



**REACHING INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS
IN MANGALLA SETTLEMENT THROUGH AN
INTEGRATED RESPONSE**

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES TO ENHANCE RESILIENCE

Contents



3

**PROJECT
IMPACT:
SUPPORTING
DISPLACED
PERSONS IN
NEED**



4

**INTERNALLY
DISPLACED
PERSONS IN
MANGALLA,
CENTRAL
EQUATORIA,
REQUIRE SUPPORT**



5

**FLOODS AND HUNGER
LEAVE SOUTH
SUDANESE CHILDREN
STRUGGLING FOR
SURVIVAL**

6

**OVER 1,000
DISPLACED
FAMILIES BENEFIT
FROM FORTIFIED
FOOD**

7

**PIT LATRINES AND
WASH STATIONS
HELP CURB DISEASE
AND FEARS OF
CHILD ABDUCTION**

8

**EDUCATING
SOUTH SUDAN'S
CHILDREN ON
HOW TO IDENTIFY
UNEXPLODED
ORDNANCES
PROVIDES
FREEDOM TO PLAY
SAFELY**

9

**RESTARTING THEIR
EDUCATION**

10

**CREATING SAFE
SPACES FOR
DISPLACED WOMEN
AND GIRLS**

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Project impact: Supporting displaced persons in need

Protection



2 Women and girls
Friendly Spaces
established/equipped



850 women and girls
reached with Women and Girls
Friendly Spaces activities



5 Child-Friendly
Spaces established/
equipped



1,300 children
reached with Child-Friendly
Spaces activities



197 community
members
trained to provide child protection in
their community



4,200 community
members
reached through awareness
programmes

Education



5,750 children
enrolled in school



6 temporary learning
spaces constructed



9,600+ community members
reached with
campaigns



600 children ages three
to five benefiting
from early childhood
development kits



8 schools receiving
supplies

WASH



2,000 people
benefited from Water, Sanitation and
Hygiene facilities constructed.



26 latrines
constructed benefiting
2,000 people

Internally Displaced Persons in Mangalla, South Sudan, require support

Thousands of people fled their homes with few or no belongings when floods submerged parts of South Sudan, especially in Jonglei State in Twic East, Bor, and Duk counties. Many sought refuge at an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in Mangalla, Central Equatoria state. In May 2022, the most recent statistics available, **38,658** IDPs were living in this area that was established in June 2020, including **2,466** children below the age of five.¹

For the last year, World Vision South Sudan has helped some people with the greatest needs in the Mangalla IDP settlement. World Vision South Sudan continued its commitment to serve the most vulnerable despite the combined effects of conflict, environmental factors (floods and droughts), and the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic. The convergence of these shocks provided a unique and challenging landscape for delivering much-needed services, aid, and necessary interventions.

To effectively and efficiently help the people of Mangalla, World Vision South Sudan focused on three key components. These were education, protection, and mine risk awareness.

Education

The education facet focuses on minimising the disruption relocation of children has on their learning. To achieve this goal World Vision South Sudan on the following interventions:

1. Mobilising children to attend school or continue with their education
2. Establishing temporary learning facilities
3. Providing school and educational supplies
4. Training teachers and parent-teacher associations
5. Conducting awareness campaigns on education, gender-based violence, water, sanitation, and hygiene

Protection

The purpose of the protection component is to guarantee complete and equal respect for the rights of all individuals, regardless of age, gender or ethnicity, social, religious or other backgrounds. World Vision South Sudan covers protection as an objective, legal responsibility, and activity by:

1. Establishing women and girls-friendly spaces and child-friendly spaces and supporting them by providing the necessary materials
2. Introducing psychosocial services for children while developing psychosocial case management systems and mechanisms
3. Providing income generation starter kits for women and girls
4. Recruiting and training community-based protection committees and relevant stakeholders on psychosocial support strategies

World Vision South Sudan actively engaged community members and leaders of Mangalla to ensure that internally displaced persons get the services and help they need. World Vision reaches the most vulnerable displaced and host community members by training local community members and leaders, creating a working group, and coordinating services.

World Vision South Sudan achieved these results despite various challenges and risks. They include:

1. Ongoing insecurity: The critical challenge in helping internally displaced persons in the Mangalla camp is continuing conflict. Conflict places not only project recipients of humanitarian assistance at risk but also humanitarian workers such as World Vision South Sudan staff. Insecurity often manifests itself in the guise of theft, robberies, gender-based violence, and violence. In addition, insecurity also makes access to the campsite difficult for internally displaced persons and humanitarian workers.
2. Hostility between the host community and displaced arrivals: The risk of conflict between the internally displaced persons and the host community where the relocation camp is situated remains a concern. Conflict can arise if the host community perceives IDPs have better access to food, health care and education than themselves. Strategically involving the host communities was critical for the project's success.

