**Acute Food Insecurity Overview**

Despite significant deployment of humanitarian assistance, between February and March 2022, an estimated 6.83 million people (55% of the population) faced high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), of which 2.37 million people faced Emergency conditions (IPC Phase 4). An estimated 55,000 people were classified in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in Fangak, Canal Pigi and Uror counties in Jonglei State, Pibor County in Greater Pibor Administration Area; Tambura County in Western Equatoria State; and Leer and Mayendit counties in Unity State. The most food insecure states between February and March 2022 were where more than 50% of their populations faced IPC Phase 3 or above. Elevated levels of food insecurity are Jonglei (72.4%), Unity (67.6%), Warrap (62.9%), Northern Bahr el Ghazal (56.8%), Upper Nile (54.2%) and Lakes (52.0%).

In the lean season projection period of April to July 2022, an estimated 7.74 million people (62.7% of the population) will likely face high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), with 87,000 people likely to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in Fangak, Canal Pigi and Abyei counties in Jonglei State; Pibor County in Greater Pibor Administrative Area; Cueibet and Rumbek North counties in Lakes State; and Leer and Mayendit counties in Unity State. During this period, an estimated 2.9 million people are likely to face Emergency conditions (IPC Phase 4). Given the high levels of acute food insecurity in the country, immediate scale-up of multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance is needed to save lives and prevent the total collapse of livelihoods in the affected counties., particularly those with a high share of populations in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Urgent action is also required for populations in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to protect their livelihoods and reduce household-level food consumption gaps.

Between February and March 2022, 36 counties across the country were classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and 40 counties in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), with only two counties classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) acute food insecurity. The projection period of April to July 2022, 52 counties are classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), 23 counties in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), and three counties in Stressed acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 2).

Food insecurity in South Sudan is driven by climatic shocks (floods, dry spells, and droughts), insecurity (caused by sub-national and localized violence), population displacements, persistent annual cereal deficits, diseases and pests, the economic crisis, the effects of COVID-19, limited access to basic services, and the cumulative effects of prolonged years of asset depletion that continue to erode households’ coping capacities, and the loss of livelihoods.

**Acute Malnutrition Overview**

In 2022, around 1.34 million children under five years are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition based on the results of the SMART nutrition surveys, Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS) and program admission trends. The highest burden is from Jonglei, Upper Nile, Unity and Western Bahr el Ghazal States (concentrating 60% of the burden in four states for 2022). Between February and March 2022, total of 49 (63%) counties were classified in Serious (IPC AMN Phase 3) and Critical (IPC AMN Phase 4) acute malnutrition situations. Out of this, 23 counties were classified in a Critical situation.

The major factors contributing to acute malnutrition include high prevalence of diseases and inadequate feeding practices of infant and young children. Elevated levels of food insecurity (IPC Food Insecurity Phase 3 or above) in most counties also contribute to acute malnutrition.

### Evidence Level

**Key Drivers of Acute Food Insecurity**

- **Insecurity**: The effects of insecurity in parts of the country will lead to displacement, depletion or loss of assets, and disruption of livelihoods, further contributing to reduced income for purchasing food and essential needs.
- **Economic Crisis**: The continued economic crisis and the gradual depreciation of the local currency are making it difficult for the majority of households to access food from markets because of the loss of sources of livelihoods, reduced income, and high food prices.
- **Natural Hazards**: Climatic shocks such as floods and dry spells as well as crop and animal diseases, and pests reduce food availability.

**Contributing Factors Acute Malnutrition**

- **Food insecurity**: High levels of acute food insecurity drive a severe acute malnutrition situation.
- **Poor child care practices**: The quality of care provided to infants and young children is inadequate, including Minimum Acceptable Diet (87%), Minimum Dietary Diversity (21%), and Insufficient health services: Poor access to health and nutrition services due to heightened, sub-national conflict and flooding mainly in the Greater Upper Nile contributes to malnutrition.
- **Diseases**: A high prevalence of diseases further contributes to the situation.

### Figures

1. **Projected Acute Food Insecurity | April - July 2022**
   - Around 7.74 million people in South Sudan are likely experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between April and July 2022. These include about 87,000 classified in IPC Phase 5 Catastrophe, the highest in years.

