

# Situation Overview: Greater Bahr el Ghazal, South Sudan

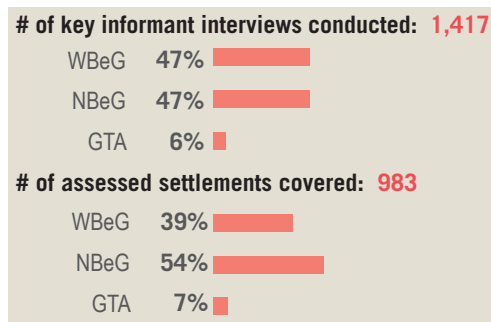
April - June 2018

**REACH** An initiative of  
IMPACT Initiatives  
ACTED and UNOSAT

## Introduction

Increased conflict in the Greater Bahr el Ghazal (GBeG)<sup>1</sup> region led to waves of displacement and the further deterioration of food security between April and June 2018. Armed clashes in Western Bahr el Ghazal (WBeG) State and the Greater Tonj area<sup>2</sup> negatively impacted the ability of affected communities to meet primary needs and resulted in restricted humanitarian access to both areas. Meanwhile, environmental factors triggered severe food insecurity in Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBeG) State.

REACH has been assessing hard-to-reach areas in WBeG since April 2017, NBeG since March 2018 and the Greater Tonj area since January 2018. The data was collected through key informant interviews on a monthly basis from settlements in Jur River,



Wau, and Raja counties in WBeG State; Aweil North, East, South, Centre, and West Counties in NBeG State; and Tonj North, South and East Counties in Warrap State.

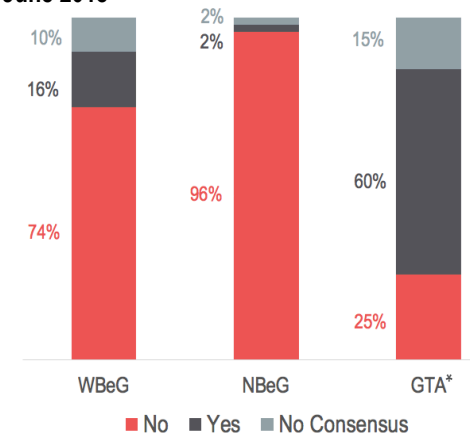
In the first quarter of 2018, REACH interviewed 1,417 key informants (KIs) across 983 settlements in 11 counties in the GBeG region. To triangulate the findings, REACH conducted 4 Gap Analysis Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), 2 Participatory Displacement Mapping

FGDs, 2 Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) FGDs and 1 Shocks Profiling FGD with a total of 61 participants. In addition, 5 key informants from humanitarian partners were consulted during the quarter. The findings were supplemented with secondary data and past REACH assessments of hard-to-reach areas.

To ensure an up to date understanding of current displacement dynamics and humanitarian conditions in settlements across WBeG State, NBeG State and Greater Tonj area, REACH interviewed KIs who were either new arrivals or in contact with an individual from the assessed settlement within the last month.

This situation overview evaluates changes in humanitarian needs and displacement dynamics across the GBeG region from April to June 2018. The first section analyses displacement and population movement

**Figure 1: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDPs present in settlements, June 2018**



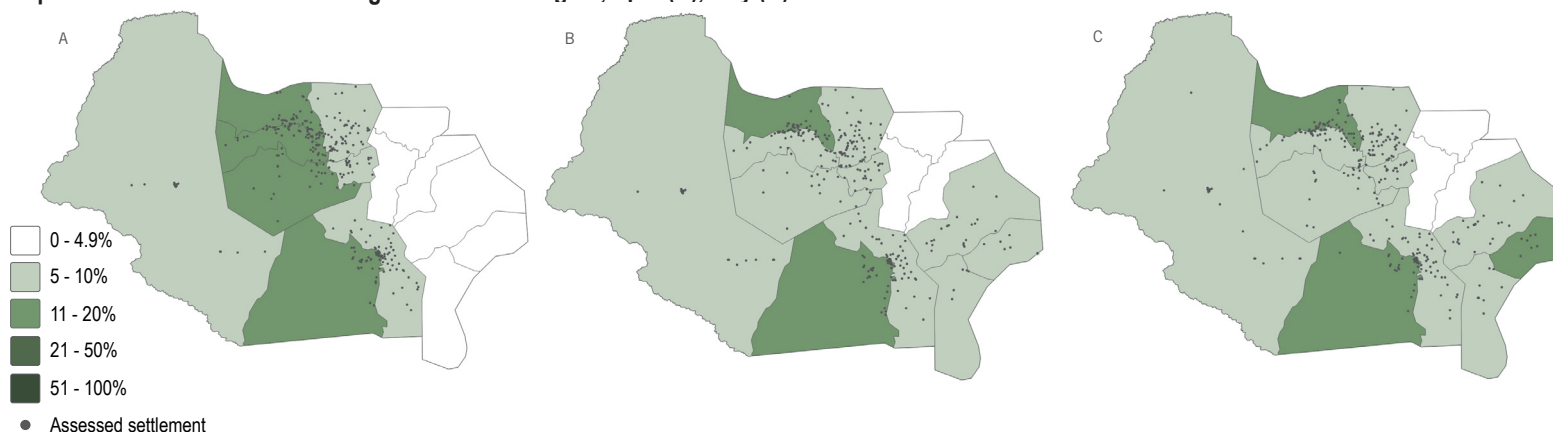
and the second section focuses on access to food and basic services for both internally displaced persons (IDPs) and local populations in assessed settlements in GBeG.

