



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

## SOUTH SUDAN

### EMERGENCY PROGRAMME SITUATION UPDATE

13 May 2015



#### A DETERIORATING FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

Food insecurity has significantly worsened as the lean season fully sets in across much of South Sudan and host communities in particular have seen their stocks depleted. Continued conflict, disrupted markets and economic collapse have led to soaring prices of local and imported food, shortages of cereals and a growing reliance on wild foods, fish and livestock products.

The IPC analysis has been completed with projections for the May to September period, following two weeks of in-depth discussions with partners, 60 percent of whom were government technical staff. Final endorsement from the Government is expected shortly.

All agencies involved in data analysis and collection will be collectively monitoring key drivers of crisis – market collapse, urban food insecurity and climate trends.

#### FAO's EMERGENCY LIVELIHOOD RESPONSE PROGRAMME (ELRP)

Input distribution has been ramped up in the past three weeks, with FAO focusing efforts on getting crop kits, in particular, into partners' hands so that they can distribute to beneficiaries in time for the planting season.

For 2015, FAO aims to reach 470 667 food-insecure households (**2.8 million people**) in all ten states and Abyei Area. Coinciding with the rainy season as it commences from south to north, FAO South Sudan and partners have begun to distribute livelihood kits in Greater Equatoria, while kits are simultaneously being dispatched to partners in Greater Upper Nile and Greater Bahr el-Ghazal, as well as to the rest of the country.

The timing of funds has been critical – with funds for 2015 distributions arriving early enough to procure vital livelihood inputs and meet priority needs quickly.

Within the overall Emergency Livelihood Response Programme, FAO's main achievements to date are described below.

##### Partners

As part of the 2015 distribution campaign, FAO facilitated partner coordination and negotiation to ensure that there was no overlap in geographical area or type of inputs being distributed to households. Partners have also received training on a wide variety of topics, including accountability to affected populations, gender, technical information and information management.

By mid-May, FAO will have signed agreements with 70 identified partners within the context of the ELRP.



Air operations: In project areas where roads are inaccessible due to poor network and conditions, FAO is relying on private charters to ensure vital goods reach beneficiaries in time for the agricultural season. With the flights landing in conflict-hit and highly food-insecure areas, partner organizations collect the items directly from the air strip before packaging them into kits and distributing them onwards to beneficiaries.

With up to 18 flights each day, FAO is aiming to reach 175 614 food-insecure farming families in Greater Upper Nile with 64 551 crop, 71 350 vegetable and 83 296 fishing kits by the end of May.

#### Livelihood kits

<b>Distributions completed during the 2014 ELRP campaign</b>		
<b>3.2 million</b> people reached  	<b>569 545</b> kits distributed	<b>Post-distribution monitoring carried out in 2014 showed the beneficiary satisfaction with the livelihood kits:</b>
	 <b>188 229</b> crop kits	<b>97%</b> Satisfied with composition of kits
	 <b>208 563</b> vegetable kits	<b>88%</b> Satisfied with timeliness of distribution
	 <b>172 753</b> fishing kits	<b>81%</b> Satisfied with quality of inputs

#### **For the 2015 season, the livelihood kits being distributed comprise:**

	Vegetable kits	A minimum of 7 types of seed (okra, amaranth, collard, watermelon, cabbage, carrot, tomato, eggplant, onion) 1 hoe/maloda, bucket, rake, sickle ( <i>only hoes are distributed by air</i> )
	Crop kits	At least 3 types of seed (sorghum, cowpea, sesame, maize, groundnut) 1 hoe, sickle
	Fishing kits	A mixture of hooks, monofilament, spools of twine, and in some areas tarpaulin, gill nets

The number of kits leaving the FAO warehouses in Juba is increasing daily. However, partners have indicated some delay in reporting numbers reached, largely due to a focus on getting inputs to beneficiaries, with reports expected to be finalized in the coming days.

