

Overview of Settlements in Budi County

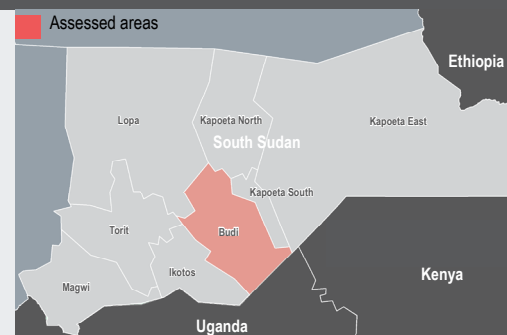
Assessment of Hard to Reach Areas in Eastern Equatoria State

November 2016

Introduction

This factsheet presents preliminary findings about the humanitarian needs in Budi County, Eastern Equatoria State. Between 11 - 14 November 2016, REACH interviewed 37 key informants (KIs) with recent knowledge from 30 settlements in this area. Due to the purposive sampling of KIs, who reported only on sectors which they were knowledgeable, findings are not statistically generalisable but remain indicative of the situation in assessed locations. Approximately 112,513 people lived in the area before the crisis.¹

Budi County saw widespread displacement following the outbreak of conflict in Chukudum on 6 October 2016, which quickly spread to the rest of the county. Though the situation is reportedly now calm, access remains an issue due to security concerns, and NGOs have not yet re-established services there. The information presented in this factsheet seeks to inform humanitarian actors seeking to respond to humanitarian needs in the Budi County area.



Sector Overview

Most frequently reported priority needs:

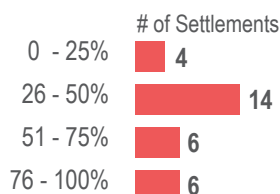


In nearly all towns and villages, food stores and possessions have been looted, and other services are completely absent.

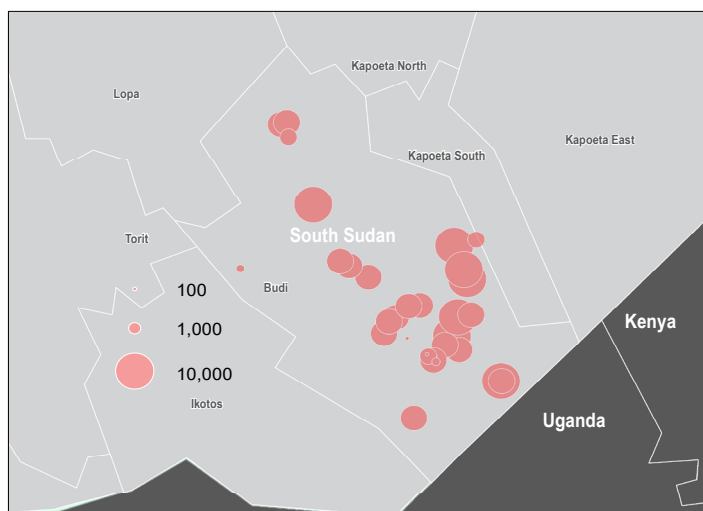
Displacement

Conflict on the 6th October in Chukudum quickly spread to the entire county, displacing most of the county's population. Most fled into the mountains or villages near Kapoeta South County, where they were able to get vehicles to take them to Kapoeta Town. They are now waiting on the situation to calm down to return to their homes. However many of those who have returned home found all of their food and possessions looted, and are now trying to go to Kakuma.

Proportions of host community still living in pre-displacement location:²



Map of estimated remaining host community population of assessed settlements:



¹ United Nations, South Sudan Population Estimates, 2014

² Focus group discussions clarified that while many people have fled to Kapoeta Town and Kakuma, the majority are still there, living in villages in the mountains or near the Kapoeta South County Border, where the presence of gold mining provides IDPs with alternative livelihood opportunities.

Access to food

Budi County has suffered from a multi-year drought and experienced stunted crop yields this year. Most were able to cultivate food in August, though the subsequent conflict drove them from their fields, and their remaining crops have been stolen or have spoiled. Those who remain are reportedly living on dwindling food supplies or wild foods gathered in the bush.

