The most food insecure populations are in locations that have been significantly affected by conflict and insecurity. South Sudan’s economy is experiencing a macroeconomic crisis caused by the depreciation of the local currency and high food prices. Deterioration in 66 counties is expected during the lean season. Deterioration in 56.3 percent of the population will be severely food insecure (IPC Phase 5 or above). 79,000 people are likely to be in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) and 1.71 million people likely to be in Phase 4. In the least season projection period of April to July 2024, the food security situation will deteriorate and an estimated 7.1 million people (56.3 percent of the population) will be severely food insecure (IPC Phase 3 or above). 79,000 people are likely to be in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) while an estimated 2.3 million people are likely to be in Phase 4 (Emergency).

The most food insecure locations are in areas that have been severely affected by conflict and insecurity. The high prevalence of diseases such as diarrhoea, malaria/fever and respiratory illnesses increases the risk of high incidences of illness among children. A high prevalence of diseases such as diarrhoea, malaria/fever and respiratory illnesses increases the risk of high incidences of illness among children.

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Humanitarian food assistance must be scaled up immediately to save lives and prevent a total collapse of livelihoods in locations where populations were classified in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) and IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) acute food insecurity.

Promote de-escalation of violence and facilitate response
Continue implementing the peace agreement and addressing the root causes of insecurity and conflict in the affected locations across the country.

Scale up nutrition interventions
Ensure that existing prevention and treatment programs are sustained. Prevention and treatment program coverage is to be prioritized in countries where acute malnutrition is at IPC AMN Phase 4 (Critical) and IPC AMN Phase 5 (Extremely Critical) levels.

Livelihood support
Provide livelihood support such as seeds and tools (farm inputs) to support production and return it back to surplus levels, as well as support farmers to adapt to the climate-induced environmental changes by training them on climate-smart agricultural practices and distributing flood/drought resistant crop varieties.

**Recommended Actions**

**Lifesaving humanitarian response**

**Promote de-escalation of violence and facilitate response**

**Scale up nutrition interventions**

**Livelihood support**

**Acute Food Insecurity Phase name and description**

- **Phase 1 None/Minimal**
  - Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income.

- **Phase 2 Stressed**
  - Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies.

- **Phase 3 Crisis**
  - Households either have food consumption gaps that are reflective of being highly or above usual acute malnutrition, or are minimally able to meet minimum livelihood needs by depleting essential livelihood assets or through stress-coping strategies.

- **Phase 4 Emergency**
  - Households either have large food consumption gaps or are minimally able to meet minimum livelihood needs by depleting essential livelihood assets or through stress-coping strategies.

- **Phase 5 Catastrophe/Famine**
  - Households have an extremely critical food and/or other basic needs crisis. Food and non-food consumption gaps are large and are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and mortality. Households are at extremely critical food consumption gaps by selling off essential livelihood assets or through stress coping strategies.

**Acute Malnutrition Phase name and description**

- **Phase 1 Acceptable**
  - Less than 5% of children are acutely malnourished.

- **Phase 2 Alert**
  - 5 - 9.9% of children are acutely malnourished.

- **Phase 3 Severe**
  - 10 - 14.9% of children are acutely malnourished.

- **Phase 4 Critical**
  - 15 - 29.9% of children are acutely malnourished, with morbidity and mortality levels, an increasing number of individual cases, and malnutrition is likely to be unrecoverable.

- **Phase 5 Extremely Critical**
  - 30% or more children are acutely malnourished, with high mortality and morbidity levels, high individual death rates, and severe acute malnutrition is likely to be unrecoverable.