



WFP SOUTH SUDAN

Situation Report #327

30 Sept 2024



HIGHLIGHTS







- In September, WFP distributed **12,119 mt** of food and **USD 4.3 million** in cash-based transfers to **1.5 million** people, representing **80 percent** of the people targeted in September.
- Since the start of the Sudan response, WFP provided more than **620, 893** people with either high-energy biscuits, in-kind food or cash assistance.
- WFP requires 248,000 mt of food in 2024, out of which it had resourced 225,505 mt by 30 September, representing 90 percent of the annual requirements.
- WFP is procuring work to rehabilitate 250 km of roads in GPAA, 32 km between Adok Port and Leer in Unity State, and 22 km of link roads in Jonglei connecting WFP warehouses to the Bor-Ayod road.


SITUATION UPDATE

- South Sudan continues to face a complex humanitarian crisis, marked by economic, security, and political vulnerabilities. The ongoing instability has left **nine million** people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection, exacerbating the already dire living conditions across the country. Over 2 million people remain internally displaced due to years of subnational violence and the impact of climate change, including floods and dry spells. About 7.1 million people faced high levels of acute food insecurity in April-July 2024.
- The economy of South Sudan remains fragile, heavily dependent on oil revenues, which are impacted by global price fluctuations as well as the Sudan crisis. Prolonged conflict and institutional constraints have led to hyperinflation, with rising food prices and limited access to basic services further worsening the living standards of the population. The local currency has significantly depreciated, reducing purchasing power, while limited agricultural production has increased dependency on imports, which are often inaccessible due to insecurity and poor infrastructure.
- On 13 September 2024, South Sudan's transitional government extended the transitional period by two years, postponing elections to December 2026. The decision frustrated international partners seeking a quicker resolution to political instability. Ongoing insecurity continues to hinder development and humanitarian access, while communal violence, cattle raids, and banditry worsen the situation.
- South Sudan is facing unprecedented floods, impacting more than **1.3 million** people nationwide, with Abyei Administrative Area, Western Bahr el Ghazal, and Lakes states being the most affected. Damaged and impassable roads continue to hinder physical access to affected communities. Flooding in Renk, the primary entry point for displaced persons from Sudan, has compromised sanitation and hygiene services, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks in transit centres and impacting the **onward transport** of new arrivals to their final destinations.
- The South Sudanese Government continues to work with humanitarian partners to support responses to the crises. It continues to offer security to humanitarian staff and facilitate safe passage of humanitarian supplies and onward movement of returnees from transit centres to their final destinations. On 3 October, the Council of Ministers endorsed the declaration of a state of emergency in flood-affected states.

IN THE NUMBERS

56%  44% 

-  **5.4 million** people targeted in 2024
-  **7.1 million** facing severe food insecurity. **79,000** in IPC 5, **2.3 million** in IPC 4, and **4.7 million** in IPC 3.
-  **2.5 million** women and children acutely malnourished
-  **2 million** internally displaced people
-  **649,000** refugees in South Sudan
-  **832,000** South Sudanese returnees since the start of the Sudan crisis in April 2024.

 **USD 503.2 million** WFP six month net funding requirement between November 2024 and April 2025, including **USD 47 million** for the Sudan crisis response and **USD 35 million** for the flood response

