



### KEY FACTS & FIGURES



**5.7\* Million People in need**



**214,000 People in POC sites**



**304,560 Refugees**



**1.9 million IDPs**



**3.3 Million Host Communities**

*\*The figures includes 0.3 m refugees\**

### Affected People: The Poor & Vulnerable.

Conflict affected and displaced households in Greater Upper Nile, Western Bahr el Ghazal and Greater Equatoria are facing alarming food consumption gaps, asset depletion and high acute malnutrition rates. Access restrictions to their harvest and disruption to their planting has continued for another farming season. Hotspots with pockets of population in IPC 5 in Wau (Baggari), Ayod, Nyirol & Kapoeta East that are at an elevated risk of famine.

The economic crisis across the country, also in areas not directly affected by the civil war, such as Greater Bahr el Ghazal and in all major urban towns has increased food insecurity particularly for those population groups that are highly market dependent. Other States previously unaffected by conflict such as Lakes and Warrap are deteriorating through a combination of hyper-inflation and intensified inter and intra communal conflict. Of growing concern is the depressed economy on IPC 1 & 2 populations resulting in a contraction in both rural & urban employment for the burgeoning extreme poor.

In all locations, it is the extremely poor populations who are the most vulnerable and are suffering the most - especially the elderly, children under five, and single headed households, the majority of which are headed by women.

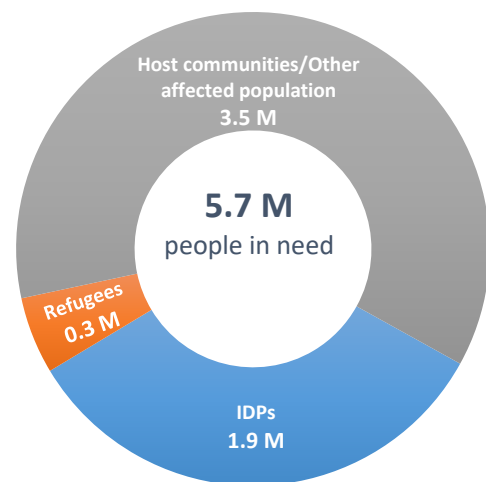
### FSL Cluster Needs Overview

In 2018 the food security situation is again likely to deteriorate for the fifth consecutive year with **5.4 million** people severely food insecure (IPC 3, 4 & 5) in the January – March 2018 projection period excluding 0.3 million refugees. This is the highest number of severely food insecure people at this time of year, since the start of the crisis and this is expected to increase during the lean season and may even surpass the 6 million in the July/ August 2017 period.

In 2017, famine was declared in two counties: Leer and Mayendit and at the peak of the lean season 6 million people were classified as severely food insecure. With no end in sight to the multi-context crisis: violence & conflict, food insecurity, economic crisis, disease outbreaks and the collapse of healthcare and social services, the 2018 lean season is projected to begin early and become worse than in 2017.

The conflict has disrupted natural resource based livelihoods and the 2016 cereal deficit of 500,000 MT is expected to be worse in 2017, especially with the warring factions moving into the Greater Equatoria region – the country's former 'bread basket' with grave implications for food availability in 2018. The economic crisis is further exacerbating the dire situation, reducing imports and impacting on food security indicators, increasingly so for the market-dependent urban populations as recent assessments indicate.

**The September 2017 IPC analysis shows a worsening context. 5 in every 10 people are expected to be severely food insecure in 2018**



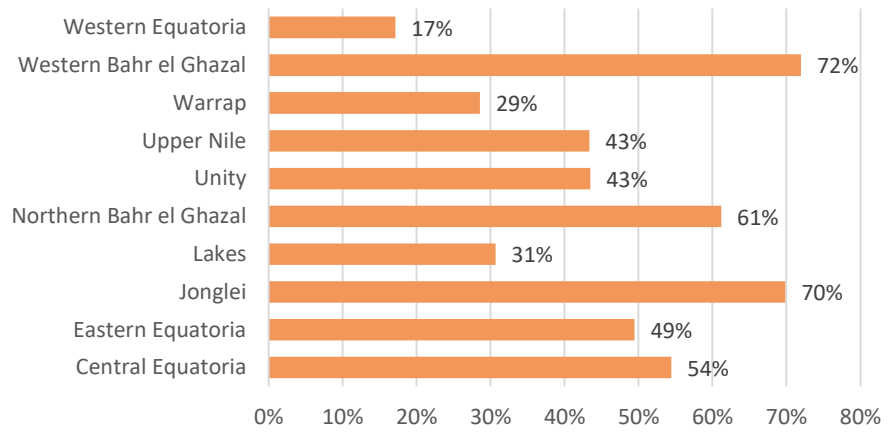
*Breakdown of people in need by status*

## Humanitarian needs and drivers.

The humanitarian crisis has continued to deepen and spread across South Sudan prolonging this complex emergency with devastating effect on the vulnerable populations. **Food insecurity** continues to rise to yet higher unprecedented levels due to the protracted combination of **violence and conflict**; large scale displacement of populations (there are now 3.96 million refugees from South Sudan in neighbouring countries and 1.9 million IDPs); **reduced cereal production** especially in the 'bread basket' regions; the **economic crisis**, characterized by rising prices and worsening terms of trade for cereals in exchange for labour or livestock; the **public health crisis** that has led to the increase in cholera, measles and malaria cases; and other **seasonal and climatic shocks** e.g. floods, drought spells and both crop and livestock diseases and pests including the Fall Army Worm that are further undermining people's resilience by depleting household assets (human, physical, financial and even social).

