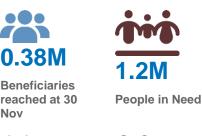


PROTECTION CLUSTER NWSW MONTHLY UPDATE

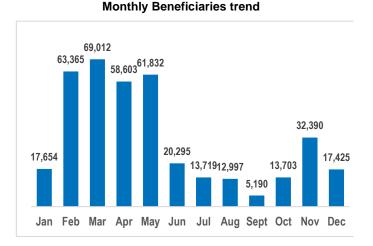
December 2024

Key Figures





Target population





Response Overview

In December 2024, the Protection Cluster and its AoRs reached 17,425 persons in the North-West and South-West regions with protection services ranging from legal protection, MHPSS, and child protection to holistic support to GBV survivors and sensitization of communities on HLP-related issues.

- 8,647 individuals were reached during GBV awareness-raising and sensitization activities at the community level.
- 2, 332 children accessed GBV risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions
- 560 individuals were sensitized on HLP rights and responsibilities.
- 314 individuals received legal counseling.

Key Highlights

In December, the security situation in the NWSW regions remained tense and volatile, marked by increased NSAG and GDSF clashes in both regions.

An increase in abductions for ransom and extortion/illegal taxation was reported, as NSAGS presumably tried to raise funds for the Christmas festivities and also to fund their activities.

An increase in the use of IEDs, killings, maimings and mutilation was also recorded.

Housing, Land & Property

Discriminatory traditional practices continue to hinder women's rights to property in the NW region. Widows, especially those without marriage certificates are particularly vulnerable to this, rendering them and their children homeless, following the death of their husbands. These discriminatory practices are usually meted out by extended family and community leaders / traditional authorities.

There is a need for extensive and continuous sensitization of IDPs on the importance of tenancy agreements. IDPs are reported to be concerned that the agreements can be used against them by their landlords, should they default on their rent. As a result of this fear, IDPs remain tenure insecure, and at risk of forced eviction.

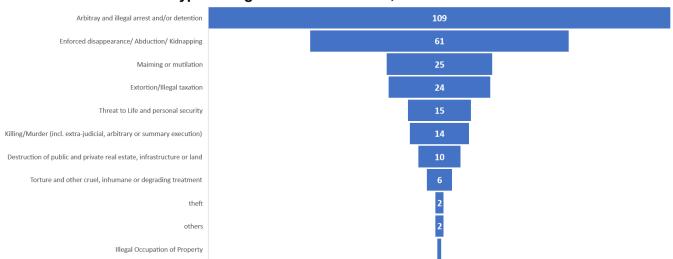
IDPs' access to arable land is hampered by both their lack of funds to rent farmland and landowners' reluctance to rent out farmland to IDPs as they doubt their ability to pay the rent, thus limiting IDPs' access to livelihoods and integration into host communities.

HLP partners report that lengthy procedures and high costs are key factors limiting access to property in the NWSW regions. Fear of reprisals from traditional authorities is also a major deterrent for most recipients of HLP counseling to claim their HLP rights.

Protection Monitoring



Types of rights Violation NWSW, December 2024



265 human rights violations were recorded in December in the northwest and southwest regions. The sub-divisions with the highest number of protection incidents were **Meme** in the SW region (60 incidents), **Menchum** in the NW region (38 incidents) and **Mezam**, also in the NW region (32 incidents).

Incidents of Arbitrary arrests and detentions (109 victims) continue to be reported across both regions, and as the festive season approaches, there has been an increase in abductions for ransom (61 victims).

Key Challenges

- Low funding for protection activities continues to limit the ability of protection actors to respond to protection needs including for individuals who have suffered human rights violations.
- Access restrictions both regions continue to negatively impact operational presence protection actors are only able to respond in 11 out of the 13 divisions of the NWSW Regions