



UPDATE REPORT ON SECOND HAND CLOTHES DISTRIBUTION, SOUTH SUDAN



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Background:

In 2025, LWF South Sudan received a donation of 108 bales of second-hand clothes from a partner in Japan, Suguru Matsuki, to support vulnerable communities affected by floods, conflict, and displacement, including Sudanese refugees. The consignment was sorted and stored in the LWF central warehouse in Bor South County, Jonglei State, with distribution already underway in Bor South and planned for Twic East and Duk counties. In Upper Nile (Renk and Maban) State, LWF is waiting for support from the logistics clusters to ensure safe delivery of the consignment by road, especially with conflict flaring on route, in Northern Jonglei State. In Eastern Equatoria (Magwi) LWF is currently negotiating with local transporters to minimize transport cost to delivery point. In Jonglei State, distribution to some vulnerable communities has been delayed due to floods that disrupted road access and caused mass displacement into lowland and highland settlement areas in Duk and Twic East counties.

Humanitarian crisis in South Sudan:

Current conflict: As of 3 February, conflict has sharply escalated across South Sudan following renewed fighting since late December 2025. In Jonglei State, clashes between the SSPDF and SPLM-IO continue in Uror, Nyirol, Akobo, Duk, Ayod, and Canal/Pigi counties, causing daily civilian casualties and new waves of displacement.

To date, an overall 280,000 people are displaced because of the Jonglei conflict with more than 235,000 people displaced across Jonglei State following renewed fighting and airstrikes since 29 December 2025, according to the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC). Insecurity and access constraints have prevented comprehensive needs assessments in most displacement locations. Reported displacement includes 105,400 people in Uror, 57,200 in Nyirol, 27,000 in Duk, 17,000 in Ayod, 11,800 in Akobo, 8,000 in Twic East, 4,068 in Canal/Pigi, and 4,300 in Bor South counties, placing severe strain on host communities and already overstretched basic services. Urgent, unhindered access is required to reach people sheltering in the open with minimal assistance.

Floods: Flooding in Jonglei State, South Sudan has become a recurring humanitarian crisis, compounding the effects of conflict and displacement. At least 135,313 people were displaced in Jonglei due to severe flooding, according to humanitarian assessments. Seasonal rains and climate change have intensified flood patterns, leading to widespread destruction of homes, farmland, and infrastructure. In recent years, floods have displaced tens of thousands of people, forcing communities into temporary settlements on higher grounds. Floods have disrupted road access, delayed aid delivery, and worsened food insecurity. Many displaced families face limited access to clean water, sanitation, and health services, heightening risks of cholera and other waterborne diseases.

Refugee crisis: The Sudan war spillover into South Sudan has become one of the most pressing humanitarian crises in the region. Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, South Sudan has received a massive influx of refugees and returnees, approximately 571,066 Sudanese refugees are already straining already fragile systems. Border towns like Renk (Upper Nile) are

overwhelmed, with transit centers overcrowded with Women and children make up most arrivals, facing heightened protection risks. Services (food, shelter, health, WASH) are overstretched, requiring urgent scale-up

Second hand clothes donation to vulnerable populations: Following the donation of 124 bales of second-hand clothes received from LWF Partner in Japan (Suguru Matsuki), LWF identified the most vulnerable communities to benefit from this support. The following processes were undertaken.

Storage and Sorting

- Verification of bales in the warehouse: Prior to distribution, LWF verified and validated the total number of bales (Secondhand clothes) in Bor warehouse. A total of 108 bales of second-hand clothes were verified in Bor warehouse.
- Allocation per state: The LWF joint planning team, led by the Protection and Social Cohesion Officer, ensured equitable distribution of the 108 bales of second-hand clothes donated by LWF's partner in Japan, Suguru Matsuki. To maximize impact and reach the most vulnerable communities within LWF's operational areas, the bales were divided equally across targeted static locations. As a result, each location received 22 bales, guaranteeing that refugees, flood- and conflict-affected households, including women, children, and other at-risk groups, benefit from the assistance.

