



WFP South Sudan Country Brief

November 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 20 December, South Sudan had a total of 13,309 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 133 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.



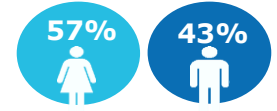
In Numbers

19,529 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*

USD 1.66 m in cash-based transfers made*

USD 684.8 m six months (December 2021 to May 2022) net funding requirements

1.97 m people assisted*
*in October 2021



Operational Updates

- **More than 835,000 people have been affected by flooding with almost half of all 78 counties impacted since May.** 2021 is the third consecutive year of unprecedented flooding, which has led to displacement, loss of livelihoods, and increased reliance on humanitarian assistance. Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states remain the worst impacted by the devastating floods. Since January, WFP has supported 498,887 flood-affected people with food and nutrition assistance.
- **Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity are the most affected states and the floods have had a devastating impact on communities, which has led to a rise in malaria and water borne diseases.** The humanitarian community is working around the clock to protect these communities from further flooding, particularly in Bentiou, Unity State, where precarious dykes are protecting the airstrip, IDP camp and town from more flooding. Equipment is not sufficient to support the needs and heavy machinery is urgently required to support in the infrastructure for the flood response.
- **Following the issues with the youth groups and demands for employment, particularly in Pibor and Renk,** which led to the suspension of humanitarian activities, the humanitarian community successfully negotiated for an unconditional resumption of humanitarian operations in these two areas.
- **Tensions remain in Tonj East, Warrap State, between Marial Lou (Tonj North County) and Paliang (Tonj East County) payams, following several fatal attacks between communities over the weekend of 19 – 21 November.** Further violence will have significant impact on WFP's access to communities facing emergency levels of food insecurity, including data collection for important food security and nutrition assessments (FSNMS+ enumeration), which remains suspended in Paliang payam.
- **In Jonglei, pockets of criminals continue to carry out attacks against Bor Dinka in Twic East, which threaten to undermine the ongoing peace efforts.** In the Greater Pibor Administrative Area, age-set tensions also continued to cause insecurity. Amidst these pockets of insecurity, WFP continues to support peace and reconciliation efforts between and within Bor Dinka, Lou and Gawaar Nuer, and Murle communities through the joint inter-agency programme on community violence reduction.

Food and Nutrition

- In October, WFP and partners provided food and nutrition assistance to 1.97 million people (out of 2.15 million planned, 91.6 percent) with a total of 19,529 mt of food and USD 1.66 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 partners reached 221,523 people (out of 217,545 planned) with food and nutrition assistance for October distributions. This

Population: **12 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **185 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **33 percent of children**

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Photo: The flooded road into Bentiou, Unity State (WFP/Eulalia Berlanga)

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)		
Total Requirement 2021 (in USD)	Allocated Contributions in 2021 (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
927.9 m	767.9 m	684.8 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

includes supporting 15,819 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and children under five (out of 20,360 planned) with nutrition support. Cumulatively from January to October 2021, WFP has supported over 5 million people.

Safety Nets and Resilience

- In November, WFP facilitated a joint monitoring mission with the national Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare to Rumbek under the **Urban Safety Net project**. This included visits to vocational trainings, vegetable gardening and community access roads, and interactions with Project Management Committee members and beneficiaries.
- To prepare for the 2022 expansion of the **Food Assistance for Assets programme**, WFP facilitated the **Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) consultative** process in Uror, Jonglei State with 34 community participants from the eight payams to highlight the main shocks faced by the communities and their impacts on livelihoods and hunger. Most significantly, insecurity and the threat to human life and asset loss has prevented the population from conducting their typical livelihood activities. While insecurity persists, the population has noted a positive change attributed to the ongoing peace process between Jonglei and Greater Pibor Administrative Area.

Supply Chain

- WFP plans to transport 370,000 mt of food in 2021. By the end of November, **290,595 mt** of food had been brought into the country for the 2021 operation, which represents 70 percent of the 415,000 mt needs-based plan requirements to provide full rations.
- The 2022 prepositioning window is now open, and WFP is urgently appealing for early contributions which will allow prepositioning of food to hard-to-reach locations before the rainy season.
- The primary mode of delivery in November was by road (65 percent) followed by river (25 percent) and air (10 percent).
- Despite the flooding in Unity State, WFP continued efforts to keep road access open to support vital food deliveries through building dykes, ramps over dykes, and using water pumps. For areas that are no longer accessible by Fleet Trucks, WFP used a combination of SHERPs and local canoes/light boats to ensure food was delivered closest to the people in need.

Common Services

- UNHAS transported 5,432 passengers and 248 mt of light humanitarian cargo to 54 destinations across South Sudan.
- The Logistics Cluster transported a total of 608 mt of humanitarian cargo on behalf of 32 organizations to 43 locations. 78 percent of this cargo was transported by road or river.

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 a third year of unprecedented flooding and recurring conflict and violence, which has led to new and multiple population displacements and an increase in number of people in need. Resources are stretched thin, and WFP is having to re-prioritize its response to support newly displaced people, particularly due to flooding. Due to limited resources, WFP has been providing reduced rations in order to support more people in need, including providing 70 percent of the food basket to people in IPC Phase 4 areas, and 50 percent rations of the food basket to IDPs and refugees.