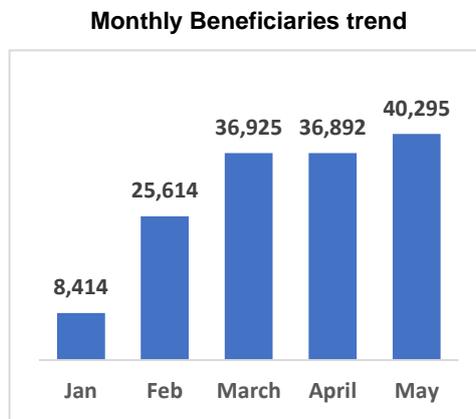


Key Figures



Response Overview

In May 2025, the Protection Cluster and its AoRs reached **40,295 individuals** in the North-West and South-West regions with protection services ranging from **MHPSS**, to **holistic support to GBV survivors**, and **sensitization of communities on HLP related issues**.

- **18, 034 children and caregivers** accessed mental health or psychosocial support
- **9,221 individuals** were reached during GBV sensitization activities at the community level
- **8,892 GBV survivors** received holistic GBV support (MHPSS and legal assistance)
- **4,317 individuals** were sensitized on birth registration
- **1,513 displaced or crisis-affected persons** were sensitized on peace building, social cohesion and peaceful co-existence between IDPs, returnees and host communities
- **189 individuals** were sensitized on HLP rights

Key Highlights

In May, protection actors continued to feel the impact of the global suspension of US funding for humanitarian activities.

Protection actors organized awareness-raising and sensitization sessions on GBV, peace building and social cohesion and HLP rights to affected populations, and GBV and Child Protection actors continued to provide MHPSS to GBV survivors, children and their caregivers.

- **Protection Monitoring**

In May, **258 human rights violations** were recorded. **Arbitrary arrests and detention (62 victims), abductions for ransom (52 victims), maiming /mutilation (41 victims)** and **killings (41 victims)** were the top three reported violations.

This is the first time this year that arbitrary arrests and detentions have been among the top three reported violations and the sudden spike can be attributed to an increase in military activities around the 20 May festivities.

Comparative Trend Analysis of Violations in the NWSW in 2023, 2024 and 2025

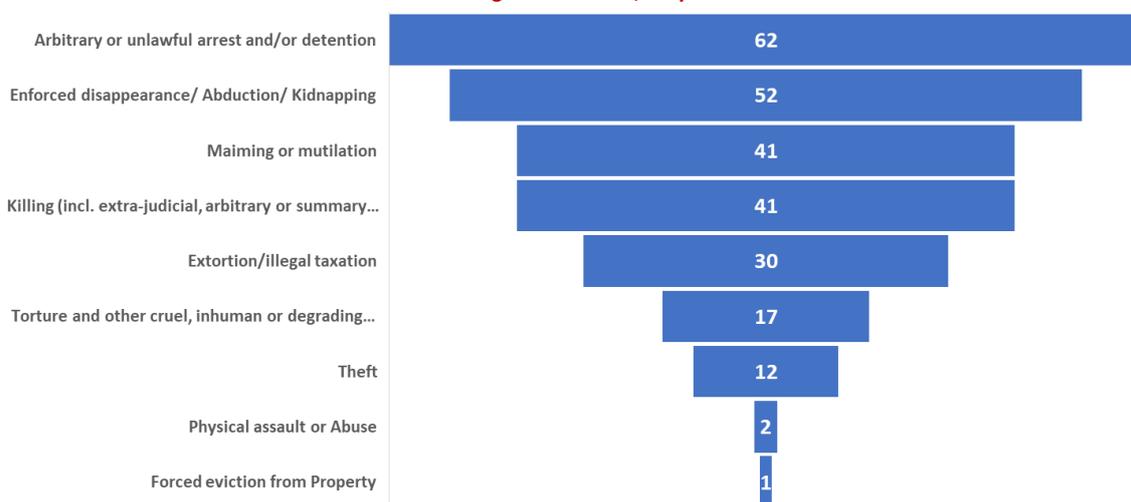


Protection actors have observed a direct correlation between **abductions for ransom, maiming /mutilations** and **killings**. Civilians who resist being abducted usually suffer physical harm and in some cases the intended victims are killed. Despite this, the civilian population continues to push back against abductions by NSAGs for ransom.

Attacks and threats against civilians by NSAGs were reported in **Bambili (Mezam, NW)** and **Banga Bakundu (Meme, SW)** in May. In both locations, NSAGs threatened to attack the communities – leading to the displacement of about 150 individuals from Bambili, and attempted to abduct individuals for ransom – one attempt was foiled in Bambili, but 7 people were abducted in Banga-Bakundu.

Herder farmer clashes were reported in **Buku (Donga Mantung)** and **Wum (Menchum)** both in the NW region.

Human Rights Violations, May 2025



Key Challenges

The on-going global cut in humanitarian funding has negatively impacted protection programming in the NWSW regions, limiting protection actors' ability to identify, monitor, prevent and mitigate protection risks and incidents in the NWSW regions.