## Population Movement and Displacement

In WBeG State and Greater Tonj area, an escalation in conflict and a deterioration in humanitarian conditions continued to drive displacement across the region. Meanwhile, the stable security environment and lack of environmental shocks in NBeG meant that KIs reported fewer incidences of displacement across the state.

Across the GBeG region, 16%, 2% and

**Map 1: REACH assessment coverage of the GBeG region, April (A), May (B) and June 2018**



1. This overview refers to GBeG as Western Bahr el Ghazal State, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State and the Greater Tonj area of Tonj North, Tonj South and Tonj East Counties in Warrap State. Note that REACH does not cover Gogrial East, Gogrial West or Twic Counties in Warrap State.

2. Tonj North, Tonj South and Tonj East County.

\*Greater Tonj area henceforth in all figures.

## METHODOLOGY

To provide an overview of the situation in hard-to-reach areas of Western Bahr el Ghazal (WBeG) State, Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBeG) State, and the Greater Tonj area in Warrap State, REACH used primary data provided by key informants who have recently arrived, or receive regular information, from a location or "Area of Knowledge" (AoK).

Information for this report was collected from key informants in the Wau PoC site, the five collective centers in Wau town, Aweil town, and through remote phone calling to key informants in Warrap State in April, May and June 2018.

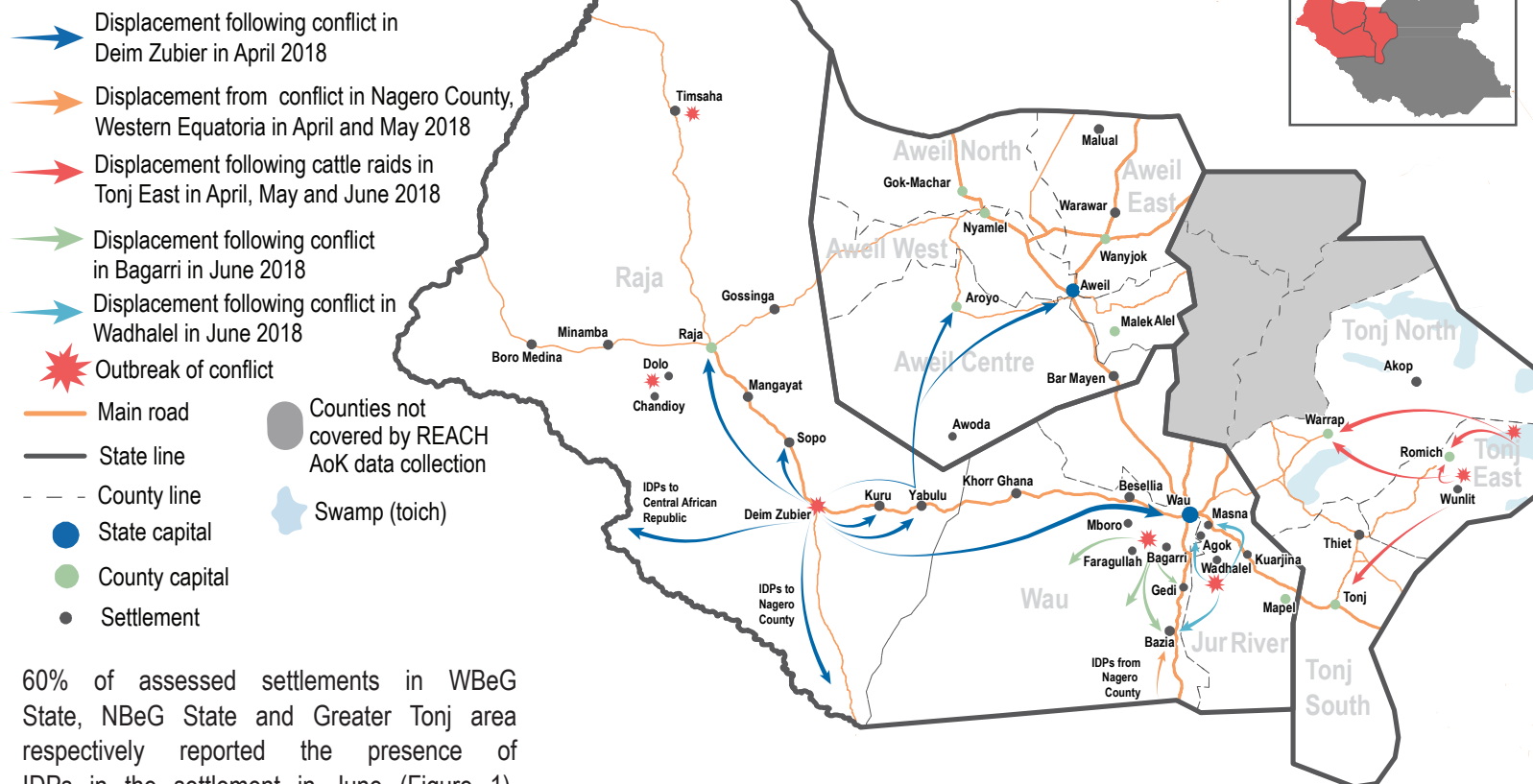
In-depth interviews were conducted with selected participants using a standardised survey tool comprising questions on displacement trends, population needs, and access to basic services.

