



# South Sudan - Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

## Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

January 2023

### Overview

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

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

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

- Newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month
- Persons who have been in contact with someone living in a hard-to-reach settlement, or have visited one in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.)
- Persons who remain in a hard-to-reach settlement, contacted through the phone

Selected KIs are purposively sampled and have knowledge from within the last month about a specific settlement in South Sudan, with data collected at the settlement level. About half of settlements assessed have more than one KI reporting on the settlement. In these cases, data is aggregated<sup>1</sup> at the settlement level according to a weighting mechanism, which can be found in the [Terms of Reference \(ToRs\)](#).

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

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

assessed settlements in January 2023, and are not statistically generalisable.

### Assessment Coverage

**2273** Key informants interviewed

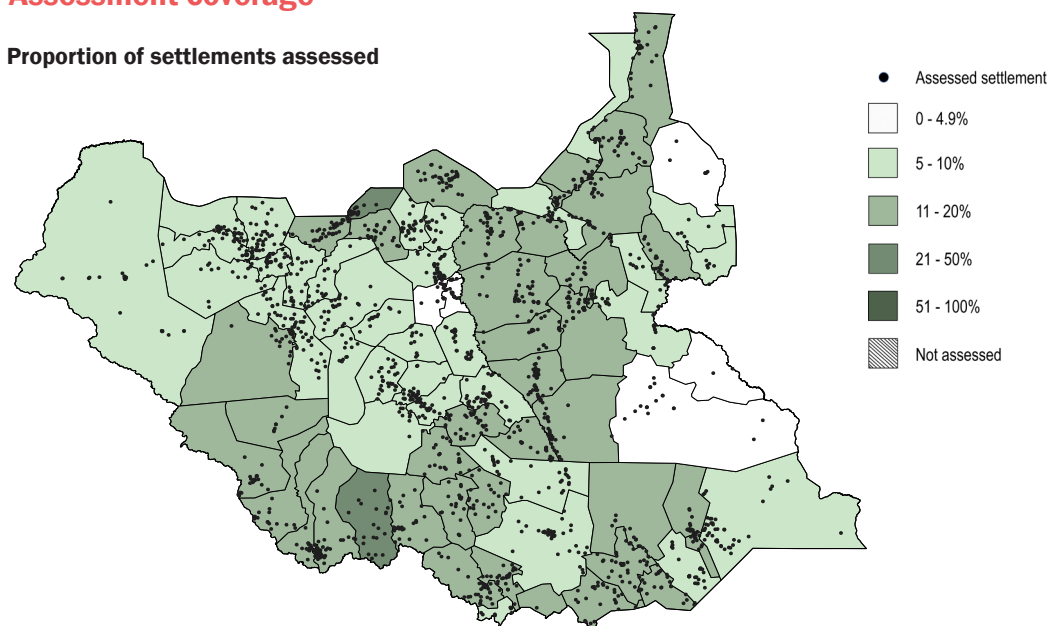
**1958** Settlements assessed

**78** Counties assessed

**74** Counties with 5% or more coverage<sup>2</sup>

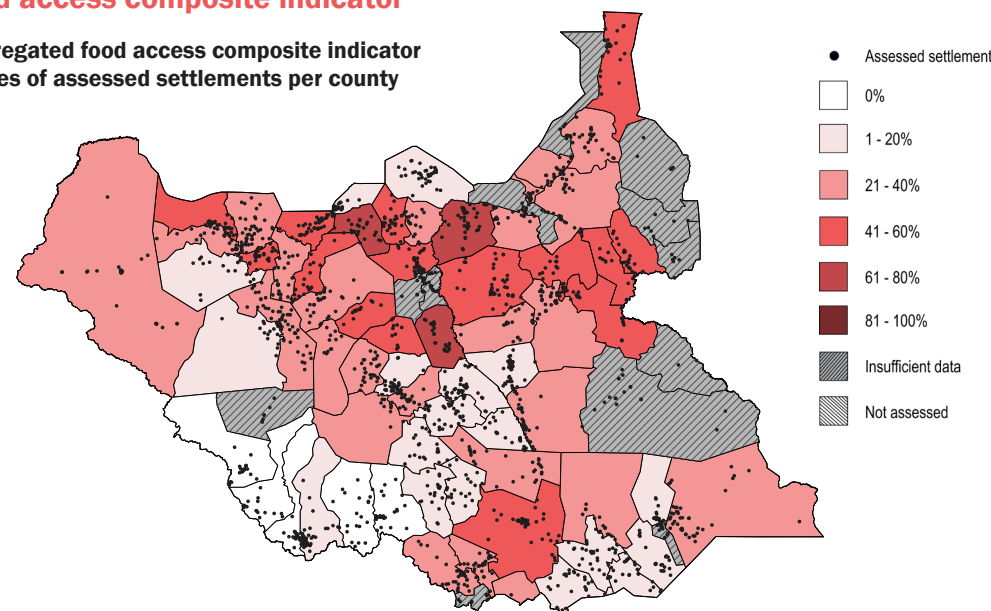
### Assessment coverage

#### Proportion of settlements assessed



### Food access composite indicator

#### Aggregated food access composite indicator scores of assessed settlements per county



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

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

<sup>2</sup> Data is only represented for counties in which at least 5% of settlements have been assessed. The most recent OCHA Common Operational Dataset (COD) released in March 2019 has been used as the reference for settlement names and locations.

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

- Most people do not have access to sufficient food
- Skipping days to cope with a lack of food or money to buy food
- Perceived hunger from inadequate food access: severe or "worst it can be"
- Wild foods known to be making people sick consumed all the time



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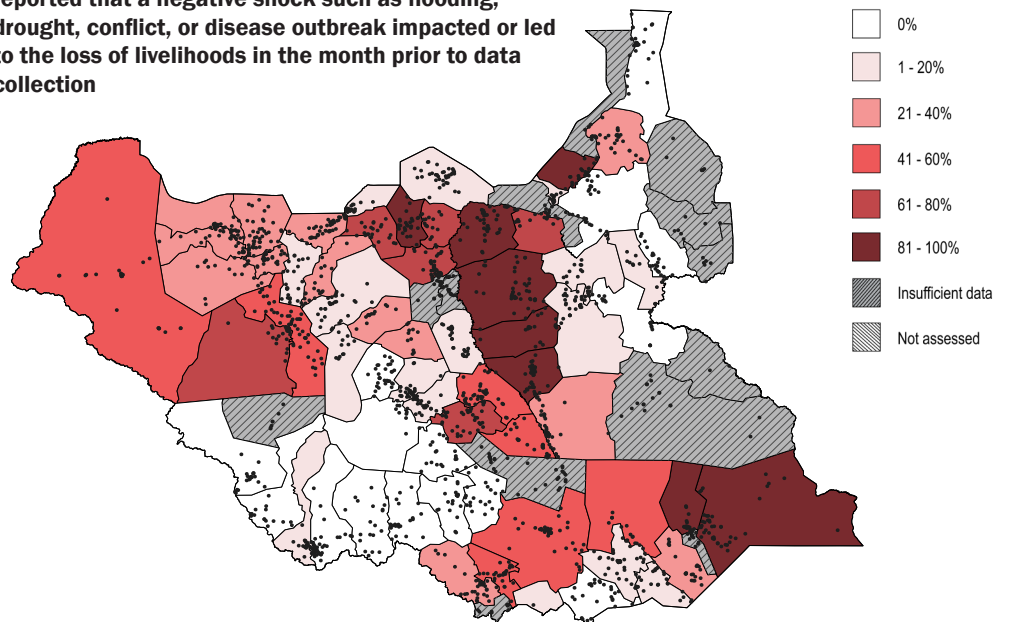
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South Sudan Displacement Crisis

