



WFP South Sudan Country Brief

September 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. Frequent roadside robberies, ambushes and attacks continue to affect supply chain routes.

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**

Contact info: wfp.southsudan@wfp.org

Country Director: Matthew Hollingworth

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

Photo: General Food Distribution in Likuongo, Pibor (WFP/ Shereen Nasef)

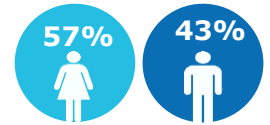
In Numbers

31,280 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*

USD 4.39 m in cash-based transfers made*

USD 456 m six months (October 2021 to March 2022) net funding requirements

3.04 m people assisted in August 2021*



Operational Updates

- **More than 700,000 people have been affected by flooding in 27 counties across eight states since May 2021, leading to the displacement of people from their homes and to an increase in humanitarian needs across the Country.** WFP is assisting around 380,000 people through its lean season response and its scaled-up response in IPC phase 5 counties. However, due to the current funding levels, 15,000 people in new flood-affected Regions of Northern Bahr El Ghazal could not be supported.
- **The security situation in Tambura, Western Equatoria State, remains highly volatile, with persistent targeted violence against civilians, a resurgence of clashes in Tambura town and forced recruitments.** The fighting that started in late June involved informal armed youth militia based on ethnic groups, the Sudan People's Liberation Army-in-Opposition (SPLA-IO) and the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF). Recurring clashes have resulted in mass displacements of more than 80,000 people. To date, WFP has finalized biometric registration for 50,000 IDPs in Tambura, Ezo, Yambio and surrounding areas where IDPs moved; and around 37,000 people have received general food distributions and nutrition assistance.
- **September was the last month of food assistance for more than 100,000 displaced people** in camps in Juba, Wau and Bor. As a result of funding constraints, WFP reduced rations from 70 to 50 percent and shortened the duration of support from 12 to 9 months in order to scale -up assistance in counties facing famine-like conditions.
- Insecurity, ambushes and targeted attacks, continue to disrupt humanitarian operations. On 13 September, a WFP-contracted convoy carrying around 1,200 mt of food was looted in Baliet, Upper Nile, on its way to various locations along the Sobat River. On 17 September, a WFP partner convoy in Yei County, Central Equatoria, was ambushed by unknown assailants and one driver was killed. In Eastern Equatoria, on 24 September, armed individuals shot at WFP-contracted trucks en route to Budi County.

Food and Nutrition

- In August, WFP and partners reached 3.04 million people (out of 3.64 million planned, 83.5 percent) with a total of 31,280 mt of food and USD 4.39 million in cash-based transfers (CBT).

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

| 2021 Total Requirement (in USD) | 2021 Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 919.1 m | 724.7 m | 456 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, UN Other Funds and Agencies, United Kingdom, USA

*Excluding multilateral and private donors

In the six IPC Phase 5 risk counties of Akobo, Aweil South, Pibor, Tonj East, Tonj North and Tonj South, WFP and partners reached 325,741 people (out of 369,788 people) with food and nutrition assistance during August distributions. This includes supporting 252,205 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and children under five (96 percent of planned) through nutrition activities. Cumulatively from January to August 2021, WFP has supported over 4.75 million people, out of the planned 5 million people, with food assistance.

Safety Nets and Resilience

- As part of the objective to support communities to build their own resilience, 447,469 people benefitted from WFP's food assistance for assets (FFA) programme in August 2021. Out of which 21,194 people were supported in the six IPC phase 5 risk counties. This support includes the creation of community infrastructures to improve access to basic services and enhancing food production to improve household food ability.

Supply Chain

- WFP plans to transport 370,000 mt of food in 2021. By the end of September, **269,563 mt** of food had been sourced in or brought into South Sudan, representing **73 percent of the yearly requirements**. The primary mode of delivery in September is by road (65 percent) followed by river (25 percent) and air (10 percent). Heavy to very heavy rainfalls are expected to continue in Jonglei, Unity, Warrap and Upper Nile States until for the next few weeks which will affect WFP's capacity to dispatch and deliver food.

Common Services

- In September, UNHAS transported 6,021 passengers and 296 mt of light humanitarian cargo, supporting 178 organizations across South Sudan.
- In September, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 1,096 mt of humanitarian cargo to 65 destinations (79 percent was transported by river and road), supporting a total of 66 organizations. During the month, the Logistics Cluster coordinated the departure of several convoys including two Western Corridor Convoys from Juba, one convoy from Juba to the Central Equatoria and an ad hoc movement from Juba to Western Equatoria to support the Yambio/Ezo/Tambura response.

COVID-19 Updates

- Through UNHAS and the Logistics Cluster, WFP continues to support the national vaccination scheme and UNHAS is facilitating the delivery of COVAX vaccines to 33 destinations in support of WHO, UNICEF and the Ministry of Health.

Challenges

- The humanitarian needs are growing exponentially due to recurring conflict and violence, as well as floods, leading to new and multiple population displacements. Resources are stretched thin, and WFP is forced to re-prioritize its response to support newly displaced people. Insecurity continues to disrupt WFP's operations in Upper Nile, Pibor, Warrap, and Western and Eastern Equatorias.