After data collection was completed, all data was examined at the settlement level, and settlements were assigned the modal response. When KIs reporting on the same settlement reported differing answers for an indicator and there was no consensus across the majority of KIs, then the responses were deleted to maintain data quality and reported as no consensus (NC). When KIs reported not knowing an answer or preferring not to answer, this was also reported as NC. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics and geospatial analysis.

Due to operational constraints that can impact coverage each month, some of the reported changes in this overview may be due to the variations in coverage.

Data reflects findings from April to June 2018 for WBeG State and for June 2018 in NBeG State and the Greater Tonj area. This is the first Situation Overview in which REACH is reporting on NBeG State and Greater Tonj area, so the reported data is a baseline for REACH.

**Map 2: Displacement in Greater Bahr el Ghazal, April-June 2018**



60% of assessed settlements in WBeG State, NBeG State and Greater Tonj area respectively reported the presence of IDPs in the settlement in June (Figure 1).

By the end of the second quarter, 47% of assessed settlements in WBeG State reported that half or less of the local population remained in the settlement. FGD participants from Wau, Raja and Jur River counties in WBeG consistently reported insecurity as the cause for displacement during the quarter. Of the assessed settlements in Wau County that reported hosting IDPs, there was an increase in spontaneous settlements reported as the primary shelter location for IDPs from 6% in April to 25% in June.

A resurgence of conflict between armed actors in

the Greater Bagarri area in WBeG State mid-June triggered the displacement of people south and southwest into the bush within Wau County (Map 2). Little is known about the location of IDPs due to the remoteness of the displacement area and lack of humanitarian access. Wau County also saw an increase in IDPs arriving from Nagero County, Western Equatoria State following armed conflict near Nagero town in May and June. In June, a humanitarian partner reported 650 households (HHs) from Nagero County were seeking refuge in Bazia, Wau County.<sup>3</sup>

In April, 54% of assessed settlements in Raja

County reported that more than half of the population had left the settlement. Early in April, an outbreak of conflict in Deim Zubier, Raja County, WBeG State resulted in the displacement of over 3,000 people within WBeG and to neighbouring states and countries (Map 2).<sup>4</sup> See REACH's Deim Zubier Displacement Brief for more information on the displacement routes and reported needs of IDPs from Deim Zubier.

Clashes between armed actors in Timsaha and Dolo in northern Raja County in May also triggered the displacement of HHs in the area.

3. Reported during a Wau Humanitarian Coordination Forum meeting.

4. REACH, Deim Zubier Displacement Brief, April 2018.

5. See the REACH Chandioy Food Security and Livelihoods Brief, February 2018 for further information on the displacement in Dolo in early 2018.

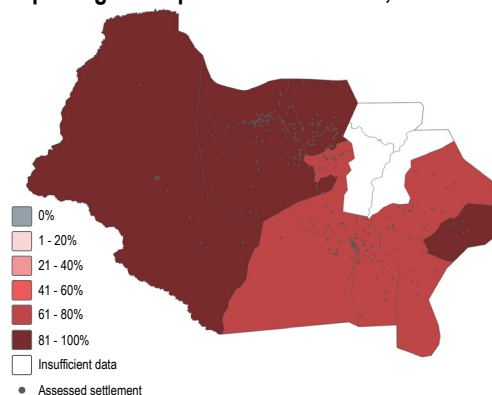
Although, given the remote nature of these locations, little is known about displacement routes or humanitarian needs on the ground. These episodes follow an outbreak of fighting in Dolo in January 2018, which displaced over 2,000 IDPs to nearby Chandioy.<sup>5</sup>

An episode of fighting between armed actors in Wadhalel, Jur River County in June caused the displacement of over 2,000 IDPs to Masna Collective Center and Agok in Wau Municipality as well as to settlements south of Wadhalel mid-June (See Map 2).<sup>6</sup> Primarily women and children were reportedly displaced in Jur River County and FGD participants in Masna reported spending four days traveling through the bush with no access to food to reach Wau town.