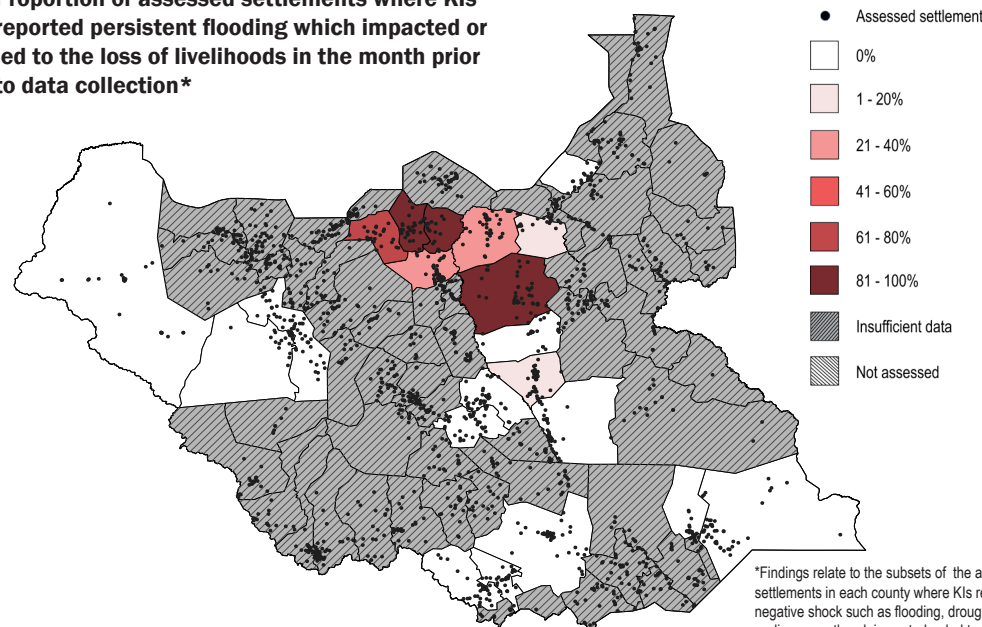
January 2023

### Shocks

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



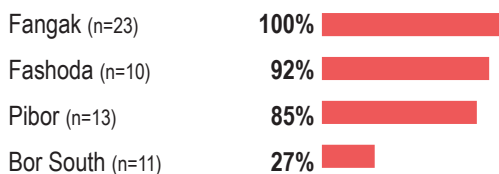
Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported persistent flooding which impacted or led to the loss of livelihoods in the month prior to data collection\*



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

### Shocks: IDPs\*

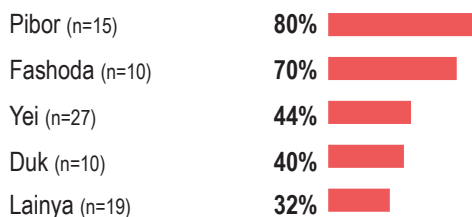
Counties with assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of IDPs or returnees as having a negative impact on the ability to access adequate food



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

### Shocks: conflict food access\*

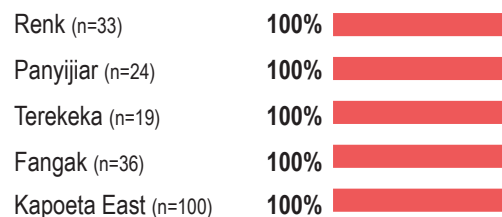
Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported conflict or insecurity as the main reason some people in the settlement were unable to access adequate food



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

### Shocks: hunger\*

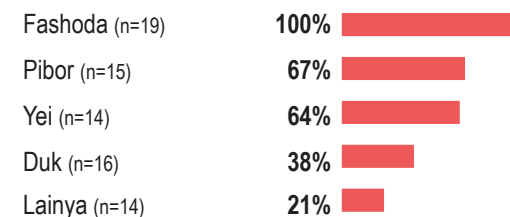
Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported hunger was "worst it can be"



\*Findings relate to the subsets of (n) amount of settlements in each county where KIs reported most people were not able to access enough food. There were no other counties with assessed settlements where KIs reported 100% that hunger was "the worst it can be".

