



IOM's DTM enumerator conducting focus group discussion (FGD) with respondents in Morobo County © IOM 2022

# RETURN AND REINTEGRATION SURVEY IN SOUTH SUDAN'S FORMER BREADBASKET

Central Equatoria State

Kajo-Keji, Morobo, Lainya and Yei Counties

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IOM's DTM enumerator conducting focus group discussion (FGD) with respondents in Lainya County © IOM 2022

## INTRODUCTION

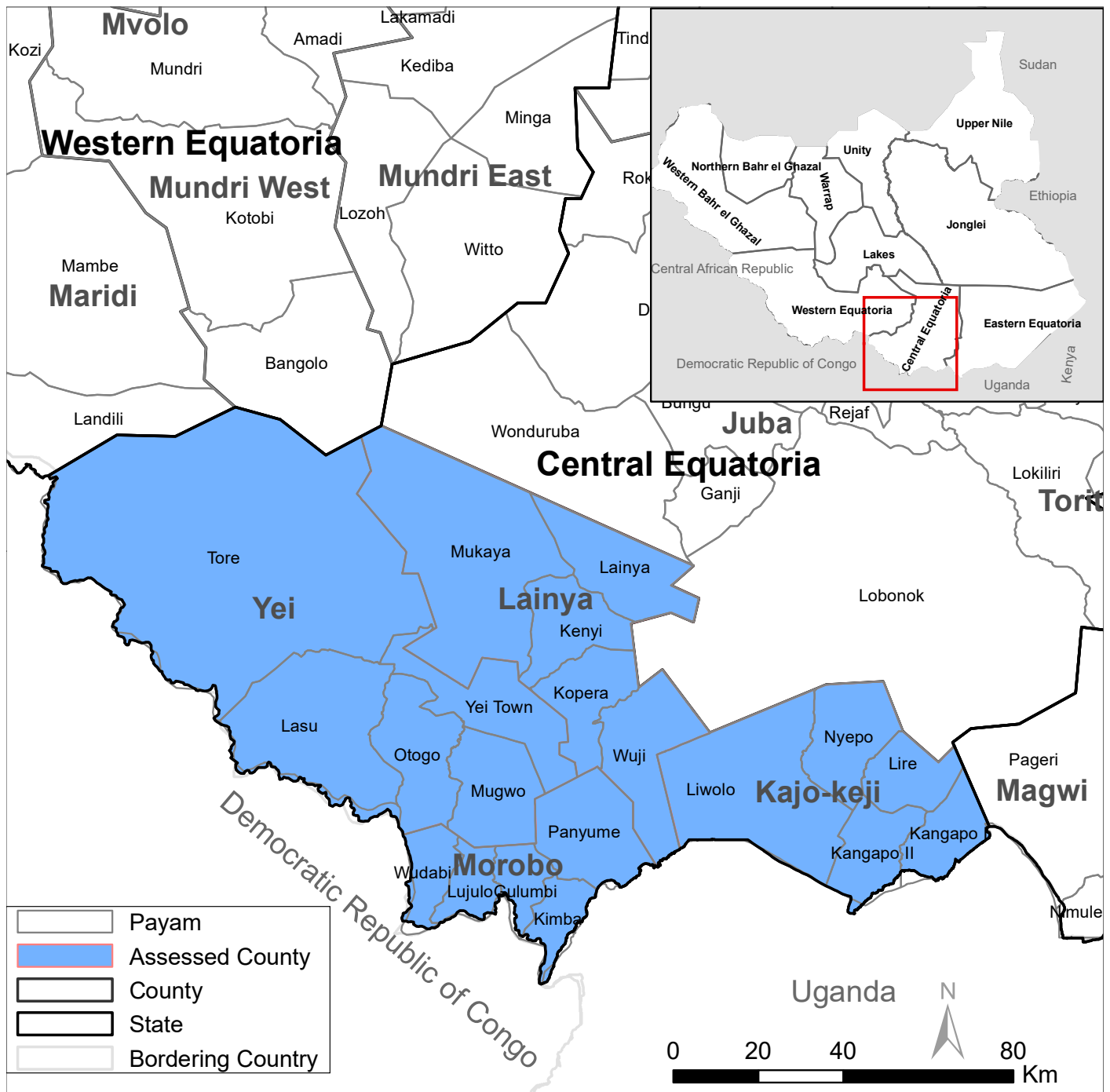
The humanitarian situation in South Sudan is overall deteriorating due to prolonged conflict, social and political instability, climate-related shockwaves and economic downturns. The interrelated hardships continue to have adverse consequences for the humanitarian conditions of civilians in South Sudan, in terms of food insecurity, exposure to violence, public health challenges and barriers to services. Despite the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) in 2018, political conflict has continued in the Central Equatoria State and destabilized counties including Kajo-keji, Morobo, Lainya and Yei, devastating a region that once served as the country's breadbasket. This has also impeded the prospect of early recovery at a time when people had started to return to their places of habitual residence.

In many parts of South Sudan, in a setting of scarce resources and heightened competition over land, resources, and administrative control, returns of communities could engender further divisions, while at the same time promote early recovery and resilience in such a way that seeks to revive the region's potential for production and development after years of warring. The return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and those previously displaced abroad is important and signifies that the context may require a shift in programming from a humanitarian level of intervention to a recovery-oriented one with alternative policies and funding. However, it should be noted that the return of formerly displaced people has both push and pull factors.

According to the [Inter-Agency Standing Committee](#) (IASC), a durable solution is achieved when IDPs no longer have specific assistance or protection needs linked to their displacement and when such persons can enjoy their human rights without discrimination resulting from their displacement. Durable solutions can be achieved through sustainable reintegration at the place of origin (areas of return), or through sustainable local integration in areas where IDPs take refuge or sustainable integration in another part of the country (settlement elsewhere in the country).

Children, women and persons with disabilities (PwDs) who are internally displaced tend to face higher protection risks and discrimination and are less safe than others. The gender dimension of internal displacement, along with IDPs' diverse needs, circumstances, and vulnerabilities all have a direct effect on whether a locality is favourable. The host community's ability and willingness to accept IDPs also plays a significant role in rendering it favourable. Some localities may discriminate against PwD and prefer IDPs with certain demographic profiles. These and similar issues must be considered when planning and delivering specific assistance or protection needs throughout efforts towards durable solutions.

Map I: Southern Central Equatorial Reference Map



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## OBJECTIVE

To understand the dimensions of return and reintegration, the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) unit implemented a targeted study within the Central Equatoria State, under the Reconciliation, Stabilization, and Resilience Trust Fund (RSRTF) project. This report presents the findings from the data collection exercise and the Return and Reintegration Index. It aims to improve the knowledge base available to the humanitarian community concerning barriers and facilitators of return and reintegration in Central Equatoria State, by providing an overview of such experiences among different population groups in Kajo-keji, Morobo, Lainya and Yei counties.

The findings from the survey and Stability Index developed by IOM's DTM aim to establish a baseline and identify the gaps and the scope barriers to reintegration and stabilization in Central Equatoria State. The findings presented in this report are indicative and should not be deemed representative. The data collection exercise was conducted in a select number of locations, not covering all the Payams across the four counties. Language barriers may have been a major constraint while conducting the interviews.

## BRIEF SITUATION OVERVIEW

Central Equatoria State has been witnessing returns of refugees and IDPs partly due to push factors. These are related to the reduction in aid in neighboring countries, to the worsening humanitarian situation of IDPs across South Sudan and are partly due to the returnees' improved perception of the conditions in their areas of return, specifically access to livelihoods and the improvement of the security situation.

In neighboring countries, the reduction in food rations and limited access to education and livelihoods, in addition to widespread discrimination against refugees, forced many of those who fled to Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to return to South Sudan, hoping to survive in places like Kajo-Keji, Morobo, Lainya and Yei. Across South Sudan, the competition over limited resources and the struggle to survive amid climate shocks and growing hostilities, forced many IDPs to return to their places of origin and many other IDPs to be displaced again (relocated) within the country.

However, the security conditions and ability to access resources were not much better in Central Equatoria State. Hostilities between the national army, South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF) and the opposition National Salvation Front (NAS) resulted in civilian casualties and instability, driving further mass displacements. Armed forces engaged in large-scale targeting of youth, incidents of abductions, looting of private properties, and sexual and gender-based violence.

Central Equatoria witnessed both internal displacement and returnee inflow movements. Fleeing destitution, poverty and conflict, returnees and IDPs experience egregious violence, abuse and exploitation. The widespread displacement and return movements also put considerable pressure on host communities who are already sharing overcrowded shelters and need basic household and non-food items, cash assistance, and greater access to water and latrines.

Lack of access to land to cultivate, continuous cattle raids, and widespread checkpoints restrict people's freedom of movement, access to health facilities and livelihoods. Education also suffers as parents lose access to income and are unable to pay school fees. Some schools across the four counties are occupied by armed forces, hindering children's access to education facilities.

IDPs and returnees (former IDPs and refugees) are occupying abandoned shelters and have turned some plots and schools into makeshift shelters. Should the area continue to see returnees or should the schools re-open, this will complicate returnees and IDPs' situation even more. Host community members, IDPs, returnees and relocated persons are living in dire conditions with extremely limited-to-no access to essential services such as shelter, food, water and health care. Women and children often face sexual violence, forced labor and other protection risks.

Humanitarian and development needs in Central Equatoria State are driven by the ongoing conflict, collapse of the economy, climate change, disease, and funding shortages. Despite the worsening situation, many refugees and IDPs are returning to their homes, as their situation in refugee or IDP sites is not any better. While mostly people are returning because conditions elsewhere are worse, some are also returning because they perceive that the security situation seems to be improving and there may be opportunities for livelihoods and better living conditions.

## METHODOLOGY

### Data Collection Overview

A quantitative survey was carried out within four counties in Central Equatoria State: Kajo-Keji, Lainya, Morobo and Yei. These counties were targeted for Reconciliation, Stabilization and Resilience area-based programming. In each of the four counties, areas within the capital city and accessible locations that were experiencing return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) were

assessed. The study used a stratified two stage sampling method with a replacement strategy and representativeness at county level (see the [Appendix](#) for further information on the sampling used to select the households for the survey).

The data covered four population groups, namely: returnees, relocated persons, IDPs and members of the host community. The data also includes information on eight key areas: **housing (shelter), livelihoods, WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), health, education, social cohesion, community stability and protection.**

The qualitative aspect of the study was conducted through focus groups discussions (FGDs) with participants from the four population groups. A total of 52 FGDs were conducted between 6 June and 6 July 2022, and the participants were 57 per cent males and 43 per cent females. The interviews focused on women and youth representatives, the participation of the elderly and PWDs, and on the inclusion of any existing leadership structure and minority groups.

No personal information was collected during the data collection exercise. All respondents were informed of the voluntary nature and anonymity of the information collected. Participants were verbally asked to give their consent to IOM's use of information.

## Data Conversion

The survey had both single-answer questions and multiple-answer questions. Single-answer questions asked respondents to pick one option from a pre-determined list of answer options while multiple-answer questions invited respondents to “check all that apply.”

The data for the single-answer questions was converted into a numerical version. Each response was ranked, and each rank was converted into a numeric value, from 0 to 10.