The episodes of displacement in Wau, Raja and Jur River Counties all occurred at the start of the growing season, which has reportedly disrupted this year's cultivation in some settlements and may have negative implications for food security in WBeG State in the coming months.<sup>7</sup>

In the Greater Tonj area, cattle raids and inter-clan conflict in Tonj East and North Counties continued to cause displacement west and south primarily into Romich, Warrap and Tonj towns in the second quarter (Map 2). In June, assessed settlements in the Greater Tonj area that reported hosting IDPs reported that the IDPs primarily left from Tonj East County (42%) and Tonj North County (33%) and travelled to Tonj South County. Seventy-five percent (75%) of assessed settlements in Tonj South County reported hosting IDPs,

**Map 3: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting inadequate access to food, June 2018**



the highest in the GBeG region, followed by Tonj North County (61%). Episodes of conflict are common around the toich (swamp) area that borders eastern Tonj East and North Counties and Unity State because it is optimal grazing land for cattle and used by many cattle keepers.<sup>8</sup> The conflicts in eastern Greater Tonj area have caused the displacement of people north, west and south within Greater Tonj area (Map 2). However, little is known about specific displacement patterns and humanitarian needs in the area given that few in-depth assessments have been conducted in the Greater Tonj area.

The stable security environment in NBeG State allowed for minimal displacement; only 2% of assessed settlements reported hosting IDPs in June. The primary push factors reported were distance from family and a lack of access to goods and services such as food and healthcare. The lack of access to services is likely resultant of the flooding in much of NBeG State in 2017; see Food Security and Livelihoods Section.

## Situation in Assessed Settlements

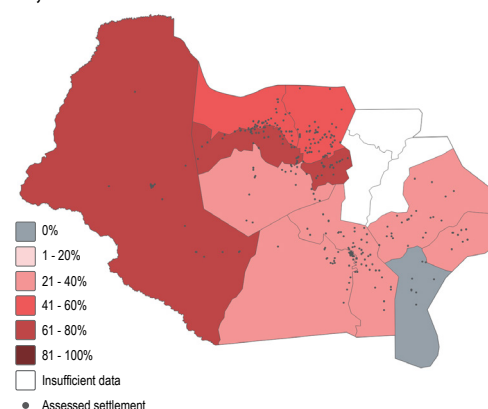
### Food Security and Livelihoods

Food insecurity was critical in GBeG in the second quarter of 2018; less than 20% of assessed settlements in each area reported having adequate access to food in June (Map 3). According to the May-July 2018 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projections, NBeG State has the second largest proportion of the national population in Phase 4 (Emergency) behind Jonglei State.<sup>9</sup>

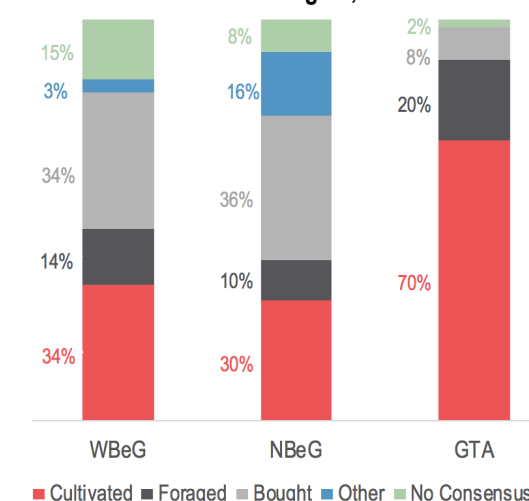
### Western Bahr el Ghazal State

Food insecurity rose significantly in WBeG State during the second quarter of 2018; assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food dropped from 31% in April to 13% in June. Following two missed harvests, a short growing season, displacement and crop destruction in 2017, the minimal harvest last year resulted in an early-onset lean season state-wide this year.<sup>10</sup>

**Map 4: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting hunger as severe or the worst it could be, June 2018**



**Figure 2. Reported source of food in assessed settlements in the GBeG region, June 2018**



The armed clashes that occurred during the second quarter caused displacement, which has resulted in the inability to tend to cultivation, threatening a third harvest in a row.<sup>11</sup> The proportion of assessed settlements reporting it was unsafe to access land for cultivation increased from 5% in April to 26% in June, restricting planting and access to food.

Jur River County, historically one of the more food secure counties in the region because of its stable security environment, had a dramatic decline in reported access to enough food in assessed settlements following the June clashes in Wadhalel. Reported adequate access to food in assessed settlements dropped from 47% in April to 20% in June.

IDPs in the Greater Bagarri area were largely reliant on food assistance from humanitarian partners in early 2018. Humanitarian assistance has been the primary food source

6. OCHA, South Sudan: Humanitarian Snapshot, June 2018.

7. Reported by FGD participants from WBeG.

8. Radio Tamazuj, 'Official: Gunmen kill 12 people and raid cattle in Tonj East County, February 2018.

9. IPC, Key IPC Findings: January-July 2018.

10. Reported by FGD participants from WBeG.

11. Reported by FGD participants from Wau and Jur River Counties.

12. OCHA, South Sudan: Humanitarian Bulletin, February 2018.



for IDPs in the area since late last year.<sup>12</sup> However, by the end of the assessment period, there was no humanitarian access to the Greater Bagarri area or conflict-affected areas of Jur River County.<sup>13</sup> The lack of access further jeopardizes food security in the region and is cause for acute humanitarian concern.

