

Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding (HDP) Sector Profile - South Sudan



Our Purpose in Action

Over a decade after South Sudan gained independence, about 2.2 million South Sudanese remain internally displaced and more than 2.3 million South Sudanese are hosted in neighboring countries. The economic development of the civilians has greatly been threatened by conflicts, the presence and illicit flow of small weapons, natural disasters and climate change. Moreover, 16 million square meters of explosive ordnances, including cluster munitions and mines, left behind during the struggle for South Sudan's independence hinder access to roads, discourage development and agricultural activities and put the lives of civilians and humanitarians at a risk.

Central and Eastern Equatoria, Upper Nile and Jonglei states are the most contaminated states, and since 2012 over 5,000 South Sudanese have been injured or lost their lives due to explosive ordnances, 60% of them children.

Sector Approach

DRC has been implementing Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding projects in South Sudan since 2006, focusing on hard-to-reach areas and emergencies. Our goal is to save lives, improve access to basic services, and prevent and address immediate conflict and violence. We prioritize gender representation and localization, with 40% women in technical roles and working in partnership with National Non-Governmental Organisation. Our mine action teams have the largest geographical coverage among international NGOs in South Sudan, clearing land of explosive ordnances, responding to community reports, and sensitizing civilians. Additionally, our peacebuilding teams focus on community-based efforts, strengthening long-term peace processes, and transparent security governance mechanisms.

What We Do

Clearance of Explosive Ordnances



The DRC HDP team surveys of areas where explosive ordnances are suspected to be present, to ensure the safety of the local community. This entails the identification and removal of landmines, unexploded ordnances, and other remnants of warfare. After the land is cleared and safe, the communities return to their previously abandoned areas, which were feared to contain explosives.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)



DRC conducts risk education on explosive ordnances to raise awareness and promote safety among conflict-affected communities. This involves providing information and training to help individuals recognize and avoid the dangers of landmines and other explosive remnants of war. Over the years, communities have been empowered to protect themselves, reducing accidents and injuries, through DRC risk education. This has enabled the safe return of displaced persons, supporting overall development and stability.

Peacebuilding

DRC integrates peacebuilding into its HDP sector in conflict-affected communities to address root causes, promote reconciliation, and build lasting peace. This involves engaging with communities to identify their peace-related needs and priorities, facilitating dialogue, promoting social cohesion, and strengthening resilience to future conflicts, all aimed at supporting recovery and development of communities.



Post Clearance Referrals

After clearing lands of explosive ordnances, DRC assesses the specific needs of affected communities, including access to essential services like water, healthcare, education, and livelihood support. DRC then refers communities to relevant partners and local authorities for service delivery, ensuring their needs are met promptly and effectively, supporting their recovery and rehabilitation.

