



Humanitarian needs in South Sudan are expected to reach a record high this year. Amid a complex emergency that has displaced millions and destroyed livelihoods, more than half the population will be acutely food insecure during the lean season from April to June. Almost 80 000 people are likely to face catastrophic levels of food insecurity, meaning that food is almost completely inaccessible and they cannot meet basic needs. In a country where 9 in 10 people depend on agriculture, supporting livelihoods is vital and cost-effective. For example, with a USD 55 crop production kit, a family can grow and harvest a nutritious variety of food to last them over five months.



TO ASSIST
3.9 million people



FAO REQUIRES
USD 60 million



JANUARY–DECEMBER
2024

What investments in agriculture can achieve

USD 25

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With a vegetable package, a family can produce 7 types of nutritious vegetables ready for consumption in 4 to 12 weeks, worth USD 250 on the local market.

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Enhance the nutrition of a family and provide an income

USD 35

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A crop production package enables a farmer to cultivate 0.8 ha of land and produce 0.95 tonnes of cereals, worth USD 320 on the local market.

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Support a family of six to produce enough staple foods for up to 5.5 months

USD 20

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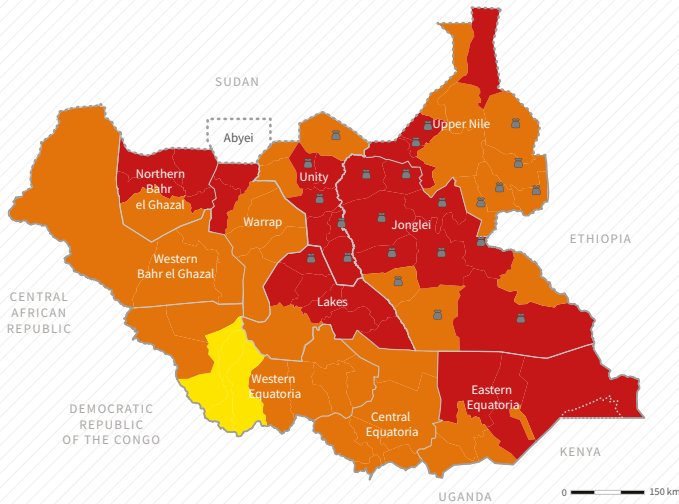
With a fishing package, a household can catch about 7 kg of fish a week, worth USD 7 on the local market, for 4 months.

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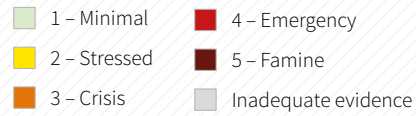



Provide a family with the means to access nutritious food

Projected acute food insecurity situation (April–July 2024)



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)



 At least 25 percent of households meet over 50 percent of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance

Source: IPC. 2023. *South Sudan IPC Acute Food Insecurity and Malnutrition Analysis September 2023–July 2024 Snapshot*. Rome. https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_SouthSudan_Acute_Food_Insecurity_Malnutrition_Sept2023July2024_Snapshot.pdf

Final boundary between the Republic of South Sudan and the Republic of the Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

The humanitarian situation in South Sudan has continued to deteriorate, with 56 percent of the population likely to face acute food insecurity during the lean season between April and July 2024. This includes 79 000 people likely to face IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) and 2.34 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). In 2024, an estimated 1.65 million children are likely to be acutely malnourished and in need of treatment. The main drivers of food insecurity remain conflict and insecurity, climate extremes – South Sudan is among the top five most climate-vulnerable countries – and the economic crisis (currency depreciation and high food prices). These stressors have led to reduced harvests, challenges accessing humanitarian assistance and the forced displacement of 4.3 million people, of whom roughly half reside in neighbouring countries. By December 2023, conflict in the Sudan had driven nearly 442 000 people into South Sudan, most of whom are returnees who are likely to face extreme challenges in their areas of resettlement as they exert pressure on already limited resources. With 95 percent of the population relying on farming, herding and fishing for their livelihoods, any shock can have a devastating impact on their capacity to feed themselves and their families and earn a living. Humanitarian agricultural assistance is urgently needed to protect the livelihoods of vulnerable families and ensure their food production capacity is maintained. Access to quality inputs and services can be lifesaving. For example, nutrition vouchers provide an at-risk family with the means to immediately purchase locally sourced, nutrition-rich foods along with vegetable seeds, tools and fishing inputs to improve their wellbeing and access to healthy food.

