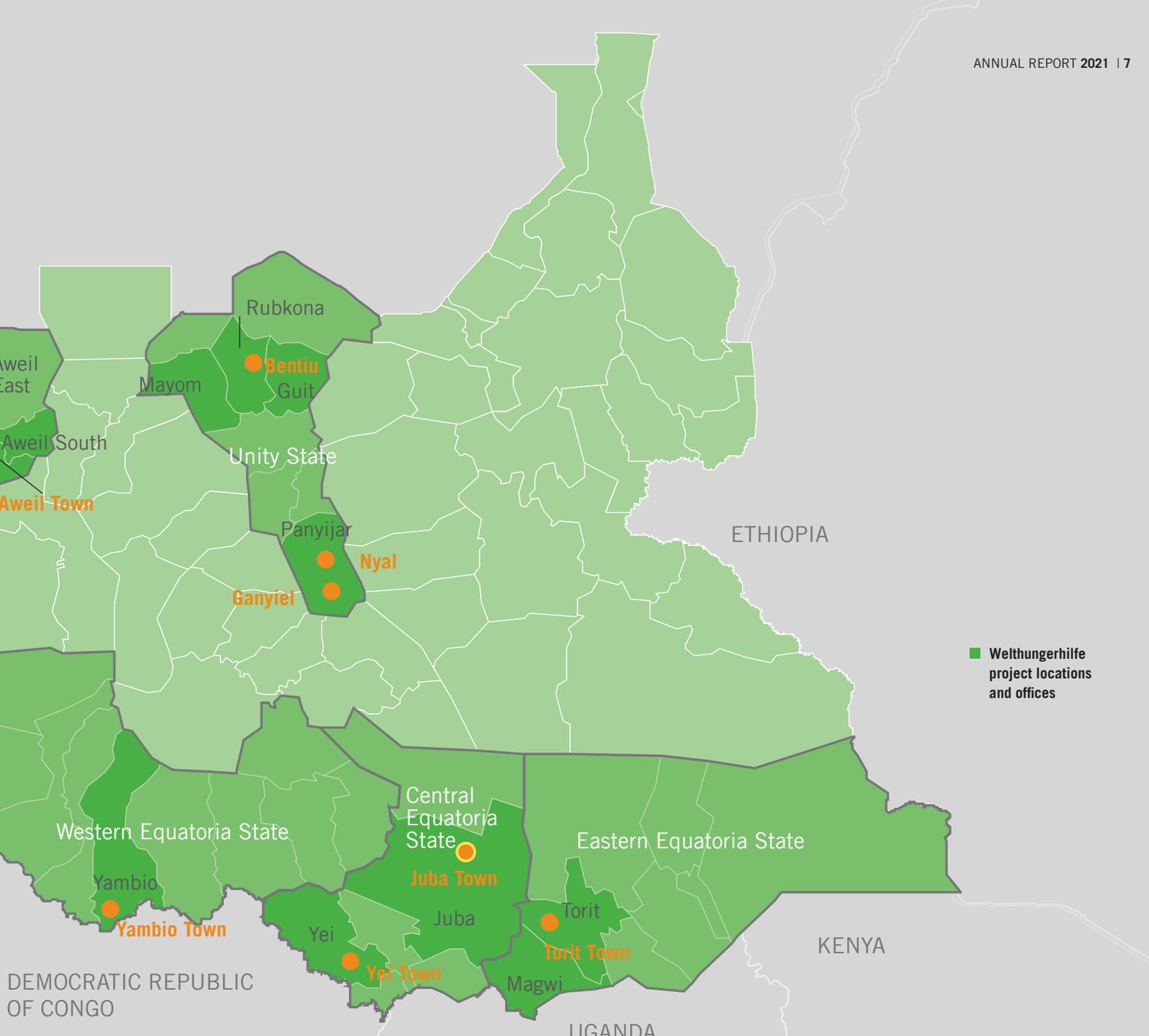
EUR 46.91 million in funding

TOTAL FUNDING BY SECTOR: 46.91 €

(in millions of EUR)

■ Humanitarian Assistance
 ■ Agriculture and Environment
 ■ Nutrition
 ■ Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
 ■ Economic Development
 ■ Civil Society, Empowerment
 ■ Miscellaneous

