

# Service Provider Mapping: Rumbek East

November 2022 | South Sudan

## CONTEXT & RATIONALE

During the June-September 2022 rainy season in South Sudan, Lakes State as many other states, experienced a fourth year of severe floods, which impacted more than 69,000 people in the state.<sup>1</sup> Analysis of United Nations Satellite Centre (UNOSAT) flooding data indicates that Rumbek East county in Lakes State experienced notably consistent flooding throughout the 2022 rainy season, resulting in the destruction of crops and potentially impacting the provision of humanitarian food assistance (HFA), health, and nutrition service provision.<sup>2</sup> This shock followed changes in humanitarian funding in mid-2022, which reduced the number of supported health facilities throughout the country.<sup>3</sup> These reductions may have served to compound the effects of disruptions to service provision in Rumbek East as a result of flooding during the June-September 2022 rainy season and until the time of data collection in November 2022.

To understand the impact of flooding and loss of funding on the availability and functionality of critical service provision in Rumbek East, REACH conducted interviews with service provider key informants (KIs) in November 2022 to assess whether these factors have led to reduced access to services for vulnerable communities.

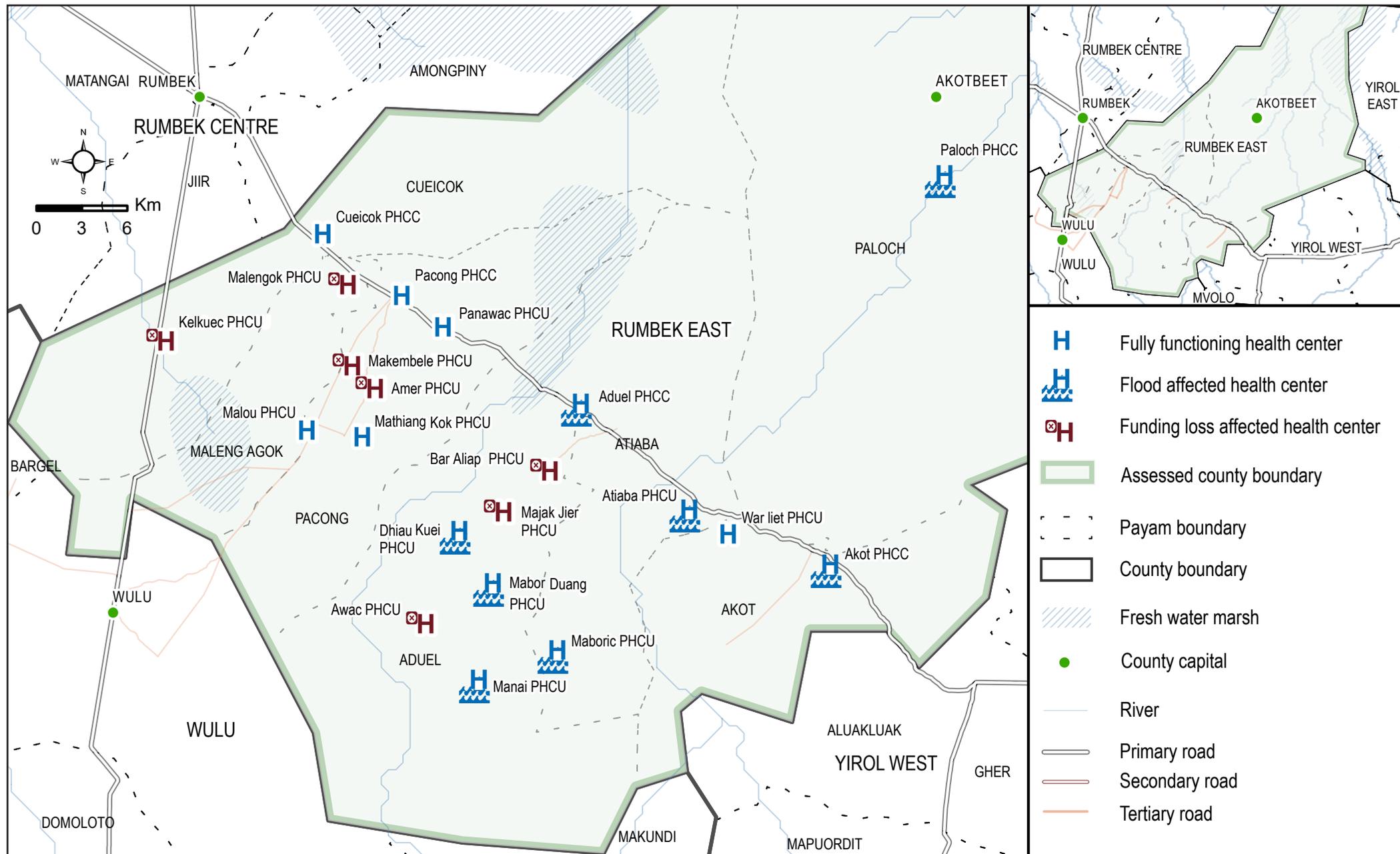
## METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

