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WFP News Video: WFP Alarmed At Increase in Hunger in South Sudan as Conflict Continues and Rainy Season Approaches

TRT: Shot: 20-22 March 2015

# <u>Shotlist:</u>

#### 00:00-00:13

# **UNMISS Protection of Civilians Camp, Juba**

### Shot: 22 March 2015

Various GV's of camp. In Juba some 35,000 displaced people are living in UN run camps.

### 00:13-00:28

### SOT Elizabeth Nyalat, 19 years old, IDP Ganyiel Payam, Panyijar County, Unity State Shot: 20 March 2015

"Last time I was studying in Yei, when the war started. I ran from Yei to that side until this place. Not by using boat or car,, only by footing and it is very terrible for me to reach this place of mine."

### 00:28-00:38

#### SOT Martha Kilkil Mabour, 20 years old, IDP Ganyiel Payam, Panyijar County, Unity State Shot: 20 March 2015

"I beg the leaders to make peace and I want them just to make peace and I don't need more problems and I just want peace."

### 00:38-00:58

### Thanum Island, Panyijar County, Unity State Shot: 21 March 2015

WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin travelling by canoe to Thoanum Island, meets conflict displaced families.

# 00:58-01:39

#### SOT Ertharin Cousin, WFP Executive Director Compound, Juba, South Sudan Shot: 20March2015

"We came to alert the world that the 3 million people we are trying to reach are not just statistics, they are people. The challenge is the longer this conflict continues it is easy for the world to begin to think of them simply as a cost or as a statistic. But these are lives, these are people.

But what I am excited about is that we have a program here that is not only planning to save lives by providing the food assistance and the nutrition assistance required but also looking to ensure that we provide hope."



# 01:39-02:13 Ganyiel Payam, , Unity State Shot: 20 March 2014

WFP food distribution of sorghum, pulses, vegetable oil, salt. Children under 5 receive a special fortified cereal to prevent worsening malnutrition.

# ENDS

# South Sudan

- In South Sudan, 2.5 million people have started this year unsure of where their next meal is coming from, and we expect the situation will get worse with the start of the lean season in May.
- Behind this staggering number are 2.5 million individuals women, children and men who bear the brunt of this conflict and need lifesaving assistance. They must not be forgotten.
- South Sudan is one of the most challenging places where WFP works. A huge humanitarian effort helped prevent a famine last year. We need sufficient resources and access to help prevent a hunger catastrophe again this year.
- WFP is pre-positioning food before the rainy season makes more than half the country inaccessible by road. This reduces our reliance on costly air operations to reach people in need. All parties to the conflict must ensure the security of critically-needed food supplies.
- The humanitarian crisis facing South Sudan is man-made. The guns must fall silent. We urge the parties to the conflict to put the welfare of the South Sudanese people above their own interests and to work toward lasting peace.

### IN NUMBERS

People displaced inside South Sudan by conflict (source: OCHA):1.5 millionNew South Sudan refugees in neighbouring countries (source: OCHA):509,000People projected in IPC Phase 3 (crisis) or 4 (emergency), Jan-Mar:2.5 millionPeople WFP plans to assist in 2015:3 millionAmount of food WFP dispatched by air, river and road in 2014:190,000metric tons190,000



# **OVERVIEW**

In 2015 WFP aims to assist 3 million people in South Sudan. This includes lifesaving emergency assistance for 1.4 million people directly affected by conflict, mainly in the states of Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity, as well as Protection of Civilians areas (PoCs) and other large IDP-hosting centres.

# **Food Security:**

People projected in IPC<sup>1</sup> Phase 3 (crisis) or 4 (emergency), Jan-Mar 2015: **2.5 million** 

Total number of people in IPC Phase 2 or higher in Jan-Mar 2015: 6.4 million

- **The food security outlook is grim.** As we approach the hunger season, starting in April, more people will need emergency food assistance.
- WFP teams are currently on the ground conducting food security and nutrition assessments. They are gathering solid data that will feed into the next IPC analysis due in April.
- Famine (IPC Phase 5) has not been declared in any part of South Sudan, but it is a serious risk unless adequate humanitarian assistance can be delivered.
- Conflict continues to threaten food security in the three most-affected states, where almost 80 percent of the population was unable to grow their staple crop (sorghum) in the last planting season.
- An update of the IPC analysis released in February indicates that food security is worsening in the non-conflict states of Warrap and Lakes because of flooding, inter-clan conflict and cattle-raiding. There has been a steep hike in food prices in several parts of the most conflict-affected states of Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Unity due to disruption of markets, trade and crop production.
- In states not heavily affected by conflict (Greater Equatoria, Western Bahr el-Ghazal and parts of Northern Bahr el-Ghazal), good seasonal rains and functioning markets have resulted in a more positive food-security outlook.

