

Situation Overview: Upper Nile State, South Sudan

July - September 2019

REACH An initiative of
IMPACT Initiatives
ACTED and UNOSAT

Introduction

Cumulative years of conflict, associated displacement and heavy flooding during the third quarter of 2019 have driven high humanitarian needs in the Upper Nile State (UNS) of South Sudan. Data on needs in UNS is required to inform the humanitarian response. However, information gaps exist due to different regional dynamics and limited access throughout much of the state.

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 settlements and triangulated with focus group discussions (FGDs). This Situation Overview uses this data to analyse changes in observed humanitarian needs across UNS in the third quarter of 2019. Primary data was triangulated with secondary information and past REACH assessments.

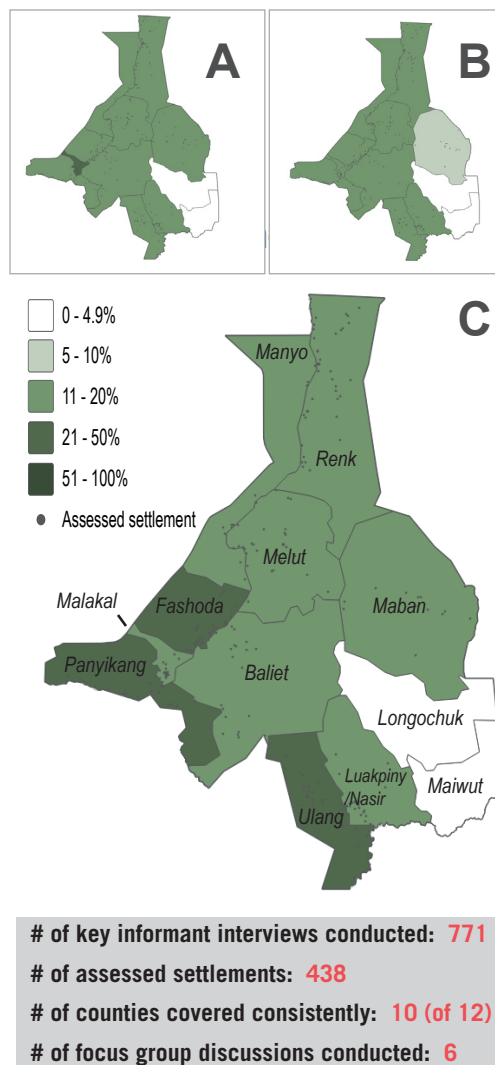
The REACH team consistently covered all counties in Upper Nile with the exception of Longochock and Maiwut. Coverage of Baliet, Maban, Melut and Renk counties was newly added during data collection in the second quarter of 2019. Information by sector is often presented across three geographic zones in UNS: the western bank (Fashoda, Panyikang, Malakal and Manyo counties), southeastern

UNS (Nasir and Ulang counties), and northeastern and central UNS (Baliet, Maban, Melut and Renk counties).

Key Findings

- Large-scale recent **displacement** continued to decline this quarter, with the exception of Maban county where heavy flooding affected several payams². Protracted displacement remained common this quarter although at lower reported rates. In September, 61% of assessed settlements continued to report the presence of IDPs compared to 85% in June. Reports of **IDP returns** also decreased slightly to 66% of assessed settlements. **Refugee returns** to the west bank increased, while returns to the rest of the state decreased.
- **Food security and livelihoods (FSL)** needs improved somewhat in parts of UNS this quarter. The proportion of southeastern assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food remained stable at 62%, that of western bank settlements improved to 63% while assessed settlements in northeastern and central UNS reported a decline to 49% in September. An overall improvement is also reflected in the decrease of assessed settlements across UNS reporting that hunger is severe or the worst it can be, from 46% in June to 11% in September.

Map 1: Assessment coverage in UNS in July (A), August (B) and September (C), 2019:



METHODOLOGY

To provide an overview of the situation hard-to-reach areas of Upper Nile State (UNS) 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 from key informants in Malakal PoC site in UNS 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 the 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 focus group discussions (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. Payams are the administrative unit at the sub-county level in South Sudan.

