

# Humanitarian Situation Monitoring Factsheet for COVID-19

South Sudan, April 2020

## Overview

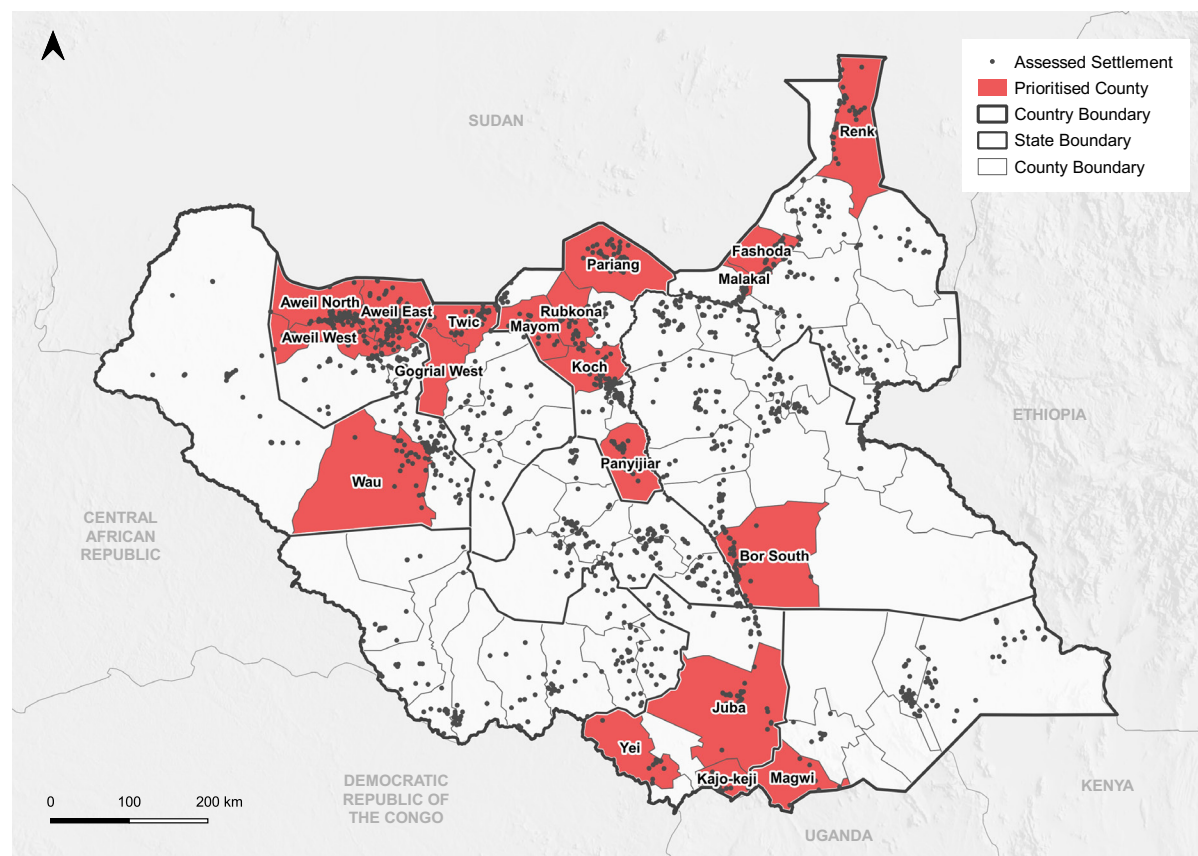
Given the existing vulnerability of the South Sudanese population and the persisting information gaps, an evidence-based identification of regions prone to COVID-19 outbreaks is urgently needed to inform a targeted humanitarian response. To support an evidence-based response to both the COVID-19 pandemic as well as ongoing humanitarian needs, this factsheet provides an overview of existing multi-sectoral vulnerabilities in the 19 counties prioritised for response in March 2020 (see vulnerability matrix below) to inform humanitarian actors on the risks related to a COVID-19 outbreak and prepare affected populations in vulnerable hard-to-reach communities. Indicators related to Health, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Protection, and Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) have been assessed to map the situation in these counties as of April 2020 (methodology on last page). The Rumor Tracking overview<sup>1</sup> provides a qualitative assessment of rumours at the regional and country level related to sources and transmission of COVID-19, symptoms, prevention and treatment. This is a follow-up from the rumour tracking shared in the March 2020 factsheet. This factsheet is intended to complement in-depth State and sector analysis, as part of the [monthly sector factsheets](#), and quarterly [HSM State Situation Overviews](#).

## Vulnerability Matrix

In collaboration with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Needs Analysis Working Group (NAWG), REACH supported a risk analysis in March 2020 aimed at identifying the counties in South Sudan at the highest risk of COVID-19 entry and spread, and the counties with populations with high intersectoral vulnerabilities, that are likely to experience more serious COVID-19 disease outcomes. Composite indicators were constructed for each of these indices using available data sources, and scores were calculated for each county.

