

SOUTH SUDAN: BARRIERS TO MOVEMENT

Methodology
This assessment consisted of a secondary data review (SDR) as well as primary qualitative data collection. The primary data collection took place between June and July 2023. REACH conducted 33 focus group discussions (FGDs) and 25 key informant interviews (KIIs) with host community and internal displaced people (IDP) populations across 12 REACH field bases (Kapoeta South, Torit, Juba, Yambio, Rumbek, Mingkaman, Akobo, Bor South, Bentiu, Pariang, Nyal, and Wau). Furthermore, an assessment team from Juba went and conducted data collection in Pibor town in Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA). The research aims to provide a better understanding of external mobility barriers across South Sudan, and which population groups were the most affected by them.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) examined both existing and anticipated mobility barriers, assessing their impact on communities at the county level. Concurrently, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were conducted to gather information from 2-4 counties within the same geographical area, supplementing the FGDs' data for more comprehensive coverage. Additionally, data was drawn from secondary data sources, including the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI), ACLED data on conflict incidents, and South Sudan logistics data on access Information from assessment reports and ad hoc updates from humanitarian coordination bodies on the South Sudan crisis, as well as needs assessments conducted by humanitarian agencies in South Sudan between January and July 2023 were also considered in the final output elaboration.

This assessment used a qualitative methodology that did not assess all potentially relevant locations, and as such, findings would be indicative in any case, due to the chosen data collection methodology.

Insecurity: For this assessment it is defined as any human driven factor which includes year-round, short- and long-term, and sporadic insecurities such as cattle raiding and fighting between different groups, among others.

Wet-season insecurity: Is any insecurity that happened between May to October and the extension of that insecurity can be mapped (can be both a short and long-term barrier).

Dry season insecurity: Is any insecurity which happened between November to April (can be both a short and long-term barrier).

Transition zone between groups: A boundary line where two or more opposing communities cross. For instance, during the dry season, grazing grounds that are used by numerous groups.

Tensions between groups: For this assessment is defined as a restriction where two or more opposing communities avoid each other's territories due to the associated risks. For instance, when a member of one community kills someone from another community, the affected community may seek revenge. This will lead the community to avoid the other community's territory.