### Shocks: conflict impact\*

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



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



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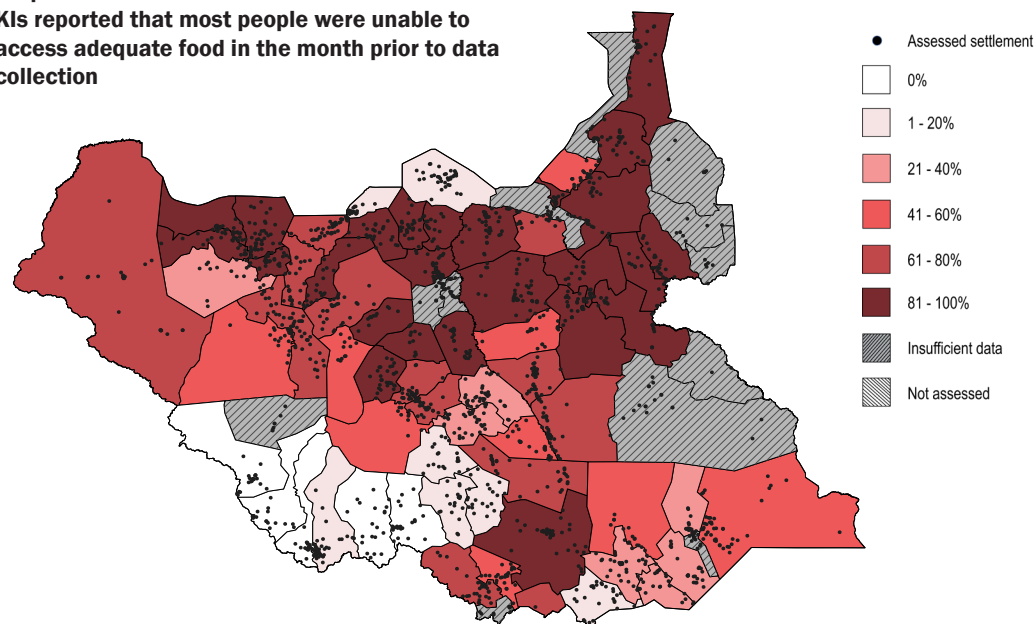
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South Sudan Displacement Crisis

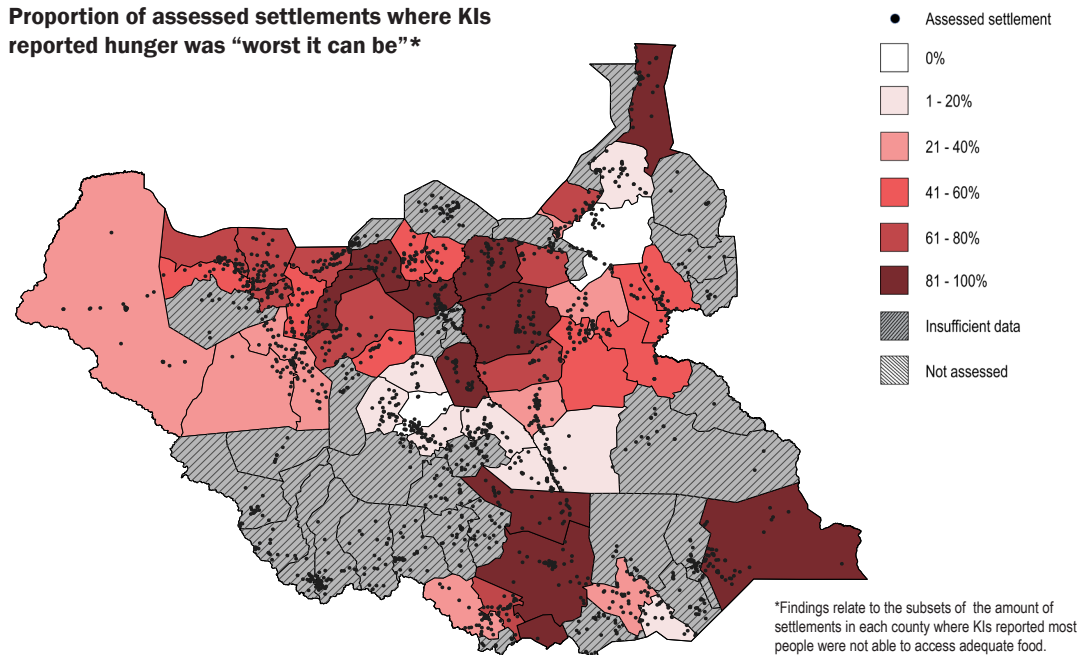
January 2023

### Food access

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

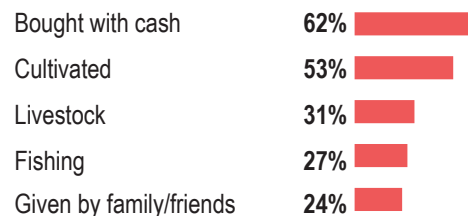


Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported hunger was “worst it can be”\*