- **Protection** concerns in western bank, northeastern and central UNS improved somewhat. However, domestic violence continued to be a danger to women in northeastern and central UNS while protection concerns, likely linked to cattle raiding, remained high across assessed settlements in southeastern UNS.
- **WASH** needs remained high, with 37% of assessed settlements reporting rivers as their main source of water, only 37% reporting latrine usage and 36% reporting the use of ash or soap for handwashing.
- The proportion of assessed settlements reporting malaria as the main **health** problem, increased to 65% of assessed settlements in September, corresponding with the height of the rainy season, inadequate **shelter** conditions and a lack of mosquito nets. Of assessed settlements in southeastern UNS with IDPs, 81% reported some IDPs sleeping in the open.
- Access to **education** improved slightly to 69% of assessed settlements across western bank counties, decreased slightly to 55% of assessed settlements in northeastern and central UNS and remained stable at 51% of assessed settlements in southeastern UNS.

Population Movement and Displacement

The third quarter of 2019 saw a continuation of the slowing of population movements, already observed in the second quarter³. Reports of

serious flooding in Maban has likely contributed to an increase in reported recent large-scale displacement in this county while the poor road conditions characteristic of the rainy season have continued to reduce internal displacement. Overall, displacement across UNS with the exception of Baliyet, Maban, and Manyo

Map 2: Movement into, out of, and within UNS, July-September 2019:



counties was low and stable. In comparison, cross-border movements increased in western bank counties while decreasing across the rest of the state.

Self-reported refugee returns from Sudan

Movements of refugees returning to South

Sudan from Sudan in the third quarter of 2019 were similar to those seen in the first and second quarters. Population flows between and through Renk town and Sudan tracked by REACH port and road monitoring (PRM) found that inbound travellers primarily came from the White Nile refugee camps with some starting in the town of Jabal Aulia or Khartoum⁴. This quarter, inflows from Sudan continued at an average of 10 individuals per day,⁵ similar to 9 individuals per day in June⁶. This corresponded with a stabilisation of the proportion of assessed settlements across South Sudan's Upper Nile State reporting any refugee returns at 53% in September, compared to 61% in June.

Households assessed in September by PRM reported the Protection of Civilian (PoC) site in Malakal (39%), Juba County (15%) and Fashoda County (13%) as their primary intended final destinations. These reports correspond with an increase in the proportion of assessed households in AoK reporting a rise in refugee returns to other part of Malakal (91% in September up from 36% in June).

Conversely, several counties in northeastern and central Upper Nile, including Maban, Melut and Baliyet, saw a drop in reported refugee returns compared to last quarter. Overall, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting

Internal Movements

Reports of IDP returns in the last six months remained low in UNS in the third quarter, with only 12% of assessed settlements reporting IDP returns in the last six months in September.

3. [REACH. Situation Overview. Upper Nile State. April-June 2019](#)

4. [REACH. Port and Road Monitoring. Renk. September 2019](#)

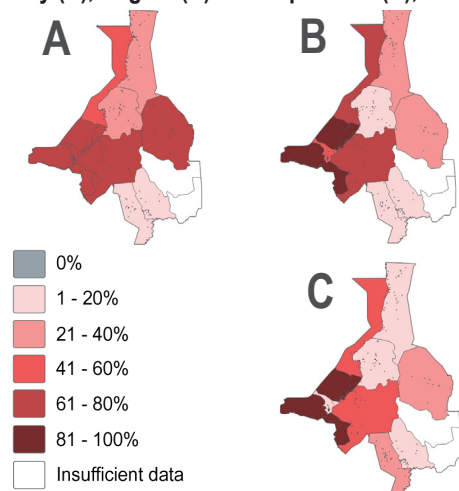
5. Idem. Numbers are indicative only and do not capture all movements as not all entry points

into Renk are monitored systematically.'

6. [REACH. Port and Road Monitoring. Renk. June, September 2019](#)

refugee returns in northeastern and central Upper Nile dropped from 40% of assessed settlements in June to only 18% in September. In Maban, this may be due to large scale flooding reported to have started in mid-June, which may have hindered returnees from accessing the area⁷.

