



South Sudan - Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

December 2022

Overview

The continuation of conflict since December 2013 has created a complex humanitarian crisis in South Sudan; 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):

- Newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month
- Persons who have been in contact with someone living in a hard-to-reach settlement, or have visited one in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.)
- Persons who remain in a hard-to-reach settlement, contacted through the 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 aggregated¹ 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 2022, and are not statistically generalisable.

Assessment Coverage

1786 Key informants interviewed

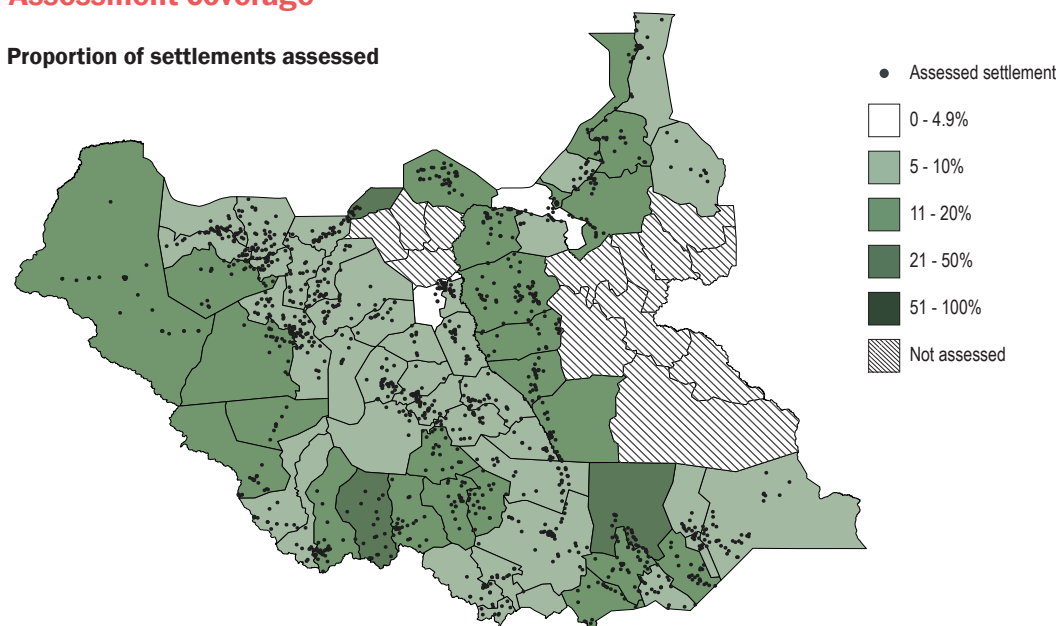
1518 Settlements assessed

65 Counties assessed

63 Counties with 5% or more coverage²

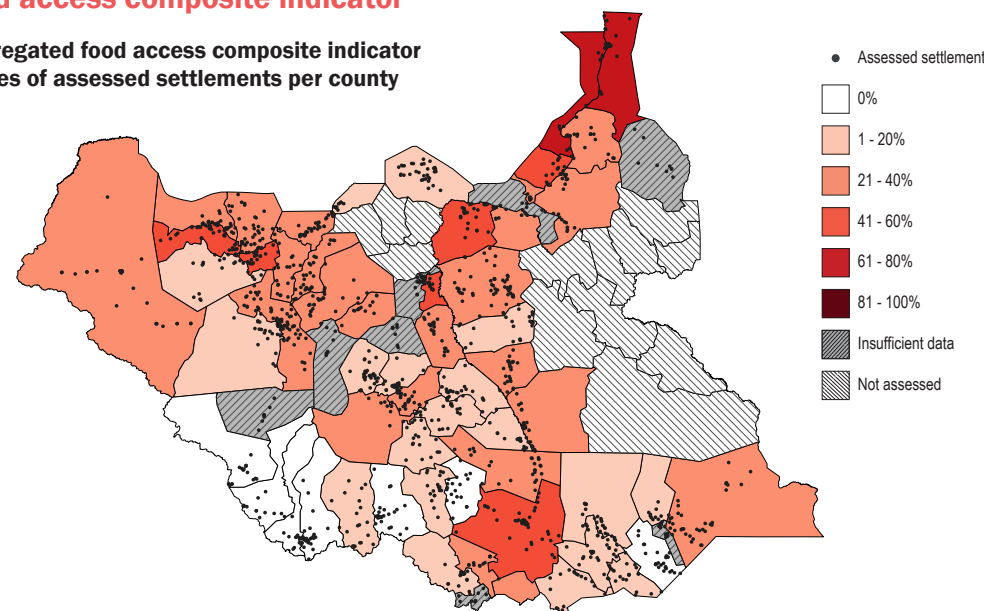
