
SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan remains one of the poorest and most fragile countries in the world. Protracted armed conflict and ethnic violence, widespread human rights violations and rapid economic decline have continued to increase humanitarian and development needs in recent years. South Sudan ranks 181st out of 188 countries on the UNDP's 2016 Human Development Index.

Health indicators are among the worst in the world and the literacy rate among adults is only 27%. Food production has collapsed and food insecurity and malnutrition have reached unprecedented levels. More than one in three people in South Sudan are now thought to be severely food insecure.

Women and girls face particular challenges, including significant levels of sexual and gender-based violence and an extremely high maternal mortality rate. A woman in South Sudan has an approximately one in seven chance of dying in childbirth.

Global Affairs Canada's South Sudan development program is focused on meeting the basic needs of the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly women and girls. This includes support for the delivery of gender-sensitive basic health services, with a focus on the needs and rights of women and girls. It also includes support for efforts to increase local food production, improve livelihoods and strengthen resilience to hunger.



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