### Northern Bahr el Ghazal State

In June, only 13% of assessed settlements in NBeG reported having adequate access to food. Between August and October 2017, pervasive flooding destroyed crops in the lowland areas of Aweil East, North, West and South Counties and triggered displacement to Aweil town. Consequently, the 2017 harvest was unable to meet the food needs of the population, which has had lasting effects on food security in NBeG State. In June, the primary reasons cited for lacking access to enough food in assessed settlements were the destruction of crops by pests (31%) and flooding (20%). Humanitarian partners in NBeG reported that irregular rains in May and June 2018 disrupted this year's cultivation and an outbreak of fall army worm reported in Aweil East County in June has affected many

**Figure 3: Primary reported livelihood activities in the GBeG region, June 2018**

	WBeG	NBeG	GTA
Casual labour	79%	48%	95%
Fishing / Hunting	16%	39%	93%
Crops for sustenance	54%	33%	50%
Livestock	5%	54%	90%

13. OCHA, South Sudan: Humanitarian Access Snapshot, June 2018.

14. Reported by humanitarian partners during an Inter-Cluster Working Group meeting in Aweil, NBeG State.

15. FEWSNET, South Sudan - Livelihoods Zones, August 2013.

of the young crops in the region.<sup>14</sup>

More than half of assessed settlements (54%) reported rearing livestock as their primary livelihood source in June (Figure 3). However, cattle disease was reportedly high; the majority (54%) of assessed settlements reported there was an outbreak of livestock disease in the community in June. Additionally, a key informant reported that the acute food insecurity in the state led a large portion of HHs to sell their cattle to migratory groups from western Darfur, Sudan who took the cattle up to Darfur in the first and second quarters of 2018. Selling cattle is often a last-resort coping mechanism given the reliance on livestock as a livelihood source.

Market dependence was high in June; 36% of assessed settlements in NBeG State reported buying food as their main food source (Figure 2); however, the vast majority (93%) also reported cereal prices increased at the end of the second quarter. Half of assessed settlements reported the price increases had a large impact on their ability to access enough food.

### Greater Tonj area

Ongoing cattle raids and intra-communal clashes in Tonj East County had negative consequences on access to food and livelihoods in June. Only 18% of assessed settlements in the Greater Tonj area reported having adequate access to food in June. Most assessed settlements reported that the main reason there was an insufficient amount food was because cultivation was disrupted due to displacement (34%) or crops were destroyed during conflict (21%).

While growing crops for sustenance was reported as a major livelihoods activity in

**Figure 4: Primary reported consumption-based coping mechanisms in the GBeG region, June 2018**

	WBeG	NBeG	GTA
Less expensive food	46%	68%	63%
Limiting meal size	43%	65%	63%
Reducing number of meals	45%	54%	80%

the Greater Tonj area, 53% of assessed settlements reported not having access to enough seeds or tools in June. Greater Tonj area is split into three livelihoods zones, which include sorghum, maize, cattle, oil and agro-pastoral.<sup>15</sup> Thus, the lack of tools and seeds is concerning given that June was the end of planting season, meaning many settlements may have limited cultivation this year.

Tonj East County, reportedly the most conflict-affected county in Greater Tonj area, is also reportedly one of the most food insecure. Of the assessed settlements that reported inadequate access to food, 28% reported hunger was severe in June. Ninety-eight percent (98%) of assessed settlements reported eating wild foods as part of a main meal and 45% reported that regular wild food consumption was making people sick, a strong indication that Tonj East County is experiencing severe food insecurity.

All assessed settlements in the Greater Tonj area reported people own cattle in the community and 90% reported livestock as a livelihood source in June (Figure 3). However, 18% of assessed settlements cited that their herds were affected by cattle diseases in June, which reportedly had an impact on

**Figure 5: Primary reported livelihoods-based coping mechanisms in the GBeG region, June 2018**

	WBeG	NBeG	GTA
Gather wild food	56%	49%	85%
Consume seeds	28%	48%	75%
Sell home assets	24%	41%	48%
Borrow food	44%	20%	28%
Sell livestock	3%	27%	8%

adequate access to food in assessed settlements in Tonj East and North Counties.

### Coping Strategies

All assessed settlements reported relying on both consumption-based and livelihoods coping mechanisms in the second quarter in the Greater Bahr el Ghazal region.

In WBeG State, there was a surge in assessed

**Figure 6: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting consumption-based coping mechanisms in WBeG State, March-June 2018**

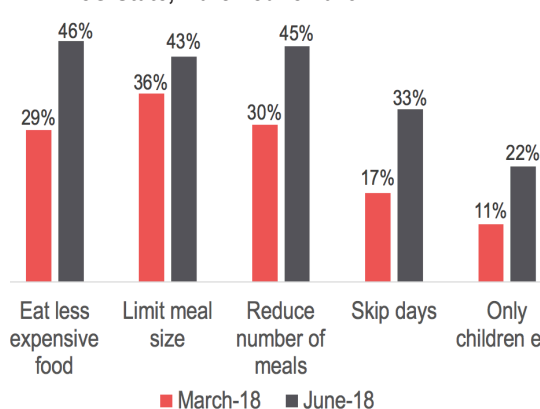
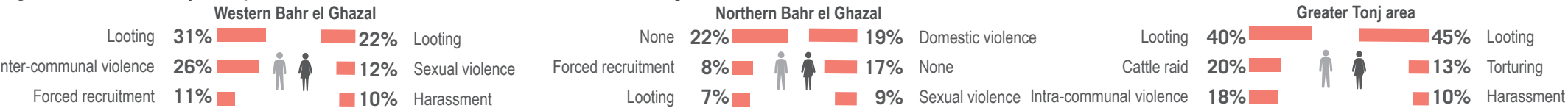