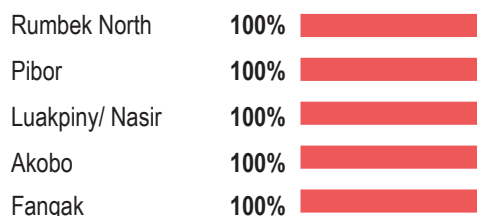
### Food sources

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



### Inadequate access to food

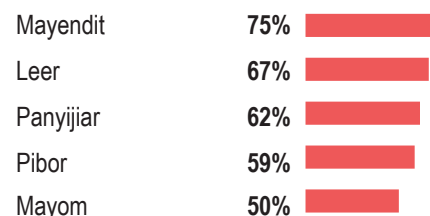
Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported most people were unable to access enough food



In assessed settlements in Aweil North, Koch, Aweil South, Mayom, Ayod, Baiet and Guit, KIs also reported 100% that most people were unable to access enough food

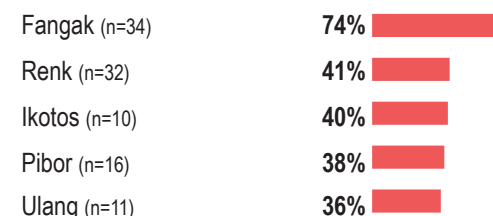
### Food coping: wild foods

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



### Food coping: skipping days\*

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



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



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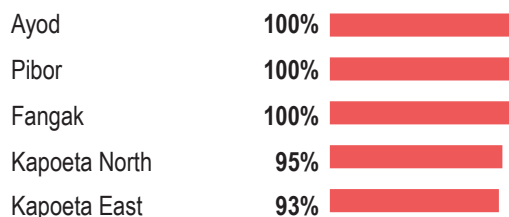
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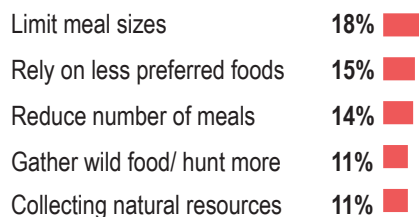
## Livelihoods: negative shocks

