



# WFP SOUTH SUDAN

COUNTRY BRIEF  
March 2026

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Across its diverse programmes, WFP assisted 1 million people with 5,745 mt of food and USD 5.7 million in cash-based transfers.
- In response to the Jonglei crisis, WFP reached 56,000 people by 28 February - including 7,000 IDPs and 49,000 host community members – across Jonglei, Upper Nile and Lakes states.
- WFP faces a critical USD 355 million funding shortfall for 2026. This gap threatens essential services, including airlift capacity for food delivery, nutrition support for crisis-affected population, and vital logistical operations.

## IN NUMBERS



**1,004,182** people assisted in February 2026



**41 %**  
Male



**59 %**  
Female



**5,745 mt** food distributed



**USD 5.7 M** cash transferred



**USD 355 M** (March – December 2026 net funding requirements)

**Photo Caption & Credit:** General food distribution in Bentiu. WFP/Eulalia Berlanga

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

- South Sudan is facing a deepening humanitarian crisis, fuelled by armed conflict, climate shocks, economic volatility, and the spillover from the Sudan conflict. These overlapping disasters are eroding livelihoods, weakening essential services, and straining social cohesion.
- Recent armed clashes across Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile and Central Equatoria states have displaced up to **280,000** people. These hostilities resulted in the destruction of health and nutrition facilities and the looting of specialised nutritious foods. As of 28 February, the country hosted **2 million** Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who lack access to basic services.
- Approximately, **10 million** people currently require humanitarian assistance. According to the November Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, 5.86 million people are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (Phase 3 - crisis) between December 2025 and March 2026. This includes 1.4 million in Phase 4 (Emergency) and 28,000 facing IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). Conditions are projected to deteriorate during April – July lean season, with the number of people in Phase 3 or higher rising to 7.55 million.
- Additionally, 3.2 million women and children remain acutely malnourished. The Sudan conflict has forced **1.35 million** people into South Sudan, severely straining an already dire humanitarian

situation. In February alone, 17,000 new arrivals were registered – a 21 percent increase from January. As of February 28, South Sudan hosted [615,000](#) refugees, with the continuous influx overwhelming markets and essential water, health, sanitation and hygiene services in border counties. While the average cost of a food basket remained stable between January and February, prices remain critically high, averaging 630 of the pre-Sudan conflict level. These elevated costs are driven by persistent supply chain constraints and informal taxation, which have significantly increased import and transport expenses.

## WFP RESPONSE

### The Sudan Conflict Response

- A recent headcount revealed that the Renk transit centre is currently hosting 8,000 people, more than double its capacity.
- An intention survey conducted at the transit centre found that 44 percent of arrivals people plan move to other destinations, while the remaining 56 percent intend to stay in Renk.
- As of 28 February, the WFP had supported over 1.19 million new arrivals displaced by the Sudan crises since April 2023, providing more than 26,000 mt of food and USD 40 million in cash-based transfers.

### The Jonglei Crisis Response

- WFP and humanitarian partners conducted access and needs assessments across Ayod, Uror and Nyirol counties, revealing high rates of acute malnutrition, specifically among children aged 6–59 months in Ayod.
- As of 28 February, the Jonglei crisis response had reached 56,000 people, comprising 7,000 IDPs and 49,000 host community members. Additionally, WFP completed beneficiary verification in Duk and Akobo East, while verification continued in Chuil Payam in Nyirol County.

### General Food Assistance

- WFP provided 4,679 mt of food and USD 5 million in CBT to 665,000 people, including new arrivals, refugees, IDPs and host communities. This reached 69 percent of the month's target.

- Under the Integrated Emergency Response Plan, distributions continued in Fangak and Canal/Pigi, and in Duk (as part of Jonglei crisis response). Notably, WFP completed assistance for recently displaced families in Canal/Pigi County, Jonglei State.
- However, several January and February distributions were delayed into early March. These delays were driven by insecurity, restrictions on air transportation in some areas, the suspension of operations in Nasir following the killing of a WFP contractor, and food looting in Baliet, which forced WFP to suspend movement along the Sobat River corridor.