The rank for each option on a question was assigned from the most favourable option to the least favourable option. For example, questions with only two answer options (such as: Yes or No) were ranked as either most favourable (1) or least favourable (2). The ranks are then converted to numeric values, where a rank of 1 means 10 and a rank of 2 means 0. This logic was extended to all the single-answer questions regardless of the number of options. If a question has three answer options, the rank for each will be converted to a numeric value of either 0 (least favourable), 5 (neutral) or 10 (most favourable). Please see table below for examples on data conversion.

This formula of calculation was designed to ensure that all options fall between 0 and 10, regardless of question format, or the number of options that a question had. This ensured any subsequent analysis on the numerical version of the data was done on indicators that are on the same scale. (Please see the [Appendix on page 23](#) for further information on the methodology used to convert the respondents answers into numbers).

Table 1: Examples of how the data conversion was done for some of the questions in the survey

Question on the Survey	Response options	Rank	Numeric data
Do you own a house/property?	Yes	1	10
Do you own a house/property?	No	2	0
Rate the level of stability of your community	Very stable	1	10
Rate the level of stability of your community	Stable	2	7.5
Rate the level of stability of your community	Neutral	3	5
Rate the level of stability of your community	Unstable	4	2.5
Rate the level of stability of your community	Very unstable	5	0

## Return and Reintegration Index Calculation

The Return and Reintegration Index combines data (the numerical version of the data) from eight indicators (8 key areas: housing, livelihoods, WASH, health, education, social cohesion, community stability and protection) into a single number that provides an indication of the favourability of conditions (Stability Index) to the return and reintegration of displaced people. The calculation of the index was done at the household level.

The data presents findings on the eight key indicators that correspond with the different index components. Those components are based on the IASC durable solutions criteria: 1) Safety and security, 2) Adequate standard of living, 3) Access to livelihood, 4) Restoration of housing, land, and property, 5) Access to documentation, 6) Family reunification, 7) Participation in public affairs, and 8) Access to effective remedies and justice.

While the criteria listed are not conclusive, they represent a set of minimum measurements of the conditions in a locality regarding its ability to host returnees and displaced people both in the short and long term.

The calculation of the Index is a sum of the different indicators with a weight assigned to each of the indicators to show the relative importance of each indicator and its impact on the favourability of a locality to host or reintegrate displaced people or returnees.

The formula below defines the index as a combination (sum) of the following indicators: stability (weighted at 30%), peace and safety (weighted at 20%), access to services (weighted at 15%), access to livelihoods (weighted at 15%), housing (weighted at 10%), access to justice (weighted at 5%) and presence of fair governance (weighted at 5%). All the indicators used in the calculation of the Index are on a scale of 0 to 10, therefore, the Index scores range from 0 (least favorable) to 10 (most favorable).

$$\text{Return and Reintegration Index} = \text{stability} * 0.3 + ([\text{peace} + \text{safety}] / 2) * 0.2 + \text{services} * 0.15 + \text{livelihood} * 0.15 + \text{housing} * 0.1 + \text{justice} * 0.05 + \text{governance} * 0.05$$

Table 2: The questions asked under each index component, to create the indicators used in the calculation of the Return and Reintegration Index

Index Component	Question
Stability	Rate the level of stability of your community from very unstable to very stable.
Peace	Do you feel that people live peacefully together in your community?
Services	Do you feel that you have access to basic services in your community without discrimination?
Safety	Do you feel that you live in a secure and safe community?
Livelihood	Do you feel that you have access to livelihoods in community without discrimination?
Housing	What is the status of your current house shelter?
Governance	Do you feel that your local government in your community is fair?
Justice	Do you feel that you have access to justice in your community without discrimination?



## KEY FINDINGS

- A total of **614** individual household members participated in the study; the gender ratio was close to 1:1, with **48%** female participants and **52%** male participants.
- Overall, the analysis found that **Yei County** (average Return and Reintegration Index = 7.35/10) has the best conditions and for the return and reintegration of displaced populations while **Morobo County** has the lowest average index score (5.69/10) and therefore, the least favourable conditions for the return and reintegration of displaced people.
- The Index score based on the population type shows that within communities there is a disparity in the access to services and other indicators that drive the Index. Generally, **IDP** households had the lowest Index scores while **Host Community Member** households reported the highest Index scores.
- Among the seven indicators used in the calculation of Index, the **status of the housing (shelter)** has the least correlation with the Index and plays the least role in determining the favourability of a community.
- Population groups: **Returnees comprised more than half of the survey respondents (52%)**, followed by 29% who identified as members of the host community, 16% IDPs and 4% relocated persons.
- Reasons for return: Among returnees, the main factor behind people's decision to return was the **reduction of aid in area of displacement (57%)**. More than one answer option was possible, and the following most common reasons for return included returnees' perceptions that the security situation and livelihood opportunities have improved in the areas of return (45% each).
- Family reunification: Among returnees, **three quarters (75%) reported having family members who have not returned**. The main reported reason (48%) those family members have not returned is because their **children go to school in areas of displacement**.
- Shelter: **75%** reporting owning a house or property; **79%** require roofing; **89%** plan to rehabilitate their shelter; **92%** need support with the construction material.
- Access to basic needs: **26%** are unable to cater to their family members' basic needs, of whom, the highest share (45%) was in **Lainya**. Among the 26%, 52% were **returnees**.
- Livelihoods and Safety: **56%** reported subsistence farming as their main source of income; **61%** reported **feeling safe** undertaking their livelihood activity; **77%** are active in the agricultural sector. **39%** reported not feeling safe while undertaking their livelihood activity, of whom, the highest share (34%) was in **Lainya**. Among the 39%, **49%** were **returnees**.
- **43%** reported owning livestock; **79%** own poultry; **75%** livestock disease affects their animals. **57%** reported not owning livestock, of whom, the highest share (34%) was in **Lainya**. Among the 57%, **56%** were **IDPs**.
- Access to water and Safety: **51%** reported boreholes as main water source; **74%** reported feeling safe while fetching water. **26%** reported not feeling safe while fetching water, of whom, the highest share (33%) was in **Morobo**. Among the 26%, 51% were **returnees**.
- Access to Health Facilities and Safety: **65%** reported having a health facility nearby; **94%** can access one when needed.
- **35%** reported not having a health facility nearby, of whom, the highest share (39%) was in **Morobo**. Among the 35%, **54%** were **returnees**.
- Access to Education: **More than half of the HH surveys have children who do not attend school**. **41%** of HHs with girls and **47%** of HHs with boys reported that they go to school. **70%** of HHs with girls and **75%** of HHs with boys reported lack of financial resources as main reason for not attending school.

# INDEX RESULTS

## Results and Findings from the Index

The index score ranges from 0 to 10 where the higher the index the more favourable the conditions are for the return and reintegration of IDPs and refugees.

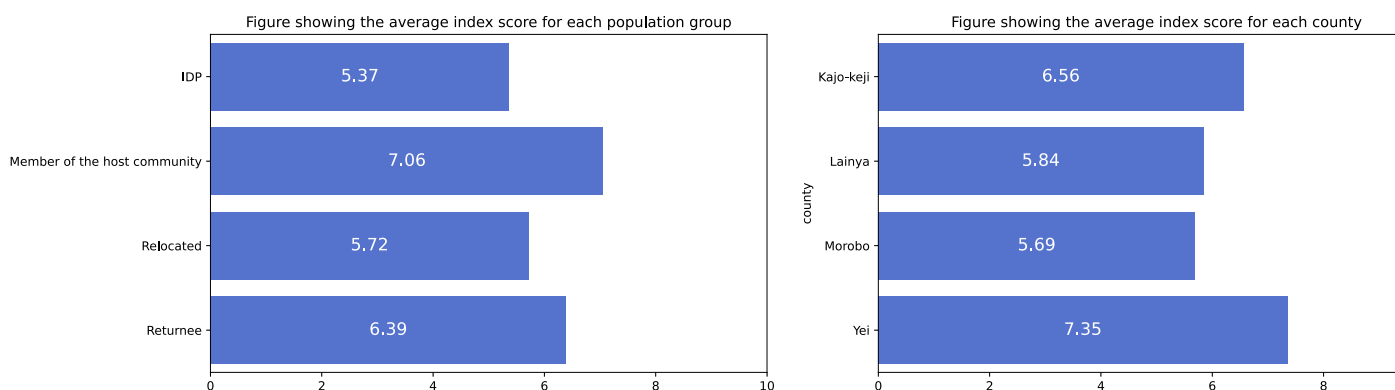
The calculation of the index was done at the household level and the results were aggregated at all administrative levels and by population type.

The average (mean) index score is **6.40 out of 10** and the median index score is **6.75 out of 10**.

A median value higher than the mean value shows that data is slightly skewed to the left (negatively skewed), i.e., most of the households have an Index at around **6.75** but the households that have a low Index bring down the average to **6.40**.

However, both the mean and median show that the central tendency of the data is between 6 and 7.

Figure 1: The average index scores across the different population groups and across the four counties, respectively

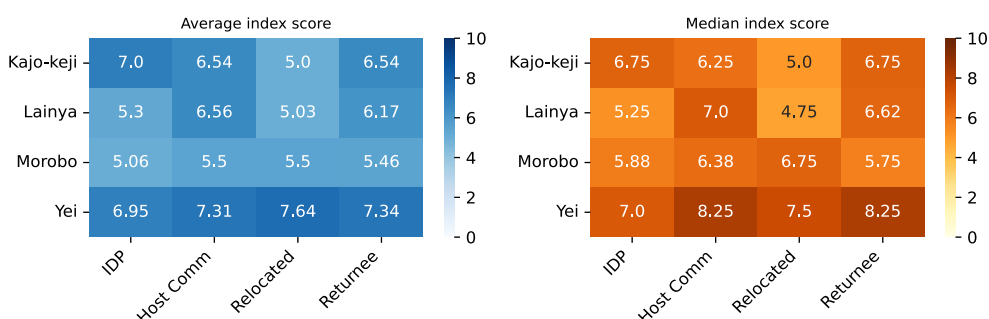


Yei and Kajo-Keji are the best two performing counties based on the average (mean) index scores shown above while households that are classified as members of the host community and returnees reported higher index scores than the other two population groups. Figure 1 above also shows the disparity in index scores for the different population groups. The difference in the average index scores for the different population groups shows that favourable conditions for return and reintegration of IDPs do exist in Central Equatoria but are not available to all type of populations. Members of the host community and returnees reported the highest index average scores of 7.06 out of 10 and 6.39 out of 10, respectively, while IDPs reported the lowest index score at 5.37 out of 10. This could be attributed to different factors including the fact that host community members and returnees are familiar with their communities and know how to navigate the different problems within the locality. However, it does highlight the need to create awareness about the availability of different services in all communities especially those with IDPs and former IDPs that have been relocated. This will ensure that all existing services are readily available to all people in different stages of the transition and recovery phase. The index scores also show that it is easier for Returnees to reintegrate into their localities especially those where there was minimal property damage.

Only one household (in Lainya County) has an index of 0 while 12 households have an index of 10. A total of 9 out of the 12 households are in Yei County with 6 of the 12 households identifying as members of the host community and 3 of the 9 identifying as returnees. This also highlights that among the four population groups of people surveyed, host community members and returnees experience the most favourable conditions and therefore, a key challenge in Central Equatoria is to extend these conditions to the recently relocated IDPs.