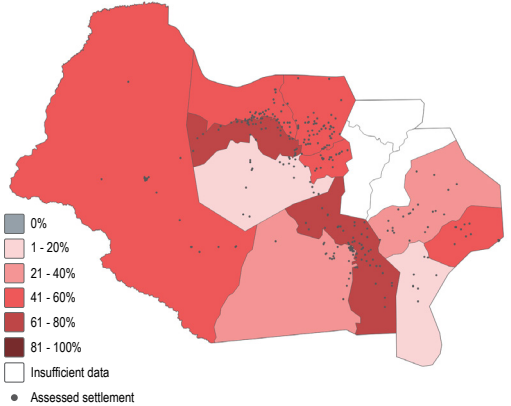
Figure 7: Most commonly cited protection concerns for men and women in the GBeG region, June 2018



settlements reporting consumption-based coping mechanisms between the end of last quarter and June 2018 (Figure 6). FGDs participants from Raja and Wau Counties reported that skipping days, reducing the number of meals eaten per day and relying on wild foods that make people sick were the most severe consumption-based coping mechanisms employed in the region. The proportion of assessed settlements in Raja County reporting skipping days of eating to cope with the lack of food quadrupled from 15% at the end of last quarter to 61% in June.

Livelihoods-based coping strategies were also employed to mitigate food insecurity in GBeG (Figure 5). A high proportion of assessed

Map 5: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting protection concern for women and girls as SGBV-related, June 2018



settlements in the Greater Tonj area reported consuming seeds and gathering wild foods as primary coping strategies. Consuming seeds is one of the most severe livelihoods coping mechanisms as it reduces the ability to cultivate a full harvest in the following season.

Protection

Persistent clashes between armed groups, inter and intra-communal violence and episodes of displacement have caused protection concerns in WBeG State and Greater Tonj area in the second quarter of 2018 (Figure 8).

Looting remained one of the most prevalent perceived protection concerns in assessed settlements in WBeG State in the second quarter as well as in the Greater Tonj area in June 2018 (Figure 7). The proportion of assessed settlements in Jur River County that reported incidents of property looting increased from to 37% at the end of last quarter to 52% in June 2018. Additionally, there was an increase in reported incidents of looting of humanitarian agencies that affected the delivery of FSL, nutrition and health supplies in Wau County in June.<sup>16</sup>

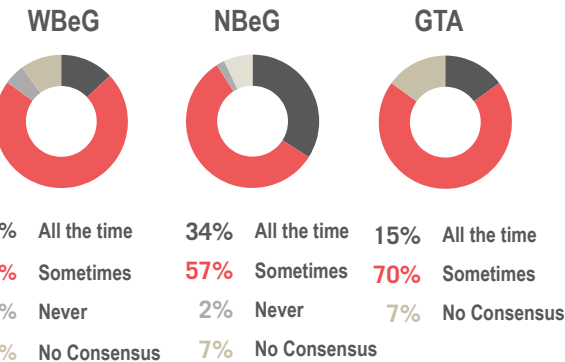
The episodes of conflict in WBeG State also triggered a spike in reports of recruitment as a protection concern for boys. The

proportion of assessed settlements citing forced recruitment as the main protection issue for boys increased from 8% at the end of last quarter to 22% in June state-wide. This was particularly severe in Raja County, where 30% of assessed settlements reported forced recruitment as boys' primary perceived protection concern.

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) was a primary reported protection concern for women and girls across GBeG region (Map 5). In Aweil South County, NBeG State, early marriage was reported as the primary protection concern for girls by 45% of assessed settlements in June. FGD participants from Wau and Raja Counties reported that many HHs are preventing girls from going to school given the prevalence of SGBV in recent months.

Given the stable security environment in NBeG State,

Figure 8: Degree of perceived safety in assessed settlements in GBeG region, June 2018



the state maintained the highest proportion of assessed settlements reporting no perceived protection concerns in the community for men (22%) and boys (23%) in June.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Tukuls accounted for the main shelter type for host communities in the majority of assessed settlements in the Greater Bahr el Ghazal region in June (Figure 9).

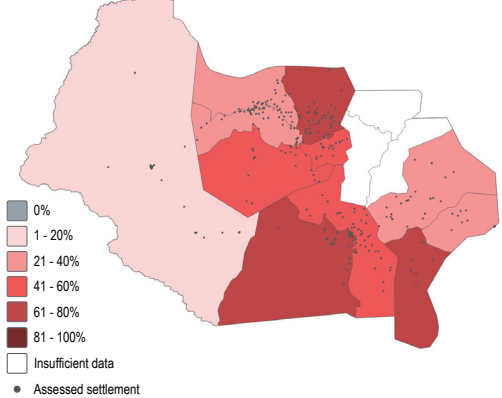
IDP shelter types varied considerably in Raja County during the second quarter; the proportion of assessed settlements reporting improvised shelters as the main shelter type for IDPs increased in Raja County from 0% in April to 33% in June. There was a similar spike in assessed settlements in Raja County reporting IDPs sleeping in the open (without shelter) from 0% to 33% over the quarter. This is likely attributable to the multiple outbreaks of conflict and waves of new displacement in the region during the assessment period.