Coordination

As co-leads of the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster in South Sudan, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme work closely with 162 local and international partners, in collaboration with institutional counterparts, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response.

Drivers of food insecurity

- Conflict and insecurity
- Displacement
- Economic downturn
- Climatic shocks
- Lack of access to basic services

Key facts

Country population: **12.6 million**



7.1 million people facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) between April and July 2024, of whom **79 000** in Catastrophe



1.65 million children acutely malnourished



- **2.27 million** South Sudanese residing as refugees in neighbouring countries
- **441 963** South Sudanese returned from the Sudan since April 2023



USD 4.9 out of 100 in humanitarian assistance to food sectors went to support agriculture and livelihoods (2016–2022)

In 2023, FAO reached 2.98 million people with lifesaving crop, vegetable and fisheries inputs as well as capacity building on themes such as good agricultural practices and nutrition. Through an established network of community-based animal health workers, FAO vaccinated nearly 5.8 million livestock against high-risk diseases and treated 180 900 animals against parasites and other disease. Some 298 community-based animal health workers received training and equipment to enhance local veterinary service delivery, and three livestock shows were held to promote peaceful interactions between communities and encourage the commercialization of livestock by emphasizing quality over quantity.



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FAO priorities

Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/ content of assistance package	Cost per household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households*	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period
Increase food production among the most vulnerable	Livelihood crop kit: 5 kg maize, 5 kg sorghum and 3 kg cowpea/2 kg sesame seeds and one hoe/maloda; vegetable kit: 200 g of 7 types of vegetable seed, one hoe/maloda and one rake; fishing kit: two spools of twine, one coil of monofilament and two boxes of hooks	55.4	650 000	36 000 000	April	April–September (main season) July–October (second season) October–December (dry season)
	Vouchers worth USD 20 to vulnerable families to exchange for seed of their choice at local seed fairs	50	60 000	3 000 000		April–October
Enable at-risk families to produce their own nutritious food	Nutrition vouchers worth USD 60/ household to access nutritious foods like meat, eggs, milk and vegetables; fishing kit: two spools of twine, one coil of monofilament and two boxes of hooks; vegetable kit: 7 types of vegetable seed and hand tools; and training on good production practices and nutrition	133.4	15 000	2 000 000		April–November
Strengthen the capacities of local stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and sustainable and climate-sensitive management of natural resources and local peace structures	Workshops; trainings; and natural resources management-related inputs including tree seedlings, nursery management tools and early warning-related inputs (e.g. automatic weather stations, solar radio)	60	50 000	3 000 000	June	July

*A number of households will benefit from more than one type of assistance.



Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/ content of assistance package	Cost per household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households*	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period
Enhance livestock production and reduce mortality	Vaccination of 10 million livestock (cattle against anthrax, black quarter, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and haemorrhagic septicaemia; sheep and goats against contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, peste des petits ruminants and sheep and goat pox; and donkeys and dogs against rabies); treatment and deworming of 1 million livestock against priority diseases and parasites through community-based animal health workers; and training of 500 community-based animal health workers	20	200 000	4 000 000	April	April–December
	Restocking (5 small ruminants/household) support to host community and returnee families through voucher fairs to (re) establish livestock-based livelihoods	250	10 000	2 500 000		
Support marketing and asset building through capacity development and training	Irrigation and post-harvest equipment and longer-term training on climate-smart agriculture, good agricultural practices, irrigation systems and integrated pest management	130	50 000	6 500 000	June	July
Protect and rehabilitate the livelihoods of vulnerable families through social safety net support	Cash-for-work activities to benefit the wider community, including for flood response and preparedness and improved agricultural production	300	10 000	3 000 000	April	April–October

*A number of households will benefit from more than one type of assistance.

REQUIRED CITATION

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Contact

FAO Representation in South Sudan
FAO-South-Sudan@fao.org | fao.org/south-sudan
Juba, South Sudan

Office of Emergencies and Resilience
OER-Director@fao.org | fao.org/emergencies
Rome, Italy

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations