

Gogrial West, Twic and Mayom Counties Food Security and Livelihoods Profile

South Sudan, October 2018

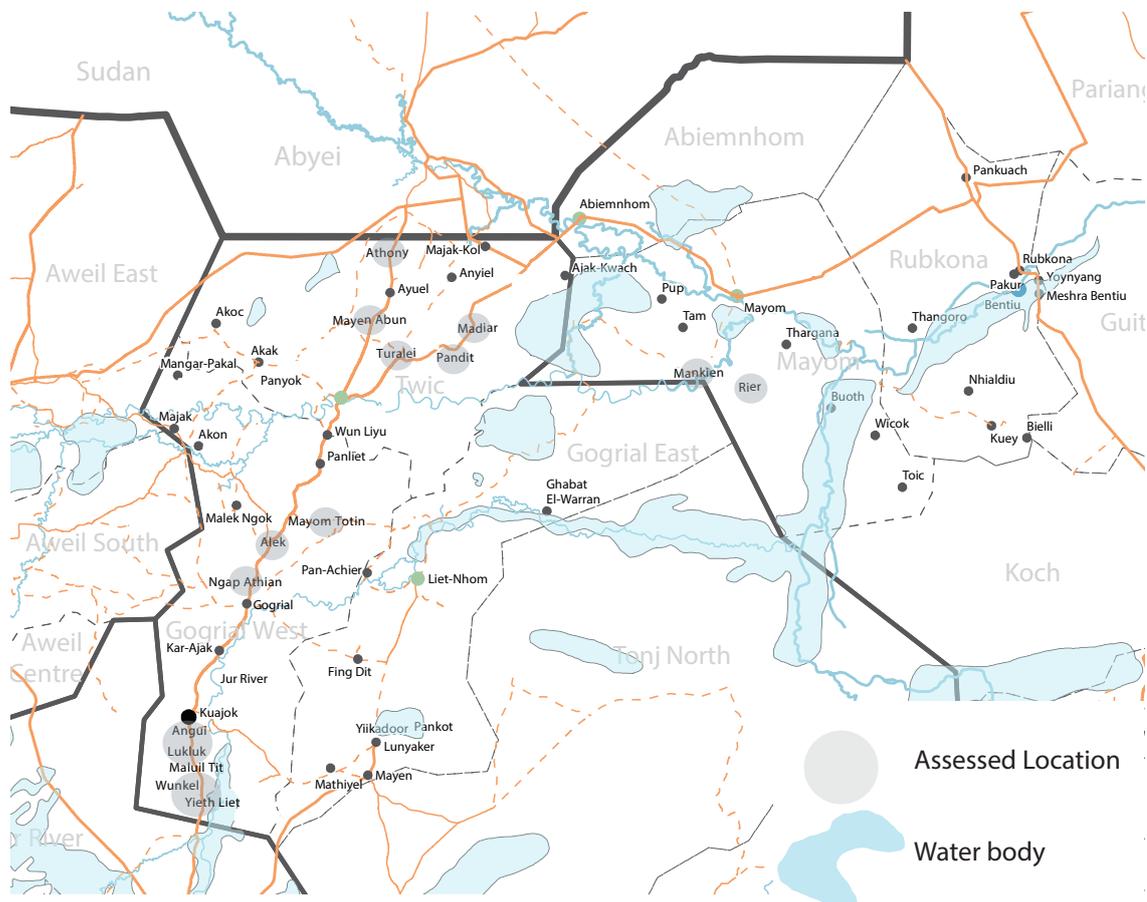
Introduction

During the September 2018 Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) for South Sudan food security direct outcome indicators for Gogrial West and Twic counties in Warrap state and Mayom county in Unity state were indicative of severe food consumption gaps.¹ Preliminary data from the World Food Programmes' (WFP) food security and nutrition monitoring system (FSNMS) reported HHs with Household Hunger Score of 5-6, which can be indicative of populations in IPC phase 4 or 5.² Additionally, SMART surveys that were conducted in each county between May and August reported the GAM prevalence in the three counties was above the World Health Organization (WHO) thresholds for emergency. However, the contributing factors were not clearly highlighted and further ground truthing was suggested. The concerns were raised at the Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) in the first week of October and approved for a follow-up assessment. REACH conducted two simultaneous assessments from October 11th through 20th. One team deployed through Gogrial West and Twic counties in Warrap state, conducting focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant (KI) interviews with internally displaced people (IDPs) and host community (HC) members. Another team conducted FGDs and KIIs in Mayom county. In total, the teams conducted 18 FGDs, totalling over 50 participants, with both HC and IDPs, 12 KIIs with key implementing partners and government officials, and direct observation in 15 separate locations.