Map 3: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting the arrival of IDP returns in the previous six months in: July (A), August (B) and September (C), 2019:



Conversely, in northeastern and central Upper Nile a decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDP returns in the last six months was recorded, from 88% in June to 26% in September (Map 3). Multiple reports of flooding in Maban, Renk and Baliet are a possible cause for this trend in those counties⁸. The decrease in IDP returns to Maban county coincides with a spike in reports of recent large-scale displacement, 92% of assessed settlements in September compared to 75%

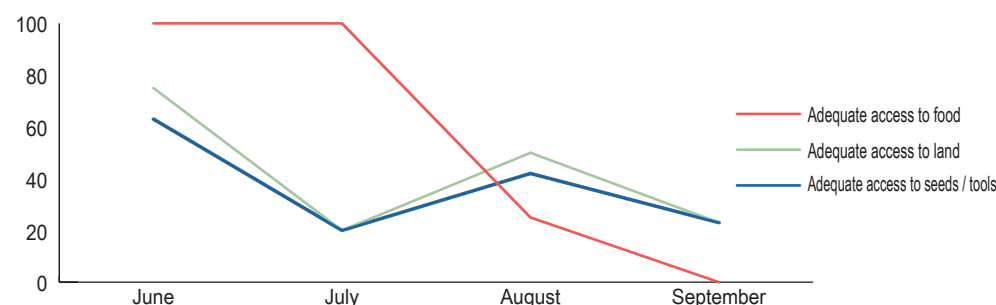
in June, likely caused by the floods that reportedly started in mid-June⁹. In Baliet, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDP returns has decreased this quarter (from 100% in June to 76% in September)¹⁰. This is a measure of geographic spread of IDP returns rather than numbers of returnees. In addition, there is a reason to believe that the number of IDP returnees to Baliet county has actually increased due to reports of facilitation returns for several thousand IDPs during the second quarter of 2019¹¹.

Situation in Assessed Settlements

Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

Despite the end of the lean season in August and continuous improvements in the security situation in UNS, large-scale floods and protracted intercommunal violence have continued to contribute to food insecurity and loss of livelihoods this quarter¹². REACH AoK data collected during the second quarter of

Figure 1: Proportion of assessed settlements in Maban reporting food distributions and adequate access to food and livelihoods, June - September 2019:

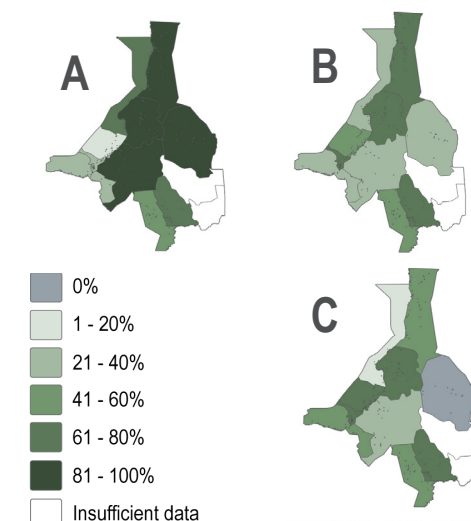


2019 continued to suggest relatively stable but partially assistance-reliant access to food in Ulang and Nasir counties¹³. On the western bank, some improvement in access to food, in line with the start of the harvest, was reported for Fashoda, Malakal and Panyikang counties, while the situation in Manyo deteriorated (Map 4). In northeastern and central UNS, reports of adequate access to food decreased, in part due to heavy flooding¹⁴. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) classified several UNS counties to be in Phase 4 'Emergency' for Acute Food Insecurity in September, including Maiwut, Longochuck and Ulang counties, while the rest of the state was classified to be in Phase 3 'Crisis'¹⁵.

Northeastern and Central UNS (Baliet, Maban, Melut and Renk)

The proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food decreased across all counties in northeastern and central Upper Nile during this quarter. In June 73% of assessed settlements in this area reported

Map 4: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting having adequate access to food in: July (A), August (B) and September (C), 2019:



adequate access, while only 42% did so in September.

The most notable change was reported in Maban county, where the decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food declined sharply from 100% in July, to 25% in August and 0% in September (Figure 1). Those settlements reporting inadequate access to food in Maban primarily attributed it to high prices (38%) and to the destruction of crops by flooding (23%). Reports indicate that the flooding, which reportedly started in mid-June, greatly impacted maize and sorghum crops, which are normally harvested between July and August in this area¹⁶. Moreover, important trade routes between Renk and Maban were reportedly

7. Reported by the RRC, August 2019.

8. Reported by the RRC, UNMISS and humanitarian partners, September & October, 2019

9. Reported by the RRC, August 2019

10. Since the indicator asking about IDP returns is not time-bound, the returns reported in quarter two should continue to be reflected in the reported numbers for quarter three.

