In 2021, around 8.3 million people in South Sudan need some form of humanitarian assistance. This is nearly 70 percent of the population and an increase of 800,000 people from the 7.5 million people in need in 2020. There are multiple contributing factors to the steep increase in need across the Country, including continued instability, unprecedented weather events and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. 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. However, subnational conflict persists, and conflict dynamics remain fragile. In 2020, reports indicate that incidents of armed conflict increased by 60 percent when compared to 2019. Violence reached unprecedented levels in Jonglei and Greater Pibor with four successive waves of violence displaced some 200,000 people in 2020. Across Warrap, conflict and insecurity have continued to delay and interrupt WFP distributions for 400,000 people facing ICP Phase 5 (Catastrophe) conditions.

Furthermore, the second year of unprecedented flooding across the country affected more than one million people. More than 450,000 individuals were displaced, with women and children most affected. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic presents serious risks to an already fragile situation. COVID-19 is certain to further exacerbate acute food insecurity, particularly for market-reliant populations as the pandemic significantly contributes to the economic crisis. South Sudan has had so far a total of 10,688 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 115 deaths.

To respond to the increasing need in South Sudan, the 2018-2020 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) has been extended to 2021, and may be considered for a further extension, to align with the United Nations Cooperation Framework in South Sudan.

WFP has increased the number of beneficiaries targeted under general food distributions (GFD) by approximately 45 percent, increased rations from a 50 percent food basket to 70 percent food basket, and extended assistance from six-months during the lean season to a full year.

- **In Akobo**, WFP distributed in-kind food to 74,547 beneficiaries. Distributions were completed in Dengok, Gadong and Bilkey as well as Wechjal in Wachjal, but are still ongoing in Nyandit.
- **In Awiel South**, a total of 50,100 beneficiaries received food distributions, representing 100 percent of the April target.
- **In the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA)**, distributions are ongoing in Pibor and Lekuangole. Prepositioning of food is continuing in Verteth. In Pibor, the nutrition situation remains challenging. The global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence stands at 21.6 percent, and is far higher than the emergency threshold of 15 percent.
- **In Tonj East**, 45,786 people have received assistance through two-month distributions covering their food needs for March and April, representing 92% of the April target.
- **In Tonj South and Tonj North**, distributions, in favour of 65,202 persons in Tonj North and 33,156 in Tonj South, covering their food needs for March and April were completed, totalling 100 percent of the number of beneficiaries targeted.
### WFP Country Strategy

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.89 b</td>
<td>2.1 b</td>
<td>120.8 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 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
- Provision of infrastructure development services for humanitarian access and community

#### 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

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**Donors (listed alphabetically)**:  
Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, UN CERF, UN COUNTRY BASED POOLED FUNDS, UN Other Funds and Agencies, United Kingdom, USA

*Excluding multilateral and private donors

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**WFP South Sudan Country Brief**

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**Innovations and Cash-Based Transfers**

- As of April, a total of 3.6 million people are registered in SCOPE, WFP’s beneficiary information and transfer management platform. WFP SCOPE biometric registration is ongoing in IPC Phase 5-risk counties including Tonj North, Tonj South, and Mingkaman.

**Safety Nets and Resilience**

- WFP completed a consultative seasonal livelihoods programming process with local authorities, partners and communities located in six counties: Terekeka, Akobo, Rumbek East, Pochalla, Pibor, and Awerial to identify potential partnerships and improve coordination and shared ownership with local stakeholders in innovative and resilience programming.

**COVID-19 Updates**

- On 6 April, the National Vaccination Plan commenced in South Sudan using Astra Zeneca supplied through COVAX. Out of the 132,500 doses delivered, only 5,500 doses have been consumed due to the limited vaccination centers available. As the vaccines expire on 18 July the vaccination rate was raised to over 12,000 persons per week. A call was launched for international NGOs, UN agencies and other health practitioners to open centers to support the vaccination process.

- The second surge of COVID-19 has been declared in South Sudan with minimal number of cases reported on a daily basis so far. Nonetheless, the surge in cases in Uganda is raising concerns for a third wave.

**Common Services**

**UNHAS**

- In April, UNHAS transported 4,643 passengers serving 173 user organizations to 50 destinations across South Sudan. UNHAS also performed six medical evacuations on behalf of five organizations.

**Logistics Cluster**

- The Logistics Cluster coordinated the departure of two humanitarian convoys to locations along the Western Corridor and two convoys from Bor to Gumuruk, Pibor, Lekuangole and to Duk, Nyirol, Uror and West Akobo Counties.
- During the final two weeks of April, a cargo of 212 mt of non-food items (NFIs) was transported to 25 locations on behalf of 18 organisations, of which 47 percent was transported by road and river.
- The latest physical access constraints map, shared with humanitarian partners on a weekly basis, is available here.

**Supply Chain**

- In total, WFP plans to transport 370,000 mt of food including 190,000 mt for the prepositioning exercise before the heavy rains start around beginning of July. Ensuring the timely delivery is critical as it allows to assist beneficiaries in the most remote locations, where food needs are the highest.

**Challenges**

- Increased insecurity in Jonglei State is affecting WFP’s ability to deliver and preposition food via road before the rainy season. Frequent robberies, ambush and assault on the Bor-Gadiang-Pajut road to Northern Jonglei and on the Bor-Gadiang-Manyabol road to Pibor, make it difficult for WFP to contract commercial transporters, reluctant to deliver along these roads. WFP had to temporarily suspend convoys on these roads, seriously affecting its prepositioning operations. WFP is engaging with authorities to take adequate measures and ensure the safe movement of humanitarian assistance.