



South Sudan - Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

December 2020

Overview

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

Using the AoK methodology, REACH remotely monitors needs and access to services in the

Greater Upper Nile, Greater Equatoria and Greater Bahr el Ghazal regions. AoK data is collected monthly, through multi-sector interviews with the following typology of key informants (KIs):

- KIs who are newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month
- KIs who have been in contact with someone living in a hard-to-reach settlement, or have been visiting one in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.)
- KIs who are remaining in hard-to-reach settlements, contacted through phone

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

All percentages presented in this factsheet, unless otherwise specified, represent the proportion of settlements assessed with that specific response.

The findings presented in this factsheet are indicative of the broad food security and livelihood trends in

assessed settlements in December 2020, and are not statistically generalisable.

Assessment Coverage

2,560 Key informants interviewed

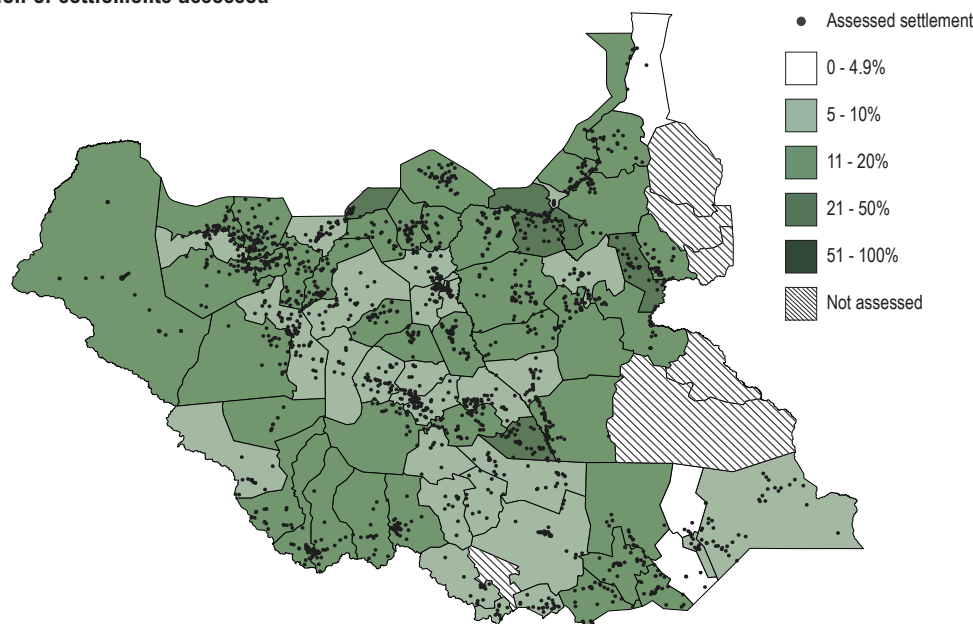
1,966 Settlements assessed

72 Counties assessed

69 Counties with 5% or more coverage¹

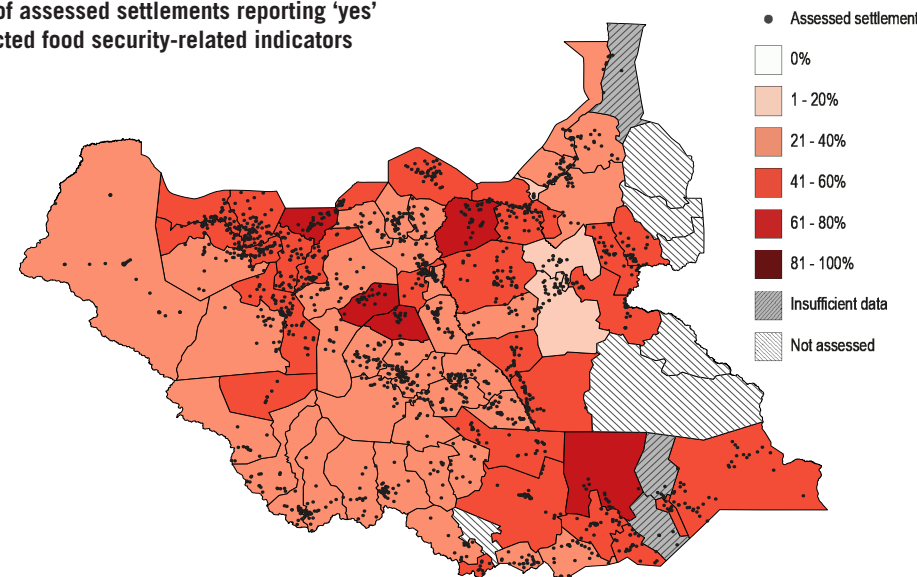
Assessment coverage

Proportion of settlements assessed



Food access composite indicator

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting 'yes' to five selected food security-related indicators



