



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP South Sudan

COUNTRY BRIEF

April 2026



1.15 million people assisted in March
(56 percent female)



4,000 mt food distributed in March



USD 7.79 million cash transferred in March



USD 192.6 million required in the next six months (May – October 2026)



2 million IDPs in South Sudan



615,000 refugees in South Sudan

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In March, WFP distributed 4,000 mt of food and USD 7.79 million in cash-based transfers to 1.15 million people. This reached 84 percent of the monthly target. From January through March, WFP assisted a total of 1.48 million people.
- Preparations continued for the lean season response beginning in May. Key activities included training trainers on targeting, prioritization, and digitization. WFP also engaged with County and Boma Targeting Committees to accelerate verification across 25 priority counties.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- South Sudan continues to face a severe humanitarian crisis. This is driven by armed conflict, climatic shocks, and economic instability. The situation is further worsened by the spillover effects of the ongoing Sudan conflict.
- The displacement crisis remains severe. In March, local and national conflicts displaced approximately **76,000** people across multiple areas.
- Since December 2025, clashes in Jonglei State have displaced **276,500** people across Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile, and Central Equatoria. This includes **110,000** people who fled Akobo for Ethiopia in early March.
- **Ten million** people currently require humanitarian assistance. Between December 2025 and March 2026, approximately **5.86 million** people faced acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+), including 1.4 million in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and 28,000 in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). Conditions are expected to worsen during the April–July lean season, with the number of people in crisis rising to 7.55 million. Additionally, 3.2 million women and children remain acutely malnourished.
- Since April 2023, the Sudan conflict has driven **1.36 million** people into South Sudan, intensifying an already dire humanitarian crisis. As of 31 March, South Sudan hosted **615,000** refugees. This sustained influx is placing severe strain on local markets and social services in border areas.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

General Food Assistance

- WFP reached 767,000 people through its active emergency responses in March. This total includes assistance provided via the Integrated Emergency Response Plan, the Sudan Crisis response, camp-based IDPs and refugees, and the Jonglei crisis response.
- WFP continued preparations for the May lean season response. Following "training of trainers" sessions on targeting, prioritization, and digitization for partners, cascade trainings are now progressing at the field level. Simultaneously, WFP is engaging County and Boma Targeting Committees to accelerate verification across 25 priority counties.

Nutrition

- WFP has fully integrated the Joint Action to Stop Wasting (JASW) guidelines, enabling systematic reporting across 225 nutrition sites in Lakes and Northern Bahr El Ghazal states. Using Conditional On-Demand Assistance, data management for all JASW-supported facilities is now fully digitized. This covers all components of community-based malnutrition management and strengthens overall data quality.
- WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 170,000 children (6–59 months) and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G) to treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Additionally, over 158,000 children (6–23 months) and PBW/G received support through malnutrition prevention programs to reduce the risk of MAM.

School-Based Assistance

- WFP continued to strengthen the school feeding programme by linking education to local food systems through Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF). In March, local retailers supplied \$958,000 worth of food to schools, stimulating agricultural value chains. This initiative supported 245,000 children in 541 schools across 23 counties with nutritious meals.

Resilience and Livelihood Support

- WFP is collaborating with the Government of South Sudan to develop a proposal for the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, focusing on climate-vulnerable communities in Rubkona and Bentiu, Unity State. The intervention aims to deliver community-driven, conflict-sensitive solutions that align with national resilience goals. To support this, WFP led a multisectoral mission from 9–13 March for stakeholder consultations, with further sessions scheduled for April 2026.
- WFP supported the Africa Risk Capacity (ARC) technical team in a drought customization workshop from 9–13 March. The sessions focused on developing crops and rangeland drought models. These models are critical for enabling the Government of South Sudan to access sovereign climate risk financing, such as an ARC insurance policy. This will protect vulnerable populations through more timely and predictable responses to climate shocks. WFP and its partners will refine the model and initiate an operational response plan by 30 April 2026.

Logistics

- WFP South Sudan has received 59,545 mt of the 63,200 mt of food planned for distribution in 2026. While insecurity in Jonglei and Upper Nile states disrupted deliveries to Bor and Malakal counties, distributions remained active. By 31 March, 71 percent of the total January–March requirements had been successfully handed over to cooperating partners.
- Deliveries continued for Northern Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity states. WFP plans to complete all road dispatches before the rainy season begins to avoid the higher costs associated with air delivery.
- WFP continued repairing warehouses in Northern Jonglei that were destroyed during recent security incidents. These repairs are crucial for restoring storage capacity and supporting ongoing humanitarian activities in the region.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

- UNHAS transported 3,811 passengers and 45 mt of light cargo to various project locations, serving 162 organizations. Passenger volume increased by 9 percent compared to February. To meet this rising demand, UNHAS plans to reinstate a DHC-8 aircraft starting in April.

- The service evacuated 29 passengers from Akobo and Nasir counties in Jonglei and Upper Nile states. Additionally, it operated dedicated charter flights, transporting 161 passengers.

Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster transported 686 mt of cargo to 27 destinations for 43 humanitarian agencies via road, river, and air. This included 124 mt airlifted to Barmac and Chuil Payams specifically for the Jonglei crisis response.
- To strengthen dry season prepositioning, the Logistics Cluster coordinated four road convoys consisting of 21 trucks. These convoys transported 443 mt of multi-sectoral relief items to various locations across Northern Jonglei and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area.

Cross- Cutting Issues

- WFP strengthened its accountability mechanisms by training 17 participants (3 female and 14 male) from WFP and cooperating partners. The sessions focused on Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and the new digital Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) platform. This training improved staff skills in documenting and escalating beneficiary feedback to ensure prompt and transparent resolutions.

Fleeing Conflict: Refugees Find Lifeline Through WFP Assistance

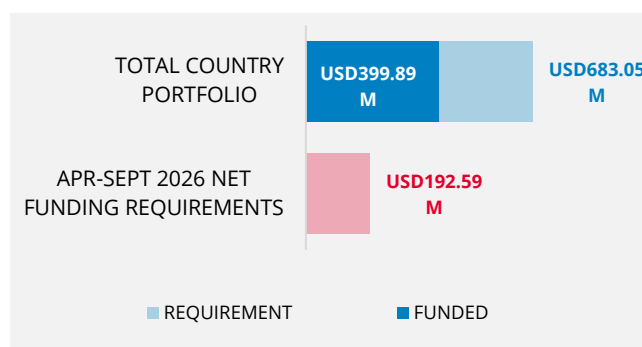
“My life in the Central African Republic was good, but our town was attacked one morning, and we had to leave. We walked through barren land for 45 days with nothing to eat except leaves that some nomads said were edible.”

Hawa and her family fled for safety and now live in a refugee camp in Aweil. There, they receive WFP food assistance made possible by generous donor support. Of the people reached by WFP’s emergency response in March, 253,000 were refugees. South Sudan currently hosts over 615,000 refugees—a number that has nearly doubled in the last three years due to the conflict in Sudan.



Hawa and her daughter at the Wedweil refugee settlement. WFP/ Samantha Reinders

FUNDING OVERVIEW



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