WFP RESPONSE

Sudan conflict response

- In September, there was an 11 percent drop in new arrivals, with 24,537 people arriving compared to 27,180 in August. By the end of September, the total number of returnees in Renk had reached about **58,000**—10,000 in transit centers, 3,000 in other collective shelters, and 45,000 within the host community—worsening the already strained humanitarian conditions. Humanitarian partners ensured new arrivals received timely assistance, including onward transport to final destinations.
- WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to new arrivals upon arrival at the entry border points, during transit, and at final destinations. As of 30 September, **620,893** people (over **74 percent** of the new arrivals) had received food assistance since April 2023. Of these, **70,430** refugees settled in various refugee camps and **165,467** returnees at their final destinations received food assistance under Phase II of the Sudan crisis response.
- The third round of protective ration distribution for families with children under 2 concluded in September, reaching 98 percent of the target (4,484 individuals) since the activity began. Assistance will continue through the year, pending results from the mass mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening in October and an assessment to determine next steps, as new arrivals keep accumulating at Renk Transit Centers due to limited onward transport.
- Humanitarian partners revised a 3-month contingency plan for Sudan influxes, estimating daily arrivals of 3,948 in the worst-case scenario, likely exceeding Renk's response capacity, and 2,658 in the most likely scenario. WFP is preparing for the worst case, requiring an additional USD 15 million to cover the response for three months, beyond the current plan based on 1,000-1,500 arrivals per day.
- In September, WFP screened children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW/G), enrolling those with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) into nutrition programs. WFP provided specialized nutritious food to 1,063 children and 526 PBW/G for MAM treatment, and to 307 children and 2,786 mothers for MAM prevention. Since the crisis began, 180,042 children under five and 178,000 PBW/G have received this support by 30 September.

General food assistance

- In September, WFP distributed 12,119 mt of food and USD 4.3 million as cash-based transfers (CBT) to 1.5 million people, including new arrivals from Sudan, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and resident populations through general food distributions. The total number of people reached represents 80 percent of the target population, as delayed arrival of commodities in-country, delivery delays due to inaccessibility of roads and cancelled air deliveries due to weather affected optimal performance.
- Following unprecedented flooding that has affected over 1.3 million people and displaced 327,000, an interagency rapid needs assessment (IRNA) was completed for all flood-affected counties in Northern Bahr El Ghazal and Warrap State. WFP is providing timely assistance to the affected population. So far,

WFP has reached 400,000 people with 4,100 mt of assorted commodities and USD 384,000 through cash-based transfers. WFP is working to adequately preposition nutrition commodities to support the flood response. Additionally, WFP is collaborating with cooperating partners on flood preparedness activities in line with the national nutrition cluster's projections.

- WFP concluded the lean season response with an overall average achievement of 72 percent across all 39 counties in the three priority areas. The below-target delivery was primarily due to several challenges, notably the delayed arrival of in-kind donations, which arrived one month after the rainy season began, resulting in very limited quantities pre-positioned. This was particularly evident in priority one and two counties, where performance was affected due to their heavy reliance on pre-positioned food during the lean season, as road access is only feasible during the dry season from February to April.
- The situation was further exacerbated by the introduction of a fuel levy on humanitarian operations, which resulted in nearly six weeks of inactivity due to fuel shortages. Additionally, most of the tonnage that was not pre-positioned had to be delivered by air, but frequent weather disruptions led to flight cancellations almost 40 percent of the time. Furthermore, insecurity stemming from intra-communal conflict intermittently disrupted distributions in four counties in Upper Nile State.



Human capital development

- Since January, WFP has reached 416,521 children aged 6-59 months and 333,678 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG) through the targeted supplementary feeding program (TSFP) for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition. Additionally, 198,981 children aged 6-59 months and 135,283 PBWG have been supported through the blanket supplementary feeding program (BSFP). WFP also provided rations to the caretakers of 4,341 severely acute malnourished (SAM) children with complications who were admitted to Stabilization Centers (SCs).
- WFP co-developed a concept note on the transition and adoption of the new WHO guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Wasting and Nutritional Oedema in South Sudan', dividing responsibilities and identifying areas of collaboration to support early actions for preventing and addressing wasting in children and women.
- The School Feeding program continues to support 363,756 vulnerable primary school children across the 10 states and three administrative areas. A total of 776 schools are being reached, providing in-school hot meals prepared on-site, along with targeted take-home dry rations primarily for girls to encourage their participation and help close the gender gap between boys and girls.
- In September, the School Feeding program also continued to strengthen the capacity of Ministry of Education officials at both the state and national levels. County Education Directors, along with two national officials, were deployed to conduct physical counts of students, food stocks, and non-food items.

