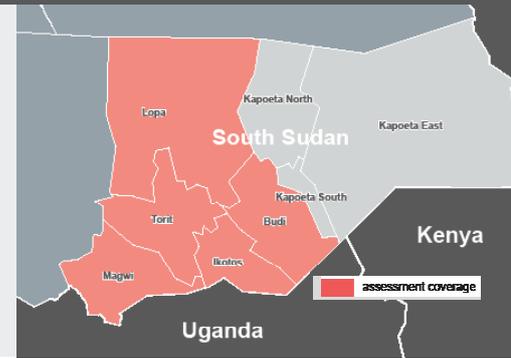


Introduction

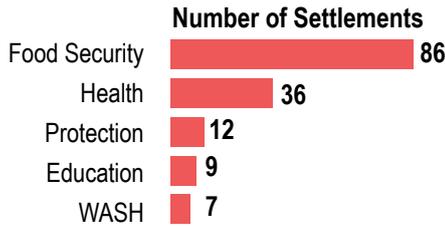
This factsheet presents preliminary findings about the humanitarian needs in the Greater Torit Area of Eastern Equatoria State. Between 9 - 17 October 2016, REACH interviewed 170 key informants (KIs) with recent knowledge from 154 settlements in this area. Due to the purposive sampling of KIs, who reported only on sectors which they were knowledgeable, findings are not statistically generalisable but remain indicative of the situation in assessed locations. Approximately 710,017 people lived in the area before the crisis.¹

Should Torit become unsafe due to the presence of armed groups, most would reportedly flee to Uganda. The current situation throughout Eastern Equatoria remains highly fluid and therefore inaccessible to most humanitarians. Torit itself is unstable, and access to areas outside of the town is highly restricted. The information presented in this factsheet seeks to inform humanitarian actors seeking to respond to humanitarian needs in the Greater Torit Area.



Sector Overview

Greatest need Reported:

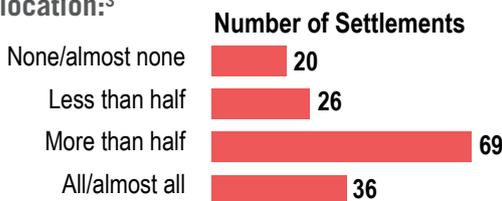


Most rural settlements reported a lack of any key services, while in towns access is limited.

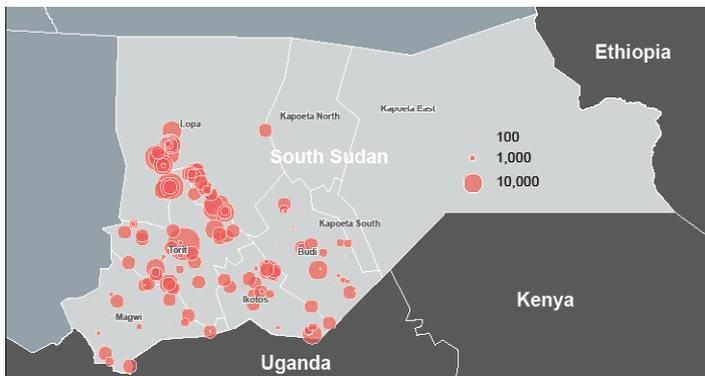
Displacement

The escalation of conflict in July caused widespread displacement from Eastern Equatoria. An estimated 78,321 individuals fled to Uganda before the border was closed.² Since then, the vast majority of IDPs are understood to be hiding in forests or mountains in rural areas, unable to leave out of fear of armed groups. In addition, a small number of people from across the state have taken refuge in Torit Town, while others fled to Kakuma in Kenya.

Estimated host community still living in pre-displacement location:³



Map of estimated remaining host community population of assessed settlements:



¹United Nations, South Sudan Population Estimates, 2014

²UNHCR, Inter-Agency Update #44, 24-26 September 2016

³Focus group discussions clarify that even though most settlements report that people are there, nearly all are living on the outskirts of towns and villages in the bush or in mountains, hiding from armed groups.

Food

While most people were able to cultivate food before the conflict started, the shortened wet season stunted crop yields. The resulting conflict has driven most people off of their lands, where they are subsisting on wild yams in the mountains. Most report eating one meal or less per day.