Assessment coverage

Proportion of settlements assessed



Food access composite indicator

Aggregated food access composite indicator scores of assessed settlements per county



¹ During cleaning and aggregation counties which do not reach a consensus or report "don't know" are recoded as NA thus lowering subset sizes.

Additionally, unless otherwise specified all questions have a recall period of 30 days prior to data collection.

² 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 on the following indicators; with all indicators considered to have the same weight:

- Most people do not have access to sufficient food
- 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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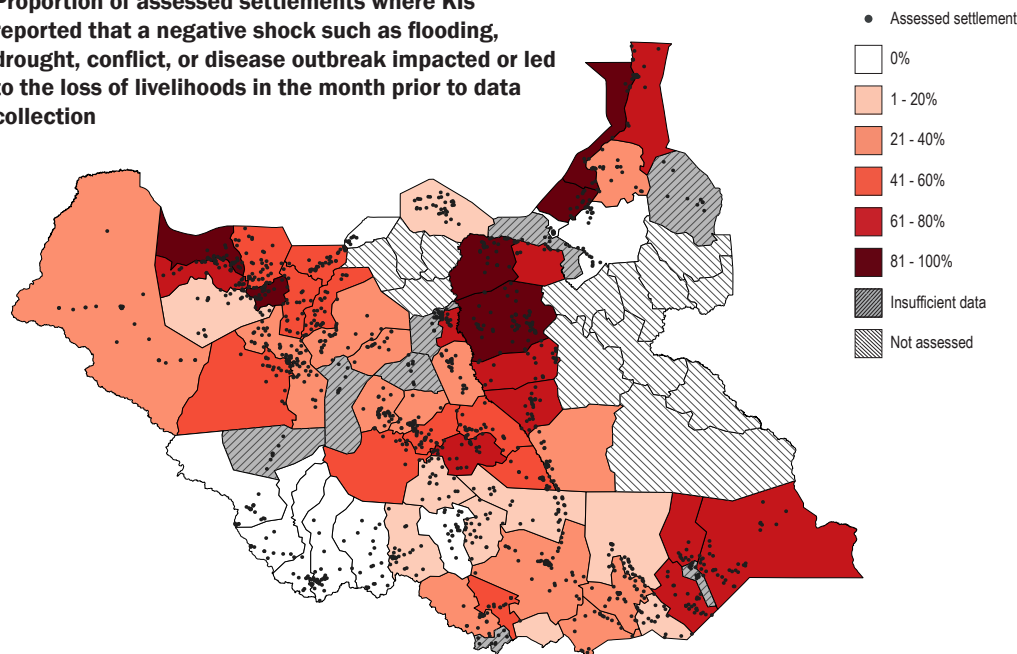
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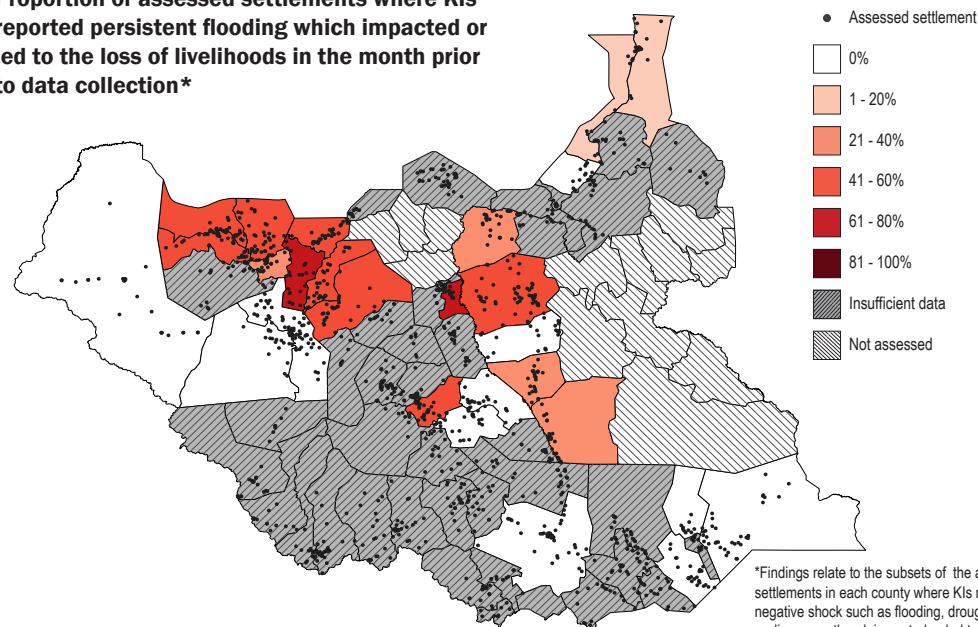
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Shocks

