



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

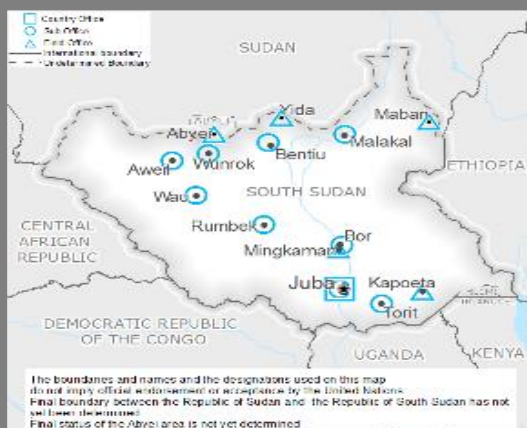
# WFP South Sudan Country Brief October 2019



## Operational Context

In July 2011, the Republic of South Sudan gained independence from Sudan, ending one of the longest civil wars on record, and it 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, and a Transitional Government of National Unity is expected to be formed November 12, 2019. 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, untapped water resources and large stocks of cattle and fisheries, wide spread food and nutrition insecurity is driven by 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

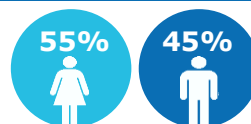
## In Numbers

**22,500 mt** of food and nutrition assistance distributed\*

**US\$ 3.49 m** in cash-based transfers made\*

**US\$ 466 m** six months (November '19 – April '20) net funding requirements

**2.69 m people assisted\***  
\*in September 2019



## Operational Updates

### Flooding

- Abnormally heavy rains and unusually high levels of seasonal flooding have been devastating large areas of South Sudan since July 2019. On October 29, President Salva Kiir declared a state of emergency for the flood situation, covering 30 counties in the regions of Greater Bahr el Ghazal, Greater Upper Nile, and Greater Equatoria. UN OCHA estimates almost one million people are affected across the country. Additionally, an estimated 72,600 metric tons of cereals which should have been harvested, has been lost due to flooding indicating an earlier and longer lean season.
- Approximately 755,000 people need food and nutrition assistance. With existing programmes WFP is already assisting 265,000 people in the affected areas. WFP requires US\$33.3 million to provide food and nutrition assistance to an additional 490,000 people over the next three months.
- WFP has reached over 585,000 flood-affected people across the country with vital food and nutrition support. WFP has deployed a combination of helicopters, boats, and amphibious all-terrain vehicles to respond to the current widespread flooding.
- The WFP response is underway using stocks in-country. However, for the first six months of 2020, WFP faces critical shortfalls for its emergency and livelihoods programmes which is exacerbated by the need to respond to the floods: WFP requires US\$ 250 million to cover both prepositioning, timely deliveries, and cash-based programmes.

### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP and cooperating partners reached 2.69 million people with a total of approximately 22,500 mt of mixed food commodities and \$3.49 million in cash in September.
- Under the Integrated Rapid Response Mechanism (IRRM), WFP and cooperating partners assisted some 118,100 beneficiaries in hard-to-reach areas with 2,760 mt of food during the month of September.

Photo: WFP

Contact info: Muna Mohamed ([muna.mohamed@wfp.org](mailto:muna.mohamed@wfp.org))

Country Director: Matthew Hollingworth

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)
<b>2.99 b</b>	<b>1.09 b</b>	<b>466 m</b>

#### 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
- SCOPE Service to humanitarian partners
- Provision of IT services to the humanitarian community

- WFP has reopened barge operations between Sudan and South Sudan. For the first time in eight years, the river corridor from Kosti Port, Sudan to South Sudan has been used to carry humanitarian cargo. On October 21, three WFP-contracted barges loaded with 1,700 mt of food procured locally in Sudan sailed up the River Nile to the South Sudanese town of Renk. The river corridor is cost-effective and provides an alternative to road transport between the two countries especially in the rainy season when roads can become impassable.

## Monitoring

- WFP finalized data collection of the second 2019 Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercise. Despite access challenges caused by heavy flooding and insecurity advisories in some parts of the country, 88 percent of the sample size, 1,546 households, were interviewed in October. WFP uses the PDM to collect data on the food security and nutrition status of beneficiaries, accountability to affected populations, gender and protection issues, and access to water, hygiene and health services.

## Gender and Protection

- October was awareness and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) month for WFP South Sudan Country Office. The objective of the month was to achieve greater awareness of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), motivate prevention through knowledge, ensure systems are in place for reacting to SEA and are known and used by WFP staff and key stakeholders (including community). During the month, activities took place across the country, including, an awareness march through the Malakal Protection of Civilians (PoC) site joined by partners and suppliers and the launch of the first South Sudan field level PSEA Taskforce facilitated by Yambio Field Office.

## Challenges

- Widespread flooding has caused logistical challenges across the country with roads becoming impassable and airdrops impossible due to flooding of drop zones.
- Access across the country has remains 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 National and International NGOs, as well as continuous crime, banditry, and inter-clan conflicts across the country.
- The potential spread of Ebola remains a challenge in the region. Currently, there are no cases of Ebola in South Sudan. 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.

### 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