## Human Capital Development

- Under the Joint Action to Stop Wasting in Aweil and Rumbek, a national taskforce reviewed findings from the February 23 – 27 supervisory mission to Lakes State. The meeting updated monitoring tools and finalized plans for an upcoming visit to Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. Throughout these sites, the Condition On-Demand Assistance platform<sup>1</sup> remains functional, providing the real-time data necessary to drive programme quality.
- WFP provided specialised nutritious foods to 133,000 malnourished children (6 - 59 months) and 110,000 malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G) across South Sudan to treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Additionally, WFP reached 114,000 children (6 - 23 months) and 89,000 PBW/G with targeted support to prevent MAM.

## Food Systems and Resilience

- A WFP-led KOICA mission recently visited Kapoeta to review progress on a regional climate resilience project. The delegation assessed activities in natural resource management, anticipatory action, integrated gardening, and water harvesting. Local government officials commended the project's strong alignment with national priorities and its contribution to regional peace and resilience. Insights from this mission will now guide future implementation, focusing on scaling up operations and strengthening institutional capacities.
- WFP continued its support for the South Sudan Meteorological Services (SSMS) to strengthen

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<sup>1</sup> CODA is a multifaceted digital solution designed to simplify and support the delivery of nutrition and health programmes through the digitization of contextualized protocols.

national forecasting. Following specialized training through the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), two SSMS staff are now equipped to disseminate tailored weather bulletins nationwide. This improved access to timely climate data enables farmers to make informed decisions, protect their investments, and mitigate losses from climate-related shocks.

## Infrastructure Development

- WFP continued to construct and rehabilitate roads and dykes across various regions to improve accessibility, resilience and service delivery. Key progress was made on the 424 Km Jonglei Central Roads project, where the Poktap – Mwotot stretch (Lot 4) reached 7 percent completion.
- Rehabilitation of the 20 km Jonglei dyke has reached 65 percent completion, significantly improving flood protection for local communities and safeguard their livelihoods.

## Logistics

- WFP plans to deliver 63,200 mt of food across South Sudan in 2026. Prepositioning is well underway, with 56,434 mt already dispatched to various hubs. However, insecurity in Jonglei and Upper Nile states has hampered food deliveries to final distributions points in Bor and Malakal, respectively.

## Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster transported 692 mt of health, nutrition, shelter, and WASH supplies to Upper Nile, Unity, Jonglei and Western Equatoria states and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area. Utilizing air, road and river transport on behalf of 27 partner organizations, these deliveries supported multisectoral responses for the Sudan crisis, the Jonglei, Greater Upper Nile, Western Equatoria (Tambura) and ongoing cholera interventions.

## United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

- UNHAS transported 3,517 passengers on behalf of 156 organizations, marking a 34 percent increase in demand compared to January. To manage this surge, an ad hoc DHC-8 aircraft was reinstated. The service delivered 53 mt of light cargo, including medical supplies, to Ulang, Kuetrengeke, Maiwut, and Pagner in Upper Nile.

- Additionally, UNHAS conducted security evacuations for 13 passengers in Upper Nile State and operated eight charter flights, transporting 118 passengers to Akobo, Malakal, Renk and Rubkona counties.

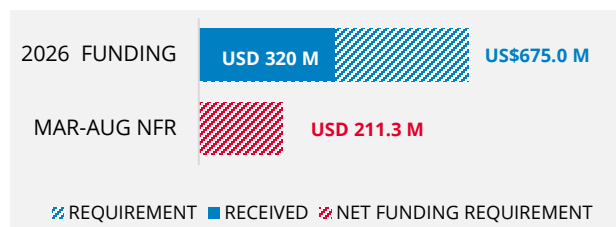
## Gender and Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

- WFP collected community feedback from 1,400 respondents across Aweil, Malakal and Renk. While expressing appreciation for ongoing support, communities highlighted critical needs for non-food items, school materials, health services, alongside concerns regarding food entitlements, and cash distributions.
- To strengthen transparency and accountability, WFP and its partners produced 40 public service announcements, reaching 288,000 people. These broadcasts delivered vital information on protection, registration, nutrition, hygiene, and gender-based violence (GBV).

## FUNDING OVERVIEW

### Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026)

[South Sudan Country Strategic Plan \(2023-2026\) | WFPgo](#)



### Donors:

Canada, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, UAE, UK, USA.