# **Research Methodology Note**

Access Mission and Displacement Assessment, Western Equatoria South Sudan

Research Cycle ID: SSD1701c

August 2018 v.1



## 1. Background & Rationale

The political crisis and conflict in South Sudan has been ongoing since 2013. The dynamic and multi-faceted nature of the South Sudanese displacement crisis has created significant challenges for humanitarian information management. Accessibility and security issues within South Sudan have impeded systematic data collection efforts, limiting the effectiveness of humanitarian planning and implementation, whilst displacement within and out of South Sudan remains highly dynamic, with 1.9 million South Sudanese internally displaced and 2 million seeking refuge in neighbouring countries.<sup>1</sup> As the crisis continues to evolve, it is becoming increasingly important to fill information gaps in a systematic manner to promote a more effective humanitarian response.

Western Equatoria has been greatly affected by the conflict, which has especially worsened since 2016, causing mass displacement and food insecurity. Many of the peoples' livelihoods are dependent on cultivation as their main source of food and use any surplus as an income generating source. As a result of insecurity, many people are unable to access their farmlands due to the main roads and rural areas being unsafe and the sites of armed clashes, whilst the urban centres have a degree of stability with functioning markets. However, the economic crisis and rising inflation means that most basic foods are unaffordable for the majority of the population. The situation has prohibited people from freely moving around the state due to pervasive criminal activity along the main roads by armed groups; which also prevents the movement of humanitarian actors to provide aid and assistance to those in most need. This is especially critical in areas such as Tambura town, Nadiangere in Yambio County, and Nagero County, which have been recent sites of displacement due to armed clashes in April and May of this year. For instance, in Tambura town, there are an estimated 18,500 IDPs.<sup>2</sup>

The rationale for the proposed assessment is to assist with an access mission led by WFP and UNICEF. The purpose of the access mission is to determine the needs of the people on the ground, both IDPs and host community members, as such need assessments have not been conducted in these areas, with the majority of them being hard to reach. Over a 5-day period, the team will cover five sites, which are areas where IDPs are reportedly staying or sites of cross border movement. These are Nadiangere, Riiyubu, Yangiri, Bazia, and Ezo Centre. IDPs have not been able to receive aid due the security situation, which there have been significant displacement trends due to armed clashes and insecurity. Therefore, it is imperative to address the information gaps, regarding the situation where IDPs are staying, which is mainly inaccessible to humanitarian actors, the service gaps, and the type of response needed to address the needs of the people. As multiple organisations are conducting the assessment in order to avoid duplication of activities, REACH will focus on displacement of IDPs, NFI and shelter needs. Moreover, the rationale for the component of this assessment is to inform the shelter cluster of any gaps for the potential humanitarian response. The accessibility of the mission is being achieved through the WFP Access team and the provision of a helicopter in order to reach the proposed areas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OCHA South Sudan, Humanitarian Bulletin Issue 01, 18 January 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OCHA South Sudan, Humanitarian Snapshot, June 2018.

## 2. Objectives

To assist humanitarian actors in making more informed decisions about the scale, scope and location of the humanitarian response in Western Equatoria State through providing information on the displacement dynamics, humanitarian needs and service access in the assessed locations. More specifically:

- To identify displacement trends of IDPs staying and arriving in the locations assessed and the populations of host community members and IDPs This includes determining the push and pull factors.
- To map the internal displacement routes to and from the locations assessed and to other locations where IDPs/refugees may have fled, which could be outside the borders of Western Equatoria.
- To assess the humanitarian needs of IDP and host community members in the locations assessed as well as to provide up-to-date information on service provision and identify service access gaps.

In order to achieve above outlined objectives, this assessment draws on the following research questions:

- 1. What are the previous displacement locations of IDPs and desired locations if they intend to only temporarily stay in the locations assessed?
- 2. What are the most commonly used displacement routes for IDPs and what locations (both the assessment location and other areas both inside and outside of South Sudan) have they fled to?
- 3. What are the current size of the host community and IDP populations in these areas?
- 4. What are the people's level of access in the assessed locations, especially for shelter conditions and NFIs?
- 5. What are the barriers for IDPs and host community members of accessing services in the assessed locations, especially for shelter and NFIs?