WFP RESPONSE



Food Systems and Resilience

- A 40-person training center for briquette and improved cookstove production has been completed at Bentiu Ex-POC, Unity State, with facilities for drying, carbonization, and sorting of biomass waste. In addition, construction of another Training center in Rubkona is nearing completion. Briquette production was prioritized for income generation and climate adaptation due to the abundance of water hyacinth. Community sensitization on the benefits of briquettes as clean energy is ongoing, aiming to benefit 2,400 people, mostly women.
- WFP and key stakeholders in Akobo East, Jonglei State, have agreed to transition 29,630 people from general to conditional food assistance as part of a strategy to reduce dependency on aid and enhance livelihoods in South Sudan. Supported by the UK's South Sudan Humanitarian and Resilience Programme (SSHARP), the transition will involve cash transfers linked to Asset Creation and Livelihoods (ACL) activities and Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS). These efforts aim to meet food needs while building community assets, increasing agricultural production, and improving natural resource management and climate adaptation.



Logistics

- As of September 30, WFP had resourced 222,500 mt of food, accounting for 90 percent of its 2024 requirement (248,000 mt). Total dispatches from the operational plan of 182,000 mt has reached 173,000 mt. However, food transportation has encountered delays due to ongoing rains, rendering several regions, including Bentiu, Yida, Jonglei, Pibor, and Maban, inaccessible because of poor road conditions. Efforts to repair roads are underway to enhance access, particularly from Kuajok to Bentiu/Yida and from Renk to Maban. In the meantime, dispatches are continuing via air and river transport, which incurs significantly higher costs than road transport.



Logistics cluster

- The Logistics Cluster airlifted 106 mt of lifesaving cargo to 13 hard-to-reach locations for 16 organizations, including 104 mt for flood response and 2 mt for Sudan relief. It also coordinated river shipments of 180 mt for 10 organizations, with 76 mt provided on free-to-user basis for flood response. Additionally, IOM's common transport services (CTS) trucks transported 42 mt of WASH, protection, and shelter supplies to various flood affected locations for 4 organizations.
- The Logistics Cluster held its Global Logistics Meeting (GLM) with 19 participants from 15 organizations, focusing on operational and strategic priorities, as well as humanitarian response and preparedness. Additionally, a coordination meeting in Bentiu brought together 8 organizations to discuss access constraints, capacity building, and common services.



UN humanitarian air service

- UNHAS continued to play a crucial role in enabling humanitarian organizations to respond to the Sudan conflict. The service supported 165 organizations, transporting 5,544 passengers and 77 mt of cargo. It also operated six special flights and conducted 13 medical evacuations. Several flights were cancelled due to adverse weather, with recovery flights scheduled promptly.



Infrastructure Development

- WFP is planning road rehabilitation for the dry season starting in November 2024, including the Bentiu-Mayom Northern Road, which was reopened after the original route was submerged. Meanwhile, WFP will hire a contractor to ensure fleet passage and timely food delivery until construction conditions improve.
- Significant progress has been made on rehabilitating the 14 km Bentiu-Kilo30 road, the main route out of Bentiu, improving access to Manga Port and Unity State. The contractor completed the embankment, and plans are in place to raise the road above anticipated flood levels before adding a gravel wearing course.
- WFP is procuring work to rehabilitate 250 km of roads in GPAA, 32 km between Adok Port and Leer in Unity State, and 22 km of link roads in Jonglei connecting WFP warehouses to the Bor-Ayod road. These projects aim to enhance aid delivery and community access.



Beneficiary data management

- In September, WFP registered 32,952 people in SCOPE, bringing the total number of people registered to 7.7 million, including new arrivals from Sudan. Registering people in SCOPE ensured secure and targeted assistance, maximizing the impact of humanitarian operations, ensuring the right people received support, and improving the overall operational efficiency.