Key Findings

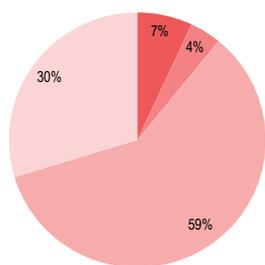
- Heightened insecurity in June 2017 resulted in mass displacement from the eastern bank of Jur river in Gogrial West county, Warrap state, to multiple locations along the Wau – Turelei road, with most IDPs relying on relatives and social networks to access food. Compounding factors, including poor harvest yields, limited access to cattle, and over-extraction of local resources, have severely reduced availability and access to food. **As a result, FGD participants in Gogrial West and Twic counties anticipated that the level of food insecurity during the upcoming lean season will be comparable to previous years when the communities experienced extreme hunger, such as 1998.**
- Atypical flooding in Twic county, Warrap state, has displaced people from the low-lying areas, western and south Twic county, to the centre of the county. FGD participants and KIIs reported the flooding as being the worst in recent years, destroying shelters, disrupting harvest, and cutting off whole areas from services. **Livestock owners have moved cattle to distant locations, reducing access to milk. In addition, high market prices are preventing HHs from accessing food, increasing the reliance on wild foods.** FGD participants stressed depleting resources, including wild foods, and emphasised an early start of the lean season is likely in 2019.
- In Mayom county, Unity state, the food security situation was better than expected, however, still needs to be closely monitored. FGD participants noted that increased stability is linked to a slight

Map 1: Assessed locations, October 2018



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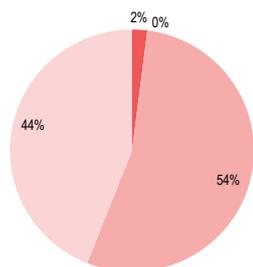
Figure 1: Household hunger score (August 2018) and GAM prevalence, Gogrial West county, Warrap state³



■ Extreme - Very Severe
■ Severe
■ Moderate
■ Slight - None

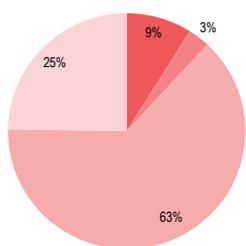
Season	Date	GAM Prevalence	SAM Prevalence
Pre-Harvest	May 2016	32.5% (28.3% - 36.9%, 95% C.I.)	8.5% (6.3% - 11.3%, 95% C.I.)
Pre-Harvest	June 2017	22.8% (18.8% - 27.4%, 95% C.I.)	2.8% (1.4% - 5.8%, 95% C.I.)
Pre-Harvest	June 2018	26.6% (21.8% - 31.0%, 95% C.I.)	6.9% (4.6% - 10.3%, 95% C.I.)

Figure 2: Household hunger score (August 2018) and GAM prevalence Twic county, Warrap state 2016 - 2018⁴



Season	Date	GAM Prevalence	SAM Prevalence
Pre-Harvest	May 2016	19.7 (16.2% - 23.8%, 95% C.I.)	3.4% (2.2% - 5.4%, 95% C.I.)
Pre-Harvest	August 2017	35.9% (31.7 - 40.4%, 95% C.I.)	11.4% (8.4% - 15.2%, 95% C.I.)
Pre-Harvest	NA	NA	NA

Figure 3: Household hunger score (August 2018) and GAM prevalence Mayom county, Unity state 2016- 2018⁵



Season	Date	GAM Prevalence	SAM Prevalence
Pre-Harvest	May 2016	28.5% (23.7 - 33.7%, 95% C.I.)	6.7% (4.2% - 10.6%, 95% C.I.)
Pre-Harvest	May 2017	21.1% (17.7% - 24.8%, 95% C.I.)	4.1% (2.9% - 5.7%, 95% C.I.)
Pre-Harvest	May 2018	18.3% (15.3% - 21.6%, 95% C.I.)	3.2% (2.1% - 4.9%, 95% C.I.)

improvement in food security and livelihoods. However, irregular rainfall patterns, particularly in Rier payam, have limited this year's harvest and KIs estimated that food stocks will only last two to three months. Participants emphasised access to drinking water and health clinics also continues to be a major concern.

- Overall, FGD participants and KIs reported a severely concerning food security and livelihoods situation developing in Gogrial West and Twic counties, Warrap state. **FGD participants in these counties stressed that the available coping strategies are less than in previous periods of extreme hunger and most HHs would have to engage in severe negative coping strategies, including distress migration to urban centres and abnormal wild food consumption.**
- Gogrial East county remains an area of high concern, due to being in the same livelihood zone as Gogrial West and likely to have experienced similar shocks, however, the area was not assessed due to impassable roads.⁶