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that a negative shock such as flooding, drought, conflict, or disease outbreak impacted or led to the loss of livelihoods in the month prior to data collection



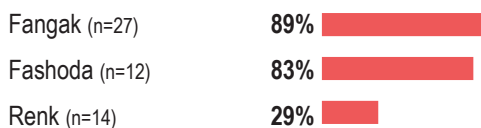
Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported persistent flooding which impacted or led to the loss of livelihoods in the month prior to data collection*



*Findings relate to the subsets of the amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported a negative shock such as flooding, drought, conflict, or disease outbreak impacted or led to the loss of livelihoods in the month prior to data collection

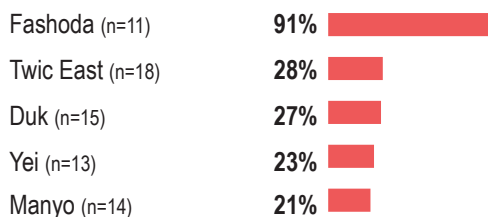
Shocks: IDPs*

Counties with assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of IDPs or returnees as having a negative impact on the ability to access adequate food



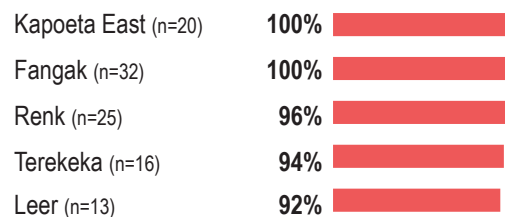
Shocks: conflict food access*

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported conflict or insecurity as the main reason some people in the settlement were unable to access adequate food



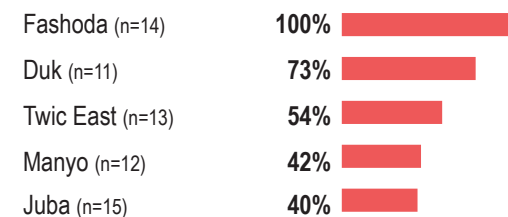
Shocks: hunger*

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported hunger was "worst it can be"



Shocks: conflict impact*

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported conflict as the primary reason most people's ability to engage in livelihood activities has decreased in the month prior to data collection



*Findings relate to the subsets of (n) amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported the arrival of IDPs within the last month. There were no other counties which met the observations threshold for reporting.

*Findings relate to the subsets of (n) amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported most people were not able to access adequate food.

*Findings relate to the subsets of (n) amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported most people were not able to access enough food.