¹ Data is only represented for counties in which at least 5% of settlements have been assessed. The most recent [OCHA Common Operational Dataset \(COD\)](#) released in March 2019 has been used as the reference for settlement names and locations.

This food access composite indicator aims at measuring both levels of adequate access to food as well as severity of perceived hunger and application of severe consumption-based coping strategies. The composite was created by averaging the 'yes' responses of settlements reporting on the following indicators, with all indicators considered to have the same weight:

- Inadequate access to food
- Consuming one or no meals per day
- Skipping days to cope with a lack of food or money to buy food
- Perceived hunger from inadequate food access: severe or worst it can be
- Wild foods known to be making people sick consumed all the time



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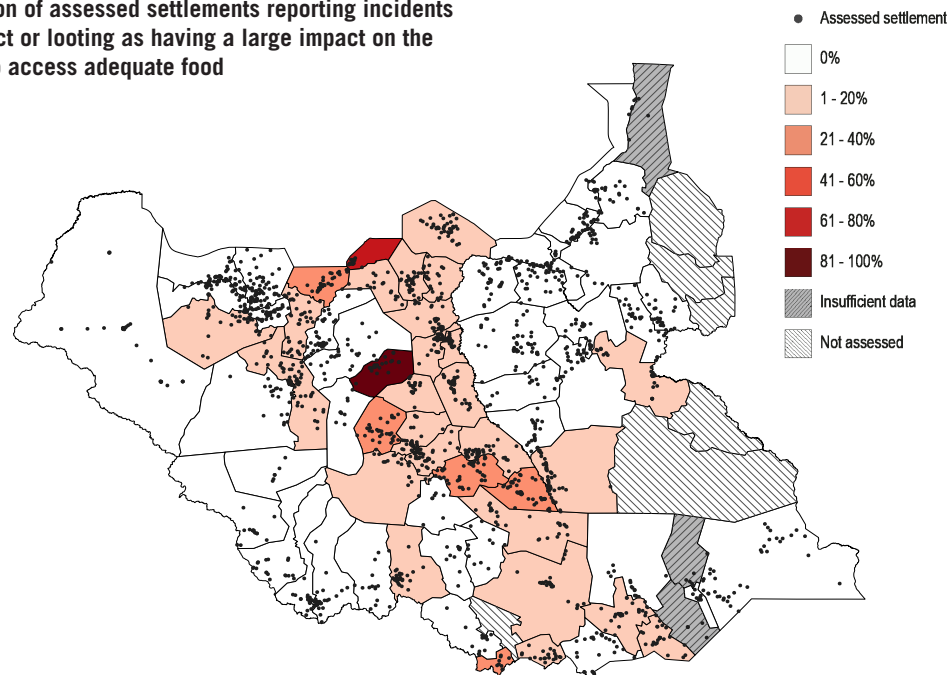
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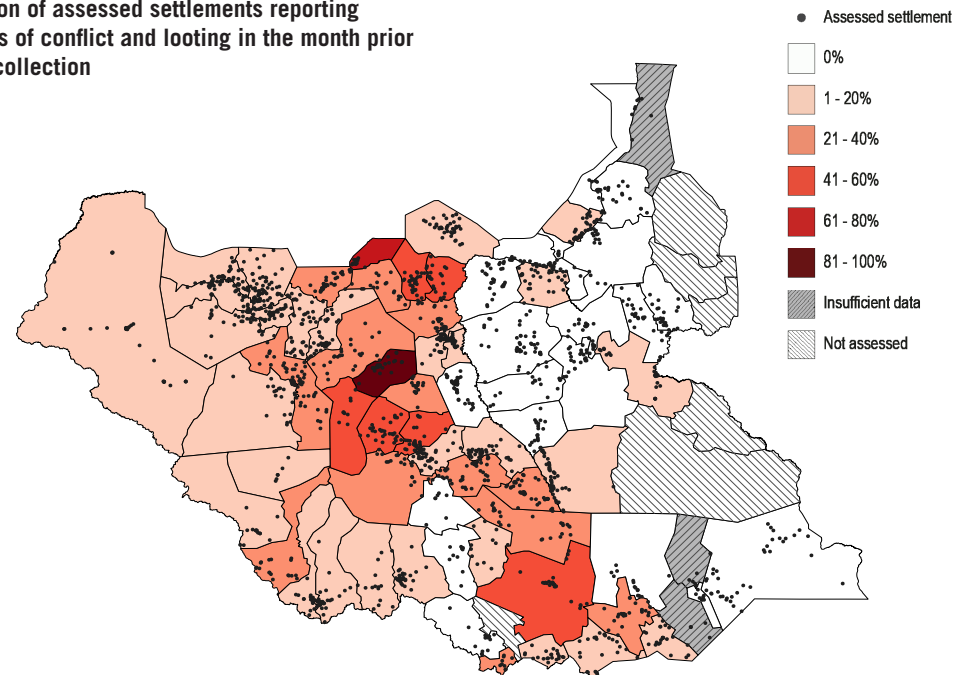
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Shocks