## 3. Methodology

A qualitative methodology will be utilised for this assessment. As a number of organisations are also joining the access/assessment mission, and in order to avoid any duplications, REACH will focus on populations and displacement, and Shelter/NFIs. Focus group discussions (FGDs) will be held with both men and women, and primarily IDPs, but also host community members in the assessed locations. Participatory mapping will also be conducted to gain a better understanding of the displacement routes and the causalities for the displacement.

In addition, FGD questions will be asked about questions in relation to Shelter/NFIs. Groups will be 5-10 people each, and will aim to have participants with knowledge on different payams within each site. The groups will be disaggregated by gender. FGDs and participatory mapping will be held together in these groups. In the event of there being minimal time on the ground due to security or logistic concerns, focus groups with both genders present will be held. Ten focus groups with 5-10 participants each will be held in total. Moreover, if there is enough time on the ground, a shelter site assessment tool will be used (see tool in the annex), which will include observations and walking interviews as the primary research methods. This tool is designed and utilised by the Shelter/NFI cluster in South Sudan. The information collected from the FGDs will be used to supplement the findings from the assessment site tool.

Data will be triangulated with secondary data and previous rapid assessment reports from other organisations to see if there have been any significant changes or whether the findings are similar.

# 4. Product Typology

REACH will provide maps and a summary of the key findings on the sectors covered in the assessment, which will be included in the final integrated assessment report by WFP and UNICEF. Moreover, the information attained will be used for the third guarter Situation Overview on Western Equatoria.

Type of Product	Number of Product(s)	Additional information			
UNICEF and WFP Integrated Assessment Report	1	REACH will contribute maps and a summary of the FGD findings for displacement and Shelter/NFI.			
Western Equatoria Situation Overview: July - September	1	The findings from this assessment will supplement the content of the third quarterly SO.			

# 5. Management arrangements and work plan

#### Roles and responsibilities

- REACH Assessment Officer
  - Overseeing data collection and conduct the data analysis;
  - o Provide a summary of the REACH findings for the final report;
  - O Use the findings to report in the Situation Overview: July September.
- Field Coordinator
  - Assist with organising, translating and facilitating FGDs.

#### Work plan

Months	August/September														
Days	23	24	25- 26	27	28	29	30	31	1-2	3-7	8-9	10- 14	15- 16	17- 21	22- 23
Ad-hoc research submission															
Methodology note and data analysis plan															
Collect secondary information															
Organising logistics of assessment															
Data collection															
Data analysis															
Draft of the findings for the WFP and UNICEF report															

As seen in the work plan, there is gap for the data analysis. Data was collected on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018 in Nadiangere but the other location for the rest of the assessment had issues of insecurity and access. Therefore, it has been proposed to continue the assessment at a later time, and have estimated the second week of September.

## 6. Risks & Assumptions

Risk	Mitigation Measure
Assessment locations becoming inaccessible due to security concerns, which prevents data collection and potentially impedes safety of staff.	A flexible work plan is crucial but if the security situation does not permit data collection, the assessment would be postponed and conducted at a later date. This is heavily dependent on the WFP access team.
Interviewees are unwilling to participate in the assessment	Survey and interview questions will respect the wishes of participants if they do not want to be interviewed or decide against being interviewed at any stage. Respondents will be approached in a courteous and respectful manner. If individuals remain unwilling to participate, staff will be instructed to move on to other households.

#### 7. Dissemination Plan

Once the product has been made and validated, the output will be shared by the primary authors, WFP and UNICEF. REACH can also disseminate through their mailing list and the Needs Analysis Working Group (NAWG) and Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) at the Juba level. At the field level, the AO will share with partners through the Humanitarian Coordination Forum (HCF) and partner meetings.