World Vision South Sudan's project reached **2,300** community members despite the challenges. We remain committed to supporting the most vulnerable throughout South Sudan, including the 2 million internally displaced people across the country. Indeed, we believe in life in all its fullness for all, with our ongoing will to make it so.

¹UNOCHA, South Sudan Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster. (2022, December). Mangalla IDP Camp: Site Profile. <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-camp-coordination-and-camp-management-cluster-site-profile-mangalla-idp-camp-april-2022>

²UNOCHA. (2022, February). South Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022. <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/south-sudan/document/south-sudan-humanitarian-needs-overview-2022>



Floods and hunger leave South Sudanese children struggling for survival

Rain pounded. The water continued to rise. Concerned that the flooding would endanger people's lives, boats were hired and loaded with children.

As 14-year-old Abul and her two younger brothers climbed onto the vessel, they were separated for the only person who had taken care of them for the last decade.

Ten years ago, after Abul's father died, her mother abandoned her three children, leaving them in the care of their grandmother.

"When my only son died, his widow could not take the difficult situation since he was our sole provider, so she left. I was strong enough to cultivate a small portion of land for my grandchildren to eat," shares 76-year-old Aboul, the children's grandmother.

Abul was only four years old at that time, her brothers, Mabior and Yol, were both only two.

The children's grandmother was determined to give the children the best start. But after six years, their grandmother became weak, and Abul was forced to take on more responsibilities to care for her younger brothers at the age of 10. She had to ensure the family had water and food to eat.

When flooding destroyed properties and threatened lives in Abul's home in Bor, in Jonglei State, in 2020, the children were ferried to safety. However, they were separated from their grandmother and joined thousands of others forced to evacuate their homes. Abul and her brothers became just three of the thousands displaced by the flooding and forced to endure a three-day journey to dry land. They eventually relocated to Mangalla IDP camp in Central Equatoria State.

Upon their arrival, they received non-food items to settle in, such as a mattress, sleeping mats, and carpets. Food was provided through the general food distribution programme.

Abul says, "A neighbour erected a shelter for us, but for a month, we battled hunger"

Abul's family receives food from the food assistance program, but the rations do not last for the whole month.

Betty Adong, Advocacy and Protection Manager shares, "Children experiencing chronic hunger could develop learning disabilities or other cognitive impairments and have trouble focusing in school." As children return to school, including her brothers Mabior and Yol, Abul stays home to do house chores.

Months after the initial flood, Abul and her brothers were reunited with their grandmother. It was a happy reunion, but Abul still finds herself worried.

"I spend much of my time thinking of ways of survival. I live with not only the fear of starving every day but also the reality that my grandmother will leave us someday," she says.

World Vision's Malish Obede, the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF) protection officer, says, "Abul with her two brothers Mabior and Yol are enrolled for case management services and attend daily psychosocial support services (PSS) [offered through] World Vision. Being overwhelmed with responsibilities at such a young age keeps her isolated and has limited interaction with peers thus her childhood is robbed."



Over 1,000 displaced families benefit from fortified food

Thirty-five-year-old Yar Achien is among 17,127 people who lost their homes and properties to flooding in Bor, Jonglei State. Yar and her six children fled for safety, finding their way to Mangalla's IDP settlement in South Sudan's Central Equatoria State.

"I had no idea that we would still be alive today. Having walked to get to this place was tough, but as a mother, my target was to get my children to safety," Yar shares. "It's almost a year, and countless times I go to bed hungry to save the little [I have] for my children."

World Vision US donated (1,832) cartons of Vitameal (a high-protein rice) to supplement the food and nutrition programmes in South Sudan. The assistance is provided to the most vulnerable flood-affected households in the Mangalla IDP settlement. Vitameal is composed of rice, lentils, vitamins, and minerals. Each home receives 12 kg of high protein rice each month.

"Food assistance from World Vision is all my family has, and I look forward to it every month - being my only hope for survival," Yar says. "My children already like the food, and [I] am happy because it... will keep my youngest children safe from malnutrition."

Before the distribution day, a World Vision nutrition team conducts demonstration sessions for recipients to learn how to cook meals from the provided rations.

Another mother, Mary Michael, 33, who has seven children and is currently pregnant, shares, "I have learned how to cook nutritious meals and at least don't need to worry for a few months on what to prepare for my children."

Komakech Ronald Mandela, World Vision's Juba urban nutrition manager, says, "Vitameal is fortified also with Vitamin A, which helps in vision and boosting immunity and other minerals like Zinc that balances the electrolytes in the body addressing diarrhoea."

