



IN NUMBERS



6 million

people in severe acute
food insecurity
(IPC February – April 2020)



37% gap

in national cereal needs
for 2020



4 million

people displaced by conflict,
including more than
1.8 million internally



USD 75 million

needed under the 2020
Emergency Livelihoods
Response Programme

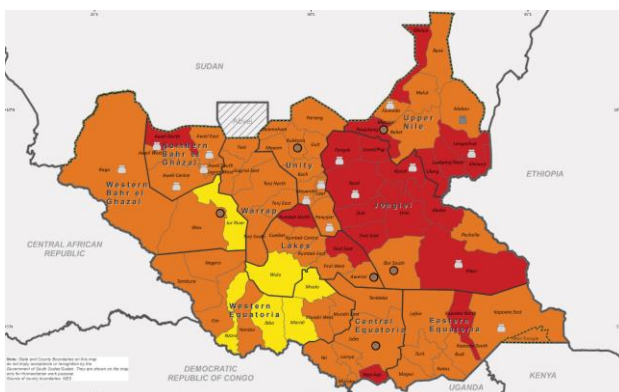
KEY MESSAGES

- **An estimated 51 percent of the population of South Sudan are suffering from severe acute food insecurity (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification [IPC] Phase 3 or above) immediately after the harvest period, a situation driven by conflict-related livelihood disruptions, climatic shocks, displacement and the economic crisis.** According to the results of the latest IPC analysis, an estimated 6.5 million people –55 percent of the population – are projected to face severe acute food insecurity between May and July 2020, of whom over **1.4 million are projected to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).**
- The situation was projected **to deteriorate as the country heads into the lean season** and households start to deplete food stocks. Potential infestations of the **desert locust in the eastern part of South Sudan** could further threaten food security in the country. South Sudan has not seen an invasion of the pest since 1961 and has no collective means to address one.
- Nonetheless, **compared to the February–April period of 2019, the number of people in severe acute food insecurity has reduced by about 7 percent**, largely attributed to increased production and the improved security situation following the September 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.
- **FAO has received almost USD 54 million of USD 75 million** needed for its emergency livelihood response programme (ELRP). This means far fewer people in urgent need of assistance can be reached than planned, potentially threatening the situation particularly in areas likely to receive returnees, where access is difficult, or where harvests are predicted to be poor.
- **Saving lives by saving livelihoods:** FAO’s seed campaign alone in 2019 enabled **594 194 households to produce enough** food to last for 6.5 months and represented one-third of total cereal production in the country. In 2020, FAO plans to reach 775 000 households through livelihood support (crop seeds, vegetable and fishing kits).
- **Significant flooding occurred across the country in 2019**, resulting in about 73 000 tonnes of cereal production loss as well as increased reports of sick and dying livestock. In response, FAO and partners launched an emergency recovery intervention and livestock vaccination campaign, with FAO having so far received USD 2.2 million in funding for flood-affected areas.
- **A swarm of desert locust crossed in to southeastern parts of the country in February 2020**, dispersing into numerous smaller swarms. FAO has so far mobilized USD 5.55 million in funding to combat the unprecedented threat posed to food security and livelihoods and help those affected.
- **FAO has completed the construction of a Central Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory** under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries in Juba, to facilitate evidence-based livestock epidemio-surveillance and timely response to diseases.

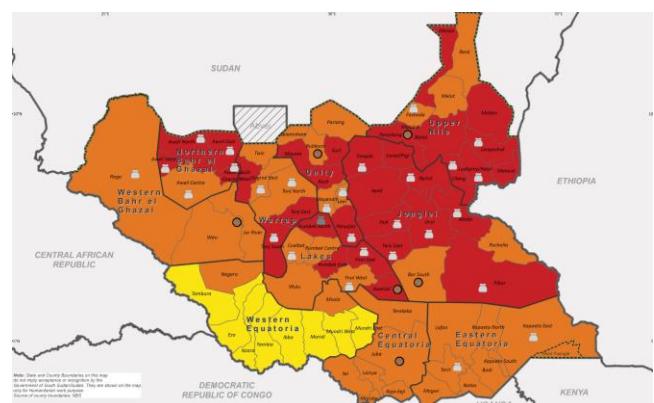
MAP

INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PHASE CLASSIFICATION

February – April 2020 (Current)



