

Highlights

October 2021



In the second IPC projection period from April to July 2021, an estimated 7.24 million people (60% of the population) are likely to face Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) acute food insecurity, with 108,000 people likely to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). During this period, an estimated 2.4 million are likely to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity.



An estimated 600,000 people (OCHA, October 7) were affected and displaced by floods in South Sudan since May 2021. This figure is expected to continue to increase in the near term. WFP has provided assistance to 380,000 floods-affected people as part of the lean season and scaled-up response in IPC 5 counties.



Stable and normal food markets situation were witnessed in many of the reference markets. However, food prices remained high throughout the country in 2021Q2 compared to the long-term 5-years monthly average and the same months in 2020.



Security situation remains fragile and represents of the main drivers leading to the disruption of humanitarian operations and displacement.



A total of 2.27 million South-Sudanese refugees are hosted in 5 neighbouring countries of the region (Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, DRC). An additional 1.62 million people are internally displaced.



Situation in Numbers



4.4 million

Children in Need of Humanitarian Assistance



8.3 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA, HNO, January 2021)



1.62 million

Internally Displaced People (OCHA, Snapshot, April 2021)



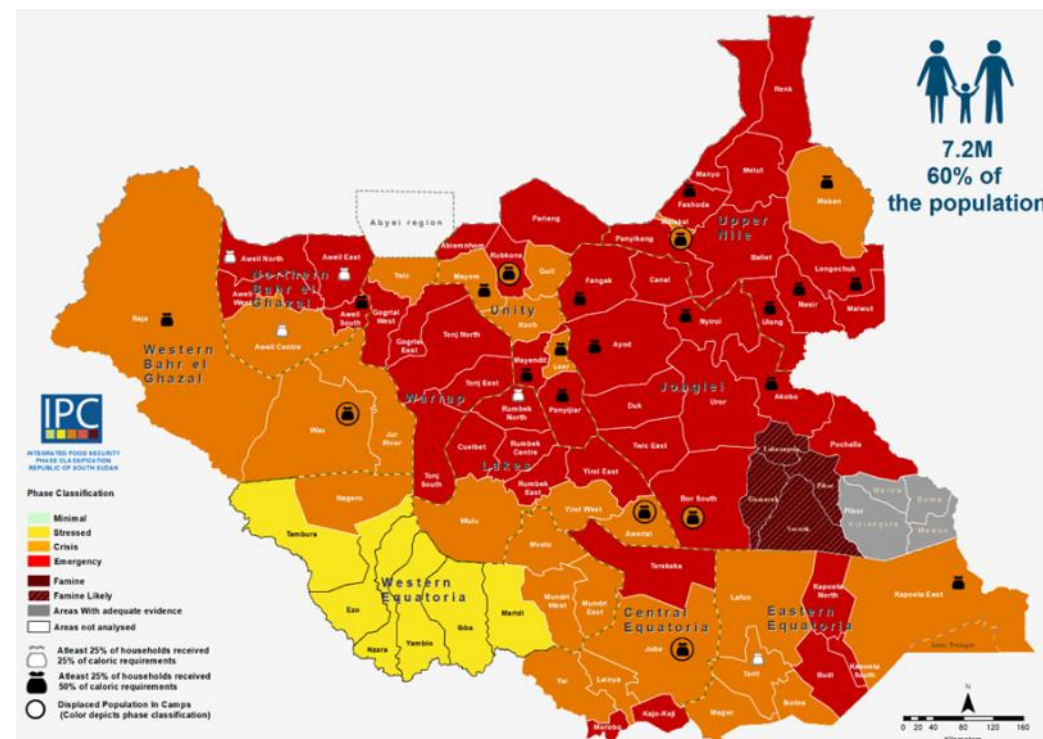
1.4 million

Children expected to suffer from acute malnutrition (UNICEF, HAC, 2021)

In the second IPC projection period from April to July 2021, **an estimated 7.24 million people (60% of the population) are likely to face Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) acute food insecurity**, with 108,000 people likely to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). During this period, **an estimated 2.4 million are likely to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity**.

