



WFP South Sudan Country Brief

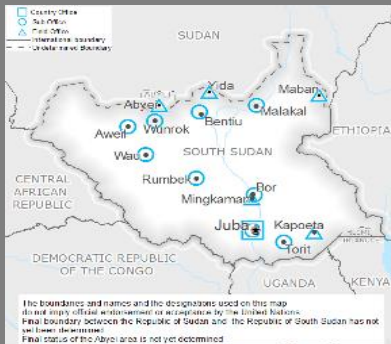
March 2018

Operational Context

In July 2011, the Republic of South Sudan gained independence from Sudan, ending one of the longest civil wars on record, and remains the world's youngest nation. In December 2013, a power struggle between the president and vice president, Salva Kiir, and Riek Machar, broke into armed conflict. An internationally mediated peace agreement was signed in August 2015, and in April 2016 Machar returned to Juba to form a Transitional Government of National Unity with Salva Kiir. Renewed fighting erupted in mid-July, resulting in increased violence and insecurity throughout the country. As a result, Riek Machar fled the country and Taban Deng Gai was appointed first vice president which has led to increased factions within the Opposition. However, on 22 December 2017 the Government and several opposition groups signed a cessation of hostility agreement. Moreover, the second phase of the High Level Revitalization Forum for the South Sudan peace talks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February ended reaching no agreement, and will resume on 27 April 2018.

The country has some of the world's worst socio-economic indicators. Despite the nation's vast arable land, oil reserves, untapped water resources and large stocks of cattle and fisheries, the general lack of road infrastructure, market integration, or investment in agriculture, coupled with more than three years of conflict, has led to widespread food and nutrition insecurity. As many as 5.3 million people are currently facing severe food insecurity and in the absence of assistance, this could rise to 7.1 million during the peak of the lean season in May to July with 155,000 who could face "catastrophe" levels of food insecurity.

In 2017 WFP provided food assistance to 4.8 million people throughout South Sudan. WFP support includes emergency food assistance and recovery operations. WFP has been present in South Sudan as a country office since independence in 2011 (and in Sudan since 1963).



Population: 13 million

2016 Human Development Index: 181 out of 188

Income Level: Lower

Chronic malnutrition: 33% of children between 6-59 months

Main Photo WFP/ Lara Atanasijevic
 Woman waiting in line to be registered for food and nutrition assistance in Mboro, Western Bahr el Ghazal.

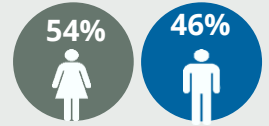
In Numbers

18,122mt of food assistance distributed*

US\$ 1,6 m cash based transfers made*

US\$ 311.5 m six months (April-September 2018) net funding requirements

1.72 m people assisted



Operational Updates

Food Assistance: In February, WFP dispatched 18,122 mt of food and nutrition commodities by road, air and river to provide food and nutrition assistance to 1.72 million people in South Sudan. People have also been assisted in hard-to-reach areas through WFP integrated rapid response missions (IRRM), a partnership between WFP and UNICEF that uses mobile teams and partners to first register populations – which also allows for mass screening to trigger services in nutrition and other sectors – and then deliver food to the entire community.

Africa Day of School Feeding: On March 1, 2018, WFP and the Ministry of General Education and Instruction held a commemorative event at a primary school in Juba, highlighting school meals as an important safety net to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty. 600 students attended the event together with government officials. This year, WFP plans to provide 380,000 primary school children with daily school meals in 780 schools across South Sudan through its School Feeding programme.

Digitization of nutrition Programmes: The pilot of SCOPE- Conditional On-Demand Assistance (CODA), a digital platform for registration, monitoring and managing children, pregnant and nursing women who are being treated for acute malnutrition is ongoing in Aweil County, Northern Bahr el Ghazal. Simulation and training of national and frontline staff from Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Medair, UNICEF, and Ministry of Health (MOH) was successfully conducted from 6 to 16 March at the four selected nutrition sites: Maper, Kuom, Aulic and Gabat. The official implementation process has commenced in Maper and the roll out will continue in the three remaining sites.

