



WFP South Sudan Country Brief

August 2021

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

In 2021, approximately 8.3 million people in South Sudan need some form of humanitarian assistance, nearly 70 percent of the population, of which 108,000 people are in IPC Phase 5 Catastrophe. This steep increase in needs across the country is a result of multiple compounding factors, including continued subnational conflict, climatic shocks and the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Subnational conflict persists, and conflict dynamics remain volatile. In 2021, insecurity has disrupted WFP operations in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Jonglei, Warrap, Upper Nile, Eastern Equatoria, and Western Equatoria. Roadside robberies, ambush and assault have been recurrent.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present serious risks to an already fragile situation, threatening to further exacerbate acute food insecurity, particularly for market-reliant populations. As of 8 September, South Sudan had a total of 11,571 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 120 deaths.

To respond to increased needs and align with the next United Nations Cooperation Framework in South Sudan, the 2018-2021 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) is being extended to 2022.



Population: 12 million

2019 Human Development Index: 188 out of 189

Income Level: Low

Chronic malnutrition: 33 percent of children

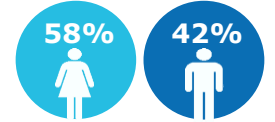
In Numbers

20,092 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*

USD 4.1 m in cash-based transfers made*

USD 334 m six months (Sep 2021 to Feb 2022) net funding requirements**

2.08 m people assisted*
*in July 2021



Operational Updates

- **The fall-out following the June 2021 split in the Sudan People's Liberation Army in-Opposition (SPLA-IO) continues to cause tensions in the Upper Nile state.** This continued political uncertainty may delay and affect WFP's operations in Upper Nile and Northern Jonglei in the short term, including its flood response and food security data collection exercises.
- **The security situation remains uncertain in Tambura, Western Equatoria State.** The fighting that started in late June involved informal armed actors, the SPLA-IO and the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF). Recurring clashes have resulted in mass displacements of around 80,000 people. Consequently, WFP increased its assistance to support over 40,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs). If tensions do not de-escalate and a peaceful resolution to the conflict cannot be found quickly, IDPs will not be able to return to their homes and their harvest may be lost.
- **Tensions may rise in IDP camps by end of September as ration cuts will affect more than 100,000 displaced people** for three months, starting in October in Juba, Wau and Bor. As a result of funding constraints, WFP announced the ration cuts from 70 percent to 50 percent of the food basket and the reduction of the duration of support from 12 to 9 months back in April 2021, to scale-up assistance in counties facing famine-like conditions.
- **In 2021, more than 445,000 people have been affected by flooding in 20 counties across South Sudan.** WFP is assisting close to 380,000 people as part of its lean season response and scaled-up response in IPC phase 5 counties. However, lack of funding does not allow support to 15,000 people in new flood-affected Regions of Northern Bahr El Ghazal. The office of the Vice President, chairing the governance cluster, has declared the **flood across the country as a national emergency.**

** for reference only. Current 6-month net funding requirements (Oct 21 to Mar 22) stand at USD 455.7 m

Contact info: wfp.southsudan@wfp.org

Country Director: Matthew Hollingworth

Further information: <https://www1.wfp.org/countries/south-sudan>

Photo: People waiting to be registered for WFP flood response in Ayod, Jonglei State (WFP/ Eulalia Berlanga)

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
3.88 b	2.43 b	334 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
- 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
- Provision of infrastructure development services

Donors (listed alphabetically) *

Canada, Estonia, European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Kuwait, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, UN COUNTRY BASED POOLED FUNDS, Other UN Funds and Agencies, United Kingdom, USA

*Excluding multilateral and private donors

Food and Nutrition

- In July, WFP and its partners provided food and nutrition assistance to 2.08 million people with a total of 20,092 mt of in-kind food and USD 4.1 million in cash-based transfers (CBT). In the six IPC Phase 5 risk counties of Akobo, Aweil South, Pibor, Tonj East, Tonj North and Tonj South, WFP and its partners provided food and nutrition assistance to 349,253 people in the July cycle. From January to July 2021, WFP has supported over 4.59 million people in the Country.

Safety Nets and Resilience

- In addition to the unconditional food assistance, WFP works with the communities in the IPC Phase 5 risk on various asset creation activities, including construction and rehabilitation of infrastructure to improve access to basic services and food production to increase household food availability. WFP is developing a plan for local smallholder food purchase for the 2020/ 2021 season and intend to procure 1,500 mt of maize and pulses from smallholder farmers, which is double the quantity that was purchased in 2020.

Supply Chain

- WFP plans to transport 370,000 mt of food in 2021, including 190,000 mt for the prepositioning exercise. To date, 256,390 mt of food has been sourced in or brought into South Sudan in 2021 (84 percent of the yearly requirements). All roads from Bor to Northern Jonglei and Greater Pibor administrative areas are impassable due to heavy rain and flooding in some areas of Ayod, Duk, Twic East and Uror. Most logistical operations and food dispatch in Jonglei are still being operated by river and air, as roads remain inaccessible.

Common Services

- In August, UNHAS transported 6,263 passengers and 287 mt of light humanitarian cargo to 53 destinations across South Sudan. Through UNHAS and the Logistics Cluster, WFP continues to support the national vaccination scheme and UNHAS is supplying the delivery of COVAX vaccines to 33 destinations in support of WHO, UNICEF and the Ministry of Health.

Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster transported 1,139 mt of non-food item (NFI) cargo to 76 locations supporting 67 organisations. The first ever Logistics Cluster boat convoy to Akobo departed from Malakal, serving also other locations along the Sobat River (previously only served by air). Four more boat convoys and one barge movement took place in August. The Logistics Cluster coordinated two road convoys to destinations along the Western Corridor with about 360 mt of NFIs and one ad-hoc road convoy from Juba to Yambio, Tambura and Ezo, carrying 240 mt.

Challenges

- As a result of funding constraints, WFP announced reduction of ration and the duration of assistance to IDPs. Scarce resources continue to also affect the support that WFP and its partners will be able to extend to the rising number of people affected by flooding. It is estimated that 475,000 flood-affected people will require food and humanitarian assistance in 2021.