



World Food Programme
Programme Alimentaire Mondial
Programa Mundial de Alimentos
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

SAVING
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WFP News Video: Conflict, Climate and Covid - South Sudan Fights Off Famine a Decade After Declaring Independence

Shot: 2-4Jan21, 5-6Feb21

Locations: Jonglei State, South Sudan

TRT: 3:14

SHOTLIST:

:00-:15

Dead cattle.

Livestock killed as a result of flooding.

More than 1 million people across South Sudan have been affected by floods sweeping across the eastern and central regions this year, submerging homes, farmlands and livestock.

Vertet,

Jonglei State

Shot: 5Feb2021

:15-:25

GVs of floods

Heavy rainfall and rising flood levels continue to submerge much of South Sudan leaving a trail of devastation as families lose homes, livestock.

Jonglei State is one of the most inaccessible and underdeveloped regions of South Sudan.

Akobo,

Jonglei State

Shot: 4Jan 2021

:25-:35

GVs of destroyed van in the centre of Nyandit, after a major attack in late 2020 killed many residents and forced the majority of survivors to flee.

Nyandit, Akobo east

Jonglei State

Shot: 2Jan2021



:35-:41

Nyal Chol, a widowed mother of four along with her neighbours built a circular dyke with mud to protect their homes from the flooding.

Akobo east

Jonglei State

Shot: 2Jan2021

:41-1:20

SOT Nyal Chol Liech Muon, Widowed mother of Four (Lou-Nuer)

"I was desperate when the floods came. No one helped me. My husband was killed in the fighting. Everyone in the area fled and I was left alone with my children but I chose to stay behind. The fear of being homeless and my children having to beg for food was greater than my fear of the floods."

Nyandit, Akobo east

Jonglei State

Shot: 2Jan2021

1:20-1:35

GVs of mothers with children waiting to receive nutrition testing.

Vertet, Pibor

Jonglei State

Shot: 5Feb2021

1:35-1:54

WFP Executive Director David Beasley arrives in Vertet. Speaking with Kavagoch Koli , widowed mother of five, who is preparing a meal.

Vertet, Pibor

Jonglei State

Shot: 5Feb2021

1:54-2:00

SOT Kavagoch Koli, Widowed mother of five (Murle)



"When the food is finished and the pots are empty, life becomes very hard for us."

Vertet, Pibor

Jonglei State

Shot: 6Feb2021

2:00-2:21

GVs of WFP airdrop and people collecting food. Airdrops are a last resort to provide food assistance to people living in hard to reach areas as a result of conflict compounded by flooding.

Vertet, Pibor

Jonglei State

Shot: 6Feb2021

2:21-2:49

SOT WFP Executive Director David Beasley (English)

"This village of about 8,000 people wouldn't survive if it weren't for the World Food Programme, and hopefully if we can end the conflict and work with the tribal leaders and the villagers here, then we can build dykes and harvest the water such that we won't even have to be here again. But right now, they are barely surviving, if we weren't here, people would be dying; there would be famine right now."

Vertet, Pibor

Jonglei State

Shot: 5Feb2021

2:49-3:14

GVs of Nyal Chol preparing a meal for her children with WFP ration received.

Akobo east

Jonglei State

Shot: 3Jan2021

ENDS



- **South Sudan is facing the highest levels of food insecurity since the country declared independence ten years ago. A hunger crisis looms where 60 percent (7.24 million) of its population is increasingly hungry due to chronic sporadic violence, extreme weather patterns and the economic impact of COVID-19.**
 - Hard-to-reach areas in six counties are at “risk of famine”, according to the Famine Review Committee’s report in December 2020.
 - Intense conflict from in the first half of 2020 in Pibor County was followed by severe floods, triggering mass population displacement and loss of food sources. Farmers could not cultivate their land and many lost their livestock to raids or disease.
 - WFP began scaling up its emergency food assistance last year in six counties, Akobo, Pibor, Aweil west, Tonj North, Tonj South and Tonj East, where 1 million people live, including 108,000 people who are extremely food insecure and struggle in a desperate daily quest for food.
 - In January 2021, WFP reached 195,000 vulnerable people across these six counties, where we must meet people's most basic needs before the lean season takes hold and families on the brink risk tipping into famine.
- **In 2021, WFP plans to reach over 5.3 million people in South Sudan with food and nutrition assistance across its emergency, nutrition and livelihoods programmes.**
 - WFP has begun pre-positioning food stocks ahead of the rainy season to ensure crucial food assistance reaches vulnerable populations without delay during the lean season.
 - In 2020, WFP reached more than 5.2 million people. To boost the local economy, WFP injected more than US\$50 million in cash-based transfers, helping people to purchase their preferred foods. The



economic impact of COVID-19 pushed people deeper into poverty and millions of families struggle to put food on the table.

- In 2020, WFP completed 40 km of feeder roads in Western and Eastern Equatoria to connect communities to local markets and basic services. To keep major supply routes passable, WFP and its partners fixed 640 km of road to render them passable after the rainy season in Greater Upper Nile.
- **The future of South Sudan depends on real peace and stability. While the causes of hunger are many, the biggest driver is conflict leading to displacements and loss of livelihoods. WFP's food assistance and livelihoods programmes help to lay the foundation for peace by providing hope to the hungry and creating opportunities to pull people out of poverty.**
- WFP is tackling entrenched inequality and isolation in South Sudan through livelihoods projects that contribute to unity within communities. In the northern areas of Ajong, Dungop, Pagai and Bulyom Bomas of Twic County, Warrap, WFP's cash programme invests in building assets such as wells and multi-purpose ponds, which have helped to reduce conflict over access to water sources.

Facts & figures

Number of food insecure people 7.24 million

People reached with WFP food assistance (2020) 5.2 million

People in need of humanitarian assistance (2021): 8.3 million

Food insecure in need of humanitarian assistance 7.24 million

Children with Acute Malnutrition: 1.4 million

Children at risk of dying if no treatment is received: 31,340

Context



- South Sudan is a country of 12 million people, 60 percent of whom are becoming increasingly hungry as the lean season approaches. The world's youngest country has faced multiple challenges that have derailed progress towards unity and stability. Chronic and intense conflict among ethnic groups dominates the political landscape throughout the dry season when access and movement are possible.
- Frequent bouts of organized and local violence in the form of tit-for-tat attacks often involving cattle raiding and the destruction of farmland force more people into poverty. In 2019 and 2020 an upsurge in violence led to a rise in levels of food insecurity particularly amongst vulnerable women, children and the elderly.
- During assessment missions to remote locations where violence has destroyed homes and livelihoods, people say that the lack of any alternative livelihoods compel many young men to resort to violence.
- Climate change in the form of torrential rains and floodwaters is a second factor. The rainy season destroys infrastructure such as roads or dykes, making much of South Sudan inaccessible to most people and hindering the ability of WFP and its partners from bringing in assistance by road. The greater Jonglei region is cut off from the rest of the country for most of the year, which leads to further marginalisation of communities. An upsurge in violence in July 2020 derailed earlier gains made in food security in the region.
- With limited funds, WFP has been forced to halve the size of food rations on which more than 5 million vulnerable people depend to stay alive.

Resourcing

- To continue life-saving and life-changing operations in South Sudan, WFP requires US\$275 million for the next six months from February 2021 to July 2021.



- WFP's top five donors by confirmed contributions (as of 31 December): USA, Germany, United Kingdom, European Union and UN CERF.

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The United Nations World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies, building prosperity and supporting a sustainable future for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

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