SOUTH SUDAN 2021
CROP AND FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT MISSIONS (CFSAM) – CROP COMPONENT

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METHODOLOGY

- Since 2014, special taskforce of 22 national experts has been leading rapid assessments on annual crop and harvest performance

- **County Crop Monitoring Committees (CCMC)** provided updates on crop performance – 42 counties – Livelihood Zones based

- This year we harmonized crop assessment tools (ELRP + CFSAM Tools + piloted remote sensing in estimating cropped area)

- FAO/WFP team analyzed - remote sensing information, measuring NDVI, drought stress index, and rainfall anomalies

- 35 missions, about 4000 farmers and 280 case studies (interviews) were completed during planting and harvest season
**MAIN FINDINGS**

**Delayed onset of seasonal rains, dry-spells**, improved performance at mid-season, but **widespread flooding** in other areas - **typical**

Rains **started late** across the country & early season rains (April/May) were below average, affecting crop planting and establishment

**Prolonged dry spells** (3 – 4 weeks), occurred in May – June & Seasonal rains fully established from July – August in several areas e.g Equatoria

**Average to above-average rains** across the country during the growing period

**Excessive rains** in some states triggered widespread flooding affected crops and Livestock

**Rainfall anomalies** (difference between 2021 and long-term average), 3rd dekad of May, 1st, 2nd, 3rd dekad of June

Heavy rainfall and overflow of rivers in Jonglei, Lakes, Warrap, Unity and Upper Nile caused serious flooding – e.g. Panyijiar- complete loss
Despite floods & dry spells, an **increase in the area planted** observed in 2021
- 1% higher than 2020 and 7% higher than 2019.

A trend that has been **observed since 2017** due to improved security - not yet reached pre-conflict levels.

An improved security situation allowed the **return of some IDPs and refugees** to their places of origin to engage in agricultural activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Millions of Hectares</th>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>0.987</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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CEREAL CULTIVATED AREA – TRENDS BY REGION (in ‘000 hectares)

- **Equatoria** – increased since 2017 due to relative stability and favorable weather
- **Bahr el Ghazal** – area cultivated is largely consistent – relative calm and % share increased
- **Upper Nile** – Overall area cultivation low (driven by the shock of conflict that disrupted livelihoods), but with slight increase over time
It is only Unity and Central Equatoria which cultivated below average in 2021.

Significant decline between 2014 and 2021 observed in C. and W. Equatoria.

Bahr el Ghazal have shown significant increase in cultivated area b/n 2014 and 2021.
1,162,806 farming households
3.3% higher than last year

839,494 tonnes of net cereal produced in 2021
4% lower than last year
4% higher than past 5-year average (2016 - 2020)

Rice: 3%
Maize: 21%
Millet: 4%
Sorghum: 72%
Despite floods, this year’s net production is 4% lower than last year though continued to surpass previous 5-year average of 805,000 MT.

Production decrease is partly attributed to significant flood-induced losses in Jonglei, Warrap, Lakes, Unity and Upper Nile States and yield losses (4.7% loss compared to last year)

With declined cereal production and increased cereal gap, impacts of floods are magnified in Jonglei, NBG, and Warrap for crop and- Jonglei, Unity and Lakes for livestock

Flood impacts resulted in worsening food security situation in those areas
**NET CEREAL PRODUCTION TRENDS BY REGION**

- **Equatoria** – increased since 2017 due to relative stability and favorable weather (% Share declined)
- **Bahr el Ghazal** – production is largely consistent – relative calm and % share increased reaching almost 50% of national cereal production
- **Upper Nile** – Overall area cultivation low (driven by the shock of conflict and flood that disrupted livelihoods), but with slight increase in share and production over time

*five year average = 2016-2020*
It is only E. Equatoria, Lakes and N. Bahr El Ghazal which produced below average in 2021.

Significant decline between 2014 and 2021 observed in C. Equatoria and W. Bahr El Ghazal.

Unity, E. Equatoria, Lakes and U. Nile have shown increases in cereal production b/n 2014 and 2021.
An estimated **loss of 37 624 tonnes of cereals**, with about **65 177 hectares of cultivated land damaged** in Jonglei, Lakes and Upper Nile.

COVID-19, Fall Armyworm, Desert Locusts and other diseases brought minimal negative impact to crops.

More than 10 million **livestock heads affected** and 100 of thousands **perished** in 8 states out of 10.

**Threefold increase in livestock diseases** and limited availability of forage → decreased livestock productivity and milk production. Jonglei, Unity, Lakes, Warrap, Upper Nile and Northern Bahr el Ghazal states – major affected ones
Total cereal requirement (2022)
1 380 220 tonnes

Net cereal production
839 000 tons

Food gap
541 000 tons

representing 40% of South Sudan’s cereal needs

16% higher than last year and five year average (2017 – 2021)
- **Greater Equatoria** – gap increased and then shrinking from 2017-relative peace

- **Greater Bahr el Ghazal** – production is largely consistent – relative calm but flood continues to affect the area and gap continues to widen

- **Greater Upper Nile** – consistently low cereal production and the gap remained high
It is only W. Bahr Ghazal which estimated to show surplus in 2022 and for the past four years.

W. And C. Equatoria moved from surplus to deficit producing areas from 2015 to 2022.

E. Equatoria have show the largest deficit and Warrap the smallest.
SOME CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Climate change (specifically recurrent flood incidents) continue to have serious impact on lives and livelihoods – further investment (esp on infrastructure) is critical to strengthen preparedness and prevent this predictable incident.

- Despite floods, Western Equatoria (the Equatoria region) (‘Breadbasket’ of South Sudan) continue to produce surplus due to slight improvement in peace, and hence investment in peace or lack of it has a significant impact on availability and hence food security.

- A 55% decline in livelihoods support resources have had a negative impact on cereal gap, which is estimated to increase by 16% in 2022 – agricultural input provision by FAO usually helps households to cover at least five months of their food requirements.

- All stakeholders are important as everyone’s efforts do count (e.g., peace building, WASH, shelter, protection, infrastructure, markets, etc.)

- Important to champion also about the conversation on nutrition security, which goes beyond “cereal availability” and self-sufficiency.
Thank you

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