Overview
The continuation of conflict since December 2013 has created a complex humanitarian crisis in the country, restricting humanitarian access and hindering the flow of information required by aid partners to deliver humanitarian assistance to populations in need. To address information gaps facing the humanitarian response in South Sudan, REACH employs its Area of Knowledge (AoK) methodology to collect relevant information in hard-to-reach areas to inform humanitarian planning and interventions outside formal settlement sites.

Using the AoK methodology, REACH remotely monitors needs and access to services in the Greater Upper Nile, Greater Equatoria and Greater Bahr el Ghazal regions. AoK data is collected monthly and through multi-sector interviews with the following typology of Key Informants (KIs):
- KIs who are newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month
- KIs who have been in contact with someone living in a hard-to-reach settlement, or have been visiting one in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.)
- KIs who are remaining in hard-to-reach settlements, contacted through phone

Selected KIs are purposively sampled and have knowledge from within the last month about a specific settlement in South Sudan, with data collected at the settlement level. About half of settlements assessed have more than one KI reporting on the settlement. In these cases, data is aggregated at the settlement level according to a weighting mechanism, which can be found in the Terms of Reference (ToRs).

The findings presented in this factsheet are indicative of the broad protection trends in assessed settlements in December 2019, and are not statistically generalisable.

Assessment Coverage
2,137 Key Informants interviewed
1,759 Settlements assessed
70 Counties assessed
68 Counties with 5% or more coverage

Assessment coverage
Proportion of settlements assessed

Conflict composite indicator
Average of assessed settlements reporting ‘yes’ to three selected conflict-related indicators

The map shows the assessment coverage and the conflict composite indicator for South Sudan. The findings are indicative of the broad protection trends in assessed settlements in December 2019.
Incidence of conflict and looting

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting incidents of conflict and looting in the last month

Main Protection Concerns

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the main protection concern for women (18 years and older) is conflict-related

- Yirol West: 11%
- Rumbek East: 10%
- Rumbek Centre: 9%
- Rumbek North: 9%
- Twic: 9%

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the main protection concern for men (18 years and older) is conflict-related

- Rumbek East: 100%
- Cueibet: 96%
- Rumbek North: 91%
- Rumbek Centre: 88%
- Wulu: 67%

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the main protection concern for girls (younger than 18 years) is conflict-related

- Rumbek North: 9%
- Cueibet: 8%
- Rumbek Centre: 6%
- Rumbek East: 5%
- Twic: 3%

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the main protection concern for boys (younger than 18 years) is conflict-related

- Rumbek East: 81%
- Cueibet: 75%
- Rumbek North: 73%
- Rumbek Centre: 72%
- Wulu: 44%
Proportion of assessed settlements reporting sexual and gender-based violence as the main protection concern for women and/or girls.

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting presence of children without caretaker or relative.

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported presence of landmines and/or unexploded ordnance:
- Panyikang: 63%
- Terekeka: 11%
- Koch: 8%
- Leer: 7%
- Duk: 7%

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported landmines are contaminating roads:
- Panyikang: 13%
- Yambio: 6%
- Cueibet: 4%
- Juba: 4%
- Gogrial West: 4%

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported landmines and/or unexploded ordnance are contaminating roads:
- Ulang: 25%
- Rumbek East: 24%
- Rumbek Centre: 19%
- Bor South: 17%
- Luakpiny/Nasir: 14%

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported disputes about land ownership:
- Tonj East: 78%
- Panyikang: 75%
- Tambura: 50%
- Tonj North: 45%
- Maridi: 43%
Protection-related service access constraints and vulnerabilities

Proportion of assessed settlements with inadequate access to food reporting conflict or insecurity as the reason

- Rumbek North: 91%
- Cueibet: 75%
- Rumbek East: 71%
- Mundri East: 64%
- Luakpiny/Nasir: 57%

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting safety fears or perceived insecurity preventing access to their preferred water source

- Assessed settlement

Insecurity: market services

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the area being insecure is the main reason for the inaccessibility of markets

- Rumbek North: 91%
- Cueibet: 75%
- Rumbek East: 71%
- Mundri East: 64%
- Luakpiny/Nasir: 57%

Insecurity: education services

Five assessed counties reported the area being insecure as the main reason for inaccessibility of education services in the settlements

- Bor South: 10%
- Madi: 7%
- Duk: 7%
- Jur River: 5%
- Twic East: 5%

Insecurity: boys attendance

Three counties where assessed settlements reported the area being insecure as the main reason for boys not attending school

- Wulu: 11%
- Twic: 6%
- Gogrial East: 5%

Insecurity: girls attendance

Two counties where assessed settlements reported the area being insecure as the main reason for girls not attending school

- Twic: 6%
- Gogrial East: 5%

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting safety fears or perceived insecurity preventing access to their preferred water source

- Assessed settlement
Displacement and Population Movement

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting presence of IDPs that have arrived within the last three months

- Panyikang: 88%
- Renk: 87%
- Manyo: 80%
- Mvolo: 70%
- Abiemnhom: 67%

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting presence of returnees

- Yambio: 64%
- Nzara: 67%
- Ezo: 69%
- Nagero: 67%
- Tambura: 64%

Information sources

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the main source of information is family and/or friends

- Panyikang
- Renk
- Manyo
- Mvolo
- Abiemnhom

IDP Leadership absent

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported an absence of IDP leadership

- Yambio
- Nzara
- Ezo
- Nagero
- Tambura

Lack of IDP support

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that the local community is not sharing resources with IDPs

- Wau
- Magwi
- Panyikang
- Tambura
- Manyo

Living conditions: IDPs

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that most IDPs are staying in temporary shelters or out in the open

- Ulang
- Duk
- Yei
- Luakpiny/Nasir
- Leer