



HIGHLIGHTS

- **695 200** people have been internally displaced since 15 December, and **190 000** have fled to neighbouring countries.
- Violence in Malakal town, Upper Nile State, is feared to have caused further displacement and the whereabouts of many town residents is as yet unknown.
- The Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) Cluster estimates that **3.7 million** people face “crisis” and “emergency” food insecurity (Integrated Phase Classification).
- **A major food and nutrition crisis is already apparent** – in the worst-affected states, basic commodities are becoming increasingly scarce, food reserves are running low and prices of staple foods are rising.
- **Food insecurity will continue rising** if inputs are not quickly provided to restart food production – basic fishing equipment for those living along or near rivers; livestock vaccines and drugs for community-based animal health workers (CBAHWs); fast-maturing vegetable seeds to displaced people in Protection of Civilian sites and other populations in rural and urban areas; and crop seeds to farmers with access to land before the planting season starts (March-July).
- **FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission Report** released on 20 February – bleak outlook for three worst-hit states (Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity).

LATEST SITUATION

- ❖ At the end of February, new fighting was reported in Malakal town, Upper Nile State, raising concern about further displacement and the conditions of populations in and around the town.
- ❖ January is usually when cattle keepers begin migrating in search of water and pastures, following designated routes. However, the violence has forced livestock owners to follow non-traditional routes to avoid frontlines and ensure their safety and that of their animals. This is increasing the risk of disease outbreaks as vaccinated and unvaccinated herds come in contact, as well as of resource-based conflicts between pastoralists and crop farmers and among pastoralists.
- ❖ The next IPC analysis will be carried out in March and is expected to reveal a similar picture of food insecurity in South Sudan. Further deterioration of the situation is likely once the dry season starts around November. Actions taken **NOW** to facilitate planting and food production in the coming months will be extremely critical.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

CFSAM – Key points

- ❖ **Pre-crisis:** October 2013, food insecurity in South Sudan reached a five-year low; severe food insecurity levels at a record low of 3.4% – down from a steady 10% since 2009.
- ❖ **Today:** conflict has reversed these gains – about 7 million now at risk of some degree of food insecurity in 2014; severe food insecurity threatens over 30% of population.
- ❖ Violence has been most severe in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity States – the states with the highest food insecurity, cereal deficits and dependency on markets for staple food purchases before the crisis.
- ❖ Fighting in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile has led to loss of household losses, increased cereal deficits, widespread destruction of market infrastructure, and disruption of trade routes.
- ❖ As food stocks in urban and peri-urban areas, as well as along rural corridors have been looted or destroyed, estimated cereal deficits must be revised upwards, especially in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity States.
- ❖ Continued insecurity affecting trade routes from Uganda, causing particular concern at a time when household stocks are exhausted and reliance on markets increases. This will negatively food security across the country, even in regions far from direct conflict.

SPECIAL REPORTFAO/WFP CROP AND FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT
MISSION TO SOUTH SUDAN

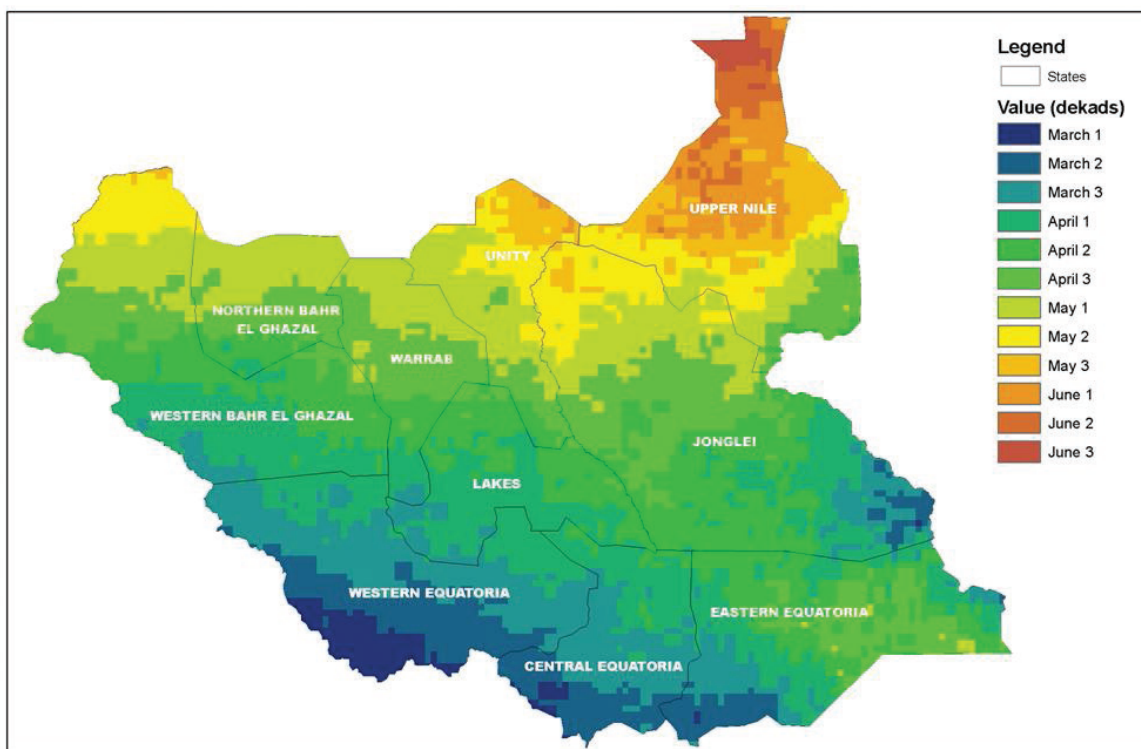
20 February 2014

IMPORTANT: This report is based on information gathered in South Sudan from 18 October to 29 November 2013, prior to the start of the conflict in mid-December. Although the situation in the country is still very volatile, a final section on the likely impact of the conflict on food security prospects, including food requirements, has been added.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS, ROME

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME, ROME

The map below shows the average dates of onset of suitable conditions for land preparation and planting in South Sudan. This means that in the hardest hit states, farming populations need assistance to get back on their land and start planting by mid-March to early-April in Central Equatoria; mid-April to mid-May in Jonglei; late-April to mid-May in Unity; and mid-May to late-June in Upper Nile.

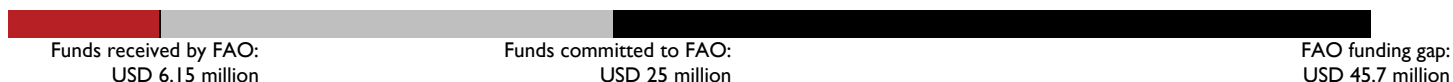


The rainy season is nearing – beginning in March and fully underway by May – and will isolate large parts of the country and re-displace many families that were uprooted by the violence. FAO and its partners are beginning to pre-position supplies in four strategic locations to ensure that inputs reach even the most remote households and take advantage of the opportunities provided by floods for food production (for fisheries, and for flood-recession agriculture).

FAO IMMEDIATE RESPONSE



TARGETING: 2.4 million people – 2 million to benefit from “emergency livelihood kits”



Emergency livelihood kits – four types of kits are being prepared



Fishing kits: 2 spools of twine, 1 box of hooks, sun-drying net



CBAWH kits: drugs and equipment to assist livestock-owning households as they move



Vegetable kits: 80–90 g of vegetable seeds and 1 hoe (and 1 watering can or wheelbarrow per 30 families)



Crop kits: 20–25 kg of crop seeds and 1 hoe

The kits cost an average of USD 200/family and provide either:

- 1 year of staple crops for 1 family,
- 6 months of vegetables,
- animal health services for 80 families for a month, or
- enough fishing capacity to feed 30 families/day.

The emergency livelihood kits are the first step in FAO’s Plan to help crisis-hit and severely food-insecure populations to start producing food fast. The nature of the response **NOW** will shape food insecurity in South Sudan throughout 2014 and into 2015.

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