

Situation Overview: Central Equatoria State, South Sudan

July- September 2019

REACH An initiative of
IMPACT Initiatives
ACTED and UNOSAT

Introduction

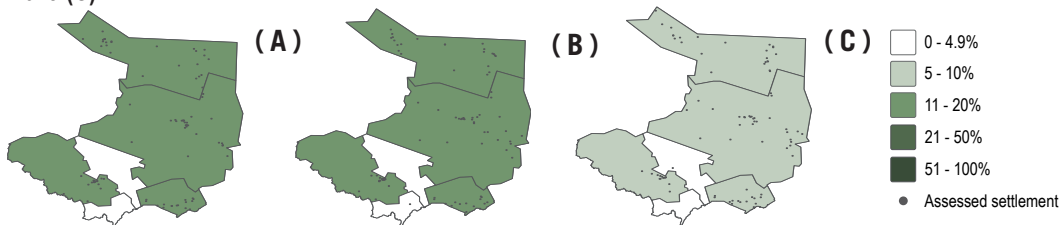
In the third quarter of 2019, the humanitarian crisis in Central Equatoria State continued. Many areas in the region are largely unassessed by humanitarian actors due to access and resource constraints. As a result, only limited information is available on the humanitarian situation outside of a few large towns and displacement sites.

To inform humanitarian actors working outside formal settlement sites, REACH has conducted assessments of hard-to-reach areas in South Sudan since December 2015. Data is collected on a monthly basis through interviews with key informants with knowledge of a settlement and triangulated with focus group discussions (FGDs). This Situation Overview uses this data to analyse changes in observed humanitarian needs across Central Equatoria State in the third quarter of 2019.³

Key Findings

- **Internal and cross-border displacement** due to food insecurity and conflict continued this quarter. However, inflows surpassed outflows from both the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda to South Sudan,⁴ and there was an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting refugee returnees, likely temporary for cultivating and harvesting.
- Despite improved conditions for cultivation,

Map 1: REACH assessment coverage of Central Equatoria State, July (A), August (B) and September 2019 (C)



access to food remained low, with inadequate access reported by 100% of assessed settlements in Terekeka and Kajo-Keji counties, and 97% in Juba County. Climatic shocks in previous years, and lack of access to seeds and tools, limited planting in Juba and Terekeka counties, whilst in Kajo-Keji County insecurity continued to limit access to land.⁵ However, in Yei County, substantial improvements in access to food were reported, likely due to the increased availability of cultivated food.

- **Protection** needs remained consistent with the second quarter, however localised intercommunal violence and cattle raiding in Juba and Terekeka counties had a negative impact on humanitarian needs and access to services, whilst ongoing conflict in Yei and the surrounding counties continued to drive displacement and protection concerns.⁶
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and health** needs remained high, and access to health services, improved water sources, and latrines decreased between June and

September. Reduced access to health and WASH infrastructure increased the risk of waterborne diseases and malnutrition, particularly in Juba and Terekeka counties.

- Access to **education** services remained high this quarter. However, there was a reported reduction in both girls' and boys' attendance, likely due to reduced access to cash, and the increased opportunity costs of keeping children in school during crucial weeding and cultivation months, particularly for boys.⁷
- Access to **shelter** varied by population group, with an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDPs living in improvised structures, possibly due to flooding in Juba and Terekeka counties which reportedly caused displacement in August and September.

of key informant interviews conducted: **486**
of assessed settlements: **440**
of counties covered: **4/6**
of focus group discussions conducted: **11**

METHODOLOGY

To provide an overview of the situation in hard-to-reach areas of Central Equatoria State, 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). Information for this report was collected remotely with phone call interviews from Juba in July, August and September 2019.

In-depth interviews on humanitarian needs were conducted throughout the month using a structured survey tool. After data collection was completed, all data was aggregated at settlement level, and settlements were assigned the modal or most credible response. When no consensus could be found for a settlement, that settlement was not included in reporting.

Only counties with interview coverage of at least 5% of all settlements¹ in a given month were included in analysis. Due to access and operational constraints, the specific settlements assessed within each county each month vary. In order to reduce the likelihood that variations in data are attributable to coverage differences, over time analyses were only conducted for counties with at least 70% consistent payam² coverage over the period.