2. **Projected Acute Malnutrition | April - July 2022**
   - An estimated 1.34 million children under the age of five in South Sudan will likely suffer from acute malnutrition over the course of 2022 and are in need of treatment.

### Tables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Phase Classification</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jonglei</td>
<td>Emergency (IPC Phase 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unity</td>
<td>Crisis (IPC Phase 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrap</td>
<td>Stressed (IPC Phase 2)</td>
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### Other Information

- The IPC analysis in South Sudan was funded by the European Union, and organized by South Sudan’s Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security with support from FAO. South Sudan. The IPC Analysis was also supported by the PHL Global Support Unit with funding from the European Union, United Kingdom Agency for International Development (UKAID) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The designations employed and the presentation of the material in the maps do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of funding agencies concerning the legal or constitutional status of the country, territory or concerning the delimitation of frontiers.

### Maps

- **Projected Acute Food Insecurity Situation | April - July 2022**
- **Projected Acute Malnutrition Situation | April - July 2022**
South Sudan: IPC Food Security & Nutrition Snapshot

Acute Food Insecurity: February - March 2022, Acute Malnutrition: January - December 2022

Projected Acute Food Insecurity | April - July 2022

- Central Equatoria
- Eastern Equatoria
- Jonglei
- Lakes
- Northern Bahr el Ghazal
- Unity
- Upper Nile
- Warrap
- Western Bahr el Ghazal
- Western Equatoria

Legend:
- 5 - Catastrophe
- 4 - Emergency
- 3 - Crisis
- 2 - Stressed

Recommended Actions

- Humanitarian Food Assistance
  - 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 Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity.

- Livelihood Support
  - Considering the diminished resilience of people, the high level of vulnerability to shocks, and the chronic nature of food insecurity and malnutrition, close collaboration between humanitarian and development programmes are needed to tackle the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition and enhance resilience.

- Treatment
  - While ensuring universal treatment for acute malnutrition is a priority, attention must also be given to addressing the identified major contributing factors to prevent acute malnutrition in the future. Continued scale-up of treatment of acute malnutrition targeting the current and future caseload is a high priority. Further expansion of services to previously insecure areas for severe and moderate acute malnutrition treatment is also essential to reach the previously less accessible areas.

- Collection and Analysis of Mortality Data
  - Partners should collect food security, nutrition, and mortality data in the most affected locations to verify these areas’ food security and nutrition situation for timely and appropriate response.

Linkages between South Sudan’s Acute Food Insecurity and Malnutrition | 2022

Elevated levels of food insecurity (IPC AFI Phase 3 or above) in most counties also contribute to acute malnutrition. At least 50 percent of counties in IPC AMN Phase 3 (Serious) or above are in Greater Upper Nile region, followed by the Greater Bahr el Ghazal state. It is recommended that a response analysis involving all nutrition, health, food security, and WASH stakeholders in the country be carried out to identify appropriate interventions to address acute malnutrition. This response analysis could be intensified on the counties classified in IPC AMN Phase 3 (Serious) and IPC AMN Phase 4 (Critical). However, preventive and curative nutrition services should be strengthened across the country.

South Sudan’s Acute Food Insecurity Classifications IPC Phase 3+ | 2012 - 2022

- 9 million Catastrophe
- 8 million Emergency
- 7 million Crisis
- 6 million Stressed
- 5 million Modestly Stressed
- 4 million Mixed
- 3 million Poorly Developed
- 2 million Poorly Developed
- 1 million Poorly Developed

Publication date: April 9, 2022, *IPC population data is based on population estimates by South Sudan’s National Bureau of Statistics. Disclaimer: The information shown on this map does not imply official recognition or endorsement of any physical and political boundaries.

Process and Methodology

Food Security Analysis: The March 2022 IPC acute analysis was conducted physically from 08 to 18 March 2022 and was attended by a multi-agency and multi-sectoral group of more than 100 participants. Before the IPC analysis commenced, an IPC Level 1 refresher training was held for all participants on 08 March 2022. Thereafter, the analysts conducted State level analyses and were vetted by the South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group vetting committee which was comprised of representatives from Government, the UN, NGOs and academia.