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting incidents of conflict or looting as having a large impact on the ability to access adequate food



Proportion of assessed settlements reporting incidents of conflict and looting in the month prior to data collection



Shocks: IDPs

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the presence of newly arrived IDPs as having a large impact on the ability to access adequate food

Tonj East	96%	<div></div>
Twic	60%	<div></div>
Abiemnhom	43%	<div></div>
Mayendit	33%	<div></div>
Gogrial East	31%	<div></div>

Shocks: health

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported perceived health problems as having a large impact on the ability to access adequate food

Tonj East	100%	<div></div>
Abiemnhom	100%	<div></div>
Pariang	95%	<div></div>
Twic	69%	<div></div>
Mayendit	57%	<div></div>

Shocks: conflict food access

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported incidents of conflict or looting as having a large impact on the ability to access adequate food

Tonj East	100%	<div></div>
Luakpiny/Nasir	77%	<div></div>
Ulang	66%	<div></div>
Abiemnhom	64%	<div></div>
Cueibet	61%	<div></div>

Shocks: hunger

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported hunger is severe or worst it can be

Mundri East	100%	<div></div>
Ezo	100%	<div></div>
Abiemnhom	100%	<div></div>
Nzara	100%	<div></div>
Yambio	100%	<div></div>

Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported hunger is severe or worst it can be include: Budi, Gogrial West, Ibba, Kapoeta East, Kapoeta North, Kapoeta South, Mundri West, Mvolo, Nagero, Nyirol, Pariang, Renk, Tonj East, and Uror.



