

Impact of Sudan conflict on food security

WFP/ VAM CO- South Sudan



Immediate Impact of Sudan Conflict on Food security

- Closure of cross-border roads Shortages and price spikes have already occurred in many areas along the northern border.
- The impact is most likely on food availability and trade, particularly in **Warrap, NBEG and WBEG.**
 - Northern UNS including Renk cereal stocks now being held for speculative purposes are insufficient to meet consumption requirements for any sustained period of time.
 - **Fuel availability is decreasing, and prices are substantially increasing**, with diesel prices having gone up by 50 percent along the western border regions, and by 14 to 22 percent on the eastern side.
- **South Sudan is totally dependent on the oil pipelines through Sudan** for the movement of its oil exports. Since the Sudan conflict started, the oil has continued to flow, but should the conflict continue and further intensify, the pipeline could be disrupted. The **revenues from the oil exports represent over 90% of the national revenues, US\$2.2 billion**.

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES • A continuation of even low-level conflict in Sudan will eventually **affect food prices and food access in the rest of the country,** driven by increased demand from the North, higher fuel prices and a likely increase in the rate of depreciation of the SSP.



Immediate Impact of Sudan Conflict on Food security cont.

The road from Twic (Warrap) to Abyei is inaccessible due to conflict so that Abyei is largely
cut off from the trade from Juba. This has also affected the trade in livestock and groundnuts,
which were previously went to Sudan, but which are now going to Wau and/or Juba

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Economic impacts at macro level

- **Expected disruptions of oil exports represent over 90% of the national revenues, US\$2.2 billion**. The oil sector is also dependent on the northern corridor for the **supply of chemicals and spare parts** ensuring the oil flows, a break in these supplies will directly affect production.
- Any drop in oil revenues, through price decreases, disruptions to production or higher costs of doing business, will directly impact the national fiscal space and the budget deficit, which is currently running at 12.5% of GDP, with implications for payments to civil servants, the military and delivery of services.
- These fiscal pressures will impact on the availability of US dollars for currency auctions impacting the value of the South Sudanese pound and driving further depreciation of the pound, with a direct impact of prices of food and fuel; a 1% depreciation in the pound increases food prices by 1%.
- The breakdown in Sudan of economic, livelihoods and financial infrastructure will reduce source of support to households depending on remittances in South Sudan, with consequences for the economy and household purchasing power.
- States bordering Sudan are highly dependent on Sudan for imports of food and fuel, especially coming into the rainy season. Trade flow disruption is already translating into significant prices increases for food and fuel, up to 84% for fuel and 56% for the basic food basket observed since the beginning of the conflict.

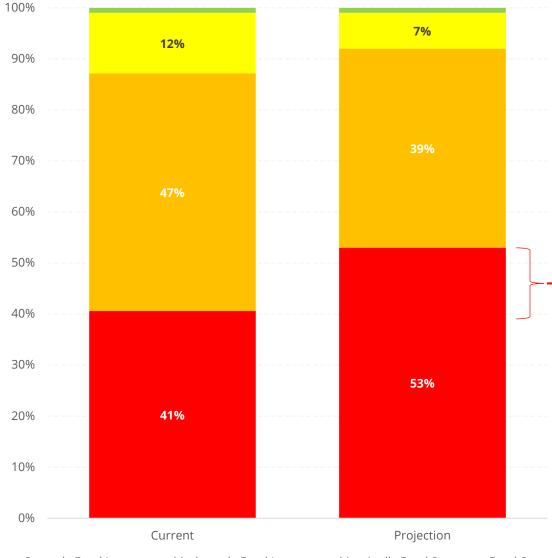


Impact on households Food security and Nutrition

- Areas bordering Sudan are already facing the highest levels of food insecurity and acute malnutrition rates, with over 70% of the populations facing crisis or worse acute food insecurity (IPC 3+).
- An analysis of FSNMS R28 and market data projected an increase in the share of households experiencing severe food insecurity by 10-12 percent (from 41 to 53 percent), as a result of decreased purchasing power at a time when dependency on markets is at its peak. This will likely lead to a decline in the quality and quantity of food consumed, when labour demands (and thus energy requirements) are highest.
- Supply and inflationary pressures will compound the lean season situation, deepening and expanding the crisis in these areas, with the likelihood of higher numbers of people falling into emergency levels of food insecurity, and acute malnutrition rates rising to extremely critical, as households are forced to reduce the quantity and quality of food consumed.
- Households have seen substantial **losses in purchasing power**, which will likely lead to a decline in the food access and the quality and quantity of food consumed,
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- The purchasing power associated with the prevailing daily wage for unskilled labor has already declined by 11 to 31 percent in markets along the western part of the border. This is projected to **increase the share of households experiencing severe food insecurity by 10 percent or more**.

Expected Short-Term Impact on Household-Level Food Security

Figure 2. Current and Projected Household Food Insecurity (CARI)



Expected 10% - 12% Increase in Number of Households Experiencing Severe Food Insecurity

An estimated 10% to 12% of households will move from Moderate Food Insecurity to Severe Food Insecurity as a result of food price increases associated with the conflict in Sudan

Severely Food Insecure Moderately Food Insecure Marginally Food Secure Food Secure



Alternatives options of cereal supply and trade at affected areas

- Warrap, NBEG and WBEG states are now receiving maize from Uganda via Juba, but the price is more than 50 percent higher than for sorghum. In Kuajok, the remaining stocks of sorghum are sufficient to meet less than one month's consumption – stock levels in Wau and Aweil are also very limited.
- In the short term, Ethiopia may be the most likely source of cereal imports for UNS.
- In the medium term, **WES could become a possible source of supply for areas along the northwestern border**, but the early season harvest is still several months away (planting is still under way). Road conditions would be a significant constraint as the road between WES and Wau is only passable only by small vehicles during much of the rainy season.

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Thanks

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