May – July 2020 (Projection)



BACKGROUND

In the same way that conflict drove the food insecurity situation in the country, the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan in September 2018 resulted in relative calm that has enabled households to engage in livelihood activities. This led to a slight reduction in the number of people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity compared to the same period last year. However, the majority of these people moved to Crisis (IPC Phase 3), making 2019 the year with the highest number of people ever in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) during the harvest period on record.

The most severe acute food insecurity conditions are in the flood-affected counties of Akobo, Ayod and Duk, where in January 2020 an estimated 40 000 people were in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) acute food insecurity. From February to April 2020, 22 counties are projected to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), which will increase to 33 counties from May to July 2020. Compared with the same time last year, the January 2020 levels of food insecurity reflect a 9 percent reduction in the proportion of population facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity.

Acute food insecurity during the harvest period is primarily driven by low production among households affected by isolated incidents of insecurity, climatic shocks that further hamper agricultural production, the ongoing macro-economic crisis and its erosion of household purchasing power, population displacements, as well as years of asset depletion and eroded livelihoods due to the prolonged crisis. All these factors contribute to households' reduced coping capacities as well as increased vulnerability to food security shocks.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

Food availability and access continue to be severely constrained by localized **conflicts**, unpredictable and heavy **rainfall**, **population displacements**, the **macro-economic crisis**, years of **asset depletion**, and the **desert locust infestation** currently ongoing across the Greater Horn of Africa.

These factors have contributed to limited crop production, with **just over 60 percent of 2020 national cereal needs met by the 2019 harvests**. The crisis has disrupted livelihoods and restricted adequate household access to food sources such as fish and livestock products. Furthermore, the ongoing economic crisis has significantly reduced purchasing power, in particular for vulnerable households who are highly reliant on markets that are overpriced and undersupplied. Other significant drivers include **seasonal flooding**, **crop pests and diseases** including a potential invasion of **desert locust** in the southeastern part of the country, **livestock diseases**, and **excessive rainfall** at critical stages of crop growth.

FAO RESPONSE, TARGETS AND FUNDING

2020 PRIORITIES



4.6 million people targeted for emergency livelihoods support



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

RESPONSE TO-DATE



62 000 households (over 370 000 people) provided with emergency livelihood support to-date, of which:



29 831 animals (belonging to 994 households) treated or vaccinated against major diseases



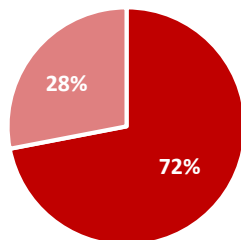
53 800 households (322 800 people) received crop and vegetable kits comprising seeds of various varieties and tools



7 164 households (43 000 people) provided with vegetable and fishing kits through rapid response direct distribution

FUNDING 2020

Under the 2020 ELRP, FAO is seeking USD 75 million. Of this, **USD 21 million is still required to assist 4.65 million people.**



- Funding to-date: \$53 981 556 million
- Funding gap: \$21 018 444 million

FAO requires: USD 75 million

To assist: 4.65 million people

ASSESSMENTS

- Latest IPC analysis was released in February 2020.
- The joint FAO/WFP **Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM)** for 2019 estimated a 10 percent increase of cereal production from 2018. Without the floods, cereal production in 2019 could have reached close to the five-year average, which is about 855 000 tonnes of cereal. This is expected to improve the cereal gap reported by 6 to 10 percent. The crop section of **the CFSAM analysis was released in February 2020.**

Resource partners: The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Governments of the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

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