Background

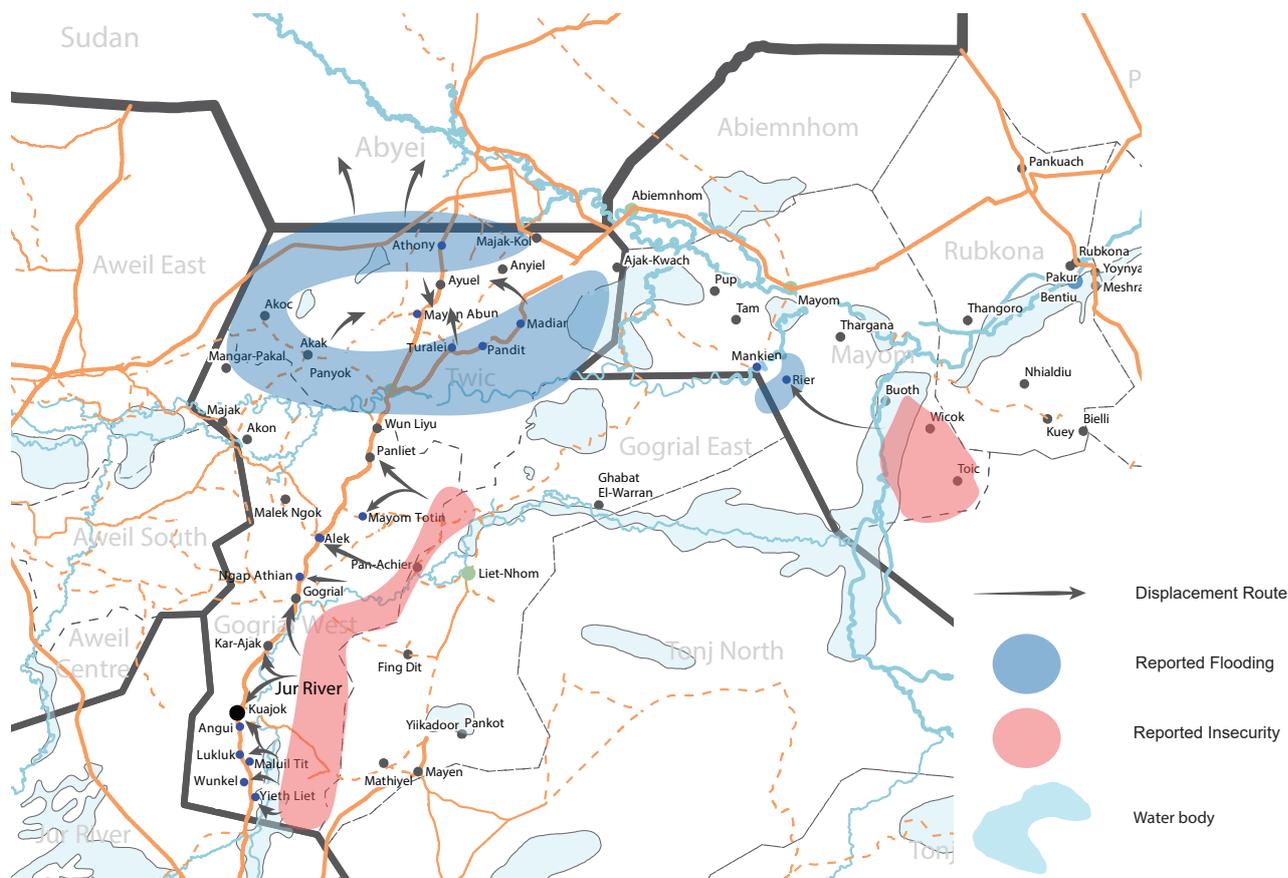
The three counties assessed, Gogrial West, Twic and Mayom, are composed of three different nonetheless similar livelihood zones. Gogrial East and West are part of the Greater Bahr el Ghazal Sorghum and Cattle zone, which is considered one of the most at risk livelihood zones for food insecurity due to high exposure

to hazards, such as decreasing local resources for consecutive years of both IDP and HC sharing land and water points, insecurity from cattle rustling, poor crop production and annual flooding.⁷ Sorghum is considered the staple crop and the majority of HHs are dependent on livestock rearing as the primary income source. KIs reported that HHs near the riverbanks have the most fertile land and a typical harvest can produce food stocks that last six-plus months.⁸ However, HHs located in less productive regions produce food stocks that last three to four months, increasing reliance on markets and alternative livelihoods, including casual labour, petty trade, collecting firewood and wild foods.

Mayom county, located in north-western Unity state, is considered to have two livelihood zones, the south eastern portion falls under the oil resources, maize and cattle zone, and northern part is considered the northern sorghum and livestock zone. The majority of HHs in Mayom county rely on subsistence farming combined with livestock rearing to meet consumption gaps, with some HHs engaging in fishing, trade of natural resources and collection of wild food as supplementary livelihoods. According to FGD participants, maize is the primary crop grown with small quantities of vegetables inter-cropped. HHs typically plant crops in May and harvest in September. According to KIs, fields are approximately one feddan and generally are low producing, with food stocks lasting three to four months. To supplement for poor crop production livestock are

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Map 2: Displacement patterns, October 2018



sold in major markets, such as Mayom Town and Amiet in Abyei.

Each of the assessed locations reportedly practised livestock rearing as a primary or secondary livelihood source, often relying heavily on milk and livestock sales. From mid-June until January most HHs keep their livestock near the homestead or nearby seasonal rivers for easy accessibility. When resources are depleted, around January, livestock keeps migrate with the cattle to various toiches, large grazing areas shared by multiple communities. Typically, the youth migrate with the herds, living in temporary shelters with access to minimal services.⁹ The vulnerable, including elderly and small children, are usually left behind at the settlements, relying on a combination of fish, goats, and wild foods to mitigate the seasonal consumption gaps. When the rains begin and available resources increase near the homestead, mid-May to June, the cattle will return to the HHs and be the primary supply of food, usually through the consumption of milk and blood mixed with wild foods, until the harvest is ready.

Shocks: insecurity, irregular rainfall, disrupted cattle migration patterns

According to FGD participants in Gogrial West and Twic counties in Warrap state and Mayom county in Unity state, multiple years of shocks, most prominently insecurity, erratic rainfall patterns, and livestock disease, have led to a disruption of traditional livelihoods. Participants reported that insecurity was considered one of the most disruptive shocks, particularly in Gogrial West county.