*Findings relate to the subsets of (n) amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported that people's ability to engage livelihood activities had decreased in the month prior to data collection.



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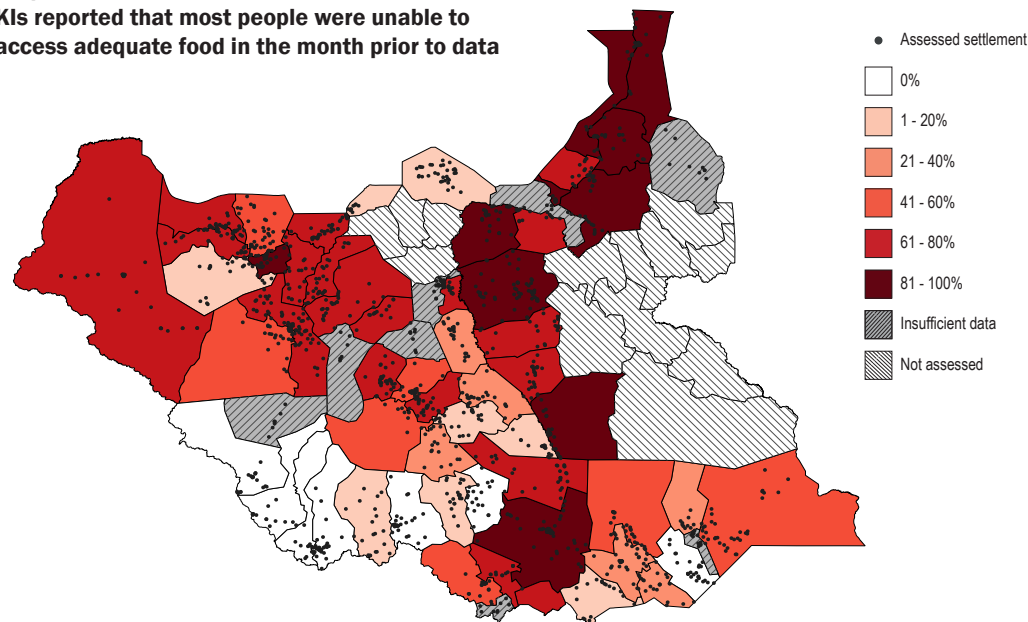
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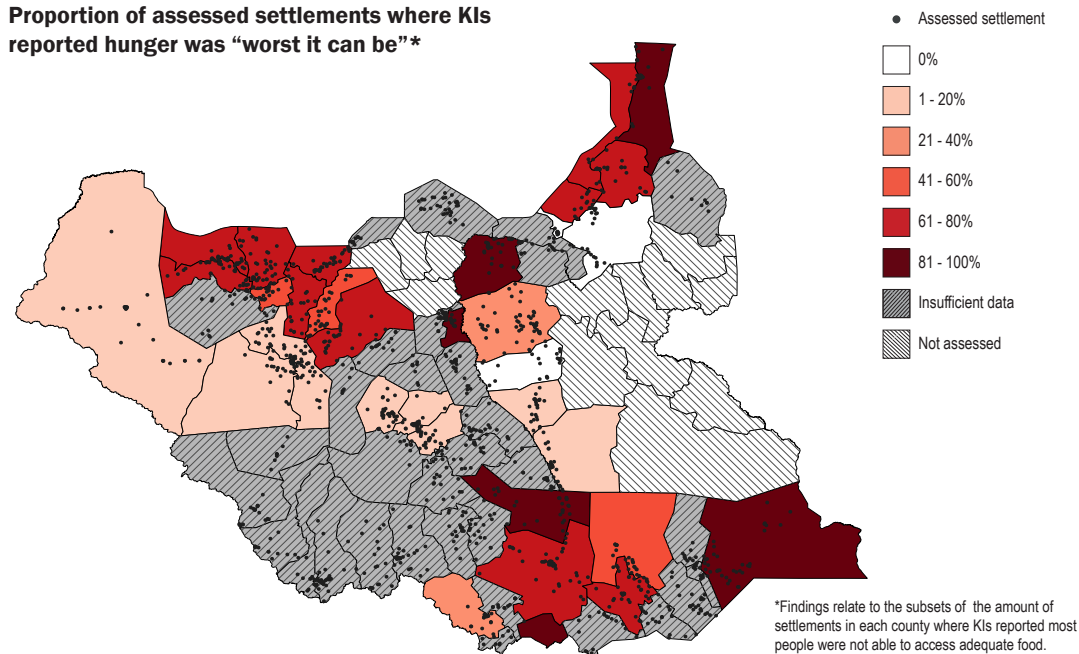
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Food access