In NBeG State, 23% of assessed settlements reported that host communities primarily lived in rakoobas in June, the highest reported in the region. Key informants in NBeG State explained that the 2017 floods destroyed many tukuls and several HHs have not had the resources to rebuild, resulting in a high proportion of host communities living in rakoobas.

Given the large amount of displacement in

16. OCHA, South Sudan: Humanitarian Access Snapshot, June 2018.

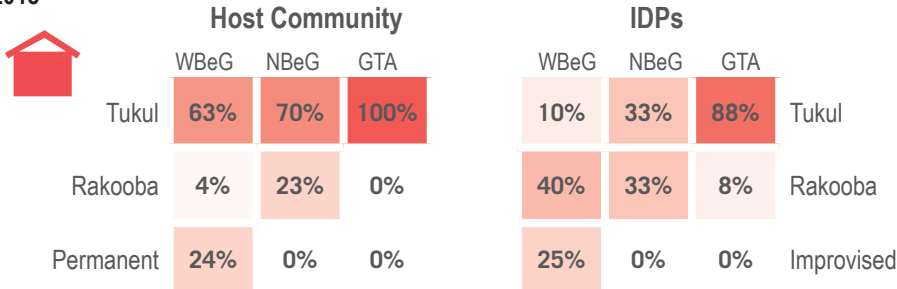
Map 6: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting using an unprotected water source, June 2018



the second quarter in WBeG State and Greater Tonj area, several NFIs were reportedly needed most to support IDPs in assessed settlements. In Greater Tonj area, assessed settlements reported needing mosquito nets (17%), blankets (17%) and plastic sheets (13%) most, while assessed settlements in WBeG reported primarily needing plastic sheets (35%), mosquito nets (20%), and sleeping mats (10%) most to support IDPs in June.

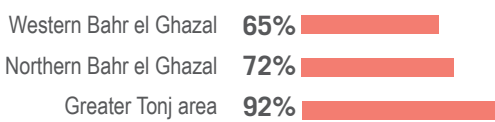
Health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Figure 9: Primary reported shelter type for host communities and IDPs in the GBeg region, June 2018



17. Unprotected water sources include: donkey carts, ponds, protected and unprotected wells, rivers and swamps. Given 'protected wells' are commonly interpreted as any well that is covered by any means, including by sticks or foliage, in South Sudan, they are considered an unprotected water source in analysis.

Figure 10: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting presence of any functioning borehole in the settlement, June 2018



Boreholes continued to be the primary reported water source for assessed settlements in WBeG State in the second quarter and for NBeG State and the Greater Tonj area in June. However, the proportion reporting functioning boreholes varied across the areas (Figure 10). The majority of assessed settlements in Tonj South (63%), Wau (68%), Aweil East (63%) and Aweil South (55%) Counties reported an unprotected water source<sup>17</sup> as the primary source of water (Map 6). Overall, access to protected water sources within 30 minutes was low across the region in June.

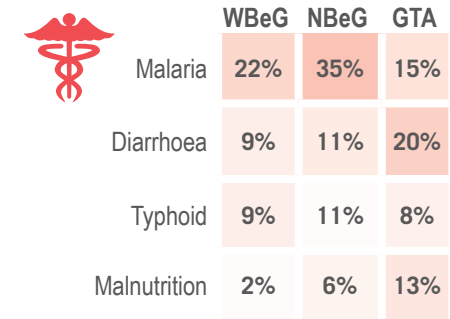
Reported access to clean water in assessed settlements in Jur River County declined during the second quarter due to the rise in conflict and displacement in the area. Of the assessed settlements that reported having boreholes in Jur River County, the proportion reporting the presence of a functioning borehole decreased

from 65% in April to 48% in June. Over half (52%) of assessed settlements reported not being able to access their preferred water point because of insecurity in June, which is attributable to the recent outbreaks of conflict.

The majority of assessed settlements in the Greater Tonj area (63%) and nearly half in NBeG State (49%) reported that livestock and other animals used the same water source as people or were kept nearby the water source in June. This practice raises the risk of consuming faecal material from livestock, which can result in waterborne and diarrhoeal diseases, such as typhoid.

Contributing to the poor sanitation and hygiene conditions, the practice of open defecation was also reportedly common in

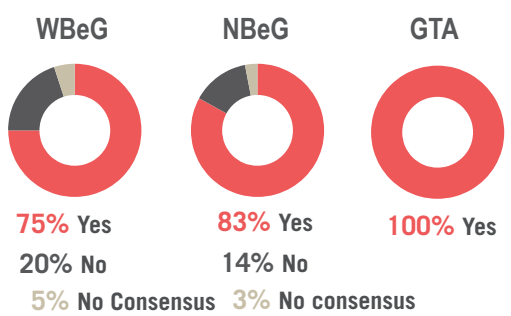
Figure 11: Primary reported health concerns in the GBeg region, June 2018



the Greater Tonj area, NBeG State, and Jur River County in June. Seventy-five percent (75%) or more of assessed settlements in all three areas reported that no one used latrines in June and most people reported either not washing their hands or only using water.

