# SOUTH SUDAN

## Ecosystem-based Adaptation

## 2023-2028

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**Increasing food security of communities through climate-resilient agriculture practices and distributing 1,000 efficient cooking stoves.**

**Enhancing water security in two main project sites through water harvesting and supply infrastructure.**

**Training over 300 government staff and 100 primary school teachers on the impacts of climate change and the possible adaptation solutions.**

**Protecting and restoring 200 hectares of degraded watersheds and demonstrating the benefits of ecosystem-based adaptation.**

UN environment programme

## PROJECT TITLE:

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH SUDAN TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

## EXECUTING ENTITIES:

Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Government of South Sudan

## KEY TARGETS:

**51,100**

Individuals beneftiing directly from project activities

**30,000**

Pastoralists benefitting from water supply and harvesting infrastructure

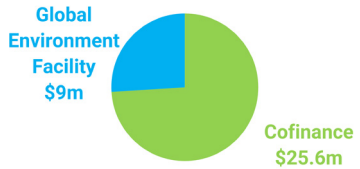
**200**

Hectares of degraded watersheds restored and protected

## FUNDING:

**USD 9,032,420**

From the Global Environment Facility



## INTRODUCTION

- South Sudan in eastern Central Africa,is one of the world's most fragile states and one of the most underdeveloped countries in the world.
- Communities in South Sudan are particularly reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods, and approximately 86% of rural households rely on rain-fed agriculture and animal husbandry as their main source of livelihood.
- Despite providing key services to local communities, including water supply and fuelwood, vital ecosystems are being degraded from a combination of population growth and an over-reliance on natural resources.
- A major project is increasing the climate resilience of vulnerable communities in two states by focusing on the priority areas identified within South Sudan's National Adaptation Programme of Action - namely agriculture, disaster risk reduction, water resources, policy, and institutional frameworks.

## CLIMATE IMPACTS

- The people of South Sudan are extremely vulnerable to rising temperatures, droughts, floods, and other impacts of climate change.
- While the country possesses abundant natural resources and a predominantly agricultural economy, the country's food security is highly sensitive to these changes, resulting in crop failures, livestock losses, and water scarcity. These challenges lead to serious socioeconomic conflicts as a result of human competition for scarce resources.
- Deforestation and ecosystem degradation exacerbates the vulnerability of communities due to the way in which ecosystem services provide a buffer and defence against erratic rainfall, floods, and other climate impacts.
- South Sudan's ability to anticipate and adapt to climate impacts is hindered by weak hydro-meteorological monitoring networks, which was significantly damaged during the civil war.

## PROJECT LOCATION


The project is being implemented in two states in South Sudan – Eastern Equatoria state (yellow) and Central Equatoria State (blue).

## RESOURCES

- Climate adaptation resources & multimedia
- Adaptation Gap Report 2023
- Global EbA Fund
- Press Release: South Sudan Adapts to Climate Change By Restoring Its Ecosystems

## CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

- The project aims to transfer **ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA)** approaches to local communities to reduce their vulnerability to climate change. EbA is the tactic of using ecosystem services as part of an overall holistic strategy to build climate resilience.

- This involves demonstrating the benefits of EbA interventions in two pilot sites, including the **restoration of 200 hectares of degraded watershed** areas to protect markets against floods in the Terekeka, and the creation of green 'shelterbelts' in Kapoeta to protect cattle markets from fierce winds and extreme temperatures.

- The project aims to boost the **institutional and technical capacity** of the government to implement climate adaptation by creating national and local flood and drought risk maps, **drafting policies** for climate-sensitive sectors, and **offering training** to over 300 staff.

  To enhance the national meteorological network for improved short-range forecasting, the project will **construct new infrastructure,** including manual and automatic synoptic stations, automatic rainfall gauges, and a data transmission and archiving system. The project plans to compile the generated data in a **national database** to make it accessible across the country.

- In the 2 project areas, the project is improving water security for 30,000 pastoralists through **water harvesting and supply infrastructure** development, while promoting climate-smart agriculture and **sustainable land use plans,** as well as distributing improved cookstoves to 1,000 women.

- To inform evidence-based decision-making, the project will create **policy briefs** on climate change impacts and adaptation solutions; organize **awareness campaigns**; establish a **small grants program** for research; and form an informal contact group on climate change at the national level.

- Finally, to reinforce the transfer of knowledge, the project also involves educational activities, including the development of a climate change **Master's Programme** at the University of Juba and the training of 100 **primary school teachers** on climate change impacts and adaptation opportunities.

## CONTACTS

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