11. SWG/ICWG. Final Report on Facilitated Returns to Baliet. June 2019.

12. FEWSNET. Livelihood zone map and description, August 2019

13. REACH. Situation Overview. Upper Nile State, April-June 2019

14. Reported by FGD participants interviewed in Renk town, October 2019

15. IPC. South Sudan Snapshot, August 2019

16. South Sudan Crop Watch, Updates from 1st Dekad of March - 3rd Dekad of July, 2019

Figure 2: Proportion of assessed settlements in Fashoda, Malakal and Panyikang reporting food distributions and adequate access to food and livelihoods, April - September 2019:

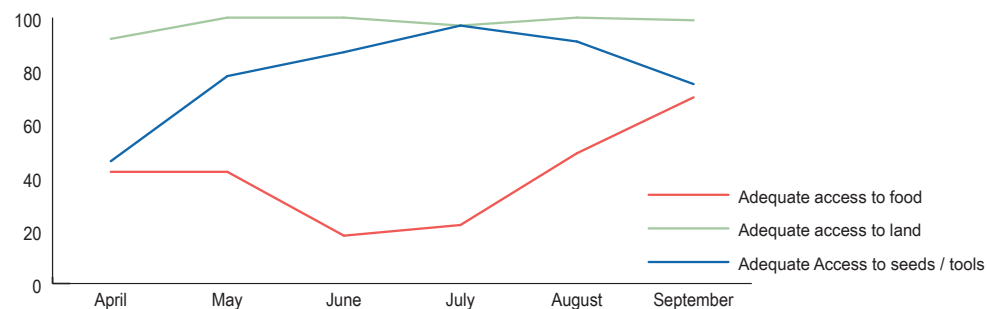
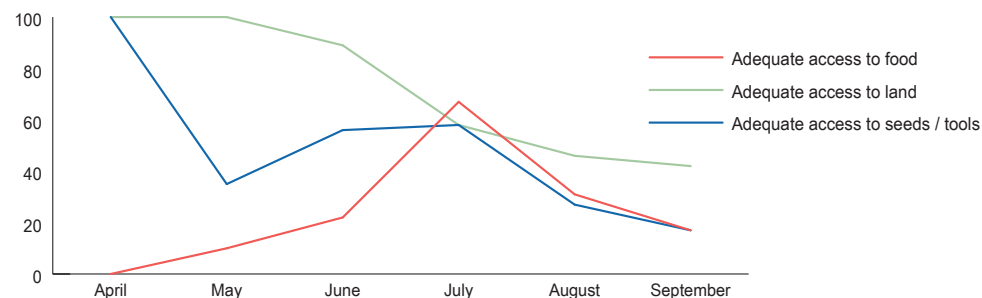


Figure 3: Proportion of assessed settlements in Manyo reporting food distributions and adequate access to food and livelihoods, April - September 2019:



rendered impassable by flooding, further contributing to food insecurity¹⁷.

In addition to access to food, livelihoods opportunities in Maban were also limited this quarter. Although the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to cattle increased slightly, so did incidents of reported disease outbreak amongst livestock. This coincided with a reduction in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to seeds and land for cultivation, which dropped in mid-June as the flooding started (Figure 1). These events in

turn, likely contributed in part to the increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting relying on remittances.

Those settlements that reported a lack of access to food in Maban, most frequently listed limiting meal size and consuming less expensive food as coping strategies. Simultaneously, an increased proportion of assessed settlement reported decreasing the number of meals consumed per day. In June, 100% of assessed settlements in Maban county reported eating two or more meals a day, while in September

this proportion had dropped to 77% of assessed settlements.

