Project Overview

Following the joint assessment mission (WFP, UNICEF, IOM and OCHA) to Bentiu on 14th October 2021 which recommended immediate humanitarian assistance to people displaced due to flooding, WFP immediately prepared an emergency response. The assessment determined that there are approximately 37,680 flood-affected people (IDPs and residents) within Unity state, who require multi-sector humanitarian assistance. The IDPs are based in three locations: Bentiu town, Mayom and Guit.

WFP initially plans to provide emergency food assistance to all flood-affected people (IDPs and residents) for a period of two months, November and December, which requires approx. 2,897 MT. Some food is already pre-positioned in the locations, however, the stocks are not sufficient for the response, therefore WFP initiated an emergency logistics operation to ensure sufficient food stocks are available in all three locations for the two distributions. The operation began on October 30 and there are just 15 days to ensure food is in position for the first distribution on November 15. The operation will take place in 2 phases, the first phase is currently ongoing ahead of the first distribution on 15 November. The second phase will be initiated before the second distribution planned on 15 December.

Background

This is the third year of unprecedented flooding in South Sudan (2019, 2020 and 2021) and Unity State is one of the most affected in the country. A significant amount of the population has been displaced from Southern and Central Counties (Panyijar, Mayendit, Leer, Koch, Unity, Rubkona and Guit Counties) of the State. In August 2021, Bentiu town, which has no flood water management system, began experiencing flooding and water levels peaked in October.
2021. Despite the high water levels, most IDPs from Rubkona, Guit and Koch counties sought refuge from the floods in Bentiu town.

Given the level and the extent of the flooding and based on the October-November 2021 weather forecast for East and Central Africa, the water levels are not expected to recede, further water rising is possible, and much of the flood affected counties are expected to remain submerged. Given this situation, the IDPs coming from areas such Nhialdiu etc., are not expected to be able to return to their settlements in the near future.

Through this emergency response, WFP is prepositioning food in Bentiu and Guit to ensure flood-affected people can receive consistent and life-saving food assistance.

**Key Updates to Date**

To date from November 2—5, deliveries to the first location in Guit have been completed and 26.46 mt delivered. On Sunday, 7 November, deliveries will start to Kuach. 132 mt of food has been delivered to Bentiu from Yida to ensure sufficient stocks.

**Next few days**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Plan Qty to be Moved (Mt)</th>
<th>Delivery Qty done (Mt)</th>
<th>Balance Qty to be loaded (Mt)</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nhialdiu</td>
<td>Bentiu</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bentiu</td>
<td>Guit</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>26.46</td>
<td>41.54</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yida</td>
<td>Bentiu</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>868</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manga Port</td>
<td>Bentiu</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,448.00</td>
<td>258.46</td>
<td>1,189.54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WFP continues to preposition food in Guit County until all 68 mt are ready for the first distribution. The next priority is to conduct an assessment to Nhialdiu to determine flood levels and depth of the swamp to ensure the correct boat size can be used to increase uplift capacity and move food that had been prepositioned in Nhialdiu back to Bentiu Town as people have fled Nhialdiu due to the flooding.

For the second phase, WFP is exploring options to open river routes (connect Bentiu to Manga port) and strengthen the local transport network (using canoes). Based on the current level of flooding, roads will not be accessible and river movement will be the main mode of transportation. Strengthening the local transport network will bolster capacity for food deliveries, while supporting the local economy. Accessing isolated areas due to flooding is more costly and requires additional funding.

**Challenges**

- Significant food shortfalls and continued response requires additional resources especially to reach isolated areas
- Limited uplift capacity (~ 1 ton for the Sherps) will be challenging to meet the timelines based on the requirements
- Water levels continue rising, displacing people and increasing access constraints
- Many roads are impassable due to flooding and key supply lines will be cut if the airport closes

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**Concept of Operations**

**Photo:** Loading Sherps in Bentiu for first delivery to Guit (Althea Pickering/WFP)

**Photo:** Sherps en route from Bentiu to Guit (Apiku Ark/WFP)

**Photo:** Offloading Sherps at the warehouse in Guit Town (Althea Pickering/WFP)

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WFP South Sudan
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https://www.wfp.org/countries/south-sudan