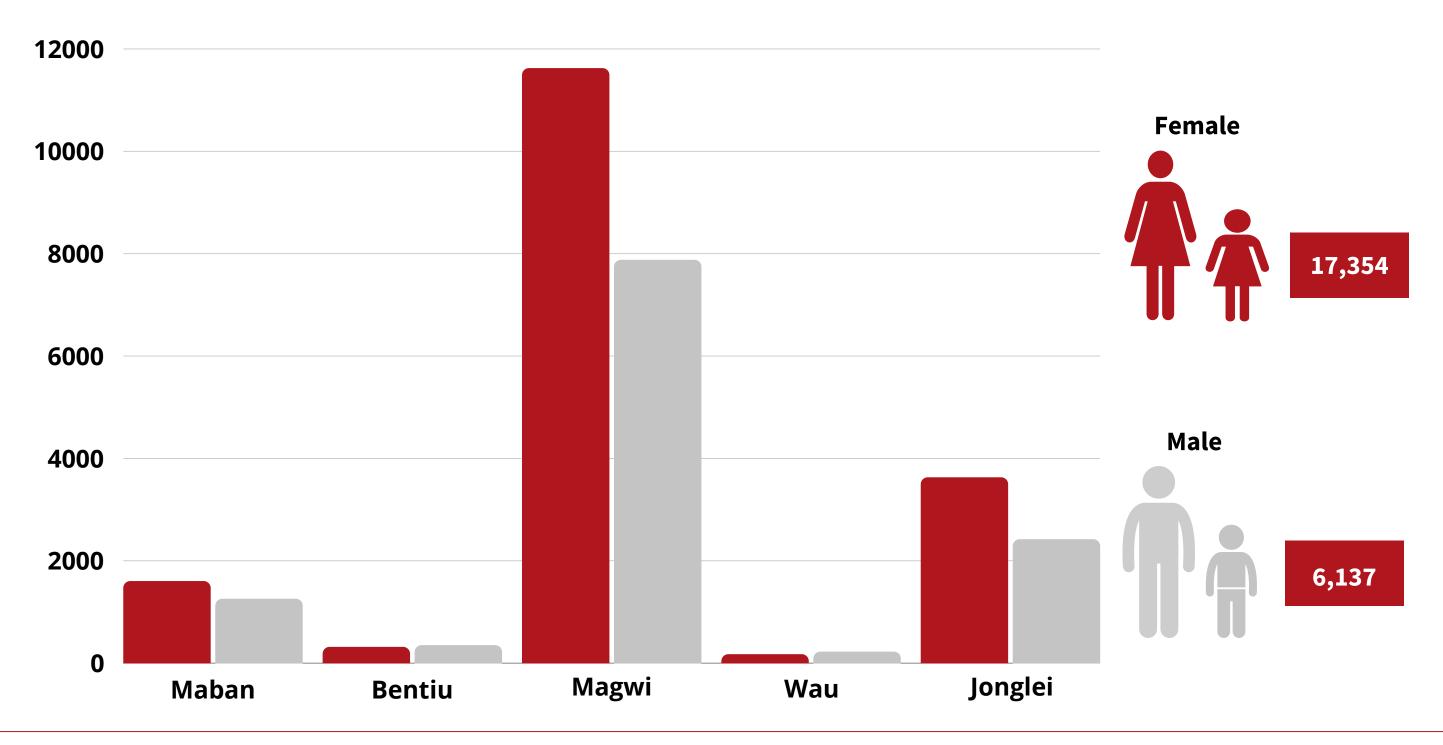


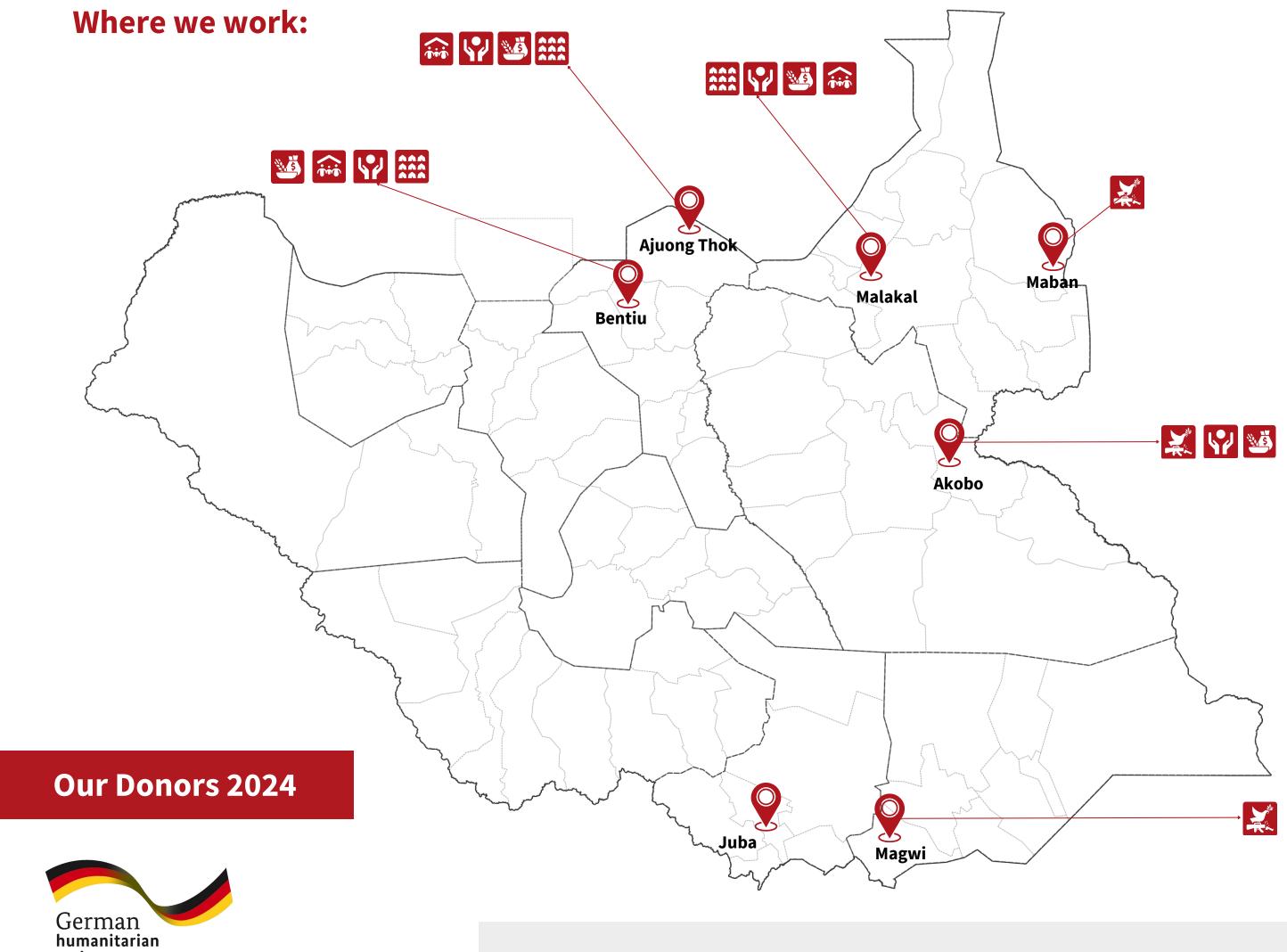
DRC's HDP sector has conducted humanitarian mine action in South Sudan since 2006. The aim is to reduce the impact of 16 million square meters of contaminated land and the presence of small arms and light weapons.

In 2023, DRC carried out HMA and peacebuilding activities in Magwi, Eastern Equatoria state; Wau and Jur River, Western Bahr el Ghazal state; and Rubkona and Guit, Unity state. DRC also strengthened collaboration with the national NGO, Community in Need Aid (CINA), in Magwi through secondments and training on explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and clearance operations. To support effective land use after clearance, DRC works with local agricultural and land rights partners and has referred over 30 beneficiaries since 2022.

DRC has technical coordinators specialized in applying a conflict sensitivity lens and organizes conflict sensitivity and management trainings, supports durable solutions, and identifies pathways for solutions.

HDP Data Reach 2023







assistance

DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE

The DRC Mobile Response Team (MRT) is an operational unit that is ready to provide urgent responses whenever and wherever needed. This team is equipped and trained to swiftly deploy to any location in South Sudan to address pressing humanitarian needs. The Mobile Response Team collaborates with other national and international NGOs to ensure comprehensive coverage in planning, access, and implementation of effective interventions in response to emergencies or critical situations, thereby contributing to the overall humanitarian efforts in the country.