Although similar decreases in adequate access to food were reported in Baliet, Melut and Renk, these were not as pronounced, dropping from 77% of assessed settlements in June to 53% in September. Reports of flooding destroying crops in Akoka, Baliet county, indicate that the flooding has contributed to the decrease in access to food in that area¹⁸. However, assessed settlements in these counties continued to report cultivation as their main food source and the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to land, seeds and tools remained relatively stable. Those reporting inadequate access to food cited high prices and lack of rain as primary reasons while in Baliet, new arrivals reportedly continued to contribute to the strain on food resources¹⁹.

Western Bank UNS (Fashoda, Malakal, Manyo and Panyikang)

In contrast, in the western bank, 63% of assessed settlements reported adequate access to food in September; a considerable increase compared to 18% of assessed settlements in June (Figure 2). This improvement is not entirely surprising at this time of year, which usually sees the start of the vegetable harvests²⁰. The trend towards improved access to food for western bank counties this quarter also coincides with an increase in the average number of meals consumed per day. In July, only 31% of assessed settlements reported that two meals or more were consumed per day

and in September this proportion increased to 79%. Moreover, reports of coping mechanisms, such as selling livestock, borrowing food or gathering wild foods, decreased in Fashoda, Panyikang and Malakal.

An exception to this positive trend on the western bank, was Manyo county, where the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food remained at 17% in September, in line with similarly low figures for the first and second quarters of 2019 (Figure 3). Limited access to food in Manyo, coincided with a decrease in assessed settlements reporting access to livelihoods (land, tools and seeds). Further, although an increased proportion of assessed settlements in Manyo reported access to cattle in September (83% up from 44% in June), there was a simultaneous increase in assessed settlements reporting disease outbreak amongst livestock (50% up from 11% in June).

Southeastern UNS (Nasir and Ulang)

In southeastern UNS, 62% of assessed settlements reported adequate access to food, which represents no significant change compared to 69% in June. A high proportion of assessed settlements in both Nasir and Ulang continued to report food assistance (80% in September) as their main source of food²¹. Additionally, high proportions of assessed settlements in this area reported livestock rearing, casual labour, remittances and, this quarter increasingly, hunting for their livelihoods as their main sources of food. Reliance on these livelihoods activities may be

17. Reported by FGD participants interviewed in Renk town, October 2019

18. Reported by humanitarian partners, August 2019

19. [REACH. Situation Overview. Upper Nile State. April-June 2019](#)

20. South Sudan Crop Watch, Updates from 1st Dekad of March - 3rd Dekad of July, 2019

21. [REACH. Situation Overview. Upper Nile State. April-June 2019](#)

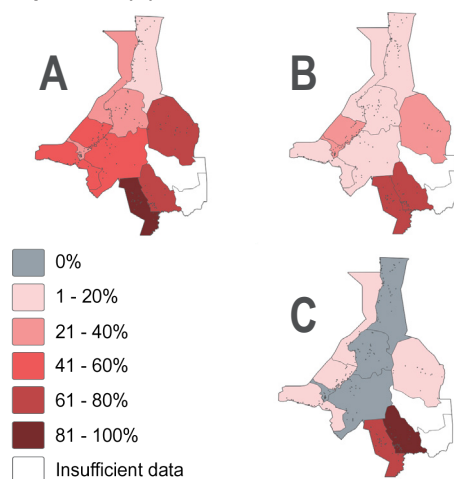
due to a combination of low yields from harvests and wild animals being displaced to areas near settlements, likely as a result of recent flooding.

Likely due to the continuously high food insecurity, a relatively high proportion of assessed settlements (13% in September) reported malnutrition as the main health problem in this area. Furthermore, negative coping strategies, including borrowing food and selling livestock, were commonly reported by assessed settlements to cope with a lack of food in September.

Protection

Protection indicators showed some improvement across the state, with the exception of southeastern UNS, this quarter (Figures 4 & 5). The proportion of assessed

Map 5: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting that most people did not feel safe most of the time in: July (A), August (B) and September (C), 2019:



settlements in western bank, northeast and central counties reporting that most people felt safe most of the time increased in September. Conversely, in southeastern UNS, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting that most people felt safe most of the time, fell from 23% of assessed settlements in June to 11% in September (Map 5).

Southeastern UNS (Nasir and Ulang)

This quarter saw a continuingly high proportion of assessed settlements in southeastern UNS reporting incidents of conflict in which a civilian has been killed (60% in September). In fact, in Nasir county the proportion of assessed settlements reporting conflict resulting in the death of a civilian has risen steadily over the course of 2019 from 29% of assessed settlements in March to 48% in June and 76% in September.

