

IOM conducted a biometric verification exercise in Malakal Protection of Civilian (PoC) site from 15 to 28 February 2017, covering all 4 sectors and 48 blocks of the PoC. The exercise was successfully completed with a total of 30,559 individuals or 10,300 households verified.

The previous verification was conducted in July 2016 with 33,191 individuals or 10,230 households verified indicating a reduction of less than 3,000 individuals. This reduction may be attributed to the period from November to December 2016 when access to the river Nile was opened and many IDPs from Malakal PoC crossed the river to Wau Shilluk to reunite with their families while others proceeded to the refugee camp in Sudan.

Consolidation by the Government of its position in Malakal and expansion into areas surrounding the town are likely to have decreased expectations among Shilluk IDPs that they will be able to return to their properties in the area in the short to medium terms. The continued failure of the national peace process will increase perceptions that long term insecurity in the Upper Nile region is likely. The targeting of the Malakal PoC site in February 2017 will increase perceptions that the PoC site will be targeted again in times of heightened tension. In these circumstances, a growing number of individuals are likely to take advantage of access opportunities to leave the site.

Sector	Households	Individuals	Total		0-4		5-17		18-59		>60	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Sector 1	5,086	13,745	6,617	7,128	944	872	2,424	2,469	3,029	3,359	220	428
Sector 2	2,866	8,357	3,808	4,549	730	666	1,659	1,699	1,336	2,015	83	169
Sector 3	922	3,521	1,506	2,015	342	307	813	855	321	792	30	61
Sector 4	1,426	4,936	2,152	2,784	447	444	1,103	1,122	562	1,119	40	99
TOTAL	10,300	30,559	14,083	16,476	2,463	2,289	5,999	6,145	5,248	7,285	373	757

