

WFP SOUTH SUDAN

Situation Report #312


30 April 2023


HIGHLIGHTS


- In April, WFP distributed **22,413 mt** of food and **USD 5.96 million** in cash-based transfers (CBT) to **2.8 million** people, representing **76 percent** of the people targeted in April*.
- WFP requires **446,000 mt** of food in 2023 under its need-based plan and had resourced 211,135 mt of this food by 30 April, representing 47 percent of needs-based requirements. WFP planned to preposition 98,658 mt of the resourced food before the onset of the rainy season in May, and had prepositioned 78 percent of this food by 30 April.
- WFP faces a funding gap of **USD 452 million** between May and October 2023 and had to reduce the total number of people targeted from 7.7 million to 5.4 million, and continued to deprioritize IPC 3 counties, in a move likely to exacerbate food insecurity in the deprioritized counties.

IN THE NUMBERS

55%  45% 

 WFP plans to assist **5.4 million** people in 2023. In April, WFP assisted **2.8 million** people with food and cash-based transfers.

 **7.7 million** people facing severe food insecurity across 78 counties (IPC). Of this, **43,000** in IPC 5, 2.9 million in IPC 4, 4.8 million in IPC 3.

 **2 million** women and children acutely malnourished

 **2.2 million** internally displaced people

 **2.3 million** South Sudanese refugees

 **USD 452 million** WFP six month net funding requirement between May and October 2023

SITUATION UPDATE

- Subnational violence continued in several states in April, including Jonglei, Upper Nile, Eastern Equatoria, Central Equatoria State, and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA), among others.
- About **9.4 million** people require humanitarian assistance in 2023, representing 76 percent of South Sudan's population, and an increase of 500,000 people from 2022. The [October-November 2022 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#) projects that 7.7 million will face severe acute food insecurity – at the Crisis level (IPC 3) or higher during the April-July 2023 lean season. Of the 7.7 million, 2.9 million people will face Emergency (IPC 4) acute food insecurity, and 43,000 will be in Catastrophe (IPC 5) acute food insecurity in Jonglei and Unity States. The rest, 4.8 million people, will face Crisis (IPC 3) conditions. Further, 1.4 million children will be moderately or severely malnourished in 2023, surpassing the levels seen during the conflict in 2013 and 2016.
- According to the 2023 South Sudan's [Humanitarian Needs Overview](#), 148,000 returnees from abroad (prior to the Sudan crisis) remained displaced within South Sudan, unable to reach their homes and engage in livelihood activities. As of 28 February, South Sudan hosted 310,000 refugees, 94 percent from Sudan and the rest from neighbouring countries, including Uganda, Ethiopia, Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic, and Burundi.
- Following the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in mid-April, **23,611** returnees and refugees were registered as of 30 April 2023, with the Renk border point accounting for 88 percent of new arrivals. Others crossed through entry points in Aweil North and East Counties in Northern Bahr el Ghazal (6 percent) with the remaining crossing through entry points in Unity, Western Bahr el Ghazal States, and the Abyei Administrative Area (AAA).
- The Sudan conflict disrupted the flow of food commodities along the main border crossings, including Renk County of Upper Nile State, Amiet market in the AAA, and Gokmachar Payam in Aweil North County of Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. The disruption contributed to severe fuel and food commodities shortages in these areas, leading to significant price hikes. In the first two weeks of the crisis, the cost of the food basket increased by 18 to 56 percent while purchasing power declined by 11 to 31 percent in areas along the northern border. The percentage of households experiencing severe food insecurity is expected to increase by 10 to 12 percent nationally.
- The South Sudanese Pound (SSP) continued to depreciate relative to the US dollar (USD). By 30 April, a US dollar exchanged at SSP 876 in the reference market in Juba, representing a two percent depreciation of the SSP with respect to the third week of April. Parallel market rates varied between SSP 850 to 920, indicating the lowest exchange rate in April.