The most severe acute food insecurity situations are experienced in counties where chronic vulnerabilities have been exacerbated by a **combination of shocks**, including: the impact of floods on livelihoods, insecurity, population displacement, declined crop production, diseases and pests, persistently poor macroeconomic conditions characterized by limited access to basic services, and the cumulative effects of prolonged years of asset depletion and loss of livelihoods aggravated by the effects of COVID-19.

These already critical levels of food insecurity could become worse, as all drivers of food insecurity are evolving in concerning directions.



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Projection (April-July 2021)

Floods-affected areas, which already experienced a severe deterioration of food security, might see their situation further affected as agriculture in these areas may at the same time be characterized by rain deficits in the upcoming planting period, which will likely reduce yields.

Moreover, poor access to health and nutrition services caused by heightened inter-communal conflict and flooding has also exacerbated SAM and MAM referrals and access to health services. As a consequence, **310,000 children under 5 are suffering from severe acute malnutrition and 1.4m from moderate acute malnutrition**.

600K

People affected by flooding

6

flood-affected states

21

flood-affected counties

8

affected counties with response ongoing

Flood Impact Summary



Satellite observed flooded area (hectares): **3,993,324**



Estimated number of people living in the flooded locations: **72,858**



Potentially flooded croplands (hectares): **12,527**

Above-average rainfall continued between July and September in most of the country, including the northeast, southeast, central and north-western parts, with an increased likelihood of major floods in some areas. This led to displacement and crop damages. These floods followed massive ones in 2020, which displaced more than 1 million people in the country, nearly half of them in south-eastern regions including Jonglei.

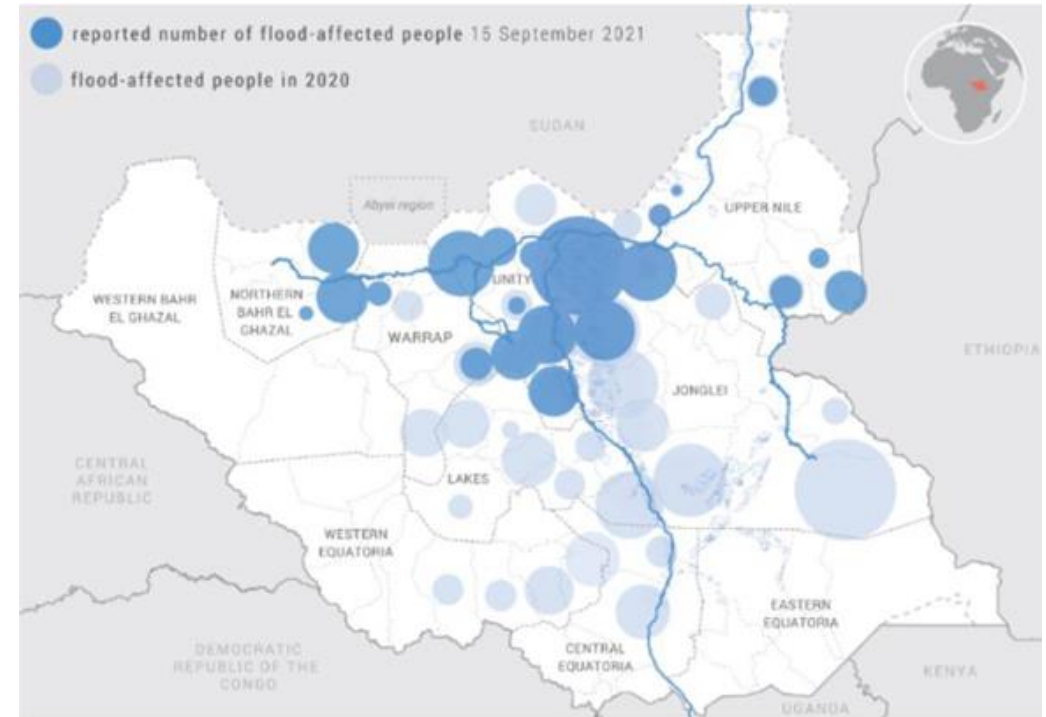
An estimated **600,000 people were affected and displaced by floods** in South Sudan since May 2021 (OCHA, October 7). This figure is expected to continue to increase in the near term. The governance cluster has declared floods **a national emergency**. People in Jonglei and Unity states, followed by Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Upper Nile states have been the worst affected to date. According to initial assessments, priority needs include food assistance, emergency shelter and non-food items, water, sanitation and hygiene services and hygiene kits, health and nutrition supplies and services, protection services and dignity kits, and fishing kits for livelihood support.