#### 8. Documentation Plan

- Methodology Note;
- Analysis Plan;
- Cleaned dataset and transcripts from FGDs and interviews.

#### **Annex**

## 1. Qualiataitve Tools

# South Sudan REACH PARTICIPATORY DISPLACEMENT MAPPING – Question Route

Moderator Name:		Assistant Moderator Name:			
Focus Group Name/Code:		Started at:	Compl	eted at:	
County of Knowledge (the area we are seeking information about)	How do they know about this county? (Recently left, HH member visited, Regular contact etc.)	State of origin	Age	Sex	

#### Facilitator's welcome, introduction and instructions to participants [5 minutes]

#### Introductory note [2 minutes]

- Welcome and thank you for volunteering to take part in this focus group discussion about the current crisis in South Sudan, which is about a better understanding of community and settlements in your country of origin. You have been asked to participate as your point of view and knowledge about your community situation and current needs will be used to inform response strategy and planning. I appreciate your time.
- Please note that this meeting does not have any impact on whether you or your family receives assistance. These
  discussions are only meant to better understanding how you, your household, and the community perceive the situation
  in your villages of origin
- Anonymity: I would like to assure you that the discussion will be anonymous. I and the other focus group participants would appreciate it if you would refrain from discussing the comments of other group members outside the focus group. If there are any questions or discussions that you do not wish to answer or participate in, you do not have to do so; however please try to answer and be as involved as possible.
- The discussion will take no more than one hour.
- We are asking for your ration card number because we might want to contact you again to know how things have changed in your home communities several weeks of months after this focus group discussion.

#### Ground rules [2 minutes]

- 1. The most important rule is that only one person speaks at a time. There may be a temptation to jump in when someone is talking but please wait until they have finished.
- 2. There are no right or wrong answers
- 3. You do not have to speak in any particular order
- 4. When you do have something to say, please do so. There are many of you in the group and it is important that I obtain the views of each of you
- 5. You do not have to agree with the views of other people in the group you can say that.
- 6. Does anyone have any questions?
- 7. OK, let's begin.

## **Questioning Route**

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO MODERATORS**

- 1. **Questions to participants**: these are the questions that should be read and communicated to the participants. If there are some specific vocabulary which may be unclear, do not hesitate to provide a definition for the purpose of the exercise.
- Probing questions: Probes and clarifying questions are an important part of interviewing and have two main purposes:
   To help clarify what an interview respondent has said and 2) To help get more detailed information on topics of interest. Probes allow the interview respondent to provide more than just a one-sentence answer to the questions you ask. Do not read probing questions together with the questions to participants. Use or adapt them if necessary

**STAGE 1: INTRODUCTION** 

#### **Questions to Participants:**

(Engagement question)

**INTRODUCE PARTICIPANTS TO THE MAP** – show them where we are now, and the area of interest on the map, which will be explained to the facilitators e.g. location of assessment. Show them major towns in the region so they understand the map.

**Exercise to build participant familiarity with the map:** Through showing them key roads, towns etc., work with each participant to identify their home town on the map. Circle each participants home town/village on the map, if the settlement name doesn't exist, identify approximately where the village/town is and circle with the name. This helps participants orientate themselves to the map and ensures a reference point for discussions.

**Note on using map:** Wherever possible during the discussion mark details on the map, aka original homes prior to displacement, where people moved to, where was the fighting etc.

Have people recently left [AREA OF INTEREST]? If so, why?

- If violence, when? Was it a threat of violence, or did fighting suddenly start? Where is the violence expected to move to? To what geographic scale was the fighting (limited to one town or a larger region)?
- If lack of resources, why? What happened to mean resources were no longer available? What was the geographic scale of the lack of resources, the entire map or a specific sub-section?

What was the original population of [AREA OF INTEREST]?