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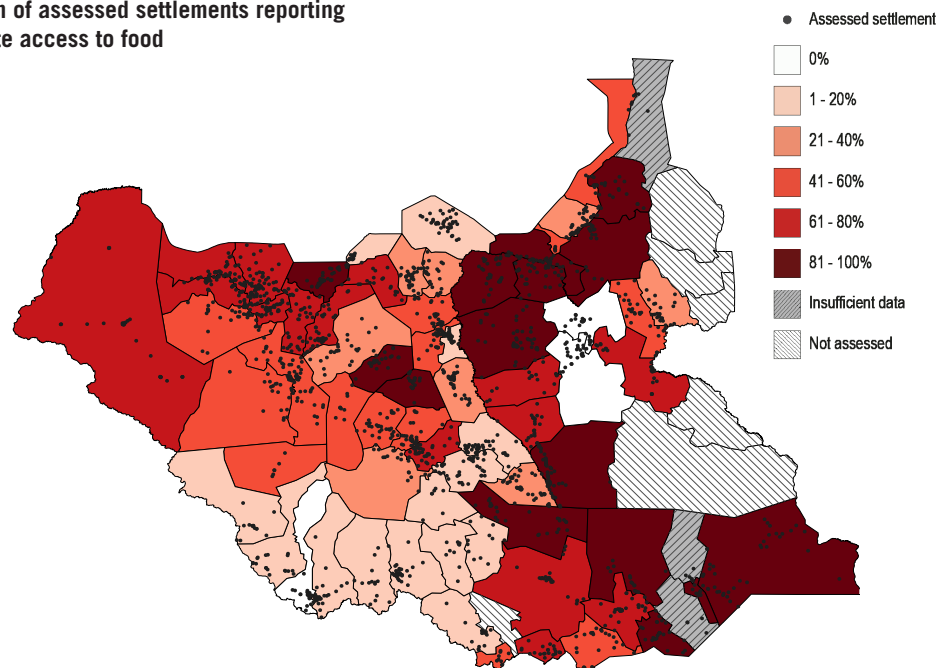
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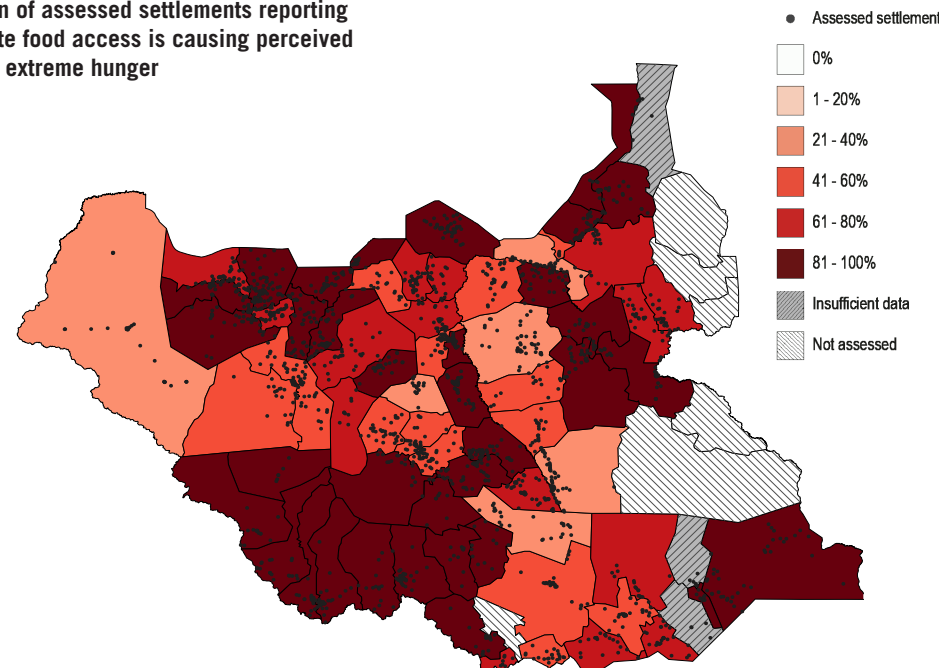
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Food access

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting inadequate access to food



Proportion of assessed settlements reporting inadequate food access is causing perceived severe or extreme hunger



Wild foods: frequency

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported consumption of wild foods happens all the time

Ulang	100%
Luakpiny/Nasir	100%
Terekeka	57%
Ikotos	45%
Torit	35%

Wild foods: nutrition

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported consumption of wild foods that are known to make people sick

Tonj East	100%
Fangak	64%
Twic	55%
Gogrial East	55%
Rumbek North	50%

Meal frequency

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that most people consume one meal per day or less

Fangak	100%
Rumbek North	100%
Kapoeta East	100%
Tonj East	100%
Ayod	100%

*Other county where 100% of assessed settlements reported that most people consume one meal per day or less is: Budi

Food coping: skipping days

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported people go entire days without eating as a coping strategy