State	County	Allocation (Bales)	Target	Status
Jonglei	Bor South	22	IDPs (Conflict)	Completed
	Twic East	21	IDPs (Flood +conflict)	Planned for 16-20 February
	Duk	21	IDPs (Flood +conflict)	Planned for 16-20 February
Easter Equatoria	Magwi	22	Returnees and host	Planned – awaiting confirmation for transport to field location
Upper Nile	Renk	22	Refugees, Returnees	Planned – awaiting confirmation for transport to field location

Identification of vulnerable communities (Targeting): Vulnerability assessments were conducted in flood- and conflict-affected areas, prioritizing households with women, children, elderly, and persons with disabilities. Particularly in Bor South, IDPs impacted by the current conflict living within the IDP camps in baidit center, Borstadium, Taragook, Kondai 1 and two were targeted. After beneficiary registration, verification was conducted to ensure the list is accurate, and assistance goes to the most vulnerable targeted individuals.

Community mobilization and sensitization: on 2nd and 3rd of February 2026, Led by LWF's Protection and Social Cohesion Officer together with the Cash Officer, LWF mobilized internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Bor South County and sensitized them on the source and benefits of the second-hand clothes donation received from the partner in Japan, Suguru Matsuki. During the meeting, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) expressed gratitude to LWF and the donor for their care and support to the people, particularly more than 4,300 IDPs currently impacted by the ongoing conflict. LWF emphasized that second-hand clothes provide essential relief to displaced families by meeting immediate needs for dignity and protection, especially for those who fled with few belongings. They help shield vulnerable populations from harsh weather, reduce household expenses, and allow families to redirect scarce resources toward food, shelter, or health care. For women, children, and other at-risk groups, clothing restores a sense of normalcy and dignity while reducing protection risks, while equitable distribution strengthens community cohesion and reduces tensions among displaced and host populations.



A community leader addressing IDPs during sensitization session in Bor South. Photo taken by LWF Cash officer, Chol Yak

Progress on distribution: In Bor south alone, LWF has distributed **3271** pieces of used clothes to **1,166 (204 men, 962 Women)**, including women, children, girls, elderly and people living with disabilities. Each beneficiary received between 2-3 pieces of clothes. The numbers or quantities per households depended on the vulnerability of targeted individuals. To date the following have been distributed per IDP site.

State	County	Payam	IDP site	Quantity-Pcs	Men	Women	Total
Jonglei	Bor South	Baidit	Baidt Centre	280	25	115	140
Jonglei	Bor South	Baidit	Bor Stadium	240	19	90	109
Jonglei	Bor South	Anyidit	Taragook	1530	72	438	510
Jonglei	Bor South	Jalle	Kondai 1&2	1221	88	319	407
Total				3,271	204	962	1,166



A section of IDP women beneficiaries showing second hand clothes donated to them by LWF distributing team: Photo taken by LWF cash Officer-Nguakak Pacho in Bor Town.

Lessons learnt from this activity or support:

- ✓ Community Sensitization is Key, Mobilizing and informing IDPs about the source and purpose of the donation increased transparency and appreciation, while reinforcing accountability
- ✓ Coordination with Authorities Enhances Trust: Involving the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) and local leaders fostering ownership and gratitude.
- ✓ Targeting Vulnerable Groups Maximizes Impact: Prioritizing women, children, elderly, and persons with disabilities ensured that the most at-risk populations benefited directly.
- ✓ Logistical Challenges Require Flexibility: Floods and poor road access delayed distribution in some counties, highlighting the need for contingency planning and alternative delivery routes.
- ✓ Monitoring Strengthens Accountability: Documenting beneficiaries and tracking distribution improved transparency and helped ensure assistance reached intended recipients.
- ✓ Oversize outfits: Some beneficiaries could not use oversized clothes because sizes did not match their body types. This highlighted the need for better sorting and categorization of clothes by size and age group before distribution to ensure all recipients receive items that fit them.

Challenges

- Flooding limiting access, logistics and transportation to hard-to-reach areas.
- Limited financial resources to cater for transportation costs from Juba to Bor warehouse and from Bor to other field locations.
- High demand for secondhand clothes raising higher community expectations

Next Steps

- Transporting and distribution of 33 bales in Twic East and Duk county from 16th to 20th February 2026
- Transportation and distribution of 22 bales in Magwi, 22 Bales Renk and 26 Bales in Jonglei
- Submission of final report by 15th March 2026