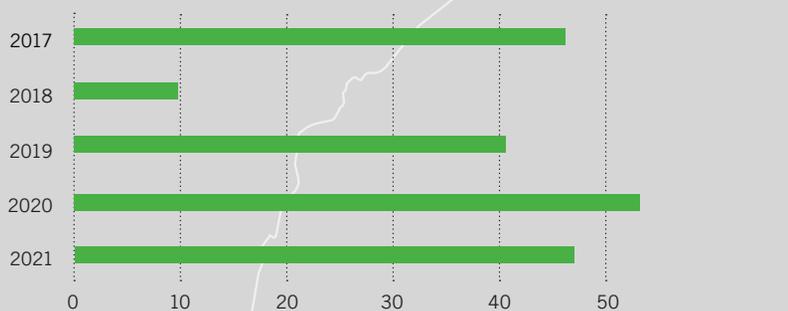




■ Welthungerhilfe project locations and offices

FUNDING OVER TIME

(in millions of EUR)



PROJECTS OVER TIME



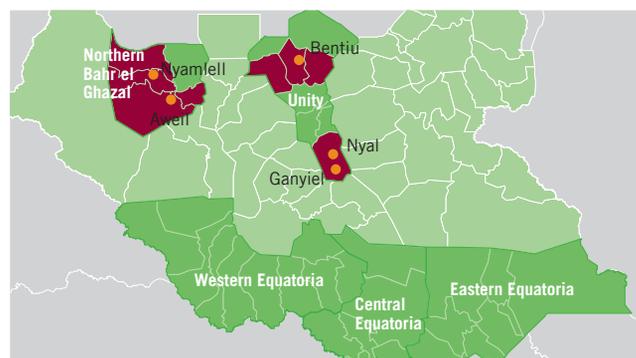


MITIGATING CRISES

In 2021, South Sudan experienced unprecedented flooding for the third consecutive year, affecting more than 830,000 people. The cumulative effects of natural disasters, armed violence, conflict, political instability, lack of social cohesion, economic crises, and years of asset erosion contributed to large-scale population displacement and peaked numbers of people living in severe food insecurity since the country's independence.

INITIAL SITUATION The world youngest country has been suffering from conflict, economic crisis, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic which have all remained key drivers of humanitarian needs. Protracted conflict has led to a perpetual state of humanitarian crisis with 8.9 million people or 75 percent of South Sudan's population in need of humanitarian assistance; 53 percent of those are children. As a result, 1.4 million people are displaced within the country and further 2.3 million South Sudanese were forced to flee to neighboring countries. Over the past years, South Sudan has increasingly suffered from the effects of climate change, leading to increased rainfall and more severe and widespread flooding, affecting between 750,000 and more than one million people each year. People lose their livelihoods and are forced to leave their homes behind in search of higher and dry ground. Last year's flooding has been described as the worst in 60 years affecting more than 830,000 people across eight out of ten states. The forecasts for this year do not indicate any change for the better.

WHAT WELTHUNGERHILFE IS DOING With the humanitarian situation still deteriorating in most parts of South Sudan and hunger at its highest level since the young country's independence, humanitarian assistance is a mainstay of our programmatic work, supporting more than 597,800 people. Besides our long-standing partnership with the UN World Food Programme (WFP) through which we are able to support 483,420 people through lifesaving assistance in form of food and cash across two states, we mobilized funds to support communities whose livelihoods have been washed away by the flood. Entire communities were displaced overnight and were forced to leave everything behind – destroyed farms, homes and businesses. Their livestock, weakened by lack of food and days of wandering in the water, often did not survive the days-long search for



Programme focal points*



Project locations Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Unity States