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that most people were unable to access adequate food in the month prior to data

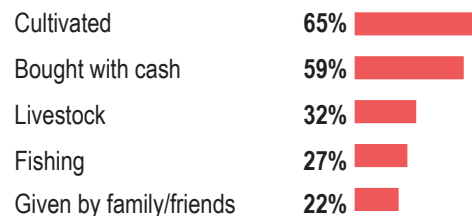


Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported hunger was “worst it can be”*



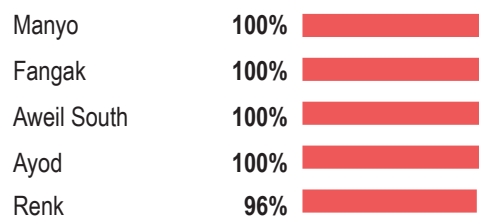
Food sources

Top five most commonly reported sources of food in the settlement, by proportion of assessed settlements



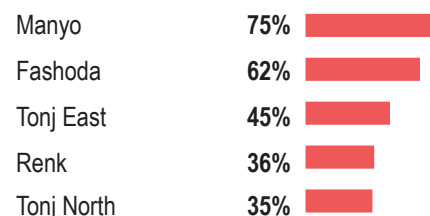
Inadequate access to food

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported most people are unable to access enough food



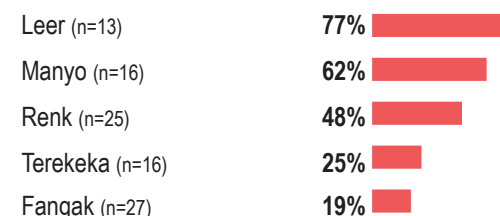
Food coping: wild foods

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



Food coping: skipping days*

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



*Findings relate to the subsets of (n) amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported most people were not able to access enough food.



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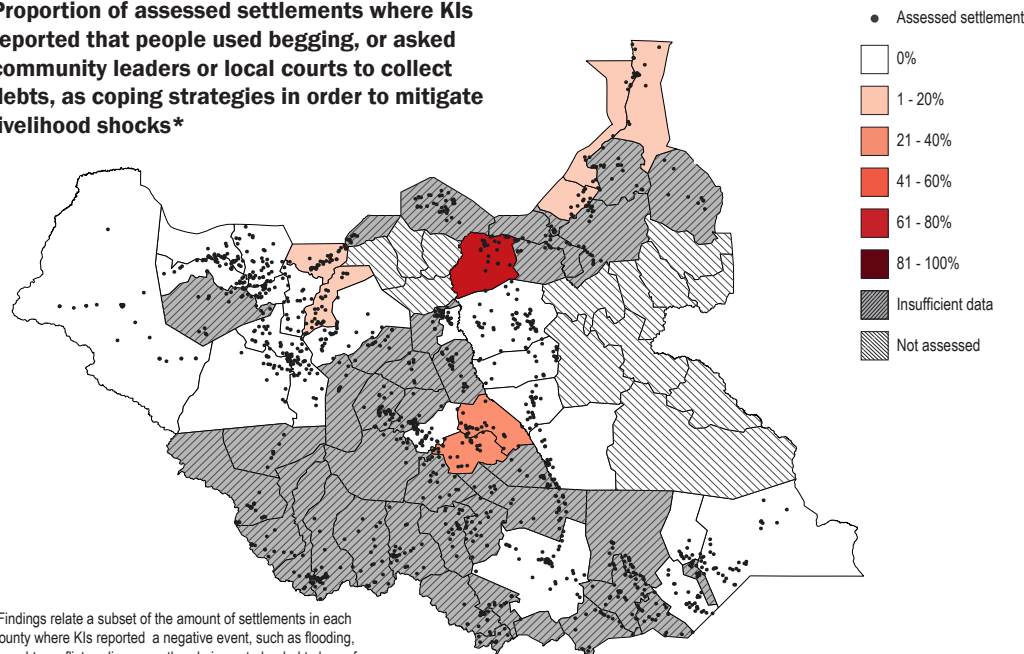
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Livelihoods: coping

