

January–June 2026

**South Sudan**

Facts and Figures

During the first half of 2026, civilians increasingly bore the brunt of the renewed escalation of conflict across South Sudan. Tens of thousands of people have been forced to flee their homes amid intense hostilities while dozens of patients wounded in the fighting remained at risk due to the lack of reliable access to life-saving medical care.

With protection at the core of its response, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continued to carry out its emergency interventions, prioritizing life-saving surgical care for weapon-wounded patients while working to preserve human dignity, restore family links, and protect civilians affected by conflict.

The ICRC continued to help people affected by conflict and violence by reuniting separated families or restoring disrupted family links, searching for missing persons, promoting the dignified management of the dead and helping improve the treatment and living conditions of detainees as well as act, whenever requested, as a neutral intermediary between parties to the conflict in the facilitation of release and transfer of detainees.

A wide range of services was provided, including health care, emergency relief, physical rehabilitation for persons with disabilities, and the restoration of vital infrastructure, such as water supply systems. Conflict affected communities and individuals were informed about available services and criteria, had access to critical, actionable information, and available mechanisms to provide feedback.

Following the continuous influx of people fleeing the conflict in Sudan, the ICRC continued providing life-saving assistance to thousands of Sudanese refugees and South Sudanese returnees.

Most of the ICRC operations in South Sudan are conducted in close partnership with the South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC) strengthening local capacity and ensuring sustained humanitarian impact.

Protecting the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence



20,214 + benefited from

detention visits, phone calls, release and transfer, nutrition, food and non-food items, and access to water aimed to address vulnerabilities, reduce health risks and improve living conditions.

Improving conditions for detainees

- Visited **5,212 detainees** across **13 places** of detention contributing to improved treatment and living conditions in line with international standards.
- Facilitated **9,667 phone calls between detainees** and their families to help maintain family links.
- **Provided cash assistance to 18 detainees** to cover return transportation, food and clothing costs upon release.
- **Improved living conditions for 2,479 detainees** through enhanced access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services including infrastructure renovation or emergency interventions, and donation of essential household items and personal hygiene items.
- **Improved living conditions for 1,590 detainees** by providing non-food items (NFIs) and assorted hygiene supplies to selected military prisons including, the Rumbek Central Prison, and the Wau Central Prison.
- **Supported 1,235 people** through targeted nutrition interventions addressing acute vulnerabilities and reducing health risks.
- **Facilitated the release and transfer of 13 detainees**, ensuring the releases were conducted in a safe, humane, and dignified manner, in line with international standards.
- Supported the National Prison Services of South Sudan (NPSSS) to strengthen institutional capacity by:
 - Conducting one meeting of the Steering Committee on Judicial Guarantees at Juba National Prison.
 - Carried out one registration and sentence management training for **20 NPSSS personnel**.

Protection of family links

- Facilitated **10,678 successful phone calls** (out of which 3,085 were specifically linked to the conflict in Sudan), enabling families separated by conflict, violence and detention to restore and maintain contacts.
- Supported with internet connectivity in Gorom refugee camp, **facilitating the direct telecommunication** of over **243 refugee families** with their loved ones abroad on voice and chat using social media with their personal.
- **Collected 630 and delivered 326 Red Cross Messages (RCM)** to support restore or maintain family links and reconnect relatives with no other available communication means.
- In partnership with the South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC) and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's restoring family links (RFL) network, **documented 184 new cases of missing persons** and clarified the fate and whereabouts of 188 missing people.
- Supported the **training of 162 SSRC volunteers** strengthening local response capacity, enhancing the delivery of effective and timely RFL services.
- Delivered a **9-week psychosocial support programme** for **60 members** of families of the missing in Juba and Bentiu, strengthening peer support and coping among families living with ambiguous loss. As part of the programme, **10 accompaniers** were trained to facilitate the group sessions, strengthening local capacity to provide community-based psychosocial support.



12,293 + benefited from

phone calls, Red Cross Messages (RCM), documentation of cases, clarification of fate and whereabouts of missing, and psychosocial programmes to support restore or maintain family links and reconnect relatives.



A Sudanese refugee speaking to her family for the first time in months during an RFL phone call in Gorom Refugee Camp months after being separated.