Insecurity

Insecurity between Gogrial West and East counties has been ongoing for roughly a decade, however, according to FGD participants, a spike in insecurity in June 2017 led to massive displacement of communities and destruction of shelters, crops and agricultural inputs.¹⁰ FGD participants in Gogrial West reportedly fled from the eastern bank Jur river to Ngap Athian, Mayom Totin and Alek villages in Alek South payam, and Angui and Lukluk villages in Kuac payams along with other locations on the western bank. Most of the HHs located along the river Jur were displaced west towards Alek, Gogrial and Kuajok towns and nearby settlements (Map 2). FGD participants reported that host communities are sharing resources with the IDPs, however this is accelerating the depletion of available stocks leaving both IDPs and host communities with limited available resources. Participants stated that they do not intend to return to their original settlements for fear that insecurity could occur again during the dry season.

FGD participants in Mayom county did not report being displaced by conflict but have experienced sporadic influxes of IDPs from the southern part of the county, near Koch county. Additionally, participants noted restricted movement to multiple areas, mainly east towards Rubkona county, west towards Gogrial East county and south towards Koch county. FGD participants and KIs from each county reported that the situation this year is relatively stable compared to previous years.

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Erratic rainfall patterns

In addition to insecurity, irregular rainfall patterns have reportedly affected HHs through both a reduction in crop yields and displacement. In all three counties, FGD participants and KIs reported dry spells during the peak growing period, June and July, and flooding during the harvest season, resulting in a limited harvest compared to previous years. Direct observation suggests that Gogrial West and Twic counties were the most affected by the erratic rainfall patterns. In Mayom county, reportedly Riar boma was the most affected by rainfall patterns, with FGD participants noting that reoccurring floods reduced this year's harvest.

In Twic, a low-lying flood plain with annual floods, FGD participants reported atypical flooding which led to the displacement of HHs, reduced the number and size of grazing areas and destroyed crops. Many of the FGD participants emphasised that this is the worst flooding in recent memory. According to rainfall data there were multiple dekads from July through September that rainfall exceeded 20% of the long-term mean (LTM) and in Twic county reaching 40% above the LTM.¹¹ FGD participants from the low-lying areas reportedly fled their homes to seek shelter in the highland settlements located in the centre of the county (Map 2). In the past, HHs in the lowlands could utilise social networks in the highlands for resources and shelter while waiting for the floods to recede; however, this year nearly all the payams were affected, leaving minimal options for HHs. Also, the flooding

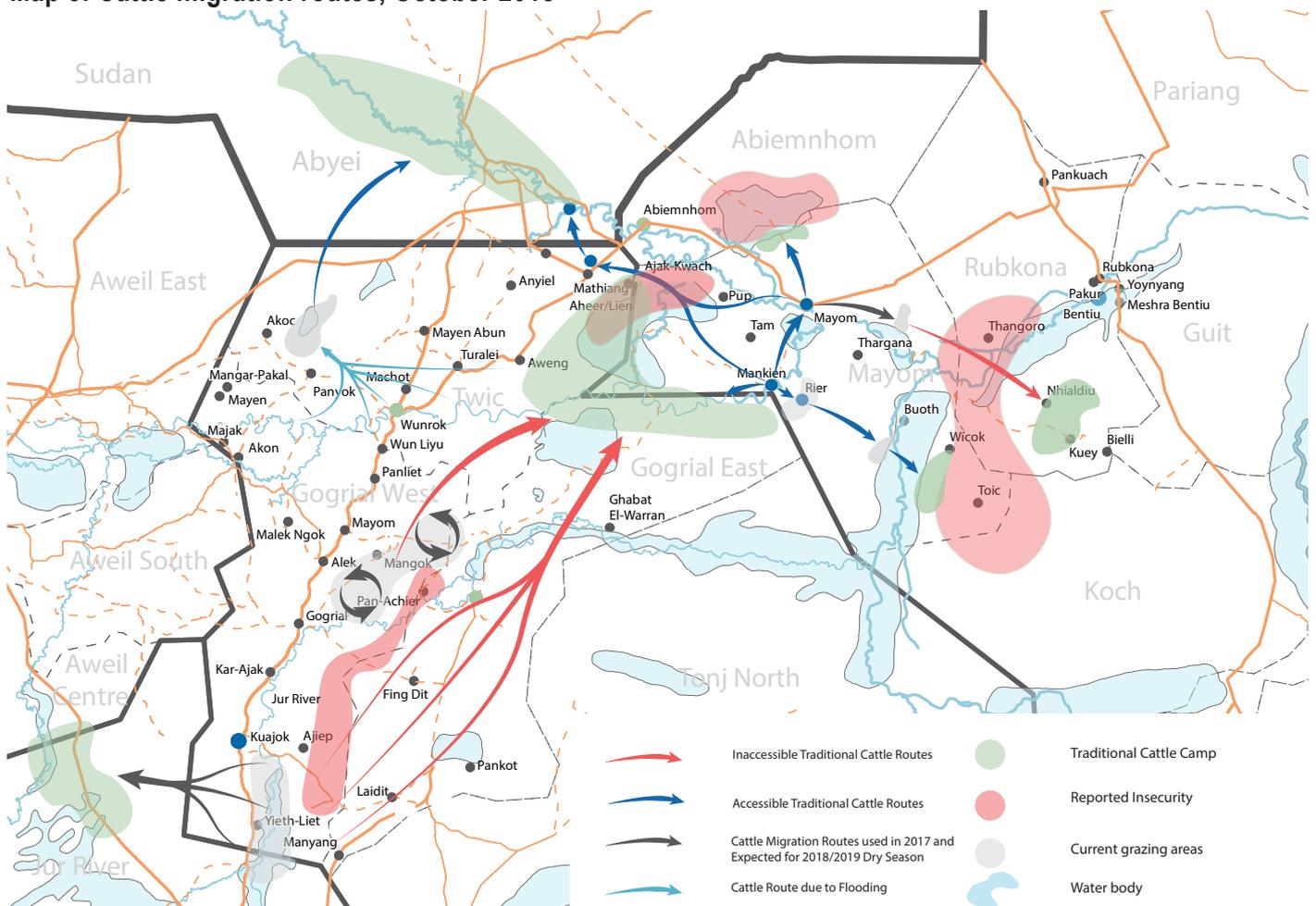
prevented livestock from accessing traditional dry season grazing areas, forcing HHs to bring cattle to Bang Bang in western Twic county. Finally, direct observation suggests multiple roads were impassable due to flooding, likely restricting trade and access to services for HHs.

