In July 2015, WFP Sudan launched a two-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200808. The initial number of people targeted to receive assistance was 5.2 million. In 2016, the influx of South Sudanese refugees, the impact of El Niño, and Jebel Marra conflict-related displacements resulted in increased food and nutrition needs, increasing the total number of people facing acute and chronic food and nutrition insecurity targeted under the PRRO by 17% to 6.1 million.

The PRRO maintains a robust relief component (60 percent) for new and protracted displaced populations facing food insecurity and malnutrition complemented by an early recovery portfolio (40 percent). For new and longstanding Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), WFP provides general food assistance (GFA) and cash based transfers (CBTs), food assistance for assets (FFA) or food assistance for training (FFT) activities. These diverse forms of assistance contribute to reduce gender disparities between men and women by promoting equal access to resources, divisions of labour, decision making power and access to information. WFP also provides moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment and prevention programmes for malnourished children and pregnant and nursing women. WFP’s school feeding for school-age children in food insecure areas contributes to gender equality by acting as an incentive to send and keep girls enrolled in and attending school in states such as Kassala and Red Sea States where gender disparity ratios are the highest.

Refugees are provided with GFA and nutrition assistance. Vulnerable refugees receive assistance in the form of seasonal support, nutrition assistance, food and CBTs through their participation in FFA and FFT activities and school meals which includes take-home entitlements to support girls’ continued education.

WFP targets a higher proportion of women as food recipients and integrates women into community food management committees. Women are often exposed to the risk of violence in areas of conflict and displacement and a large portion of households are led by women, burdened with added responsibilities during crises.

Additional activities implemented through trust funds include the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) Initiative in Darfur, the Joint Resilience Programme with FAO and UNICEF in Kassala state and the micronutrient powder home fortification and stunting reduction pilot in Red Sea and North Darfur states.

WFP’s programmatic framework for protracted displacement aims to promote self-reliance of IDPs through integrated and targeted assistance packages. Central to this strategy is a vulnerability-based targeting system – IDP Profiling – which allows for response options to be tailored to different levels of vulnerability.

In line with WFP Strategic Objectives 1 and 2, the Zero Hunger Challenge, the PRRO supports implementation of the government’s humanitarian and development policies and priorities and the Humanitarian Response Plan. Through its interventions it mainly contributes to achieve SDG2 but also supports the implementation of other SDGs, e.g. 4, 16 and 17.

### Highlights

- In 2017, WFP plans to assist 4.6 million people across Sudan including 3.4 million in Darfur and 1.2 million in East Sudan, North & South Kordofan and Blue Nile States. In February, WFP reached 1.9 million people including 844,290 people with general food assistance, as well as 132,680 children under five and 33,170 pregnant and nursing women with nutrition assistance.

- WFP Sudan faces funding constraints of USD 53.4 million against its 2017 annual requirements standing at USD 370.5 million. Most concerning is the critical status of nutrition interventions for which WFP urgently requires USD 11.2 million for super cereal risi and ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) for the next 6 months. In addition, serious disruptions to WFP cash-based transfer (CBT) programme are expected in April 2017 if no immediate funds are received.

WFP launched a Special Operation in December 2016 to repair the road corridor from Sudan to South Sudan to ensure that WFP is able to continue providing emergency food and nutrition assistance to South Sudanese communities.

### In Numbers

- **3.5** million food insecure persons (IPC Phase 3 & 4)
- **2.23** million IDPs in need of humanitarian assistance
- **2.2** million acutely malnourished children under five
- **332,885** South Sudanese refugees
Operational Updates

• Since the onset of the South Sudan crisis in December 2013, 332,885 South Sudanese refugees have entered Sudan according to UNHCR. Thus far, WFP has distributed 50,400 mt of food assistance to 176,158 refugees from South Sudan. And since the influx of South Sudanese refugees into Darfur in 2016, WFP has provided 7,930 mt to 77,960 refugees in Darfur. There is growing concern of an increased wave of South Sudanese refugees to South Kordofan following the ongoing conflict and famine in South Sudan. At the end of February, some 1,000 individuals per week, mainly women and children fleeing food insecurity, were crossing the border into South Kordofan according to Sudan’s Humanitarian Aid Commission, mainly to El Liri locality. So far in 2017, some 7,200 South Sudanese refugees have crossed the border to El Liri locality – bringing the total number of refugees arriving in South Kordofan this year to nearly 8,200. In March, WFP plans to distribute food assistance to 22,000 individuals in El Liri, including the recent refugee arrivals.

• WFP Sudan continues to utilize the existing humanitarian corridor to deliver urgently needed assistance to South Sudan while advocating for the opening of additional corridors to South Sudan to help alleviate the suffering of individuals in urgent need of food assistance.

• Post-harvest losses significantly affect the productivity and food security of smallholder farmers in Sudan. Due to improper drying and poor storage practices, farmers in Sudan lose 30 – 40% of their crops post-harvest. To support farmers reduce post-harvest losses, WFP is working to improve grain post-harvest handling and storage through the provision of subsidized silos, training for smallholders with focus on improving grain safety and quality and strengthening farmers’ access to markets. In the context of the Farmers to Markets (F2M) initiative, a Post-Harvest Management Project is being implemented in Kassala state to support farmers reduce losses and maintain the quality of sorghum. In February, 250 farmers received post-harvest training, and out of them, 100 farmers received plastic silos.

• WFP faces serious funding constraints for its nutrition interventions. Starting in May/June, WFP’s ability to undertake treatment and prevention of malnutrition activities will be compromised for vulnerable children under five and pregnant and nursing women. Without RUSF, WFP will not be able to provide emergency blanket supplementary feeding for 88,945 refugees and IDPs affected by conflict and displacement nor undertake treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for 177,590 targeted individuals. The pipeline break in super cereal plus is going to affect 136,660 children under two years and pregnant and nursing women from receiving a preventative nutrition ration and increases the risk of them becoming moderately malnourished.

• CBT faces a funding shortage in the upcoming year (Mar ’17 – Feb ’18) amounting to USD 69 million of which USD 50 million is the transfer value. If urgent funding needs are not met, CBT modality will have to be discontinued in April 2017 halting significant gains made in the sensitization and positive effects seen for the people assisted as well as affect the first cash programme launched in October 2016 in South Darfur state.

• The cash programme in Otash IDP camp, South Darfur has successfully provided prepaid cards to 95% of planned individuals without encountering any protection and security challenges. Over 72,000 vulnerable IDPs received pre-paid cards, of which nearly 80% of recipients were female.