- For 'Risk of COVID-19 entry and spread': a combination of flow monitoring data (IOM, UNHCR, REACH), COVID-19 caseloads in neighbouring countries (UNICEF), population density (OCHA COD-PS, FSNMS, GHSL), and the presence of IDP/Refugee populations were used. Counties were scored on a scale from 0-12.
- For 'Intersectoral Vulnerabilities': a combination of population density, elderly demographic data (FSNMS), food insecurity and acute malnutrition projections (IPC), access to soap and water (FSNMS), access to healthcare (FSNMS), and proxy indicators for the level of infectious and chronic disease (IDSR, FSNMS), were used. Counties were scored on a scale from 0-25. The following 19 priority counties were chosen based on high scores in both 'risk of entry and spread' and 'intersectoral vulnerability' indices.

Map 1: Prioritised counties for COVID-19 Response



1. The Rumour Tracking Overview can be found on page 2.

For following pages:

2. This question was only asked to KIs reporting that they had heard of COVID-19. KIs were able to select multiple responses to this question.

3. Data related to preferred communications is from March 2020 findings.

4. A protected/improved waterpoint includes: boreholes, protected wells, tapstands, donkey carts, water kiosks and piped systems. Unprotected waterpoints are significantly more likely to be exposed to contaminants (animals, faeces, rainwater etc).

5. NC refers to 'no-consensus', which is assigned to responses when several Key Informant Surveys from the same settlement are triangulated and there is not agreement on one indicator.

6. Source: [IPC - Integrated Food Security](#) Phase Classification, Projection 1 February-April 2020

7. Food consumption coping strategies are methods adopted by households to increase existing food stocks such as reducing the number of meals, reducing food sizes, prioritising children eating in the household before adults, and skipping entire days without food.

# Rumours and Perceptions Tracking

Whole of South Sudan Overview April 2020

## Context and Methodology

Since March 2020, REACH has tracked COVID-19 perceptions and rumours to inform risk communication and outreach strategies. For more information, please refer to briefs produced in collaboration with the Communication and Community Engagement Working Group (CCEWG) and factsheets produced by REACH on [preferred communication modalities](#). A semi-structured qualitative tool was designed to assess community perceptions and concerns related to COVID-19. Data was collected by REACH enumerators in face-to-face interviews with Key Informants (KIs) in settlements with REACH bases. KIs were members of the local community; they were selected through purposive sampling. Therefore, findings are indicative only.

## Key Trends

- Recent country-wide directives that relaxed lockdown measures and lifted travel restrictions led to rumours across the country that COVID-19 did not exist.
- Regarding the virus' origins, two kinds of rumours were commonly reported; firstly, that COVID-19 is a man-made disease, and secondly, that COVID-19 is a disease created by satan, which one can be protected against through believing in god. These rumours were most commonly reported in Western Equatoria, Jonglei, and Northern Bahr el Ghazal states.
- Similar to reports from March, rumours have reflected scepticism about vaccines and allopathic medicine. There was a reported widespread preference for the use of herbal/traditional preventative methods, and KIs also reported their communities would not accept a vaccine if one were to be offered.
- People continued to report rumours related to immunity in April. The most commonly reported rumour was that the hot temperatures in South Sudan would eradicate the virus. Many rumours related to immunity focused on race; KIs reported that black people were less susceptible to the effects of COVID-19 since they have stronger immune systems and harder skin.
- Across the country, KIs reported the desire for more information about COVID-19, and well as more information on treatment and prevention from community leaders. Some of the most common concerns raised related to fear of contracting the virus in densely populated areas such as Juba, and the lack of health facilities and testing equipment for the COVID-19 response.

## Key findings by Region

### Greater Upper Nile (Unity, Upper Nile, and Jonglei states)

- In April, KIs reported a variety of rumours related to preventatives, treatments, and cures for COVID-19, such as taking local/traditional herbs like sour roots/leaves of trees, drinking alcohol and tea, or smoking cigarettes. The consumption of specific foods was often reported to be a method of preventing contraction, although the reported types of foods varied considerably.

### Greater Bahr el Ghazal (Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, and Lakes states)

- In Greater Bahr-el-Ghazal, KIs reported four main types of rumours that explained the origins of COVID-19. Firstly, COVID-19 was manufactured by wealthy Americans and Chinese people in order to reduce the population of the world. Secondly, COVID-19 is a satanic disease which could be cured through prayer and divine protection. Thirdly, COVID-19 does not exist. Fourthly, COVID-19 is a flu-like common cold disease that existed in South Sudan long before the pandemic.
- KIs from Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBeG) state reported that COVID-19 only affected people living in urban areas, not those staying in the villages. KIs also reported rumours that survivors of COVID-19 would be infertile.

