



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP South Sudan Country Brief

June 2024



Operational Context

In 2024, 9 million people in South Sudan require humanitarian assistance and protection services, including 2.2 million women, 4.9 million children, and 500,000 refugees, among others. The number of people requiring humanitarian support represent 73 percent of the country's population. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) released in November 2023 showed that South Sudan remained one of the countries with the highest proportion of food-insecure people globally. The results predicted a dire humanitarian situation for 2024, indicating that 7.1 million would face high levels of acute food insecurity classified as IPC Phase 3 or above at the height of the lean season in 2024, with 1.6 million children moderately or severely malnourished.

WFP is implementing a three-year Country Strategic Plan (CSP, 2023-2025), building on its life-saving support to create pathways for resilience, development, and peace. Under the CSP, WFP seeks to reduce entrenched inequity and isolation by fostering unified, interconnected, and peaceful communities. WFP continues to support zero hunger objectives while contributing to peace and climate resilience. See the CSP funding statistics on page 2.



Population: **12.4 million**

Country GDP: **USD 7.4 billion**

Income Level: **Low**

Children aged 5 -59 months acutely malnourished: **1.65 million.**

Contact info: wfp.southsudan@wfp.org

Country Director: Mary-Ellen McGroarty

Further information: <https://www1.wfp.org/countries/south-sudan>

Photo: New arrivals undergoing biometric registration in Renk ahead of cash distributions. Photo: WFP/Eulalia Berlanga

In Numbers



2.2 million people assisted in June 2024

USD 9.3 million in cash-based transfers distributed

USD 248 million six months net funding requirements (August 2024 - January 2025), including USD 53 million for the Sudan crisis response and USD 60 million for the flood response

17,786 mt of food distributed

Operational Updates

Humanitarian situation

- South Sudan is one of the 18 hunger hotspots globally where food security is deteriorating according to FAO-WFP [early warnings](#) on acute food insecurity outlook (June to October 2024). High returnee populations, projected flooding, conflict, and disruptions to the economy and food systems contribute to worsening outcomes.
- The expanding conflict in the Sudan states of Sennar, Blue Nile, and West Kordofan threatens to prompt further influxes of refugees and returnees to South Sudan. Large influxes to Renk could overwhelm response capacity in transit sites due to limited resources and complicate humanitarian response.
- South Sudan faces an impending [flooding](#) event in the second half of 2024. Record water levels in Lake Victoria have necessitated the Ugandan Government to [release](#) water in dams, intensifying the flow of the Nile River through South Sudan. The impact may be worse than in 2022, with the floods likely to affect up to 3.3 million people.

Support to crisis-affected people

- In June, WFP distributed 17,786 mt of food and USD 9.3 million as cash-based transfers to 2.2 million people, including new arrivals from Sudan, refugees, and internally displaced persons, through general food distributions, nutrition assistance, school feeding, asset creation and livelihood activities, and smallholder agriculture market support. The total number reached represents 70 percent of the targeted people.
- The Government and humanitarian partners resolved hurdles experienced in securing exemptions from the recently introduced new taxes. Consequently, WFP resumed airdrop operations on 22 June and had reached 57,000 people through airdrops by 30 June.
- WFP and the broader humanitarian community continued to develop a prioritized response plan in South Sudan. WFP plans to reach 1.2 million flood-affected people with food and nutrition assistance between July and December. This assistance requires USD 60 million and could increase if the situation worsens.

Nutrition assistance

- South Sudan's Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat convened a quarterly review on 20 June to leverage insights from the Regional Workshop on Food Systems and Nutrition Innovation and evaluate progress on the 2024 SUN work plan. The SUN Steering Committee emphasized the urgency of a ministerial order to prevent aid diversion, urging for prompt follow-up. Key stakeholders from government ministries, UN agencies, civil society, and academia participated.

