Based on the September IPC analysis, it is expected that 6.1 million people (59% of the total population) faced Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity at the peak of the lean season (July – August), of whom 47,000 were in Catastrophe (IPC phase 5) and 1.7 million were in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Food security has improved slightly with the green harvest in September relative to July and August, and further improvements are expected in the post-harvest period between October and December 2018 when the number of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse is most likely to reduce to 4.4 million (43% of the total population), with 26,000 in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). However, an anticipated earlier than normal start of the lean season will result in an estimated 5.2 million (49% of the total population) people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity between January and March 2019, with 36,000 in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). These estimates are in the presence of planned humanitarian food assistances. Please click here to download the September 2018 IPC key messages.

It is important to note that:
- Given the current delivery capacity of humanitarian assistance, IPC phases 2 and 4 have stabilized but phase 3 is increasing at a significant rate.
- The population % in phase 4 has also doubled since 2016.
- 5 counties (Maban, Terekeka, Yei, Morobo & Lainya) not classified. All have a combined population of 620,639 (in 2018) and 644,037 (in 2019).
Smile Again Africa Development Organisation (SAADO) is implementing a “Building Resilience through Asset Creation and Enhancement (BRACE)–II” project whose key objective is to improve and strengthen food and nutrition security for 3,118 food insecure Households and communities of Aweil North County in former Northern Bahr El Ghazal State by the year 2020.

The activities conducted since the project inception are mainly agriculture (Seed distribution and planting) and conditional cash transfers. The beneficiaries were drawn from four Payams (Malual North, Ariath, Malual Center and Malual East) and covered nine bomas.

**Key outcomes/deliverables**

SAADO distributed 2Kgs of crop seeds (groundnut, sorghum & maize) per household and 1 sachet (50g) of assorted vegetable seeds to each household of (okra, eggplant, tomato, onion, sukuma wiki, water melon and butter pumpkin). Each of the 3,118 received USD$40.50 in our cash transfer activity. The crops and vegetable seeds were already planted and is expected to improve the lives of the 12,637 beneficiaries (6,579 males & 6,059 females) in the four Payams.

**Key drivers of food insecurity**

1. Conflict
2. Economic crisis
3. Climatic shocks
4. Pests & diseases

World Vision (WV) is one of the several humanitarian agencies responding to the crisis in South Sudan and has been implementing savings groups in two of the ten former states with over 13,000 members. WV South Sudan uses the Saving for Transformation (S4T) model that applies an enhanced version of Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) to reach the most vulnerable groups. Please click here to read the full story.