Quantitative findings were triangulated with FGDs and secondary sources.

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

1 To calculate the percentage of AoK coverage, the total number of settlements per county is based on OCHA settlement lists in addition to new settlements mapped by KIs reached each month.

2 "Payam" refers to the administrative unit below the county level.

3 All counties assessed in September 2019 met the 70% threshold for trend analysis. However, Kajo-Keji County was not assessed in the previous quarter and all June to September Central Equatoria comparisons therefore consist only of Juba, Terekeka, and Yei counties. When Kajo-Keji County is excluded this is specified.

4 DTM Flow Monitoring Registry, August 2019

5 FAO South Sudan Crop Watch: Updates from 1st Dekad of March to 3rd Dekad of July 2019

6 Data was not collected for Lainya or Morobo this quarter, where high levels of conflict have been reported, which likely contributed to lower levels of reported protection concerns across Central Equatoria.

7 Girls' Education South Sudan, School Sample Survey, Endline, 2018

Population Movement and Displacement

The combination of increased insecurity in Yei, Lainya and Morobo counties, improved access to food in Yei County and food insecurity in the rest of Central Equatoria led to mixture of new displacements and returns this quarter, indicating the fluidity of population movements in Central Equatoria State at this time of year.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Fifty-one percent (51%) of assessed settlements in Central Equatoria (excluding Kajo-Keji County) reported the presence of IDPs in September, unchanged from June 2019. However, the reported locations of IDPs shifted, with a decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of IDPs in Yei County, from 93% in June to 31% in September, and a converse increase in the proportion of assessed settlements in Juba County reporting IDPs, from 17% in June to 67% in September. These changes were likely due to

Figure 1: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of refugee returnees, June 2019

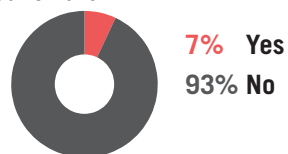
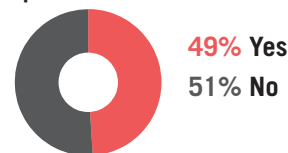


Figure 2: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of refugee returnees, September 2019



a shift in insecurity dynamics in the southern part of the region, with increased insecurity in the eastern part of Lainya County causing IDPs to travel to Juba County, and the concentration of those displaced from settlements in Yei County into urban centres.⁸

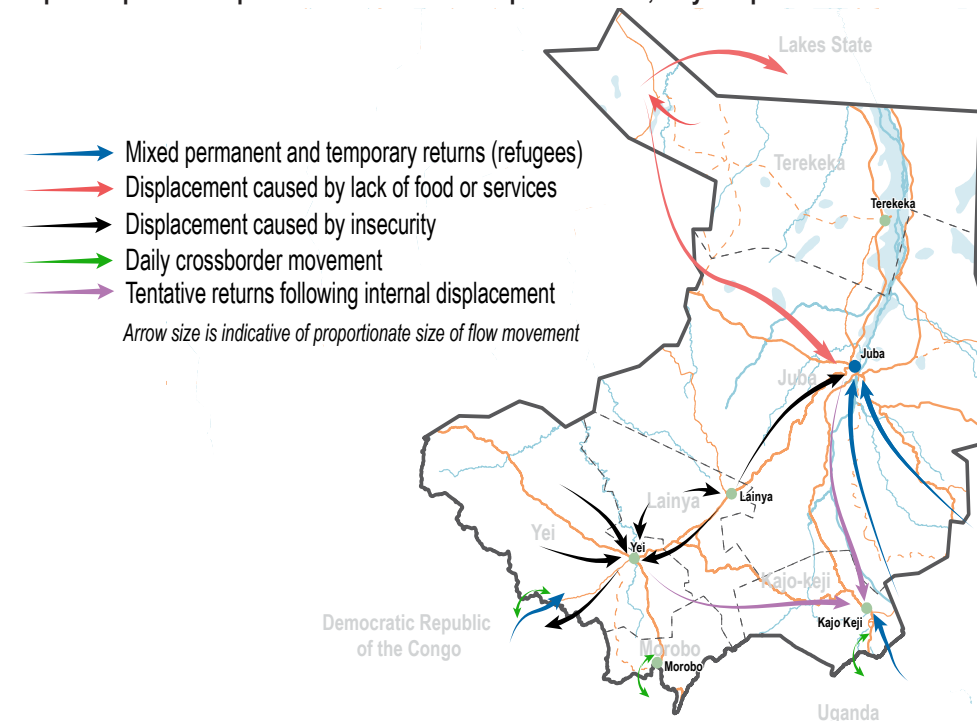
Of settlements which reported IDP presence, the majority reported insecurity as the main push factor (57% of assessed settlements) and security as the main pull factor (50%), indicating continued insecurity in Central Equatoria, likely related to increased conflict between farmers and cattle keepers over natural resources, livestock raiding in Juba and Terekeka counties, and ongoing armed conflict in Yei, Morobo and Lainya counties.⁹

