



IN NUMBERS



2.8 million

People severely food insecure (IPC Phases 3 and 4, January–March 2016)



>2.3 million

People displaced by conflict – nearly 1.7 million internally



USD 45 million

needed for the implementation of FAO's 2016 emergency campaign

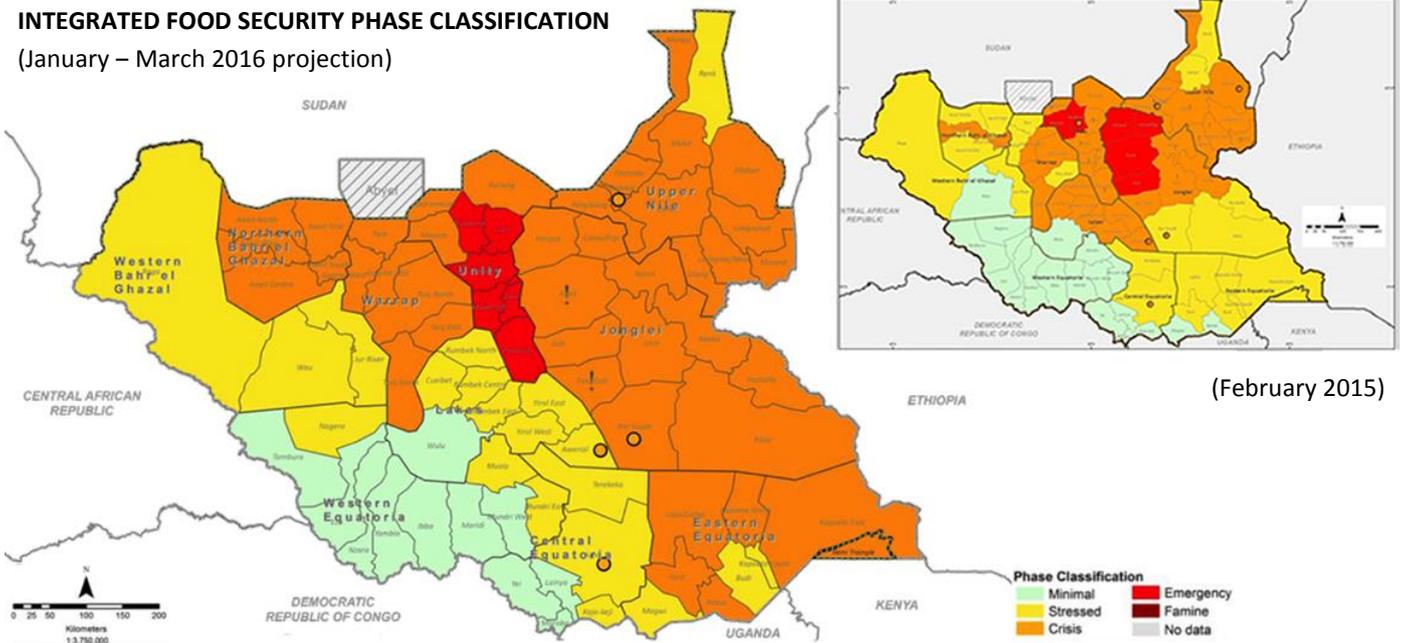
KEY MESSAGES

- **Insecurity in Wau County is preventing farmers from preparing their lands in time for the coming rainy season.**
- **Without urgent support to increase access to necessary inputs,** farmers and herders will remain extremely vulnerable to the devastating and compounding effects of conflict, climatic shocks and economic crisis.
- **Soaring food prices, rapidly depleting food supplies and a likely protracted lean season** are impacting families in areas that have been relatively secure. Increasing vulnerability requires urgent support to protect agricultural assets, allowing communities to continue to produce food and gain income.
- **Supporting food security information, analysis and coordination is critical** to inform decision-making for food security and livelihood responses. As the conflict in South Sudan is now entering its third year, accurate and comprehensive data is vital to programming as the situation evolves on the ground.

