



World Food Programme

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WFP South Sudan Country Brief

September 2025



Operational Context

About 9.3 million people require humanitarian assistance, with 2 million people remaining internally displaced due to years of violence and the impact of climate change, including floods and dry spells.

Over 7.7 million people face acute food insecurity levels, at Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 3 or higher. Of the 7.7 million, 2.4 million people face IPC Phase 4 food insecurity, and 83,000 face IPC Phase 5 food insecurity levels. Malnutrition rates remain high, with IPC projections indicating that 3.5 million children and women are acutely 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. 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.

WFP country and field offices in South Sudan



Population: **13.4 million**

Country GDP per Capita: **USD 251**

Income Level: **Low**

Children aged 5 -59 months acutely malnourished: **2.3 million.**

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Photo: A child being screened for malnutrition at the nutrition centre at Wedweil refugee settlement. Photo: WFP/Eulalia Berlanga

In Numbers

1.3 million people assisted



USD 4.5 million in cash-based transfers distributed

5,865 mt of food distributed across programme activities

USD 322 million net funding requirements between November 2025 and April 2026

Operational Updates

Humanitarian situation

- South Sudan is facing overlapping crises, including violence, protracted economic decline and climate shocks, which continue to fuel food insecurity and malnutrition. The ongoing conflict in Sudan has exacerbated the dire situation, forcing over 1.2 million people into South Sudan.
- Armed clashes between government and opposition forces in Upper Nile, Jonglei, and Central Equatoria states have displaced 397,000 people within and across borders since March 2025. The Upper Nile conflict has particularly displaced 204,000 people into Sudan, including 72,000 South Sudanese.
- South Sudan is facing severe flooding, which could affect up to 1.6 million people. As of 30 September, floods had affected 639,000 people across 26 counties in six states, with Jonglei and Unity accounting for 87 percent of the affected people. Floods had displaced 175,000 people who had moved to higher grounds in 16 counties.
- South Sudan is grappling with the longest cholera crisis in its history. Since declaring the outbreak in September 2024, the country has reported 93,000 cases and 1,500 fatalities, with a case fatality rate of 1.7 percent.

Support to crisis-affected people

- WFP distributed 4,724 mt of food and USD 2.6 million as cash-based transfers (CBT) to 902,895 people, including new arrivals, refugees, internally displaced persons, and host populations. The total number of people reached represents 107 percent of the target population for September.
- WFP completed its lean season response in most counties, assisting 2.1 million out of the targeted 2.4 million people, representing 88 percent of the target. Four counties, including Pibor, Panyijar, Cueibet and Rumbek East, planned to conclude the lean season response in October.
- Humanitarian partners endorsed a multi-sectoral response plan targeting 278,000 people to prevent deterioration into catastrophic food insecurity. As part of this plan, WFP activated a multi-shock food assistance response targeting 311,000 people in six high-risk counties, including Fangak, Canal-Pigi, Nassir, Ulang, Panyikang and Longochuk counties. By 30 September, WFP had assisted 120,000 people. Access challenges constrained the response in in Nasir, Panyikang, Canal/Pigi, and Ulang.

Human capital development

- WFP continued to treat Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in Nasir County using the Expanded Criteria. The Expanded Criteria refers to situation where WFP provides Ready-to-Use Supplementary Foods, Lipid-based Nutrient

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2025) A Six-month Funding Outlook		
Total Requirements (Millions in USD)	Allocated Contributions (Millions in USD)	Net Funding Requirements: (Millions in USD)
501 M	179 M	322M

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, women 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 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.

Supplement and the super cereal plus to treat SAM. These commodities are normally for supplementing moderate acute malnutrition, but this shift was due to pipeline breaks for Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTFs) which are used for SAM treatment. This approach helped mitigate the risk of deterioration among children aged 6 to 59 months as SAM treatment partners continued sourcing RUTFs.

- WFP facilitated a government delegation at the second Global School Meals Coalition in Fortaleza, Brazil. This participation offered a platform for high-level policy dialogue, the exchange of global best practices, and the cultivation of strategic partnerships. The insights gained will strengthen the Government's technical capacity and foster greater ownership over the programme, thereby cementing a sustainable foundation for its continued success and impact.

Food systems and resilience

- Under the asset creation and livelihood activities, WFP distributed USD 829,000 in CBT to 12,000 households for participating in building household and community assets. The CBT enabled participants to sustain their engagement in asset creation and strengthen resilience at the community level.
- The smallholder Agriculture Market Access Programme assisted 45,000 smallholders and 15 micro, small, and medium enterprises. The programme delivered hands-on training to smallholders on key crops currently under cultivation, including rice, cassava, sweet potatoes, and maize, strengthening their productivity and market readiness.

Logistics operations

- WFP plans to distribute 164,485 mt of food in 2025. This tonnage includes 88,679 mt for prepositioning and 75,806 mt for just-in-time deliveries. WFP had prepositioned 88 percent of the planned preposition tonnage, while just-in-time deliveries continued. As of September 30, WFP had dispatched 150,219 mt by road, river and air.
- Air and river deliveries to the Upper Nile region faced challenges due to insecurity, particularly in Nasir, Ulang and Fangak counties. WFP delivered 2,928 mt of food by air and river to these locations in September.

Common services

- UNHAS transported 3,971 passengers from 158 agencies to 39 destinations. The service also transported 57 mt of light cargo, including relief supplies.
- Adverse weather forced UNHAS to cancel 22 flights. However, the service arranged recovery flights to minimise disruptions and ensure passengers reached their destinations.

Challenges

- WFP is facing a USD 322 funding shortfall over the next six months. All 2.7 million people receiving general food assistance receive 50 to 70 percent of the food basket. From October, the food basket will be missing pulses, cereals, vegetable oil and specialised nutritious foods to prevent and supplement moderate acute malnutrition.

Donors (listed in alphabetic order)
Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Private donors, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, UNCBPF, UNISFA, UAE, United Kingdom, and USA.