Food insecurity also continued to drive internal displacement, with movements from Tali and Tindilo Payams in Terekeka County into Dor Payam, Aweril County. By early September, an estimated 7000 people had travelled to Dor, reportedly due to chronic food insecurity caused by multiple years of poor rainfall.¹⁰

Refugee Returnees

Despite ongoing insecurity, secondary data indicates inflows from Uganda and the DRC into South Sudan surpassed outflows in August,¹¹ and there was a large increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting refugee returnees, from only 7% of assessed settlements in June, compared to 49% in September. The overwhelming majority of households assessed crossing the border from Uganda into Central Equatoria reported they intended to stay for less than 3 months, for economic and seasonal reasons, whilst from the DRC to South Sudan, the

Map 2: Displacement patterns across Central Equatoria State, July - September 2019.



overwhelming majority of respondents intended to stay only 1 day.¹² The reported increase in refugee returnees is therefore likely associated with temporary returns to villages during the cultivation and harvesting season.

Yei County

Despite widely reported insecurity in Yei County this quarter, there was a reduction in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDP presence, from 93% in June to 31% in September. This reported decrease was likely due to an increase in the geographical concentration of IDPs, with people from Yei County displaced into Yei Town itself;¹³ for example, in early September, 1,600 individuals

were reportedly displaced from settlements in Yei County into Yei Town.¹⁴ In addition, many people were reportedly moving back and forth to their original settlements to access services and to farm, and were not permanently displaced.¹⁵ Displaced persons also continued to cross the border into the DRC, with about half of households assessed crossing the border from South Sudan intending to stay more than a year, indicating more permanent displacement than the reported short-term trips for economic reasons from South Sudan to Uganda.¹⁶

Insecurity continued to be reported as the main reasons IDPs had left home, with 75% of assessed settlements reporting both insecurity as the main push factor and security as the

8 UNICEF South Sudan Humanitarian Situation Report - September 2019

9 UNOCHA Humanitarian Snapshot report, August 2019

10 REACH Tali and Tindilo Food Security and Livelihoods and Nutrition Rapid Assessment Brief, September 2019

11 DTM Flow Monitoring Registry, August 2019

12 Ibid

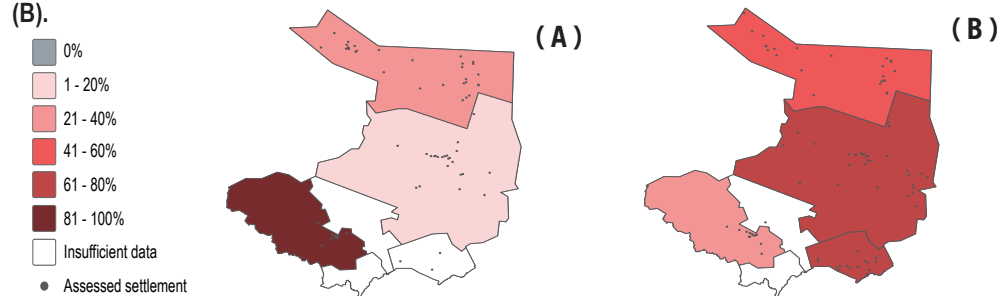
13 Due to the methodology of AoK, the geographical concentration of IDPs in urban centres might lead to a reduction in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDP presence without an associated reduction in overall IDP numbers.