The two figures below show the average and median index scores from 0 to 10 for each of the population groups in the four counties. While the mean and median are close to each other for all the 16 combinations shown in the heatmaps below, due to the small sizes of some population groups, a very high or very low index score can have a big effect on the average index score.

Figure 2: The average (mean) and index scores for each population group across the four counties



While some of the sample sizes are not big enough to draw conclusions, the heatmaps above show the level of intervention required in each of the communities with lower index communities requiring more intervention than higher index communities. Furthermore, the heatmaps show the type of intervention in different communities. For example:

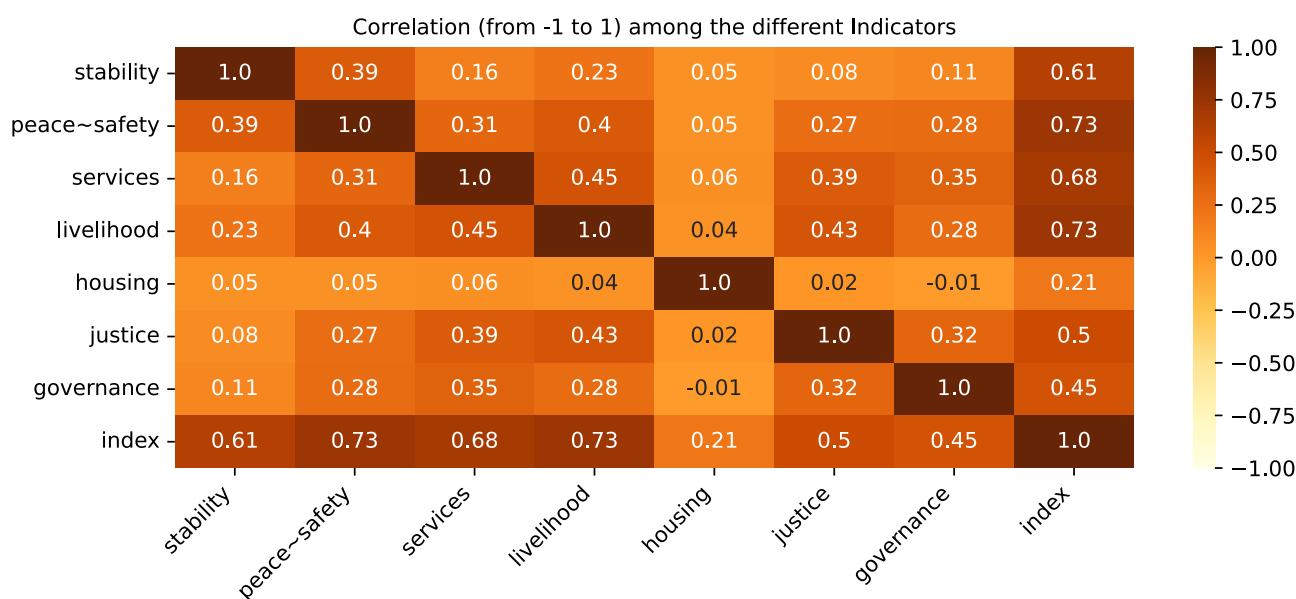
- Based on the average index scores in Yei County, an improvement can be made by extending the accessibility of the different existing services to communities with IDP households or informing IDP households about the availability of existing services within the county. The other three population groups reported a higher average index in the same county, indicating that the services are available, however IDPs' lack access to them.
- In Morobo County, all the population groups on average reported an index between 5.06/ 10 (IDPs) and 5.5/ 10 (host community members and relocated individuals). This shows that in addition to having the lowest average index, none of the communities (population groups) in Morobo County have a significantly higher index score than the others. Therefore, Morobo County requires significant improvements in the living conditions for all communities, to increase the county's ability to host displaced people in the short and long term.
- Furthermore, the index scores show what type of programming by IOM (and its partners) and the South Sudan government has been successful and can be replicated in other areas. More analysis on recent IOM and government projects implemented in Yei County can uncover the replicability of these projects and whether the implementation of these projects in other counties can increase the favourability of conditions available there.

### Correlations Among the Index Indicators

Correlation coefficients measure the strength of the relationship between two variables. A Pearson correlation was used to find any linear relationship among the indicators used to calculate the index. This correlation coefficient is a single number that measures both the strength and direction of the linear relationship between two continuous variables. Values can range from -1 to +1.

1. Strength: The greater the absolute value of the Pearson correlation coefficient, the stronger the relationship. The extreme values of -1 and 1 indicate a perfectly linear relationship where a change in one variable is accompanied by a perfectly consistent change in the other while a coefficient of zero represents no linear relationship.
2. Direction: The sign of the Pearson correlation coefficient represents the direction of the relationship. If both variables tend to increase or decrease together, the coefficient is positive while negative coefficients represent cases when the value of one variable increases, the value of the other variable tends to decrease.

Figure 3: The heatmap below shows the correlations within the indicators used to calculate the index



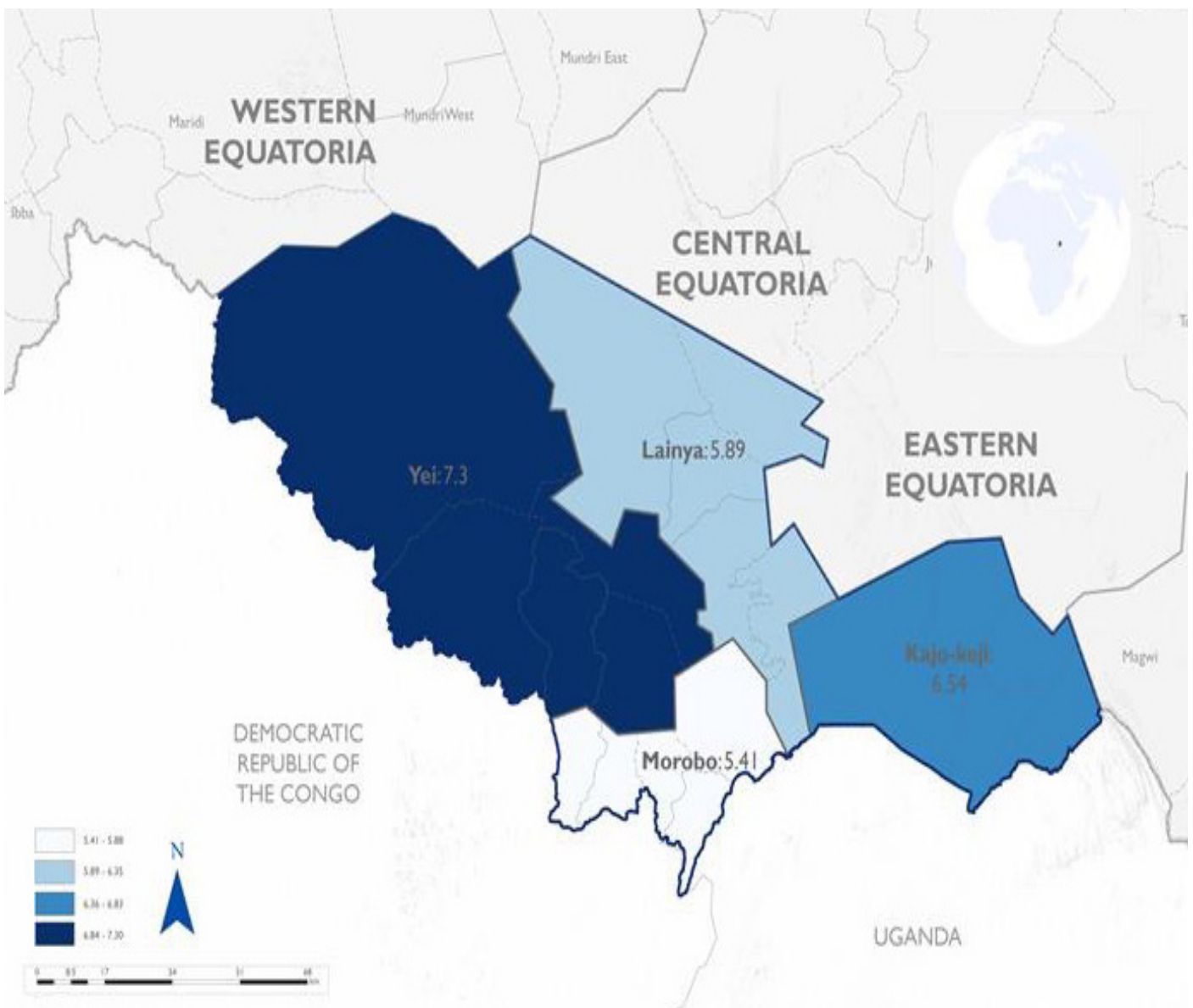
It is important to note that correlation does not imply causation, and only a controlled experiment can determine whether a relationship is casual.

The key findings from the correlation heatmap above show:

- The closer the correlation coefficient is to 1, the stronger the linear relationship. The top three indicators that have the highest positive correlation with the index are peace and safety (0.73), livelihood (0.73) and services (0.68). While this is not conclusive, it shows that in localities where there is a high value for these indicators, there is also a high return and reintegration index i.e., if the indicator for livelihood decreases, the overall index value also decreases.

- The return and reintegration index is not determined by housing. Among the seven indicators used in the index, housing (0.21) has the weakest correlation with the overall index.
- The heatmap also shows the relationships between the different indicators used to calculate the index. While the term stability is not well-defined, the heatmap shows that peace and safety is the indicator that has the most correlation with stability.
- Based on the correlation coefficients shown in the heatmap above, the three most important indicators when determining the favourability of a locality based on the household level information, are peace and safety, access to services and access to livelihoods. Furthermore, 183 of the 190 households that reported an index score of 8/10 also reported having a perfect indicator score (i.e., 10/10) for these three indicators, further highlighting their importance in the establishment of favourable return and reintegration.

Map 2: Average return and reintegration index for the 4 counties that were assessed



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# SURVEY FINDINGS ON ANALYSIS FROM THE THEMATIC AREAS

## Household Demographic Profiles

According to DTM's Mobility Tracking Round 12, Kajo-Keji is home to approximately 27,195 IDPs and 56,994 returnees, while Yei is home to 58,069 IDPs and 62,366 returnees. Lainya is home to approximately 55,190 IDPs and 26,098 returnees, and Morobo is home to 12,765 IDPs and 8,338 returnees.

Table 3: Distribution of the number of households surveyed across counties, by population group

Population Group	Kajo-Keji	Lainya	Morobo	Yei	Total
Returnee	123	41	105	47	316
Reocated	1	10	7	7	25
Member of the Host Community	25	46	13	88	175
IDP	5	59	19	15	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>614</b>

Returnees comprised of more than half of survey respondents (51.5%), followed by members of the host community (28.5%), internally displaced persons (IDPs) (16%), and relocated persons (4.1%).

**Data overview by population group:** The population groups are unevenly dispersed across the four counties, whereby the highest share of returnees was either in Kajo-keji (38.9%) or in Morobo (33.2%), and the highest share of host community members was in Yei (50.3%). The majority of IDPs and Relocated persons were in Lainya (60.2% and 40% respectively).

