



World Food Programme



# WFP SOUTH SUDAN

## Situation Report #330

31 December 2024

### HIGHLIGHTS

- In December, WFP distributed more than **14,000 mt** of food and **USD 4.5 million** in cash-based transfers to **1.6 million** people, representing **78 percent** of the people targeted during the month. WFP had assisted **4.4 million** people since January 2024.
- Recent hostilities near the Sudan-South Sudan border have driven **120,000** new arrivals into South Sudan since December, exacerbating the humanitarian situation at the reception and transit centres in Renk. Critical needs include water, health, nutrition, sanitation and hygiene. Acute water shortage has increased the risk of disease outbreaks and tensions between new arrivals and host communities.
- Urgent resource mobilization is crucial to address critical gaps in health, WASH, protection, and nutrition. WFP faces a funding gap of **USD 373 million** between February and July 2025 to support the urgent humanitarian needs of millions of crisis-affected people.

### SITUATION UPDATE

- South Sudan is facing a confluence of crises that continue to push the country towards new levels of vulnerability. South Sudan is grappling with a long-standing humanitarian crisis marked by chronic food and nutrition insecurity, worsened by severe economic and climatic shocks. The ongoing Sudan conflict has compounded the situation by driving **985,000** people into South Sudan by 31 December.
- According to the South Sudan [2025 Humanitarian Needs Response Plan](#), 9.3 million people will require humanitarian assistance in 2025, representing an increase of 300,000 in 2024. Over **1.8 million** people remain internally displaced due to years of subnational violence and the impact of climate change, including floods and dry spells.
- The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification ([IPC](#)) results released in November showed that 6.1 million people are facing acute food insecurity levels, at Crisis or higher, between December 2024 and March 2025. The situation could worsen, with projections showing 7.7 million people will face acute food insecurity during the 2025 lean season. Of the 7.7 million, 2.5 million people will face Emergency levels of food insecurity, and 63,000 will face Catastrophe levels of food insecurity. Malnutrition rates continue to surge, with 3.2 million children and women at risk of malnutrition, representing a 28 percent increase compared to 2024.
- The floods experienced between September and December impacted **1.4 million** people across 44 Counties in all the states, including displacing 379,000 people. The Abyei Administrative Area, Jonglei, Lakes, Unity, and Western Bahr el Ghazal States are the most affected.
- South Sudan has been grappling with a cholera outbreak since October. By 31 December, the Ministry of Health had reported **13,000** suspected cases and 200 fatalities in 28 counties, including Renk County, the primary entry point for new arrivals.
- The ongoing conflict in Sudan has further aggravated the country's already fragile macroeconomic environment. The disruption of oil revenues has made the parallel market the primary source of foreign currency for business operations. Since the beginning of 2024, the exchange rate in the parallel market has depreciated by 77 percent, driving up the cost of imports, increasing the cost of living and exacerbating the vulnerability of poor households, including the new arrivals.

### IN THE NUMBERS

56% 44%



**4.4 million** people targeted in 2025



**6.1 million** people currently facing severe food insecurity. **41,000** in IPC 5, **1.7 million** in IPC 4, and **4.5 million** in IPC 3.



**1.8 million** internally displaced people



**514,000** refugees in South Sudan



**985,000** new arrivals since the start of the Sudan crisis in April 2023.



**USD 373 million** six month net funding requirement between February and July 2025, including **USD 42 million** for the Sudan crisis response.

# WFP RESPONSE

## Sudan conflict response

- Recent hostilities near the Sudan-South Sudan border saw over [120,000](#) new arrivals enter South Sudan, representing a 260 percent increase compared to November. A [headcount](#) conducted on 27 December revealed a critical situation at the Renk Transit Centres, with 22,000 new arrivals residing at the congested centres and a further 82,000 at different border points. Following the headcount, WFP distributed 53 mt of fortified biscuits to new arrivals in Renk and other entry points within Renk County.
- A UNHCR [survey](#) of 800 households among over 80,000 new arrivals from Sudan's Blue Nile, White Nile, and Sennar States revealed that 58 percent preferred to stay near the Joda Reception Centre in South Sudan, with refugees (83 percent) and returnees (55 percent) expressing this intention. While returnees indicated they may seek integration within their South Sudanese counties of origin, challenges such as tracing of family members, and mobility hindered their movement.
- WFP also continued to provide food assistance in other entry points and areas where new arrivals settled across the country. As of 31 December, 851,000 new arrivals had received food assistance since the start of the crisis.



New arrivals receiving fortified biscuits at the Joda border point. Photo: WFP/ Rose Ejuru

Thousands of new arrivals have sought refuge in Renk, creating urgent demands for food, shelter, water, and non-food items. Humanitarian partners are providing critical assistance at the border and in Renk. WFP is on the ground at border points and in Renk, providing vital food and nutrition assistance to new arrivals.