Total funding in 2021 EUR 39,623,079

Projects in 2021 9

Institutional donors GFFO, SSHF, WFP

People supported 597,839

higher ground. Spontaneous camps emerged in the yet dry area of Rubkona county, and people were in urgent need of support as they had lost everything. Through our Emergency Fund Pool, we provide cash assistance and shelter materials to the most vulnerable families. Additionally, through the support and flexibility of the German Federal Foreign Office, we were able to adapt our ongoing project in Panyijar county to the needs of flood affected communities through restoring their livelihoods. We provided cash assistance and fishing kits but also covered their most urgent hygiene needs through the distribution of hygiene materials. In total we supported more than 508,160 people as part of our flood response and the extension of food distributions.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE Although there has been a decrease in large-scale hostilities since the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) in September 2018, localized violence has persisted in many pockets of the country and the upcoming elections might trigger further tensions. Inter-communal and livestock related violence have been widespread, threatening to reverse some of the gains made in South Sudan. With another year of predicate heavy rainfalls and parts of South Sudan still flooded from last year's flood, people will again be in need of humanitarian assistance. Therefore, we will continue to support people with food, cash, hygiene and shelter materials. But, whenever possible, we link our emergency assistance with our resilience projects so that people become less dependent on humanitarian aid in the long term. ■

OUR COMMITMENT HAS NEVER BEEN STRONGER

Farai Mutibvu is Welthungerhilfe's emergency coordinator for South Sudan



"It was already clear at the beginning of 2021 that the ongoing pandemic, conflicts and economic hardship would continue. In the middle of 2021, the effects of climate change were added, which only exacerbated the suffering of the population. However, the commitment of our staff allowed us to con-

tinue supporting vulnerable communities in very difficult conditions. The post crisis period is still a long way off, life-saving support and livelihood revival assistance remain vital elements of our programming."

Learn more at:

www.welthungerhilfe.org



BOOSTING RESILIENCE

The living conditions of people in South Sudan continue to deteriorate. The effects of ongoing conflict and instability, Covid-19, and climate change are having a severe impact on people's livelihoods. The focus must be on strengthening the resilience of people's livelihoods so they are less vulnerable to shocks and can build on their successes.

INITIAL SITUATION Eleven years after independence, the living conditions of the people in South Sudan continue to deteriorate. South Sudan is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world. Four out of five people live below the international poverty line. The effects of ongoing conflict and instability, Covid-19, and climate change are having a severe impact on people's livelihoods. The pandemic has severely impacted the economy as a result of the drastic drop in oil prices, exacerbating people's vulnerability and having long-term implications for economic growth and development. About 80 percent of the total population lives in rural areas, and subsistence agriculture remains the main source of income for the vast majority of the population. Climate change continues to affect the agricultural sector and people's sources of income in particular.

WHAT WELTHUNGERHILFE IS DOING Our program aims to improve the food and nutrition security of vulnerable households, focusing particularly on female-headed households, as they are often among the most vulnerable members of the community and bear the burden of providing for their families. Through our program and interlinked approaches, we create and strengthen the economic prospects of women and youth by helping them access new income opportunities through trainings and in-kind support. In Northern Bahr el Ghazal, we provide women with locally-made ovens and baking starter kits, so they can easily increase their production and sell their products to the local market, and earn a better income. Since the lack of vocational training and employment opportunities is a major problem for young people, we provide artisan workshops with the help of local trainers. Youth are trained in blacksmithing, given their own start-up equipment, and taught to make donkey plows, a highly sought-after agricultural tool, so that they

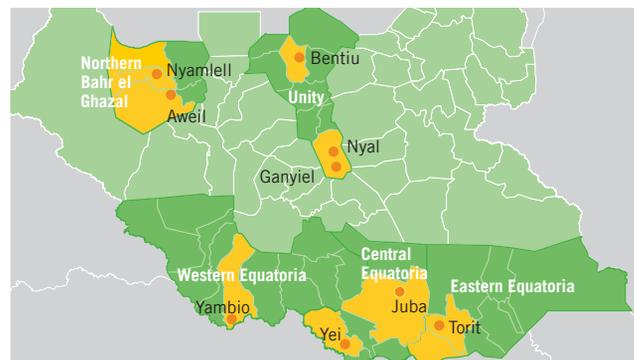


WE MUST NOT LOSE MOMENTUM

Carolin Schmidt is Welthungerhilfe's head of programs for South Sudan

"We and the communities were able to achieve many positive results, especially in the area of agricultural development and financial security. Although the flood swept away many of the successes, there are some things that people can build

on - such as more knowledge in agriculture and their savings. But it's going to take a big motivational push to get back from the crisis. We need to hold on to the successes and keep going."