### Greater Equatorias (Eastern Equatoria, Central Equatoria, and Western Equatoria states)

- In addition to the common examples for treatment reported across other regions of South Sudan, KIs from Western Equatoria reported rumours that the use of honey and salves (such as aloe vera) could prevent people contracting COVID-19.
- Similar to rumours in NBeG, KIs reported that COVID-19 was believed to be a flu-like illness, similar to the common cold, which was rarely fatal.
- Some KIs from the Greater Equatorias reported that individuals from this area believed they had a stronger immune system than others in the country or ate good food, and were therefore less susceptible to contracting COVID-19. Some KIs also reported that individuals believed that only wealthy people and the elderly contract COVID-19.

# Aweil East County Profile

Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Aweil East County is located at a strategic border between Sudan and South Sudan. Two of the largest markets in Aweil East, located in Wanjok and Wararar, depend on supplies from Sudan. Despite movement restrictions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, small-scale cross-border trade continues in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, which may increase transmission of COVID-19. Before the COVID-19 outbreak, food security was a major concern in the county because of last season's flooding and pests, which key informants reported destroyed crops, leaving the population with limited harvest and dependent on the market for food. Access to basic services including health, water and sanitation remains a concern for most communities. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic will likely worsen the humanitarian situation in Aweil East County.



## COVID-19

98% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Washing hands more regularly (95%)**
2. **Avoiding large crowds (89%)**
3. **Avoiding hand shakes (87%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Radio show (31%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (80%)**

50% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (47%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Local Authority**

## Markets

33% of key informants reported that it took most people **30 minutes - 1 hour** to reach their preferred market

64% of key informants reported that **the lack of certain items** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (16%)** Men: **Family separation (13%)**

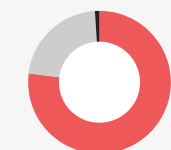
Girls: **Domestic violence (23%)** Boys: **Early marriage (31%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Soap       | 45% |
| Ash/Sand   | 36% |
| Water only | 14% |
| Don't wash | 0%  |

Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 77%**  
**Unprotected 22%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 1%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (77%)**

16% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

78% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

52% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

56% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Aweil North County Profile

Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Aweil North hosts Gok Machar, which is one of the main trade hubs for Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBeG). As of April 2020, according to key informants, Gok Machar had not been targeted with any information campaigns on COVID-19, indicating that traders and the host community might be unaware of methods to protect themselves and stop the spread. Furthermore, households in the county are heavily dependent on markets, and households will likely struggle to find alternative sources of livelihoods should access reduce due to COVID-19 and preventative measures. KIs from Aweil North have reported migration from NBeG to refugee and IDP camps in Darfur region, Sudan due to food insecurity.



## COVID-19

96% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding large crowds (96%)**
2. **Washing hands more regularly (89%)**
3. **Avoiding hand shakes (85%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Friends and family (24%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (86%)**

39% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (69%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Local Authority**

## Markets

33% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours** to reach their preferred market

49% of key informants reported that **the lack of certain items** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Family separation (24%)** Men: **Domestic violence (18%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (39%)** Boys: **Looting (16%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (88%)**

23% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 4 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

86% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

45% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

63% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



# Aweil West County Profile

Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Aweil West hosts the largest market in the state (Aweil Town), which is the main hub for trade in the region, and regularly receives IDPs from across the region seeking casual labour opportunities. Reported access to food rapidly decreased, with a low percentage of assessed settlements reporting adequate access in March and April 2020. The market is one of the main sources of food, making the county vulnerable to shocks if cross-border movement is limited or stopped. Due to a lack of cross-border regulation, Aweil West is also vulnerable to imported cases of COVID-19.



## COVID-19

93% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

97% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding large crowds (95%)**
2. **Avoiding hand shakes (92%)**
3. **Washing hands more regularly (89%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Radio show (38%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (90%)**

50% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (78%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Chief/Community Leader**

## Markets

30% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours** to reach their preferred market

45% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (23%)** Men: **Family separation (15%)**

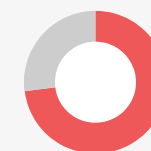
Girls: **Early marriage (28%)** Boys: **Early marriage (15%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Soap       | 33% |
| Ash/Sand   | 25% |
| Water only | 30% |
| Don't wash | 0%  |

Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 73%**  
**Unprotected 27%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 0%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (73%)**

22% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

93% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

60% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

53% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>

# Bor South County Profile

Jonglei State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

The combined effects of flooding in late 2019 on access to food stocks, livestock and functional markets appear to have exacerbated existing vulnerabilities in Bor South. The closure of national and state borders in response to COVID-19 has further disrupted supply chains and pushed up market prices at a time when food stocks are depleting and market reliance may increase. Protracted intercommunal conflicts have intensified in recent months, resulting in large-scale clashes in both Uror and Pibor counties, which have driven displacement and limited the ability of affected populations in hard-to-reach areas of Bor South County to cultivate due to insecurity. Heavy rainfall and a consequent swelling of the Nile has displaced an estimated 10,800 people, forcing many to take shelter in communal building such as churches, schools and government buildings, which may increase the risk of spread of COVID-19.\*



