



# WFP South Sudan Country Brief

November 2020

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## In Numbers

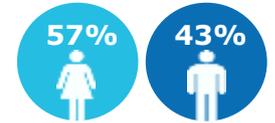
17,100 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed\*

USD 5.5 m in cash-based transfers made\*

USD 325.9 m six months (December 20 – May 21) net funding requirements

1.4 m people assisted\*

\*in November 2020



## Operational Context

The signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan in September 2018 gave rise to hopes for an end to the violence. Although the civil conflict has largely abated in most parts of the country, subnational conflict persists. In 2020, there was a notable deterioration in the security situation particularly in Jonglei, Eastern Equatoria, Lakes, Warrap and Upper Nile states. The multifaceted nature of the crisis continues to disrupt local economy, increase displacements and reduce access to basic services and education. This continues to increase the vulnerability of the population with 7.5 million people – more than two thirds of the population – in need of humanitarian assistance in 2020. Nearly 4 million people remain displaced: 1.5 million internally and 2.2 million as refugees in neighbouring countries. The country remains in a critical period of unprecedented severe food insecurity with 6.48 million people facing food insecurity (IPC 3 and above) at the height of the 2020 lean season.

The COVID-19 pandemic presents serious risks to an already fragile situation. COVID-19 is certain to exacerbate acute food insecurity, particularly for market-reliant populations. Currently, South Sudan has 3,589 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 63 deaths.



Population: 12 million

2019 Human Development Index: 188 out of 189

Income Level: Low

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

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## Operational Updates

- In November, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to 1.4 million people through general food assistance (GFA), nutrition and resilience activities in South Sudan.
- More than one million people have been affected by flooding since June across South Sudan. WFP is targeting flood-affected people in need of food assistance through GFA: 550,000 people were reached with food assistance in November.
- The FAO-WFP early warning analysis of food insecurity hotspots was published in October 2020, warning on a potential deterioration of the key drivers of food insecurity that are conflict, consecutive natural shocks, worsening economic situation as well as severe constraints to humanitarian access, posing a threat to the food security situation in parts of the country. WFP is looking at how best to scale-up its operations, with limited resources and increased needs.
- Each year, WFP prepositions food and nutrition items in areas that will become inaccessible with the onset of the rainy season. The 2021 prepositioning window will be shorter than normal with continued poor road conditions due to heavy floods this year and the impact of COVID-19 on delivery lead times. WFP is calling on partners for early and timely contributions to support the prepositioning exercise. Once roads are closed, WFP must deliver food by air which is seven times more expensive than delivering by road.
- The local currency depreciation is keeping food prices high, with the price of white sorghum, a staple food, increasing by 6 to 20 percent in November in several markets across the country. However, the seasonal harvest in Maban, Upper Nile, and Yida, Unity, contributed to a drop of 20 and 13 percent respectively, in white sorghum prices.

## WFP Country Strategy

### Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
3.88 b	1.69 b	325.9 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

## Common Services

- In November, UNHAS transported 5,000 passengers and 151 mt of light cargo to 55 destinations across South Sudan. UNHAS continues to support the national COVID-19 response transporting samples from across the country to the National Laboratory in Juba. UNHAS also continues to provide dedicated support to flood response, transporting Inter-Cluster Working Group missions to flood-affected areas.
- WFP, through the Logistics Cluster, as a co-lead of the Operational Support and Logistics Pillar of the National COVID-19 Response Plan, continues to coordinate requests for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from humanitarian organizations working across South Sudan. As of 3 November, 217 requests from 75 organizations submitted through the PPE Common Request System had been approved by the Inter-Agency Technical Team, resulting in the allocation of more than 2.5 million PPE items from the common pool created by WHO, WFP and IOM.

## Challenges

- Despite a peace agreement in South Sudan, conflict continues to threaten food security in many parts of the country, leading to higher levels of hunger among displaced and dispossessed families who have lost their homes, livelihoods and their loved ones.
- Torrential rains, extensive flooding, and conflict have disrupted people's access to food and strained the ability of WFP and partners to reach remote locations on a regular basis.
- WFP is deeply concerned about the deteriorated food security and nutrition situation across the country, particularly in locations affected by compounded shocks, and calls for urgent and coordinated action to address the multiple factors affecting food security and nutrition outcomes.
- WFP requires USD 320.3 million to sustain operations through the next six months (December 2020 -May 2021).

## Donors (in alphabetical order) \*

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