



WFP South Sudan

Situation Report #293

16 August 2021

Highlights

- In the first six months of 2021 (January to June), WFP reached over 4.1 million people with food assistance. Of this, 2.6 million people were supported through emergency response, including 1.9 million people in IPC 4 and 5 counties.
- More than 90,000 people have been affected by flooding in eight counties across South Sudan to date in 2021 and WFP is working with the government and partners to ensure a coordinated response to support flood-affected populations.
- The Sudan People's Liberation Army-in Opposition (SPLA-IO) suffered a further split, which has already led to clashes and may threaten the country's fragile 2018 peace progress.

Situation Update

- **More than 90,000 people have been affected by flooding in eight counties across South Sudan to date in 2021.** On August 4th, WFP participated in a Joint Inter-Cluster Coordination Group aerial and rapid assessment led by the Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. to assess the magnitude of flooding in Jonglei State. Community leaders in both Ayod and Canal highlighted that 2020 flooding had already destroyed livelihoods and current floods were worsening the already precarious humanitarian situation. In both Ayod and Canal towns, community representatives reported that displaced people arrive daily and are in need of food, shelter, and non-food items. WFP is coordinating with the government and partners to ensure a consolidated response to flood-affected populations across the country with a plan to support 83,400 people across the counties, including 30,000 people in Ayod.
- **The Sudan People's Liberation Army-in Opposition (SPLA-IO) suffered a further split, which has already led to clashes and may threaten the country's fragile 2018 peace progress.** On August 3rd, Lt. Gen Simon Gatwech, who until recently was the SPLA-IO General Chief of Staff, denounced the SPLA-IO led by First Vice President Riek Machar, declaring that Machar had been deposed as the Chairman of the party and Commander in Chief for failing to represent the groups' interest in the Transitional Government of National Unity. On August 7th, fighting erupted in Magenis area, Upper Nile State and at least 30 people were killed. WFP halted movement in areas of potential further clashes along the White Nile River in Upper Nile before the fighting started, thus averting any affect on WFP staff and humanitarian assets. As the situation calmed, WFP resumed movements with additional clearances. However, WFP continues to closely monitor the situation as this split within the SPLA-IO may increase tensions and further impact humanitarian operations over the coming weeks and months.
- **While a reduction in sub-national and localised violence has been noted in the last month across Jonglei state, small-scale incidents** such as the abduction of children, intra-Lou violence in Akobo, age-set violence near Gumuruk, and killing of an off-duty health work in Duk may escalate into large-scale violence and affect humanitarian operations if not carefully managed.
- **In Maban, WFP met with the County Commissioner and representatives from the Yusif Batil, Gendrassa, and Kaya refugee camps to discuss the 23 July incident whereby WFP assets and personnel came under attack.** WFP undertook a conflict and security mission to Maban further assess the situation and develop a conflict-sensitive intervention plan to prevent or mitigate security risks in the future.

Photo: Drying fish in Akobo East (WFP/ Theresa Piorr)

In The Numbers

3.9 million people WFP plans to assist in August 2021

7.24 million people facing acute food insecurity from April to July 2021.

Of this, **108,000 in IPC 5**, 2.4 million in IPC 4, and 4.6 million in IPC 3 ([IPC](#))

1.9 million acutely malnourished women and children ([IPC](#))

1.62 million internally displaced people ([OCHA](#))

2.27 million South Sudanese refugees ([UNHCR](#))

USD 1.5 billion Global Humanitarian Funding Requirement 2021 (USD 671 million for WFP)

USD 230.4 million WFP six month net funding requirement (Aug 2021 to Jan 2022)



WFP Response



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- During the lean season, WFP is targeting **3.9 million** individuals in 80 counties, **2.7 million** of which under emergency response, **1.1 million** individuals with nutrition commodities, and **1 million** with assistance through WFP's safety nets and resilience programmes.
- In the first six months of 2021 (January to June), WFP reached over **4.1 million people**, including **2.6 million** people through its emergency response, of which **1.9 million** people were in IPC 4 and 5 counties.
- From January to June 2021, 21 percent of all specialized nutritious foods distributed through the prevention and treatment programmes were in the IPC 4 and 5 ten priority counties. The Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP) admitted nearly **47,000 children** under five and over **42,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls** in the 10 priority counties – which is more than half of the 2021 target.
- In the six IPC 5 counties, July distributions have been completed in three of the six counties and a total of **286,648 people** have been reached to date, which is 80% achievement. August distributions have started in three counties and plan to start next week in the remaining counties. To date, **130,168 people** have been reached to date in August (36% achievement) and distributions are ongoing.
- In IPC 4 counties, July distributions have been completed in 1 of the 4 counties while double distributions are ongoing in the others. To date, **64,402 people** have been reached in July (23% achievement) and **48,036 people** in August (17% achievement). Distributions are ongoing.
- Preparations are ongoing for August distributions in the Refugee camps. In Maban, WFP and partners received a letter prior to distributions that confirmed commitment from refugee leaders to ensure the safety of humanitarian personnel and assets.
- WFP participated in the Interagency rapid assessment in Bentiu, Rubkona and Nhialdiu where flooding has been reported and around 7,000 individuals are found to have been displaced and are now taking shelter in schools and higher grounds around the area.
- For the Flood Response, WFP is working closely with the Government and partners to verify the reported numbers and coordinate a consolidated response to flood-affected populations. WFP plans to provide assistance to **83,400 people** affected by floods and complementary General Food Distribution plus activities such as the provision of empty sacks to support in the dyke construction by youth in the affected areas.