Data collection took place between the 14th and 29th of November 2022. During this period, the assessment team conducted 3 key informant (KI) interviews with KIs working for health, nutrition, and humanitarian food assistance (HFA) humanitarian service providers operating in Rumbek East and assumed to have subject-matter knowledge on service provision. Additionally, the team conducted informal, semi-structured interviews with local authority officials and community representatives to gain a better understanding of the situation in the area. Qualitative assessment tools were triangulated with UNOSAT flooding data, REACH Area of Knowledge (AoK)<sup>4</sup> data and secondary sources. The assessment findings are not statistically generalisable and should be considered **indicative** of the situation at the time of data collection.

## KEY MESSAGES

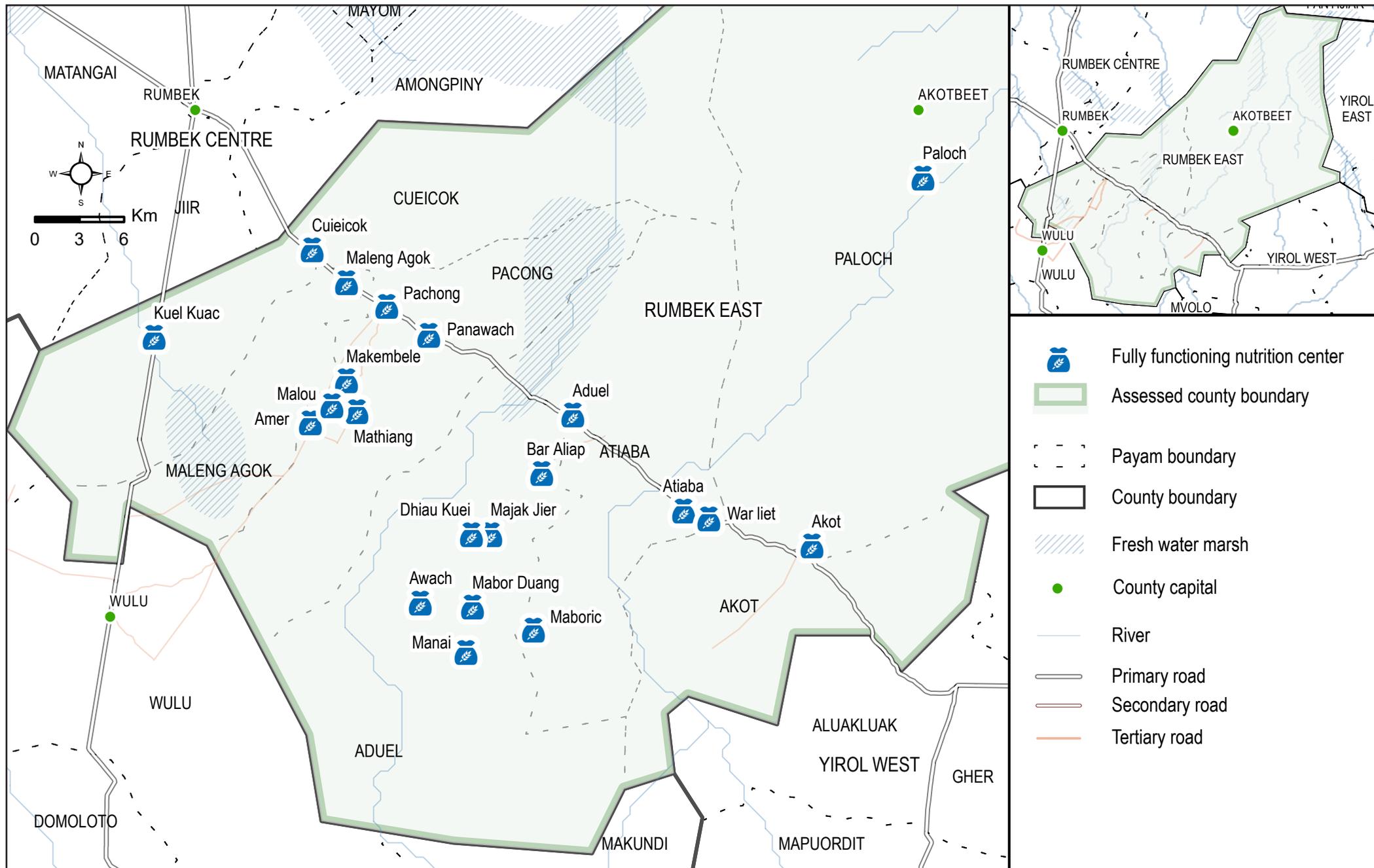
- 2 of 3 service providers KIs interviewed (one health provider and one nutrition provider) reported that rainy season flooding between June and September 2022 resulted in supply barriers to health facilities in Rumbek East during that period.
- **Such supply barriers reportedly impacted service provision at health facilities in the eastern part of the county between August and November 2022, comprising 8 of the 21 health facilities in the county** which were operational at the beginning of 2022. The health provider KI reported that during this period, these facilities were entirely inaccessible for re-supply, likely resulting in drug shortages.
- Reported flooding-related disruptions to health service provision in eastern Rumbek East may have compounded pre-existing disruptions to health service provision in the county which reportedly occurred as a result of funding changes in 2022. **Of the 21 health facilities in the county operating at the beginning of 2022, 7 were reportedly non-functional as a result of funding changes by the time of data collection in November 2022.**
- **As a result of both flooding- and funding-related challenges reported by the health provider KI, only 6 of the 21 health facilities which were operational in Rumbek East at the beginning of 2022 reportedly remained fully operational at the time of data collection in November 2022.**
- Findings from the KII conducted with the nutrition service provider KI suggest that **nutrition facilities did not experience similar flooding-driven supply issues, reportedly because providers were able to pre-position prior to the rainy season.** Health service provider KIs reported that such pre-positioning, at the time of data collection, could not be employed by health providers due to delays in receipt of supply consignments.
- HFA providers reported that service was uninterrupted by flooding in 2022, with distributions as part of a lean season response occurring on a monthly basis through the lean season (April-August).

Map 1: Health facility functionality as of November 2022, as reported by 1 interviewed health service provider KI

