



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Sudan Country Brief March 2020

In Numbers



1.93 million people assisted
in March 2020

15,102 mt of food assistance distributed in March 2020

US\$3.3 million cash-based transfers made in March 2020

US\$51.7 million six-month net funding requirements (May - October 2020)

Operational Context

The economic challenges persist with high inflation rate and increasing costs of food. Fuel and bread shortages were also experienced during the reporting month.

The ongoing economic crisis continues to affect the living conditions of millions and is pushing more and more people into poverty.

On 13 March, Sudan reported its first confirmed COVID-19 case. As of 31 March, seven confirmed COVID-19 cases were reported, including two fatalities.

WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2023 focuses on four interlinked strategic objectives guided by the SDGs:

1) Responding to new and protracted emergencies, ensuring that humanitarian programmes are strategically linked to development and peacebuilding; 2) Reducing malnutrition and its root causes; 3) Strengthening the resilience of food-insecure households and food systems; 4) Strengthening in-country systems and structures for the provision of humanitarian and development common services



Operational Updates

- Given the COVID-19 context, WFP prioritized continuation of life-saving food and nutrition assistance while taking measures to minimize the risks of COVID-19 transmission.
- As part of COVID-19 precautionary measures, WFP developed guidelines for food distributions for WFP staff and cooperating partners. These measures aim to reduce the exposure of beneficiaries, WFP staff and partners to the COVID-19 by allowing for enough space to enable physical distance of at least two meters, hand washing facilities and setting up temperature control areas, where possible.
- WFP precautionary measures are accompanied by intensified COVID-19 awareness campaigns. During distributions beneficiaries are made aware of the COVID-19 risks and recommendations on its prevention through visual materials (posters) as well as community messaging.
- Considering the evolving situation and measures aiming at preventing the spread of COVID-19, WFP plans to assist beneficiaries with a double ration in April, covering food requirements for April and May. Doubled distributions will be implemented both for in-kind and cash-based transfers.
- WFP, together with the Nutrition Sector and the Ministry of Health, led the development of the technical guidance on COVID-19 and nutrition programming to support nutrition workers in the field to safely delivering community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) interventions.
- Cascade training on the updated Home Fortification (HF) guidelines were undertaken in the states of Blue Nile and Red Sea from the 9 – 13 of March targeting State Ministry of Health counterparts and WFP's nutrition partners.

Population: **43 million**

2019 Human Development Index:
168 out of 189

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Acute malnutrition: **2.7 million**
children between 6-59 months

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Photo Caption: FFA activity in West Darfur providing training and capacity building of women to produce soap. The earnings from the sale of soap contribute to cover the needs of their families. ©WFP/Ala Kheir.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirements 2019-2023 (in USD)	Allocated Contributions 2019-2023 (in USD)
2.27 billion	680 m
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirement (in USD) (May - October 2020)
420.2 m	51.7 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome #1: People affected by shocks in targeted areas have access to food, nutrition and livelihoods during/after crises.

Focus area: Crisis Response in emergency situations and on increasing self-reliance

Activities:

- Act.1 Provide food and CBT to people affected by shocks
- Act.2 Provide nutrition sensitive programming in schools.
- Act.3 Provide preventative and curative nutrition activities to children aged 6-59 months and PLW/G

Strategic Result 2: Ending Malnutrition

Strategic Outcome #2: Food insecure residents in targeted areas have sustainably improved nutrition by 2024.

Focus area: Root Causes of Malnutrition

Activities:

- Act.4 Provide curative and preventative nutrition activities to children aged 6-59 months and PLW/G and capacity strengthening to national and state health institutions.
- Act. 5 Provide nutrition-sensitive programming in schools and capacity strengthening support to national and state education institutions.

Strategic Result 3: Food Systems are Sustainable

Strategic Outcome #3: Food insecure people in targeted areas and food systems have increased resilience to shocks by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience Building of households, communities and national systems including food systems.

Activities:

- Act.6 Offer asset creation activities and technical assistance through safety nets to help food insecure households to reduce risk and adapt to climate change.
- Act.7 Provide capacity strengthening support to farmers and local, state and national agricultural institutions.

Strategic Result 4: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic Outcome #4: Humanitarian and development actors and national systems have access to expertise, services and infrastructure in the areas of logistics (including air transport), ICT, administration and infrastructure engineering.

Focus area: Enable humanitarian interventions in response to crisis.

Activities:

- Act.8 Provide technical and support services (Logistics, ICT, administrative and project) to the humanitarian and development community and national entities/systems.
- Act.9 Provide air transport services for personnel and light cargo alongside aviation sector technical assistance.

Services provision

- In March, the WFP-managed United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) transported 1,901 passengers from 70 UN agencies, NGOs and diplomatic community to 24 hard to reach destinations in country.

- Click [here](#) for a story on UNHAS published on women's day.
- The provision of WFP Logistics services (storage, transportation, fuel and vehicle maintenance) is currently available to UN agencies and NGOs through Bilateral Service Provision at full cost recovery and coordinated by the Logistic Sector. In March, 430 MT of non-food items were stored in different locations and 240 MT were transported across the country. A total of 33 organizations were supported through Logistics service provision.

Monitoring

- WFP February Market Monitoring (issued March 2020) shows that food commodity prices have continued to rise. The average retail price of sorghum was higher by 100 percent compared to the same period of the previous year.
- In 2019, WFP productive safety net (PSN) programme reached close to 160,000 people. The end of year outcome monitoring report for WFP PSN programme has been finalized, with results showing improvement in food consumption and overall positive impact on targeted communities. 81 percent of the surveyed households indicated that they are deriving benefits from the assets created through the PSN programme.

Challenges

- The COVID-19 crisis has forced schools to close. School feeding on-site is therefore currently on hold in Sudan, but preparatory work continues to resume and scale-up school meals when schools re-open in September. In this context, WFP is also developing a guideline for delivering take-home rations in lieu of on-site school meals and looking at possibilities for implementation.
- The fuel shortages countrywide remained a challenge in March, which led to diminished commercial transport capacity.

Building Resilience

- The Social Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) campaign raising awareness for Post-Harvest Losses (PHL) and informing farmers of hermetic storage to safely store their harvest has been completed for the three states of White Nile, North and West Kordofan. PHL activities were also completed in Kassala, Gedarif, Blue and White Nile and North, West, Central, South and East Darfur states, reaching 37,400 farmers with PHL training and safe storage equipment.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

Canada, European Union (DEVCO and ECHO), Finland, France, Germany (BMZ and GFFO), Italy, Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom (DFID), the United States (USAID/FFP, USAID/OFDA, PRM), Private donors, SHF, UN-CERF, and UN Other Funds and Agencies.