Safety Nets and Resilience

- The Food Systems national consultative meetings took place in Yambio, Torit, Wau and Aweil during the week of 9-13 August 2021. WFP and FAO are providing technical and financial support to the government to convene the consultative meetings and the national dialogue

scheduled for later this month in Juba.

- WFP continues to collaborate with the Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MOGEI) on the Back to Learning Campaign in Wau and Twic East counties. The campaign is planned to continue next in Bor South followed by Malakal, Maban, Rubkona and Akobo West over the course of August.
- Through the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) programme, WFP has conducted distributions for the first two months of assistance in Pibor for 1,200 FFA beneficiaries at one site. Distributions are planned based on river levels and transport availability for the remaining 4,800 beneficiaries in the four other sites. FFA supported households have started asset creation for agricultural activities while other physical infrastructure activities such as community access roads and multi-purpose ponds will take place during the dry season. FFA assistance complements the ongoing GFD and nutrition support.



Supply Chain

- In total, WFP plans to transport **306,000 mt** of food in 2021. To date, **245,561 mt** of food has been sourced in or brought into South Sudan, representing 80 percent of the yearly requirements. Prepositioning is critical to ensuring timely delivery to beneficiaries especially during the rainy season when access becomes challenging.
- The primary mode of delivery in August is road (65%) followed by river (25%) and air (10%).
- Heavy rainfall with subsequent flooding has deteriorated seasonal access routes to many distribution points in Northern Bahr el Ghazal including major road connecting Aweil West and North Counties.
- WFP continues to monitor road access and the roads to Nyamlel and Gok Machar may be completely cut off if heavy rains continue.



Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster transported **600 mt** of humanitarian cargo to 34 locations on behalf of 25 organizations, 76% of which was transported by river and road.
- With increased river deliveries during the rainy season, four river movements with Non-Food Items (NFIs) departed from Bor to New Fangak, Old Fangak, and Menime; from Bor to Atar and Malakal; from Malakal to Tonja and Old Fangak; and the fifth barge movement of the year left from Bor to Malakal, Kodok, and Renk.
- The Logistics Cluster added a second helicopter to its fleet to better serve locations inaccessible by road during the rainy season. The helicopter is based in Bor and can also provide ad hoc services from Rumbek.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the departure of a convoy with about 140 mt of humanitarian cargo from Juba to Ikotos, Torit and Kapoeta.
- The latest Physical Access Constraints Map, updated on a weekly basis, can be found [here](#).



UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS transported **1,791** passengers and **115** mt of light humanitarian cargo to 52 destinations across South Sudan.
- UNHAS performed **2** medical evacuations on behalf of one organization from Torit to Juba.
- UNHAS performed **2** security relocation with **12** passengers from Old Fangak, Pagil, Wai, Nyanapol and Katdalok to Juba and facilitated two ICWG missions transporting **16** passengers from Juba to Ayod and Marial Lou.



Resourcing

- From August 2021 to January 2022, WFP requires **USD 230.4 million** to continue with planned operations for the next six months.
- In addition to this, to respond to immediate emerging needs, WFP requires an additional **USD 69.3 million**, which includes extending the lean season response in critical areas, supporting flood response to current displacement, providing continuation of assistance in Bentui, Malakal, and Mangalla to IDPs, and ensuring one month contingency stock for crisis response.

In Focus: Food Assistance for Assets expansion to Akobo West helps families in hotspot areas rebuild their lives

WFP's vision in South Sudan is to address entrenched inequity and isolation, with the goal of "leaving no-one behind" and fostering unified, interconnected and peaceful communities. To achieve this vision, WFP is looking at ways to programme differently and to support communities to restore their livelihoods, strengthen their resilience to shocks and build self-reliance, even in areas of organized violence and hunger, where this type of programming is typically considered more difficult. Pre- and post-independence, the regions of South Sudan have had different access to social and economic opportunities, with much of the country having been 'left out' from development or resilience-building assistance.

WFP implements Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) in South Sudan to help households build and rehabilitate assets, which increase food availability, food access, and strengthen resilience to shocks and stressors. In 2021, WFP expanded its FFA programme, which included a geographic, programmatic and case-load expansion to shift away from the notion of "pockets of stability" and to act and implement intentionally within hotspots of organized violence and hunger. Through this expansion, WFP implements FFA in eleven new counties, mainly in South Sudan's Greater Upper Nile region.

As part of the expansion, in 2021 the programme commenced in Akobo West, where households are creating assets to enhance food availability through crop farming and improve physical infrastructure like ponds and water channels to mitigate climate shocks and stressors. The assets were identified through a community-based participatory planning process in March 2021. By now, 6,000 beneficiaries received their third round of distributions and asset creation activities continue.

As part of the community engagement activities, WFP and partners conducted qualitative interviews on the perceptions of peace and conflict in Akobo West. Rebecca Nyakuoth Bol, one of the participants in the programme explained that "The problem we have in Walgak is hunger. We have nowhere to move, we are restricted because of the conflict." Thanks to the FFA programme, Rebecca has benefitted from assistance to support her family as well as opportunities to create assets that enhance food availability and build resilience to shocks.



Photo: Rebecca explained that "raising children has become very difficult or us women because we have nowhere else to go" (WFP/ Theresa Piorr)



Photo: Rebecca told WFP and partners how important peace is to be able to survive (WFP/ Theresa Piorr)

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