# WHY WE'RE STANDING UNITED WITH THE CHILDREN OF SOUTH SUDAN

Children danced and celebrated in the streets of South Sudan when the country gained independence in 2011. But seven years on, these children's hopes and dreams have turned to despair as famine, drought and civil war robs them of the future they'd dreamed of. This 40 Hour Famine we're standing united with them.

# Why South Sudan?

South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011. This was the outcome of a 2005 peace deal negotiated at the end of a 22-year civil war within Sudan.



Together we can stand united with the children of South Sudan and help restart their futures. Thank you for being part of this year's 40 Hour Famine!

In 2013, South Sudan's government coalition collapsed with a rift growing between the President and Vice President, who represented different political parties and ethnic groups. This erupted into a conflict along ethnic lines which quickly splintered into various factions and armed groups - killing, injuring and displacing millions of people.

Conflict has been ongoing since 2013, despite signing a peace agreement in 2015. South Sudan is now the most fragile state in the world.

## Who is affected?

#### 4 million people have been forced from their homes

More than 2.1 million people are refugees and have crossed borders out of South Sudan to seek safety in neighbouring countries: Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Uganda has an open border policy for refugees and hosts approximately one million South Sudan refugees, with 61 per cent of them being children.

There are 1.9 million internally-displaced people who have sought safety in other parts of South Sudan. Many of them have moved into the north-western states. More than 200,000 people have sought security in Protection of Civilians sites, safe places for internally-displaced people located inside United Nations bases.

At these sites more than 82% of people are women or children.





#### 7.6 million people need humanitarian assistance

The conflict has destroyed 50 per cent of harvests and severe drought means families cannot grow enough food. Food deliveries cannot get through because it is too dangerous, causing food prices to increase rapidly, and leading to inflation of more than 180 per cent a year. In some states of South Sudan, famine was declared for part of 2017, the first famine anywhere in the world since 2010. By the end of 2017, 4.8 million people were hungry.

At least 7.6 million people need help from aid organisations like World Vision. People lack basic human rights such as water, sanitation and shelter. Many violations of human rights and international law have been reported to the United Nations, including exploitation of children, violence against women and girls, and sexual violence.

## **Fast Facts**

- SouthSudan's population stands at 12.2 million
- 4 million people have been forced from their homes
- 2.1 million people are refugees in neighbouring countries
- More than 7 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection
- 51% of all South Sudanese refugees are in Uganda
- 61% of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda are children
- 82% of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda are women or children
- There are now more refugees in the world than at any time in recorded history. More than half of these refugees are children.

#### **40 Hour Famine support**

Money raised in the 2018 40 Hour Famine will go towards supporting children and their families with nutritious food, clean water, safe toilets, education, a place to live, and a place to play in child-friendly spaces. As well as providing emergency response items such as water and essential food and non-food items, World Vision is planning for rehabilitation, resilience and self-reliance through a strategy of helping communities establish agriculture, learn vocational skills and access credit to establish small businesses.





# STANDING UNITED WITH THE CHILDREN OF SOUTH SUDAN

# **World Vision's Work**

# Child-friendly spaces

Child-friendly spaces give children a sense of safety and stability amidst overwhelming experiences that no young person should go through. These spaces are also important in keeping children away from dangerous places and protecting them from potential exploitation or abuse. These spaces help to meet their needs within a safe environment that invites trust. They're safe, supportive learning environments where kids have access to arts, sports, education and counselling so they can start to heal from any trauma they may have experienced during conflict or war and learn to be children again.

#### Child-friendly spaces give children and young people the opportunity to:

- Learn literacy and numeracy skills, life skills, child rights and health education to deal with hygiene and safety risks
- Express their feelings through role-plays, dance, talking and cultural activities that help them begin to understand they are not alone, and their peers are going through similar struggles
- Find out important information about what is happening around them, so they can regain a sense of control in their lives
- Be looked after while parents focus on trying to gather and provide life's essentials amid difficult circumstances. It's also a place for parents to meet and support each other
- Be registered and reunited with family members if they've been separated
- Begin the journey to recover and reach their full potential.

# **Food and Cash Assistance**

## Funds raised will help World Vision support refugees with:

- High energy biscuits at border points
- Hot meal for new arrivals at reception centres
- Distribute food basics, including salt, vegetable oil, cereals and pulses in refugee settlements
- Distribute small cash amounts to refugees so they can secure essentials.





# **Core relief items**

Funds raised will help World Vision support refugees with:

Core relief items, including mosquito nets, soap, plastic basins for washing, kitchen sets (pot, pans, cutlery etc), gardening equipment, solar lights, blankets, sleeping mats and shelter materials

# **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

Funds raised will help World Vision support refugees with:

- Toilets for people with disabilities, as well as tools and implements for others to build their own
- Water containers so people can safely carry and store water
- Training teachers and community members on good hygiene and sanitation practices
- Women's sanitary kits with underwear, soap and reusable pads.

# **Child Protection**

Funds raised will help World Vision support refugees with:

- Case Management: At risk children are monitored and children from child-headed households, foster families or families with special needs are assisted at food distribution points to access food rations.
- Peace club sessions, including sports competitions to encourage peaceful co-habitation.

# Livelihoods

Funds raised will help World Vision support refugees with:

- Income generation activities for young people and women, including skills training and resources to create business opportunities
- Skills training programmes for young people to improve their employment opportunities
- Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLA), and helping new savings groups open bank accounts
- Farming implements including gardens tools to improve household food security.



Parents, teachers and students can download classroom resources about complex emergencies for free at worldvision.org.nz/connect/resources







# How your fundraising creates impact

- \$2 Can ensure children remain healthy by providing soap for proper hygiene
- \$8 Can restore dignity to women with monthly sanitary supplies
- \$10 Can give the gift of education to five children with school supplies
- \$20 Can help a family safely carry and store water with two large, clean containers
- \$24 Can help provide toys, puzzles and games for 10 children in child-friendly spaces
- \$60 Can provide essentials to an unaccompanied child, and the support of a community care worker
- \$120 Can feed a family for an entire month
- \$200 Can fund an 'essentials kit' for a newly arrived family (Blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito net, kitchen kits, soap and water containers)
- \$200 Cangive a family somewhere to live with a shelter kit
- \$250 Can give the gift of safe drinking water to a family
- \$320 Can protect and care for 30 unaccompanied children with a community care worker
- \$420 Can build a toilet block for four newly arrived families
- \$50,000 Can build an entire classroom block so 200 children can learn and receive counselling.



#### Find fundraising resources at famine.org.nz



Thanks to you, funds raised in this year's 40 Hour Famine will be used to create child-friendly spaces. These are safe spaces where children have the opportunity to be children again; to laugh, play, learn, and share their stories with friends.