



WFP South Sudan Country Brief

April 2022

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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.

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.



Population: **12 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **33 percent of children**

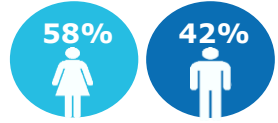
In Numbers

12,606 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed*

USD 1.33 m in cash-based transfers made*

USD 425.7 m six months (June to November 2022) net funding requirements

1.41 m people assisted*
*in April 2022



Operational Updates

- **Sporadic violence continues in the Warrap and Abyei Administrative Area (AAA) border** between the Dinka Ngok and Dinka Twic communities, creating an increasingly volatile operating environment. A series of attacks into the Abyei Box on 17 May affected villages of Joljuok Mading and Jokthiang in Agok, as well as Agok town, with heavy gunfire reported in the vicinity of the airport. WFP continues to respond to new displacements of Internally Displaced Person (IDPs) from Abyei.
- **In Jonglei and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA), the situation remains relatively stable** despite ongoing fears of mobilization from the side of the Dinka Bor and Gawaar into the GPAA. On 23 May, WFP led an interagency mission to Wuno to engage in dialogue with the Murle youth who continue to perpetrate these raids in the hopes that alternative livelihoods and coping mechanisms can be identified as a deterrent to ongoing raiding. Prepositioning of food commodities into Pibor town continues and on 21 May, a convoy of WFP fleet trucks with Force Protection escort moved from Bor to Pibor.
- **In Unity State, despite the notable lull in violence since April, the situation has remained tense.** On 16 May a cattle camp in Leer was attacked. Humanitarian activities were suspended on 19 May in Mayendit following rumors of mobilization for a revenge attack by youth from Leer. WFP has continued to monitor the situation and engage with community stakeholders as the response in Leer, Mayendit and Koch counties is underway.
- **There has been an uptick in violence in Ikotos County of Eastern Equatoria State** due to ongoing disputes between Lotome and Lyak communities. WFP suspended planned monitoring activities in Ikotos on 18 May due to concerns regarding ongoing tensions and communal violence between these communities.

Food and Nutrition

- In April, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **1.41 million people** (48 percent of planned) through **12,606 mt** of food and **USD 1.33 million** in cash. The reduction of people reached is due to a reprioritization exercise which has necessitated the suspension of assistance for **1.7 million** people due to funding shortfalls.
- In Kapoeta East, Eastern Equatoria, Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) activities are ongoing – in Napeibur village, participants constructed a waiting shade while in Nabwal–Etom village participants renovated temporary food stores, filled potholes, and established demonstration plots. WFP continues to assist people displaced by conflict and cash distribution is ongoing for Abyei IDPs in Twic county.

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	380.7 m	425.7 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

- Through the nutrition programme, verification and mass screening of IDPs from Abyei was conducted with partners including United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Action Against Hunger (ACF) and ARC in Maper in the Aweil Centre County, providing a proxy acute malnutrition rate of about 16 percent (above the 15 percent emergency threshold).
- **Ignite Food Systems Challenge:** A Pitch Day event for this challenge took place on 11 May 2022. South Farmers took the top prize of USD 40,000 while eight other small enterprises received USD 20,000 each in grant funding and support to help business growth.
- In May, WFP targets **3.6 million people** with food and nutrition assistance.

Safety Nets and Resilience

- As part of its effort to expand the **School Feeding Programme** to hotspot areas of hunger and conflict, WFP conducted an assessment on the eligibility and readiness of Nyal Mixed, Nyal Unity and Majak Primary Schools in Nyal, which identified 4,600 students to start school feeding in May 2022. A follow-up training on the management of the school feeding programme was conducted with the School Management Committees and Parent Teacher Associations.
- **Urban Safety Net programme:** WFP participated in the launch of the Juba urban safety programme on the 19 May 2022 which included participation from state and county authorities, Mangateen and Mahad & Don Bosco IDP representatives, and The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). This will be the seventh phase of the project, targeting **75,000 beneficiaries**.

Supply Chain

- In 2022, WFP plans to transport **280,000 mt** of food (out of the **415,000 mt** needs-based plan requirement), including **171,000 mt** for the prepositioning exercise. As of 20 May, **139,895 mt** of food has been sourced in or brought into South Sudan.
- As part of the **flood infrastructure works in Bentiu**, the **Mayom-Mayom Junction Road** was reopened on 5 May. This opened access to Bentiu from the Western Corridor. In addition, phase II works continue along the **Bentiu-Panakuach Road** to raise the road for extended use into the rainy season. **USD 2.06 million** is urgently needed for finalizing planned work. This road is critical as it is the only access into Bentiu and must be sustained for delivery of assistance and as an escape route in case of further flooding.

Common Services

- In April, The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported **5,687** passengers and **123 mt** of light humanitarian cargo across South Sudan, supporting **173 organizations**. Additionally, UNHAS facilitated two medical evacuations, one security relocation and three inter-cluster working group missions.
- In April, the Logistics Cluster transported a total of **458 mt** of humanitarian cargo on behalf of **46 organizations** to **69 locations**.

Challenges

- The **humanitarian needs in South Sudan are growing exponentially** due to 3 years of unprecedented flooding and recurring conflict and violence, which leads to continuing new and multiple population displacements.
- Resources are stretched thin, and WFP has re-prioritized its response to support the most vulnerable and newly displaced people, particularly due to flooding and conflict, **suspending assistance to 1.7 million people**.