Management of the dead

- Conducted five Management of the Dead trainings for **115 participants** including SSRC volunteers, health professionals, CID (Criminal Investigation Department), Department of Police and SSPDF (South Sudan People's Defence Forces) officers, and members of the community strengthening national capacity for the dignified recovery, transport and burial of the dead.
- Delivered three sessions on Management of the Dead during one Training of Trainers and two IHL dissemination workshops for **79 SSPDF officers**.
- Delivered one session on humanitarian forensics during training to **31 members** of Criminal Investigation Department and Prevention of Crime.
- Jointly with the SSRC, **donated 200 body bags** to the Ministry of Health and SSRC office in Jonglei to improve operational readiness during emergencies.
- Assessed and provided technical recommendations to enhance dignified and safe mortuary management to four mortuaries in Yei Civil Hospital, Bor Civil Hospital, Bentiu State Hospital and Malakal Teaching Hospital.
- Organized **one roundtable discussion** with **11 members of the Advisory Steering Committee** on the Management of the Dead to support preparedness planning for mass fatalities during emergencies.
- Supported renovation of Malakal Teaching Hospital mortuary contributing to safer and more dignified handling of human remains.
- Provided a detailed guidance document for the recovery and burial of the dead to the County Commissioner's office in Akobo.
- Engaged with stakeholders to remind them of preparedness and strengthening the facilities and manpower for proper management of the dead to maintain dignity of the dead and facilitate their identification.



236 + benefited from

trainings, sessions, roundtable discussions and engagements on management of the dead activities.

Protection of civilian population

- Continued monitoring the humanitarian situation and, when required, engaged confidentially and bilaterally with duty bearers to share humanitarian concerns about their conduct. This helped prevent and address violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL).
- Engaged with communities to better understand their concerns, identify measures to reduce the impact of armed conflict and violence and strengthen community resilience through regular community engagement in various locations.

- While interventions by programs such as EcoSec and Health helped to reduce the vulnerability of hundreds of thousands of affected people and enhance their resilience, we also registered some **62 people identified to have special protection concerns** for further follow up, and where necessary, additional tailored assistance.
- Conducted interviews with more than **60 Sudanese refugees and South Sudanese returnees** affected by the conflict in Sudan contributing to dialogue with the parties to the conflict in Sudan promoting respect for civilians' rights and dignity in accordance with IHL and IHRL.

Assisting victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence



55,992 + benefited from

surgical operations, physiotherapy sessions, patients transfer, First-Aid (FA) trainings, training to traditional birth attendants, children under five vaccinations, consultations in Mobile Health Units (MHT), Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS), and the Protection of Medical Mission sessions activities.

Health care services

- Carried out **3,134 surgical operations** on **598 weapon-wounded patients** at the ICRC-supported hospitals in Juba Military Hospital (JMH) and Mobile Surgical Team (MST) deployed in Abyei, Akobo, Panyjar and Renk.
- Provided **11,921 physiotherapy sessions** benefiting a total of **955 patients** in JMH and MST deployed in Abyei, Akobo, Panyjar and Renk.
- Facilitated transfer of **265 patients** to help access life-saving medical care.
- Jointly with SSRC, provided First-Aid (FA) **training to 5,488 participants**, including health personnel, weapon bearers and members of local communities.
- Delivered refresher training to **165 traditional birth attendants** in Malakal and Yei to strengthen maternal care.
- Supported Ministry of Health to vaccinate **20,926 children under five** in Yei and Malakal, to protect them against vaccine preventable diseases.
- Conducted **28,340 consultations** in Mobile Health Units (MHT) in Yei and Malakal, providing basic healthcare to the conflict and violence affected population.
- Facilitated **2,720 mental health and psychosocial support** (MHPSS) sessions through an ICRC-supported hospital and two mobile health units, benefiting **548 people** affected by conflict-related trauma.
- Conducted MHPSS awareness-raising sessions benefiting **1,263 people**.
- Conducted awareness sessions to promote the protection of medical mission reaching **2,499 community members**.
- Helped improve water and power infrastructure at Juba Military Hospital and Panyjar County Hospital to ensure service quality and quantity of water and power supply.



27,048 + benefited from

physical rehabilitation services, including physio-therapy sessions, prostheses and orthoses, mobility aids, access to education for children, and participation in sports and leisure activities for persons living with disabilities.