Programme focal points*



Project locations

Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Greater Equatoria and Unity States

Total funding in 2021

EUR 3,486,147

Projects in 2021

10

Institutional donors

BMZ, GIZ, WFP, EUTF through WFP

People supported

118,529

can pursue employment and at the same time help local farmers increase their productivity. This in turn increases food security for farmers and the local population. In Unity, Eastern Equatoria and Northern Bahr el Ghazal states, we work together with smallholder farmers living in rural communities where we foster organic agriculture and climate-adapted methodologies to increase farmers productivity as well as efficiency. Furthermore, we link farmers to market systems where they can sell their surplus crops which contributes to their economic development. In all our project locations, we promote cooperation and the establishment of Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs) in order to strengthen the financial literacy and to support community members build and expand their businesses and become more self-sufficient.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE Despite the severe impact of the floods and the Covid-19 pandemic, supported households and communities have been better able to withstand the shocks and reinvest in their activities through a combination of improved entrepreneurial skills and improved agricultural technologies. However, at the peak of the lean season in 2022, severe food insecurity is expected. In particular, the effects of climate change will lead to a further decline in agricultural productivity, on which the majority of the population depends for their livelihoods. Sustainable natural resource management and disaster risk reduction will remain an integral part in our agriculture approaches. We will continue to strengthen the resilience of communities and their capacity to adapt to climate change to avoid compromising their socioeconomic development and food security. ■

Learn more at:
www.welthungerhilfe.org



EMPOWERMENT THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Lack of discussion and misinformation about hygiene and sexual maturity has a lasting impact on social and economic levels for the majority of women and adolescent girls in South Sudan. Breaking taboos such as talking about menstruation, as well as addressing false perceptions, is key to empowering girls and women and overcoming stigma.

INITIAL SITUATION The lack of discussion about sexual maturation and misinformation result in the majority of girls in South Sudan having very limited or incorrect knowledge about their bodies and safe menstrual hygiene management (MHM). The general public perception of menstruating girls and women has lasting effects on their education and livelihoods. Often, girls and women are viewed as unclean while menstruating, which prevents them from going to school or working. In addition, access to safe menstrual products is a major challenge. As an emergency measure, girls and women use rags, absorbent cotton, leaves, tree bark, or scraps of cloth. The consequences can be fatal as poor sanitary hygiene can lead to severe infections. In South Sudan, where violent conflicts or disasters have become the norm, girls and women also have to deal with the challenges of lack of access to sanitation and privacy.

WHAT WELTHUNGERHILFE IS DOING Through a context-sensitive and participatory approach to menstrual health education, we aim to improve gender equality and increase access to education for girls and women in South Sudan. Through trainings and events, we raise awareness about menstruation among communities, teachers, and local ministries related to health and education, and seek to end period stigma. To address the lack of sanitation and privacy children face in school, we have built gender-segregated and safe EcoSan toilets in 26 schools in our project areas in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Great Equatoria, and Unity states. For girls these toilets include a bathroom where they can take a shower and wash their menstrual products. To change hygiene behaviors in a fun and engaging way, we are establishing *WASH School Clubs* in various schools. We dis-

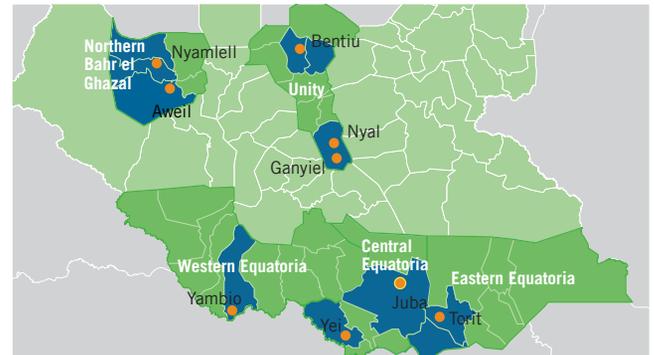
EDUCATION IS KEY TO END PERIOD STIGMA

Nyadin is the representative of Bentiu's Women and Youth Union



“We need to educate teachers, mothers, fathers that menstruation isn't anything bad. Education on good menstrual hygiene management ensures that my fellow women can manage their monthly menstruation safe-

ly, hygienically and without shame. It will help preserve the dignity of women and girls and empower them socially and economically, which in turn will help address the crises we face.”