Such reports are corroborated by the International NGO Safety Organization (INSO). The organization's quarterly report, published in early October, included counts of intercommunal violence and criminal activity in the area likely attributable to cattle raiding²². A link to cattle raiding is probable as 73% of assessed settlements in southeastern UNS reported high levels of access to cattle and 100% of assessed settlements listed the keeping of livestock as their primary livelihoods activity in September. The connection between protection concerns and cattle rearing is further evidenced by the primary reported protection concerns for men in southeastern UNS. In September, 38% of assessed settlements

Figure 4: Proportion of assessed settlements on the western bank reporting no safety concerns for, June - September 2019:

	Women	Girls	Men	Boys
June	22%	28%	43%	36%
July	49%	52%	52%	53%
August	65%	71%	71%	73%
September	77%	81%	82%	82%

reported intercommunal violence and 24% reported cattle raiding as major protection concerns for this demographic group across Nasir and Ulang counties.

On the other hand, in contrast to the previous quarter, reports of unaccompanied minors in this area dropped drastically from 77% of assessed settlements in June to 0% in September. Primary dangers faced by girls reported by assessed settlements were reported to principally be in danger of early marriage, abduction and family separation.

Western bank, northeastern and central UNS

Across western bank counties the proportion of assessed settlements reporting that most people felt safe most of the time increased from 52% in June to 85% in September. Similarly, the proportion of assessed settlements in northeastern and central UNS reporting that

Figure 5: Proportion of assessed settlements in northeastern and central UNS reporting no safety concerns for, June- September 2019:

	Women	Girls	Men	Boys
June	6%	21%	12%	26%
July	11%	13%	48%	43%
August	9%	34%	46%	73%
September	9%	54%	46%	80%

most people felt safe most of the time increased from 51% in June to 90% in September.

However, this trend was not so pronounced for women in northeastern and central UNS. By September only 9% of assessed settlements in this area reported that there were no safety concerns for females above the age of 18 (Figure 5). Indeed, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting domestic violence as the main protection concern for women in this region rose from 61% of assessed settlements in June to 78% in September.

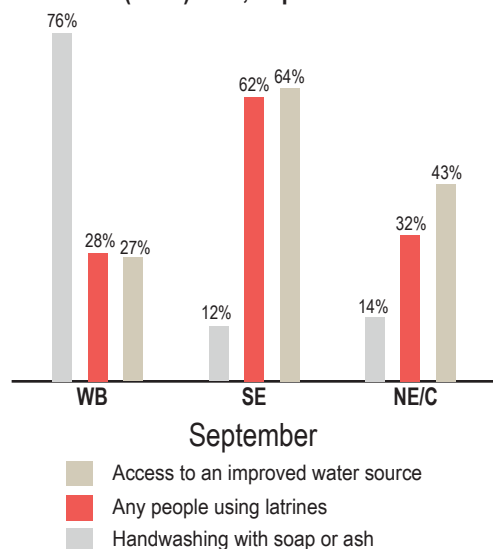
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Health

In a continuation of the stable but high WASH needs reported previously across UNS, there was little change in WASH indicators this quarter²³. The main sources of water across UNS remained rivers (37% of assessed settlements), boreholes (22%) and tapstands

22. INSO. South Sudan Quarterly Data Report - Q3, October 2019.

23. REACH Situation Overview. Upper Nile State. April-June 2019

Figure 7: Proportion of assessed UNS settlements reporting any latrine use and hygienic handwashing practices in the western bank (WB), southeastern (SE) and northeastern and central (NE/C) UNS, September 2019:



(13%) indicating the continuing need to improve access to clean water.

