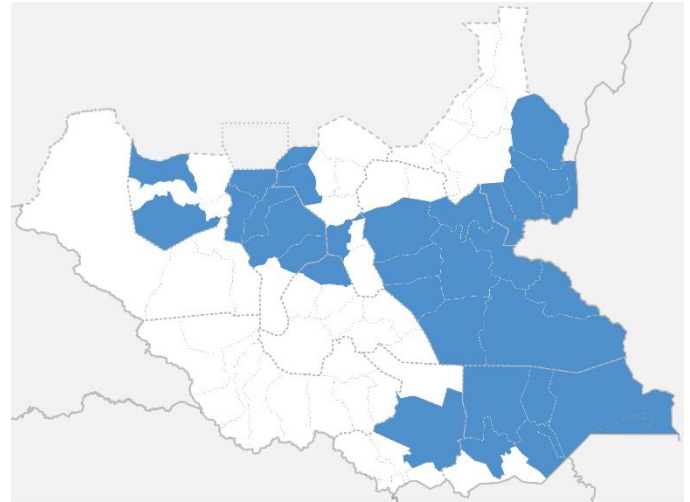


### HIGHLIGHTS

- Since July 2019, South Sudan has experienced unusually heavy rainfall and flooding, affecting an estimated 908,000 people. On 27 October, the Government of South Sudan declared a state of emergency in the areas affected by flooding.
- At least 620,000 people need immediate humanitarian assistance. A coordinated response scale-up is ongoing in priority locations, including most recently flooded counties in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile.
- Immediate priorities include delivering multi-sector flood rapid response kits, food and health support to most affected families, followed by restoring critical water, health, nutrition and education infrastructure, and people's food security and livelihoods.
- US\$ 61.5 million is required to respond to immediate flood-induced needs and ensure the continuity of the response following the peak period. Over 75 per cent of required funds have been committed.



Counties affected by flooding. A detailed operational map with people affected and priorities for response scale-up is presented on page 4.

**908K**

people affected by the floods

**620K**

people in need of immediate assistance

**73K**

metric tons of cereals lost

**42**

nutrition centres suspended services

**\$61.5M**

required to respond

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

Abnormally heavy seasonal flooding has been devastating large areas of South Sudan since July 2019, with an estimated 908,000 people affected. This includes internally displaced people, refugees and their host communities across some 30 counties in Jonglei, Upper Nile, Warrap, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Lakes, and Central and Eastern Equatoria. The rains are likely to continue until December 2019 and put more people at risk. The Government of South Sudan declared a state of emergency in the flooded areas on 27 October.

The floods have affected areas already experiencing high levels of vulnerability due to the legacy of years of conflict and access constraints, placing affected people at a greater humanitarian risk. Across the flooded counties, more than 3 million people needed assistance even before the rains. More than 60 per cent of the flood-affected counties are currently classified as facing extreme levels of acute malnutrition. The flooding has submerged entire communities and rendered basic services and markets destroyed or inaccessible. An estimated 42 nutrition centres have suspended their services. Countless health facilities and schools are filled with water. People are extremely vulnerable to malaria and water-borne disease outbreaks, such as Cholera, as a result of the flooding. Displaced people are especially at risk as they are exposed to the elements without shelter or household items such as mosquito nets. Access to hygiene and sanitation is limited, especially for women and girls who also face additional protection risks.

Preliminary forecasts show that 74,157 hectares of cultivated land has been damaged due to flooding, with an estimated loss of 72,611 metric tons of cereals. This represents approximately 15 per cent loss in production in the affected areas.

On average, vulnerable households in South Sudan need support to fill the hunger gap—defined as the period when households run out of stored food and the next harvest—typically between March and August. The impact of the flooding and crop losses will result in a lean season starting as early as January 2020. The increased food production gap in heavily flooded areas could increase needs throughout the year and thus require more food commodities to be delivered, just-in-time before the rains begin again after the first quarter of 2020. Additionally, as the scale and extent of the flooding has critically impacted physical access across the country, and the water is likely to take months to disperse, the window for prepositioning of food commodities throughout the country will drastically shorten.

## FUNDING

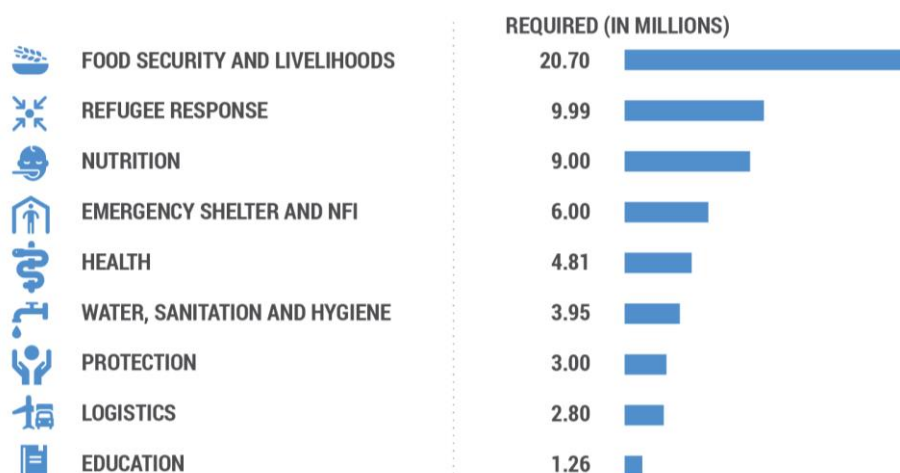
The Humanitarian Country Team estimates that a total of \$61.5 million is required to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable people affected by the flooding. Humanitarian partners are using available resources originally meant for dry season response in early 2020 to respond to the urgent flood-related needs. Resources are therefore required to save lives and ensure the continuity of the response following the peak period. The table below presents a breakdown of requirements by sector.

To enable an immediate, frontline response in late 2019, the Humanitarian Coordinator has approved a reserve allocation of \$10 million from the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF). The resources will be used for immediate response related to emergency shelter and non-food items, health, food security and livelihoods, nutrition, protection and education in emergencies. The SSHF will also use its first standard allocation of 2020 to target locations still impacted by the floods. Both the late 2019 and early 2020 SSHF allocations are expected to partner with several South Sudanese non-governmental organizations, in line with the World Humanitarian Summit commitment to enable a response that is as local as possible.

Following a request from the Humanitarian Coordinator, the Emergency Relief Coordinator has indicated that he will accept proposals for \$15 million from the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). A CERF allocation from the Rapid Response window would be used to meet life-saving needs related to emergency shelter and non-food items, health, food security and livelihoods, and water, hygiene and sanitation, as well as the logistics support required to deliver the assistance in the challenging conditions.

As of 14 November, ECHO, Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom have committed a total of \$21.9 million to the floods response. Combined with the \$10 million to be released from the country-based pooled fund and up to \$15 million from the CERF, the commitments bring the funding available for the response to \$46.9 million or 76 per cent of the \$61.5 million appeal. Other donors are mobilizing further resources for the response.

**\$61.5M** REQUIRED FUNDING    **\$46.9M** COMMITTED FUNDING    **76%** COMMITTED AS OF 14 NOVEMBER



## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE STRATEGY

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The United Nations and non-governmental organizations were already working in the affected areas before the floods, and are now scaling up operations to respond to assessed needs. The Inter-Cluster Working Group, supported by OCHA, has developed a phased response strategy, detailed below and complemented by a map on the following page.

Immediate life-saving activities include delivering multi-sector flood rapid response kits to most affected families, distributing food, stocking up functional health centres, and establishing mobile health clinics to prevent disease and loss of life. In areas where waters are receding, humanitarian organizations are repairing critical water, health, nutrition and education infrastructure, and working to restore people's food security and livelihoods. Phase 1 is being prioritized as the first wave of the response in locations where populations are still in flooded areas and displaced. In areas where the flood waters are receding, clusters are moving forward with Phase 2 of the emergency response scale-up. Both phases will be happening simultaneously depending upon the location. Humanitarians are liaising with development partners on disaster risk reduction and resilience building.

In total, some 620,000 women, men and children are targeted with assistance, including 420,000 people (70,000 households) targeted with the multi-sector flood rapid response kits and 200,000 people (143,000 refugees and 57,000 host community members) affected by floods in Maban County. The numbers are subject to change as the situation evolves.

### Phase 1: Immediate emergency response

#### A. Multi-sector flood rapid response kits

- Humanitarians will target 70,000 most affected, currently displaced households with life-saving multi-sectoral kits, according to identified priorities. The staged priority areas are included in the map below. The kits contain plastic sheets; mosquito nets; blanket; filter cloth; pur sachets; Aquatabs; collapsible jerry can and a fishing kit, and are adjustable according to the availability of stocks. In priority 3 locations, response is on-going by static humanitarian partners.