Affected populations are increasingly resorting to the use of **negative coping strategies** by reducing meals, going without food, selling their last female animal and this is reflected in food consumption gaps, reduced dietary diversity and increased household hunger scores. **Acute Malnutrition** rates that are above the Emergency thresholds are common for populations most affected.

% of population in IPC 3, 4, 5 (January - March 2018)



**Livelihoods** have been decimated by the crisis with reduced harvests, fear of violence preventing cultivation of new fields, loss of livestock (due to theft, raiding & disease), conflict related displacement and loss of assets resulting in a 'ratchet effect' of ever deepening poverty, vulnerability and food insecurity making it increasingly difficult for affected populations to bounce back.

The 3.96 million refugees includes 2 million pre-crisis refugees and an additional 1,956,230 refugees since December 2013.

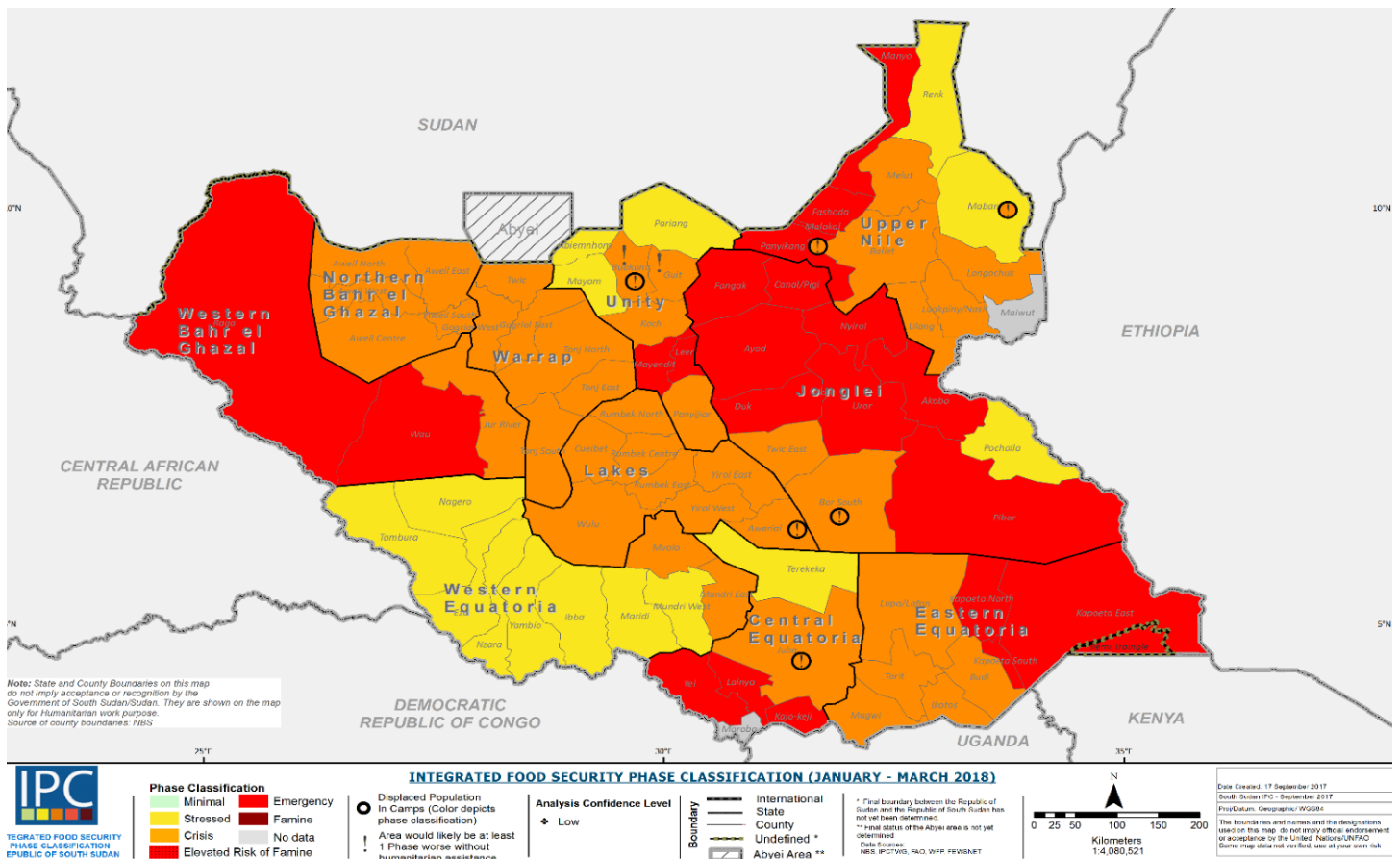


Figure 1: IPC map for January - March 2018

For further information, please contact:

**Alistair Short**, Food Security and Livelihood Cluster Coordinator, [alistair.short@wfp.org](mailto:alistair.short@wfp.org), Tel. (+211) 922465613  
**FSL Cluster Secretariat**, [info.southsudan@foodsecuritycluster.net](mailto:info.southsudan@foodsecuritycluster.net)



<http://fcluster.org/south-sudan-rep>