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



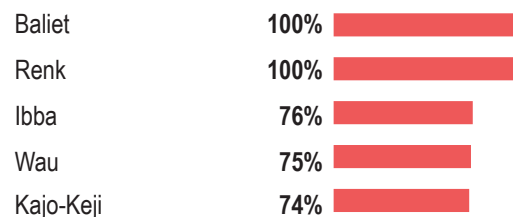
## Livelihoods: coping

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



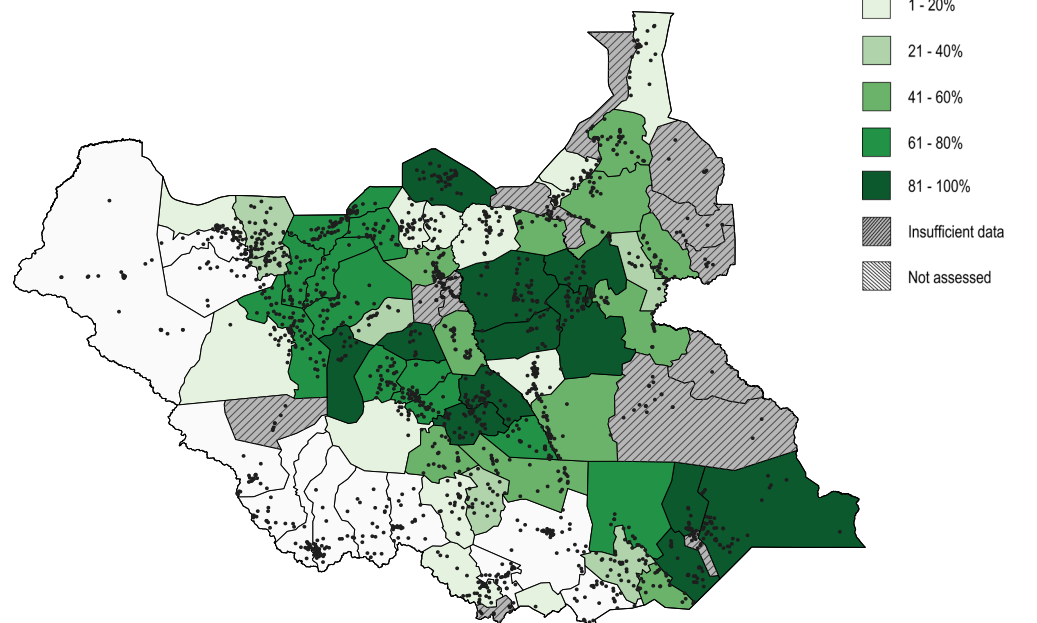
## Livelihoods: casual labour

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



## Livelihoods: livestock

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







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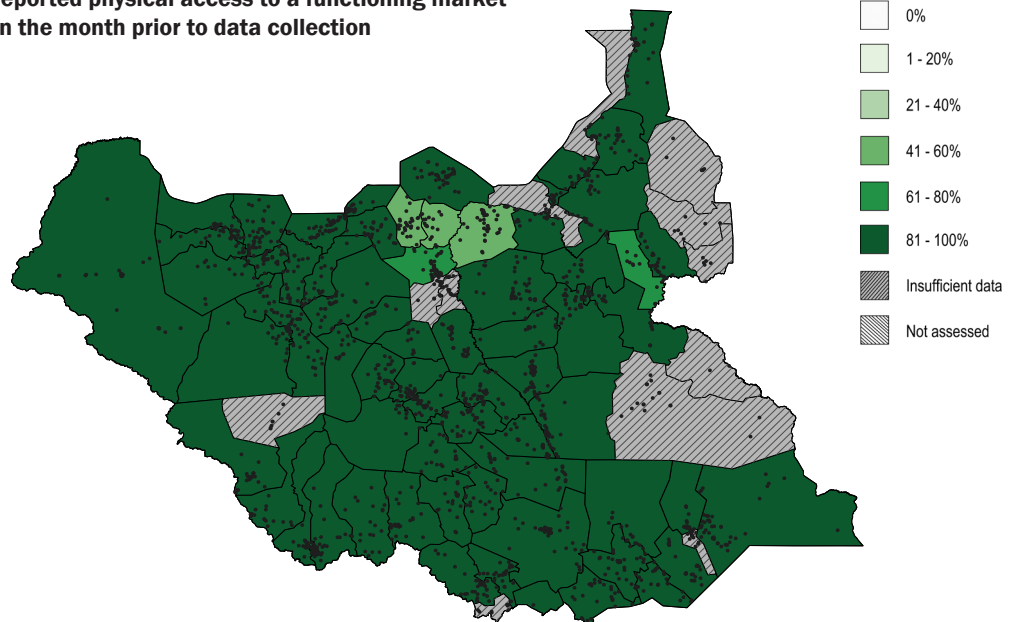
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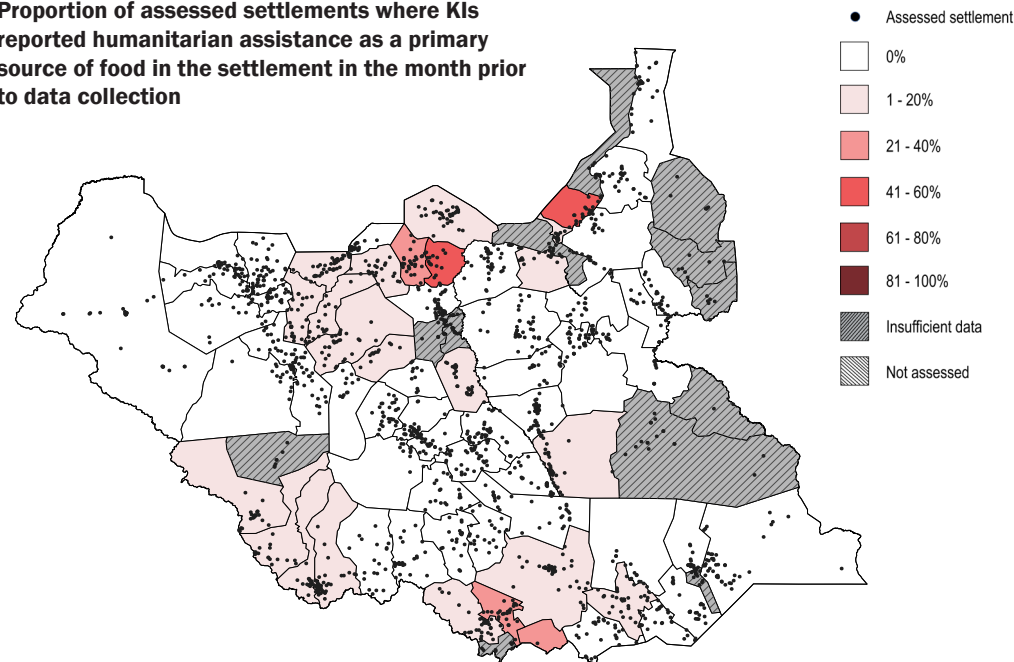
### Markets