Floods have exacerbated the vulnerability of communities, with many people displaced by the floods seeking refuge in churches and schools. Health facilities, already stressed by the COVID-19 response, have been heavily impacted.

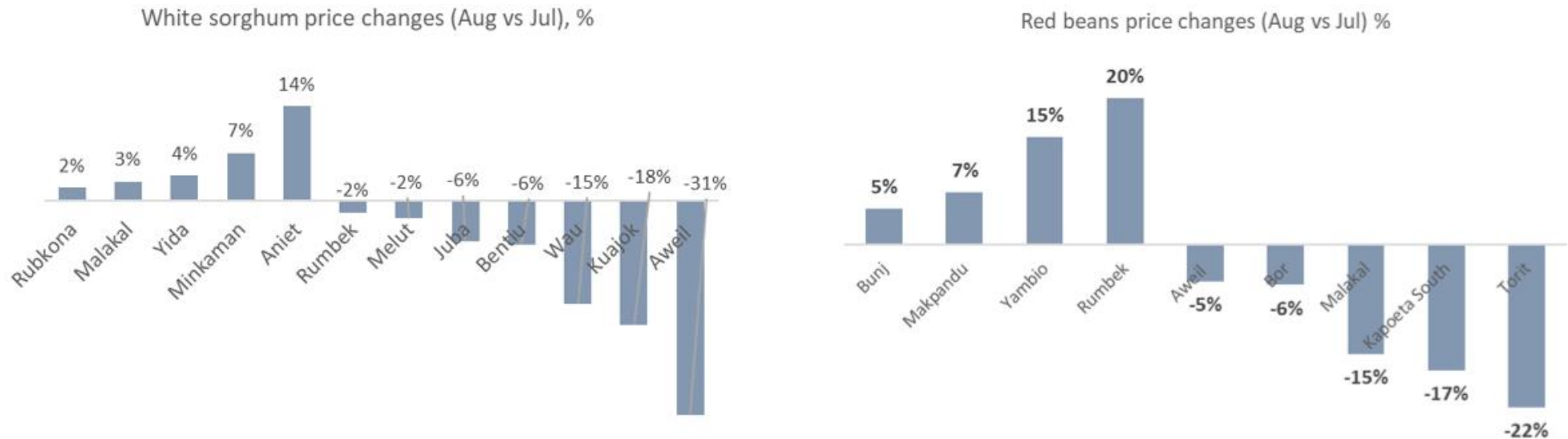
Flood mitigation measures helped to reduce the impact of flooding in areas like Bor town and Pibor. Canoes and boats have been critical for mobile teams to reach people who remained isolated by floods.

Heavy rains, infrastructure damage and reduced physical accessibility, funding constraints and insecurity have hampered the flood response. Despite that, **WFP has provided assistance to 380,000 floods-affected people as part of the lean season and scaled-up response in IPC 5 counties**. WFP and its humanitarian partners agreed to provide temporary assistance to 7,000 floods-affected people in Bentiu for up to two months, until conditions allow for their return to their villages or to a higher ground in their places of origin.