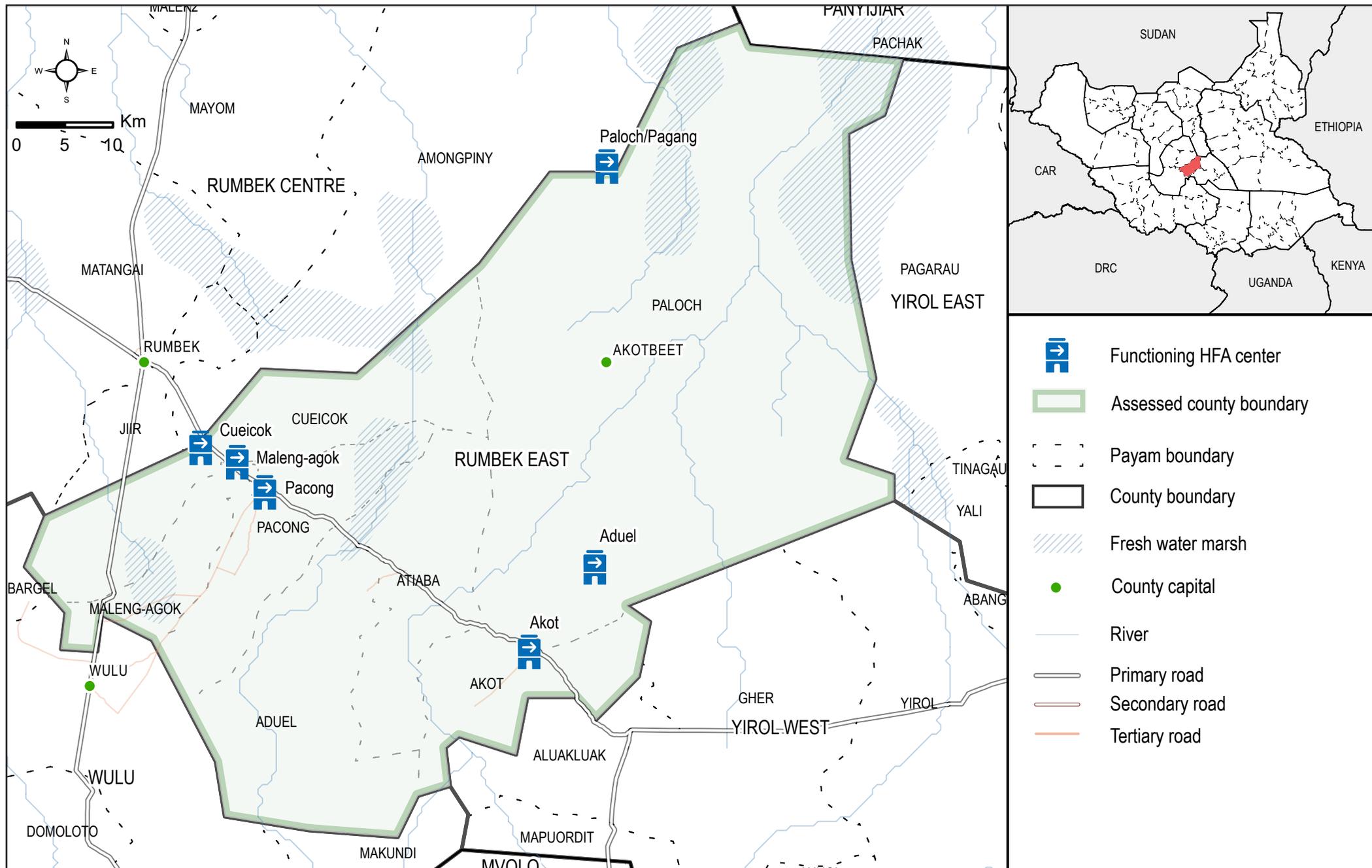


NB: War-Liet PHCU is technically functional and is listed on the map as such. However, 1 service provider KI there reported that the site does not receive institutional funding consistently, reportedly leading to supply issues.

Map 2: Nutrition facility functionality as of November 2022, as reported by 1 interviewed nutrition service provider KI



Map 3: Humanitarian food assistance distribution point functionality as of November 2022, as reported by 1 interviewed HFA service provider KI



## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> OCHA. [“South Sudan Flooding Snapshot No. 2.”](#) 11 October 2022.

<sup>2</sup> UNOSAT Flooding Data Portal; FEWS NET. [“South Sudan Key Message Update: Conflict and flooding continue to drive Crisis \(IPC Phase 3\) or worse outcomes.”](#) September 2022.

<sup>3</sup> Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Donors of the South Sudan Health Pooled Fund for Support to the Health System in South Sudan.

<sup>4</sup> To provide an overview of the situation in hard-to-reach areas, REACH uses primary data from key informants (KIs) 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 KIs interviewed throughout the country in May-October 2022. In-depth interviews on humanitarian needs were conducted using a structured survey tool. After data collection was completed, all data was aggregated at the 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 reporting. Only counties with interview coverage of at least 5% of all settlements in each assessed month were included in the analysis. 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 each month. Due to access and operational constraints, the specific settlements assessed within each county each month vary. 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 Payam coverage throughout the period of analysis. Findings are not generalizable and should be considered indicative of the situation in assessed hard-to-reach areas during the dates identified. More details of the methodology can be found in the [AoK ToRs](#).

## ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative 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).