Abiemnhom	100%
Pariang	78%
Lafon	59%
Ikotos	40%
Rumbek North	39%



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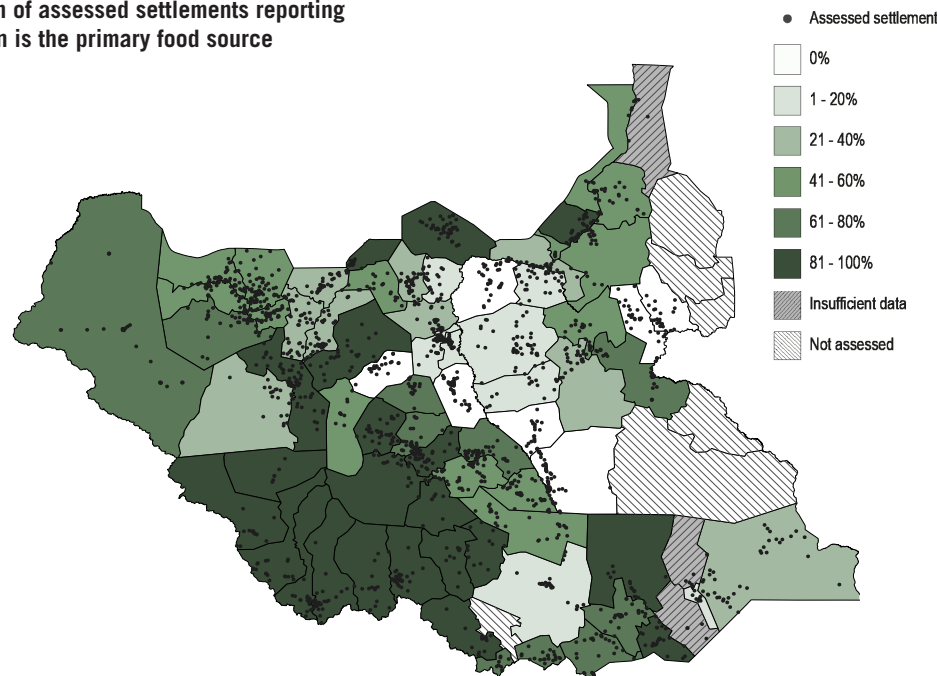
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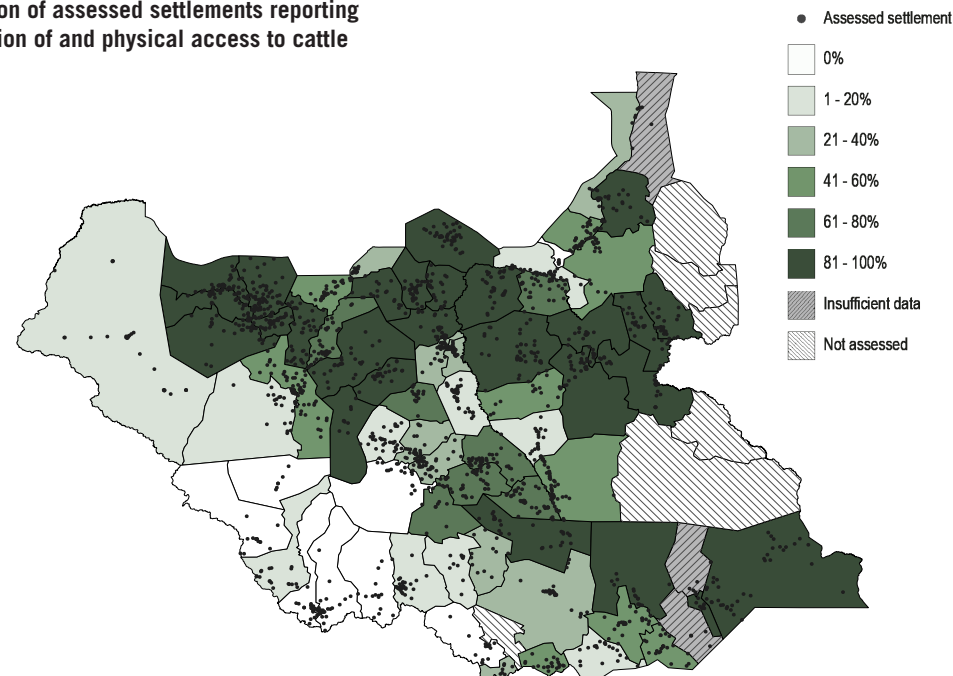
Livelihoods: cultivation

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting cultivation is the primary food source



Livelihoods: livestock

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting possession of and physical access to cattle



Agricultural inputs

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported having inadequate access to farming tools

Fangak	100%	<div></div>
Canal/Pigi	98%	<div></div>
Panyijjar	96%	<div></div>
Twic East	95%	<div></div>
Melut	92%	<div></div>

