



World Food Programme

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WFP South Sudan Country Brief

June 2022



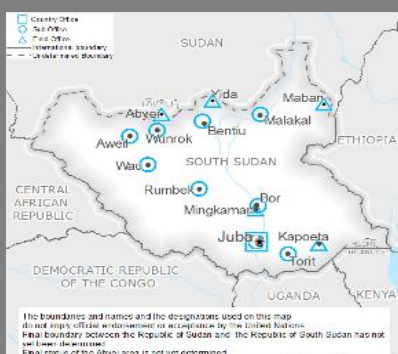
Operational Context

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. Already in the first few months of 2022, insecurity has disrupted WFP operations in the Abyei, Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Jonglei, Unity, Warrap, Upper Nile, Eastern Equatoria, and Central Equatoria. Frequent roadside robberies, ambushes and attacks continue to affect supply chain routes.

South Sudan is already seeing the impacts of the Ukraine crisis as prices of fuel and basic goods have increased. This affects humanitarian operational costs as well as purchasing power of vulnerable households which threatens to further exacerbate acute food insecurity, particularly for market-reliant populations.

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.



Population: **12 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **33 percent of children**

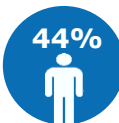
In Numbers

15,825 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*
USD 3.77 million in cash-based transfers made*
USD 290 million six months (July to December 2022) net funding requirements
2.2 million people assisted in June 2022

56%



44%



Operational Updates

Economic situation

- Since the beginning of the Ukraine crisis, increased global fuel prices, the weakening of the South Sudanese Pound (SSP) and obstacles to trade have led to significant hikes in fuel and food prices in South Sudan. A food basket that meets the minimum energy requirements (2,100 kcal/person/day) has increased by 60 percent in Northern Bahr El Ghazal, Eastern Equatoria and Warrap states. Markets in Western Bahr El Ghazal, Central Equatoria and Jonglei continued to experience significant increases, ranging between 15 percent and 33 percent compared to the start of the Ukraine crisis in late February. Between May and June 2022, the South Sudanese pound (SSP) weakened by 12 percent, trading at SSP 442 per USD in May compared to SSP 500 per USD in June.

Security updates

- Sub-national and localized violence persisted in different areas of the country, impacting the movement of goods and people along the main supply routes, and driving up displacements. In Greater Equatoria, one concern remained the mobilization of community-based militias from the visiting cattle-herding communities from Bor and the local communities from Eastern Equatoria (Torit, Ikotos and Magwi). In Greater Bahr el Ghazal, sub-national violence erupted in Tonj North between the government forces and a local militia, resulting in large-scale displacement of people. In Greater Upper Nile, infrequent localized violence persisted between the cattle-herding communities of Western Jonglei and the greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA).

Support to crisis affected population

- Of the total targeted 404,602 people in eight counties where 87,000 people are facing catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) levels of acute food insecurity, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to 268,362 individuals (66 percent achievement) through June distributions. Additionally, WFP reached 268,828 refugees with general food distributions as of 30 June 2022.

Safety nets and resilience

- WFP participated in a validation meeting of the National Food Security Policy, convened by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MOAFS) with the support of the European Union. Drawn from MOAFS, the private sector, UN agencies, and civil society, the participants discussed the policy, bolstering it to make it more comprehensive and clarifying linkages with agriculture, health and nutrition, food safety and social protection, among others.

Nutrition

- The nutrition cluster released an update on the impact of the bilateral funding cuts. At least 80 percent of nutrition partners reported experiencing bilateral cuts, with 50 percent stating that they will maintain the same number of nutrition sites but reduce the services because they intend to reduce their staff, thus impacting the quality of care in the targeted supplementary feeding centres.

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Photo: Production of water hyacinth bioenergy charcoal briquettes in Bentiu, Unity State (Gabriela Vivacqua/ WFP)

WFP Country Strategy

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement 2022 (in USD)	Allocated Contributions in 2022 (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.149 m	521.4 m	290 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

- Another 18 percent said they would close their nutrition programmes altogether. Given that 1.3 million children and 600,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) need treatment for malnutrition, cuts in funding will disrupt nutrition programmes.

Logistics operations

- Following a two-week suspension of deliveries from Gambella due to insecurity, operations resumed on 23 June. Deliveries commenced to Akobo and Ying, after which WFP started delivering food to Ulang, Naseer and Fashioda.
- WFP completed a road assessment from Leer to Mirmir and Adok on 16 June. This assessment revealed the need to rehabilitate part of the road between Rubkuay and Mirmir to ensure it remains accessible, allowing for delivery and prepositioning of food from the Adok port to Guit and Koch counties.

Infrastructure work

- Since 2018, WFP has supported different types of infrastructure works across the country to support humanitarian operations and local communities by enabling access to markets and connecting previously isolated communities to social services. In June, WFP completed 16 out of 18 km of phase II of the Bentiu–Panakuach road embankment and lay murram on 8.6 km, with works progressing on the remaining 11 km of the road. By the end of June, WFP had built 11 out of the 12.5 km of Fangak dyke in New Fangak.

Common services

- In June, UNHAS transported 7,138 passengers to 59 destinations, marking the highest number of passengers transported in a month since the outbreak of COVID-19 in March 2020. UNHAS also transported 187 mt of humanitarian light cargo and conducted ten medical evacuations. By 30 June, UNHAS had supported 192 partners.
- The logistics cluster supported 53 organisations to move 492 mt of humanitarian cargo in June. In coordination with UNHAS, the logistics cluster facilitated access to air transport services in Bentiu to support the ongoing cholera outbreak response.

Challenges

- The humanitarian needs in South Sudan are growing exponentially due to three years of unprecedented flooding and recurring conflict and violence, leading to new and multiple population displacements.
- Due to severe funding gaps, WFP continued to implement its recent reprioritization. The reprioritization has led to a drastic reduction in the number of people targeted with food assistance, from 6.2 million to 4.5 million. Consequently, 1.7 million people in need of food assistance across 36 counties are not receiving it.

Donors (listed in alphabetic order)

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