Operational Context
In 2022, 8.9 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. 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 continues to see 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.

In consultation with partners, WFP has developed a new three-year Country Strategic Plan (2023-2025) building on its life-saving support to create pathways for resilience, development, and peace. The WFP Executive Board will approve the CSP in November 2022 and internal preparations are going on to rollout it out in January next year.

In Numbers
10,590 mt of food and nutrition assistance distributed
USD 1.7 million in cash-based transfers made
USD 769 million six months (November 2022 to April 2023) net funding requirements
1.4 million people assisted in September 2022

Operational Updates
Humanitarian situation
• South Sudan faces a multidimensional crisis, combining security, social, economic, and political challenges. Climatic shocks, population displacements, and loss of livelihoods remain the main drivers of food insecurity. Insecurity escalated in the Greater Upper Nile and Greater Bahr el Ghazal regions as subnational violence persisted, fuelling political uncertainty and flare-ups of communal violence and tensions.
• The humanitarian situation remained dire as conflict, insecurity, and extreme weather events such as floods disrupted livelihoods across different areas in the country. Since August 2022, torrential rains and severe flash floods have swept across the country, affecting more than 1 million people across 36 counties by the end of October, with people in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, Unity, and Western Equatoria states the worst affected.

IPC updates
• The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projects that an estimated 7.76 million will face severe acute food insecurity – at the Crisis level (IPC Phase 3) or higher during the April-July 2023 lean season. Of the 7.76 million, 2.9 million people will face Emergency (IPC 4) acute food insecurity, and 43,000 people will be in Catastrophe (IPC phase 5) acute food insecurity in Akobo, Canal/Pigi and Fangak counties of Jonglei State, and Leer and Mayendit counties of Unity State. The rest, 4.8 million people, will face crisis (IPC phase 3) conditions. Further, 1.4 million children will be moderately or severely malnourished in 2023, marking the highest level yet observed, and surpassing the levels seen during the conflict in 2013 and 2016.

Support to crisis affected population
• WFP continued to provide life-saving humanitarian assistance while scaling up and expanding resilience programming to contribute to peace and address inequity and isolation, ensuring alignment with the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. In September, WFP provided food assistance to 1.4 million people in South Sudan, including refugees and IDPs through general food distributions, nutrition assistance, school feeding, food assistance for assets, and smallholder agriculture market access. From January to October 2022, WFP assisted 4.9 million people out of the targeted 5.6 million people in 2022. WFP implements a blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP) for children aged 6 – 59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW) to prevent acute malnutrition.

Safety nets and resilience
• Since WFP and its partners introduced rice in Twic County in 2020, the number of farmers growing it and the area under cultivation increased. The initiative started with 50 food assistance for asset (FFA) participants with 6 ha of a demonstration plot and has grown to 325 participants, with 45 ha under cultivation in 2022. Shifting to rice offers multiple benefits: reclaimed land for agriculture despite persistent climate shocks, more diverse food and income sources, and livelihood skills development, translating into improved resilience capacities.
### WFP Country Strategy

**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

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**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

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**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

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**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 Service Provision
- Inter-Agency IT Communication Service
- SCOPE Service to humanitarian partners
- Provision of IT services to the humanitarian community

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**Nutrition**

- WFP continued to provide targeted supplementary feeding assistance to treat malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) in Kodok, in the Greater Upper Nile. In the Malakal Protection of Civilians (POC) site, 10 percent of children under 5 and 12 percent of PLWG screened were acutely malnourished. In Fangak County, 13 percent of children aged 6 – 59 months and 22 percent of PLWG screened were acutely malnourished.

**Logistics operations**

- As of 28 October, WFP had delivered 219,924 mt of food into South Sudan, representing 88 percent of the 2022 requirements. Insecurity, torrential rains, flooding, and access challenges affected the operations.
- To deliver food to isolated areas in Central Unity, WFP used diverse modes of transport. From Adok through Pilling to Mayendit (including Rubkuay, Mayendit, and Dablual), WFP used trucks and local canoes. By 31 October, WFP had delivered 60 percent of the food requirements using local canoes since the operation started on 8 October. WFP used canoes to transport 400 mt of food from Manga Port to Bentiu dyke. To reach conflict-affected areas in Upper Nile, WFP coordinated with UNMISS to secure force protection for boats delivering food to the IDPs in Panyikang, Fangak and Malakal.

**Common services**

- In October, the cluster facilitated the transport of 460 mt of nonfood items (NFIs) to 43 destinations by air on behalf of 40 organizations. There was a slight improvement in road accessibility along the Western Corridor, making it possible for a convoy to move from Juba to Aweil in six days. See the latest physical access constraints map here.
- UNHAS transported 6,486 passengers and 206 mt of humanitarian supplies and conducted six medical evacuations. By 31 October, UNHAS had supported 170 partners. As of mid-September, the WFP South Sudan operation had 23 aircraft. Among these aircraft, nine were affected by contractual changes resulting from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regulations. By 31 October, three cargo aircraft remained grounded, limiting WFP’s air operations.

**Challenges**

- The humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate due to multiple shocks. Floods and sub-national conflicts made most areas inaccessible by road. WFP resources are stretched, limiting the level and duration of support that it can provide to flood-affected people. WFP requires USD 769 million for the next six months (November 2022 to April 2023) to cover the most severe needs.

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**WFP South Sudan Country Brief**

**October 2022**

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**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

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