* Delayed deliveries as a result of insecurity, ongoing road repairs, limited air asset capacity, and low water levels of the Sobat river, hampered WFP's efforts to reach all the targeted people in April.

Sudan conflict response

- Following the outbreak of conflict in Sudan, **240,000 individuals** (60,000 refugees and 180,000 returnees), as well as 10,000 third country nationals are expected to arrive in South Sudan over the next three to six months.
- WFP's immediate response plan focuses on providing life-saving assistance in the form of hot meals at reception and transit centres, covering a general ration and specialized nutritious food to prevent and treat malnutrition. The medium-term response would focus on providing nutrition services and dry rations to refugees and returnees upon settling in the refugee camps and in their communities, respectively.
- In coordination with humanitarian partners, WFP conducted nutrition screening for pregnant and nursing mothers and children at the Joda reception centre at the border of Sudan, and at the Renk transit centre, screening 1,007 children and 78 pregnant and nursing mothers by the end of April.
- From 26 April, WFP started providing life-saving food assistance through hot meals for the new arrivals and specialized nutritious food for the most vulnerable. At the Renk transit centre, in Renk County of Upper Nile State, WFP provided two hot meals at the transit centre for 2,000 people daily, reaching **5,000 people** by the end of April. 300 children received a nutrition package comprising of LNS-MQ or cooked super cereal plus, while 268 pregnant and nursing mothers received specialised nutritious foods to prevent malnutrition, including a wet ration of super cereal plus. Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition with ready-to-eat supplementary foods and super cereal plus started in May.
- WFP started procuring high-energy biscuits (HEB), which it will be dispatched to the reception centres at the border points for distribution to the new arrivals.
- The latest influx compounds the already dire humanitarian situation in South Sudan and continues to strain WFP resources, which remain stretched amidst increasing humanitarian needs. WFP requires an additional **USD 30.3 million** to meet critical food and nutrition needs for the South Sudanese returnees and newly arrived refugees from May to October 2023.
- In addition to the ongoing response, WFP faces a USD 452 million shortfall between May and October 2023, with critical funding gaps starting in August 2023 for the life-saving food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations for all food commodities except the lipid-based nutrition supplement – medium quantity (LNS-MQ) and the Super Cereal Plus, and cash-based transfers (CBT) gaps starting in October 2023.



Photo: Preparation of hot meals for returnees at the Renk transit centre. WFP started providing daily hot meals on 26 April 2023. WFP/Peter Louis

General food assistance

- In April, WFP distributed **22,413 mt** of food and **USD 5.96 million** in CBT to **2.82 million** people, including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), rapid response mechanism and lean-season response through general food assistance (GFA), nutrition assistance, school feeding, food assistance for assets (FFA), and smallholder agriculture market access. This number represented 76 percent of the targeted people, with delayed deliveries as a result of insecurity, ongoing road repairs, limited air asset capacity, and low water levels of the Sobat river, hampering WFP's efforts to reach all the targeted people in April.
- Since January 2023, WFP had to reduce the total number of people targeted from 7.7 million to 5.4 million. WFP has reduced the number of people targeted under the school feeding and urban safety nets, asset creation, nutrition, and crisis response reduced by 65 percent, 53 percent, 33 percent, and 18 percent, respectively. WFP continued to provide 70 percent rations to people in all counties with people facing Catastrophe and halved rations in counties with sections of people facing Emergency food insecurity levels.
- Further, WFP continued to deprioritize IPC 3 counties, a move that was likely to increase food insecurity, given that trend analyses show an increase in the number of IPC 4 counties with each IPC cycle. Ongoing ration cuts in IPC 4 and IPC 5 counties continue to compromise famine prevention objectives and could reverse the gains in deprioritized areas. WFP planned to scale up resilience during the CSP period but had to revise its plans in a move that could increase humanitarian needs.

Nutrition

- Between January and mid-April, WFP and partners admitted 2,542 children and 2,110 pregnant and nursing mothers in the treatment programme for moderate acute malnutrition.
- WFP continued to support the 16 IDP camps in Twic County in Warrap State as part of a multi-partner integrated nutrition programme covering water sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), health, gender, protection, and food security and livelihoods.