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that people used begging, or asked community leaders or local courts to collect debts, as coping strategies in order to mitigate livelihood shocks*



*Findings relate a subset of the amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported a negative event, such as flooding, drought, conflict or disease outbreak, impacted or led to loss of livelihoods

Livelihoods: negative shocks

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported a negative event which led to the loss of livelihoods, in the month prior to data collection

Fangak	100%	<div></div>
Ayod	98%	<div></div>
Aweil South	95%	<div></div>
Fashoda	88%	<div></div>
Aweil North	84%	<div></div>

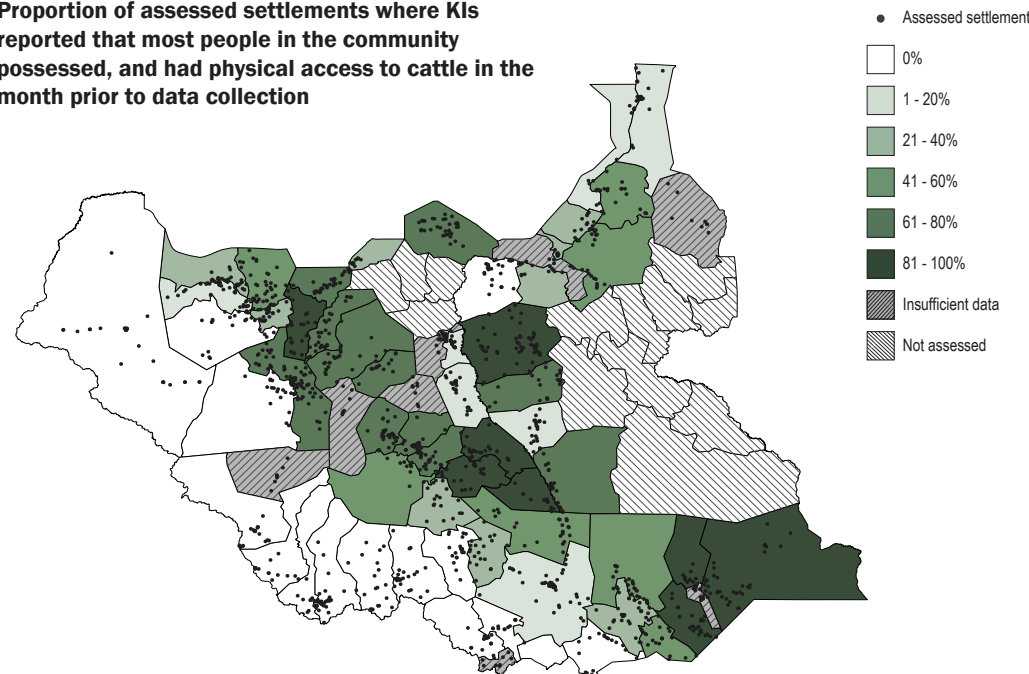
Livelihoods: coping

Top five most commonly reported livelihood coping strategies used in the month prior to data collection to mitigate a negative event which led to the loss of livelihoods, by proportion of assessed settlements

Limit meal sizes	23%	<div></div>
Rely on less preferred foods	21%	<div></div>
Reduce number of meals	20%	<div></div>
Gather wild food/ hunt more	15%	<div></div>
Collecting natural resources	15%	<div></div>