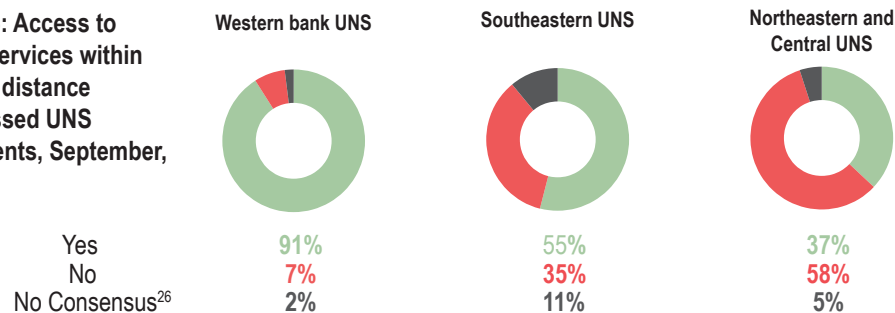
Regarding health, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to health services within walking distance in western bank and southeastern counties remained stable at 91% and 55% in September respectively. In northeastern and central UNS, however, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to health services within walking distance dropped drastically from 73% in June to 37% in September, perhaps due to restrictions on movement during the wet season (Figure 6). A rise in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting malaria as the primary health concern

from 47% in June to 65% in September is in line with the nationwide spike in malaria cases during the current rainy season²⁴.

Western Bank UNS (Fashoda, Malakal, Manyo and Panyikang)

Similar to the first two quarters in 2019, access to safe water sources in assessed western bank settlements was reported to be low. In September, only 5% of assessed settlements had access to a functional borehole and only 27% reported an improved water source to be their main source²⁵. Moreover, 61% of assessed settlements reported that livestock were using or staying close to the same water source as the population. Regarding sanitation, although the proportion of assessed settlements reporting effective handwashing techniques increased this quarter (76% in September, up from 49% in June), the proportion of assessed settlements reporting use of latrines remained low (28%) (Figure 7). The main cause of death reported by assessed settlements in this region remained malaria (29%) while waterborne diseases, reported by 28% of assessed settlements, were a close second, demonstrating the severity of WASH needs in the region.

Figure 6: Access to health services within walking distance in assessed UNS settlements, September, 2019:



Northeastern and Central UNS (Baliet, Maban, Melut and Renk)

Compared to the rest of the state, assessed settlements in northeastern and central UNS counties reported relatively high proportions of access to functional boreholes. However, at 17% of assessed settlements in September, this was still a decrease from 28% in June. More generally, 43% of assessed settlements in this region reported accessing improved water sources in September. Unfortunately, sanitation practices in these counties are relatively poor (Figure 7). Only 32% of assessed settlements reported using latrines, reportedly due in large part to a lack of facilities. Moreover, in September only 14% of assessed settlements in Baliet, Maban, Melut and Renk reported that soap or ash was used in combination with water for handwashing.

Southeastern UNS (Nasir and Ulang)

In southeastern UNS access to functional boreholes (the only reported improved water source) was reportedly comparatively high, with 64% of assessed settlements in September reporting the presence of a functioning

borehole (Figure 7). However, access to water was impacted by safety concerns, as 49% of assessed settlements reported that the choice of water source had been altered by perceived lack of safety. This is significant given the comparatively low proportion of assessed settlements in this area (11% in September) reporting that most people felt safe most of the time. The rates of latrine usage, on the other hand, are the highest across all assessed areas in UNS. Assessed settlements in southeastern UNS consistently reported that a majority of the population (62% in September) uses latrines.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

Similar to previous quarters in 2019, host communities across UNS were more commonly reported to occupy permanent shelters than IDPs²⁷. In September, 97% of assessed settlements in the state reported that host communities were primarily living in tukuls, a slight increase from 81% in June²⁸. In comparison, only 6% of assessed UNS settlements with IDPs reported that IDPs were living in tukuls while 34% reportedly lived in rakoobas indicating this group's vulnerability to disease and weather.

Shelter conditions for IDPs in southeastern UNS reportedly continued to be worse than in the rest of the state²⁹. In Nasir and Ulang counties, 81% of assessed settlements with some IDPs reported IDPs living in the open, an increase from 68% in June. In Nasir county, the increase of reports of IDPs living in the open, coincides with an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting that IDPs were living in

24. WHO. Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR). Epidemiological Bulletin W24. June 2019.

25. An improved water source is any source which protects the water from possible contamination (i.e. boreholes, piped systems, water tanks etc.)