Changing livestock migration patterns and livestock disease outbreaks

The combination of insecurity and erratic rainfall has led to two additional shocks, changing migration routes and increased cases of livestock disease. In Gogrial West, HHs used to migrate cattle to toich Apuk and Akuar in Gogrial East along the border with Mayom. However, after the escalation of the conflict in 2016-2017, cattle owners could no longer access the toiches. FGD participants reported that 2017 was the first year cattle keepers used new migration routes. Herds from southern Gogrial West migrated further west towards Western Bahr el Ghazal to toich Alel. FGD participants emphasised that the combination of multiple livestock herds from various locations within a new grazing area has led to an atypical spread of livestock diseases. According to FAO's September livestock bulletin, Gogrial West and East have the most cases of confirmed and unique disease outbreaks in the country, including Anthrax, Black Quarter, Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, and Pests des Petit Ruminants.¹²

According to FGD participants, cattle keepers in Ngap Athian and Alek settlements north of Gogrial town are following a

Map 3: Cattle migration routes, October 2018



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circular migration pattern, continuously searching for resources. According to participants, the overcrowding of cattle in a limited geographic area is exponentially decreasing the available resources, however FGD participants emphasise that there are no other grazing locations that are secure and within distance. Similar to settlements in southern Gogrial West county, FGD participants in northern Gogrial West county attributed the spread of livestock disease to the changing migration patterns.

In Twic county, FGD participants emphasised that the atypical flooding has forced livestock herders to move cattle earlier than usual to further away locations. During a typical year, cattle keepers rotate their cattle between multiple cattle camps that are near the settlements, such as toich Amiel, until migrating north to toich Kiir. However, during the flooding, the cattle were moved to Bang Bang cattle camp in western Twic (Map 2) which is inaccessible to most HHs. During the dry season, the cattle will still migrate to toich Kiir in Abyei; however, FGD participants emphasised that because of the abnormally early migration of the herds away from the settlements HHs, particularly children, have not been able to access milk. Similarly to Gogrial West, it is likely that combining large herds into a single area connected with large bodies of stagnant water will lead to an amplified spread of livestock disease.

In Mayom county, FGD participants mentioned that insecurity near grazing areas was a severe concern particularly on the Mayom county side of toich Apuk and near Ajak-Kwach in Twic county. However, due to the lack of other grazing lands, cattle keepers were still willing to travel to these areas. While there were reports of cattle disease, it was not reported as atypical and did not directly affect access to milk and cattle sales.

Food availability and access: current and future perceptions

According to FGD participants, there were multiple compounding shocks that have subsequently led to a severe decrease in food

availability and access, including insecurity, erratic rainfall patterns, changing livestock migration routes and disease outbreaks.

Early depletion of food stocks

In the three counties assessed, FGD participants reported a poor harvest due to limited land cultivation and inconsistent rainfall patterns, which have left HHs in assessed areas reportedly with below average food stocks for the upcoming dry season. In Gogrial West county, HC participants noted that the influx of IDPs and their prolonged presence has severely exacerbated the depletion of food stocks and local resources. Additionally, some IDP HHs in the area reportedly are being turned away by HC due to the added burden.

In Twic county, FGD participants and KIs reported that atypical flooding had destroyed nearly all the crops in the low-lying areas, leaving minimal harvest and food availability in the county. Direct observation suggests that the sorghum fields that did remain were stunted and had poor yields, adding additional pressure and reliance on HC resources and markets.¹³

In the assessed locations in Mayom county, reports of crop yields were mixed. FGD participants in Riar boma reported that reoccurring floods severely reduced the 2018 harvest and HHs expect food stocks to last only one to two months. While HHs in Mankien boma, 30km north of Riar boma, reported that food stocks are likely to continue until January, reducing dependency on cattle and markets for food in the present.