Land for cultivation

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported experiencing restrictions to access land for cultivation

Kapoeta South	100%	<div></div>
Ulang	100%	<div></div>
Abiemnhom	100%	<div></div>
Tambura	100%	<div></div>
Tonj North	100%	<div></div>

Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported experiencing restrictions to access land for cultivation include: Aweil Centre, Aweil East, Aweil South, Aweil West, Budi, Ezo, Fashoda, Guit, Jur River, Kajo-keji, Kapoeta East, Kapoeta North, Luakpiny/Nasir, Morobo, Mundri East, Mundri West, Mvolo, Nagero, Pariang, Raja, Rubkona, Tonj South, Yambio, and Yei.

Food source: livestock

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported livestock is their primary source of food

Canal/Pigi	57%	<div></div>
Aweil South	23%	<div></div>
Baliet	18%	<div></div>
Awerial	18%	<div></div>
Kapoeta South	17%	<div></div>

Livestock activities

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that most people are engaged in livestock activities

Uror	100%	<div></div>
Nyirrol	100%	<div></div>
Ulang	100%	<div></div>
Kapoeta East	100%	<div></div>
Baliet	100%	<div></div>

Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported engaging in livestock activities include: Fangak, Kapoeta South, Kapoeta North, Luakpiny/Nasir, and Yei.



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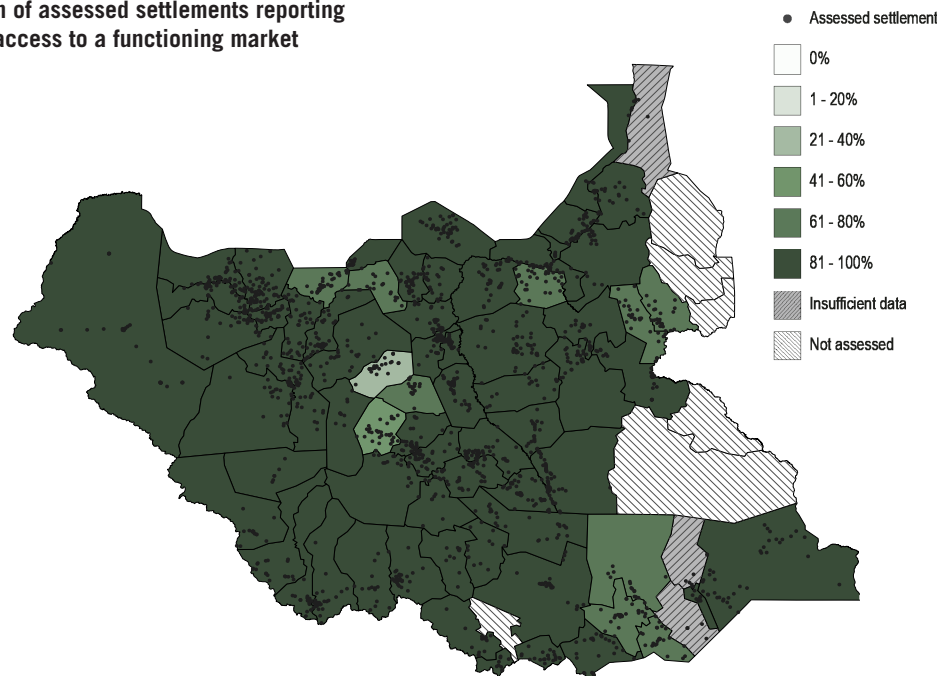
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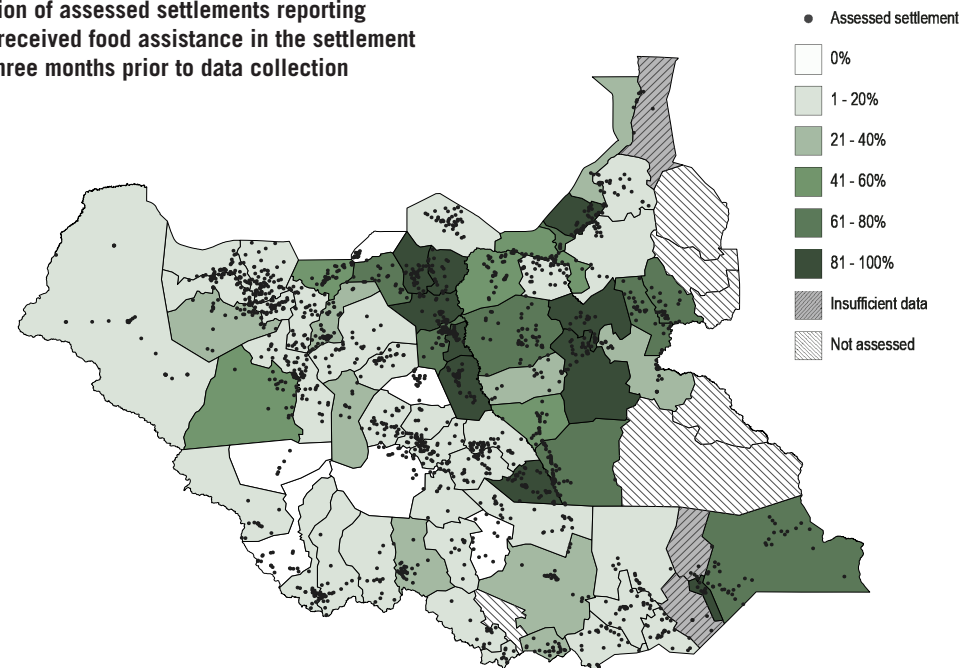
Markets

