



USAID | SOUTH SUDAN

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USAID ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN SOUTH SUDAN 2005-11

After nearly a half century of two civil wars, South Sudan becomes an independent nation on July 9, 2011. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) finally ended the conflict when it was signed in 2005 and laid out the path for Southern Sudanese to determine their future as a country. As part of its efforts to strengthen peace and support the CPA, the U.S. Government provided significant development and humanitarian assistance to Sudan during the 2005-11 interim period, totaling nearly \$10 billion, and is the leading international donor to South Sudan. That commitment has resulted in enormous accomplishments in every sector.

Democracy and Governance

- **Government of Southern Sudan:** USAID provided technical and functional support that helped transform the semi-autonomous Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) from a concept to a functioning government. USAID was the lead donor in establishing the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, which included instituting transparent budget systems and a tax administration. USAID assistance is creating a fully functioning Central Bank, including monetary policy advice on issuing a new currency. Strategic assistance to several other key GOSS institutions has been critical to GOSS readiness for independence.
- **Constitution:** USAID worked with the GOSS to draft the Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan, and provided technical assistance for the drafting of and public outreach on the South Sudan Transitional Constitution.
- **Census:** USAID helped the Southern Sudan Center for Census, Statistics, and Evaluation conduct its portion of the 2008 nationwide census required by the CPA.
- **Elections:** USAID provided comprehensive assistance (election administration, civic participation, and domestic and international observation) for the April 2010 nationwide elections, Sudan's first multiparty contests since 1986 and a requirement of the CPA.
- **Referendum:** USAID provided comprehensive assistance for the January 2011 Referendum on Self-Determination for Southern Sudan, through which the southern Sudanese people voted to secede from Sudan and form an independent nation.
- **Combating Corruption:** USAID assisted in implementing transparent and accountable systems in Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning functions, including modern tax collection processes and a Financial Management Information System for public budget and expenditure (also implemented in Ministries of Finance in all 10 states).

Economic Growth

- **Infrastructure:** USAID has removed landmines, repaired dilapidated and dangerous bridges, and improved hundreds of kilometers of roads, including the crucial paved 192-kilometer Juba-Nimule road that connects South Sudan to Uganda, a key trade partner, and the gravel-surfaced 262-kilometer Yambio-Tambura and Diabio-Ezo roads in Western Equatoria State. These road improvements enhance transportation, economic opportunity, delivery of government services, and security. USAID provided more than 75 percent of funding for emergency road repairs implemented by the World Food Program between 2005 and 2007, opening some 1,500 kilometers of roads in southern Sudan to facilitate humanitarian support in areas where food deliveries were previously made by airplane.
- **Electricity:** USAID developed South Sudan's first electrical cooperative in Yei, benefiting more than 16,000 people, and expanded electrification in 2011 to Kapoeta in Eastern Equatoria and Maridi in Western Equatoria. USAID has also funded technical training for staff of the Ministry of Energy and Mining, South Sudan Electrification Corporation, and the Yei, Kapoeta, and Maridi utilities.
- **Land Policy:** USAID helped the GOSS draft South Sudan's first comprehensive land policy, to facilitate equitable access to land for agricultural development; encourage long-term, economically sustainable land use; prevent land grabbing; and facilitate the return of internally displaced persons to their areas of origin or other areas of secure settlement.
- **Agriculture:** In May 2010, USAID launched a five-year project focused on revitalizing South Sudan's agriculture sector to improve food security and household incomes by increasing agricultural productivity and trade. In May 2011, USAID joined the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa, the International Fertilizer Development Center, the Netherlands, and the GOSS in a partnership to boost private sector engagement in this sector.

- **Biodiversity:** USAID funded aerial surveys of wildlife, livestock, and human activity in 70,000 square kilometers of the Boma-Jonglei landscape, the largest savannah ecosystem in East Africa. The surveys found that the region hosts one of the world's largest mammal migrations. Since 2008, USAID has been supporting biodiversity conservation and land-use management practices to benefit local communities and improve livelihoods.
- **Microfinance:** In 2003, when there were no financial services in South Sudan following decades of war, USAID launched the region's microfinance sector so that entrepreneurs could access credit to start and expand enterprises. Microfinance services have since spread throughout the south, enabling some 45,000 borrowers to launch or expand businesses.

Education

- **Increased School Enrollment:** With USAID assistance, primary school enrollment in South Sudan increased from approximately 20 percent of children in 2005 to 68 percent in 2010.
- **Scholarships:** To address higher illiteracy and lower school attendance among girls, USAID has awarded 9,155 scholarships since 2006 to girls and disadvantaged boys who are unable to pay school fees.
- **Built and Rehabilitated Schools:** USAID built or rehabilitated 140 primary schools and four secondary schools, improving the learning environment for more than 80,000 students. USAID also supported the rehabilitation of four regional teacher training institutes to enhance teacher skills.
- **Improved Learning:** USAID provided literacy instruction through radio, reaching 99,534 students and 445,000 youth and adults who did not have access to regular school instruction because of conflict and displacement. USAID helped to revise and unify the teaching curriculum and supplied 36,089 textbooks and materials to enhance school instruction.

Health

- **Better Access to Health Services, Clean Water, Sanitation:** More than 2 million South Sudanese have improved access to high-impact maternal, child, and family planning services as a result of USAID efforts since 2005. USAID has improved access to potable water in southern Sudan through the construction of boreholes and urban water treatment facilities, and the distribution of chlorine tablets for household-level purification. As a result, more than a million southerners now have access to safe water.
- **Disease Prevention:** USAID has collaborated with GOSS and other partners on polio immunization campaigns and by 2010, helped GOSS immunize 99 percent of children. USAID also increased routine childhood immunization from less than 20 percent to 71 percent.

Humanitarian Assistance

- **Food and Other Emergency Relief:** USAID provided more than \$648 million in food aid in southern Sudan and the Three Areas (Abyei, Blue Nile, and Southern Kordofan) and approximately \$355 million in non-food assistance (including basic hygiene, cooking, and shelter materials and livelihood activities) in southern Sudan to people affected by emergencies including conflict, floods, and drought between 2005 and July 2011.
- **Support for Returnees and Displaced Persons:** USAID is providing life-saving assistance to tens of thousands of Southern Sudanese displaced and impacted by conflict, including the Abyei crisis, helping Sudanese of southern origin returning from northern Sudan to reach their home areas and begin new lives in the South with livelihoods support, and providing essential services, including food security, shelter, water, health, and sanitation in states with the highest returns of southerners.

Conflict Mitigation

- **Improving Local Government Reach:** USAID has provided office space, communication and transportation equipment to authorities in isolated areas most affected by community conflict to reinforce local efforts to build peace. This helped reduce conflict-related deaths in Akobo, Jonglei State, from more than 900 in 2009 to approximately 24 in 2010. In 2011, at least two potential conflicts were averted in Jonglei and Warrap states when local authorities learned about planned cattle raids and were able to thwart the attacks using USAID-funded communications equipment.
- **Livelihoods Support for At-Risk Youth:** USAID is creating businesses and skills training to create alternative livelihoods for youth in conflict zones who are often involved in cattle raiding.