Reduced access to cattle

In both Gogrial West and Twic counties insecurity, and atypical flooding, respectively, have severely decreased HH access to livestock products, including milk. FGD participants emphasised that due to the outbreak of disease and the far distance that the livestock is from the settlement children are unable to consume dairy, a staple food source for agropastoral communities. Additionally, increased mortality or excess sales of livestock limits

Figure 4: Gogrial West county time-line

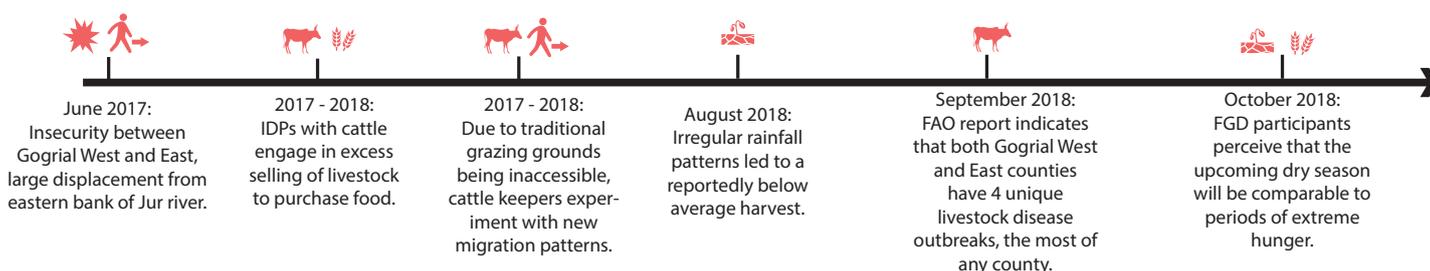
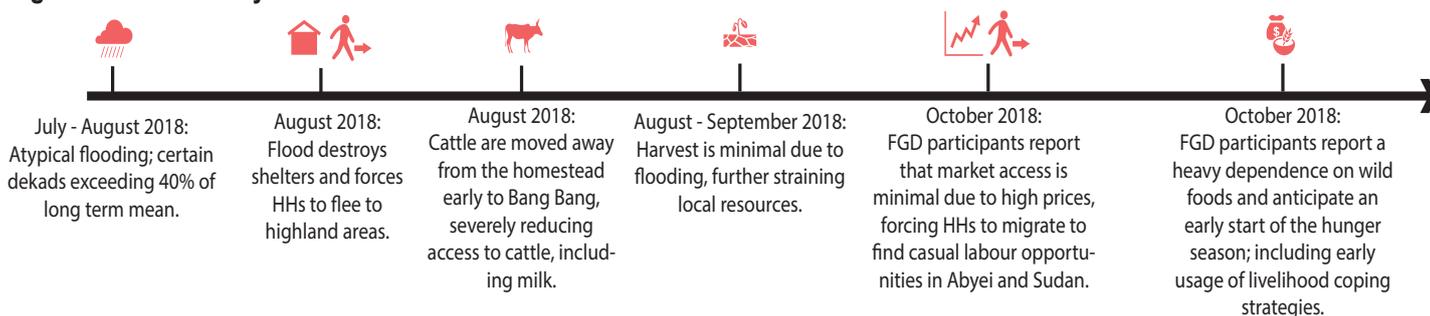


Figure 5: Twic county time-line



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the HHs' ability to utilise livestock to mitigate food consumption shortages during the upcoming dry season. FGD participants in Gogrial West reported that many HHs no longer have access to cattle due to the 2017 conflict or through excess selling of livestock to purchase food.

FGD participants in Mayom county were less concerned with access to cattle. Direct observation indicated livestock near the homestead. However, FGD participants in Mankien noted that due to increased cattle theft in the community, some cattle owners are migrating cattle to grazing camps earlier than usual for protection. FGD participants in Mayom did mention that HHs typically leave behind goats for the vulnerable populations left behind to sell or slaughter for food.

Limited capital to purchase goods at local markets

In all the counties assessed, both primary and secondary markets were accessible by the communities. Amiet and Anet markets in Abyei were reported by FGD participants to be the primary markets used for selling cattle, accessing casual labour opportunities, and purchasing large quantities of food.¹⁴ Smaller secondary markets were also available in each county, including Mayom market in Mayom county, Turelei and Wunrok markets in Twic county, and Kuajok and Wunliet markets in Gogrial West county, along with small local markets. Markets were reportedly well stocked with commodities. However, FGD participants, particularly those in Twic county, reported that they were unable to afford many of the commodities. Typically, HHs trade livestock or casual labour for food, however FGD participants stated that many HHs have already sold all available livestock, or refuse to sell the remaining herd. Also, casual labour opportunities are difficult to come by in secondary markets. FGDs in all three counties reported that in many cases HHs would collect and trade natural resources for food; however, the high number HHs already engaging in this activity has oversupplied the market with charcoal and thatching grass, thus limiting the utility of the strategy.

