

WFP, UNHCR AND PARTNERS JOINT ASSESSMENT MISSION (JAM) FINAL REPORT



REFUGEE OPERATION IN SOUTH SUDAN

NOVEMBER 2021



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Lists of acronyms

| | | | |
|----------------|--|---------------|---|
| AAHI | Action Africa Help International | NFI | Non-Food Items |
| ACTED | Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development | NGOs | None-Governmental Organizations |
| ART | Anti-retroviral treatment | OCHA | Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs |
| BSFP | Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program | OTP | Outpatient Therapeutic Programme |
| CBT | Cash Based Transfer | PDM | Post Distribution Monitoring |
| CET | Central Equatoria State | PHCC | Primary Health Care Centre |
| CHW | Community Health Workers | PHCU | Primary Health Care Unit |
| CMAM | Community Management of Acute Malnutrition | PLW | Pregnant and Lactating Women |
| COVID | Corona Virus Disease | PMTCT | Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV |
| CPs | Cooperating Partners | PoC | Persons of Concern |
| CRA | Commission for Refugee Affairs | PPE | Personal Protection Equipment |
| CRI | Core Relief Items | PPPD | Per Person Per Day |
| CSB++ | Corn-Soya Blend Plus-Plus | PSN | Productive Safety Net |
| DRC | Democratic Republic of Congo | rCSI | reduced Coping Strategy Index |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization | RSS | Republic of South Sudan |
| FGD | Focus Group Discussion | SAF | Sudanese Armed Forces |
| GAM | Global Acute Malnutrition | SAM | Severe Acute Malnutrition |
| GBV | Gender Base Violence | SCI | Save the Children International |
| GDT | General Distribution Tools | SEA | Sexual Exploitation and Abuse |
| GFD | General Food Distribution | SENS | Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey |
| HIV | Human Immunodeficiency Virus | SERS | Subjectively Evaluated Resilience Score |
| ICSP | Integrated Country Strategic Plan | SGBV | Sexual and Gender Based Violence |
| IFP | Institutional Feeding Programme | SOP | Standard Operating Procedures |
| IGAD | Intergovernmental Authority on Development | SPLM-N | Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North |
| IYCF | Infant and Young Child Feeding | SSP | South Sudan Pound |
| JAM | Joint Assessment Mission | TB | Tuberculosis |
| JPA | Joint Plan of Action | TSFP | Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program |
| KAP | Knowledge Aptitude and Practices | UNEP | United Nation Environment Program |
| LLIN | Long-lasting Insecticidal Treated Net | UNHCR | United Nation High Commissioner for Refugee |
| LNS-MQ | Lipid-base supplements medium quantity | UNICEF | United Nation Children Fund |
| LRA | Lord Resistance Army | VCT | Voluntary Counselling and Testing |
| Lt PPPD | Liters Per Person Per Day | VMMC | Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision |
| LWF | Lutheran World Federation | WASH | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion |
| MAM | Moderate Acute Malnutrition | WES | Western Equatoria State |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding | WFP | World Food Program |
| MtMsG | Mother-to-Mother support Group | WHO | World Health Organization |
| MUAC | Mid-Upper Arm Circumference | | |

Acknowledgment

The Joint Assessment Mission South Sudan 2021 was made possible as a result of continued successful collaboration between the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Government of South Sudan represented by the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) and partners implementing activities in the refugee camps.

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Samuel Tadesse
JAM consultant

Forward

UNHCR and WFP partnership aims to ensure food security and related needs are adequately addressed. This is by contributing to the maintenance of optimal nutrition status through appropriate food assistance and promotion of self-reliance among beneficiaries. This is guided by the JAM which is carried out every two years as stipulated in the WFP/UNHCR global 2011 MoU.

The JAM in South Sudan was jointly coordinated by WFP and UNHCR in collaboration with UNICEF, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan represented by the CRA, and partners working in various refugee hosting locations.

