



WFP South Sudan Country Brief

November 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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

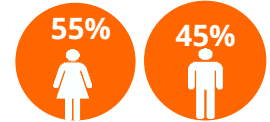
12,369 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*

US\$ 3.5 m in cash-based transfers made*

US\$ 463.3 m six months (December '19 – May '20) net funding requirements

1.85 m people assisted*

*in October 2019



Operational Updates

Flooding

- Nearly one million people are affected by floods across the country, including 755,500 people in need of food and nutrition assistance.
- Due to intensive flooding, an estimated 73,000 mt of cereals — which should have been harvested — was lost, indicating an earlier and longer lean season. WFP's response is already underway using in-country stocks. However, for the first six months of 2020, WFP faces critical shortfalls of US\$ 270 million covering both prepositioning and just-in-time deliveries, and cash-based programmes for its emergency and livelihoods programmes, which has been exacerbated by the need to respond to the floods.
- By the end of November, WFP had reached more than 644,850 flood-affected people across the country with vital food and nutrition support. WFP urgently requires US\$ 24.3 million to continue providing food and nutrition support to the flood-affected communities for the coming three months.

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP and cooperating partners reached 1.85 million people with a total of approximately 12,369 mt of mixed food commodities and US\$ 3.5 million in cash in October.
- Under the Integrated Rapid Response Mechanism (IRRM), WFP and cooperating partners assisted some 263,300 beneficiaries, including 60,000 children under 5, in hard-to-reach areas with food and nutrition support during October.
- WFP has kicked off the 2019/2020 aggregation of local commodities grown by smallholder farmers. Through the Rural Aggregation Network (RAN), established by WFP, more than 120 mt of maize grown by farmers across Western Equatoria has already been aggregated. WFP intends to use these commodities in its food assistance programmes, such as school feeding.

Photo: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua

Contact info: Muna Mohamed (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)
2.99 b	1.09 b	463.3 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
- SCOPE Service to humanitarian partners
- Provision of IT services to the humanitarian community

In the 2019/2020 harvest season, WFP plans to buy over 1,600mt of locally grown commodities through the RAN in (former) Western Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, and Warrap states.

Gender and Protection

- November 25 marked the launch of The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign. WFP joined the Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Welfare and other stakeholders at Nyakuron cultural centre where the launch was celebrated under the national theme 'Join Hands: Stand Against Rape'.
- Activities took place across WFP South Sudan to mark the campaign and call for prevention and elimination of gender-based violence. WFP field offices began with several activities, including participation in awareness raising community art and drama and women's marches.
- In Kapoeta, former Eastern Equatoria state, WFP together with the American Refugee Committee organized a football match for school children. Boys played with their hands tied behind their back and commentators provided messages about gender equality, the values of respect, and messages about gender-based violence. The purpose was to provide these messages in a light and engaging way to the children and community.

Challenges

- Widespread flooding has caused logistical challenges across the country; roads have become impassable and airdrops impossible due to flooding at drop zones.
- Humanitarian access across the country remains improved since the signing of the peace agreement, except for small pockets of resistance from local authorities continues. 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.
- 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. The WFP-led UNHAS flights dedicated to the Ebola preparedness and response are operational and in use. The flights are used to support preparedness activities.

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