Komakech adds, "Every family member is eligible to enjoy Vitameal; however, it is very important for the children, pregnant and lactating women who are at risk of malnutrition to eat at least a meal of Vitameal every day."

World Vision's GIK coordinator Emmanuel Dada explains the importance of gifts in kind in South Sudan's context.

"South Sudan is gripped by extraordinary challenges related to nutrition. Food insecurity is increasingly becoming alarming, this is worsened by an unfavourable economy, with most households being unable to afford basic needs. The vitameal assistance given to flood affected IDPs in Mangalla is an opportunity for households to have meals, which is vital especially for the children, lactating and expecting mothers."

¹ Human Rights Council. (2022, March 1). Conflict-related sexual violence against women and girls in South Sudan: Conference room paper of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan. https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/A_HRC_49_CRP_4.pdf



Pit latrines and wash stations help curb disease and fears of child abduction

Interventions as basic as digging pit latrines and installing wash stations have proven to have immeasurable life-saving benefits well beyond disease prevention and sanitation. The new facilities also help address the stark reality of child abductions within the community.

Before the pit latrines were constructed, children who left to go into the bush to defecate were targets for abduction. Nyadeng, 40, a widow and a mother of seven would accompany her children to the bush to relieve themselves.

“It was risky as two children [in the community] were abducted, and in the process, one of them lost their life this year... I was heartbroken and had nightmares. As a parent, I was devastated,” Nyadeng said.

The World Vision Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) team, with funding support from South Sudan Humanitarian Fund and World Vision Hong Kong, constructed pit latrines and provided hand washing facilities to the most vulnerable people in the IDP settlement in Mangalla.

Nyadeng’s 10-year-old daughter Yar recalls, “We used to walk a 30-minute distance across the road [in]to the bush to [relieve] ourselves. There were no pit latrines in the community.”

In June of this year, Nyadeng’s family was among 26 households supported with a handwashing facility and a pit latrine. The hygiene and sanitation facilities help alleviate safety concerns and reduce the spread of waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea - effectively reducing infections and infant mortality rates.

Yar said their lives have changed since the construction of the pit latrines. “I no longer worry about snakes and being abducted. I am happier now.”

The rocky landscape, coupled with the expensive building materials, hindered locals from digging pit latrines, but, with the help of World Vision, they now have sanitation facilities.

“My children used to fall sick regularly but not anymore. Even my neighbours’ children who had constant diarrhoea are healthy now. We are protected from germs and illnesses,” Nyadeng said.

Iddi Hillary, the WASH project coordinator for Juba County, said a total of 26 latrines were constructed and used by 2,000 people (960 men and 1,040 women). He added, “Additionally, World Vision has fabricated and installed 35 handwashing facilities at the settlement to promote hygiene and reduce the spread of diseases.”

Educating South Sudan's children on how to identify unexploded ordnances provides freedom to play safely

Children in Mangalla are at risk of coming into contact with explosive devices, even at facilities such as water points, schools and playgrounds.

In Mangalla IDP settlement, individuals face numerous hardships daily. One of the most severe threats to their safety is unexploded ordnances (UXO) that make the environments they frequent hazardous.

In June 2022, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) reported that it disabled and destroyed more than a million UXOs in South Sudan. Among these were 40,121 mines, 76,879 cluster munitions, and 974,968 other forms of UXOs. The dismantling of UXOs throughout the area creates safety for displaced people and the surrounding population.

World Vision implements a Mine Risk Awareness Program in Mangalla's IDP settlement. Information, education, and communication materials are printed and distributed throughout the community. The risk of landmines and how to correctly identify and protect against accidental detonation upon detection are crucial elements of the awareness campaign and outreach activities conducted regularly.

To ensure children are well educated on this threat, mine awareness education has been incorporated in school programming through interactive and practical sessions. Children are encouraged to communicate what they learn to their families and within their communities by sharing:

- Information and education materials about the types of explosive devices in the region
- Visual aids such as maps to show potential places where these dangerous devices are likely to be found
- Techniques to build confidence in identifying explosive devices through Q & A sessions
- Steps on how to identify and report suspicious devices

The training and community outreach programme has assisted in the discovery and reporting of 14 UXOs in the region. Indeed, awareness is key in preventing explosives from detonating, placing people's lives in danger, including children.

Providing children with basic needs for health, food, education, and water is a priority for them to thrive. However, areas affected by armed conflict pose threats beyond the lack of basic needs such as food and shelter, other hazards impacting physical safety manifest, such as UXOs.

As children grow up, even in areas affected by natural or manmade disasters, it is valuable for them to be able to play. Play improves children's cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being. Play is one of the main ways in which children learn and develop.