14 USAID South Sudan Crisis Fact Sheet #10, Fiscal Year 2019, September 30th 2019

15 KI interviews, September 2019

16 DTM Flow Monitoring Registry, August 2019

Map 3: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDP presence, June (A) and September 2019 (B).



main pull factor. In addition, 92% of assessed settlements reported that no IDPs had returned, unchanged from June, likely indicating those previously displaced continued to fear returning to their home settlements in Yei County this quarter, due to ongoing insecurity.

However, 85% of assessed settlements in Yei County reported refugee returnees, a significant change from June (7%), and 100% of those reporting refugee returnees reported they had returned in the three months prior to September data collection. Of these, 77% reported land access was the main pull factor, suggesting that returns were primarily associated with seasonal movement for cultivation.

Kajo-Keji County

Following years of insecurity and poor humanitarian access, levels of displacement in Kajo-Keji County were reportedly high, with 63% of assessed settlements reporting IDP presence in September 2019; 90% of these reported the most recent IDPs had come from within Kajo-Keji County itself, and 90% reported insecurity as the main push factor. Of assessed settlements that reported IDP presence, 60% reported that IDPs made up half or more than half of the settlements' residents, and of the

67% of assessed settlements that reported host community presence, 100% reported less than half of the host community remained.

Despite this, there were reportedly several large-scale returns of refugees and IDPs throughout July and August, with many returning IDPs and refugees settling in larger urban areas and temporary sites, since their home settlements elsewhere in Kajo-Keji County remained inaccessible due to insecurity.¹⁷ Seventy-five percent (75%) of assessed settlements in Kajo-Keji County reported the presence of returnee refugees, 91% of whom had returned in the 6 months prior to September data collection. In addition, 56% of assessed settlements in Kajo-Keji County reported the presence of IDP returnees.

IDP returnees were likely returning to access food and to attempt to cultivate; 100% of assessed settlements that reported IDP returnees reported lack of food as a push factor, and access to food and land availability were the most commonly reported pull factors (67% for both). However, these returns were reportedly putting pressure on the host community in their return locations and reducing food security, with 25% of assessed

settlements that reported IDPs or returnees reporting the new arrivals had a large impact on their ability to access enough food.

Situation in Assessed Settlements

Food security and livelihoods (FSL)

Food Security

Adequate access to food remained low across much of Central Equatoria, but substantially improved in Yei County. The majority (84%) of assessed settlements reported inadequate access to food in September, with 100% of assessed settlements in Terekeka and Kajo-Keji counties, and 97% of assessed settlements in Juba County reporting this. Of assessed settlements reporting inadequate access to food, 60% reported that hunger was severe. This is consistent with the August 2019 IPC update, which categorised all counties in Central Equatoria in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), with Terekeka County in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) for acute food insecurity.¹⁸ In Yei County, 92% of assessed settlements reported adequate access to food in September, in line with the IPC acute malnutrition update, which placed Yei County in Phase 2 (Stressed), due to the increased availability of cultivated food across the green-belt region.¹⁹

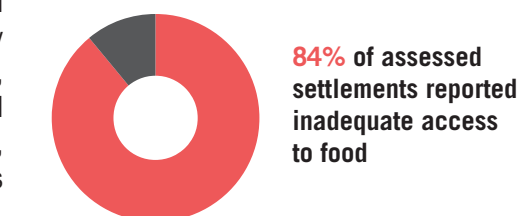
Limited access to food was driven by cumulative years of conflict and reduced rainfall. This quarter was characterised by improved climatic conditions for cultivation, with above average and better distributed rainfall across Central Equatoria.²⁰ However, lack of access to adequate agricultural inputs

meant many households were unable to take advantage of improved conditions for growing;²¹ despite 90% of assessed settlements in Juba, Terekeka and Kajo-Keji counties reporting access to enough land for cultivation in September, only 16% reported sufficient access to seeds and tools. In addition, the effects of climatic shocks in previous years continued to impact access. In Juba, Terekeka and Kajo-Keji counties, 26% of assessed settlements reported lack of rain and a short growing season as the primary reasons for lack of access to food, and FGD participants in Terekeka County in September reported multiple years of poor harvests caused by erratic and low rainfall meant few households had the seeds or energy (due to low food stocks) to plant and weed effectively throughout the cultivation season.²²