- Approximately how many people have left?
- Approximately how many people remain?
  - Host community (approx. numbers)
  - o IDPs? (approx. numbers)

Where did people go to? [Please find this on the map]

- Did everyone go to the same location? If not, please identify other directions people fled to?
- Did people go to one location and stay there or were their multiple phases of their journey, if so ask them about this.
  - Where did they originally go, how long did they stay there?
  - O Where did they go next?
- What routes did people take (ask them to draw this on the map)?
  - Were there any challenges on these routes, please ask them to specify and where
- How did they travel (on foot, car, bicycle)? How much did it cost?

Why did they come to/stay in this particular location (the most recent location for IDPs)?

- Were there other locations that they could have gone to? Is not, why did they come here?
- Are there any barriers to freely moving?

According to you, do the majority of people intend to stay here in this location? Is so, why? If not, where do they plan to go?

- If they came here, is this a temporary move or a permanent one?
- Are there any barriers to freely moving?

Under what conditions do you think people would consider to visit (temporarily or permanently) their homeland again? If so, why?

- How would they know if these conditions are in place?
- Do they expect these conditions to happen?

#### **SHELTER & NFIs**

- Is everyone sleeping under a shelter [AREA OF INTEREST]? If not, why?
- Which is the main shelter type for local communities?
- Which is the main shelter type for IDPs?
- Have any shelters been burned or destroyed?
  - o If so, how many? And when?
  - O What was the causality?
  - o If so, how many have been rebuilt?
- On average, how many people are sleeping in each single shelter?
  - Do people have non-family members living with them in the shelter?
- Are there any households with no form of shelter?
  - o If so, approximately how many?
- What NFIs do people have access to in the community?
- What do people use to collect water?
- Are people able to sleep under mosquito nets?
- Are there accessible markets where shelter materials and NFIs can be bought?
- Do people have access to tools for agriculture or any other livelihood activities e.g. fishing?
  - o If so, which ones?
  - O Do people have access to seeds?
- Are materials available for shelter from the natural environment?
  - o If so, which ones?
  - o If not, why?
- Have you received any non-food and/or shelter items since you came?
  - o If so, what was the source? E.g. NGO, government, host community, pre-displacement etc.
  - O Which NFIs/Shelter items did you receive?
- What is the most needed NFI? (if numerous, can rank top three)
- What is the highest priority for shelter related needs? E.g. plastic sheets, land, timber etc.

### 2. Quantitative Tools

# **Shelter/NFI Assessment Tool**

See at the end of the document.

# **Analysis Plan**

# **Participatory Displacement Mapping, Focus Group Discussions**

**Introduction,** introduce participants to the map. Show them where we are now, and the area of interest on the map. Show them major towns in the region so they understand the map. Through showing them key roads, towns etc., work with each participant to identify where they were staying before they were displaced on the map. Circle each participants' town/village on the map, if the settlement name doesn't exist, identify approximately where the village/town is and circle with the name.

Research questions	SUBQ#	Sub-question	Questionnaire QUESTION	Probes	Data collection method	Key disaggregation (Group types)
What are the most commonly used displacement routes for IDPs and what locations (both the assessment location and other areas both inside and outside of South Sudan) have they fled to?	1	What were the push factors for displacement?	Have people recently left [AREA OF INTEREST] within the last month? If so, why?	<ul> <li>If violence, when? Threat or realised violence?</li> <li>If lack of resources, why? What happened? What is the geographic scale? (map)</li> </ul>	FGD	- Payam of interest - KI gender
What are the current size of the host community and IDP populations in these areas?	2	What are the demographics of the area of interest?	What was the original population of [AREA OF INTEREST] before displacement?	- Approx. how many left? - Approx. how many remain? Host community, IDP?	FGD	- Payam of interest - KI gender
What are the previous displacement locations of IDPs and desired locations if they intend to only temporarily stay in the locations assessed?	3	Which routes did people take in leaving/coming to the area of interest?	3. Where did people go to? [Please find this on the map]. Identify both current location and any others where large population numbers went.	- Did everyone go to the same place? If not, where else? - Where did people go originally? For how long? Where next? - How did they travel? What was the cost?	FGD	- Payam of interest - KI gender
What are the most commonly used displacement routes for IDPs and what locations (both the assessment location and other areas both inside and outside of South Sudan) have they fled to?	4	What were the pull factors for displacement?	Why did they come to/stay in this particular location (the most recent location for IDPs)?	- Were there other location that they could have gone to? If so, why did they come here?	FGD	- Payam of interest - KI gender
What are the previous displacement locations of IDPs and desired locations if they	5	What are the intentions, into the future?	5. According to you, do the majority of people intend to stay in this location? Is so, why? If not, where do they plan to go?	- Is it a temporary move or permanent?	FGD	- Payam of interest - KI gender