**Data overview by county:** In Kajo-keji and Morobo, the largest share of respondents were returnees, accounting for 78.3 per cent and 72.9 per cent, respectively. In Lainya, the plurality of respondents were IDPs (37.8%). In Yei, most of respondents were members of the host community (56.1%).

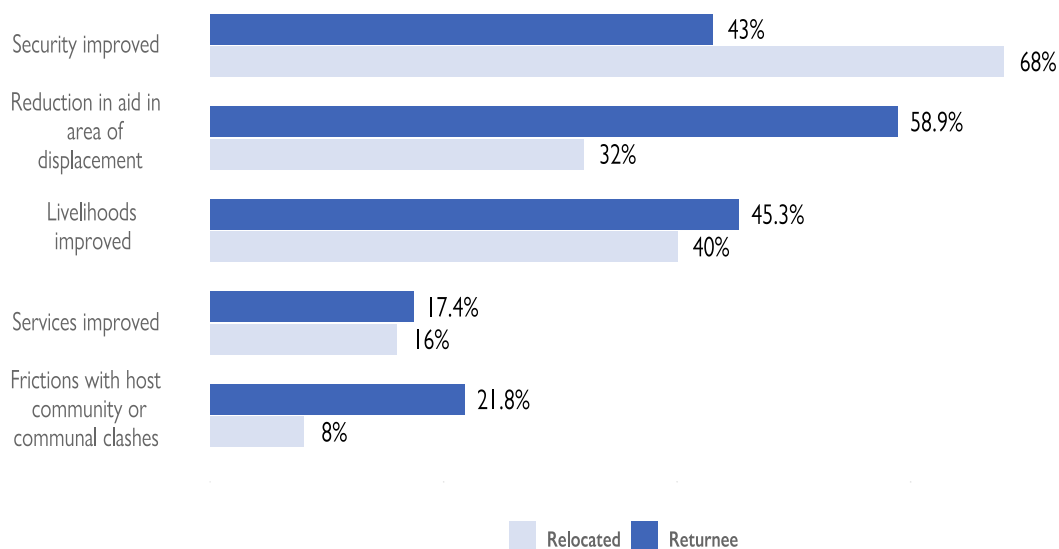
The average age among all participants was 42 years old and most survey participants are the head of their household (88.8%). The ratio of female to male respondents in the survey was close to one to one (1:1). Notably, 48.9 per cent of the 614 survey participants were female while 52.1 per cent were male, showing a fair share of female-headed households in South Sudan. The share of female participants was highest in Yei County (54.8%) and lowest in Morobo County (39.6%). The average household size is 6.7 persons per household, and the median is six persons per household. The household size ranges from one person per household to 28 persons per household.

## Snapshot on Returnees and Relocated Persons

The escalation of conflict in 2016 resulted in significant internal and cross border displacements, primarily to Uganda and to the Democratic Republic of Congo. Following the reduction in aid and rising insecurity in refugee camps in Uganda, inadequate resources, and the slight improvement of the security situation in Central Equatoria State, an increase in returns was observed. Most returnees (96.8%) and relocated persons (92%) reported that they were not supported to return or relocate to their areas of return. The remaining 3.5 per cent among returnees and relocated persons who received support, mainly received it from family members or friends (66%).

Among returnees and relocated persons, the top three reasons that influenced the decision to return to their area of return are: reduction of aid in areas of displacement (56.9%), improvement of livelihoods and improvement of the security situation in areas of return (44.9% each).

Figure 4: Main reported reasons for returning to areas of return among returnees and relocated persons, by percentage (more than one answer-option possible, total equals more than 100%)



In Kajo-Keji and Morobo, where the share of returnees among survey respondents is highest, the main reason for their return was the reduction in aid in areas of displacement (72.4% and 70.5%, respectively). Despite the share of returnees being the lowest in Lainya, 84.3 per cent reported that they returned because the security situation improved, which suggests that those respondents have positive perceptions of the general security situation and the favourability of conditions in Lainya.

FGDs revealed that for most returnees, the rising food insecurity in the refugee camps was the motive behind their return. Participants shared that there was not enough food, farming land was unavailable, so they also were not able to cultivate basic food crops, and that many were suffering from hunger and starvation. Other push factors included the unavailability of income generating activities in the camps, lack of access to water and firewood, poor medical services and tensions with the host community.

Among returnees, three quarters (75%) reported that some of their family members have not yet returned, of whom one quarter predict that they will return in 12 months or more. One of the main reported reasons hindering their return was pursuit of educational opportunities outside their areas of return, according to 63 per cent of respondents in Kajo-Keji and 47.1 per cent of respondents in Morobo. Other reported reasons included the lack of safe routes to return, according to 51.6 per cent of respondents in Lainya, and because those members were still living in IDP or returnee settlements, according to 41.4 per cent of respondents in Yei.

As shared in the FGDs, returnees are generally satisfied to be back to their places of origin and feel that whatever challenges they may face, their situation remains better than it was in refugee camps. They are satisfied because despite challenges, they have access to food and can cultivate land and have access to livelihoods. Some shared that they are not satisfied with the situation in their areas of return relating to the security environment and instability.

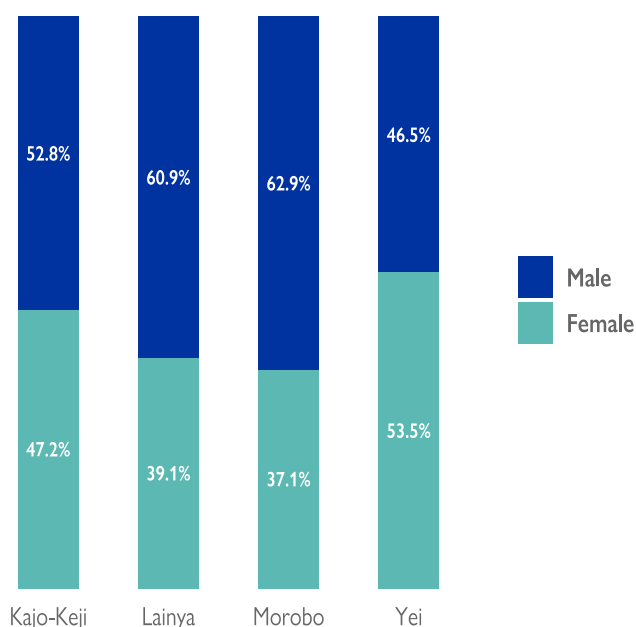
### Housing, Land and Property

Among all survey respondents, 74.8 per cent own a house or property, among whom 55.6 per cent were male and 44.4 per cent were female. The counties with higher reported property ownerships among respondents are Morobo (91.7%) and Yei (80.9%). The share of female owners was highest in Yei (53.5%) and smallest in Morobo (37.1).

Table 4: Distribution of respondents who reported owning a house or property, by population group

Population Group	Do you own a house or property?	
	Yes	No
Returnee	78.2%	21.8%
Relocated	52.0%	48.0%
Host community	89.1%	10.9%
IDP	43.9%	56.1%

Figure 5: Distribution of respondents who reported owning a house or property, by gender, in each county, by percentage



Among the 74.8 per cent of respondents who own a house or property, 71.9 per cent do not possess land ownership documents and 28.1 per cent do, of whom 55.8 per cent were female and 44.2 per cent male. Across all population groups, the highest share of respondents who reported possessing land ownership documents was among members of the host community (42.9%) and the lowest among returnees (18.6%). In Yei, 56.7 per cent reported possessing land ownership documents, of whom 63.9 per cent were female and 36.1 per cent male.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents who reported possessing land ownership documents, among each population group, by county, by percentage

Do you possess a land ownership document?								
Population group within each county	Returnee		Relocated		Host community		IDP	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Kajo-Keji	14.8%	85.2%	0.0%	100.0%	31.8%	68.2%	0.0%	100.0%
Lainya	37.9%	62.1%	0.0%	100.0%	30.6%	69.4%	41.7%	58.3%
Morobo	4.9%	95.1%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	8.3%	91.7%
Yei	51.4%	48.6%	75.0%	25.0%	57.6%	42.4%	66.7%	33.3%

Among the 74.8 per cent of respondents who own a house or a property, the prevalence of disputes relating to ownership is low, as 85.8 per cent reported not encountering any issues. However, should disputes arise, a plurality of respondents (43.6%) reported resolving them at the family level or with the support of community leaders or chief.

Figure 6: Distribution of respondents who reported living in a house or property that is their own vs those renting, among respondents who reported owning a house

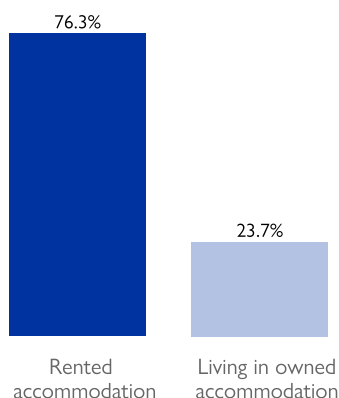
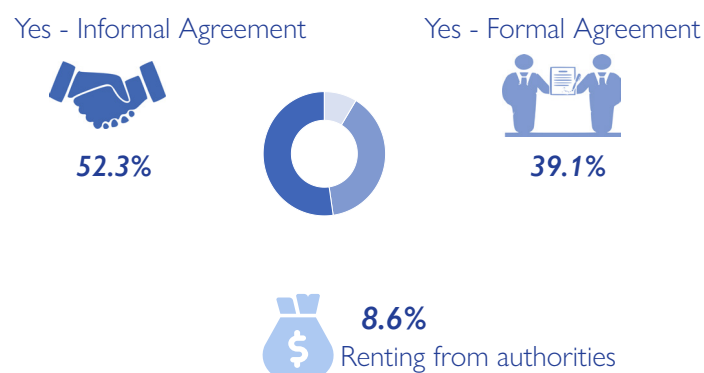
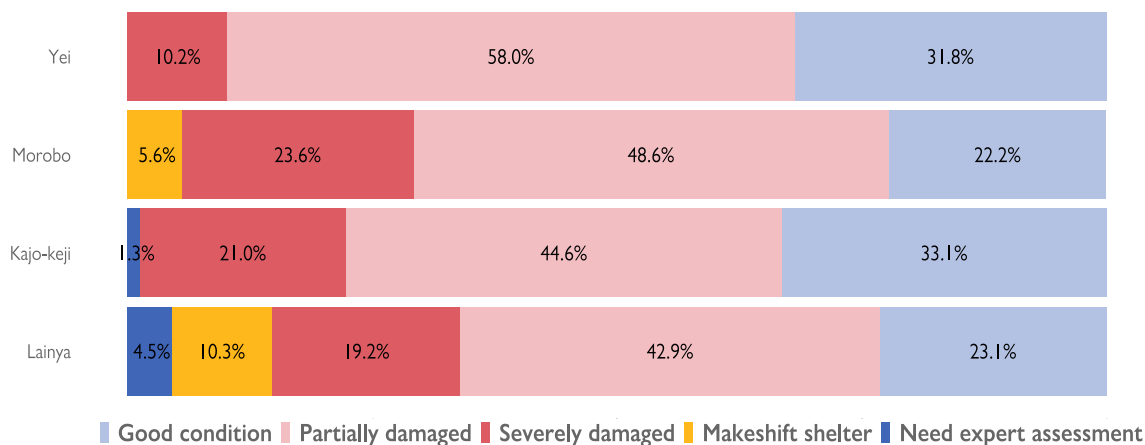


Figure 7: Types of reported rental agreements, among respondents who are renting their places of accommodation



The most common type of shelter where 56.8 per cent of respondents lived at the time of the survey was the Tukul, usually made of mud with a thatched roof. Most respondents (89.4%) plan to construct new shelters or repair their existing ones, but most of those (91.2%) need construction material to be able to do so. Despite efforts made by 58.1 per cent of the survey respondents to improve their shelters within the past 12 months since the survey was conducted, 48.5 per cent of the total reported that their shelter conditions were partially damaged. Namely, 58 per cent of respondents in Yei, 48.6 per cent in Morobo, 44.6 per cent in Kajo-keji, and 42.9 per cent in Lainya. Among respondents who reported that their shelters are damaged, 79.8 per cent required roofing. Moreover, 54.7 per cent of respondents reported that their shelter does not include security measures such as secure doors, locks, or lighting.