## COVID-19

95% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding large crowds (95%)**
2. **Washing hands more regularly (93%)**
3. **Avoiding hand shakes (73%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community leader (17%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Hospital (34%)**

41% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (44%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Friend/Family**

## Markets

41% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours** to reach their preferred market

97% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

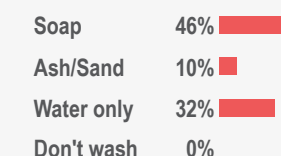
Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (39%)** Men: **Family separation (17%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (42%)** Boys: **Harrassment (19%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



**Protected 88%**  
**Unprotected 12%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 0%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (86%)**

0% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

73% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

32% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **bought**

83% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>

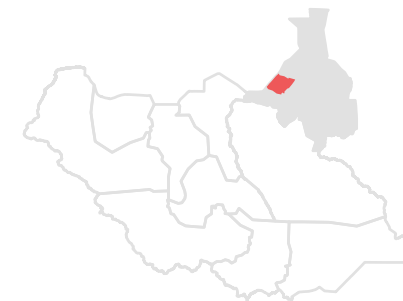
\*Source: Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs multi-agency assessment

# Fashoda County Profile

Upper Nile State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

High dependence on markets and humanitarian food distributions in Fashoda County suggest vulnerability to food insecurity, especially since trade in the region has been affected by border closures. In addition, continued reports of refugee returns indicate an endangered food security situation, as well as a likely increase of vulnerability to the spread of COVID-19 from Sudan where cases have been confirmed. Fashoda County also hosts a large number of IDPs in Aburoc, who are dependent on humanitarian aid to meet their WASH needs and are now at risk due to a scale-back in humanitarian activities. The IPC projects crisis level acute food insecurity between May and June 2020 and emergency levels of acute malnutrition for the period between May and August 2020.



## COVID-19

98% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

69% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Washing hands more regularly (64%)**
2. **Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (64%)**
3. **Avoiding hand shakes (64%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community health team (80%)**



## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **NGO Clinic (78%)**

63% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (73%)**



## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**English/Shilluk**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Chief/Community Leader**



## Markets

47% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours** to reach their preferred market

95% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market



## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (10%)** Men: **Looting (8%)**

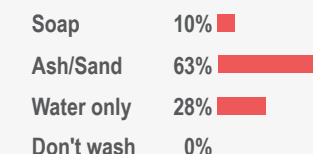
Girls: **Domestic violence (15%)**

Boys: **Killing or injury from another tribe (8%)**



## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 20%**  
**Unprotected 80%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 0%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **River (75%)**

0% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source



## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

20% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

53% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

93% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

20% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Gogrial West County Profile

Warrap State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Ongoing insecurity in northern Warrap has resulted in large scale displacement. In April, assessed settlements continued to reported the presence of IDPs since December 2019, most likely due to ongoing violence in the region, as well as reported limited access to health services. Flooding in the last quarter of 2019 resulted in low crop yields and low food stocks. This, in turn, resulted in high reported adoption of consumption coping strategies, raising concerns of community resilience to shocks. In addition, a reported a lack of adequate access to boreholes impacts water access, which is particularly necessary for COVID-19 measures.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

93% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Washing hands more regularly (73%)**
2. **Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (73%)**
3. **Avoiding hand shakes (60%) / avoiding large crowds (60%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community health team (27%)**



## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (73%)**

67% of key informations reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (80%)**



## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Friend/Family**



## Markets

27% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours**, and another 27% of key informants reported **2 - 3 hours** to reach their preferred market

100% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market



## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (27%)**

Men: **Killing or injury from another tribe (20%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (33%)**

Boys: **Abduction (13%)**

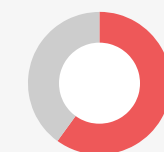


## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Soap       | 53% |
| Ash/Sand   | 47% |
| Water only | 0%  |
| Don't wash | 0%  |

Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 60%**  
**Unprotected 40%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 0%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (53%)**

0% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source



## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

67% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

60% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **bought**

27% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

93% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Juba County Profile

Central Equatoria State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Juba County has seen the highest rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases so far, with the majority of cases reported in Juba Town. A contextualised high proportion of assessed settlements reported protection concerns in Juba County in April 2020, of which a high proportion reported incidents of property looting in their settlement. Adequate access to food remained low and high levels of severe hunger were reported, which may be a result of rising food prices and therefore declining purchasing power, affecting mainly low-income households. In Juba City, many community members are dependent on the market as their main source of food, making communities vulnerable to market restrictions due to COVID-19 contingency.