The JAM objective is to update the current food security and nutrition situation of refugees in South Sudan and the surrounding host communities, analyse the quality and appropriateness of ongoing interventions and the refugee capacity for self-reliance. The findings and recommendations in this report will facilitate the development of a Joint Plan of action (JPA) and intervention strategy to guide multi-years (2022-2023) interventions across refugee locations in South Sudan.

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Executive Summary

At the end of October 2021, the total number of refugees in South Sudan were estimated at 329,406 people — Sudanese (92.4%), DRC (5.4%), Ethiopian (1.4%), Central Africa Republic (0.8%) and others (0.1%) — of which more than 98% resides in camps. Females account for 52% of the refugees with women and children representing 83% of the total population. Most of the refugees have been hosted in Upper Nile State (50%) and Unity State (40%) in South Sudan. The rest of them have been hosted in Central Equatoria State (CES, 5%), Western Equatoria State (WES, 3%) and Jonglei State (1%)¹.

The Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) was undertaken from 05 August - 22 October 2021, aimed at updating the food security and nutrition situation in the refugee operation areas, analyzing the effectiveness and appropriateness of ongoing food security and nutrition interventions in CES, WES, greater Unity and Upper Nile, and proposing the most appropriate food security, nutrition, and livelihood interventions for the next planning period (2022-2023). The assessment focused on the following selected thematic areas: (1) Food security and livelihoods, (2) Health, Nutrition and food security, and WASH, (3) Protection and education, (4) Energy and environment, (5) Logistics, warehouse, non-food items, shelter, and roads, and (6) Coordination and partnership.

Food security: Refugees living in camps have continued to rely on the general food distribution (GFD) that WFP provides as their main source of food, complementing the GFD with their own agricultural production and/or food purchase from the local markets, and only few of them reported other resources as the main source. The GFD has been provided to all registered refugees by using cash/voucher or in-kind modalities or a combination of. The in-kind assistance comprises dry cereals (sorghum or maize), pulses, oil and salt, while the amount of cash transfer or voucher is calculated according to the food ration and local market prices of selected food items. The refugees also have received cash for milling to cover the milling cost of sorghum or maize they received. Although the standard GFD was designed to provide 2100Kcal per person per day (PPPD) (100% ration), this was negatively impacted due to funding constraints; GFD was reduced to 70% ration since November 2015 and then further cut to 50% ration in April 2021. Accordingly, the minimum dietary diversity (MDD) of refugee households with young child have decreased from 34% in November 2020 to 22% in June 2021.

Livelihoods: the main livelihoods of refugee households include agriculture, petty trade (firewood and crop sale), tea and coffee houses and restaurants. The refugees have the right to access farming and grazing land in the hosting areas and the government authority, Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA), oversees allocating the land for refugee households. Notwithstanding, the allocated land is not sufficient to meet their basic needs (crop production and grazing). The refugee farmers have cultivated one to three

¹ UNHCR South Sudan Operation, Refugee and Asylum Seeker Population Statistics as of 31st October 2021

feddans of land (0.4 to 1.2 hectares) per family and produced 3 to 12 bags of 50kg sorghum or equivalent per year. The small land size accompanied with insecurity to access the land has stalled refugees from scaling up land-based livelihood interventions. The UNHCR and WFP need to further explore targeting approach to meet food and non-food assistance on needs based on the Joint Guidance on Targeting of Assistance to Meet Basic Needs², accompanied by livelihood interventions to avoid inclusion and exclusion errors of targeted population from the short-and long-term assistances. Feasibility study for piloting targeting approach should be considered during 2022/23 in jointly selected camps, mainly in the sites where global acute malnutrition rate is <5%. The COVID-19 pandemic also brings additional challenges such as increase in the cost of goods and services.

