



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP South Sudan Country Brief October 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 Salva Kiir and the vice president Riek Machar broke into armed conflict. Most recently on 5 August 2018, a new cease fire and power sharing agreement was signed between Salva Kiir and Riek Machar. Under the deal, the opposition leader is set to return to a unity government as the first of five vice presidents. The agreement offers some hope to the South Sudanese people that peace may return and lives and livelihoods can be rebuilt in the coming months. However, the situation remains dire on the ground.

South Sudan 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 five straight years of conflict, has led to widespread food and nutrition insecurity. The latest Integrated Food Security Classification Phase (IPC) released on September 2018 indicates that 4.4 million people are in need of food and nutrition humanitarian assistance to survive from October to December 2018. State level surveys reported continued deterioration of the nutrition situation with eight out of the nine states having Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) levels above the World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold of 15 percent. The persistent high malnutrition levels are attributed to high levels of food insecurity, displacements, conflict and poor infrastructure, limited access to basic health and nutrition services, poor infant young child feeding (IYCF) practices and high morbidity.



Population: **11 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **186 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower**

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

In Numbers

30,900 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*

USD 1.21 m of cash-based transfers done*

USD 562.7 m six months (November 2018-April 2019) net funding requirements

2.96 m people assisted*

*in September 2018



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Operational Updates

- The people of South Sudan celebrated the Signing of a new peace agreement on the 31 October. WFP is hopeful for an end to hostilities for those most affected by five years of conflict.
- Although food security has improved slightly with the harvest in September, insecurity and economic collapse have destroyed lives and livelihoods, leaving some **4.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance** from October to December 2018. Despite the harvest, as many as 5.2 million people - nearly half the total population - will remain in IPC Phase 3 — not knowing where their next meal is coming from — from January to March 2019. It is forecasted 36,000 people will be in Phase 5 (Catastrophe), experiencing famine-like conditions in this period. These are findings of the latest [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#), analysis, released on 28 September.
- WFP and cooperating partners **assisted 2.96 million food and nutrition insecure people in South Sudan** during the month of September, with 30,900 mt of food and nutrition commodities, as well as USD 1.21 million in cash distributions. From January to September 2018, WFP has reached approximately 4.99 million people with food and nutrition assistance, of which 53 percent are female and 23 percent children aged 6-59 months.
- WFP continues to **increase the use of cash** as a transfer modality, gradually replacing in-kind assistance through transitional approaches such as hybrid baskets in areas where local markets are functional and accessible. The hybrid basket approach combines in-kind food assistance with cash transfers and is currently being implemented in Makpandu and Maban refugee camps, as well as in Mingkaman/Bor sites. The hybrid approach strengthens beneficiaries' purchasing power by enabling them to choose and purchase food directly at the store and brings a sense of normality in times of crisis.

WFP/ Gabriela Vivacqua

Food for Assets (FFA) beneficiaries receiving cash as a payment to build new assets in Gogrial, Warrap State.

WFP Country Strategy

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
2.99 b	588.7 m*	562.7 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.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance to crisis-affected populations.
- Provide food and nutrition assistance to refugees

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.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide nutrition assistance to populations at risk of malnutrition

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.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide livelihood support and build the resilience of rural households

Strategic Result 8: Global Partnerships

Strategic Outcome 4: The humanitarian community in South Sudan has access to reliable common services until satisfactory alternatives are available.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Operate Air Services for the Humanitarian Community
- Coordinate the Logistics Cluster in Support of the Humanitarian Community
- Supply Chain provision
- Inter-Agency IT Communication Service

*Includes contributions received in 2017 and 2018, but specifically earmarked for the ICSP, which began on 1 January 2018. Excludes multi-year contribution for 2019 onwards.

- **Ebola preparedness:** WFP and HELP Logistics, an operational arm of the Kuehne Foundation, conducted an independent analysis of WFP's supply chain resilience in case of Ebola outbreak in three Equatoria States. The outcomes showed WFP food supply chain is resilient to absorb sudden shocks and disruptions in case the southern corridor is closed for up to 60 days, based on the existing food stock and WFP Fleet capacity.
- WFP is working with FAO, UNDP and UNICEF as part of the **inter-agency Joint Recovery and Stabilization Programme (JRSP)** in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, to provide multi-sectoral support to build community

resilience, reinvigorate the local economy, provide basic services, and support peacebuilding and social cohesion. As part of this joint programming approach, WFP has provided food for training to 177 people who are graduating from a UNDP supported vocational and skills training programme. Jointly with FAO, WFP is supporting over 16,000 households to create productive and community based assets, while FAO is providing key agricultural inputs and agronomic training.

Monitoring

- WFP conducts **process distribution monitoring** in its activity and distribution sites, including the locations under the Integrated Rapid Response Mechanism (IRRM). WFP deploys dedicated missions to monitor food distributions and give voice to beneficiaries in the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach areas of the country. So far in 2018, WFP has monitored 269 general food distributions, 19 IRRM food distributions and 1379 activity sites - 39 percent of all WFP's final distribution points (FDPs) - covering 31 percent more of the FDPs reached in 2017. Process distribution monitoring is the primary tool used to confirm that assistance is being distributed and activities are being implemented on time and in accordance with humanitarian principles and standards.
- **Post-distribution monitoring (PDM)** is normally conducted two weeks after the distribution of food or cash. PDM exercises collect information on the food security status of beneficiary households, the continuity and utilization of assistance, receipt of entitlements, protection issues, and misuse or diversion of food. In October, WFP concluded the data collection for its third PDM of 2018, whereby interviews were conducted with more than 800 direct recipients of nutrition-sensitive food assistance, and 300 non-beneficiaries under general food distributions in ten different states. The exercise will inform how WFP assistance is supporting vulnerable communities around South Sudan and on the food and livelihoods dynamics between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries in targeted communities.

Challenges

- **Lack of infrastructure:** Limited infrastructure may result in inadequate, irregular or delayed assistance due to limited access to people in need.
- **Insecurity and access:** Active conflict in parts of the country and along most trade and supply routes threaten to jeopardise ongoing activities with devastating effects on the most vulnerable.

Donors (2018, listed alphabetically) *

Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, Germany, Japan, Slovakia, South Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America

*Excluding multilateral and private donors