Heavy reliance on wild foods

According to FGD participants in Gogrial West and Twic county, the minimal food availability and reduced access to food, through a reduction in milk access and market purchases, has led to an early dependency on wild foods. While the consumption of wild foods can be considered a regular part of South Sudanese diet, over-reliance and consumption of certain wild foods can be a reliable proxy for the severity of food insecurity in an area.¹⁵ Additionally, different locations have varying perception of the severity associated with the consumption of certain wild foods. For example, consuming water lilies may be considered normal in one part of the country, but considered a taboo in another location. Currently, the majority of wild foods consumed in Gogrial West and Twic counties, such as Thou, Akor and Anet fruit, are considered normal. However, FGD participants stressed that the regular wild foods would be depleted earlier than usual, due to early consumption patterns. Consequently, FGD participants emphasised that reliance on emergency wild foods, such as Laloup leaf and water lilies, will begin earlier and last longer than other historical periods of extreme hunger.

Additionally, with the heavier reliance on wild foods, FGD participants reported monitoring their intake of wild foods. For example, one participant described that for many of the wild foods it is necessary to consume just one wild food per day, then wait a day to see the symptoms. If they become sick, then they will not eat that day or the following day before eating wild food again. If they do not become sick, then consumption will continue until they do get sick, at which they will stop for a few days before resuming.

Migrating to access food

Aside from excess livestock sales and an over-reliance of wild foods, FGD participants from all three of the assessed counties also mentioned that distress migration was a potential modality for obtaining food. FGD participants from Twic and Mayom counties reported Abyei or Sudan as the primary location for accessing labour opportunities or additional networks for accessing food. FGD participants in Gogrial West county reported Wau town, Abyei, and Sudan as potential migration locations. The perceived severity and anticipation of utilising migration in the upcoming season vary across counties. FGD participants from Mayom county reported that HH migration for income generation activities and food is likely, but will only involve select HH members.

Participants from Twic county anticipated that migration for labour and food to Abyei, particularly Anet and Amiet towns, is probable for most of the HHs affected by the floods, but the number and composition of HHs (whole or partial) who migrate will vary. Finally, participants from Gogrial West anticipated distress migration, entire HHs migrating to access food when stocks have depleted early next year, will be likely for many of the HHs, both IDP and HC, due to the severe lack of available resources and labour opportunities in their current location. Participants from assessed areas in Gogrial West noted that HHs would likely migrate to an associated number of places including Wau town, Abyei, Sudan, and peri-urban locations in Gogrial West county.

The anticipation of an extreme hunger season: Twic and Gogrial West counties

FGD participants, especially participants from Twic and Gogrial West counties, emphasised that the severe reduction in food availability through insecurity, flooding and exacerbated depletion of current food stocks combined with minimal access to food via limited access to livestock and minimal casual labour opportunities were a severe concern for the upcoming dry season. FGD participants in both Twic and Gogrial West counties provided names and descriptions of previous periods of extreme hunger (Table 1). Multiple focus groups professed that the level of food insecurity could be similar to the period of extreme hunger that covered Greater Bahr el Ghazal in 1998, called "Markurup" in local language.

Additionally, in anticipation of the perceived extreme levels of hunger by some FGD participants, there have been various names provided by different groups for the upcoming hunger season. An FGD in Kuac payam named the upcoming season "Mapatpat" which translates to "covers everything" because the participants felt that the hunger would affect many places outside their area. Another FGD group in Alek South payam had named the upcoming period "Chok Amiel", which means "hunger from the

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Table 1: FGD perceptions and names of periods of extreme hunger, October 2018

Year	Location Reporting	Local Name	Comments
1988	Lukluk, Gogrial West Mayom Totin, Gogrial West	Korion	Locally know as "Grasshopper - the famine that killed thousands"
1998	Lukluk, Gogrial West Angui, Gogrial West Alek, Gogrial West Mayom Totin, Gogrial West Madiar, Twic Pandit, Twic	Markurup	The Greater Bahr el Ghazal famine; starting in November 1998
2006	Alek, Gogrial West	Chok Ciek	Translate to "short hunger"; resulting from insecurity in the area
2008	Madiar, Twic	Chok Abor	Translates to "flood hunger"
2017	Lukluk, Gogrial West Angui, Gogrial West Alek, Gogrial West Mayom Totin, Gogrial West	Tong Apuk/Aguok Chok Apuk Chok Tong Apuk	Hunger associated with the fighting between Apuk and Aguok
2019 (Outlook)	Angui, Gogrial West	Mapatpat	Translates to "covers everything"
2019 (Outlook)	Mayom Totin, Gogrial West	Chok Yak	Translates to "Hunger caused by drought"
2019 (Outlook)	Alek South, Gogrial West	Chok Amiel	Translates to "Hunger from the year when crops did not yield"

year when crops did not yield." Participants emphasised that it is uncommon for a period of severe or extreme hunger be named in anticipation.

Access to services

Access to services varied across each of the assessed counties. In Mayom county, there are several humanitarian actors in Mankien boma, and in June 2018 general food distributions (GFDs) increased the availability of food in the area.¹⁶ Much of Twic county is seasonally cut off from services due to poor road infrastructure and flooding; as a result, these HHs have limited access to services until the dry season. In Gogrial West county, insecurity was the major issue affecting access to services. Participants in

Gogrial West county mentioned that the general lack of services in the areas affected by insecurity dissuades HHs from returning.