Health: The UNHCR and health partners provide primary health care services to refugees in camps and settlements. The refugees also have access to the public secondary health care services. The primary health care center (PHCC) is available in each refugee camp and serves as first entry for the patients. Some of the PHCCs / PHCUs are still in semi-permanent structure, notably in Maban. Since 2019, the crude mortality rate has declined in all refugee camps and reached the level of 0.24/10000 population (within acceptable ranges) in September 2021. As of the end of October 2021, about 445 refugees tested positive for COVID-19 but with no fatality and majority with mild illness. The pandemic related movement restriction has imposed challenges such as social stigma, fears to humanitarian workers, and difficulty to access referral secondary and tertiary health facilities. Refugees are included in the national COVID-19 preparedness and response plan as well as in the COVID-19 vaccination plan. Home based care contact tracing (especially among the host population), movements across borders, physical/social distancing, and to some extent hesitation to/myths on COVID-19 vaccines are among the challenges. There is a need to upgrade the health facilities with semipermanent structure to permanent ones to improve quality of services, mainly in Maban camp. Continued surveillance, increasing, intensifying RCCE, promoting COVID-19 vaccination, and IPC measures will be strengthened.

Nutrition: According to the standardized expanded nutrition survey (SENS) (November 2021) preliminary report, the nutrition situation among the refugee population varies among different locations, with divergent pattern of prevalence for acute malnutrition, chronic malnutrition (stunting), and anaemia, which indicate different features and challenges faced by refugees residing in different camps. The acute malnutrition prevalence ranges from 1.3% to 14.5% (acceptable to serious level); stunting rate range from 10.3% to 30.9% (medium to very high level); and anaemia rate from 37.0% to 69.5% (medium to high level)³. A great improvement has been seen from 2016 to 2019 and keep persistent or slightly improved

² UNHCR-WFP Joint Guidance on Targeting of Assistance to Meet Basic Needs, 2020

³ WHO and UNICEF classified the public health significance of malnutrition according to the GAM, stunting, and anaemia prevalence. GAM Classification: Acceptable < 5%, Poor >= 5% and <10%, Serious >= 10% and < 15%, Critical >=15%; Stunting Classification: Low < 10%, Medium >= 10% and < 20%, High >= 20% and < 30%, Very high >= 30%; Anaemia Classification: Low < 20%, Medium >= 20% and < 40%, High >= 40%. (WHO–UNICEF Technical Expert Advisory Group on Nutrition Monitoring (TEAM) recommendations August 2018)

in 2021. Retaining the existing status and reducing the high level of malnutrition in camps would be key priorities. The partners (WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and nutrition partners) have to continue to strengthen the implementation of Community Management of Acute-Malnutrition (CMAM) program through provisions of therapeutic and supplementary feeding programs for rehabilitation of identified acute malnourished children 6-59 months, PLW, people living with TB and HIV; and programs for malnutrition prevention such as blanket supplementary feeding programs (BSFP), infant and young child feeding (IYCF) programs, etc. The admitted cases to CMAM programs in 2020 and 2021 were far less than in 2019 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. UNHCR and partners need to strengthen active case findings in the community to increase the enrollment rate into the CMAM program through mass screening and promotion of family MUAC screening.

WASH: The WASH program aims at ensuring refugees to have safe and adequate access to water supply, live in a satisfactory clean environment, have improved access to hygiene services, and have access to improved WASH services at institutions (schools, churches, mosques, marketplace, health facilities, etc.) through innovative and appropriate WASH projects implementation in close coordination and partnership with WASH stakeholders. The refugee camps have a constant water supply from safe sources, which is adequate for domestic use⁴. However, lack of water containers for storage at the household level has continued to be the main challenge to achieve the standard of at least 15 liters water per person per day (ltpppd) as per the emergency (SPHERE), and 20 ltpppd (UNHCR) standards for protracted situation. The UNHCR and WASH partners need to rehabilitate and improve water facilities, and timely maintain generators, and solar power to minimize water supply interruptions, and continue comprehensive sanitation and hygiene interventions.