26. "No consensus" stands for settlements where multiple key informants were surveyed but no consensus was found for the respective indicator

27. REACH. Situation Overview. Upper Nile State, April-June 2019

28. Although tukuls and rakoobas are both categorised as semi-permanent shelters, tukuls are shelters constructed with mud bricks and a grass thatch roof while rakoobas are made from poles and plastic tarpaulin, thus considered to be the more permanent type of shelter.

29. REACH. Situation Overview. Upper Nile State, April-June 2019

the area. In September, assessed settlements in Ulang and Nasir reporting the presence of IDPs listed abandoned structures (18%) and community buildings (11%) as the main shelter types for this group. In comparison, across the rest of Upper Nile, 0% of assessed settlements with IDPs reported that IDPs were living in the open and 41% of assessed settlements reported, the main shelter type for IDPs was rakoobas.

Access to NFI distributions appears to have been the lowest in northeastern and central UNS. In September, only 26% of assessed settlements in Baliet, Maban, Melut and Renk reported having access to an NFI distribution in the last three months. In contrast, for western bank counties, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to NFI distributions almost doubled from 37% in June to 66% in September. Malakal appears to have benefitted the most from this, as the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to NFI distributions in the last three months rose drastically from 7% in June to

91% in September. Reports of NFI distributions in southeastern UNS decreased but were still more common in this area compared to the rest of the state, at 71% of assessed settlements.

Education

Across all UNS counties, access to education within walking distance appeared to remain relatively stable compared to the previous quarter³⁰. However, looking at northeastern and central counties in isolation reveals a decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to education facilities from 77% in June to 55% in September. Conversely, assessed settlements in the western bank counties reported that access to education services reachable on foot increased from 57% of assessed settlements to 69% over the same period (Figure 8).

Renk appears to have experienced the biggest decrease from 70% of assessed settlements reporting access to educational facilities in June to 38% in September. The most commonly reported reason for a lack of access to education services in assessed settlements

in Renk and across the northeastern and central counties more generally, was a lack of education facilities. This trend may be partially explained by the difficulty of travel during the wet season. Across all four counties 38% of assessed settlements reported that no boys or girls were attending classes in September, a surge compared to 0% in June.

Conclusion

The third quarter of 2019 saw a continuation of the population movement dynamics reported in quarter two. Refugee returns continued at a low but steady rate, while large scale displacement decreased again, except in Maban where heavy flooding lead to a surge with 92% of assessed settlements reporting recent large scale displacement.

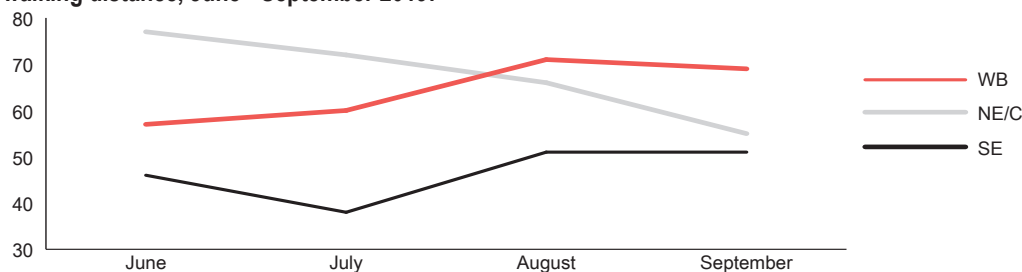
With the start of the harvest in August, food security improved in Fashoda, Malakal and Panyikang counties. However, flooding, which caused loss of livelihoods and destroyed crops, lead to a sharp decrease in food security across northeastern and central UNS counties. This trend was most drastic in Maban where the proportion of assessed settlements that reported having adequate access to food fell from 100% in June to 0% in September. The southeastern counties continued to depend on food distributions.

Although protection concerns improved across a majority of the state, they remained high in southeastern UNS, with 60% of assessed settlements in this region reporting incidents of

conflict that resulted in the killing of a civilian. A link to cattle raiding is probable.

While the onset of the harvest has contributed to some improvement in food security and access to livelihoods, the flooding and expected continued rains are likely to further impact communities across the Upper Nile state of South Sudan.

Figure 8: Proportion of assessed settlements in westernbank (WB), southeastern (SE), northeastern and central (NE/C) UNS counties reporting access to education services within walking distance, June - September 2019:



About REACH Initiative

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. 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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