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting physical access to a functioning market



Humanitarian assistance

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting having received food assistance in the settlement in the three months prior to data collection



Food source: purchasing

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported purchase as a primary source of food

Juba	77%	<div></div>
Wau	64%	<div></div>
Malakal	57%	<div></div>
Gogrial West	57%	<div></div>
Manyo	50%	<div></div>

Livelihood: casual labour

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported casual labour is a common livelihood activity in the settlement

Jur River	100%	<div></div>
Twic East	100%	<div></div>
Raja	100%	<div></div>
Nagero	100%	<div></div>
Mundri East	100%	<div></div>

*Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported casual labour is a common livelihood activity in the settlement include: Gogrial West and Renk.

Food source: humanitarian aid

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported humanitarian assistance is the primary source of food

Leer	83%	<div></div>
Guit	81%	<div></div>
Uror	77%	<div></div>
Luakpiny/Nasir	77%	<div></div>
Ulang	71%	<div></div>

Humanitarian distribution

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported not having received any humanitarian assistance in the three months prior to data collection

Gogrial West	100%	<div></div>
Kajo-keji	100%	<div></div>
Yei	100%	<div></div>
Ezo	100%	<div></div>
Rumbek North	100%	<div></div>

*Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported having not received any humanitarian assistance in the past three months include: Najero, and Renk.