Programme focal points*



Project locations	Unity, Greater Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal States
Total funding in 2021	2,167,153
Projects in 2021	7
Institutional donors	GFFO, BMZ, GIZ through BMZ

tributed so-called Dignity Kits, which contain reusable sanitary napkins, underwear, soap, and flashlights, to nearly 10,000 adolescent girls and women, as menstrual products are often unavailable or unaffordable. In Rubkona, Unity State, we have taken a further step, working with the community and local ministries for several months to raise awareness about periods and introduce a new way of managing menstruation. In addition to providing the usual menstrual hygiene materials, we trained women in menstrual hygiene management and the use of menstrual cups. Our most daring and sensitive project that we have launched has also been our biggest and most resounding success: 87% of the women we trained in menstrual cup use are now confidently using them and spreading the benefits of the cup to their peer groups and families. Cups represent a sustainable and durable alternative to the usual pads as the latter are often not available in remote areas, but still need to be bought regularly. Even reusable pads tend to develop odor over time, as soap is often missing for cleaning.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE Access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is a human right and a prerequisite for fighting hunger and poverty. Therefore, our WASH in Schools program and MHM interventions will remain an integral part of our community level work across all our project areas. We will continue our efforts in working with communities and local authorities to end period stigma and provide education to girls, women, boys, and men about menstruation and the female body by acknowledging the sensitivity of the topic and ensuring our approach is dignified, contextualized, and accepted. ■

Learn more at:
www.welthungerhilfe.org

2021 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



FLOOD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Manuok Darok, 58, is a member of the dike committee in Ganyiel. During the last three years of consecutive and unprecedented flooding, he, his family, and community members were displaced and lost their entire livelihoods in the water. In 2021, Manuok and his community members began with the construction of a dike to protect their homes from submerged again.

"We have a strong dike now. It already protected us from the floods last year. I truly believe that this year I will be able to cultivate my land again without fear of being displaced."

FARMERS PULLING TOGETHER

39 years old Moses Nichaidal from Rubkona is elected leader of a farmer group consisting of 25 farmers. The groups join together with the aim of increasing their profits and savings.

"By farming together, we are able to better support our children because we can afford school fees and supplies. But we're also able to cover other expenses that we couldn't before. We stick together - as a working community, but also in terms of our savings. This allows us to expand our farm, invest in new machinery or businesses."



BETTER PREPARED FOR CRISES

42 years old Elisabeth invested her savings in opening a new restaurant. Not her original plan, yet the restaurant helps her, in the midst of a catastrophic flood that submerged her livelihood in Pakur, to continue earning money and thus provide for her family.

"The money we saved helped us to cope with this crisis. We were able to buy food, clothes and plastic sheets to build as shelter. Most of our 25 group members are even starting up their businesses here in Rubkona. It is a challenge, but we will not be discouraged!"



RIVERS AS SOURCE OF INCOME

“Many communities depend on agricultural production, however, most of their crops and gardens have been submerged and thus families lost their livelihoods. Fisheries have real economic potential for Northern Bahr el Ghazal state and can be an additional source of income – also for farming families”, says Paulino Akoon. He is an Agricultural Field Officer with Welthungerhilfe in Northern Bahr el Ghazal.

PAVING THE ROAD TO END PERIOD STIGMA

“When I have my cup, I don’t feel embarrassed thinking that my clothes might get stained”

Nyebaka Gatphan is 25 years old and lives in Rubkona. She is one of the women who received a training on menstrual hygiene management for the first time and is proudly adopting the idea of using menstrual cups.



CREATING AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE FOR YOUTH

John Garang from Aweil North is 21 years old and learned the art of ironwork at a young age from his father. Now he trains young people himself and shows them how to make donkey plows. A product in demand by local farmers.

“This generation needs employment and must learn to take responsibility in order to break out of poverty and crime. I am proud to be able to show them the right way.”

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