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



79% of assessed settlements reported not having adequate access to food.

Top reported food coping strategies:

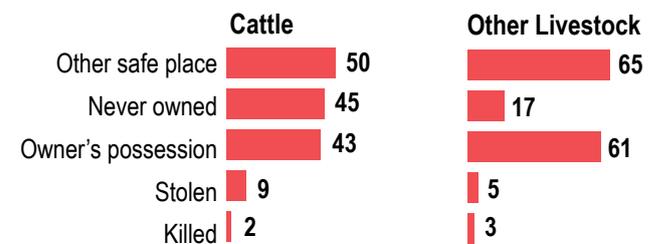
Participants could choose multiple responses



88% of assessed settlements reported having no access to a market. Those who did have market access report unaffordable prices.

Most settlements reported that they still possess a number of livestock such as goats and sheep. Most settlements have successfully hidden the majority of their livestock in the mountains though they lack the means to take care of them. Despite this, most reported that armed groups had stolen some of their livestock during their initial displacement.

Settlements still possessing cattle and other livestock:



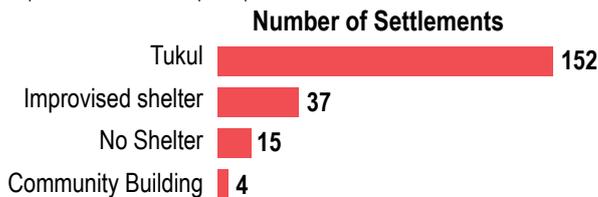
99% of assessed settlements cultivated before the conflict. However, a shortened rainy season shrank crop yields.

Shelter

Most shelters are reportedly collapsing due to a lack of maintenance. Some people who have fled have moved to other settlements and are sharing their shelters, while others are sleeping outside. Those hiding nearby their villages are able to return during the day time, but must leave at night to avoid being attacked. There have been very few distributions in Eastern Equatoria, and nearly all settlements report lacking mosquito nets.

Most reported shelter types:

Participants could choose multiple responses



30% of assessed settlements reported that at least some shelters have been burned during the fighting.



81% of assessed settlements reported that less than half of people were sleeping under mosquito nets.

Education

Settlements that report having education services generally do not have formal schools as such; in most locations, these are community schools made up of volunteer teachers who often lack training or adequate supplies. In most locations, both teachers and students have been forced to flee into the bush.



65% of responding settlements reported that there is no access to education services.

Water and Sanitation

Most settlements reported access to clean water. However, focus group discussion show that in most settlements, water sources are too far away, and people must wait between one and three hours to use a clean water source. As a result, most people still use rivers and other unclean sources of water. Sanitation practices across Eastern Equatoria are historically poor.⁴ With the exception of large towns, most people defecate in the bush.



95% of settlements reported that most people were using unprotected water sources.



85% of settlements reported that most people were defecating in the bush.

⁴South Sudan WASH Cluster, Humanitarian Response Plan, 2015

Health

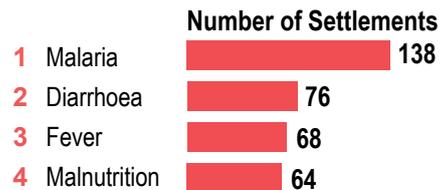
The large majority of assessed settlements reportedly lacked access to healthcare services. The few remaining facilities reportedly lack access to trained staff and medical supplies.



84% of assessed settlements are reportedly unable to access health services

Most commonly reported health problems in settlement:

Participants could choose multiple responses



91% of assessed settlements reported that there are no nutritional supplements available for children.

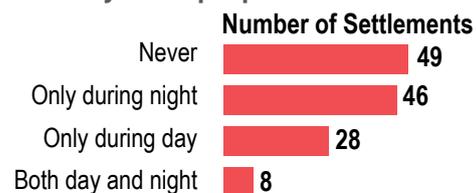


96% of assessed settlements reported that there are no supplements available for pregnant or lactating women.

Protection

Protection remains the largest concern in most settlements. All KIs expressed concerns about being targetted by armed groups if found. The 1/3 of settlements that report being safe are in very remote areas.

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