Livelihoods

Cultivating crops for sustenance was the most commonly reported livelihood activity in June, reported by 84% of all assessed settlements, followed by charcoal making (65%) and casual labour (59%). In Yei County, 100% of assessed settlements reported cultivation as the main source of food, whilst the majority of assessed settlements in Juba and Terekeka counties reported purchased food as the main food source. Given this quarter would typically see the first

Figure 3: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting inadequate access to food, September 2019



¹⁷ UNOCHA South Sudan, Situation Report, 16th Sep 2019

¹⁸ IPC Snapshot, South Sudan, August 2019 - April 2020, Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, 11th September 2019

¹⁹ Ibid

²⁰ FAO, October- December 2019 Climate Outlook for South Sudan,

²¹ FAO South Sudan Crop Watch: Updates from 1st Dekad of March to 3rd Dekad of July 2019

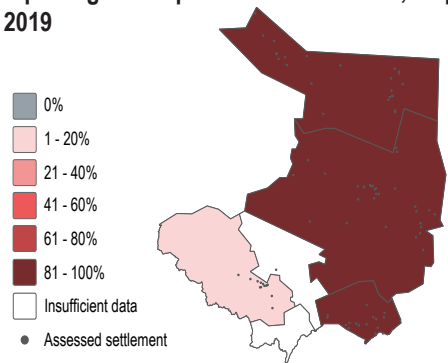
²² REACH Tali and Tindilo Food Security and Livelihoods and Nutrition Rapid Assessment Brief, September 2019

green crop and legume harvests, this indicates poor harvests in these areas, and a continued market reliance. The prevalence of casual labour and charcoal making were therefore likely income-generating activities to support market dependence.

Whilst market access remained high (100% of assessed settlements), only 33% of assessed settlements reported this market could be reached in under 1 hour, and 24% reported this took a full day or longer. This likely increased food insecurity, by taking time away from other livelihood activities, and limiting access for people who could not walk long distances.

Price increases were reported this quarter, likely related to a poor harvest in Uganda,²³ and reduced yields from local harvests in Central Equatoria and Lakes states.²⁴ This, combined with market dependence, likely led to worsening food security for vulnerable households. Forty-six percent (46%) of assessed settlements in Central Equatoria reported that an increase in cereal prices in the month prior to September data collection had a large impact on their ability to access enough food, and 70% of assessed settlements reported

Map 4: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting inadequate access to food, September 2019

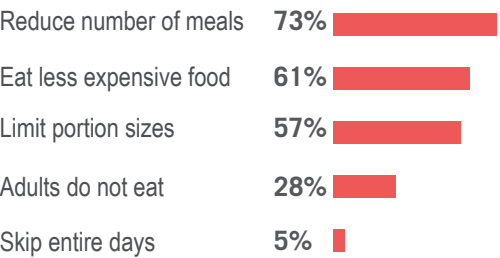


high prices were a barrier to market access. The impact of price increases was reportedly particularly bad in Juba and Terekeka counties. In Juba County, between August and September the price of the Multi-Sectoral Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB) increased by 30%,²⁵ and 97% of assessed settlements in Juba County reported that high market prices were a barrier to access in September. In Terekeka County, where purchasing of cereals is common at this time of year prior to the main harvest between October and December, 58% of assessed settlements reported cereal price increases had a large impact on their ability to buy food, indicating the increased vulnerability of poorer households in these regions. FGD participants in Terekeka County in September also reported that poor harvests had driven up prices and contributed to an increase in cattle raiding, causing displacement and further weakening fragile household livelihoods.²⁶

Coping strategies

Similar to the previous reporting period, 91% of assessed settlements in Central Equatoria reported employing coping strategies, indicative of generally poor access to food. Reducing the number of meals and eating less expensive food were the most commonly reported coping strategies, reported by 73% and 61% of assessed settlements respectively. Reported strategies remained less severe, which may indicate that households in Central Equatoria are able to access alternative, if less preferable, livelihood sources when typical patterns are disrupted; only 5% of assessed settlements reported skipping entire days, and only 28% reported adults not eating so children could.