Livelihoods: livestock

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that most people in the community possessed, and had physical access to cattle in the month prior to data collection



Livelihoods: casual labour

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

Baliet	100%	<div></div>
Malakal	100%	<div></div>
Kajo-keji	89%	<div></div>
Manyo	75%	<div></div>
Renk	74%	<div></div>

Livelihoods: livestock activities

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

Kapoeta East	100%	<div></div>
Budi	100%	<div></div>
Kapoeta North	100%	<div></div>
Ayod	100%	<div></div>
Yirol West	100%	<div></div>



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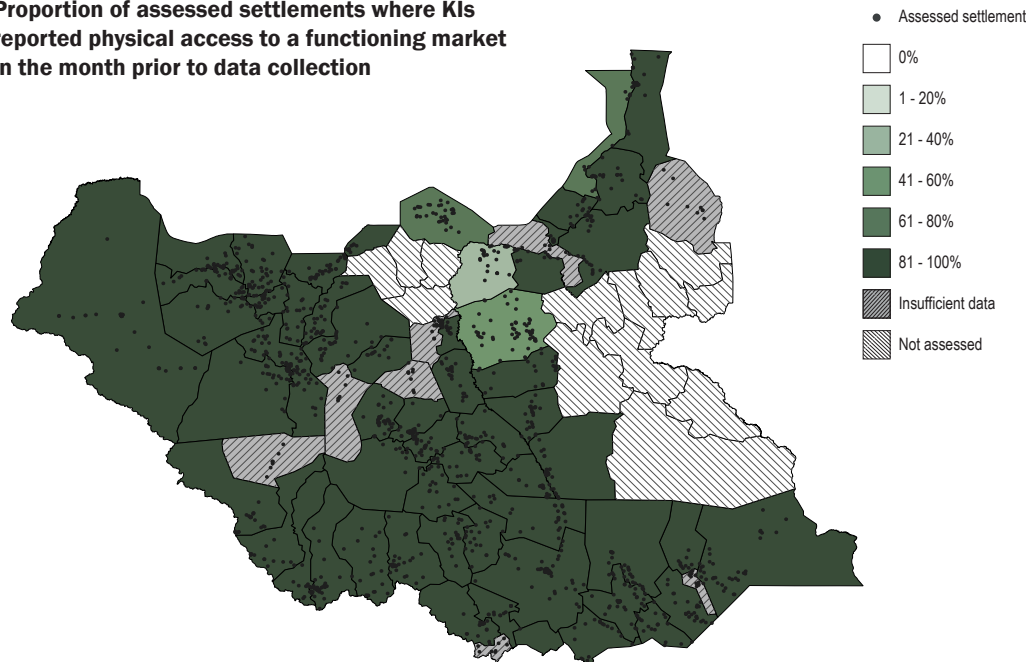
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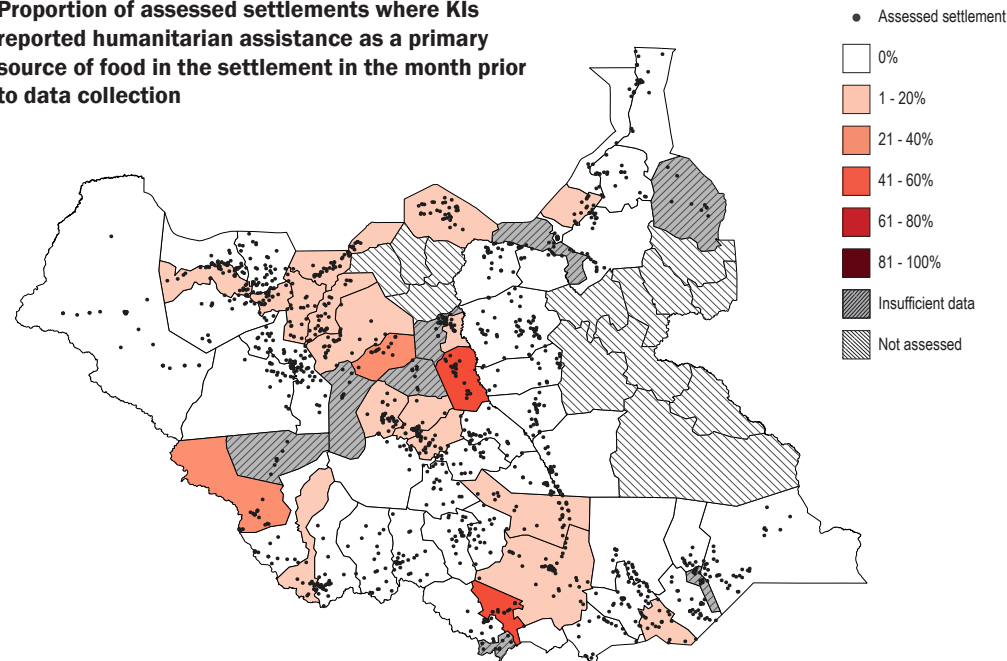
Markets