# **Pre-positioning:**

• WFP is working hard to take advantage of the dry season to pre-position food in areas that will become inaccessible when heavy rains return starting in May. We have a 3-month window to strategically pre-position more than 100,000 metric tons of food before the rains. This represents more than 6,500 truck trips<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This is calculated on the basis of a 15-ton truck



- Reaching our targets for pre-positioning is critical. It would cost US\$180 million more to move the same amount of food by air.
- WFP's pre-positioning effort has been constrained by insecurity, access restrictions by parties to the conflict and poor roads that have taken longer than usual to dry out after the rainy season. Notwithstanding these challenges, WFP has pre-positioned about 30,000 metric tons of food so far.

### **Cross-border convoys:**

- Truck and barge convoys from Sudan are vital to reduce the need for airdrops and airlifts of food. Air transport can be critical in sustaining food assistance to remote areas but costs six to seven times more than delivery by barge or road.
- More than 3,200 metric tons of food was transported by river and road from Kosti in Sudan to South Sudan in 2014.

## Air operations:

- WFP's aviation team manages three complementary air operations the UN-HAS common passenger service, cargo aircraft to move WFP food and nutrition supplies, and more cargo aircraft to move humanitarian supplies for all agencies through the Logistics Cluster.
- WFP uses road and river transport to every extent possible, but air is the only way to reach some parts of the country.
- The current small fleet of 10 aircraft dedicated to moving food supplies has the capacity to carry 300-400 metric tons of food per day.
- The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), managed by WFP, provides safe and reliable passenger air transport that is critical to relief work in South Sudan.
- UNHAS has a fleet of 14 aircraft flying to 58 locations.
- UNHAS needs US\$15.3 million for its operations for the next 6 months.
- The Logistics Cluster, managed by WFP, has a fleet of 3 aircraft to move supplies for the wider humanitarian community in South Sudan.
- The Logistics Cluster needs US\$13.4 million for its operations in the next 6 months. If the required funding is not made available, the Logistics Cluster will not be able to maintain the air assets required to ensure delivery of supplies to hard-to-reach locations.

# **Rapid Response Teams:**

• Mobile teams, with members from WFP, other UN agencies and NGO partners, are providing lifesaving assistance to people in remote parts of Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity states.



- WFP and our partners have assisted more than 900,000 people through the rapid response mechanism so far including more than 480,000 people since the start of this year alone in more than 25 locations.
- The teams provide a full package of food, nutrition and livelihood assistance along with emergency health and protection services, mostly through air-drops and river deliveries.
- Partners include UNICEF, World Vision, Norwegian Peoples Aid (NPA), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), OXFAM, Norwegian Refugee Council and Samaritan's Purse.

# Nutrition:

- In 2014, WFP formed a strategic partnership with UNICEF to scale up the nutrition response in South Sudan, providing an integrated approach to preventing and treating malnutrition.
- WFP has provided treatment to 167,000 malnourished children and 75,000 pregnant women and nursing mothers. WFP also provided preventative therapy to 415,000 children aged under 5 who were at risk of acute malnutrition.
- WFP has trained more than 60,000 community nutrition volunteers to screen people for malnutrition, refer cases and provide key messages for prevention and treatment of malnutrition.
- WFP intends to reach 300,000 children and 80,000 pregnant women and new mothers for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and 450,000 children through our programmes to help prevent malnutrition.

# **Resilience and other assistance:**

- WFP supports resilience activities food for assets, cash for assets, Purchase for Progress (P4P), and food for education (school meals and girls' take home rations) in relatively stable areas where we have access, food stocks and security. In 2015, WFP plans to reach 1.6 million people in this manner.
- WFP has continued providing regular food rations to a pre-existing caseload of more than 200,000 Sudanese refugees in camps in Unity and Upper Nile states. Re-supplying refugee camps in Maban County (Upper Nile) has been carried out largely by airlift, because insecurity and fighting along supply routes has blocked truck deliveries.
- Without additional resources, WFP may have to suspend milling vouchers for 230,000 refugees in April. Cereal milling vouchers reduce the need for refugees to exchange some of their food rations for milling services and reduces risks of gender-based violence for women, who no longer have to travel to access a mill. WFP urgently needs US\$3.9 million for milling over the next six months.



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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 75 countries.

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