Health clinics in each county reportedly had limited capacity. FGD participants emphasized that they had to travel to major towns to access health facilities. In Twic county, FGD participants noted that health facilities are under supplied and inaccessible due to flooded roads. In Mayom town, Médecins Sans Frontières is operating a hospital, however, according to FGD participants, the availability and capacity of clinics in the rural areas are limited. As a result, HHs must travel long distances, usually on foot, to access functioning clinics or rely on traditional medicine. Participants in Gogrial West county reported that many of the primary health clinics in rural areas were destroyed in 2017.

In all three of the assessed counties, access to clean water is minimal. According to FGD participants in Mayom county, clean drinking water is one of the top concerns for the area, with many participants placing access to water above access to food. FGD participants from each county acknowledged that they retrieved most of their drinking water from the same water source used by livestock for drinking and grazing, increasing the likelihood of diseases that can reduce food utilisation and increase the prevalence of malnutrition. Direct observation of drinking water suggested most water, including water from boreholes, was brown in colour and foul in taste.

Conclusion

The September IPC, preliminary FSNMS data, and SMART surveys flagged the three counties, Gogrial West and Twic in Warrap state, and Mayom in Unity state, as areas of concern. However, a lack of clarity of the severity and magnitude of the situation led the ICWG to recommend a follow-up assessment to be carried out to understand better if there should be a response scale up, specifically in Gogrial West and East counties. While Gogrial East county was not directly assessed due to poor road conditions, it is likely that certain HHs who have experienced related shocks in the county are facing similar levels of food insecurity to the locations assessed.

FGD participants and KIs emphasised that insecurity directly impacted their food availability and their access to food. In Mayom county, FGDs participants reported that a slight increase in security improved the food security situation, although there are still concerns on the overall availability, access, stability and utilisation of food. In Gogrial West county a spike in insecurity led to significant displacement and severely impacted both IDP and HC food security. FGD participants emphasised that during 2017 and 2018 they have engaged in the excess selling of livestock to purchase food, over-reliance on wild foods, and migrating to peri-urban locations for casual labour opportunities. Additionally, changing cattle migration patterns, beginning in 2017 and expected to continue into 2019, are likely exposing cattle to disease. Further, the concentration of grazing areas and reported depletion of resources could increase tensions among pastoralists as livestock keepers dispute over the limited land available for cattle.

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In Twic county, insecurity was less of an issue, however, atypical flooding from July – August 2018 led to the destruction of shelters and a large displacement from the low-lying areas to the highlands, located in the centre of the county. FGD participants reported that the flooding destroyed most of the crops in low lying areas and HHs are rapidly depleting any food stocks they have remaining. Further, the high prices in markets are preventing people from purchasing food, despite market availability. Cattle have reportedly already been moved away from the homestead, decreasing access to livestock products.

Given the reportedly poor harvest, over-reliance on negative coping strategies, and limited resources, FGD participants in both Gogrial West and Twic counties stressed that it is likely there will be an early onset of the hunger season. Participants in multiple locations compared the anticipated hunger season with other periods of extreme hunger, particularly the extreme food insecurity and hunger that was widespread across the Greater Bahr el Ghazal region in 1998. FGD participants emphasised that they expect they will have to depend heavily on wild foods to cover consumption gaps and many HHs are expected to migrate to urban and peri-urban locations to find casual labour opportunities or other modalities for accessing food.

leading to a state of emergency declaration. See Inter-Agency Needs Assessment March 2017; <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-southsudan-unrest/south-sudans-president-declares-state-of-emergency-in-home-state-idUSKBN1A3117>

11 WFP Dataviz; http://dataviz.vam.wfp.org/seasonal_explorer/rainfall_vegetation/visualizations#

12 FAO Operational Update, September 2018.

13 The Gogrial and Twic assessment team reported directly seeing multiple fields with signs of poor harvest, including stunted growth and damage from flooding.

14 According to FAO Livestock Information System, the selling price of cattle in Ameit is the highest of the assessed markets, acting a strong pull factor for cattle keepers to travel from Warrap state and Mayom county, Unity state. FAO Livestock Update, July 2018.

15 Everything Except the Soil: Understanding wild food consumption during the lean season in South Sudan, Oxfam, 2017.

16 At the time of the assessment there were on-going food drops around Mankien town in preparation for an upcoming GFD.

Endnotes:

1 South Sudan IPC Analysis Key Messages, September 2018. (https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/South_Sudan_IPC_Analysis_Key_Messages_-_28_September_2018.pdf)

2 The FSNMS is a biannual, pre-harvest and post harvest, survey conducted by the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) across each county in South Sudan. The data is representative at the county level and is the largest contributor of quantitative data to the IPC. Round 22 of the FSNMS was carried out in August 2018 and included over 7,000 interviews.

3 Action Against Hunger Preliminary SMART results, June 2018.

4 World Vision International Preliminary SMART results, August 2017

5 CARE Preliminary SMART results, May 2018.

6 Flooding and poor road infrastructure prevented the team from assessing Gogrial East. However, being in the same livelihood zone and affected by the same shocks, suggest that it is likely HHs in Gogrial East county are facing a similar FSL situation as the HHs in Gogrial West county.

7 FEWSNET South Sudan Livelihood Zone Report, 2013

8 FEWSNET South Sudan Livelihood Zone Report, 2013

9 Youths typically include HH members above 12 years old and up to 45 years old.

10 Cattle raiding is common in Warrap state. However, conflict between the Agouk and Apuk communities escalated in 2017,