



HIGHLIGHTS

- Clashes continue to be reported in parts of the country, despite the signing of a Cessation of Hostilities agreement on 23 January 2014 and a recommitment to the peace process on 9 May.
- The next **IPC update**, focusing on hotspot areas of food insecurity, is due out at the end of July. Next full analysis in September.
- **1.4 million people have been reached by FAO with emergency livelihood assistance.**
- **309 922 emergency livelihood kits** have been released to implementing partners for immediate distribution, including **over 150 000 kits destined for the three most conflict-affected states of Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile.** Kits include fishing gear, vegetable seeds, crop seeds (including 'no-harm' tools) and animal health supplies.
- All resources mobilized in the first six months of the emergency response have been committed or spent totalling USD 41 million. **Additional funds are urgently needed to continue the emergency response through 2014.**
- Response possible thanks to generous support from the Governments of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, as well as from the Africa Solidarity Trust Fund, the UN's Common Humanitarian Fund, and allocations of unearmarked funding by FAO.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

South Sudan faces severe food insecurity set to worsen unless humanitarian assistance is provided

The overall picture is still one of **widespread and worsening food insecurity**. Conflict and displacement have led to a severe deterioration of food security in conflict-affected states with collapse of markets, disrupted agricultural and livelihood cycles, food scarcity and food and fuel price inflation. Insecurity and insufficient access to inputs, also caused by late arrival of funds, has caused **missed planting opportunities** for communities in conflict-affected states, **affecting food production through 2014 and into 2015.**

Livestock production and public health is seriously threatened by slaughtering core animals as a coping mechanism, migration disruptions, weakened veterinary services and collapse of the cold chain system.

Although local food sources may help some communities cope in the short term, **without adequate funding and secure access, some areas are likely to slip into humanitarian disaster.** However, in areas less affected by conflict, the situation is projected to improve in coming months, with assessments in Greater Bahr el-Ghazal pointing to good harvests.

Famine has not been declared in South Sudan. However, there is a **serious risk of famine developing.** Some 1.1 million people are suffering from emergency (IPC phase 4) levels of food insecurity, associated with exceptional levels of malnutrition, livelihood collapse and significant increases in mortality. Available data and visual evidence point to extreme levels of human suffering and the immediate humanitarian response must meet the needs of the 3.5 million people currently suffering from severe food insecurity.

FAO'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSE



USD 108 million

REQUESTED



38%

FUNDING

USD 42 million

COMMITTED

FUNDS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED TO ENSURE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CONTINUES THROUGH 2014

FAO's number one priority in South Sudan is to protect food security and promote food production, focusing on immediate emergency assistance so people can resume livelihood activities and conduct a robust season in 2015.

3.3 million people (550 000 affected households) can be supported if additional funding is received in time.

Funds are needed now to **continue providing support to conflict-affected populations in 2014** and to ensure **pre-positioning in time for the 2015** planting season. FAO plans to pre-position seeds, tools, vaccines and fuel efficient stoves to support 116 000 households in 2015.



Emergency livelihood kits – four types of kits are being distributed



Fishing kits: 2 spools of twine, 1 box of hooks, monofilament and 1 sun-drying net per 5HHs



Fishing capacity to feed 25 families for one day



Animal health kits: regular replenishment of drugs and equipment to protect livestock



Animal health services for 80 families for 4 - 6 months



Vegetable kits: 180 g of assorted quality vegetable seeds and 1 hoe



6 months of nutritious vegetables for one family



Crop kits: 20 kg of certified crop seeds and 1 hoe (depending on access)



One year of staple crops for a whole family

The kits provide:

The emergency livelihood kits ensure conflict-affected, food-insecure populations can start producing food fast

FAO's emergency response programme enables affected populations to:



Produce crops and vegetables to support food security and dietary diversification

- Capitalize on people's access to land - even small areas or for a short time - to support and diversify diets
- Rain fed crop production represents the **biggest part of local diets** and surpluses are stored or exchanged.