Photo: Nutrition facility at the Renk transit centre where WFP and cooperating partner, GOAL are providing nutrition services to new arrivals. WFP/Peter Louis

Safety Nets and Resilience

Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS)

- In preparation for the 2023 cropping season, WFP and its cooperating partners continued to strengthen the capacities of smallholder farmers, youth groups and cooperatives in Good Agronomic Practices, business management skills, and Savings & Loans Associations across SAMS-targeted locations in Greater Bahr el Ghazal, Greater Upper Nile State, Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria States.
- In collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), WFP organized a Training of Trainers (ToT) on Climate Adapted Lowland rice cultivation for 12 participants from South Sudan Ministry of Agriculture, cooperating partners and WFP. The training took place in the Uganda Centre of Excellence - National Crop Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI).

Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)

- WFP and its cooperating partners completed the Community Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) re-validation exercises across several counties in Warrap, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Western Equatoria, Unity, Lakes, and Upper Nile and Jonglei States and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA). These participatory consultations allowed communities to develop local action plans based on agreed priorities. The completion paved way for the activity selection and implementation over the food assistance support period.
- 2023 food prepositioning continued in FFA locations with 70 percent completed. Under the Pastoral FFA programme in Rumbek North, participants created eight shallow wells and eight latrines.

Logistics

- WFP requires **446,000 mt** of food in 2023 under its need-based plan. However, under its operational plan guided by the food security needs and resourcing levels, the revised food requirements for 2023 is **229,570 mt**. WFP had resourced **211,135 mt** of this food by 30 April, representing 47 percent of the needs-based requirements and 92 percent of the operational plan. Of the resourced tonnage, WFP planned to preposition **98,658 mt** of the resourced food before the onset of the rainy season in May. By 30 April, WFP had prepositioned 78 percent of this requirement.
- WFP continued to rehabilitate the dyke in Bor and Twic East Counties of Jonglei State, reinforcing them to ensure long term sustainability. Local authorities estimate that 13,000 people have been able to return home since WFP started repairing the dyke. In addition, WFP rehabilitated the Mayom-Kilo 30 road, which connects Mayom and Rubkona counties in Unity, completing 21 km of dyke and 17 km of embarkment, therefore rendering 17 km of the road passable. For the Yusuf Batil Bridge in Warrap State, WFP completed excavation, and installation of culverts, and by the end of April backfilling was ongoing.
- Rehabilitating infrastructure helps protect communities from floodwaters, improves connectivity and access to markets, and allows WFP to preposition commodities ahead of the rainy season reducing reliance on air transport and thus, the overall cost of delivering humanitarian assistance.

- Insecurity along the Bor-Pibor road continued to affect humanitarian operations, including delivery of humanitarian supplies and rehabilitation of the infrastructure in Jonglei and the GPAA. On 27 April, an incident near Anyidi resulted in the loss of 16 mt of commodities. WFP continued to engage with the national, state and county-level authorities, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RCC), and local community leaders across the affected regions to address the incidents to ensure the safety of humanitarian staff and assets.

Logistics Cluster

- The cluster facilitated the transport of 92 mt of cargo by air to five destinations on behalf of eight organizations. Further, the cluster facilitated river transport of 307 mt cargo to locations along Bahr El- Jebel and White Nile to Renk County on behalf of twelve organizations.
- To support dry season prepositioning, the cluster coordinated eight road convoys comprising of 99 trucks transporting an estimated 3,440 mt to locations in the Northern Jonglei region, GPAA, and along the Western Corridor route all the way to Bentiu and ad hoc convoys to Wau and Mabior.
- The cluster facilitated the delivery of 230 mt of relief cargo and non-food items (NFI) comprising of Shelter, Nutrition, Wash and Protection supplies to eleven destinations on behalf of ten organizations to offer road transport from Bentiu and Wau to deep field locations using IOM's Common Transport Service trucks.

