



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP South Sudan Country Brief

August 2019



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 President Salva Kiir, and Vice President, 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 with Salva Kiir. Renewed fighting erupted in mid-July, resulting in increased violence and insecurity throughout the country. In September 2018, a new cease fire and power sharing agreement was signed. The agreement offers some hope to the South Sudanese people that peace may return, and livelihoods can be rebuilt. 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, wide spread food and nutrition insecurity is led by untapped water resources and large stocks of cattle and fisheries, general lack of road infrastructure, market integration, or investment in agriculture, compounded by the protracted conflict.



Population: **12 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **188 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

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

In Numbers

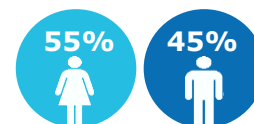
25,086 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*

US\$ 4.27 m in cash-based transfers made*

US\$ 408.4 m six months (September 2019 – February 2020) net funding requirements

2.87 m people assisted*

*in July 2019



Operational Updates

- In July 2019, WFP and cooperating partners reached approximately 2.87 million people with a total of approximately 25,086 mt of food and US\$ 4.27 million in cash in South Sudan. The overall achievement for the month shows 69 percent of planned beneficiaries were reached, 70 percent of planned tonnage and 80 percent of planned cash was distributed in comparison with the monthly implementation plan.
- The British Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development (DFID), the British Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan, and, the DFID South Sudan Head of Office and other delegates, visited WFP's Tamping warehouse on 12 August 2019. DFID is one of WFP's largest partner, and they had a great discussion on the critical impact this partnership has on WFP's life-saving and livelihood-building support in South Sudan.
- WFP in collaboration with National Bureau of Statistics, FAO, UNICEF and other partners, concluded data collection for the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS) – a nationwide, rural, randomly sampled household survey. The data will provide an in-depth understanding of food security and nutrition situation, as well as market dynamics, throughout South Sudan at the peak of the lean season. Data from FSNMS will also inform the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report. The report, which is a multi-partner initiative composed of the Government, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society and other relevant actors, will inform emergency responses as well as medium and long-term policy and programming.
- WFP commemorated World Breastfeeding Week in collaboration with Ministry of Health, UNICEF and partners, between 1–7 August. This year's theme was "Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding, now and for the future" — a recognition of the key role both parents play in ensuring breastfeeding.

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Further information: <https://www1.wfp.org/countries/south-sudan>

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	1.09 b	408.4 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 4: 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
- SCOPE Service to humanitarian partners
- Provision of IT services to the humanitarian community

- WFP held training sessions to strengthen the capacity of retailers on Cash Based Transfers (CBT). The training, which was held in Wau, was attended by 47 contract retailers, three participants from the Chamber of Commerce, one Relief and Rehabilitation Commission staff, 12 Norwegian Refugee Council staff and three WFP staff members. The condensed two-day training was designed to develop the capacity of retailers in commodity pricing, maximizing profit margins, and customer service. The training is expected to yield greater efficiencies and effectiveness on the quality of services provided to people assisted by WFP.
- WFP's Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) team held its midyear workshop that drew participants from WFP field offices and more than 20 NGO partners from all regions of the country. During the workshop, the team discussed five focus areas of the programme, including activity sequencing, programme sustainability factors, broadening scope of livelihood activities supported, non-food items management strategies and FFA in the context of changing climate (climate change adaptation). Recommendations from the workshop will be used to adapt the current FFA programme standards to be more responsive to community needs.

Challenges

- Access across the country has generally improved since the signing of the peace agreement, except for small pockets where some resistance from local authorities is encountered. Concerns remain with regards to bureaucratic impediments largely affecting INGOs, as well as continuous crime, banditry, and inter-clan conflicts across the country.
- Currently, there are no cases of Ebola in South Sudan, but WFP continues as part of the humanitarian community to improve national preparedness and to monitor the situation closely. UNHAS flights dedicated to the task are operational and in use.
- The rainy season continues to be a challenge to WFP's logistics (road operation). Due to the rains, the road between Renk and Maban has deteriorated resulting in access constraints. This is a challenge present in other areas across the country. WFP prepositioned food early to ensure that beneficiaries continue to be reached during this rainy season.

Donors (listed alphabetically) *

Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, South Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America

*Excluding multilateral and private donors