



*HDC protection monitor conduct KI interview with member of Rejaf IDP community*

## ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY AND PURPOSE

The Protection Monitoring Work Group (PROMO) Protection Monitoring System (PMS) Analysis is a monthly snapshot intended to complement the monthly statistical report with a joint contextual analysis of the data and information collected including through PMS's Key Informant Interviews with the chief purpose to inform the humanitarian response stakeholders in South Sudan on protection relevant findings, advocacies, and key messages by the Protection Cluster.

During the regular PROMO meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>, some 30 Protection Cluster PMS focal points met to discuss the available statistical findings derived from the system and concluded that, at national level, protection violations and protection challenges are on the rise across most geographical and thematic areas. For example, compared to December 2022, 10% more KIs report occurrence of sexual violence in their communities, lack of access to humanitarian assistance is perceived to be on a rise by 12%. 17% KIs are concerned about safety and security while, cumulatively, violations against children continue to be a major challenge in South Sudan. The PROMO members also noted a general [increase of displacement related mobility among all populations](#) due to the recent conflicts and as a coping mechanism to the drought in the payams that are being monitored.

Considering the knowledge on overall context in the country as well as the process of inter-sectorial needs assessment actors in prioritizing deployment of emergency assistance, the PROMO team analyzed known hotspots in the country against protection triggers as advocacy for immediate deployment of assistance to four areas of the country.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Besides the analyzed counties, in January 2023, known hotspots in South Sudan where the severity of protection needs is high or emerging are the counties of: Twic, Uror, Pnyaikang, Kajo-keji, Fangak and Pariang

## **IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

**In Juba County in Central Equatoria** - Some 4,000 conflict displaced people from the Greater Pibor and Upper Nile are living in a camp like environment or in settlements adjacent to them, and a vast majority of them are in heighten need for humanitarian assistance, including Food and WASH. Lack of WASH results in an increase of GBV incidents, especially among women fetching water from distant areas. Diminishing supplies and high concentration of population trigger other forms of violence or protection concerns especially towards children, women, and disabled people and their ability to cope in a safe manner. In Mangalla IDP camp, women and children reportedly have limited access to humanitarian assistance, a situation requiring close monitoring and assessment of the situation.

**In Jonglei State** - The intercommunal fighting resulted in killings, property and infrastructure destruction, looting and protection violations including GBV, child and women abductions and recruitment urgently in need of addressing. Areas in Akobo County register only a 33% response on the issues of the lack of access to humanitarian assistance, family separations, child recruitment and explosive hazards but issues related to movement restriction, sexual violence and other child rights are high. PROMO members report a grimmer situation in Pibor and Pochalla whereby accesses to assistance, child rights violations, security situation, and sexual violence are reportedly very high. Diel payam of Pigi/Canal County is one the devastated area by the recent armed conflict, and there is a critical protection gap since the end of the protection activities funded by SSHF last year. Currently, there is a total absence of protection activities making it difficult for non-protection partners to deal with protection-related concerns including referral of GVB cases. That means Pigi/Canal remains one of the hotspot locations that fall under the category of the hard-to-reach area with limited humanitarian services.

**In Unity State** - Famine caused by a prolonged (multi-year) flood situation and political conflict in Unity State continue to cause and influence inter-communal violence resulted into large scale displacement as seen in Leer and Mayiandit county early last year with many rights violations recorded. The affected population still remain in camp-like situation around leer Town, Adok, Mom, and Rubakuay with lots of HLP and other protection related issues. Lack of access to humanitarian assistance was flagged by 80% of key informants while 98% of them report recurrence of child marriage, child labor and sexual violence as negative coping mechanisms in Panyijiar, Koch and Mayendit counties. Leer as well is hosting IDPs who were displaced from greater Fangak due to recent conflict between rival armed groups of Kitgwneng which has displaced many people in Upper Nile regions as well.

**In Upper Nile-Fashoda County** is scene of non-international armed conflict causing major displacement. While some humanitarian assistance reaches the neediest (75% of KI report lack of access), access to many of the county's payams is mostly impossible and reports of significant conflict related sexual violence, child recruitment and movement restrictions are severe.