



World Food Programme

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WFP South Sudan Country Brief

October 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.

The latest South Sudan Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis shows 5.97 million people are facing high levels of acute food insecurity, at IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above, between September and November. Of these, 1.3 million are experiencing IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 28,000 are facing IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). The situation could worsen, with 7.55 million people projected to be in IPC Phase 3 and above during the April-July 2026 lean season. Acute malnutrition remains widespread, with 3.2 million children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls acutely malnourished.

WFP is implementing a four-year Country Strategic Plan (CSP, 2023-2026), building on its life-saving support to create pathways for resilience, development and peace. WFP seeks to reduce entrenched isolation by fostering unified, interconnected, and peaceful communities. WFP continues to support zero hunger objectives while contributing to peace and climate

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.**

Contact info: wfp.southsudan@wfp.org

Country Director: Mary-Ellen McGroarty

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

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 5.2 million in cash-based transfers distributed

9,000 mt of food distributed across programme activities

USD 485 million net funding requirements for 2026



Operational Updates

Humanitarian situation

- South Sudan is grappling with multiple intersecting crises, including violence, protracted economic decline and climate shocks, which continue to fuel food insecurity and malnutrition.
- Armed clashes between government and opposition forces in Upper Nile, Jonglei, and Central Equatoria states have displaced 397,000 people since March. The Upper Nile conflict has also 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 31 October, floods had affected 1 million people in 29 counties in six states, with Jonglei and Unity states accounting for 87 percent of those affected. Floods have displaced 355,000 people in 18 counties.
- South Sudan is grappling with the longest cholera crisis in its history. Since declaring the outbreak in September 2024, the country has reported 96,000 cases and 1,500 fatalities, with a case fatality rate of 1.7 percent across the country.

Support to crisis-affected people

- WFP distributed 7,735 mt of food and USD 2.6 million in CBT to 986,000 people, including new arrivals from Sudan, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and host populations. The number of people reached represents 104 percent of the target population for the month.
- WFP's lean season response concluded across all targeted counties, reaching 2.1 million people, representing 88 percent of the target (2.4 million). WFP had extended the response by two months in some counties to address access challenges caused by insecurity. WFP addressed food commodity shortfalls by substituting the affected commodities with CBT, ensuring continuity of lifesaving assistance.
- WFP's Famine Prevention Response continued in October, assisting 185,400 people across seven targeted counties, reaching 59 percent of the planned 381,000.
- WFP secured access to eastern Nasir along the Sobat River, reaching areas cut off since March 2025 and started verifying the number of people requiring assistance, initially estimated at 70,000. WFP secured access to Canal-Pigi County and parts of Panyikang County, reaching 24,400 people and 2,700 others, respectively.

Human capital development

- WFP distributed 1,194 mt of specialised nutritious food to 389,000 children aged 6-59 months, PBW/G and other vulnerable individuals to supplement and prevent moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). However, severe pipeline breaks for specialised nutritious foods in Jonglei, Warrap, Eastern Equatoria and Upper Nile disrupted the programme, posing a

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026) 2026 Funding Outlook		
Total Requirements (Millions in USD)	Allocated Contributions (Millions in USD)	Net Funding Requirements: (Millions in USD)
675 M	190 M	485 M

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.

risk to MAM supplementation and prevention. Between November and December, WFP requires 465 mt of specialised nutrition foods to sustain the programme.

- The school feeding programme supported 225,000 children across 733 schools in 41 counties, bringing the total population reached since the start of the year to 385,000. However, funding gaps under Activity 1 (crisis response) disrupted assistance for 150,000 school children in October. Sustained investment remains critical to ensure the programme continues to achieve its objectives.

Food systems and resilience

- On 31 October 2025, the Green Climate Fund Board approved a five-year, USD 50 million project titled ‘Enhancing Climate Resilience in Flood-Prone Areas in Northwestern South Sudan’. Implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, WFP, and UNHCR, the project will target 575,000 people in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap States, strengthening resilience to recurrent flooding. It will focus on addressing immediate risks and long-term vulnerabilities, thereby safeguarding livelihoods, protecting communities, and driving sustainable recovery in some of South Sudan’s most climate-affected regions.

Logistics operations

- WFP plans to distribute 164,485 mt of food in 2025 under its operational plan. This tonnage includes 88,679 mt for prepositioning and 75,806 mt for just-in-time deliveries. As of 31 October, WFP had delivered 88 percent of the planned preposition and dispatched 151,453 mt of food to various locations for prepositioning and just-in-time deliveries.
- Air and river deliveries to the Upper Nile region faced challenges due to insecurity, particularly in Nasir, Ulang and Fangak counties. WFP delivered 3,298 mt for distribution by air and river in October in these locations.

Common services

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the air transport of 136 mt of humanitarian supplies. The supplies included 38 mt delivered to Gum, Kiech Kuon, Kier, Mading, and Torkech for nutrition inter-cluster intervention in Greater Upper Nile.
- The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service transported 4,253 passengers to various project sites, including hard-to-reach locations for 160 humanitarian organizations. The service delivered 80 mt of light cargo to support humanitarian operations.

Challenges

- WFP is facing a USD 485 million funding shortfall in 2026, threatening its capacity to prevent further deterioration of the food and nutrition crisis. In October, the food basket was missing key food items, including pulses, cereals, vegetable oil and specialised nutritious foods to prevent and supplement moderate acute malnutrition.

Donors

U.S. Embassy Juba, UK Aid, United Arabs Emirates Ministry of International Cooperation and Development, United Nations CERF, Private Donors, New Zealand Foreign Affairs & Aid Programme, Japan, Irish Aid, German Humanitarian Assistance, European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, and Canada