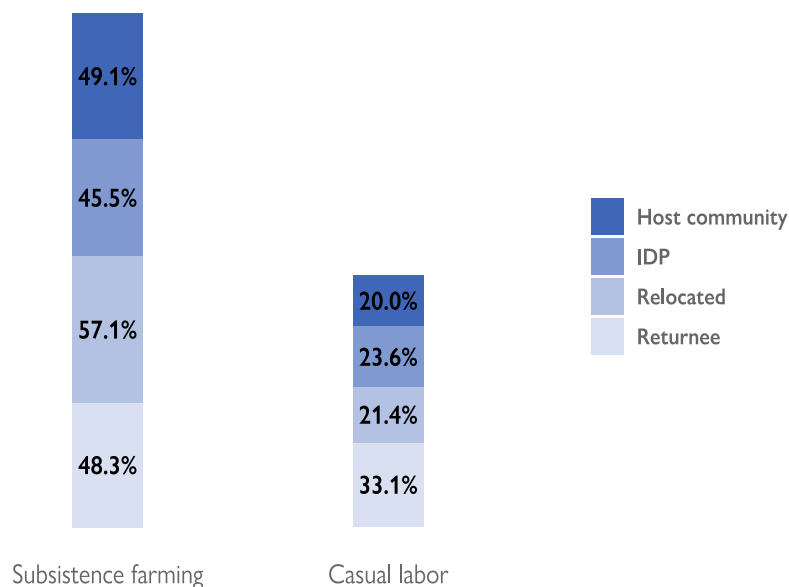
Figure 8: Reported shelter conditions among respondents in each county, by percentage



## Livelihoods

The main source of income is subsistence farming, as reported by 55.8 per cent of the survey respondents, followed by casual labour (21.7%) and local alcohol brewing (7.7%). When asked if members within their household feel safe while undertaking their livelihood activities in their localities, 60.6 per cent answered yes. Out of the total respondents who answered no (39.4%), the sex distribution was the same, namely 49 per cent were female and 51 per cent were male.

Figure 9: Chart showing the population group who do not feel safe and the livelihood activity they engage in



According to the survey respondents, 60.6 per cent reported feeling safe while undertaking their livelihood activity and 39.4 per cent did not. Among IDPs, 56.1 per cent reported feeling unsafe while undertaking their livelihood activity, compared to 56 per cent among relocated persons, 37.3 per cent among returnees, and 31.4 per cent among members of the host community. Large shares of those who reported not feeling safe were among IDPs (73.3%) and relocated persons (57.1%) in Morobo, and among relocated persons (80%) and IDPs (55.9%) in Lainya.



As subsistence farming was reported as the main source of income among respondents, the majority (76.8%) reported being economically active in the agricultural sector, across all four counties. Around 43.2 per cent of survey respondents owned farming land. Of whom, 45.3 per cent were female and 54.7 per cent male. Farming land was the most common asset among the different population groups. The share of respondents who owned farming land was highest in Yei (62.4%) and lowest in Lainya (21.2%).

Most respondents (95.5%) reported practicing subsistence farming, in comparison to 4.5 per cent who practice commercial farming. According to survey respondents, the main crops grown were maize (95.5%), cassava (85.9%) and groundnuts (81.6%). Around 59.8 per cent reported crop disease as the main problem affecting their crop production.

Figure 10: The reported technical skills HH members have, by percentage (more than one answer option possible, total equals more than 100%)

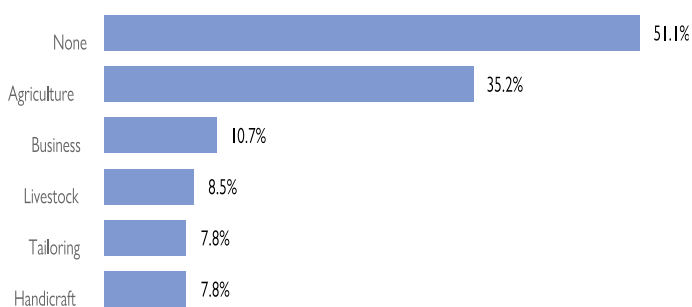
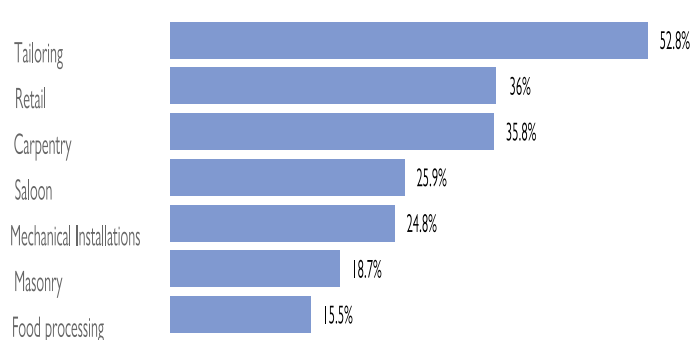
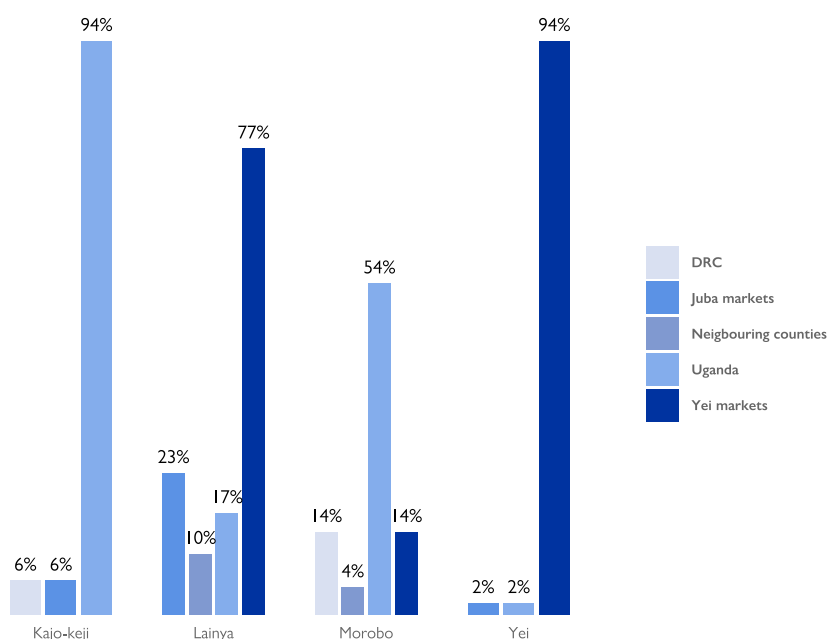


Figure 11: The livelihood and vocational skills respondents perceive to be relevant to them or members of their HH (more than one answer option possible, total equals more than 100%)



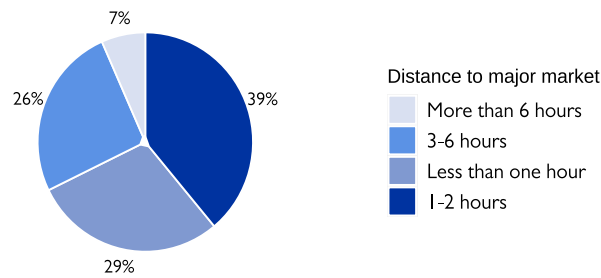
Similarly, around 43 per cent of survey respondents, of whom 47.7 per cent were female and 52.3 per cent male, owned livestock or farm animals including poultry (79.2%) and goats (73.5%). In Yei, 65.0 per cent of respondents own livestock or farm animals. Among population groups, the largest share of those who own livestock or farm animals are members of the host community (56.0%), followed by relocated persons (52.0%). The main problem these respondents face was reported to be livestock disease (75.3%). Most of the owners (88.3%) reported that their livestock or farm animals did not receive any vaccinations.

Figure 12: Reported places respondents get their supplies from, by each county, by percentage



A simple majority (51.5%) reported that members in their household have access to major markets for produce and needs. The share of those who have access was highest in Yei (65.0%) and lowest in Lainya (37.8%). The share of those who have access was similarly distributed among different population groups and among genders.

Figure 13: Reported distance to access nearest major markets, by percentage

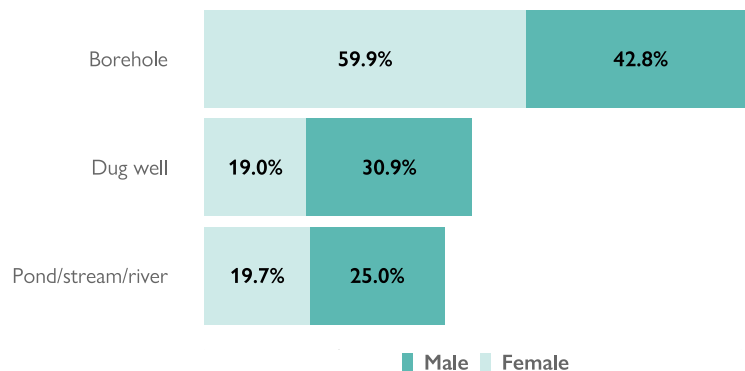


Overall, 59 per cent of respondents reported that they are only able to cater to some of the basic needs required in their households. In Lainya, 46.8 per cent of respondents reported that they are unable to cater to any of their households' basic needs. Among female respondents, 58.2 per cent are only able to cater to some basic needs, compared to 59.7 per cent of males, while 27.6 per cent of females are unable to cater to any needs at all, compared to 25.3 per cent of males. The most common coping strategies in times of food scarcity were reduced meals, as reported by 78.2 per cent of respondents, eating forest fruits and wild leaves (56.2%) and begging for food (26.1%).

## WASH

The top three sources from which respondents collect water for drinking were boreholes (51%), followed by pond/stream/river water (25.2%), and wells (22.5%). Boreholes was the first choice among respondents in Kajo-keji, Lainya and Yei, however it was the third choice among respondents in Morobo, where the majority reported pond/stream/river water as their main source (54.2%).