Figure 4: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting coping strategies, September 2019



Severe coping strategies were reported by a higher proportion of assessed settlements in Juba, indicating reduced access to alternative livelihood opportunities. The proportion of assessed settlements reporting adults not eating increased from 35% in June to 50% in September, and 47% of assessed settlements reported only eating one meal a day in September. This likely had an associated impact in terms of food security, with 73% of assessed settlements in Juba reporting hunger was severe in September.

Consumption of wild foods was widely reported, with 95% of assessed settlements reporting eating wild foods as part of the main meal. Whilst not unusual for this time of year, the high proportions of assessed settlements in Juba, Kajo-Keji, and Terekeka counties reporting eating wild foods for half or more than half of all meals in September (80%, 63% and 54% respectively) and still reporting inadequate access to food is indicative of stress consumption. In addition, 60% of assessed settlements in Juba County and 67% in Terekeka County reported wild foods were making them sick, indicating severe food insecurity.

Yei County

Food security in Yei County substantially improved between June (47% of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food) and September (92%), likely due to increased access to cultivated food, reported as the main source of food by 100% of assessed settlements in September. In addition, in September, 92% of assessed settlements reported no children were malnourished (55% in June) and 92% reported eating two or three meals a day (73% in June). Located in the green-belt livelihood zone of the Equatorias, good growing conditions reportedly contributed to a good first harvest of cereals in Yei County in August.²⁷

Alongside increased access to cultivated food, positive gains were likely supported by high consumption of wild foods, with 77% of assessed settlements reporting eating wild foods as more than half of main meals. Humanitarian food assistance likely also contributed, however the reduction in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to food assistance in the three months prior to data collection between June (80% of assessed settlements) and September (46%) suggests reduced reliance on humanitarian assistance.²⁸ However, it is important to note that due to poor network coverage, assessed settlements tended to be closer to Yei Town, and data is therefore possibly not reflective of the situation in rural areas.

Terekeka County

Consistent with June 2019, 100% of assessed settlements reported inadequate access to food in September, however, there was a slight

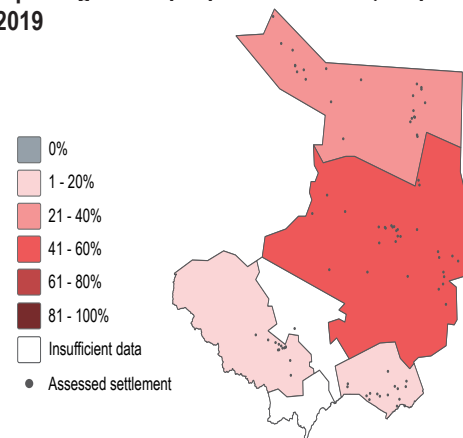
improvement in the reported severity of hunger, with 88% of assessed settlements reporting hunger was severe in June, compared to 54% in September. These limited improvements were likely associated with the first green harvest, as well as greater access to wild foods and alternative livelihoods during the wet season; for example, there was an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting fishing as a livelihood activity, from 34% in June to 50% in September.

However, limited improvements will likely not be sustained into quarter 4. In September, an inter-cluster assessment in Tali and Tindilo Payams found a proxy Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) by mid upper-arm circumference (MUAC) of 7% in rural areas, predicted to rise during the dry season.²⁹ Representative household data gathered by REACH/WFP indicated that whilst the majority of households (81%) reported access to land, only 40% had planted, due to multiple poor years of harvest depleting seed and food stocks, and reducing activity during crucial planting and weeding months.³⁰ This was reflected in AoK data for Terekeka County in September, suggesting the situation is similar in other locations across the county; whilst 100% of assessed settlements reported access to land, only 25% reported enough access to seeds, and 54% reported eating seeds as a coping livelihood.