intend to only temporarily stay in the locations assessed?		- Are there any barriers to freely moving?			
What are the previous displacement locations of IDPs and desired locations if they intend to only temporarily stay in the locations assessed?	Under what conditions do you think people would consider to visit (temporarily or permanently) their homeland again? If so, why?	- How know if these conditions are in place? - Expect these conditions to happen?	FGD	- Payam of interest - KI gender	

# **Shelter/NFIs, Focus Group Discussions and Shelter Assessment Tool**

Research questions	SUBQ#	Sub-question	Questionnaire QUESTION	Probes	Data collection method	Key disaggregation (Group types)
What are people's level of access to shelter and NFIs for the assessed locations?	1	What is the state of access to shelter in the community?	I. Is everyone sleeping under a shelter [AREA OF INTEREST]? If not, why?     Are there are any HHs with no form of shelter?     On average, how many people are sleeping in each single shelter?     If people are generally hosting, what is the host community's general condition? E.g. strained resources and cannot share.	- If yes, what types of shelter? - If no, reasons? - Difference between HC and IDPs? - If there are HHs sleeping in the open/without shelter, roughly how many HHs? - Do people have non-family members living with them in the shelter?	FGD Shelter Assessment Tool Observations	- Payam of interest - KI gender
What are the barriers for IDPs and host community members of accessing services in the assessed locations, especially for shelter and NFIs?	2	Has there been any shelter damage?	5. Have any shelters been destroyed or damaged?	- How many? When? - If so, what was the causality? - Have shelters been rebuilt? - If shelters have not been rebuilt, why not?	FGD Observations	- Payam of interest - KI gender
What are people's level of access to shelter and NFIs for the assessed locations?	3	Are shelter materials/NFIs available and accessible?	6. What NFIs do people have access to in the community? 7. What are the sources for the shelter materials and NFIs? (If available) 8. Have people received any non-food or shelter items since you have arrived?	- If received NFIs/Shelter materials, what is the source? - Which NFIs did you receive? - Are there accessible markets where shelter materials and/or NFIs can be bought? - If not, can shelter materials be sourced from elsewhere?	FGD Shelter Assessment Tool	- Payam of interest - KI gender
What are the barriers for IDPs and host community members of accessing services in the assessed locations, especially for shelter and NFIs?	4	What are the gaps for meeting the necessary shelter/NFI needs of the population?	9. What is the most needed NFI? 10. What is the highest priority for shelter related needs? E.g. materials, land, plastic sheets, timber etc.	- Which NFIs are not available? - What items are most needed? - If numerous, can rank the top 3 that are most needed.	FGD Shelter Assessment Tool	- Payam of interest - KI gender