Physical rehabilitation services

- In partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, provided **1,784 people** with physical rehabilitation services, including **345 weapon-wounded** and **44 mine/ERW** (explosive-remnants-of-war) survivors, helping them to regain mobility and independence.
- Conducted **20,209 physiotherapy sessions** at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres in Juba, Wau and Rumbek.
- Delivered **382 prostheses** and **orthoses** to persons with disabilities in ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres.
- Provided **1,406 mobility aids**, including **323 wheelchairs and postural support devices** to persons with disabilities improving independence and mobility.
- Facilitated access to education for **12 children with disabilities**, supporting inclusion and long-term recovery.

- Supported **47 persons with disabilities** to participate in sports and leisure activities, promoting social inclusion and well-being.
- Supported maintenance and repair of infrastructure and facilities at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres to ensure continuity and quality of services.
- Provided MHPSS sessions to **600 people** and conducted MHPSS awareness-raising sessions reaching **1,896 people** in three ICRC-supported Physical Rehabilitation Centres and during outreach visits.



A weapon-wounded patient being wheeled to the operating theater by ICRC health personnel at Juba Military Hospital.

Addressing sexual violence (SV)

- Conducted awareness-raising sessions to **15,033 community members** to protect, prevent, and respond to incidents of Sexual Violence (SV).
- Referred **97 victims/survivors** of SV to appropriate services in collaboration with SSRC volunteers.
- Gave training to **122 community influencers**, including religious and community leaders, health workers/traditional birth attendants, and police personnel, to conduct community outreach and respond appropriately to SV cases.
- Provided direct support to **44 victims/survivors of SV**, including protection documentation, cash, and referral to other specialized services and organizations.
- Organized training sessions on prevention and addressing SV benefiting **265 members of the armed forces, non-state armed groups, and South Sudan National Police Service (SSNPS)**.
- Trained **30 medical staff** on the clinical management of rape (CMR) from Yei, Lui, and Mundri health facilities.
- Advocated for two health facilities that received PEP kits to support victims in Yei area through UNICEF.
- Conducted a community dialogue in Malakal for **20 stakeholders** as part of the International Day of Eliminating SV in Conflict.
- Engaged with **12 media houses** in Juba on ethical communication on SV, strengthening understanding of survivor-centred and do-no-harm approaches.
- Conducted sessions on addressing stigma faced by victims/survivors of SV benefiting **23 participants** from various service providers in Juba.
- **Conducted public SV awareness** sessions during Emergency Relief responses, reaching over **3,300 individuals** affected by the conflict in Mundri East.



18,948 + benefited from

ASV awareness-raising sessions, trainings, direct support and case documentation, cash assistance, and referral to other specialized services and organizations aimed to support victims/ survivors.



168,755 + benefited from

food assistance, cash-for-food transfers, livestock treatment, provision of light fishing kits and agricultural inputs and essential household items, microeconomic initiatives and cash for livelihoods projects, training for communities in animal health care, and milk hygiene and nutrition.

Assistance support to communities

- Distributed food assistance to **48,804 IDPs** in Central Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Western Equatoria.
- Provided **cash-for-food transfers** to **16,756 people** (including 15,952 IDPs) in Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile, Western Bahr el Ghazal, and Western Equatoria.
- Treated **52,880 livestock**, benefiting **7,434 people** to safeguard animal health and protecting pastoral livelihoods in Unity State.
- Provided **2,976 people** from IDP fishing communities with **light fishing kits** in Upper Nile state.
- Delivered agricultural inputs including, cassava cuttings, vegetable seeds, cereals, and **hand tools benefiting 18,000 people**, boosting their food production in Central Equatoria.
- Distributed essential household items including blankets, kitchen set, mosquito net, **tarpaulins to 57,684 IDPs**, improving living conditions in displacement sites in Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, and Western Equatoria.
- Enrolled **1,102 individuals** in **microeconomic initiatives** and cash for livelihoods projects to start or strengthen their existing small businesses in Central Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Western Bahr el Ghazal, and Western Equatoria.
- Trained **40 community animal health workers** in animal health care, supplemented with basic First Aid and business skills modules to enhance emergency preparedness and long-term operational sustainability in Upper Nile and Unity.
- Provided Milk Hygiene and Nutrition training for **20 IDP women milk vendors**, equipping them with practical skills in hygienic handling, quality control, and safe milk sales to reduce public health risks and economic losses in Malakal town.
- Provided one health training to **27 key stakeholders** from various ministries and institutions strengthening multisectoral collaboration and enhancing their capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to public health threats at the human-animal-environment interface in Malakal town, Upper Nile State.
- **Improved** water supply for **33,000 people** through the construction or rehabilitation of **53 handpumps**, five spring catchments in rural communities.
- Repaired **62 handpumps** in cooperation with the SSRC, restoring access to water for **31,900 IDPs** and distributed household water treatment items to **3,636 households**.
- Trained **58 SSRC volunteers** on handpump repair and community mobilization.



