In Numbers
- 2.7 million people assisted
  September 2020
- 16,144 metric tons of food assistance distributed
- US$ 829,882 of cash-based transfers
- US$ 127.6 million six months net funding requirements (November 2020 – April 2021)

Operational Context
COVID-19 confirmed cases reached 13,653 as of 30 September.

As of 8 October, The Sudan Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) reported that flooding has affected over 875,000 people across the country, with the states most affected being North Darfur, Khartoum, West Darfur, Sennar and Blue Nile.

The devastating floods come at a time when hunger levels remain alarmingly high in Sudan with increased and protracted displacement, economic decline and inflation, and high food price hikes, exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), an estimated 9.6 million people are experiencing high levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) during the period June-September 2020.

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
- In collaboration with the Government of Sudan and partners, as of mid-October WFP provided emergency food assistance to over 120,000 floods affected people in Khartoum, North Darfur, Sennar, East Darfur, White Nile and Kassala States and plans to reach 247,000 people with two-week emergency food rations in response to the devastating floods. Latest updates on the WFP floods response can be found here.

Where no nutrition services are available, WFP aims to provide blanket supplementary feeding to children under five years, pregnant and lactating women affected by the floods. WFP has provided emergency nutrition assistance to over 3,000 children under five, pregnant and nursing women as part of the flood response.

Since the start of flood season, WFP has participated in 21 assessment missions to guide WFP flood response and identify people who are most in need. When access was made difficult by the floods, WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) enabled access to affected areas to perform inter-agency rapid needs assessments.

• Despite the logistical challenges posed by the heavy rains, WFP continues to provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance to ensure critical support reach the people in need. Distributions include precautionary measures to minimize risks of COVID-19 transmission. More than 2.2 million people were reached with September life-saving food assistance (in-kind food or cash-based transfers¹) across 14 states. Over 265,000 children 6-59 months of age, pregnant and breastfeeding women received nutrition assistance in September.

• School meals in Sudan are a strong incentive for parents to send their children to school. Due to COVID-19, schools have been closed. To ensure that school children meet their food and nutritional requirements and encourage families to send children back to school once they reopen, WFP, in collaboration with partners, delivered so far take-home rations (THR) in lieu of on-site school meals to 673,000 primary school students across 10 states.

(¹) Cash-Based Transfers were distributed in August as double ration, covering the months of August and September

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Photo Caption: WFP providing emergency food assistance to refugees affected by recent heavy rains and floods Kassala State. ©WFP/ Niema Abdelmageed

Population: 43 million
2019 Human Development Index: 168 out of 189
Income Level: Lower middle
Acute malnutrition: 2.7 million children under five years of age
With the reopening pushed back to November, WFP is planning to implement a second round of THR in 14 states.

- Considering the high level of food security needs, WFP is gradually increasing life-saving food assistance in highly food insecure locations, as well as scaling up nutrition and school feeding programmes. To meet the needs over the next six months (November 2020 - April 2021) across its activities, WFP in Sudan requires USD 127.6 million.

Assessments

- WFP September Market Monitor showed another increase in the national average retail price of sorghum compared to the previous month (increase of 8.76 percent), 261 percent higher compared to same period last year, and 733 percent higher compared to the five-year average. Sorghum prices are expected to remain high, at least until the harvest of the current season arrives in the market in November/December 2020.

Services provision

- WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) is essential to facilitate humanitarian access, thereby enabling UN agencies, non-governmental organizations and the humanitarian community to safely and securely reach the most vulnerable populations. In September 2020, UNHAS transported 1,356 passengers from 60 partner organizations reaching 33 destinations and delivered 3.5 metric tons of light humanitarian cargo including Personal Protective Equipment for COVID-19.

- The Sudan Logistics Cluster continued to work with WFP Supply Chain to address storage and transportation requests received from in-country partners in the context of the current flood response. The Cluster also developed maps on access constraints and flooded areas. Click here to access the latest version of the maps.

Challenges

- Heavy rains have deteriorated roads conditions, further complicating efforts to reach people in need of humanitarian assistance in hard to reach areas. Shortages of fuel and operational constraints slowing down the delivery of commodities to field locations were experienced, as well as episodes of insecurity in Port Sudan which temporarily impacted the port operations and the movement of food.

Donors (in alphabetical order)
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