



South Sudan scores poorly on almost every human development indicator. A major reason is water.

Lack of access to adequate water supply and sanitation facilities poses economic, educational and health impacts across the population, particularly for girls and women. Many people lack adequate knowledge of hygienic practices. The consequences are severe health problems, such as outbreaks of cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases, and persistent guinea worm infections.

In Figures

- 78% of South Sudan's people live in rural areas
- Less than half the population has access to improved water supplies
- 30-50% of existing supplies are non-functional
- 9-13% have access to improved sanitation facilities
- Under-5 mortality rate of 99 per 1000 live births, and high incidences of malnutrition

SNV's focus is on improving the capacity of key government and local institutions for improved service delivery; and increasing access to and use of sustainable and equitable safe water, sanitation and hygiene ('WASH') services.

We work with other development organisations, local organisations and communities to ensure that water points work better; to help schools and communities access toilets and end open defecation practices; and improve people's understanding of the benefits of sanitation and hygiene. By doing so, we hope to prevent health crises before they happen. As of October 2014, SNV is involved in three WASH initiatives in South Sudan.

Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene for All (SSH4A)

Preventable diseases like diarrhoea are a major cause of South Sudan's 10.5% child mortality rate. But knowledge of hygiene is low, and proper toilets are frequently unavailable meaning that many people practice open defecation.

SNV therefore aims to help 190,000 people in more than 300 Bomas (the smallest subnational division) gain access to sanitation. Another 200,000 are being targeted with hygiene information, for example on the importance of handwashing with soap at critical times. Running from 2014 to 2018, the DFID-funded Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene for All (SSH4A) project builds on previous work by UNICEF, and operates in two counties (Aweil East and Magwi).



Strengthening Governance and Delivery of WASH Services

Working with implementing partners from the State Department of Irrigation and Water Resources, SNV has helped thousands of people benefit from structures to help sustain their water supplies.

As of 19 November 2014, a total of 14 villages in Northern Bahr el-Ghazal State had qualified as open defecation free (ODF) after the first round verification, a milestone achieving in the history of the State. Further ODF celebrations were scheduled for 9-12 December 2014

SNV has been UNICEF's partner on the Strengthening Governance and Delivery of WASH Services project since 2011.

Menstrual Hygiene and Management / Child-Friendly Schools (MHM/CFS)

Our Menstrual Hygiene and Management baseline survey revealed that, on average, 61.6% of schoolgirls skip school for four to eight days during their menstruation periods, thus missing out on education. Lack of privacy and proper sanitation and hygiene facilities were cited as reasons.

In close cooperation with the State authorities, SNV's project covers nine schools in Eastern Equatoria. We help the State work with communities to fix and rehabilitate school buildings, install sanitation and hygiene facilities, and offer housing for teachers.

For more information

To learn more about SNV and our work in South Sudan, visit our website at www.snvworld.org/en/southsudan

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About SNV worldwide

SNV is a not-for-profit international development organisation. Founded in the Netherlands nearly 50 years ago, we have built a long-term, local presence in 38 of the poorest countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Our global team of local and international advisors work with local partners to equip communities, businesses and organisations with the tools, knowledge and connections they need to increase their incomes and gain access to basic services – empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and guide their own development.

Photos: Petterik Wiggers for SNV

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