

USA FUNDING FREEZE

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE



EMERGENCY APPEAL
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SUSPENSION OF US OVERSEAS AID FUNDING

On Friday, January 24, the US government ordered a freeze on all foreign assistance. This freeze required work to stop immediately, with limited exceptions.

This unprecedented action has reverberated across the globe. From one day to the next, humanitarian programmes that sustain some of the world's most vulnerable and at-risk communities have been thrown into deep uncertainty.

IMPACT ON REFUGEE COMMUNITIES

Funding from the US Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (DOS-PRM) supports JRS's humanitarian work with displaced people in nine countries. For the current funding year, it amounts to **over \$18 million in assistance for JRS projects in Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, South Africa, South Sudan, Thailand and Uganda.** Through these programmes, JRS provides:

- Education for children in refugee camps (daycare, primary, secondary).
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, counselling for people affected by war.
- Nursing care and community healthcare worker support.
- Physical therapy for the severely disabled.
- Food subsistence cash assistance.
- Livelihoods and skills training.
- Teacher-training and subsistence jobs for teachers in refugee camps.
- Care for orphans and unaccompanied children.

We estimate that halting these programmes will adversely impact over 100,000 displaced people – individuals who have already lost so much and who will be unable to access essential services over the next three months. As things stand, JRS needs \$1.5 million dollars to continue its vital work over the next three months.

While the news of a waiver for live-saving humanitarian assistance is welcome, JRS is concerned that some of our most impactful work - in education, mental health support and projects aimed at building resilience, self-reliance and agency - will not make the cut.

IMPACT: SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH SUDAN

The conflict in Sudan has driven almost nine million people to flee their homes - the world's biggest displacement crisis. Many have fled to neighbouring countries such as South Sudan, where JRS provides vital humanitarian support to refugees and host communities. In Maban refugee camp, the effects of the PRM funding suspension have been felt immediately and devastatingly by some of the most vulnerable people we serve.

Until last week, more than 500 children with severe disabilities were attending our rehabilitation and physical therapy programmes. Now, these children risk losing the chance to regain their mobility and drastically improve their quality of life. The impact will also be felt by the hundreds of people receiving mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in the camp: among an already vulnerable population, the suspension will increase instances of untreated mental health issues, physical disabilities, and social isolation.



In all my time with JRS, I have never witnessed the daycare sessions come to a complete stop. The physiotherapy sessions we provide for children with disabilities are transformative; they help these children stand, walk, and ultimately enrol in school. JRS is the only organisation offering these vital services. Halting our activities will have a devastating impact on their recovery journeys, and we fear that those who have shown progress in their daily rehabilitation care will experience a significant setback.

James, Assistant MHPSS Coordinator,
Rehabilitation, Maban, South Sudan.



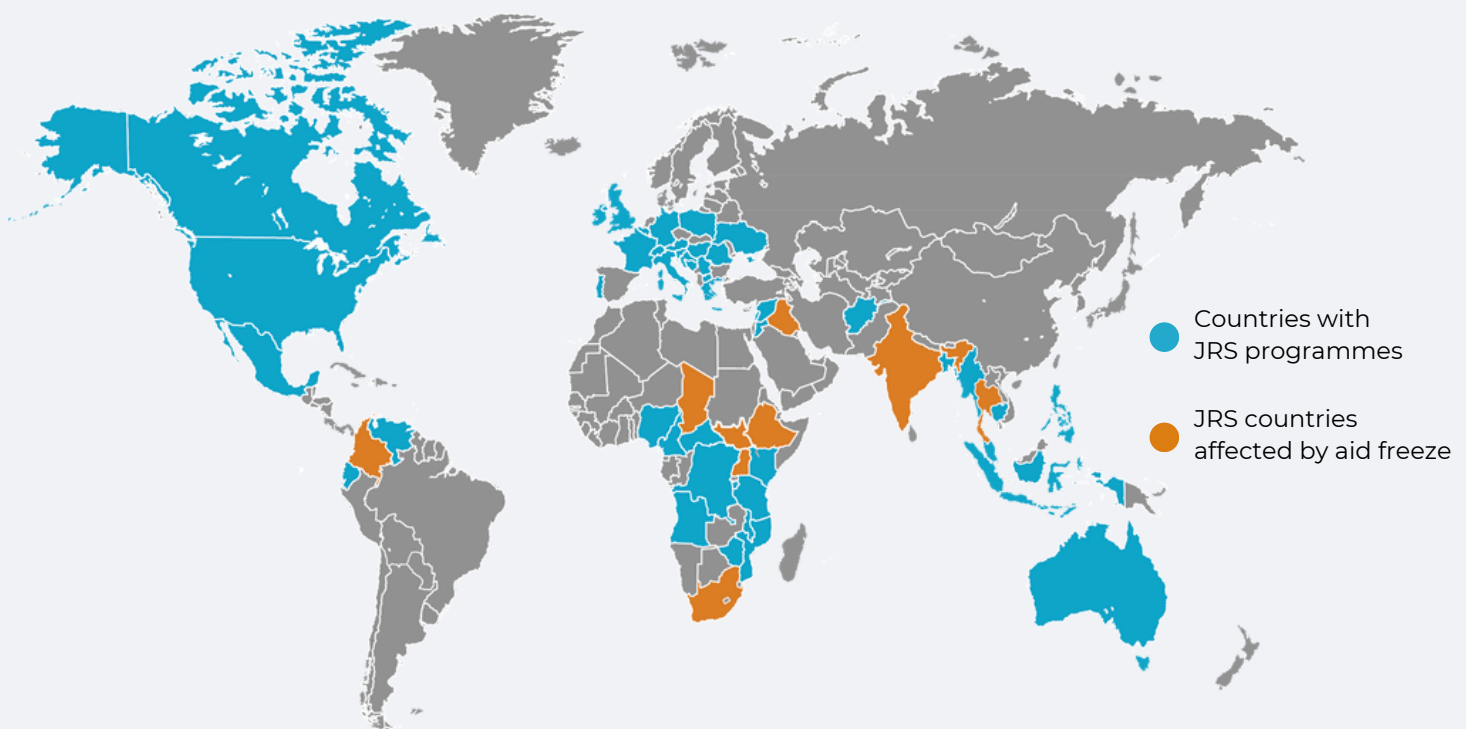
Empty Doro Day Care Center



Empty MHPSS office in Maban



	Chad	Colombia	Ethiopia	India	Iraq	South Africa	South Sudan	Thailand	Uganda	Total
Education	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
Livelihoods		x							x	
Psychosocial Support	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Health Care					x	x	x	x	x	
Emergency Assistance			x		x		x	x	x	
People Impacted	32,329	12,370	9,600	5,116	28,134	3,022	6,198	3,227	3,710	103,706
Urgent Funding Gap (3 months)	\$149,265	\$277,000	\$127,910	\$55,000	\$195,598	\$103,495	\$217,695	\$86,060	\$240,000	\$1.452.023



9 countries where JRS programmes are affected.

100,000 refugees and displaced people affected over the 90-day suspension period.

\$18 million in PRM funding assistance to JRS at stake for the current fiscal year.

\$1.5 million needed to cover gaps over the next three months.