#### B. Sectoral emergency response

- Food distribution to people on the general food distribution beneficiary lists by WFP and partners
- Health distribution of anti-malarial and other basic drugs and medical supplies to health facilities to 226,000 targeted people through WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF; increasing access to medical services through mobile health clinics
- Refugees: Multi-sector food and non-food to 143,000 Sudanese refugees in three camps in Maban and to the local population of 57,000 people (UNHCR)

### Phase 2: Strategic life-saving response

#### A. WASH infrastructure and basic service repairs

- Repair of affected safe drinking water systems; disinfection of boreholes and wells by shock chlorination; latrines rehabilitation with handwashing devices; hygiene promotion with soaps; and dignity or menstrual hygiene management kits distribution

#### B. Food security and livelihoods

- Restoration of people's livelihoods and support the longer-term impacts on food insecurity

#### C. Health, nutrition and education

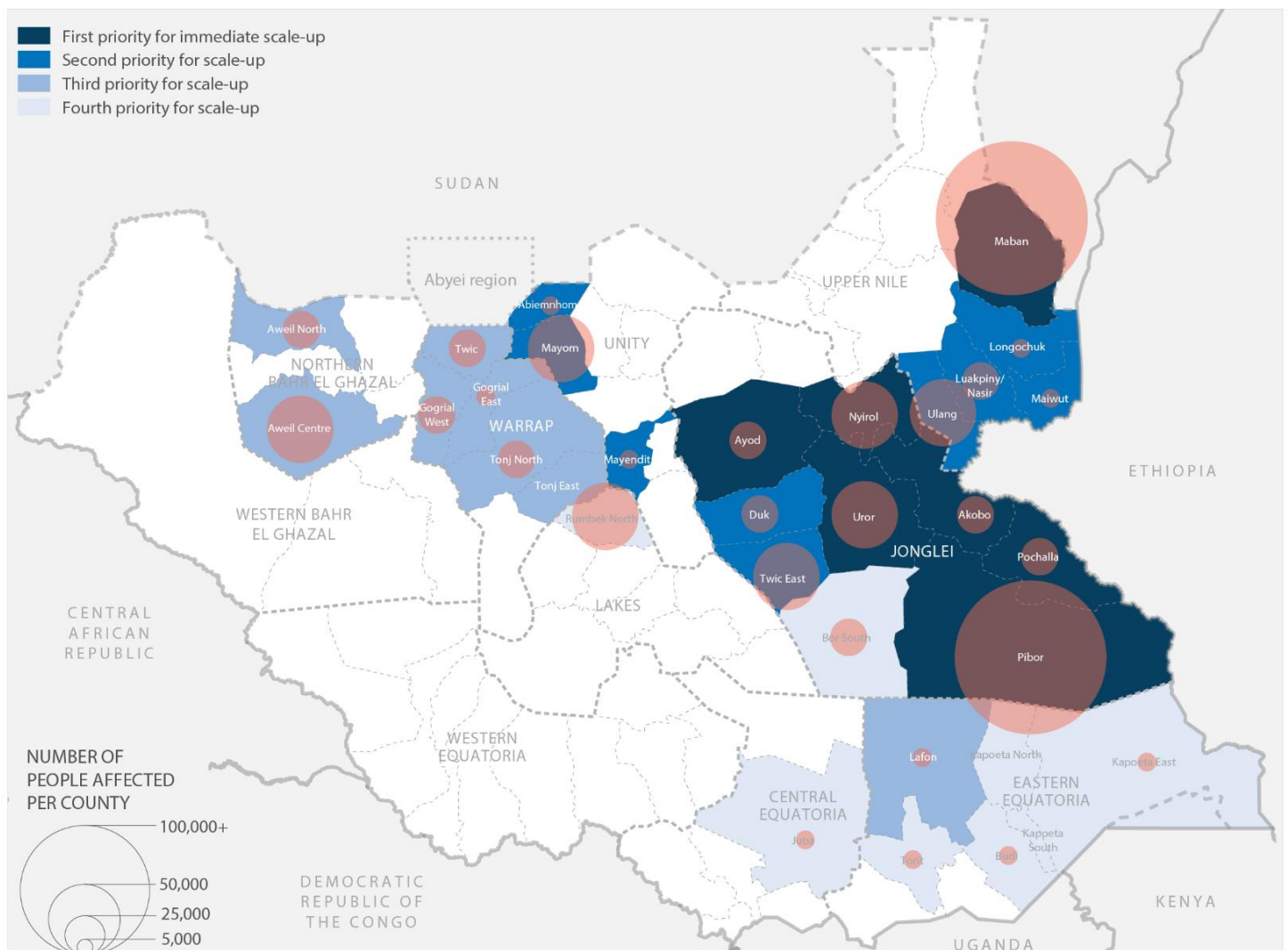
- Restoration of access to facilities that were damaged or destroyed because of the floods

### Phase 3: Longer-term disaster risk reduction

#### A. Linkages with development partners

- Humanitarian actors will link with development partners to support resilience building, and disaster risk reduction (DRR) and management to ensure that people are better equipped to address future shocks. To enhance local coping mechanisms, the Humanitarian Country Team will engage the UN Country Team to explore how to better harmonize the current emergency response with longer-term DRR programming in South Sudan.

## PEOPLE AFFECTED AND COUNTIES PRIORITIZED FOR RESPONSE SCALE-UP



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of South Sudan and the Republic of Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of Abyei area is not yet determined.

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