## COVID-19

92% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

77% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding hand shakes (73%)**
2. **Washing hands more regularly (59%)**
3. **Postpone festivities and events (59%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community leader (38%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (71%)**

50% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (92%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Juba Arabic**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Chief/Community Leader**

## Markets

26% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours**, and another 26% of key informants reported **3 - 4 hours** to reach their preferred market

100% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

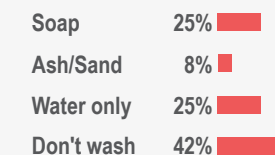
Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Harrassment (29%)** Men: **Family separation (21%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (33%)** Boys: **Looting (37%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (58%)**

68% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

100% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

50% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **bought and cultivated**

13% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>

# Kajo-Keji County Profile

Central Equatoria State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Kajo Keji is one of the most food insecure counties in the state, making it particularly vulnerable to a COVID-19 outbreak. Inadequate food stocks due to delayed and heavy rainfall in the last quarter of 2019 resulted in the exhaustion of food stocks earlier than expected, impacting adequate access to food in the county. Being a county characterized by displacement for years, increasing numbers of refugees have reportedly returned from Uganda to Kajo-Keji County in the past few months. Due to a lack of basic services and inadequate access to food, these returns are often temporary; however, they may contribute to the transmission of COVID-19.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported that having heard of COVID-19

94% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoid large crowds (94%)**
2. **Washing hands more regularly (88%)**
3. **Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (56%) / postpone festivities**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community health team (50%)**



## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (75%)**

75% of key informants reported a distance of **30 minutes - 1 hour** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (75%)**



## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Kuku**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Chief/Community Leader**



## Markets

38% of key informants reported that it took most people **2 - 3 hours** to reach their preferred market

69% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market



## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

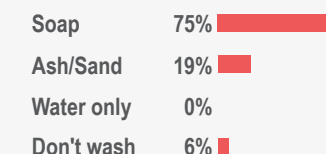
Women: **Domestic violence (38%)** Men: **Domestic violence (6%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (75%)** Boys: **Early marriage (31%)**

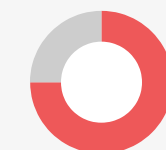


## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 75%**  
**Unprotected 25%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 0%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (75%)**

33% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source



## FSL (IPC Phase 4 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

100% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

88% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

6% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Koch County Profile

Unity State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Heightened cattle raiding and conflict with neighbouring counties in April restricted livelihood activities and limited access to conflict-affected areas of Koch. Market food prices are highly sensitive to road conditions, and are likely to increase with the start of the rainy season and the deterioration of the road networks. In addition, frequent population movement between Koch and Bentiu Protection of Civilians (PoC) site and the arrival of IDP returnees, pose a threat for transmission of COVID-19.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

63% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Washing hands more regularly (77%)**

2. **Avoiding large crowds (70%)**

3. **Postpone festivities and events (63%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Any person from the community (50%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **NGO Mobile Team (67%)**

40% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (57%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Nuer**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Local Authority**

## Markets

24% of key informants reported that it took most people **2 - 3 hours** to reach their preferred market

100% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (33%)**

Men: **Killing or injury from someone in the same tribe (20%) / Looting (20%)**

Girls: **Domestic violence (27%)**

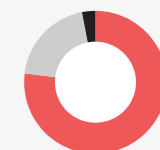
Boys: **Neighbours (13%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 77%**  
**Unprotected 20%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 3%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (73%)**

45% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

43% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

77% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **from an NGO**

93% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Magwi County Profile

Eastern Equatoria State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Locusts were reported in Magwi in April 2020, coinciding with the beginning of the planting season. Furthermore, due to the rains in late March, swarms may have laid eggs, which will negatively influence the harvest season and have a big impact on food security as communities rely heavily on agricultural production for livelihoods. Additionally, Magwi County sees a lot of cross-border movement and is a key route for trade coming from Uganda. There is an increased risk of COVID-19 cases being imported, and for these cases to be spread throughout the county.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding large crowds (100%)**
2. **Avoiding hand shakes (100%)**
3. **Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (89%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community health team (44%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (78%)**

56% of key informants reported a distance of **Under 30 minutes** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (78%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Juba Arabic/Madi**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Friend/Family**

## Markets

100% of key informants reported that it took most people **under 30 minutes** to reach their preferred market

100% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive and the lack of certain items** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Killing or injury from another tribe (11%)**

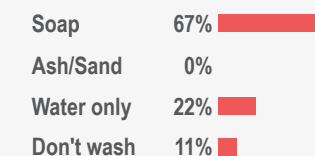
Men: **Killing or injury from another tribe (11%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (11%)**

Boys: **No protection concerns reported**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (78%)**

0% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

89% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

67% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

0% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>

# Malakal County Profile

Upper Nile State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

The use of soap for handwashing and access to health facilities within walking distance was relatively high in Malakal County. However, continued travel from Sudan, where the presence of COVID-19 has been confirmed, through Renk towards Malakal County suggests an increased vulnerability to COVID-19, particularly in the PoC. Further, the closure of national and state borders has disrupted supply chains, resulting in increased market prices and obstructing humanitarian operations.