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WFP Country Strategy

Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding requirements (in USD)
Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)		
3.2 b	250.8 m	311.5 m
Strategic Result 1: Access to food		
Strategic Outcome 1: Food-insecure people in crisis-affected areas have access to safe and nutritious food all year round.		
2.2 b	161.1 m	199.5 m
Strategic Result 2: End Malnutrition		
Strategic Outcome 2: People at risk of malnutrition in crisis-affected areas, especially young children and pregnant and lactating women, are able to meet their basic nutrition requirements all year round.		
533 m	9.9 m	39.6 m
Strategic Result 3: Smallholder Productivity and Income		
Strategic Outcome 3: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in non-conflict zones have enhanced livelihoods and resilience to seasonal climate shocks throughout the year.		
193 m	14.2 m	39.4 m
Strategic Result 8: Global Partnership		
Strategic Outcome 4: The humanitarian community in South Sudan has access to reliable common services until satisfactory alternatives are available.		
246 m	26.8 m	39.7 m

- Urban Food Security and Nutrition Assessment:** The Urban Food Security and Nutrition Assessment in Wau released last week showed that overall, 67 percent of the households were food insecure, while 20 percent and 47 percent are severely and moderately food insecure respectively. The food security situation in the Southern part of Wau was found to be relatively worse (74 percent food insecure) as compared to Northern Wau (60 percent food insecure). Recent assessments in Juba and Bor urban areas showed similar high levels of food insecurity, due to increasing limited access of food to the urban population.
- WFP South Sudan Annual Partnership Consultation:** On 28 March, the WFP South Sudan Annual Partnership Consultation took place in Juba. Over 70 partners gathered to discuss and provide feedback on WFP's Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) and its partnership strategy. Based on the Country Director's opening remarks and subsequent discussions, Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse as well as Sexual Harassment and Abuse of Power were agreed to be key priorities moving forward together with community engagement.
- The Logistics Cluster,** with the support of WFP, continues to facilitate access to critical supply chain routes to maximize road transportation during the dry season. For the first time in two years, the Logistics Cluster coordinated a convoy from Juba to Yuai in Jonglei state. The convoy successfully arrived in Yuai on 25 March with trucks from UNICEF and Tearfund.

WFP Country Activities

- SO 1** Provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance to crisis-affected populations.
Provide food and nutrition assistance to refugees
- SO 2** Provide nutrition assistance to populations at risk of malnutrition
- SO 3** Provide livelihood support and build the resilience of rural households
- SO 4** Operate Air Services for the Humanitarian Community
Coordinate the Logistics Cluster in Support of the Humanitarian Community

Donors (2017-2018, listed alphabetically) *

Australia, Canada, CERF, China, Denmark, European Commission, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Slovenia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, UN South Sudan Humanitarian Fund), United Kingdom, United States of America

*Excluding multilateral and private donors

Challenges

- The security situation** remains the biggest constraint to stable humanitarian assistance across the country, threatening operations and staff countrywide.
- Infrastructure:** South Sudan presents one of the most logistically challenging operations due to a limited and poor road network that deteriorates significantly during the rainy season. Long distances, poor road infrastructure, conflict and insecurity, and competition for limited logistics assets makes air travel crucial for humanitarian agencies to access vulnerable populations in hard-to-reach areas. However, the heavy reliance on air transport is resulting in high transport costs.
- WFP and partners are working to scale-up food assistance to reach up to 4.8 million people between May and July when hunger is at peak. To do this, WFP needs more than US\$300 million to provide food and nutrition assistance between now and July. WFP urgently needs resources to pre-position supplies before the rains start in May. Without this, millions of hungry people will be cut off from assistance by road.