



Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

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CALL FOR IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN ACTION TO PREVENT FAMINE IN SOUTH SUDAN

3.9 MILLION PEOPLE ARE IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION TO SAVE LIVELIHOODS AND LIVES AND TO PREVENT FAMINE

SPECIAL NOTE: This Alert reflects the results validated by the South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group and officially endorsed by the Cabinet Resolution of the Government of South Sudan Council of Ministers as well as the recommendations of the IPC Global Support Unit Real-Time Quality Review (IPC GSU)

Based on the IPC Country Results

HOW MANY & WHEN

- Currently, **3.1 million are in Crisis** (IPC Phase 3) and **830,000 in Emergency** (IPC Phase 4), and of extreme concern are **30,000 people estimated to be Catastrophe** (IPC Phase 5) requiring urgent humanitarian assistance;
- **Famine is not declared** at this time in areas highly affected by conflict due to limited evidence available. **There is a concrete risk of Famine occurring between October and December 2015** if urgent humanitarian access and assistance is not provided in the most affected areas.

WHERE

The worst affected areas are 4 counties in the areas highly influenced by conflict in **Unity State (Leer, Guit, Koch and Mayendit Counties)**. The other states of concern are the other two conflict-affected States of **Jonglei and Upper Nile** in the Greater Upper Nile.

WHO

The most affected populations are the **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** who are dispersed and the **host communities** affected by the on-going conflict.

WHY

This complex emergency in South Sudan is caused by high **underlying vulnerability** and severe effects of the **conflict and displacement** compounded by **limited humanitarian access**, resulting in loss of livelihoods, income, assets, inadequate food access, market disruption, high prices, and unsustainable coping.

According to the IPC GSU Real-time Quality Review (RTQR) Report:

RISK OF FAMINE

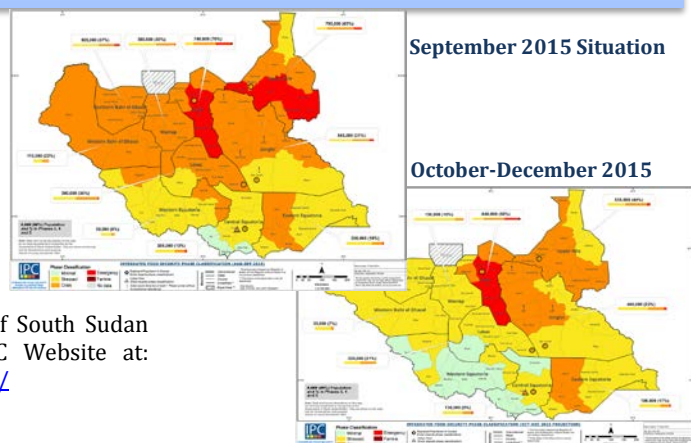
- The IPC GSU RTQR corroborated that *available food security and nutrition evidence indicate a very critical situation that may escalate to famine conditions if humanitarian assistance does not reach the highly affected populations during the period of October to December 2015* in areas most affected by conflict in Unity.
- There is a great concern that famine may exist in the coming months but *it may not be possible to validate it at that time due to lack of evidence* as the result of limited access to the affected areas and populations.

Actions Needed

- **Urgent humanitarian access and assistance to those 860,000 people** classified in IPC Phase 4 and 5 to save their lives and livelihoods and to prevent escalation into famine.
- **Urgent action required for the 3.1 million classified in Phase 3 Crisis** to protect livelihoods, reduce food consumption gaps and reduce acute malnutrition
- **Vigilance is required** in monitoring the evolving situation and updating the IPC Analysis (Oct – Dec).
- It is **imperative that more data is available** to support real-time updates, especially nutrition and mortality data.
- An **IPC Global Emergency Review Committee (ERC)** will be activated to support the SS IPC Technical Working Group real-time IPC update and the potential declaration of Famine.

The SOUTH SUDAN IPC Process and next steps

- **South Sudan IPC Country Analysis:** The South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group (SS IPC TWG) led the IPC analysis and consultations involving more than 70 members from State and National Levels.
- **IPC GSU Real Time Quality Review:** IPC Global Support Unit (GSU) carried out a real-time external and independent review of the analysis findings for the worst affected areas of Unity State, in collaboration with the South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group.
- **Final SS IPC TWG IPC Results:** The results were validated by South Sudan IPC TWG and were officially endorsed by the Government of the Republic of South Sudan through a Cabinet Resolution. The IPC results are available on the IPC Website at: <http://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-detail-forms/ipcinfo-map-detail/en/c/338142/>



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