MAP

INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PHASE CLASSIFICATION

(January – March 2016 projection)



(February 2015)

BACKGROUND

Conflict continues to profoundly affect food security and livelihoods in the Republic of South Sudan. Alarming reports of starvation, acute malnutrition and catastrophe levels of food insecurity have been reported in areas worst affected by the ongoing violence. Food insecurity has spread to areas previously considered relatively stable, highlighting the cumulative impact of conflict, economic downturn and climatic shocks. In the past year, agriculture-based livelihoods have been decimated, with livestock diseased, looted or killed and planting delayed or crops abandoned or destroyed due to conflict and massive displacement. Food prices have reached record highs, depleting household purchasing power across the country. Southeastern counties have been affected by the drought currently prevailing in the Horn of Africa. If the economy and markets do not improve, food insecurity is expected to rise further, while a serious humanitarian situation could develop should the coming growing season be unfavourable or disrupted by conflict. Overall, the broad upward trend in food insecurity indicates a bleak forecast for 2016.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Food insecurity continues to worsen all over the country due to a combination of factors such as the economic crisis, insecurity and disrupted markets. In Unity, which is experiencing acute malnutrition levels, humanitarian assistance increased thanks to improved access, thus reducing the risk of famine. Even outside of the worst-affected areas, ongoing conflict and tension, reduced production prospects, fuel shortages and disrupted markets are having devastating effects on vulnerable communities. Of particular concern is the situation in Wau County, where increased fighting has caused the displacement of tens of thousands of people. Farmers are unable to access their farms to prepare lands for the planting season that starts in May meaning the agricultural season is likely to fail, deepening food insecurity in Greater Bahr el-Ghazal.

In Northern Bahr El Ghazal, alarming levels of food insecurity have been recorded, forcing thousands of people across the border to Sudan.

In Western Equatoria, relative calm has meant that farmers are starting to return to their farms but are lacking basic inputs to fully resume their agricultural activities. Rains have started in some areas and appear to be in line with average rainfall levels. FAO and partners expect to release the next comprehensive IPC food security and nutrition situation analysis report in May.

FAO RESPONSE, TARGETS AND FUNDING

2016 TARGETS (Planning figures according to December IPC)



2.6 million people targeted
(435 600 households)



11 million animals to be vaccinated and treated
(cattle, small ruminants, poultry and dogs)



Continued rehabilitation of veterinary cold chain (52 solar direct drive [SDD] fridges to 40 counties and 50 portable SDD fridges)



505 718 livelihood kits being procured for distribution in 2016 (based on rising needs, including purchase of buffer stock)

2016 RESPONSE TO-DATE



2.6 million people targeted
(435 600 households)



Over 1 million animals vaccinated to-date;
3 million animals to be vaccinated by end April

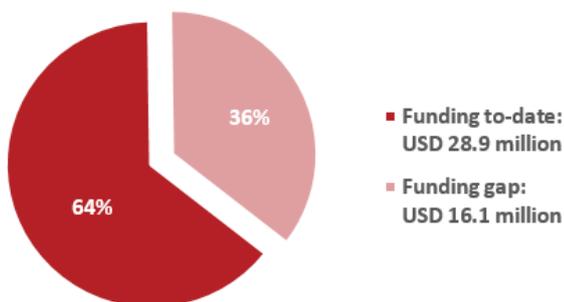


547 215 animals treated by mid-April.



100% of planned livelihood inputs have been procured for distribution in 2016. So far, over 105 000 kits – one-fifth of the target – have been dispatched to implementing partners for onward distribution.

FUNDING



FAO requires
USD 45 million

To assist
3.1 million households

Donors: Common Humanitarian Fund, Denmark, Norway, Swiss Confederation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

ASSESSMENTS

On 5 April, FAO and the World Food Programme released the latest Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission [report](#), highlighting a widening cereal deficit in 2016 – 54 percent above the 2015 estimate. This is due largely to disrupted farming in conflict-affected areas and unfavourable rains in parts of Greater Bahr el-Ghazal and Greater Equatoria regions. An estimated 12 percent of the population is severely food insecure, double the rates of one year ago. In 2015, cereal prices reportedly increased up to five times, constraining households' purchasing power and eroding their food security.

A FAO-commissioned study on the impact of conflict on South Sudan's livestock sector was also released in April. The study examined the conflict dynamics and its effect on household assets, food security, income sources and livelihood activities. Recommendations were made for short- and long-term interventions and templates produced for setting up a livestock information system.

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