Figure 14: Reported water sources among respondents, by gender, by percentage



Most survey respondents (74.4%) reported feeling safe while collecting water. Among those who did not feel safe (25.6%), the highest share was reported in Morobo (36.1%) and the lowest in Yei (18.5%).

Most respondents (62.1%) reported that their access to water significantly diminishes during the dry season. On average, respondents reported that each household has two water containers that are in good condition. For 55.4 per cent of respondents, the duration it takes them to collect water is less than 30 minutes, 27.2 per cent need 30 minutes to an hour, and 17.5 per cent need more than one hour.

A simple majority (51.1%) of respondents reported that members in their household defecate in household latrines, 35.1 defecate in bushes, 7.8 per cent in communal latrines and less than one per cent (0.6%) reported other locations. Around 37.7 per cent of respondents dispose of their household waste by burning it and 34 per cent dispose of it in garbage pits, 14.8 per cent in garbage bins, among other locations. The most common hygiene actions observed in households were covering drinking water, as reported by 61.7 per cent, followed by washing and covering food, as reported by 56.5 per cent of respondents.

## Health

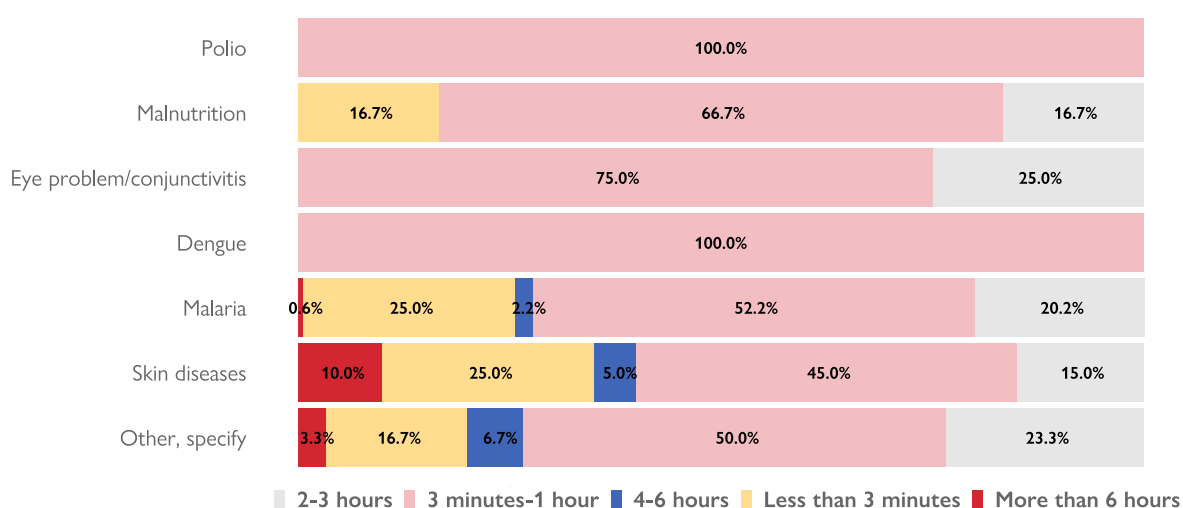
A large share of survey respondents (64.7%), of whom 48.9 per cent were female and 51.1 per cent male reported that there is a functional health facility nearby. More than 70 per cent of respondents in each of Kajo-keji, Lainya and Yei reported that there is a functional health facility nearby, compared to only 41.7 per cent of respondents in Morobo. Among the 64.7 per cent, the majority (84.9%) reported that there is a referral mechanism in place for cases needing secondary level of medical care. The most common type of health facility, as reported by 53.1 per cent of respondents was public health care units (PHCU), followed by public health care centres (PHCC) (35.8%), hospitals (10.3%) and mobile clinics (less than 1%).

Of those who are near a health facility, the vast majority (94%) reported that they can access a health facility when needed, of whom 49.9 per cent were female and 50.1 per cent male. The share of respondents who reported having access, within each population group, is similar; 96 per cent of returnees, 95.1 per cent of IDPs, 90.7 per cent of members of the host community and 89.5 per cent of relocated persons.

Almost all the survey respondents in Morobo reported having access to a health facility when needed (98.3%), similar to 95.6 per cent in Kajo-keji, 92.1 per cent in Lainya and 91.8 per cent in Yei. As for the 35.5 per cent of respondents who reported not having health facilities nearby, they travel to the nearest boma to access one (52.8%), or nearest town (38.4%) among other places (8.7%). A simple majority (52.6%) of those who are close to a health facility reported that the duration it takes them to reach one is 30 minutes to one hour, 23.7 per cent need less than 30 minutes, and 23.7 per cent need two hours or more.

Among those who are close to a health facility, 82.1 per cent reported feeling safe while enroute to or at health facilities, of whom 50.3 per cent were female and 49.7 per cent male. Whereas 17.9 per cent reported feeling unsafe. Across the different population groups, those who reported feeling safe was highest among members of the host community (84.7%) and returnees (84.4%), followed by IDPs (77%) and lowest among relocated persons (57.9%). Around 86.7 per cent of respondents in Kajo-keji reported feeling safe while on their way to a health facility, similar to 85.5 per cent in Yei, 79.8 per cent in Lainya and 71.7 per cent in Morobo. As for the 17.9 per cent who reported not feeling safe while on their way to or at one, the highest share was among relocated persons in Morobo (75%).

Figure 15: The reported sickness respondents had, and the time taken to access the closest health facility, by percentage



According to the 64.7 per cent of respondents who reported that there is a functional health facility nearby, 56.9 per cent of the health facilities are operated by United Nations (UN) organizations or non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the remaining 43.1 per cent are government run. Around 63.2 per cent reported that there are not enough health workers in the facilities.

A large share (61.7%) among respondents who are close to a health facility, reported that health services are provided free of charge, and 18.9 per cent reported that medicines are not available, 62.7 per cent reported that they run short sometimes, 17.4 per cent reported that they are available and one per cent reported other. Among the 17.4 per cent of respondents who reported that medicines are available, the highest share was among respondents in Lainya (50.7%), Yei (21.7%), Morobo (20.3%) and the lowest in Kajo-keji (7.2%).

Within the past year of when the survey was conducted, among the 64.7 per cent of respondents who reported that there is a functional health facility nearby, 83.6 per cent of survey respondents reported that members in their household were sick with Malaria, of whom 32.2 per cent were in Yei, 28.6 per cent in Kajo-keji, 24.4 per cent in Lainya and 14.8 per cent in Morobo. The highest share of those who reported being sick with Malaria was among returnees (52%), and the lowest was among relocated persons (4%).

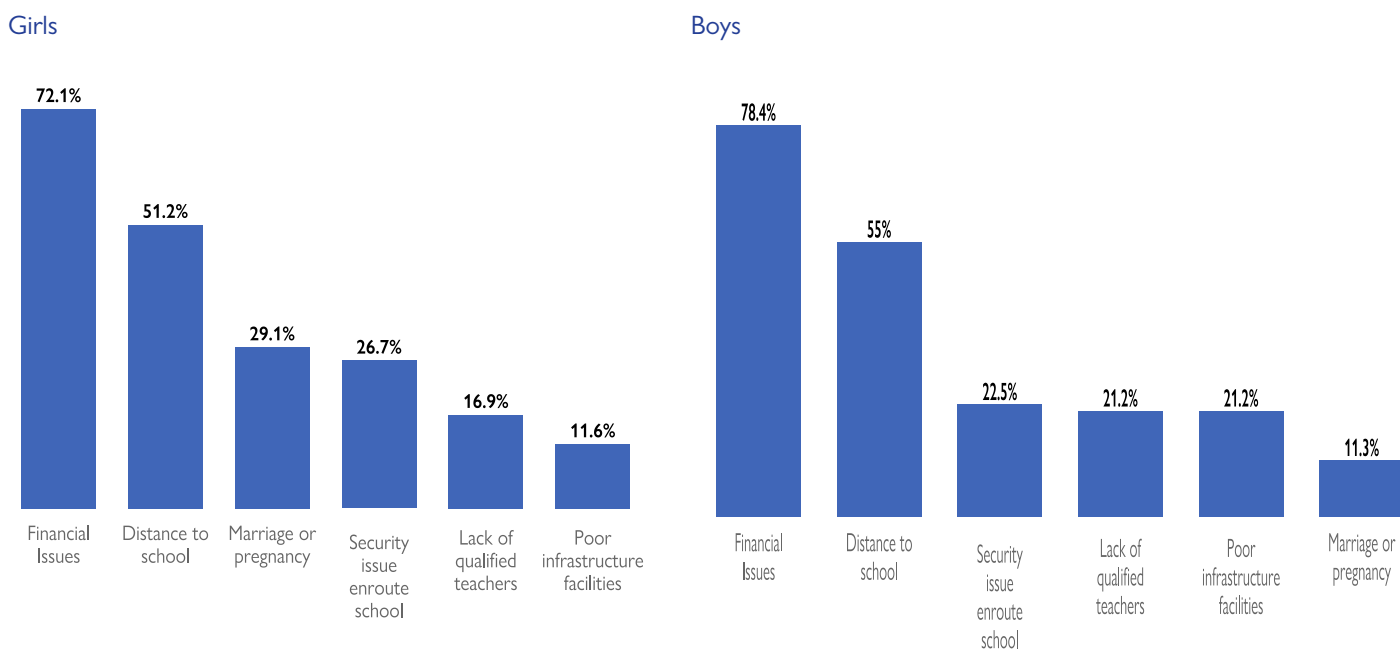
## Education

Among all survey respondents, 40.9 per cent reported that girls in their household attend school, compared to 47.2 per cent who reported that boys in their household attend school. Whereas 18.7 per cent of respondents reported that girls in their household dropped out of school, compared to 20.8 per cent who reported that boys in their household dropped out.

The barriers boys and girls face to accessing education are the same, however their prevalence across sexes is slightly different. The top two reported challenges children face in accessing education opportunities are lack of financial resources (75.2% among boys and 69.7% among girls), and long distance to education facilities or lack of transportation (43.5% among boys and 40.2% among girls).

Other main reported concerns among boys included poor school infrastructure facilities (21.1%), lack of qualified teaching staff (20.5%), and security concerns on their way to school and back (20.2%). The challenges faced by girls are the same, but the order of their prevalence is marginally different, namely security concerns on their way to school and back (21.5%), lack of qualified teaching staff (16.5%) and poor school infrastructure facilities (13.8%).

Figure 16: The top reported education barriers among children in the HH, when access to education facilities takes longer than 30 minutes (more than one answer-option possible, total equals more than 100%)



### Social Cohesion, and Community Involvement

One quarter of the survey respondents (25.1%) reported that a member in their household is a part of a social group, such as a community organization, farmers’ association, youth group, mother support group and the like. Within those households, 51.3 per cent of the members of these groups are female, 44.4 per cent male and 3.2 per cent children under the age of 18 years, while 1.1 per cent preferred not to answer. The share of respondents who reported being a part of a social group, within each population group, is similar; 28.8 per cent of returnees, 28 per cent of relocated persons, 21.4 per cent of IDPs, and 20 per cent of members of the host community. In Kajo-keji, 36.3 per cent of respondents reported being a part of a social group, compared to 27.1 per cent in Morobo, 18.6 per cent in Lainya and 18.5 per cent in Yei.