1 week

Average number of weeks that IDPs reportedly have until food runs out



93% of assessed settlements reported not having adequate access to food.

Top reported food coping strategies:

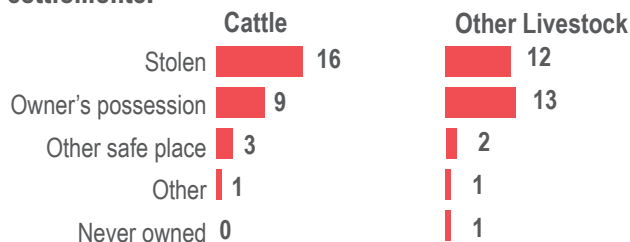
Participants could choose multiple responses



33% of assessed settlements reported having no access to a market. Those who did have market access reported unaffordable prices.

Most settlements reported that their cattle had been stolen by armed groups in October. Some still possess some minor livestock, such as chickens or goats and sheep, which were easier to hide. Of those that have tried to return back to their homes, most have come back to Kapoeta, reporting that all of their livestock and other possessions have been looted.

Reported location of cattle and other livestock, by # of settlements:



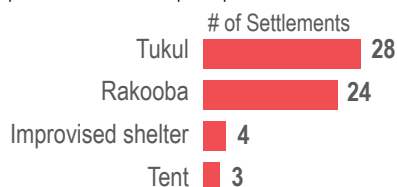
87% of assessed settlements cultivated before the conflict. However, a shortened rainy season shrank crop yields.

Shelter

Although houses have been destroyed in more than half of the assessed settlements, most shelters are reportedly still standing. Those who have returned to their villages are able to find adequate shelter, however the lack of mosquito nets, tools, and other possessions is reported to be a critical impediment to restarting their lives.

Most reported shelter types:

Participants could choose multiple responses



53% of settlements reported that at least some shelters have been burned during the fighting.



88% of settlements reported that less than half of people were sleeping under mosquito nets.

Education

Education services are currently only available in Chukudum town, where schools have been reopened by the government, with normal hours, albeit severely reduced teaching staff and pupil attendance. NGOs have not returned to Chukudum yet, so humanitarian support remains limited. Outside of Chukudum, no education is available, due to the staff and pupils having fled, and school supplies having been looted.



97% of responding settlements reported that there is no access to education services.

Water and Sanitation

Most settlements reported the presence of a functional source for clean water. However, these sources were reported to be too few and far away for the majority of people in most settlements. As a result, rivers and other unclean sources of water were reported to be the dominant source of water. Sanitation practices in Budi County are historically poor.³ With the exception of a few locations, most people defecate in the bush.



90% of assessed settlements reported that most people were using unprotected water sources.



97% of assessed settlements reported that most people were defecating in the bush.

³South Sudan WASH Cluster, Humanitarian Response Plan, 2015

Health

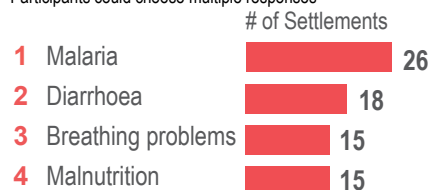
An NGO-supported hospital is being re-opened in Chukudum Town, and several primary health care centres and units are also functional around the state. All except for those hiding in remote mountain villages have the ability to access healthcare facilities.



37% of assessed settlements are reportedly unable to access health services

Most commonly reported health problems in settlement:

Participants could choose multiple responses



4% of assessed settlements reported that there are no nutritional supplements available for children.

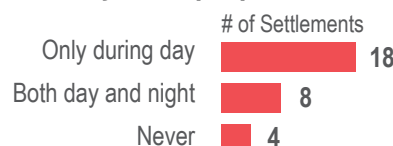


4% of assessed settlements reported that there are no supplements available for pregnant or lactating women.

Protection

Although active fighting has ended, most respondents are still deeply concerned about protection issues. Most described a belief that the conflict may begin again, and still fear looting by armed groups in the area.

Time of day when people in settlement feel unsafe:



Top reported protection concerns in settlement:

Participants could choose multiple responses



Top reported protection concerns when travelling:

Participants could choose multiple responses