## General food assistance

- WFP distributed 14,540 mt of food and USD 4.5 million as cash-based transfers to 1.6 million people in December,<sup>1</sup> including new arrivals, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and host populations. The total number of people reached represents 78 percent of the targeted population. Delayed arrival of commodities in-country and impassable roads affected WFP's ability to reach all the targeted people. Since January 2024, WFP has assisted 4.4 million people.
- Due to funding gaps, WFP continued to provide 70 percent of the ration entitlements to people in counties experiencing pockets of Catastrophe food insecurity levels and 50 percent to the rest of the targeted populations in areas facing Emergency food insecurity levels, including refugees and IDPs.

<sup>1</sup>These are unique individuals, with overlaps between programmes removed.

- WFP continued to support flood-affected people across various states in South Sudan. By 31 December, WFP had provided 1.3 million people with food and nutrition assistance. As of 31 December, WFP had assisted 253,000 children aged 6-23 months in flood-affected areas with specialized nutritious foods to prevent MAM. WFP collaborated with the Government and other partners on flood preparedness activities in coordination with the National Nutrition Cluster.

## Human capital development

- In Northern Bahr El Ghazal and Lakes States, WFP and UNICEF continued to operationalize the WHO guidelines, developing critical operational tools such as instructional guidelines, training materials, and testing protocols to ensure a timely project launch in 2025. Concurrently, WFP and FAO collaborated to identify and prioritize nutrition-sensitive areas of operation. This strategic approach aims to address the underlying causes of malnutrition and foster long-term resilience within vulnerable communities in both states.

## Food systems and resilience

- Under the WFP-led Reconciliation Stabilization Rehabilitation Trust Fund, the Kong Koc programme partners' recently concluded Measuring Safety and Security Endline Survey revealed a notable improvement in community mobility and livelihood engagement within the Greater Tonj. While safety and security concerns persisted, an increase in agricultural activities was evident, with 80 percent of respondents reporting access to their crop farms in the past three months, a substantial rise from 61 percent at baseline (2022). Similarly, 82 percent of respondents reported grazing their cattle away from their homesteads, an increase from 67 percent at baseline. This trend was due to a reduction in violence, particularly in Tonj North and South, which has facilitated increased participation in livelihood activities.



Youth harvesting maize in the Abelek Cattle Camp in Malual-Mouk Boma in Tonj South County of Warrap State. Photo: ADRA / Martin Athian

In 2024, RSRTF engaged over 30,000 people in peace and resilience-building activities through the Kong Koc programme in the Greater Tonj.

The endline survey conducted in October 2024 showed the programme's interventions in social cohesion, peacebuilding and stabilization yielded positive outcomes, as communities engaged in more peaceful conflict resolution mechanisms.

The programme contributed to improved agricultural practices, increased food production, and enhanced participants' skills in climate-smart agriculture.



# WFP RESPONSE

## Logistics

- As of 31 December, WFP had resourced 245,000 mt of food, representing 99 percent of the 2024 food requirements (248,000 mt). Improved road access in the northern and central regions in mid-December facilitated successful food dispatches from overland and inland warehouses to Bentiu, Yida, and Abyei. However, roads in northern Jonglei and Pibor remained impassable.

## Logistics cluster

- The Logistics Cluster coordinated the airlift of 272 mt of multi-sectoral supplies to various locations on behalf of over 17 humanitarian organizations responding to emergencies like the ongoing cholera outbreak and floods. The cluster transported 1,037 mt of multi-sectoral cargo by river from Bor to ten locations, for 16 organizations. The cargo included 810 mt for humanitarian response, including the cholera and flood response in Bentiu, Malakal, and Renk.
- Overall, the cluster transported 5,675 mt of multisectoral relief cargo to 122 destinations in 2024. The cluster's user satisfaction survey revealed positive results, with 92 percent of respondents expressing satisfaction with the cluster's services. The high satisfaction was due to cluster's efficiency in facilitating common logistics services to areas in need of humanitarian assistance.

## UN humanitarian air service

- UNHAS facilitated regular flights to Renk, transporting 533 passengers and 9 mt of light humanitarian cargo on behalf of 50 organizations. Throughout 2024, UNHAS transported 65,000 passengers and 957 mt of cargo for 239 organizations across 48 destinations and evacuated 108 and 17 passengers for medical and security purposes, respectively.
- UNHAS' customer satisfaction survey revealed that passenger satisfaction rose to 96 percent, up from 95 percent in 2023, indicating improvements in cargo delivery, booking efficiency, and in-flight experience.

## Beneficiary data management

- In December, WFP registered 35,087 people in SCOPE, bringing the total number of people registered to 7.4 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.