Comparison between flood-affected areas in 2020 and 2021 (OCHA)



Stable and normal food markets situation were witnessed in many of the reference markets. The beginning of seasonal harvests in parts of the country coupled with humanitarian food distributions, stability of exchange rates and improved cross-border trade flows were the major reasons for the observed situation. Out of thirteen monitored markets, about 85% of the markets had experienced either stable or slightly decrease in prices of white sorghum. Similarly, maize showed a typical decline m-o-m in most monitored markets. Majority of the reference markets witnessed stable red beans prices m-o-m but remained elevated compared to the 2020 and 5-YA levels. Despite that, **food prices remained high throughout the country in 2021Q2 compared to the long-term**



In April 2021, the International Monetary Fund approved a general allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) equivalent to US \$ 334 million to South Sudan. This additional resource is expected to improve foreign currency reserves, build confidence of market actors, and stabilize the exchange rate. The Central Bank of South Sudan has unified the exchange rates in July 2021. **The synchronization of the official rate with the parallel rate is expected to provide equal opportunity among importers, and hence strengthen competitiveness.** In August 2021, SSP to US dollar exchange rate at commercial banks fluctuated from 399.5153 to 411.7993. Compared to the previous month, the exchange rate has dropped by 3%. The average exchange rate in the parallel market stood at 411.4516, not significantly different from the rate at banks.

Despite this, **the currency dynamics and associated impacts on commodity prices and incomes coupled with the effects of COVID-19 continue to erode the purchasing power of vulnerable households** who rely on markets to purchase food and other basic needs. Seasonal scarcity of food, the flooding in 2020 (with limited recovery from the previous floods), and the much lower than required humanitarian food assistance in the face of increased needs, will likely result in an increase of acute food insecurity, especially during the lean season.



While armed violence has not escalated to levels close to 2020 so far, the **security situation remains fragile**. In June, intercommunal clashes involving several hundred people were reported in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (Jonglei State).

Transport companies operating along Nimule - Juba trade route boycotted services due to the continued deterioration of security and killings of drivers. As a result, the supply of fuel has been disrupted, leading to serious shortage of fuel at petrol stations in Juba.

Sub-national conflicts in some states are one of the main drivers leading to the **disruption of humanitarian operations and displacement**:

- ⇒ fighting and insecurity continues in Upper Nile and Jonglei between different factions of the SPLA-IO
- ⇒ Violence persists in the greater Tambura area, Western Equatoria, which is one of the only food surplus areas of the country this year.
- ⇒ The Government's withdrawal from Sant'Egidio talks could lead to increase in conflict with NAS in Central Equatoria, affecting key trade routes to Uganda and Kenya.

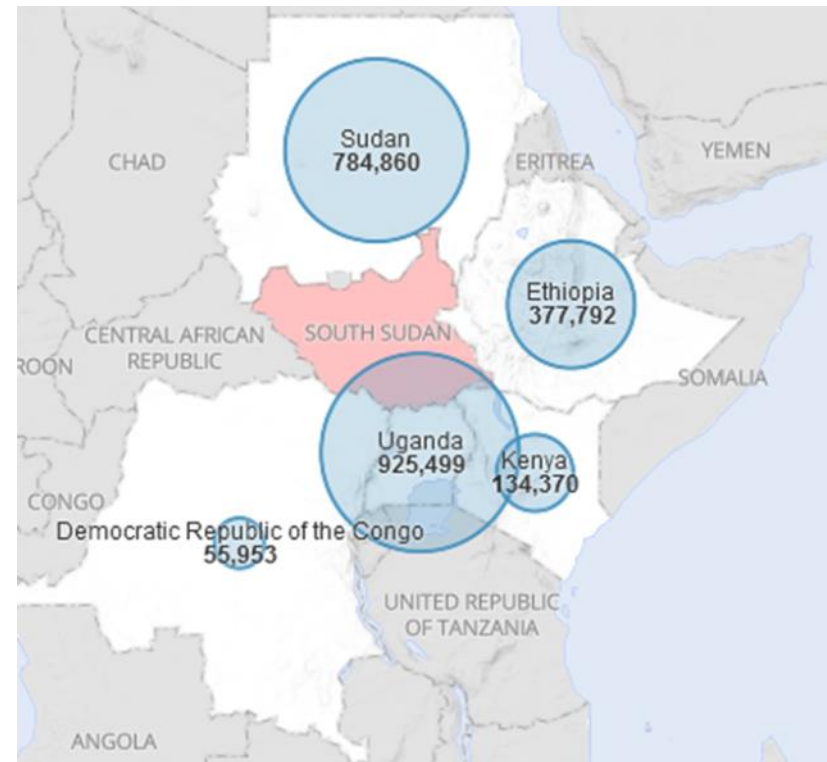
RECENT INSECURITY EVENTS:

- **17 September:** Truck driver killed during an ambush on a convoy transporting WFP commodities
- **13 September:** WFP food looted in Upper Nile State
- **1 September:** Insecurity in Equatoria States hampers WFP operations and supply chain routes
- **22 August:** WFP and Partner staff relocated as clashes intensify in West-



As of 31 of August, a total of **2.27 million South-Sudanese refugees** are reported in 5 neighbouring countries of the region. Uganda and Sudan host 75% of the entire refugee population, with 40,6% and 34,4%, respectively, followed by Ethiopia (16,6%), Kenya (5,9%) and DRC (2,4%). **An additional 1.62 million people are internally displaced** due to several concurring shocks: the impact of floods on livelihoods, insecurity, climate change and persistently poor macroeconomic conditions characterized by limited access to basic services, and the cumulative effects of prolonged years of asset depletion and loss of livelihoods aggravated by the effects of COVID-19.

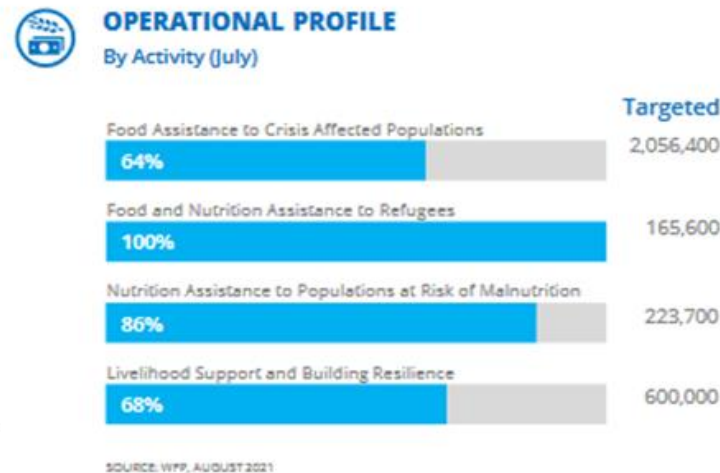
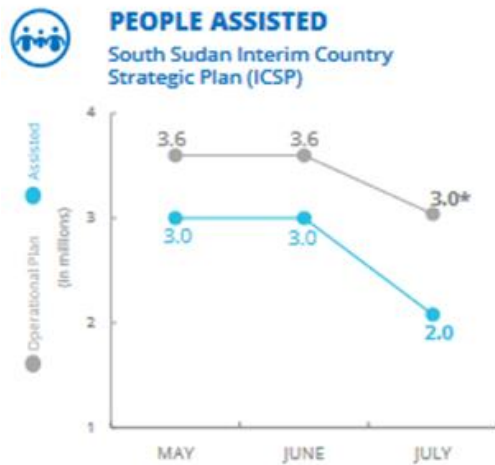
Regional Overview of South-Sudanese refugee population





WFP Response and Funding Outlook

- In five of the six IPC 5 risk counties August distributions have been completed, reaching 366,570 people (95% achievement).
- In IPC 4 counties August distributions are ongoing, having reached 194,196 people (68% achievement). In Duk County-Jonglei State challenges persist due to flooded areas, road inaccessibility and low airlift capacity.
- This month WFP plans to reach 3.2 million people, including 2.4M under WFP’s emergency response
- Food and cash distributions for August were completed reaching 258,168 refugees, as part of the refugee response. However, Ration cuts in IDP and refugee camps by the end of September to affect more than 100,000 displaced people in Juba, Wau and Bor



Immediate scale-up of multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance is needed to save lives and avert total collapse of livelihoods in the affected counties, particularly those with populations in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Furthermore, urgent action is required for populations in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps.

Net funding requirements in 2021 reached a total of US\$ 377.5M. Current funding levels have not allowed support to all floods-affected regions.



For further information

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