Catch more fish to ensure food security and nutrition

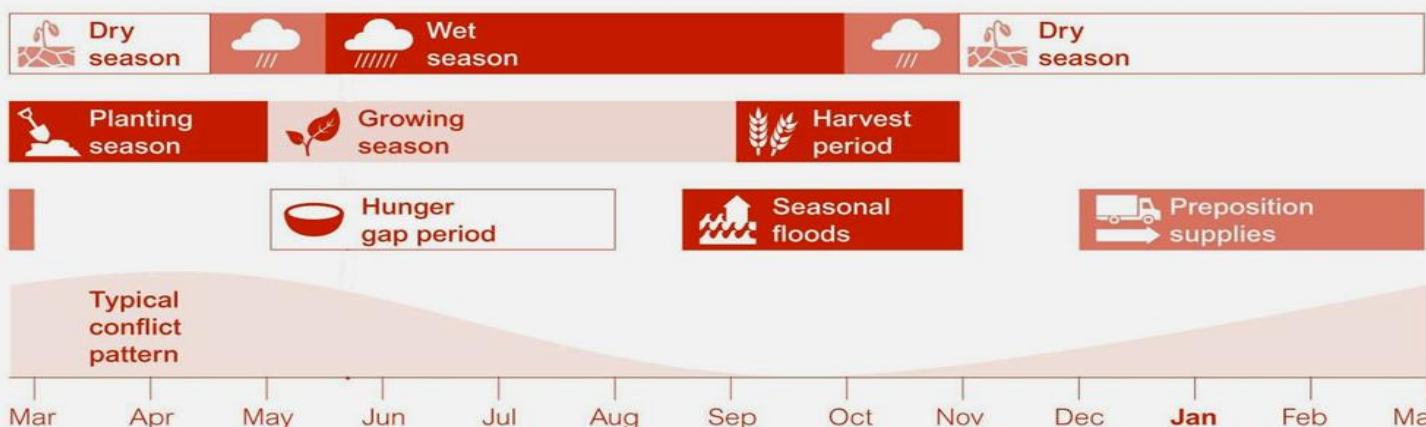
- Capitalize on people's access to rivers/swamps to maximize the availability of protein.
- Caught in rivers and swamps most of the year, fish can be consumed by communities with access to water.
- Together with milk, **fish represents a key source of animal protein and micronutrients in the local diet.**
- Dried or smoked fish can be preserved and carried, providing vital nutrition to displaced populations.



Protect livestock from diseases to ensure food security and nutrition

- Protecting cattle from disease is vital as **each death of a cow represents at least ½ a litre less milk per day.**
- Once a reproductive/milking cow is lost, **it takes 4–5 years for a young female calf to start producing milk.**
- Livestock one of few assets that people can carry or exchange in times of high insecurity and displacement.

SEASONAL EVENTS IN CRISIS-AFFECTED STATES



As FAO scales-up operations across South Sudan, **time-critical priorities are to:**

- **Distribute fishing kits to communities with access to water**, ensuring access to fish year-round.
- **Distribute vegetable kits throughout the year** to improve access to highly nutritious vegetables.
- **Vaccinate livestock during cattle migrations** (through December) to reduce vulnerability to disease outbreaks.

FAO is exploring all options to increase production including quick-maturing and drought-resistant crop varieties, the second planting season (Aug-Sep), and recession agriculture where crops are grown on areas exposed as floods recede.

CONTACT

Sue Lautze | FAO Head of Office | Juba, South Sudan | Tel. +211 956 178 618 / 921 296 333 | Sue.Lautze@fao.org

Serge Tissot | Deputy FAO Representative | Juba, South Sudan | Tel. +211 922 001 728 | Serge.Tissot@fao.org

Dominique Burgeon | Director Emergency and Rehabilitation Division | Rome, Italy | Tel. +39 06 570 53803 | Dominique.Burgeon@fao.org