# **Assessment Report**

Availa	able at: http://sheltersouthsudan.org/documents/s-nfi-assess	ment-tools-house	holds-survey-fgd				
Orgai	nization:	Report date:		Assessment date(s):	Assessment date(s):		
	Location Assessed	State	County	Payam	GPS Coordinates		
Brief	situation overview:						
Popu	llation Data						
1	Population Count from:(source)	нн:		Individuals:			
2	Population Count observed by team	нн:		Individuals:			
	Population breakdown	Popula	tion residing at as	ssessment site	Population in need of NFI/ES		
3	Share specifics about population details, origin, plans, are lists available, population breakdown and sources:	Host directly IDPs directly Host directly Refugees fro Prolonged II Returnee - g Returnee - f Population ir	Host IDPs directly effected by conflict Host directly effected by conflict IDPs directly effected by disaster: Host directly effected by disaster: Refugees from: Prolonged IDPs (living in collective site for 1+ years) Returnee - government facilitated Returnee - following end of conflict Population in transit to: Other:		Host  IDPs - conflict  Host - conflict  IDPs - disaster  Host - disaster  Refugees  Prolonged IDPs  Returnees - Gov.  Returnees - end  Transit  Other		
Prot	ection Considerations						
4	Do the people feel safe here?	Yes:	_%	% Somehov	w:%		
5	How would services coming to this location affect safety?		would be less safe would be more safe		ovider would not be safe on security		
6	Outline any specific protection concerns or considerati	ons:					
7	Has a detailed security assessment been conducted for this location?	Yes - The clu		with more context question	ons		
Gene	eral questions for community group (IDP group)						
8	How many kilometers and hours away is the closest water point by foot (one way)?		Km		hours by foot		
9	What type of water sources is used for drinking water?	Borehole	River Ha	and dug well Tap-si	tand Other:		
10	How many kilometers and hours away is the closest functioning health clinic by foot (one way)?		Km		hours by foot		

11	Specific illnesses reported in the area	☐ Malaria       ☐         ☐ Acute watery diarrhea       ☐         ☐ Cholera (diagnosed)       ☐		Kala Azar (diagnosed Upper Respiratory In Other:	fections			
12	When was the last harvest in the area?	Started: Ended:						
13	Area prone to severe rapid onset flooding?	Yes	☐ No	Extremely rare				
Obse	ervations & Findings							
15	What NFI or Shelter materials (if any) are available in the market for purchase? (Plastic sheet, Blanket, Sleeping mat, Kanga, Jerry can, Cooking pot (saucepan), Mosquito net, Bucket, Soap, Wooden poles (pcs), Bamboo (pcs), Plastic sheet, Rubber rope, Nylon rope, Tools)	Iten		Number in market	Cost (SSP)/ Unit			
16	General level of activity (buying/selling) in market?	Busy Go		Little to no activity	У			
17	Do the population have access to tools?	☐ Yes ☐ No	Limite	d				
19	Other sources for NFIs (trade, NGO, Gov.)  What shelter materials are available for collection in the natural environment?	☐ Grass ☐ Bamboo ☐ Trees ☐ Other:						
20	If people are generally hosting, what is the hosts general condition?	☐ More or less normal for South Sudan ☐ Emergency level of need ☐ Strained resources/ can not share						
21	Number of shelters counted							
22	Number of HH with no form of shelter (and source)							
23	Number of individuals sharing each shelter (average)	<u> </u>	11-14	☐ 15-20 ☐ > 20				
24	What are the top 3 non food items most needed?  1  2  3	Summery of NFI/Shelf	ter Situation (ok	oservations and details no	ot shared above):			
Asse	ssment Methodology							
25	Observation  Key informant interviews: #  Household interviews: #  Focus groups: #	Additional notes on m	nethodology use	ed:				
Reco	ommendations							
<u> </u>	NFI intervention recommended Shelter intervention recommended No intervention recommended Continue to monitor needs							
Expla	Explanation:							
Define targeting criteria								

	Specify items to be distributed				
	Key considerations for distribution				
المامان	tional Notes				
Pleas	se add any additional information not shared above that ventions):	et should be cons	sidered (partners w	orking in the area, secui	rity, past
Regis	stration/Verification Numbers - This section to be left	blank until regis	stration and verific	ation is complete.	
	stration date:	HH:		Individuals:	
Next	Steps Immediate next steps	T:		\A/l :	esponsible
		Timeline			
Tean	n Details				
1	Name	Organization	Title	Contact Ir	nformation
1					
3					
4					
5					
		(Donor Detail	ls)		

Submit completed form to scsouthsudan-pipeline@googlegroups.com

Once registration/verification is complete resubmit with accompanying pipeline request