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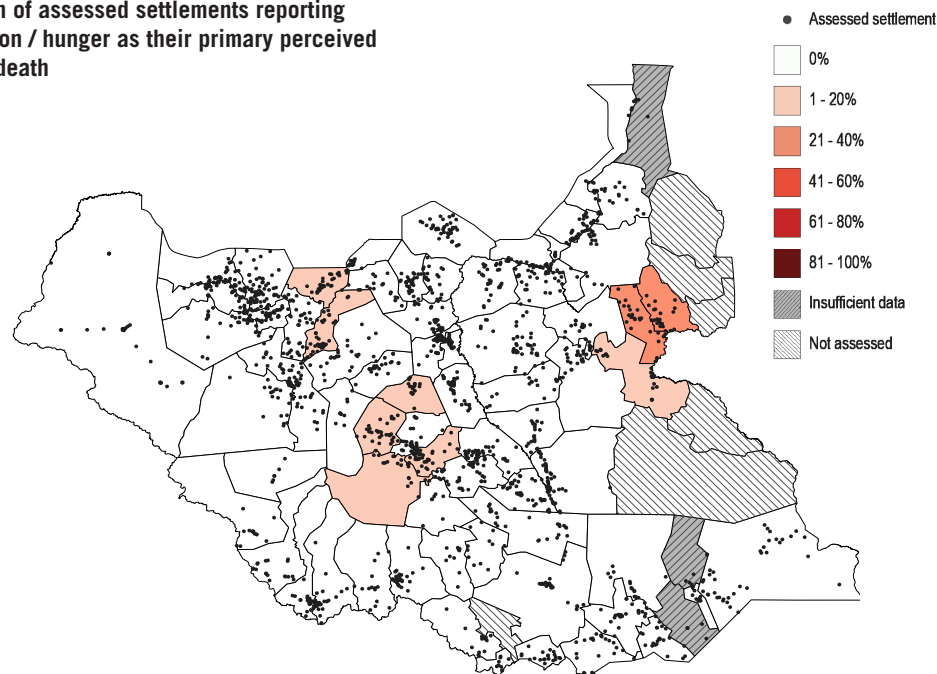
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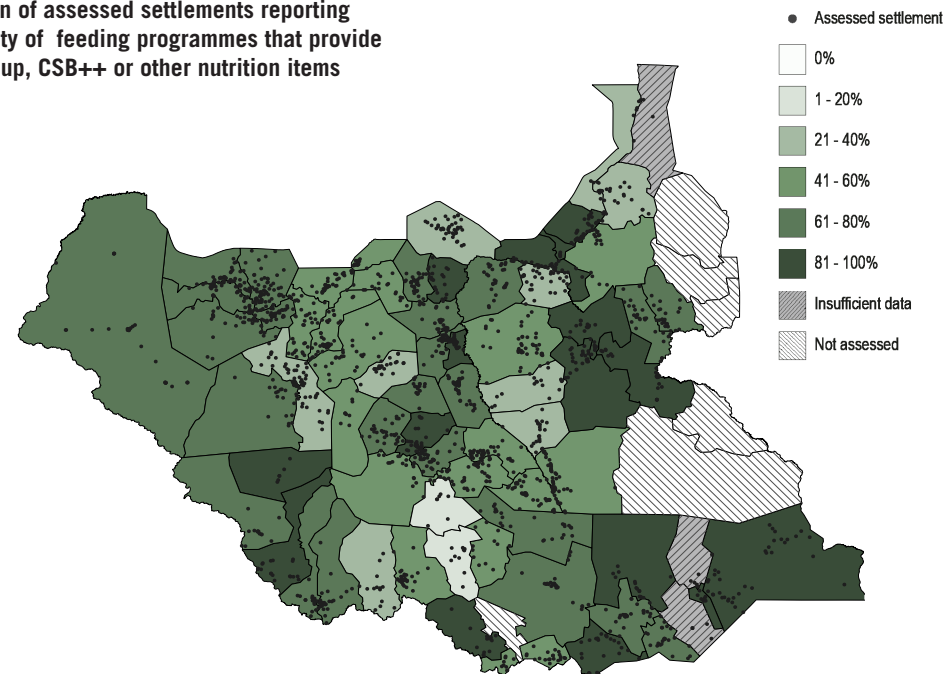
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Perceived causes of death, health and nutrition

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting malnutrition / hunger as their primary perceived cause of death



Proportion of assessed settlements reporting availability of feeding programmes that provide Plumpy Sup, CSB++ or other nutrition items



WASH based health concerns

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported diarrheal diseases is the main health problem

Canal/Pigi	78%	<div></div>
Yirol East	29%	<div></div>
Cueibet	28%	<div></div>
Rumbek North	25%	<div></div>
Wulu	22%	<div></div>

Health: malnutrition

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported perceived malnutrition is the main health problem

Ulang	31%	<div></div>
Luakpiny/Nasir	26%	<div></div>
Tonj South	22%	<div></div>
Akobo	16%	<div></div>
Tonj North	15%	<div></div>

Health: malaria

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported malaria is the main health problem

Canal/Pigi	78%	<div></div>
Yirol East	29%	<div></div>
Cueibet	28%	<div></div>
Rumbek North	25%	<div></div>
Wulu	22%	<div></div>

Health services

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported having poor physical access to health services*

Gogrial West	97%	<div></div>
Cueibet	87%	<div></div>
Gogrial East	81%	<div></div>
Panyikang	77%	<div></div>
Panyijjar	74%	<div></div>

*The availability of health services is a composite indicator comprising of 1) no physical access to a functional health facility and 2) the distance to the closest health facility is more than a one-hour walk