It helps build self-worth by giving a child a sense of their abilities and feeling good about themselves. Because it's fun, children often become very absorbed in what they are doing and may not be aware of the dangers in their environment.





Restarting their education

"I am happy to be in school again," says Yar, a 13-year-old girl.

When schools reopened in South Sudan after the 2020 COVID-19 lockdown, learners returned to school and regained hope for the future. Not long after that came another natural disaster, flooding in most parts of South Sudan, especially Jonglei State in its Twic East, Bor and Duk counties.

The flood forced thousands of people out of their homes, seeking refuge as Internally Displaced Persons in Mangalla and other parts of the country.

WorldVision South Sudan, with funding from South Sudan Humanitarian Fund, provided education in emergency response through setting up of rapid establishment of educational activities.

World Vision staff mobilised the Mangalla settlement camp to encourage children to return to their education, set up temporary learning spaces, provided refresher training for volunteer teachers and distributed school supplies to children. Additionally, water, sanitation and hygiene stations were established at the temporary learning sites.

The organisation's work enabled children like Primary Four pupil Yar to return to the classroom.

"I like going to school. The teachers teach well, and there are not so many in my class. I want to be a businesswoman in the future," Yar says.

One of Yar's friends, Matiop, a 16-year-old primary seven pupil, says he

was happy to continue his studies after the destruction by floods and the COVID-19 lockdown.

"I want to work hard, excel and join the university to study law," Matiop says. Just like Matiop, all of Yar's schoolmates have dreams.

Aloot, a 16-year-old girl, flashed back, saying, "Floods came and destroyed everything, even our school. All my friends are scattered, some are in Juba, and others remain in Bor and are not studying. I am excited about continuing my studies and achieving my dream of being a doctor."

Racheal, a 15-year-old girl in primary five, remembers her experience escaping the floods. "I was told to get into the boat. I jumped into it, not knowing where we were going with my parents. I am glad I found schools here in Mangalla. I live near the school where I study. My dream is to be a teacher," Racheal says.

Odong Robinson, the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund Education Officer, says, "World Vision is carrying out an integrated emergency response focused on education and protection for flood affected people in Mangalla settlement and the surrounding host communities."

"In an emergency, children out of school for a long time become less likely to return to school. With these education activities implemented from August 2021 to August 2022, there is a ray of hope for the learners to live everyday life in the future as they return to school."

Creating safe spaces for displaced women and girls

After years of hardship, 29-year-old Yar Mayom is starting to dream again.

A single mother of six, and guardian to two others, Yar is among the women and girls who were part of World Vision's activities aimed at providing a safe place where women and girls are supported through processes of empowerment.

"My life, and that of my children, was so miserable when we first came to the camp," Yar remembers. "I was traumatized and resorted to suicidal thoughts because of the stress I was going through having left my home for the first time."

Yar arrived at the Mangalla Internally Displaced camp in 2020, fleeing flooding in her community with her children and her orphaned nephew and niece, who she also takes care of.

"Before the floods, there was conflict in my village which claimed the life of my brother. Still, we never left because we had nowhere else to go," Yar explains. "But the floods forced us out, it swept away everything I called my own."

In partnership with the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF), World Vision South Sudan's women and girls' friendly space reached out to communities across the camp, offering psychosocial support and counselling.

"For people that have undergone trauma, psychosocial support and counselling are necessary for recovery by giving them support to help them meet their mental, emotional, social, and spiritual needs," highlights Enid K. Ocaya, World Vision South Sudan's Humanitarian Emergencies and Cash Programs Manager.

Yar learned about the centre from a World Vision social worker and took part in counselling, "which relieved me of the trauma and stress that I suffered from moving," she says.

In April 2022, World Vision provided the women and girls attending the women and girls' friendly spaces life skills training.

Yar was one of 61 women and girls who took part in tailoring training. World Vision provided eight sewing machines to help the group generate income to support their families.

"With the support of this project and the women in my group, I am now able to change my life and support my family," Yar says smiling.

She hopes income earned from tailoring will help all the children in her care attend school. Already school fees have been paid for four of the children.

"The centre has become a safe haven for most of us women. People now bring their clothes for sewing to the centre. I go to the centre every morning to be able to get some cash to buy food for my children. I am also able to sew clothes for my children, thus the entire dependence on the market has reduced," Yar says.

World Vision's Enid K. Ocaya adds, "Women by nature solve problems and gain life skills through interaction with fellow women. Safe spaces are instrumental in providing such an environment that promotes interaction. The skills learned from this centre help the women pursue other economic activities that are beneficial to them and their families. It is our hope that they can transfer these skills to their daughters and other women in their vicinity, in an attempt to leave no one behind."





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