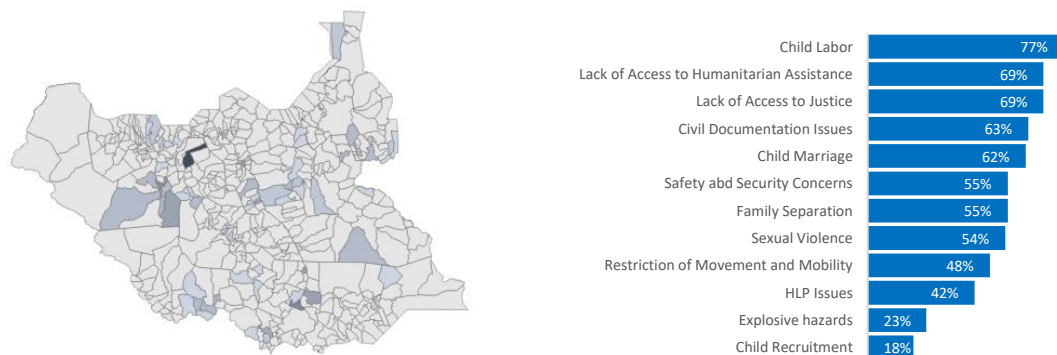
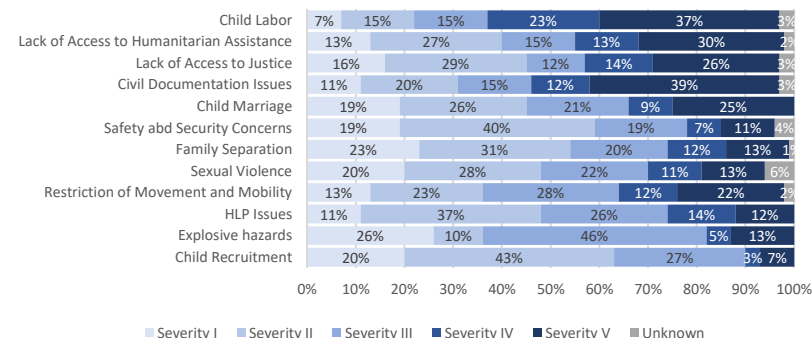


The **Protection Monitoring System (PMS)** of the Protection Cluster (PC) in South Sudan was rolled out in October 2022 with the first round of data collection based on harmonized and agreed upon methods and tools. The PMS relies on contributions by PC member organizations to collect data via a Key Informant Interview (KII) questionnaire at Payam level across twelve thematic areas thereby monitoring the occurrence of protection violations, their scale and impact on communities over time. Key informants are selected to represent a variety of backgrounds and profiles in a community. At country-level, the PMS is coordinated through the Cluster's Protection Monitoring (PROMO) working group. The roll out of the PMS is generously supported by UNHCR and ECHO.

In October 2022, protection monitors conducted 207 key informant interviews covering 90 payams in 32 counties in 10 states of South Sudan. The below graph shows the overall percentages of reported occurrence of protection violations:



The below graph represents the reported severity of protection violations and issues in payams where those were reported by KIs. Severity is based on estimation of the number of occurrences of violations and issues by the KI in October which in turn reflect as severities.



The below high-level protection snapshots of the 12 thematic areas monitored, are, for the most part, based on multiple choice answers, and percentages reflect the number of times a key informant (KI) chose one of the answer options.