## COVID-19

96% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. Postpone festivities and events (100%)
2. Washing hands more regularly (95%)
3. Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (95%)

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community leader (48%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Hospital (52%)**

57% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (96%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Classical Arabic**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Chief/Community Leader**

## Markets

55% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours** to reach their preferred market

55% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (30%)** Men: **Domestic violence (21%)**

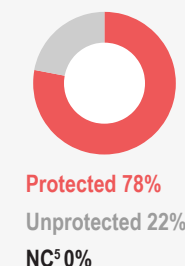
Girls: **Domestic violence (17%)** Boys: **Domestic violence (9%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Tapstand (74%)**

47% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 4 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

17% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

61% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

70% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



# Mayom County Profile

Unity State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Large-scale flooding in the second half of 2019 destroyed crops, killed livestock, and caused internal displacement within the county. Despite targeted food assistance and ongoing recovery efforts, parts of the population remain food insecure and dependent on humanitarian support. In April, the security situation in Mayom deteriorated due to intensified cattle raiding and intercommunal violence between groups from Mayom and neighbouring communities in Rubkona and Koch counties in Unity and Warrap State. The start of the rainy season is also likely to interfere with disaster recovery efforts and limit COVID-19 contingency plans.



## COVID-19

94% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

76% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Wash hands more regularly (88%)**
2. **Avoiding large crowds (82%)**
3. **Postpone festivities and events (53%) / avoiding hand shakes (53%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Any person from the community (33%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **NGO Mobile Team (39%)**

44% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (72%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**English/Nuer**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Local Authority**

## Markets

25% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours**, and another 25% of key informants reported **2 - 3 hours** to reach their preferred market

100% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Looting (33%)**

Men: **Killing or injury from someone in the same tribe (22%)**

Girls: **Domestic violence (39%)**

Boys: **Cattle raiding (28%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (83%)**

20% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

50% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

50% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **from an NGO**

67% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Panyijiar County Profile

Unity State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Panyijiar has a vulnerable population mainly comprised of IDPs from central Unity, with reportedly limited access to health services and high levels of food insecurity. Large-scale flooding in the second half of 2019 destroyed crops and caused livestock disease, exacerbating food insecurity in an already vulnerable, conflict-affected population. Lack of adequate road infrastructure has left Panyijiar disconnected from the rest of the state, and reliant on air and river transportation for goods and humanitarian assistance. Frequent population movement between central Unity and Panyijiar County and travellers from Juba pose a risk of COVID-19 transmission.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

95% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding hand shakes (98%)**
2. **Avoiding large crowds (95%)**
3. **Washing hands more regularly (83%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Local authority (57%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (83%)**

50% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (88%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Nuer**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Local Authority**

## Markets

31% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours** to reach their preferred market

100% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive and the lack of certain items** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Looting (7%)**

Men: **Killing or injury from someone in the same tribe (10%)**

Girls: **Looting (7%)**

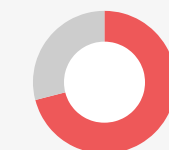
Boys: **Looting (5%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Soap       | 10% |
| Ash/Sand   | 12% |
| Water only | 43% |
| Don't wash | 36% |

Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 71%**  
**Unprotected 29%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 0%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (71%)**

44% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

0% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

100% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **from an NGO**

100% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Pariang County Profile

Unity State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

In April, border crossing points remained officially closed, restricting arrivals from Sudan. However, porous border conditions and the presence of various informal crossing points have so far limited the ability to monitor cross-border population movements effectively and conduct health checks. Despite movement restrictions, traders coming from Sudan continued to enter Pariang and supply local markets, but the markets are likely to experience rapid price fluctuations due to cross border restrictions, which will likely impact communities' access to food in the coming months. Continued cross-border commercial traffic and informal population crossings are likely to increase the risks of spreading COVID-19 through this part of Unity State.



