WFP News Video: Hunger Peaks as South Sudan Marks ‘uhuru’ (independence)

Location: Ayod county, South Sudan
TRT: 02:01

SHOTLIST

:00:05
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 3 July 2017
Aerials of flooding. The rainy season makes access to cut off displaced people even more difficult.

:05:12
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 3 July 2017
WFP Ilyushin-76 plane flying towards drop zone.
WFP drop zone coordinator liaises with the crew making sure the drop zone is clear.

:12:32
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 3 July 2017
Ilyushin-76 plane airdropping food, Cereals (maize), pulses (beans) and a highly fortified blend of maize and soy flour, and includes dairy protein that’s especially important for young ones.

:32:42
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 3 July 2017
Community members collecting and preparing the dropped food for distribution.

:42:01:01
Juba
Shot: 5 July 2017
SOT (Eng) Adnan Khan, WFP South Sudan Director
“We are approaching the seventh anniversary of the independence of South Sudan, unfortunately the conflict continues, people continue to suffer and people in some places where conflict still rages are in desperate situations.”

01:01:01:16
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 4 July 2017
Various of woman cleaning grain.
Almost everyone in the village of Jiech fled conflict from volatile parts of the country such as Wau, in Western Bahr Gazel and Ayod town in hostile take-overs by Government forces.

01:16-01:36
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 4 July 2017
Various of displaced family eating WFP sorghum Close of - Elizabeth Nyataba Gatjang

01:36-01:51
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 4 July 2017
SOT (Nuer) Elizabeth Nyataba Gatjang, displaced single mother of 4 children
“We depend on WFP food assistance only and that is the only means of food for the whole family. I live with my mother and I have no brothers. I am the one taking care of the entire family. When times are hard, I walk to faraway places in search of food. I sometimes walk to Gandak which takes me one day walking and sometimes to Magok which is eight hours away. “

01:51-02:01
Jieth, Ayod County
Shot: 4 July 2017
Elizabeth’s children eating

END

STORYLINE

• As South Sudan marks seven years of Independence since seceding from the north, the world’s youngest nation remains deeply embroiled in conflict that has resulted in a widespread humanitarian crisis.

• July marks the peak of the ‘hunger season’ in South Sudan - the period between the depletion of food stocks and the next harvest. As many as 7.1 million people – more than half the population – would be severely food insecure without humanitarian support. Of
these, some 2.3 million were projected to be facing emergency (IPC Phase 4) * - one step short of catastrophe - up from 1.7 million people during the same period last year.

• WFP and partners aim to reach up to 4.8 million hungry people with assistance in some of the worst affected areas across the country by July. Without a sustained, comprehensive response, millions of people are at risk in this fifth straight year of conflict.

• WFP is particularly concerned with the situation in Leer, Mayendit and Koch counties in Unity State where rising hunger may reach catastrophic levels without a concerted emergency response. Continued fighting in these areas and renewed clashes in Akobo, Jonglei State are preventing WFP from reaching all those in need at this critical stage of the year.

• Since 2014, WFP and key partners have pioneered an Integrated Rapid Response Mechanism (IRRM) where mobile teams reach people in remote, isolated areas. Traveling usually by helicopter and sleeping in tents, teams register people in need and clear zones so that WFP can airdrop food, nutrition supplies and other urgently-needed assistance from contracted Ilyushin-76 aircraft where there is no alternative access.

*Projections based on Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) released in February.

In Numbers:

- Number of people in need at peak of hunger season: 7.1 million
- Number of people severely food insecure now: 7.1 million
- Number of people targeted for assistance by WFP: 4.8 million
- Number of people assisted by WFP in 2017: 4.8 million
- Number reached through Rapid Response Mechanism in 2017: 1.8 million
- Funding gap from July through December 2018: US$255 million
- Total number of people displaced in South Sudan (OCHA): 1.9 million
- South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries (UNHCR): 2 million

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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 80 countries.

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For more information please contact
(email address: firstname.lastname@wfp.org):

Tomson Phiri, WFP South Sudan +211 922 465 247 tomson.phiri@wfp.org
Peter Smerdon WFP Regional Office Nairobi +254 707 722 104 peter.smerdon@wfp.org
Frances Kennedy, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65133725, Mob. +39 346 7600806
Jane Howard, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65132321, Mob. +39 346 7600521
Bettina Luescher, WFP/Geneva, Tel. +41 22 917 8564, Mob. + 41-79-842-8057
Steve Taravella, WFP/Washington DC, Tel. +1 202 653 1149, Mob. +1 202 770 5993