Operational Context

In 2022, approximately 9 million people in South Sudan need some form of humanitarian assistance, 8.3 million of which are severely food insecure, the worst figure on record since independence. This is a result of multiple compounding factors, including continued subnational and localized conflict and violence, climatic shocks such as flooding and a widespread economic crisis.

Subnational conflict persists, and conflict dynamics remain volatile. In 2021, insecurity 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. South Sudan has had a total of 16,955 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 137 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) has been extended to 2022.

Operational Updates

- **Tensions appear to be on the rise in Jonglei State and WFP together with partners is closely monitoring the situation for further mobilization.** On 23 January, a large-scale attack occurred in Baidit (Bor South), resulting in 32 fatalities. A series of more minor incidents were also reported in areas like Duk, Pochalla, and Uror. Given the high levels of persisting food insecurity in Jonglei, WFP has developed a response plan which addresses strategic community engagement, programme adaptation modalities, river and road security, and warehouse security and prepositioning.

- **Armed conflict between the South Sudan People’s Defence Forces and the National Salvation Front (NAS) is increasing during the dry season in Greater Equatoria.** At least five clashes took place between 16 and 20 January and again on 25 and 26 January in the Lainya area. Given delays with the Rome peace process, as the Government claimed the talks needed to be delayed due to the negotiations with the Kitwang faction, fighting between the sides in the Yei River area is likely to persist, especially as both sides are utilizing the dry season to achieve tactical advantages ahead of political negotiations.

- **Tensions remain high around Tambura, Western Equatoria State,** where levels of food insecurity are projected to be severe, with Tambura and Nagero counties ranked of extreme concern.

- **The last quarter of 2021 saw one of the most intense periods of violence in Tonj East and Tonj North, Warrap State, however, since then, the situation has remained calm.** WFP is capitalizing on the current lull in conflict to conduct food security, access, and conflict sensitivity missions, to ensure that operations can be maintained throughout the 2022 dry season.

Food and Nutrition

- In January, WFP and partners provided food and nutrition assistance to **1.35 million people** (out of **1.67 million** planned, 81 percent) with a total of **11,239 mt** of food and **USD 1.21 million** in cash-based transfers (CBT).

- In January 2022, WFP continued its high priority counties scale up and flood response to 1,291,114 flood-affected and highly food insecure individuals in Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Lakes, Warrap and Eastern Equatoria States.

- To support the flood response, **223,194 flood-affected people** were reached in January, which brings the total flood-affected people reached since October 2021 to 598,957.

- WFP is in the process of identifying high priority counties for 2022 based on severity of food insecurity and preparations are underway for food distribution in February.
Safety Nets and Resilience
- Through the School Feeding programme in 2022, WFP expects to reach 583,500 school children, which includes newly targeted schools located in refugee camps and hard-to-reach areas such as Akobo West (Jonglei State) and Panyijar (Unity State). The support to new schools will start in April 2022 (the next academic year). WFP will extend school feeding to school staff in severely flood-affected areas to encourage school continuation and attendance (as attendance rates in these areas are low).
- Through food assistance for assets (FFA), WFP reached 43,922 people with assistance (through both food and cash-distribution).
- WFP attended a three-day School Health Policy validation workshop organised by the Ministry of General Education and Instruction, with support from UNESCO to enhance the health of learners and environmental conditions in schools to improve educational outcomes.
- As part of a joint programme with UNICEF in Aweil, Yambio, Torit and Juba, WFP plans to support the health referral systems, capitalizing on schools as a health and nutrition platform.

Supply Chain
- By the end of January, 67,695 mt of food had been brought into the country for the 2022 operation, which represents 16 percent of the 415,000 mt needs-based plan requirements to provide full rations in 2021 and 25 percent of the operational plan requirements of 281,000 mt (based on expected funding).
- 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.
- WFP conducted an aerial assessment on the road conditions in Jonglei State to start prepositioning by road. Convoys will begin deliveries in February; however, they will be accompanied by Force Protection due to the security situation.
- WFP continues engineering works to reopen the road connecting Bentiu to the main supply route to the north and by the end of January, 5 km (out of 18 km) of dyke had been completed. Works are urgently ongoing ahead of the rains.

Common Services
- In January, UNHAS transported 4,423 passengers and 216 mt of light humanitarian cargo across South Sudan, supporting 169 organizations.
- UNHAS continued to support the COVID-19 response in facilitating the delivery of 4 mt of COVID-19 vaccines and medical equipment to 6 destinations on behalf of UNICEF.
- The Logistics Cluster transported a total of 598 mt of humanitarian cargo on behalf of 45 organizations to 25 locations. Forty-two percent of this cargo was transported by road or river.

Challenges
- The humanitarian needs in South Sudan 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 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 is providing 50 percent rations to vulnerable, food insecure households across the country.

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**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

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**Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement 2021 (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions in 2021 (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>927.9 m</td>
<td>767.9 m</td>
<td>476.3 m</td>
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**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

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