## COVID-19

71% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

78% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Washing hands more regularly (954%)**
2. **Avoiding hand shakes (88%)**
3. **Avoiding large crowds (66%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Friends and family (38%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Hospital (100%)**

84% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (40%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Friend/Family**

## Markets

58% of key informants reported that it took most people **2 - 3 hours** to reach their preferred market

76% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

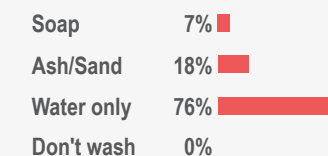
Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (42%)** Men: **No protection concerns reported**

Girls: **Early marriage (2%)** Boys: **No protection concerns reported**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (100%)**

24% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

9% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

100% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

7% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

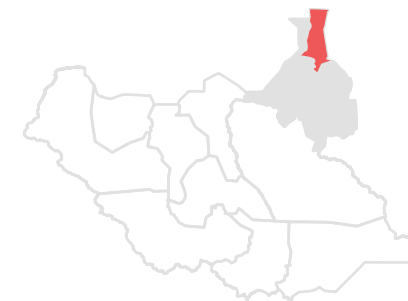
100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>

# Renk County Profile

Upper Nile State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Renk County, on the border with Sudan, relies on trade routes from the north to supply local markets. Perhaps due to stricter border closures during the COVID-19 pandemic, trade has slowed and prices in Renk markets have increased in March and April, limiting purchasing power in this county. Combined with low access to improved water sources, low reported use of soap for handwashing, and low access to health facilities, the county is at risk of the spread of COVID-19. Furthermore, the reported high food prices may negatively impact malnutrition rates, which continue to be high.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding hand shakes (96%)**
2. **Washing hands more regularly (85%)**
3. **Avoiding large crowds (73%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Friends and family (31%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (62%)**

35% of key informants reported a distance of **Under 30 minutes** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (92%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Classical Arabic/Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Friend/Family**

## Markets

65% of key informants reported that it took most people **under 30 minutes** to reach their preferred market

74% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (31%)**

Men: **Domestic violence/ Harassment due to movement/ gathering restrictions or curfew (15%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (27%)**

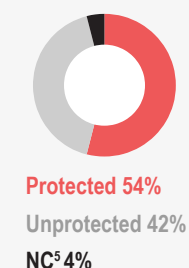
Boys: **Harassment due to movement/ gathering restrictions or curfew (42%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Well and Donkey**

0% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

50% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

69% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

15% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>

# Rubkona County Profile

Unity State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Rubkona County has reported two confirmed COVID-19 cases. The high population density of the Bentiu Protection of Civilians (PoC) site, coupled with the continued flow of traders coming from Sudan and travelers arriving from Juba make Rubkona a high risk county for the expansion of the virus. Inadequate access to hygiene and sanitation facilities limit the implementation and effectiveness of preventative measures. Persisting criminality and localised forms of conflict pose additional challenges for launching health interventions and community awareness campaigns.



## COVID-19

93% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

57% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Washing hands more regularly (61%)**
2. **Avoiding hand shakes (50%)**
3. **Avoiding large crowds (46%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Any person from the community (43%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **NGO Mobile Team (80%)**

47% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (50%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Nuer**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Local Authority**

## Markets

24% of key informants reported that it took most people **4 hours - half a day** to reach their preferred market

100% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (43%)** Men: **Looting (33%)**

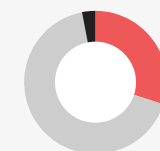
Girls: **Domestic violence (23%)** Boys: **Domestic violence (17%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Soap       | 33% |
| Ash/Sand   | 23% |
| Water only | 27% |
| Don't wash | 10% |

Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 30%**  
**Unprotected 67%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 3%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **River (43%)**

50% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

20% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

90% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **from an NGO**

97% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



# Twic County Profile

Warrap State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Twic County is the gateway to major trade and migration routes with Sudan. Low food stocks from high rainfall in 2019 resulted in low yields, impacting adequate access to food into the first quarter of 2020. Furthermore, ongoing reported intercommunal violence continued to contribute to reported protection concerns and impacted access to livelihoods and water sources. This also resulted in population movement, leaving recently displaced populations in need of key shelter materials and non-food items, which may reduce the effectiveness of COVID-19 contingency measures for large sections of the community.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

90% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding large crowds (98%)**
2. **Washing hands more regularly (95%)**
3. **Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (95%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community health team (31%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (67%)**

45% of key informants reported a distance of **1 hour - half a day** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Other (48%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Dinka**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Friend/Family**

## Markets

26% of key informants reported that it took most people **1 - 2 hours** to reach their preferred market

95% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Killing or injury from another tribe (29%)**

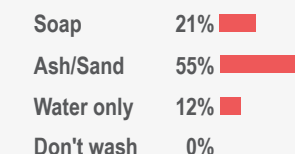
Men: **Killing or injury from another tribe (64%)**

Girls: **Sexual violence (33%)**

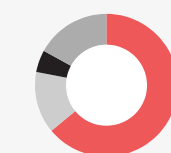
Boys: **Killing or injury from another tribe (55%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 64%**  
**Unprotected 14%**  
**NC 5%** **Other 17%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (64%)**

7% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

100% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

67% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **bought**

62% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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# Wau County Profile

Western Bahr el Ghazal State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

Limited access to sufficient water points in and around Wau Town has resulted in congestion around water points, and insufficient water for household consumption and COVID contingency measures. Shocks, such as reduced market access and high prices due to lockdown measures, could exacerbate existing food insecurity. Wau County has a high reported presence of IDPs, with many individuals coming to Wau Town to access the market and humanitarian services. This increases the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission. Furthermore, access to resources in Wau Town was strained as a result of an increased influx of IDPs from Jur River and the simultaneous closure of collective sites in March.