90,410 + benefited from

access to water supply through trainings and construction, repair or rehabilitation of handpumps, spring catchments and distribution of household water treatment items.



A young lady waiting for a carrier to transport her aid ration home in Kpangu, Western Equatoria State.

Support for refugees and returnees fleeing the conflict in Sudan



24,132 + benefited from

various assistance items directed to help refugees and returnees affected by the conflict in Sudan.

- Distributed food rations to **5,910 returnees** and **30 refugees** in Northern Bahr el Ghazal.
- **Provided cash for food** to **15,494 returnees** in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Unity.
- Provided vegetable seeds and agricultural tools to **12,000 returnees** in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, strengthening their food production.
- **Distributed** essential household items to **5,940 returnees** in Northern Bahr el Ghazal to improve their living conditions.
- Enrolled **62 individuals** in microeconomic initiatives and cash for livelihoods projects in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Unity aimed at strengthening income-generating activities.
- Provided clinical consultation to **117 refugees** with disabilities and delivered **73 new assistive devices**.



A group of internally displaced people handing in their ration clearance cards before receiving humanitarian assistance.

Promoting international humanitarian law (IHL)

- **Interactive awareness sessions** were conducted on international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL) for **1,161 military personnel** and **members of armed groups**, as well as for **296 police officers** and joint force members, designed to enhance humanitarian access by expanding the ICRC's mission, mandate, and core principles, and stressing on their obligations to respect the rights of individuals protected under these legal frameworks.
- Organized an IHL workshop for **39 advocates** members of the South Sudan Bar Association (SSBA) strengthening national legal expertise.
- Conducted one workshop for **45 parliamentarians** and members of the executive from Upper Nile State, supporting informed decision-making on IHL obligations.
- Facilitated the participation of one official from government institutions in regional IHL event, strengthening South Sudan's engagement in global humanitarian dialogue.
- Promoted IHL and Principles of Humanity messages through **158 radio broadcasts** and **51 social media posts**, expanding public awareness and outreach.



1,541 + benefited from

IHL awareness sessions workshops, and promotion of IHL and Principles of Humanity.

Partnering with the South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC)

- Renewed nine Operation Cooperation Agreement for 2026 with the SSRC to strengthen collaborative efforts in meeting the needs of conflict-affected communities, while enhancing the SSRC's capacity for emergency preparedness and effective response.
- Renewed the Movement Coordination Agreement (MCA 2026–2030) to strengthen coordination and collaboration towards emergency preparedness and effective response.
- Held a high-level meeting with the Donors' Support Group (DSG), reflecting the strategic engagement between Movement partners.
- Supported the SSRC to assist **1,010 households** with EHIs in Nyamini and Bentiu.
- Prepositioned **2,300 EHIs** in Wau, Rumbek and Yirol to strengthen SSRC response.
- Worked in partnership with SSRC to support **2,513 IDPs' household** in in Nagero County.
- Conducted one Safer Access Framework (SAF) Benchmarking Exercise and developed consolidated Action Plan.
- Supported the SSRC to develop Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) preparedness and response plan.
- Trained **335 SSRC volunteers** on risk communication and community engagement and safe and dignified burial.

Strengthening accountability to affected people through community engagement



600 + benefited from

Community engagement outreach.

- Reached over **600 community members** through focus group discussions, community meetings, and monitoring visits, ensuring that affected people's priorities, concerns, and perspectives informed humanitarian action.
- Documented feedback from **329 individuals** across multiple locations, strengthening accountability, improving responsiveness, and enabling referrals for ICRC assistance, with 194 exclusion errors corrected on the spot during EcoSec assistance registration, **95 family-tracing cases referred to PFL, 24 survivors of sexual violence** referred and supported through ASV, and eight cases referred to PRP for assistive devices. Trained **10 SSRC volunteers** on feedback management, complaint handling, and digital data collection.