#### **2015 livelihood kit distribution summary:**

PROCESS	HOUSEHOLDS	LIVELIHOOD KITS	CROP KITS	VEGETABLE KITS	FISHING KITS
<b>PROCURED</b>	455 898	547 077	184 927	192 150	170 000
<b>RECEIVED</b>	377 492	452 990	93 240	189 750	170 000
<b>DISPATCHED</b>	94 425	113 310	27 360	32 534	53 416

As was the case in 2014, FAO field monitors will conduct post-distribution surveys once all the kits have been provided to beneficiaries. Post-planting and post-harvest surveys will be carried out as the season progresses. In 2015, **FAO has strengthened its field monitoring team** with 14 field monitors now based in field offices.

#### Seed recollection

FAO is in the process of recollecting 1 318 tonnes of crop seed (i.e. maize, sorghum, groundnut, cowpea and sesame) which will help complete 2015 ELRP livelihood crop kits. The recollection process is expected to be completed by mid-May, with collected seeds being distributed to partners in the field as soon as they are received.

### Livestock treatment and vaccination campaign

From January to April 2015, FAO, UNMISS, the Government and NGO partners have reached 2 million head of livestock through FAO South Sudan's vaccination and treatment campaign. Overall, FAO is targeting 6 million livestock during 2015.

Technical partners have received training under the livestock programme, while in areas where there are no appropriate partners in the field, FAO is undertaking direct interventions to protect valuable livestock assets.

### Cold Chain

Under the 2015 ELRP, FAO is procuring cold chain equipment with a value of USD 830 401 – comprising 102 solar fridges, 16 electrical fridges, 48 cold boxes, 48 vaccine carriers and 100 continuous temperature monitoring devices with recommended spare parts.

### Nutrition voucher programme

Redemption of food under the nutrition voucher programme commenced on 9 March in Nimule and will continue until the end of May. As of 30 April, 52 759 vouchers had been redeemed with a total value of SSP 761 594. Of these, vegetable vouchers are benefiting 1 200 households, fish vouchers are benefiting 1 191 households and milk vouchers benefiting 784 households, in addition to 204 participating traders. The vouchers are benefiting both host community and displaced households in Nimule and are contributing to building positive community relationships. The voucher programme is shortly being rolled out in Warrap.

### Input trade fairs

In Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, an assessment was first conducted to determine seed availability and quality and therefore the viability of trade fairs as a mechanism for distributing key agricultural inputs. FAO thus plans to provide farmers in the area with about 700 tonnes of seeds through input trade fairs towards the end of May 2015. FAO has recently finalized agreements with the financial service provider and partners, and has prepared the vouchers for farmers to use during the fairs.

### Fuel-efficient stoves

In Bentiu, a baseline study was carried out to determine the most appropriate type of stove (wood or charcoal) for each area, followed by acceptability training of 200 women on the use of the stoves. So far, 4 856 firewood stoves and 3 983 charcoal stoves have been distributed to all six PoCs in Bentiu. Some 1 750 stoves were distributed in Melut, with more en route. In Nimule, 2 000 beneficiaries have been selected to receive stoves among both the displaced and host communities. The stoves are being assembled and should be distributed by the partner by mid-May. A further 7 000 stoves are on their way to Minkaman to be distributed through Catholic Relief Services.

## **KEY CONSTRAINTS**

- **Crop seed delivery and returns:** the delivery of crop seed from international suppliers has been at times delayed. Allotments have also been returned due to infestations in seed bags upon off-loading into warehouses and have been replaced with better quality seeds by the suppliers.
- **Unclear import procedures:** delays of up to six weeks have been caused by unclear seed import procedures. Following these delays, FAO and the Government are discussing options to establish and improve standard procedures for seed importation.
- **Security:** logistical constraints and renewed fighting in some areas are hampering delivery of inputs and the day-to-day activities of partners. FAO is working closely with partners to support their efforts as much as possible and identify alternative solutions.

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