Child Labor	Lack of Access to Humanitarian Assistance	Lack of Access to Justice	Civil Documentation Issues	Child Marriage	Safety and Security Concerns
Adolescent boys (51%) and adolescent girls (42%) are most affected by child labor, according to KIs. 79% of reported child labor involves lifting of heavy objects, while 23% entails involvement in illicit and/or degrading activities. 60% of KIs reported child-headed households and lack of work opportunities for women as major contributing factor. School drop-out (87%) and psychosocial trauma (62%) are reported as most common effects of child labor on children.	25% of KIs reported older men and women, especially those living with disabilities, as the population group faced with the highest challenges in accessing humanitarian assistance. Corruption (58%), lack of awareness on how to access humanitarian assistance (57%), and lack of registration/food distribution cards (50%) are the most cited reasons for lack of access to assistance, of which food, shelter, protection (CP and GBV), WASH and health services are the most cited ones (50-75%).	The two population groups reportedly most impacted by lack of access to justice were adult women (36%) and adolescent girls (29%). Family disputes and GBV (70%) as well as other forms of physical violence (65%) are the issues for which justice is sought most frequently. Corruption (63%), stigmatization (46%) and revenge (45%) are the three main barriers to accessing justice as reported by KIs. Customary law is the preferred method of achieving justice in the community, according to 61% of KIs.	57% of KIs reported the issuance of birth certificates as rare in their communities, while passports and IDs can reportedly not be obtained by the community according to 87% and 76% of KIs respectively. Inability to access employment, register SIM cards and access to banking were the most common repercussions of gaps in documentation (on average 65%). Lack of registrars, unaffordable transportation costs to registrars and lack of understanding of the process were the most cited barriers (on average 55% of KI reports).	24% of KIs reported child marriage occurring very often in their respective community, and 99% reported adolescent girls to be the most affected by child marriage in their respective communities.	Physical violence and abuse (64%), conflict-related sexual violence (49%), violence against children (47%), destruction of property (37%) and abduction, kidnapping and arbitrary arrest (33%) are the most commonly reported violations affecting the safety and security of monitored communities.
Family Separation	Sexual Violence	Restriction of Movement and Mobility	HLP Issues	Explosive Hazards	Child Recruitment
44% of KIs reported that family separations have equally affected all age groups. Some KIs reported boys and girls and adolescent girls to be the most affected. Domestic violence (61%), early marriages (57%), and domestic disagreements (57%), including children running away, as well as the death of a caregiver (54%) are among the most cited reasons for family separations.	According to KIs, youth groups (37%), other community members (30%) and business owners (29%) are among the actors contributing to the risk of sexual violence in communities. Fear of stigma (78%), lack of knowledge of rights (67%) and fear of retaliation (on average 64%) are barriers that prevent survivors from reporting. However, 40% of KIs said that survivors would report the incident to health centres, police and traditional leaders. 43% of KIs reported compensation paid to survivors' families as the community's most common response mechanism.	36% of KIs reported people returning to their communities. In comparison, 34% reported IDPs moving away to other areas (mostly in search of better economic opportunities or access to humanitarian assistance). Within the communities, KIs cite floods (57%), fear of death and injury (50%), fear of GBV (42%) and fear of kidnapping (30%) as most common reasons people do not move. Such movement restrictions negatively impacted livelihoods (82%) and access to services (61%).	70% of KIs reported persons with disabilities as the most affected by difficulties related to their housing, land and property rights. Main factors causing HLP challenges are floods (56%), forced evictions (53%) and destruction caused by armed conflict (50%). Homelessness (78%), psychosocial trauma (64%) and loss of income (60%) are the top three impacts on the affected communities.	61% of KIs reported the presence of explosive hazards hindering access to livelihoods, and 39% reported access to education for children hindered. Reportedly, 43% of explosive hazard incidents happened by community members stepping on explosive ordnance and 41% doing so during farming. In response to victims of explosive hazard incidents, 30% of KIs reported emergency medical aid was provided, while less than 10% cite other types of victim assistance.	KI reported boys being the most likely victims of child recruitment. According to 43% of KI reports, as a prevention strategy, community members move to another location to avoid child recruitment, and 37% reported ransom payments as a means to get a child back.

In October 2022, at any given time, protection monitors reported the following six payams as inaccessible due to natural disasters: Wau North, Dongchack, Alik, Riau, Nyuak and Aduel, while one payam, Luom, was reported as inaccessible due to a disease outbreak.	87 KI interviews were conducted in collective sites or IDP camps.	66% of monitored payams are in predominately rural areas.	Protection monitors requested 150 urgent follow-up regarding Child Marriage, Safety and Security, Child Labour and Sexual Violence.
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**Organizations contributing to the PMS in October** (listed by the number of valid inputs submitted): UNHCR/Humanitarian & Development Consortium, UNHCR/Community Aid for Relief and Development Organization, OSIL Partners in Relief and Development, UNHCR/Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Road to Economic Development Organisation, Community Aid for Relief and Development Organization, Mission Community Development Agency, International Rescue Committee, Nonviolent Peaceforce, Survivor Aid, Christian Agency for Humanitarian Relief and Development, UNHCR/Jesuit Refugee Service, African Community Agency for Development and Relief, Agency for Women and Children Development, UNHCR/Danish Refugee Council, Action Aid Intervention for Development Organization, INTERSOS, UNHCR/International Rescue Committee, Mission to Alleviate Suffering in South Sudan, Voice of the Peace, CARE South Sudan, Community in Need Aid, Danish Refugee Council, Stewardwomen, Wider Aid & Development Agency - South Sudan. **Thank you to all the member organizations for their contributions!**