Protection

The protection situation continued to vary by county this quarter, with a reported increase in protection concerns in Juba and Terekeka. Across Central Equatoria, 70% of assessed

Map 5: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting most people feel unsafe, September 2019



settlements reported most people felt safe most of the time.³¹ In addition, the largest proportion of assessed settlements in all counties except Yei reported no protection concerns for men (43% of assessed settlements), women (48%), boys (57%) and girls (42%), indicating perceived relative safety. If assessed settlements did report a protection concern, domestic violence was the most commonly reported protection concern for both women (31% of assessed settlements) and men (16%),³² early marriage was the most commonly reported protection concern for girls (39%), and 25% of assessed settlements reported violent protection concerns (looting, cattle raiding and fighting) for boys.

Despite this slightly positive picture overall, there were indications of increasing protection concerns in Juba and Terekeka counties, likely related to conflict between cattle keepers and farmers, increased cattle raiding, and urban crime in Juba.³³ In Terekeka County, 21% of assessed settlements reported an incident of conflict in which a civilian had been killed in

the month prior to September data collection, up from 0% in June, and 17% of assessed settlements reported property looting in the month prior to September (3% in June). In addition, the most commonly reported protection concern for men and boys was cattle raiding, with 38% and 29% of assessed settlements reporting this respectively. In Juba County, 43% of assessed settlements reported most people did not feel safe most of the time, and, whilst the proportion of assessed settlements reporting land disputes decreased between June and September, from 65% to 47%, this remained high overall compared to the average of 28% across the rest of Central Equatoria.

Whilst 92% of assessed settlements in Yei County reported feeling safe in September, AoK data is possibly not reflective of the situation in rural areas (see FSL section for more details). Secondary data indicates increasing violations against civilians in Yei County, with ACLED recording nine incidents of conflict and violence against civilians throughout quarter 3.³⁴

Health and Nutrition

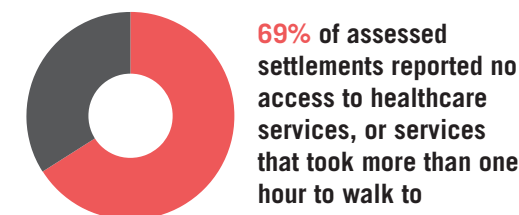
The proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to healthcare decreased in quarter 3 of 2019. In June, 87% of assessed settlements in Central Equatoria (excluding Kajo-Keji) reported access to healthcare services within walking distance of their settlement, decreasing to 69% in September. Reported reasons for lack of access to healthcare in September were that facilities were too distant (possibly due to poor road access in the rainy season), or that they had never existed (30% of assessed settlements for both).

Overall, 69% of assessed settlements reported no access to healthcare services or access to services that took longer than one hour to walk to, indicating that the existing health infrastructure is unlikely to be adequately serving vulnerable populations incapable of travelling long distances. Access was particularly poor in Juba County, where 80% of assessed settlements reported no access within one hour, and of the 57% of assessed settlements which reported no access, 47% reported no staff or drugs, indicating poorly equipped and supported healthcare services. Access was also poor in Kajo-Keji County, where 56% of assessed settlements reported no access within one hour, and 19% reported access took a full day.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Access to improved sources of water decreased in Central Equatoria, from 97% of assessed settlements (excluding Kajo-Keji) reporting the presence of a functioning borehole in June, to 79% in September. Only 58% of assessed settlements reported using a borehole as their main source of water, a decrease from 73% in June, with a major decrease in Yei County from 100% in June to 54% in September. In Juba County, 20% of assessed settlements reported

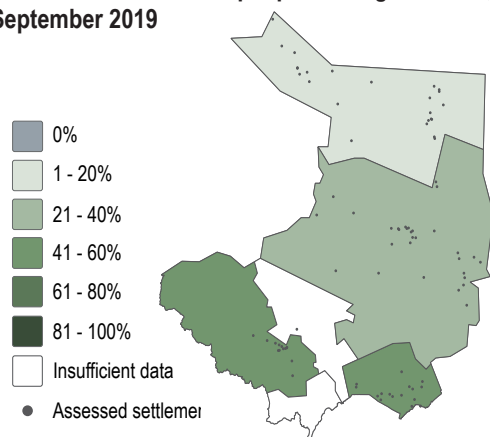
Figure 5: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting poor access to healthcare services, September 2019



they had not been able to access their preferred water source due to protection concerns, up from 4% in June, further indicating a deteriorating protection situation in Juba County. In Kajo-Keji County, borehole access was low, with only 56% of assessed settlements reporting a functional borehole.