UN Humanitarian Air Service

- UNHAS transported 5,438 passengers and 228 mt of humanitarian supplies and conducted six medical evacuations. UNHAS also supported in security relocation of refugees coming from Sudan, transporting 17 passengers from Manyo County of Upper Nile to Juba in the Central Equatoria State. By 30 April, UNHAS had supported 183 partners.

Cross-cutting results

- As part of its commitment to accountability to affected populations, WFP took measures to ensure beneficiaries have the correct information that empowers them and allows them to make decisions, thereby promoting their dignity. One of these included commencing trainings for WFP and cooperating partners' community feedback mechanism (CFM) focal points on collection, consolidation and reporting of community feedback information and the use of referral systems in place. WFP and cooperating partners also launched awareness sessions (community outreach sessions) with affected people on CFM, where to report complaints and receive feedback, and on promoting the improvement of reporting CFM complaints received from the helpdesk, including pending complaints for follow up actions by cooperating partners.
- In Renk, WFP supported service providers mapping exercises on the available services offered by different humanitarian agencies to strengthen the referral pathway. This referral pathway will be compiled and disseminated widely to the population living in the transit centre to ease beneficiaries' access to services beyond WFP.

ABC News visits South Sudan, on the frontlines of the climate crisis.

South Sudan is facing its hungriest year to date due to conflict, a fourth consecutive year of flooding, and the global food crisis which is causing food and fuel prices to skyrocket. A staggering eight million people (almost 65 percent of the population) are facing severe food insecurity. In April 2023, a crew from ABC News visited South Sudan to cover the effects of the floods in the north of the country. The full article is available [here](#) with an excerpt featured below.

“The water came in the night, rushing into her home. And as it covered everything she owned in her hometown of Niahldiu, Nyathak took her children through the waters to the shore, waiting to be rescued. Flooding during the rainy season is not uncommon here in South Sudan, but as the weeks and months passed without the waters receding, Nyathak -- like so many here -- made the decision to leave Niahldiu with her family in search of dry land.

ABC News was there as humanitarian convoys traveled the only road in and out of the region -- the Bentiu Panakuach Road -- that comes from Sudan, witnessing the aid's uncertain future, as the road is threatened by rising waters in the coming rainy season and now conflict north of the border in Sudan.”



Photo: ABC News' David Muir visits South Sudan to report on the impact of unprecedented flooding. Instagram/@davidmuirabc

WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2023-2025)

	Total Requirements (millions in USD)	Allocated Contributions (millions in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements May - Oct 2023 (millions in USD)	People Assisted (April 2023)	Female	Male
CSP TOTAL (2023-2025)	3,770.7	592.90	452.21	2,817,462	1,533,515	1,283,947
Activity 1: Provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations	2,059.60	330.65	251.33	2,349,285	1,248,524	1,100,761
Activity 2: Provide nutrition and health support to targeted groups	674.70	103.96	64.38	221,774	161,190	60,584
Activity 3: Provide nutritious school meals to school children	221.40	8.08	33.04	114,997	52,898	62,099
Activity 4: Engage targeted communities in resilience building activities	385.70	38.54	52.92	131,406	70,903	60,503
Activity 5: Engage targeted food insecure populations in livelihood development and market support activities	27.70	7.25	-	-	-	-
Activity 6: Develop, rehabilitate and maintain essential infrastructure for targeted communities	132.40	5.41	34.80	-	-	-
Activity 7: provide policy support, and technical assistance to the government partners	4.60	-	0.72	-	-	-
Activity 8: Operate air services for the humanitarian community	168.40	29.79	9.56	-	-	-
Activity 9: Coordinate the Logistics Cluster in support of the humanitarian community	56.90	13.59	0.82	-	-	-
Activity 10: Provide on-demand services and expertise to humanitarian and development partners	39.30	3.38	4.64	-	-	-
Non-Activity Specific funding	-	52.26	-	-	-	-

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