More than half (54.6%) of the survey respondents reported that women are moderately involved in community-related decision-making processes, 20.4 per cent reported that women are rarely involved, 12 per cent very involved, and 11.9 per cent never involved, while 1 per cent preferred not to answer.

Overall, half of the survey respondents (51%) reported feeling very welcomed or accepted in their current community, followed by 39.4 per cent who reported feeling moderately welcomed, 5 per cent slightly welcomed, and 2 per cent do not feel welcomed at all, while 2.6 per cent preferred not to answer. Among returnees and IDPs, large shares reported feeling very welcomed (57.6% and 52%, respectively), whereas among relocated persons 72 per cent reported feeling moderately welcomed. For members of the host community, equal shares reported feeling very welcomed and moderately welcomed (43.4% each).

The survey respondents were asked to describe their relationship vis-à-vis other members in the community. When asked about the relationship between IDPs and the host community, a plurality (44.8%) answered it was good. Similarly, 48.4 per cent described the relationship between IDPs and returnees as good. When asked about the relationship between returnees and the host community, 57 per cent also described it as good. However, when asked about the relationship between farmers and pastoralists, 50.8 per cent described it as very poor and 18.4 as poor, whereas only 16.9 per cent described it as good.

In FGDs, the consensus was that the relationship between returnees and members of the host community was good, with anecdotes of host community members sharing seeds and food and welcoming returnees back. Several returnees pointed out that there is competition over resources and livelihood opportunities.

Around 53.6 per cent of the survey respondents agree that people in the community treat all others in the community with equal respect. According to 38.1 per cent of respondents, it would be difficult for them to fit in with the majority if they were from a different subclan, whereas 26.5 felt the opposite. More than half of the respondents (55.9%) are willing to live next to a person from a different subclan.

## Community Stability

### Peaceful Community

Self-reported perceptions of survey respondents allude to a general sense of harmony within the community, as 77.9 per cent reported that they feel that they live peacefully together with their host community members, of whom 47.3 per cent were female and 52.7 per cent male. The share of respondents who reported feeling peaceful in their community, across population groups, was highest among members of the host community (85.1%) and lowest among IDPs (56.1%). Around 41 per cent of respondents in Lainya and 29.2 per cent in Morobo do not perceive that people live peacefully together in their locality.

Around 53.6 per cent of the survey respondents agree that people in the community treat all others in the community with equal respect. According to 38.1 per cent of respondents, it would be difficult for them to fit in with the majority if they were from a different subclan, whereas 26.5 per cent felt the opposite. More than half of the respondents (55.9%) are willing to live next to a person from a different subclan.

In FGDs, when asked about steps that can be taken to support positive relations between the returnees and members of the host community, the most common answer was the need to organize peace building activities, such as conflict resolution dialogues, community-building trainings and meetings, and community and youth groups, followed by the provision of psychosocial support services. Other responses included equal distribution of resources and the inclusion of minority groups in government and NGO programming.

### Safe Community

A similar trend was found among respondents when asked about their perception on safety and security within their localities. Comparably, 74.9 per cent perceive that they live in a secure and safe community, of whom 47 per cent were female and 53 per cent male. Among host community members, 82.3 per cent perceive that they live in a secure and safe community, compared with 76.6 per cent of returnees, 60.2 per cent of IDPs and 60.2 per cent of relocated persons. Around 37.2 per cent of respondents in Lainya and 36.1 per cent in Morobo reported that they do not feel that they live in a secure and safe community. FGDs revealed that most participants do not feel safe in their current location due to the presence of armed forces and high levels of insecurity. People mentioned that their current locations are witnessing unlawful arrests, robberies and abductions, in addition to frequent cattle raids and animal grabbing.

When FGD participants were asked about the conditions of their communities in terms of peace, safety and security, answers ranged from no stability at all to moderately stable. The main issue was mostly related to the insecurity that accompanied the presence of armed forces and unlawful arrests and roadblocks.

FGD showed that people value the role of chiefs and traditional leaders in their community and believe that reconciliation could be done through them, to help bring the community closer and build mutual understanding and support. Some suggested that reconciliation could be strengthened by organizing community groups and establishing peace-building teams to help members of the community resolve their problems and learn to live with each other peacefully. Some participants mentioned that it is important to include soldiers in such dialogues to help bridge the gap between soldiers and members of the community.

### Fair Government

Overall, 63.7 per cent of respondents perceive that their local government is fair, of whom 47.8 per cent were female and 52.2 per cent were male. The share of respondents who perceive their local government to be fair, across population groups, was highest among relocated persons (80%) and lowest among returnees (59.5%). In Yei, 80.3 per cent of respondents perceive their local government to be fair, compared to 49 per cent in Kajo-keji. Additionally, 69.4 per cent of respondents perceive that they have access to justice in their community without discrimination.

FGDs revealed that participants are not satisfied with the support provided by the government and organizations that respond to the population's needs because of the lack of coordination among such entities and organizations and poor communication

between the organizations and the people they respond to. Some pointed out that many organizations offer the same services and do not distribute them equally. Others noted that coordination and communication between organizations and the population in need may be poor because of the high demand and limited available resources. Some participants suggested that organizations should employ local volunteers to distribute information and help spread awareness about available services and aid. Others suggested that organizations could conduct more field visits and carry out assessments and provide needs-based support, or to set up field offices and create a feedback and complaint mechanism. The common method for receiving information is through heads of communities or chiefs of clans and subclans, as an operational mobile network does not currently exist. It is difficult for people to learn about services or updates because they do not have communication channels. Many highlighted the importance of FGDs as it allows for face-to-face communication and provides the space for participants to give their feedback and complaints.

### Access to Basic Services

When survey respondents were asked about their perceptions on accessing basic services, 42 per cent responded that they do not feel they can access them without discrimination. Access to education (56.2%) and health facilities (48.8%) were the top two reported basic services that survey respondents felt they were unable to access without discrimination. Among those who feel they have access (57.3%), 45.7 per cent were female and 54.3 per cent male. Almost two thirds (65.7%) of members of the host community perceived that they have access to basic services without discrimination, accounting for the largest share among population groups. Whereas relocated persons account for the smallest share, with 44 per cent perceiving they have access. In Yei, 70.7 per cent of respondents reported feeling that they have access to basic services without discrimination, compared to a lower share of respondents (47.2%) in Morobo.

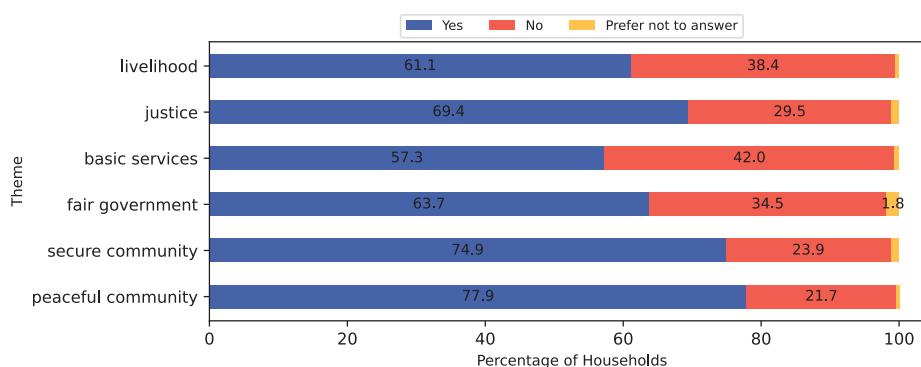
FGDs highlighted the importance of receiving agricultural tools and seeds to allow people to cultivate land and sustain themselves, while others expressed that they need food and cash assistance. FGDs also highlighted that people need assistance in reconstructing shelters and schools and children need access to social services and access to education, play-areas and school supplies and materials.

Women and children are disproportionately impacted by the unstable environment. Women and girls face sexual violence and rape, with many mentioning that soldiers are the ones attacking women and girls. Participants shared that they feel helpless and do not know where to go to for support in such cases of gender-based and sexual violence. With the ongoing violence, many women lost their husbands and must care for their children on their own, often without access to income generating activities. Children often drop out of school and are forced into early marriages. Others expressed that women and children are not treated differently, but there is an overall sense of discrimination in the community and not everyone has access to equal opportunities or resources.

### Access to Livelihoods

Around 61 per cent of respondents perceived that they have access to livelihood opportunities without discrimination, among whom 48.5 per cent were female and 51.5 per cent were male. The share of respondents who feel they have access to livelihoods, across population groups, was highest among members of the community (69.7%) and lowest among IDPs (55.1%). In Yei, 73.2 per cent perceived having access to livelihood opportunities without discrimination, compared to 54.2 per cent in Morobo.

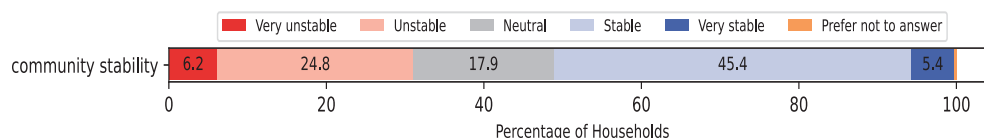
Figure 17: Household percentage against the different thematic questions



### Stability

Overall, 45.4 per cent of the survey respondents reported that their community was stable, and 24.8 per cent reported that it was unstable. Around 17.9 per cent rated it as neutral, 6.2 very unstable, 5.4 very stable, while less than 1 per cent preferred not to answer.

Figure 18: Percentage of household against the community stability



In FGDs, participants shared that they cannot move freely in their current areas because they do not feel safe walking in the street or on their way to collect firewood or wild leaves, mainly because they might be interrogated or harassed by armed forces and people carrying weapons without being in uniform. Language barriers between soldiers and community members and soldiers' abuse of power left people feeling intimidated and afraid. Some expressed feeling scared and disoriented during the night, because they can hear shootings and cannot see their surroundings. Insufficient road infrastructures and roadblocks, robberies, looting and abductions, physical attacks and beatings are restricting people's movements. Gender-based violence, sexual harassment and rape disproportionality affect women and children and further restrict their ability to move freely. Movement restrictions, fear and unsafety are hindering people's daily activities, including the running of agricultural activities, access to livelihoods and children's access to education facilities and outdoor and sports activities and spaces.

## Protection

Women and girls in South Sudan are at high risk of domestic and sexual violence and remain marginalized and subject to heightened protection risks. Anecdotally, women and girls in South Sudan are especially exposed to discrimination, abuse, violence and stigma. Overall, 41.5 per cent of respondents reported that protections services are available. The top five reported protection services available were health services for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors (52.9%), safety and security services provided by the police (52.5%), counselling, group support services, and recreational services by the police (24.7%), case management for GBV survivors (24.3%), and referral and linkages to services (21.6%). A plurality of respondents in Kajo-keji, Lainya and Yei (28.9%, 59.6%, and 27.7%, respectively) reported that women and girls in their household avoid or do not feel safe while on their way to collect firewood. Whereas in Morobo, most respondents (61.2%) reported that women and girls in their households avoid or do not feel safe in the markets.

