



World Food
Programme

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WFP South Sudan Country Brief

December 2025



Operational Context

About 9.3 million people required humanitarian assistance in 2025, with 2 million people remaining internally displaced due to years of violence and the impact of climate change.

The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis released in November 2025 shows 5.86 million people (41 percent of the population) are facing high acute food insecurity levels, at IPC Phase 3 (crisis) and above between December 2025 and March 2026, with 1.4 million experiencing IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 28,000 facing IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). The situation may worsen, with 7.55 million people projected to be in IPC Phase 3 and above during the April-July 2026 lean season. About 3.2 million women and children remain 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 resilience. See the CSP funding statistics on page 2.

WFP 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**

In Numbers



700,000 people assisted

USD 6.1 million in cash-based transfers distributed

5,316 mt of food distributed across programme activities

USD 341 million net funding requirements in 2026

Operational Updates

Humanitarian situation

- South Sudan is facing a severe humanitarian crisis, marked by events that continue to push the country towards new levels of vulnerability. Armed conflict, localised violence, climate shocks like floods, economic instability, and effects from the Sudan war continue to impact livelihoods, services, and social cohesion.
- The displacement crisis remains severe, driven by conflict and flooding, forcing hundreds of thousands to flee internally. Armed clashes between government and opposition forces in Upper Nile, Jonglei, and Central Equatoria states have displaced 326,000 people since March. In Jonglei State, the clashes that started late December 2025, including airstrikes, displaced 100,000 people by 31 December. Overall, South Sudan was a host to 2 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) As of 31 December.
- The Sudan conflict has forced 1.3 million people into South Sudan, exacerbating the already dire humanitarian situation. As of 31 December, South Sudan hosted 601,000 refugees, including newly arrived refugees. Of all the refugees in South Sudan, 95 percent are Sudanese. The continuous influx of new arrivals continues to exert pressure on resources, including markets, water, health, sanitation and hygiene services along border counties such as Renk and Maban.

Support to crisis-affected people

- WFP distributed 3,792 mt of food and USD 5.86 million in CBT to 566,000 people, including new arrivals from Sudan, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and host populations. The number of people reached represents 71 percent of the target population for December.
- WFP concluded the 2025 famine prevention response in six of the seven targeted counties on 31 December 2025, including Canal/Pigi, Fangak, Longochuk, Nasir, Ulang and Panyikang. The response in Panyijar County, Unity State, will continue through January 2026. As of 31 December, the famine prevention response reached 250,000 people out of the target of 381,000, representing 66 percent of the target achievement, majorly due to access constraints.
- WFP continued to assist new arrivals from Sudan under the Sudan crisis response. The assistance included fortified biscuits, food and cash-based transfers (CBT). In December, WFP distributed 827 mt of food and USD 1.2 million in CBT. As of 31 December, WFP had assisted 1.19 million new arrivals with 26,109 mt of food and USD 39.3 million in cash-based transfers under the Sudan crisis since April 2023.

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

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	335 M	341 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.

Human capital development

• WFP and UNICEF endorsed the Joint Action Plan (2025–2027), a multi-sectoral framework on nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and social protection. This plan reflects the agencies' shared commitment to scaling up integrated interventions to address both immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition, support education outcomes, sustain human capital development gains and strengthen community resilience to shocks.

- By 31 December, WFP had provided 912,000 malnourished children aged 6 - 59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G) with specialised nutritious foods to supplement moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) across South Sudan. WFP also assisted 515,000 children aged 6 - 23 months and PBW/G to prevent MAM.

Food systems and resilience

• WFP finalised all 2025 Asset Creation and Livelihoods (ACL) distributions in December. Between January and December, WFP reached 240,000 people with the ACL activities. In 2025, the ACL participating households created and rehabilitated community assets, including 33 km of access roads and 28 km of simple flood-control dykes, among others. Access roads connected remote communities to markets, which stabilized prices and enhanced access to goods and services, strengthening local economies and resilience. Flood-control dykes maintained optimal water levels for crop production, boosted rice cultivation, and protected communities from floods.

Logistics operations

• WFP aimed to deliver 164,485 mt of food in 2025. This tonnage included 88,679 mt for prepositioning and 75,806 mt for just-in-time deliveries. Overall, WFP dispatched 153,000 mt to various locations in 2025, with 68 percent, 24 percent and 8 percent transported by road, river and air, respectively. WFP delivered a higher tonnage than planned by air due to insecurity, particularly in Nasir and Fangak counties, which impeded road and river transport.

Common services

- UNHAS transported 4,204 passengers and 51 mt of light cargo for 159 humanitarian agencies to various project sites, including hard-to-reach locations.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of over 200 mt of multisectoral supplies to various locations in Upper Nile, Unity and Jonglei States and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area to support humanitarian operations, including the Sudan crisis, Upper Nile crisis and the cholera response.

Challenges

- WFP is facing a USD 341 million funding shortfall in 2026. Critical needs include prepositioning before the start of the rainy season in May, food and nutrition requirements of crisis-affected people and other logistical support services.

Donors

U.S. Embassy Juba, UK Aid, United Arab 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