The risk of waterborne disease outbreaks may have increased this quarter, with a reduction in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to latrines, from 93% of assessed settlements in June to 73% in September. The proportion of assessed settlements reporting not washing their hands also increased, from 10% in June to 33% in September, although in Yei County, a high-risk location for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD),³⁵ 54% reported washing their hands with soap, consistent with June. Risks were likely particularly high in Juba and Terekeka counties. Only 13% of assessed settlements in Terekeka County, and 23% in Juba County, reported physical access to

Map 6: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to health services and a borehole and most people using latrines, September 2019



healthcare and a functional borehole and most people using latrines. In addition, only 5% of settlements in Terekeka County reported hand-washing with soap, whilst in Juba County 57% of assessed settlements reported not washing their hands at all.

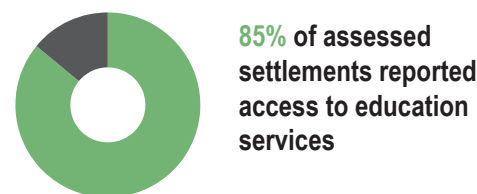
Education

In September, 85% of assessed settlements reported access to education services within walking distance in Yei, Juba and Terekeka counties, consistent with June, whilst in Kajo-Keji County, 88% of assessed settlements reported access to education services. Of all assessed settlements that reported no access to education in September, the primary reported reasons were a lack of facilities (60% of assessed settlements) and teacher displacement (20%).

Reported proportions of enrolled students reduced between June and September. Of assessed settlements which reported access to education services, only 25% reported that more than half of girls were attending school in September (39% in June), and 31% of settlements reported that more than half of boys were attending (41% in June).

The proportions of pupils attending school typically reduces throughout the year; girls are often the first to be withdrawn from school due to lack of money, whilst for boys, the opportunity cost for households of school attendance increases throughout the important weeding and cultivation season.³⁶ In line with this, of assessed settlements which reported children were not attending school in September, the primary reported reason for girls' non-attendance was fees (35% of assessed settlements), whilst there was an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting the

Figure 6: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to education services within walking distance, September 2019



primary reason for boys' non-attendance was agricultural chores, from 14% in June to 50% in September. Agricultural chores were particularly highly reported in Terekeka County, where 75% of assessed settlements reported this as the main reason for boys' non-attendance, likely related to the high reliance on cultivated food and cattle camp labour in Terekeka County.

Shelter

Positive trends in access to shelter continued this quarter. Eighty-eight percent (88%) of assessed settlements reported host communities were living in tukuls or permanent structures, and only 10% of assessed settlements reported host community living in rakoobas,³⁸ with 1% in tents and none in improvised shelters.

The shelter situation for IDPs was less positive; whilst the majority (55%) of assessed settlements reporting IDP presence reported IDPs were living in tukuls or permanent buildings, 38% reported the main shelter type for IDPs was rakooba or tents. This was possibly exacerbated by local flooding in Juba and Terekeka counties, which led to shelter destruction; 63% and 42% of assessed settlements respectively reported that flooding during the month prior to data collection had forced people to leave their homes.³⁷

Conclusion

Persistent food insecurity across Juba, Terekeka, and Kajo-Keji counties continued to drive high humanitarian needs, whilst reduced access to WASH infrastructure and health facilities increased the risks of waterborne disease and malnutrition. IDP presence in Juba and Kajo-Keji counties, and continued cattle raiding in Juba and Terekeka counties led to increased protection concerns, and likely contributed to worsening food security. Whilst access to food improved in Yei, an increase in conflict-related incidents in the southern counties of Central Equatoria continued to drive displacement and will likely contribute to high humanitarian needs in future quarters. Overall, recovery from long periods of insecurity is fragile and has only just begun.

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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