



World Food Programme  
Programme Alimentaire Mondial  
Programa Mundial de Alimentos  
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## **Continued Fighting Feeding New Fears of Catastrophic Hunger in South Sudan**

**Shot: 13-18Jan2020**

**Nyal/Juba, South Sudan**

**TRT: 3:56**

### **SHOTLIST:**

**:00-:12**

#### **Aerial of Al Sudd and Nyal**

Al Sudd is the world's largest swamp, the size of Spain. Thousands of people fleeing fighting have taken refuge in the swamp and on small islands like Nyal.

Al Sudd/Nyal South Sudan

Shot: 13Jan2020

**:12-:37**

Deborah Nyakueth collecting fire wood in the swamp.

Deborah Nyakueth, 28 yrs old fled with her 5 children during fighting in Leer. For a month, Deborah and her children hid in the swamp risking attack from crocodiles and hippos, surviving on water lilies before finding refuge in Nyal

Nyal, South Sudan

Shot: 15Jan2020

**:37-:52**

SOT Deborah Nyakueth (Nuar)

"What is affecting us most is hunger. It makes mothers suffer to see their hungry children crying. When there are food distribution we have food for the children and when the children are smiling because they have eaten it makes you happy."

Nyal, South Sudan

Shot: 15Jan2020

**:52-1:10**

Loading Ilyushin 76 for airdrops

This massive plane is being loaded with 34 metric tons of food-enough to feed 3000 people for a month. WFP uses airdrops as a last resort to reach people isolated in places like Nyal.

At this time WFP has 3 aircraft operating airdrops in South Sudan.

Juba, South Sudan

Shot: 13Jan2020

**1:10-1:44**

WFP airdrop to Nyal



Nyal, South Sudan  
Shot: 13-14Jan2020

1:44-1:59  
People recovering airdropped food  
Nyal, South Sudan  
Shot: 14Jan2020

1:59-2:13  
Deborah Nyakueth receives WFP airdropped food and takes it home  
Nyal, South Sudan  
Shot: 15Jan2020

2:13-2:43  
Al Sabah Hospital Juba  
Severely malnourished children being tested and treated.  
The effects of the conflict which has forced tens of thousands of people to flee their homes is widely expected to increase the number of severe cases of malnutrition in the coming months if assistance is not scaled up.  
Juba, South Sudan  
Shot: 17Jan2020

2:43-3:11  
Matthew Hollingworth, Country Director WFP South Sudan(English):  
“We know we need to be supporting 5.5 million people in South Sudan with some sort of food assistance. But, if we don’t get the resources to reach that many people we are going to have to make some really tough choices. We are going to have to focus on alleviating the most food insecure people in the country...staving off hunger...stopping that famine in its tracks. But that also means that some people will fall through the gap. It means we won’t be able to support everybody”  
Juba, South Sudan  
Shot: 13Jan2020

3:11-3:22  
Deborah Nyakueth preparing meal with WFP food for her family.  
Nyal, South Sudan  
Shot: 15Jan2020

3:22-3:40



SOT Deborah Nyakueth (Nuar)

“If we have peace, our children will be going to school and when they come back home, they will find food at home and that will make them happy”

Nyal, South Sudan

Shot: 15Jan2020

3:40-3:56

Deborah Nyakueth and her family eating meal prepared with WFP food

Nyal, South Sudan

Shot: 15Jan2020

ENDS

- **Hunger continues to persist in South Sudan and is widely expected to worsen in the coming months if assistance is not scaled up.** This is mainly due to the longer-term effects of the conflict which has also forced tens of thousands of families to remain in temporary shelters and millions of people to seek refuge outside the country.
- **2020 will be a very critical year. We all hope that this will be the year in which guns will be silenced in South Sudan.** It is the year when the peace effort should be cemented through the creation of the Government of National Unity. Only then can we hope to place as much effort on changing lives as we have been doing saving lives.
- **Humanitarian assistance has been a lifeline for millions in South Sudan since the country descended into conflict in 2013.** Aid from relief agencies alone will not save South Sudan in the absence of peace and political stability. There is a limit to what aid can achieve. Without peace, the humanitarian situation is expected to dramatically worsen.
- **WFP renews its call for sustained peace and urges parties to the revitalized peace process to maintain peace.** If peace holds, the country has a realistic chance of bringing communities together, end years of isolation and inequity as well as eliminating hunger in the country.

**CONTEXT:**



- South Sudan is still embroiled in a low-key conflict and is devastated by the impact of years of fighting which have killed nearly 400,000 civilians<sup>1</sup>. Several peace deals have been brokered and subsequently broken. A fragile peace deal signed in September 2018 is largely holding, while a Transitional Government of National Unity is due to be formed in February 2020.
- People are returning home to plant crops, to rebuild their communities and to be reunited with loved ones. But while these are signs of hope, security remains fragile and a few areas continue to witness unrest and human rights violations.
- The country requires 1.3 million of cereals annually but produced 745,000 mt in 2019 leaving a gap of more than 525,000 mt. Violence restricts movement, it affects business and hampers agricultural production. Even a short burst of conflict can have a long-term impact. A two-week burst of conflict at a critical stage of the planting season could affect food security for between 12 to 18 months.
- Whilst efforts to secure peace are having a positive impact, natural disasters as a result of climate change have worsened an already critical humanitarian situation, as they hit areas that already had high humanitarian needs.
- In flood-affected counties, more than 3 million people were in need of assistance even before the rains, out of the over 7 million people in need countrywide. More than 60 percent of the flood-affected counties are currently classified as facing extreme levels of acute malnutrition.
- At its summit in 2013, the African Union launched a campaign on “Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020” which aims to achieve a conflict-free Africa, prevent genocide, make peace a reality for all and rid the continent of wars, violent conflicts, human rights violations, and humanitarian disasters.

#### **WFP RESPONSE:**

- WFP provides life-saving food distributions to the most vulnerable, along with food assistance to enable communities to construct or rehabilitate assets, food for school meals and special nutritious products for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition among children and pregnant or nursing women. We integrate gender and protection in our work, involving the people we serve in the design and delivery of assistance.
- In 2019, WFP ramped up its assistance to reach 5 million people with life-saving support. In 2020, with sufficient donor support, WFP plans to assist 5.4 million people.
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<sup>1</sup> London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine report published in 2018



- WFP is scaling-up cash transfers in locations with functioning markets. In 2019, WFP paid out US\$40 million in transfers across the country. By doing so, we are gradually increasing the flow of cash into local economies to strengthen them.

### **IN NUMBERS**

<b>People in need of humanitarian assistance in 2020:</b>	<b>7.5 million</b>
<b>People in need of food assistance from January 2020:</b>	<b>5.5 million</b>
<b>People WFP aims to assist in 2020:</b>	<b>5.4 million</b>
<b>People assisted by WFP in 2019:</b>	<b>5 million</b>
<b>People displaced in South Sudan (OCHA):</b>	<b>1.47 million</b>
<b>People seeking shelter in UN Protection of Civilians sites:</b>	<b>190,455</b>
<b>South Sudan refugees in neighbouring countries (HCR):</b>	<b>2.2 million</b>
<b>Funding gap from Jan through July 2020:</b>	<b>US\$ 331 million</b>

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The United Nations World Food Programme - saving lives in emergencies and changing lives for millions through sustainable development. WFP works in more than 80 countries around the world, feeding people caught in conflict and disasters, and laying the foundations for a better future.

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