Protection and gender

- Aligned with WFP's Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Policy 2022-2026, WFP in partnership Cooperating Partners and other stakeholders, developed a protection risk matrix for Country Offices. This matrix aims to address the protection risks faced by beneficiaries at registration and distribution sites, allowing WFP field teams to monitor these risks, implement mitigation measures, and work with protection clusters to manage protection concerns and integrate protection considerations throughout the registration and food distribution processes.
- In Bor, WFP conducted a two-day workshop aimed at enhancing capacity in gender, protection, disability, and the mainstreaming of Inclusion and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP). The workshop brought together 40 participants (11 women and 29 men) from various WFP cooperating partners. Key outcomes included the introduction of a monthly reporting format for Cooperating Partners (CPs) and plans to track protection risks and disseminate key Gender-Based Violence (GBV) messages to beneficiaries in Jonglei, in collaboration with the GBV Sub-Cluster.



Resourcing outlook

- WFP urgently appeals to donors for early funding to support 2025 operations in South Sudan, enabling the prepositioning of 147,000 mt of essential commodities to prevent spiralling costs and rising hunger. Timely funding of USD 404 million is crucial to ensure preparedness and a rapid response to anticipated humanitarian needs throughout the year.
- WFP faces a USD 503 million funding gap between November 2024 and April 2025 to meet critical food and nutritional needs, resilience building and logistics services. Given the severe funding gaps, WFP has scaled down its operations in its new needs-based plan, from 7.3 million people targeted under its country strategic plan (2023 – 2025) to 5.4 million.

“My name is Grace and I’d like to be a lawyer. It takes me almost one hour to walk to school, but it is something I’m looking forward to because I want to learn, so that helps me walk every day.”

“Sometimes I have no money for breakfast so the food I have in school is the first thing I eat. I’m comfortable knowing there is food at school every day and that I will feel better and be able to study after eating. I want to study at Juba University and social studies is my favourite subject.”

Grace is one of 360,000 students across South Sudan receiving WFP School Meals this year. The daily meal is more than just food; it’s an opportunity for students to stay in school amidst food insecurity, allowing them to learn and grow with full stomachs.

Last year, WFP provided 197,000 school-going children with school meals supplemented by fresh produce,

where possible across 15 counties in six states. The number of children reached represented 49 percent of the plan due to severe funding constraints that forced WFP to scale down the programme. WFP’s school feeding programme yielded significant results. In communities receiving on-site meals and take-home rations, the enrolment increased by a 19-percentage point compared to 2022, alongside 82 percent average attendance rate.



Grace, a primary student from Juba. Photo: WFP/Samantha

WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2023-2025)

	Six Months Funding Outlook (in USD) - November 2024 — April 2025			People Assisted in September 2024		
	CSP Total Requirements	Resources	Net Funding Requirements ²	People Assisted	Female	Male
TOTAL	820,543,666	317,304,219	503,239,448	1,512,317	847,895	664,422
Activity 1: Provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations	597,977,996	212,036,421	385,941,575	1,123,437	606,656	516,781
Activity 2: Provide nutrition and health support to targeted groups	107,248,197	39,605,377	67,642,820	206,457	150,714	55,743
Activity 3: Provide nutritious school meals to school children	17,920,229	12,726,246	5,193,983	99,795	45,906	53,889
Activity 4: Engage targeted communities in resilience building activities	35,494,404	12,909,952	22,584,452	82,628	44,619	38,009
Activity 5: Engage targeted food-insecure populations, especially women and youth in livelihood development and market support activities.	6,789,398	1,457,235	5,332,163	-	-	-
Activity 6: Develop, rehabilitate and maintain essential infrastructure for targeted communities	11,289,476	11,289,476	-	-	-	-
Activity 7: provide policy support, and technical assistance to the government partners	795,103	633,977	161,126	-	-	-
Activity 8: Operate air services for the humanitarian community	28,219,301	14,365,390	13,853,911	-	-	-
Activity 9: Coordinate the Logistics Cluster in support of the humanitarian community	9,003,341	9,003,341	-	-	-	-
Activity 10: Provide on-demand services and expertise to humanitarian and development partners.	5,806,221	3,276,804	2,529,416	-	-	-

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