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2025) Six Months Funding Outlook (August 2024 - January 2025)		
CSP Total Requirements (Millions in USD)	Allocated Contributions (Millions in USD)	Net Funding Requirements: (Millions in USD)
425.6	177.7	247.9

WFP Strategic Outcome 1: Access to food and nutrition

CSP Outcome 1: Crisis-affected people meet their food and nutrition needs in anticipation of, during and in the aftermath of crises. **Focus area:** *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations

WFP Strategic Outcome 2: Better nutrition, health, and education

CSP Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations have enhanced nutrition, health and education and access to safety nets. **Focus area:** *resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide nutrition and health support to targeted groups.
- Provide nutritious school meals to schoolchildren and engage vulnerable urban/rural youth in skills training

WFP Strategic Outcome 3: improved and sustainable livelihoods

CSP Outcome 3: Food-insecure/ shock-affected populations in targeted areas have improved livelihoods and more resilient and sustainable food systems. **Focus area:** *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Engage targeted communities in resilience activities.
- Engage food-insecure people in livelihood development and market support activities.
- Develop, rehabilitate, and maintain essential infrastructure

WFP Strategic Outcome 4: Strengthened national programmes

CSP Outcome 4: National institutions and partners have strengthened capacity. **Focus area:** *resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide policy/technical assistance to Government and partners

WFP Strategic Outcome 5: Effective Humanitarian and development actors

CSP Outcome 5: Humanitarian/development partners in have access to reliable common services. **Focus area:** *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide air transport services and technical assistance to the humanitarian community/other partners.
- Provide information management, logistics and coordination services to the humanitarian community and partners.
- Provide on-demand services and expertise to humanitarian and development partners.

Safety Nets and Resilience

- Acknowledging the devastating impact of climate shocks in South Sudan, WFP, national and state level governments, and the University of Juba organized trainings of trainers to enhance the technical staff capacity on designing and implementing climate resilience and nature-based programmes. Drawn from WFP, UNDP, FAO, Ministries of Environment and Forestry, and Agriculture and Food Security, the participants received knowledge and skills on nature-based solutions for landscape restoration and context-specific action plans that integrate these solutions into ongoing resilience programmes in South Sudan. Twenty-eight technical staff (25 male and three female) received training in Kapoeta, Eastern Equatoria State. Similar trainings will take place in Northern Bahr el Ghazal from 6—10 August 2024.

Logistics operations

- WFP faces challenges in meeting its 2024 food assistance targets. By 30 June, WFP had resourced 140,000 mt of food, representing 56 percent of the total food it requires in 2024 (248,000 mt). Prepositioning has also been impacted, with 75,000 mt of food prepositioned, representing 72 percent of the target (105,000 mt).

Common services

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the air and river transportation of over 200 mt of cargo comprising general operations, logistics, and WASH supplies to different locations on behalf of more than 10 partners.
- UNHAS continued to play a crucial role in supporting humanitarian organizations to respond to the Sudan conflict. The service increased its weekly flights from two flights with 18-seater aircraft to four flights with 36-seater aircraft, ensuring efficient transportation of humanitarian personnel and essential relief supplies.
- UNHAS prioritized the rehabilitation of the Renk airstrip. Previously, the service relied on an 18-seater aircraft with limited capacity due to the airstrip's poor condition. The completion of the rehabilitation allowed for landings by fixed-wing aircraft with up to 50-seater capacity. This improvement expedites the delivery of lifesaving assistance and could generate annual savings of up to USD 1.7 million. The service facilitated the transport of 4,695 passengers and 74 mt of light humanitarian cargo within South Sudan in June, supporting 162 organizations.

Challenges

- The humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate due to multiple intersecting shocks amid severe funding gaps. WFP requires **USD 248 million** to assist the crisis-affected people between August 2024 and January 2025, including **USD 53 million** for the Sudan crisis response and **USD 60 million** for the flood response.

Donors (listed in alphabetic order)

Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, UN COUNTRY BASED POOLED FUNDS, UN Other Funds and Agencies, United Kingdom, USA

*Excluding multilateral and private donors