## COVID-19

95% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

83% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding large crowds (77%)**
2. **Washing hands more regularly (75%)**
3. **Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (66%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Community health team (23%)**



## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Primary Health Center (46%)**

39% of key informants reported a distance of **30 minutes - 1 hour** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (64%)**



## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Classical Arabic**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Local Authority**



## Markets

32% of key informants reported that it took most people **30 minutes - 1 hour** to reach their preferred market

85% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market



## Protection

Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (18%)** Men: **Family separation (23%)**

Girls: **Early marriage (20%)** Boys: **Family separation (27%)**



## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Soap       | 57% |
| Ash/Sand   | 21% |
| Water only | 16% |
| Don't wash | 0%  |

Main water source<sup>4</sup>



**Protected 75%**  
**Unprotected 21%**  
**NC<sup>5</sup> 4%**

Most commonly reported watersource: **Donkey Cart (45%)**

13% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source



## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

48% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

55% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **bought**

76% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>



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For more information on this factsheet please contact:  
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# Yei County Profile

Central Equatoria State, South Sudan - April 2020

## County Overview

As the revitalised 2019 peace agreement halted conflict across most of the county at the start of 2020, the reported IDP presence increased, with many arriving from neighbouring counties to seek refuge from insecurity and to access humanitarian aid, putting pressure on the availability of food and services. Bordering with Uganda, Yei is a major trading hub with a continued flow of traders travelling between the two countries. Continued flows of IDPs and trading routes increases the risk of COVID-19 transmission.



## COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of COVID-19

100% of key informants reported having heard of ways to protect themselves from COVID-19

Top 3 most commonly reported changes in behaviour in response to COVID-19 in the assessed settlements<sup>2</sup>

1. **Avoiding hand shakes (100%)**
2. **Washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds (100%)**
3. **Washing hands more regularly (100%)**

Preferred information source for COVID-19 related information: **Humanitarian worker (63%)**

## Health

Most commonly reported health care facility within walking distance: **Hospital (81%)**

56% of key informants reported a distance of **30 minutes - 1 hour** to access health services

Most commonly reported health issue: **Malaria (56%)**

## Communications<sup>3</sup>

Preferred spoken language:

**Juba Arabic**

Preferred information source for non COVID-19 related information:

**Community Mobilisers**

## Markets

43% of key informants reported that it took most people **under 30 minutes** to reach their preferred market

93% of key informants reported that **items being too expensive** was the most commonly reported barrier to accessing their preferred market

## Protection

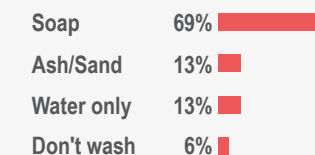
Most commonly reported protection concern:

Women: **Domestic violence (44%)** Men: **Family separation (38%)**

Girls: **Domestic violence (31%)** Boys: **Harassment due to movement or social gathering restrictions or curfew (38%)**

## WASH

Reported primary means of washing hands



Main water source<sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported watersource: **Borehole (89%)**

0% of key informants reported a distance of 1 hour or more to access their preferred water source

## FSL (IPC Phase 3 for projection 1)<sup>6</sup>

63% of key informants reported inadequate access to food

100% of key informants reported that their main source of food was **cultivated**

0% of key informants reported having received food assistance in the first quarter of 2020

100% of key informants reported using at least one food consumption coping strategy<sup>7</sup>

# Area of Knowledge Methodology

South Sudan - April 2020

## Methodology

To provide an indicative overview of the situation in hard-to-reach areas across South Sudan, REACH uses primary data from key informants who have recently arrived from, recently visited, or receive regular information from a settlement or “Area of Knowledge” (AoK); they provide information at the community level. Information for this report was collected from the protection of civilians (PoC) site, collective centres, markets, towns, and through phone calls in April 2020.

In-depth interviews on humanitarian needs are conducted on a monthly basis using a structured survey tool. After data collection is completed, all data is aggregated at settlement level, and settlements are assigned the modal or most credible response. When no consensus (NC) was found for a settlement, that settlement is not included in reporting.

Only counties with interview coverage of at least 5% of all settlements in a given month were included in analysis. Due to access and operational constraints, the specific settlements assessed within each county each month vary.

For the purpose of this factsheet, all percentages provided are indicative of the proportion of assessed settlements in the county confirming the answer to that indicator. Throughout this factsheet, 'most commonly reported' indicates the option that was selected by the highest proportion of assessed settlements in March.

More details of the methodology can be found in the [AoK ToRs](#).

## About REACH Initiative

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

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