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



### Food source: humanitarian aid

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



### Food source: purchasing

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

Rumbek Centre	100%	<div></div>
Mundri West	100%	<div></div>
Melut	100%	<div></div>
Akobo	100%	<div></div>
Baliet	100%	<div></div>

There were no other counties with assessed settlements where KIs reported 100% that purchasing as a primary source of food.

### Food source: livestock

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

Yirol West	97%	<div></div>
Yirol East	94%	<div></div>
Duk	89%	<div></div>
Uror	88%	<div></div>
Nyirol	86%	<div></div>

### Food source: humanitarian aid

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

Guit	53%	<div></div>
Fashoda	50%	<div></div>
Rubkona	33%	<div></div>
Lainya	33%	<div></div>
Pibor	27%	<div></div>

### Livestock disease\*

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

Mayom (n=17)	94%	<div></div>
Ayod (n=42)	90%	<div></div>
Gogrial West (n=17)	88%	<div></div>
Tonj South (n=10)	80%	<div></div>
Melut (n=18)	78%	<div></div>

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



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	County	No. of assessed settlements
1	Abiemnhom	21
2	Akobo	19
3	Aweil Centre	17
4	Aweil East	47
5	Aweil North	22
6	Aweil South	27
7	Aweil West	23
8	Awerial	24
9	Ayod	42
10	Baliet	23
11	Bor South	55
12	Budi	23
13	Canal/Pigi	17
14	Cueibet	30
15	Duk	19
16	Ezo	20
17	Fangak	41
18	Fashoda	22
19	Gogrial East	19
20	Gogrial West	27
21	Guit	17
22	Ibba	21
23	Ikotos	25
24	Juba	44
25	Jur River	49
26	Kajo-keji	46
27	Kapoeta East	44
28	Kapoeta North	20
29	Kapoeta South	9
30	Koch	37

	County	No. of assessed settlements
31	Lafon	15
32	Lainya	32
33	Leer	14
34	Longochuk	7
35	Luakpiny/Nasir	22
36	Maban	7
37	Magwi	27
38	Maiwut	6
39	Malakal	23
40	Manyo	8
41	Maridi	26
42	Mayendit	16
43	Mayom	25
44	Melut	36
45	Morobo	8
46	Mundri East	21
47	Mundri West	22
48	Mvolo	21
49	Nagero	7
50	Nyirol	23
51	Nzara	22
52	Panyijiar	29
53	Panyikang	7
54	Pariang	36
55	Pibor	17
56	Pochalla	2
57	Raja	30
58	Renk	35
59	Rubkona	27
60	Rumbek Centre	29

	County	No. of assessed settlements
61	Rumbek East	27
62	Rumbek North	11
63	Tambura	23
64	Terekeka	29
65	Tonj East	12
66	Tonj North	29
67	Tonj South	12
68	Torit	36
69	Twic	42
70	Twic East	39
71	Ulang	14
72	Uror	29
73	Wau	40
74	Wulu	10
75	Yambio	40
76	Yei	44
77	Yirol East	33
78	Yirol West	38