The low standard of hygiene and sanitation

Figure 12: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to healthcare facilities in the GBeg region, June 2018



in the assessed settlements was reflected in the major health issues reported in the region in June (Figure 11). The primary health concerns reported in the Greater Tonj area were waterborne diseases, which include diarrhoea, typhoid, stomach pain and cholera, cited by 35% of assessed settlements in June. Waterborne diseases were also acute in Jur River County where there was a spike in assessed settlements reporting cholera as their primary perceived health concern from 2% in April to 17% in June. This is alarming given the the low standards of hygiene and sanitation practices in the county.

With the onset of the rainy season, malaria was the most commonly reported health concern in assessed settlements in WBeG and NBeG States (Figure 11). However, access to malaria medication remained problematic; 46% of assessed settlements in WBeG State and 80% of assessed settlements in NBeG State reported needing malaria drugs in June 2018. Malaria was the primary reported death cause in assessed settlements in NBeG State (48%) and the second most common reported cause of death in WBeG State (12%) in June.

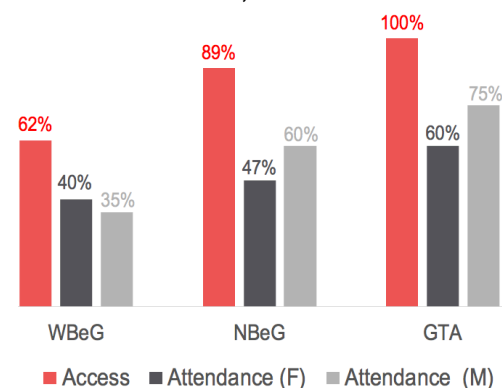


Access to healthcare facilities was reportedly high across the GBeG region in the second quarter; over 75% of assessed settlements in all three areas reported maintaining access in June (Figure 12). In WBeG State access remained consistent to previous months, except for in assessed settlements in Jur River County where reported access to facilities dropped between April (77%) and June (59%), following the clashes and displacement.

## Education

Access to education remained consistently low in WBeG State in the second quarter. In Jur River County, assessed settlements reporting access to education decreased from 57% to 46% between April and June. FGD participants from WBeG State reported that the increased insecurity has prevented many youth from attending school across the state. Forty-nine percent (49%) of assessed settlements in

**Figure 13: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to education and attendance of half or more girls (F) and boys (M) in assessed settlements, June 2018**



WBeG State reported that the primary barrier to accessing education was conflict-related.

Assessed settlements in NBeG State and the Greater Tonj area reported high access to education, but comparatively low attendance rates in June 2018 (Figure 13). In NBeG State, 47% of assessed settlements reported that half or more girls attended school and 60% reported the same for boys in June. Assessed settlements in NBeG State cited economic barriers as the primary cause for low attendance for girls given most girls often lack financial support.<sup>18</sup> As school fees in Aweil town are higher than in rural areas of NBeG State, several HHs that fled to Aweil town following the floods have been reportedly unable to send their children to school.

In Greater Tonj area, a lack of supplies and high fees were the primary reasons preventing girls from attending school and the need to work in agriculture was the primary reported barrier for boys' school attendance in June.

## Conclusion

In the second quarter of 2018, clashes in Western Bahr el Ghazal State and the Greater Tonj area and environmental conditions in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State caused a decline in food security and prevented settlements from meeting their basic needs.

The compounding effects of multiple missed harvests, displacement, unfavourable environmental conditions and market price

inflation have resulted in an early-onset lean season particularly in WBeG and NBeG States.

Episodes of armed conflict in Wau, Raja and Jur River Counties in WBeG State and cattle raids in Tonj North and East Counties in Warrap State in the second quarter caused new waves of displacement in the region. With decreases in host community numbers, cultivation in 2018 has been jeopardized, which will likely critically impact food security towards the end of this year.

The newly volatile security situation in Jur River County led to a significant decrease in the ability of HHs to access basic services in the county, such as healthcare facilities and education. Given the poor sanitation practices, increases in assessed settlements reporting cholera as a main health concern and waves of displacement, the humanitarian situation in assessed settlements in Jur River County will be fragile in the coming months. Additionally, the lack of humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas of Jur River County, Raja County, as well as the Greater Bagarri area may have severe implications for the region.

Overall, with a decline in the security situation across the region, the largest ongoing threat is severe food insecurity and loss of livelihoods, which will likely continue to decline in the coming months as the lean season continues.

## About REACH

REACH 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. All REACH activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms.

For more information, you can write to our in-country office: [southsudan@reach-initiative.org](mailto:southsudan@reach-initiative.org) or to our global office: [geneva@reach-initiative.org](mailto:geneva@reach-initiative.org).

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18. Radio Tamazuj, 'Let girls go to school: Aweil education official', July 2018.