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported physical access to a functioning market in the month prior to data collection



Food source: humanitarian aid

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported humanitarian assistance as a primary source of food in the month prior to data collection



Food source: purchasing

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported purchasing as a primary source of food in the settlement

Baliet	100%	<div></div>
Mundri West	100%	<div></div>
Malakal	100%	<div></div>
Maridi	96%	<div></div>
Mundri East	95%	<div></div>

Food source: livestock

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported livestock as a primary source of food in the settlement

Budi	100%	<div></div>
Yirol West	96%	<div></div>
Yirol East	92%	<div></div>
Gogrial West	81%	<div></div>
Gogrial East	73%	<div></div>

Food source: humanitarian aid

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported humanitarian assistance as a primary source of food in the settlement

Panyijjar	52%	<div></div>
Lainya	46%	<div></div>
Tambura	32%	<div></div>
Tonj East	23%	<div></div>
Tonj North	19%	<div></div>

Livestock disease*

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that there has been a disease outbreak that resulted in cattle dying in the month prior to data collection

Budi (n=28)	100%	<div></div>
Ayod (n=53)	100%	<div></div>
Tonj North (n=17)	94%	<div></div>
Twic (n=25)	92%	<div></div>
Gogrial East (n=21)	86%	<div></div>

*Findings relate to the subsets of (n) amount of settlements in each county where KIs reporting people in the settlement possess cattle.



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	County	No. of assessed settlements
1	Abiemnhom	11
2	Aweil Centre	23
3	Aweil East	41
4	Aweil North	27
5	Aweil South	22
6	Aweil West	33
7	Awerial	17
8	Ayod	56
9	Baliet	18
10	Bor South	42
11	Budi	28
12	Canal/Pigi	10
13	Cueibet	30
14	Duk	20
15	Ezo	14
16	Fangak	34
17	Fashoda	16
18	Gogrial East	30
19	Gogrial West	21
20	Ibba	20
21	Ikotos	23
22	Juba	42
23	Jur River	57
24	Kajo-keji	19
25	Kapoeta East	36
26	Kapoeta North	14
27	Kapoeta South	7
28	Lafon	28
29	Lainya	13
30	Leer	18

	County	No. of assessed settlements
31	Maban	8
32	Magwi	17
33	Malakal	14
34	Manyo	16
35	Maridi	26
36	Mayendit	18
37	Melut	23
38	Morobo	8
39	Mundri East	21
40	Mundri West	20
41	Mvolo	18
42	Nagero	8
43	Nzara	13
44	Panyijjar	25
45	Panyikang	5
46	Pariang	33
47	Raja	37
48	Renk	29
49	Rumbek Centre	27
50	Rumbek East	26
51	Rumbek North	9
52	Tambura	19
53	Terekeka	25
54	Tonj East	13
55	Tonj North	27
56	Tonj South	7
57	Torit	33
58	Twic	34
59	Twic East	24
60	Wau	46

	County	No. of assessed settlements
61	Wulu	11
62	Yambio	36
63	Yei	22
64	Yirol East	26
65	Yirol West	24