The top reported protection services across the four counties are the same, but the order of their prevalence is slightly different. In Kajo-keji, the top three reported protection services available are health services for GBV survivors (60%), safety and security services provided by the police (54.3%), and case management for GBV survivors (37.1%). In Lainya, the top three reported protection services available are health services for GBV survivors (64.4%), safety and security services provided by the police (31.1%) and counselling, group support services, and recreational services by the police (26.7%). In Morobo, the top three reported protection services available are safety and security services provided by the police (69.4%), health services for GBV survivors (38.9%), and referral and linkages to services (16.7%). In Yei, the top three reported protection services available are safety and security services provided by the police (54.8%), health services for GBV survivors (48.1%), and counselling, group support services, and recreational services by the police (37.5%).

Most respondents (89.5%) reported that children in their households did not engage in employment opportunities. According to survey respondents, the biggest risks boys in their community face are lack of access to education (61.6%), labour exploitation (26.1%), and GBV/sexual exploitation (25.9%). As for girls, the biggest risks they face are lack of access to education (61.1%), GBV/sexual exploitation (49.5%), and alcohol and drug abuse (47.6%). Almost all (90.4%) of survey respondents reported that no one in their household has been affected by a safety or security incident in the past three days since the survey was conducted. Around 47.1 per cent of survey respondents reported that members in their household feel distressed to the extent that they are unable to perform daily activities; 71.5 per cent of respondents in Morobo, 55.1 per cent in Lainya, 26.1 per cent in Kajo-keji, and 37.6 per cent in Yei. When asked about protection issues members in the community face, a plurality of respondents (38.2%) reported lack of resources for women and girls as their most serious concern, followed by discrimination (35%) and GBV (30.3%). (25.9%). As for girls, the biggest risks they face are lack of access to education (61.1%), GBV/sexual exploitation (49.5%), and alcohol and drug abuse (47.6%). Almost all (90.4%) of survey respondents reported that no one in their household has been affected by a safety or security incident in the past three days since the survey was conducted. Around 47.1 per cent of survey respondents reported that members in their household feel distressed to the extent that they are unable to perform daily activities; 71.5 per cent of respondents in Morobo, 55.1 per cent in Lainya, 26.1 per cent in Kajo-keji, and 37.6 per cent in Yei. When asked about protection issues members in the community face, a plurality of respondents (38.2%) reported lack of resources for women and girls as their most serious concern, followed by discrimination (35%) and GBV (30.3%).

FGDs revealed that participants prefer that women, minorities and persons with disabilities are interviewed separately during assessments. Suggestions for facilitating reintegration and reconciliation included awareness raising about the negative impacts of gender-based and sexual violence, the need to create safe spaces, feedback and complaint mechanisms, and counselling. Others stressed the importance of education and that children should be supported to access education and safe outdoor spaces. Additional suggestions included providing health facilities and access to medicines, agricultural and farming tools and access to income generating activities. People continued to share their worries about the presence of armed forces and the overall feeling of unsafety due to the insecure environment.

Participants expressed that they do not feel that their needs are considered by local authorities, government bodies or NGOs. People lack access to basic needs and highlighted that they need support in reconstructing their shelters and schools, they need access to livelihoods and health services, and lastly, they need support in awareness raising to help bring the community together and teach about the negative impacts of gender-based and sexual violence. In addition to the provision of basic needs, participants shared that a key factor would be better organized coordination among aid and development organizations to diversify the support they provide and distribute services equally and on needs-basis, with a special focus on women, children and persons with disabilities, in addition to better organized communication between those organizations and members of the community.

Table 6: Participants reporting severity of protection concern in their community

Protection issues	Serious concern	Moderate concern	Not a concern	Prefer not to answer
Targeted violence or persecution	26.1%	29.3%	42.0%	2.6%
Inter communal violence or riots	15.8%	15.6%	65.0%	3.6%
Mistreatment or beating by armed groups/ army/police	24.8%	33.1%	39.3%	2.9%
Mistreatment or physical violence by others	20.0%	28.8%	48.9%	2.3%
Arbitrary detention	22.3%	25.7%	48.2%	3.7%
Abduction forced recruitment	15.6%	18.7%	63.2%	2.4%
Sexual exploitation	18.1%	24.8%	55.4%	1.8%
Sexual abuse (rape/assault)	30.0%	25.9%	42.7%	1.5%
Domestic violence	27.9%	34.7%	36.5%	1.0%
Mistreatment of women and girls or emotional violence	27.5%	31.1%	39.3%	2.1%
Lack of resources opportunities for women and girls	42.2%	30.9%	24.8%	2.1%
Harmful traditional practices	15.0%	20.7%	62.2%	2.1%
Gender based violence	30.3%	36.8%	31.8%	1.1%
Forced or arranged marriage	19.2%	15.8%	63.4%	1.6%
Discrimination	35.0%	30.1%	34.5%	0.3%



Table 7: Participants reporting frequency of protection concern in their community

Frequency of protection issues	Same	Decreased slightly	Decreased substantially	Increased slightly	Increased substantially	Prefer not to answer
Targeted violence or persecution	25.7%	53.0%	19.3%	0.7%	0.3%	1.0%
Inter communal violence or riots	29.2%	50.2%	18.3%	1.4%	0.0%	1.0%
Mistreatment or beating by armed groups/army/police	23.2%	46.4%	28.0%	1.4%	0.0%	0.9%
Mistreatment or physical violence by others	25.9%	49.0%	23.2%	1.5%	0.4%	0.0%
Arbitrary detention	28.6%	46.4%	22.7%	0.9%	0.9%	0.6%
Abduction forced recruitment	29.4%	50.3%	18.0%	1.3%	0.3%	0.8%
Sexual exploitation	50.6%	35.6%	11.8%	0.9%	0.2%	0.9%
Sexual abuse (rape/assault)	31.6%	49.0%	17.5%	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%
Domestic violence	35.8%	48.8%	14.0%	0.9%	0.5%	0.0%
Lack of resources opportunities for women and girls	47.0%	34.5%	15.5%	2.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Gender based violence	25.3%	55.0%	17.4%	1.2%	0.9%	0.3%
Forced or arranged marriage	27.5%	48.2%	19.7%	2.6%	0.0%	2.1%

## CONCLUSIONS AND KEY TAKEAWAYS

One pathway towards reintegration and acceptance seems to be the positive perception among the different population groups of feeling respected and treated equally, fairly and with justice in their current communities.

The survey findings show that:

- 90% feel moderately or very welcomed in their current community
- 66% agree or strongly agree that people in their community treat others in the community with equal respect
- 78% feel they can live peacefully together in their community
- 75% feel they live in a secure and safe community
- 64% feel their community treats them in a fair manner
- 57% feel they have access to basic services in their community without discrimination
- 69% feel they have access to justice in their community without discrimination
- 61% feel they have access to livelihoods in their community without discrimination
- 51% feel their community is stable or very stable

These findings may allude to the positive impact social cohesion and community stability indicators have on likely return patterns and reintegration. One key takeaway would be for humanitarian and development programmes to work towards maintaining these strong social cohesion and community stability indicators, by encouraging participation in social groups, especially among women and girls, supporting the local governments to exercise fair laws and maintain safety and security, and by providing basic needs to all, while ensuring equal access.

Among the returnee population, many households still have family members who have not returned. The main reported obstacle was lack of educational opportunities in the areas of return. Programming should focus on increasing children’s access to education, including but not limited to, supporting their families with financial resources to allow them to afford the cost of their children’s education, improving schools’ infrastructure and providing transportation means.

With one in every two respondents reporting being a returnee, this does not necessarily indicate that the situations in areas of return have improved and are therefore attracting returnees. In the case of the targeted counties in Central Equatoria State, the reduction in aid and humanitarian resources in areas of displacement forced many to return to their places of habitual residence (area of return).

However, it is important to note that four out of ten returnees also reported that they returned because they perceive that the condition in their areas of return are slightly developing towards the better, specifically access to livelihoods and the improvement of the security situation. As such, it is imperative for humanitarian and development programming, in addition to their advocacy efforts, to also develop responses and interventions that strengthen access to livelihoods and improve safety and security.

In conclusion, programming along the humanitarian and development nexus should work towards providing children with access to education facilities, develop programmes that provide families with financial assistance to be able to afford sending their children to school, while also strengthening access to livelihood opportunities, and work towards maintaining community stability, safety, and security.

## APPENDIX

### Data Collection Sampling

In the initial stage of sampling, Bomas (Administrative 4 level) that are located within the County capital city or those that are accessible and had experienced the return of IDPs served as clusters or Primary Sampling Units (PSUs). The size of a PSU was determined by the number of households residing in that PSU. Household numbers were based on a combination of IDP and Returnee estimates from the DTM Mobility Tracking Round 11 (July to September 2021) and Host Community estimates were based on the WorldPop non-IDP raster layer. All Bomas were divided into strata based on key attributes: county capital, administration, and impact by conflict (measured by ACLED conflict data). To ensure that the probability of a household (the Secondary Sampling Unit or SSU) to be included in the sample is equal for all SSUs, Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) was used, with the probability of sampling a PSU being proportional to the number of elements in a PSU. For cases where a Boma could not be visited, additional clusters were randomly selected (without replacement) to serve as reserve clusters.

In the second stage of sampling, households as SSUs were selected from each cluster or PSU based on a differentiated method of sampling SSUs. Each Boma had different geographical and administrative characteristics that limit our methods for sampling SSUs systematically with one method.

The sampling used a 95% confidence interval and a 10% margin of error with representativeness at the county level only. Findings disaggregated at levels lower than the county are indicative only.

When a household was visited, the head of household was asked to participate in the survey. In cases where the head of household is not available, another member of the household was interviewed to represent the household. In cases where households denied consent, field teams obtained an alternative sample.

### Data Ranking and Conversion

The numeric conversion used this calculation;

$$\text{prop} = 1 - (\text{rank}/\text{num\_options})$$

$$\text{scaled} = (\text{scale\_max} - \text{scale\_min}) * \frac{(\text{prop} - \text{min\_grp})}{(\text{max\_grp} - \text{min\_grp})} + \text{scale\_min}$$

Where:

Prop = Proportion

Rank = Rank of options

Num\_options = Total number of options for that indicator

Scale\_max = Maximum scale which is 10

Scale\_min = Minimum scale which is 0

Min\_grp = Minimum proportion of options in that group of indicators

Max\_grp = Maximum proportion of options in that group of indicators.

A “Yes” response is equivalent to a numerical score of 10, the most positive assessment of the scale used (most stable), and a “No” response is equivalent to a numerical score of 0, the least positive assessment of the scale used (most unstable).

The safety and stability index component was answered by one of five options: Very stable, Stable, Neutral, Unstable, Very unstable.

A “Very stable” response is equivalent to a numerical score of 10, the most positive assessment of the scale used (most stable) and a “Very unstable” response is equivalent to a numerical score of 0, the least positive assessment of the scale used (most unstable).

On a three-point scale using the question “How much of a concern is the following protection and security issues in your community” as an example, a “Not a concern” response is equivalent to a numerical score of 10, the most positive assessment of the scale, a “Moderate concern” is equivalent to a numeric score of 5 and a “Serious concern” response is equivalent to a numerical score of 0, the least positive assessment of the scale used (most unstable).

International Organization for Migration  
Displacement Tracking Matrix  
Juba, South Sudan

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⋮  
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⋮



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