## Gender and protection

- Within the framework of the "Leave No One Behind - Inclusive Food Security in South Sudan" project, WFP and Humanity & Inclusion conducted a barrier and facilitator assessment in Aweil and Pibor. The assessment revealed access challenges faced by persons with disabilities (PWDs), including communication barriers, long distances to food distribution sites, and a shortage of assistive devices. Key recommendations include continuous capacity building for partners on Inclusive Humanitarian Action principles, enhancing the access to food distribution centres, and the elimination of existing barriers. The findings will inform the implementation of more inclusive and effective food assistance programmes, ensuring all people, including PWDs, have equitable access to life-saving food assistance.

## Resourcing outlook

- WFP faces a critical funding shortfall of USD 373 million to support the urgent humanitarian needs of millions of crisis-affected people in South Sudan from February to July 2025, including USD 42 million for the Sudan crisis response.
- To ensure timely assistance, WFP appeals for timely funding from donors to preposition 135,000 mt of food ahead of the rainy season when road access becomes severely impassable. This proactive measure will enhance WFP's preparedness and enable a swift response to anticipated humanitarian needs throughout 2025.



WFP uses routes along the River Nile and its tributaries to transport food and nutrition supplies across South Sudan. River transport is more cost-efficient than other means of transports and allows WFP to reach communities living in remote areas. In 2024, WFP delivered 198,000 mt of food to different locations in South Sudan. Of this tonnage, 59,000 mt were delivered by river. Photo: WFP/ Patrick Meinhard

## Resilience: WFP Helps Warrap State Farmers Adapt to Climate Change through Rice Cultivation

"I hope when we harvest the rice, I'll have enough to eat and sell at the market so I can send my children to school."

Angelina is one of the participants of WFP's resilience programmes in Mathiang boma, Warrap State, where people are planting rice for the first time.

While rice is not traditionally a staple part of the diet in Warrap State, relying on traditional crops such as sorghum and groundnuts has become untenable with consecutive years of flooding decimating crops each year.

"We have been trained on agronomy practices like row planting and how to weed rice, identifying the wild grass from the rice" says Angelina.

Apart from training, participants also receive food assistance 6 months a year and work on communal assets.

"I love working with the rest of the group because when we work together we finish the work faster and it brings unity among us."

With support from WFP, Angelina and her children eat now a healthy and balanced diet that helps them build resilience for their future.

In 2024, WFP continued to support communities and households to cultivate rice in flood-prone areas in Warrap State. Overall, 1,500 people participated in rice farming in 630 hectares of land. By supporting rice cultivation in flood-prone areas, WFP enabled communities to adapt to the changing climate and mitigate the devastating effects of flooding.

This shift in agricultural practices enhanced food security by diversifying livelihoods and provided a new source of income for farmers like Angelina, empowering families to afford school fees for their children, and fostering a brighter future for the next generation.



Angelina tends to her newly planted rice field, a testament to her resilience and determination to overcome the challenges of climate change. [Inset] Angelina shares a meal with her children and a steaming plate of rice. Photo: WFP/Eulalia Berlanga

## WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2023-2025)

	Six Months Funding Outlook (in USD) - February — July 2025			People Assisted in December 2024		
	CSP Total Requirements	Allocated Contributions	Net Funding Requirements <sup>3</sup>	People Assisted	Female	Male
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>542,102,228</b>	<b>168,344,584</b>	<b>373,757,644</b>	<b>1,642,856</b>	<b>915,098</b>	<b>727,758</b>
<b>Activity 1:</b> Provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations	342,030,770	87,115,621	254,915,149	1,243,542	671,513	572,029
<b>Activity 2:</b> Provide nutrition and health support to targeted groups	74,635,478	14,234,575	60,400,903	156,984	114,598	42,386
<b>Activity 3:</b> Provide nutritious school meals to school children	17,971,268	10,393,503	7,577,765	23,387	10,758	12,629
<b>Activity 4:</b> Engage targeted communities in resilience building activities	50,769,048	15,460,144	35,308,904	218,943	118,229	100,714
<b>Activity 5:</b> Engage targeted food insecure populations in livelihood development and market support activities	7,004,900	1,052,313	5,952,587	-	-	-
<b>Activity 6:</b> Develop, rehabilitate and maintain essential infrastructure for targeted communities	11,253,602	11,253,602	-	-	-	-
<b>Activity 7:</b> provide policy support, and technical assistance to the government partners	780,110	570,727	209,383	-	-	-
<b>Activity 8:</b> Operate air services for the humanitarian community	28,833,250	20,423,728	8,409,522	-	-	-
<b>Activity 9:</b> Coordinate the Logistics Cluster in support of the humanitarian community	8,823,802	7,840,371	983,431	-	-	-
Non-Activity Specific funding	-	-	-	-	-	-

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS



<sup>3</sup>The net funding requirements above include USD 42 million required for the Sudan crisis response.

<sup>2</sup>Photo 1: New arrivals undergoing biometric registration in Renk ahead of cash distributions. WFP/Eulalia Berlanga