Energy and Environment: Refugees are reliant on firewood and charcoal for fuel energy and about 90%-95% of energy needs are met from self-collection from surrounding environment⁵, few depend on purchasing wood and charcoal from the local market. Petty trade such as collecting and selling firewood and charcoal making are also means to earn additional income by refugees. This firewood collection activity was reported to lead to the environment deterioration in the hosting area, and cause competition and tension with host population. Refugees are commonly using a traditional open three-stones stove for cooking, which is subjected to high energy consumption/waste. The UNHCR and its partners are promoting fuel saving stoves, however, the achievement is sub-optimal. Thus, UNHCR and partners need to look for a multi-sectoral approach to respond to energy needs across the country including increasing access to renewable energy sources and clean cooking equipment, establishing coordination forum with UNFPA, and concerned agencies to jointly advocate for funding to support energy and environment interventions.

⁴ UNHCR and partners Knowledge Aptitude and Practices (KAP) surveys 2020/2021

⁵ Community subjective estimate during JAM focus group discussion

Protection: Insecurity is the main protection concern in all camps as reported in the 2018 JAM assessment⁶. The 2021 JAM assessment also identified growing incidences of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and physical attacks affecting refugee girls and women. According to the host community, refugees were arrested when they violate local/government laws and regulations, but the SGBV incidences has been hidden or under reported. For instance, more than 70% of the refugees in Jamjang camps are female-headed households or child-headed households⁷ (unaccompanied minors and separated) with heightening risks and vulnerability. Notwithstanding, most of insecurity incidents are related to movement outside of the camp searching for livelihood activities. UNHCR, WFP, government authorities (camp management), and partners need to support economic needs of SGBV survivors, strengthen coordination among refugees and local community watch groups, and introduce measures to ensure the security during night. Provision of proper training for police forces and applying rotation on duties could help to minimize unnecessary incidences in refugee hosting areas.

Education: Refugee children education is considered an integral part of refugee protection. Primary and secondary schools are accessible in the hosting community for refugee children. However, school dropout increased since the introduction of 50% ration cuts in April 2021. Lack of sufficient food in the households forced boys and girls seeking for opportunities in the nearby towns to feed themselves. Given the 50% ration cut and high level of food insecurity in the camps, WFP and UNHCR need to implement school feeding programs for primary and nursery schools in the camps, as well as in the government supported school feeding program in accordance with the WFP and UNHCR MoU 2011.

Non-food items and shelter: UNHCR and its partners provide packages of non-food items (NFIs) for new arrivals. The NFI package comprising of plastic sheets for shelter, blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, soaps, and mats. All new arrivals receive a one-time standard NFI package comprising an emergency shelter and basic core relief items (CRI) to help them settle in the refugee camps, as governed by NFI distribution SOP. Replenishment or additional assistance could be provided based on the status of vulnerability and recommendations from the need-based assessments. The UNHCR and partners need to broaden the scope of NFI need assessments and address the needs of core items to prevent refugees from selling their resources to access culturally accepted NFI and shelter materials, which can be further supported using multi-purpose cash assistance in the area where market supply is feasible.

Logistics and road: The logistics related issues are the major challenges in remote areas such as Maban and Jamjang. The road infrastructures (mostly dirt roads) and its connectivity within and among neighboring countries are underdeveloped in South Sudan. The insecurity along the roadside with ambush and looting incidences are also nationwide. The road condition is even worse during rainy season, often resulted in landlock in remote areas which in turn lead to airlifting as the only accessing

⁶ UNHCR, WFP and partners South Sudan refugee operation joint assessment mission (JAM) report, November 2018

⁷ UNHCR monthly population data dashboard, October 2021

way. As a result, there is a high lead time for procurement and preposition with very high cost for transportation. Since 2019, delays in preposition for food and nutrition items and looting from warehouse have been another challenge for refugee operations. Maban camp has been affected by recurrent flooding which hampered the mobilization of food and other goods for the refugees. Limited power supply and its accessories are challenging for storage in camps. Most of health facility storage rooms don't have power supply to ensure the optimal temperature for medical and food items.

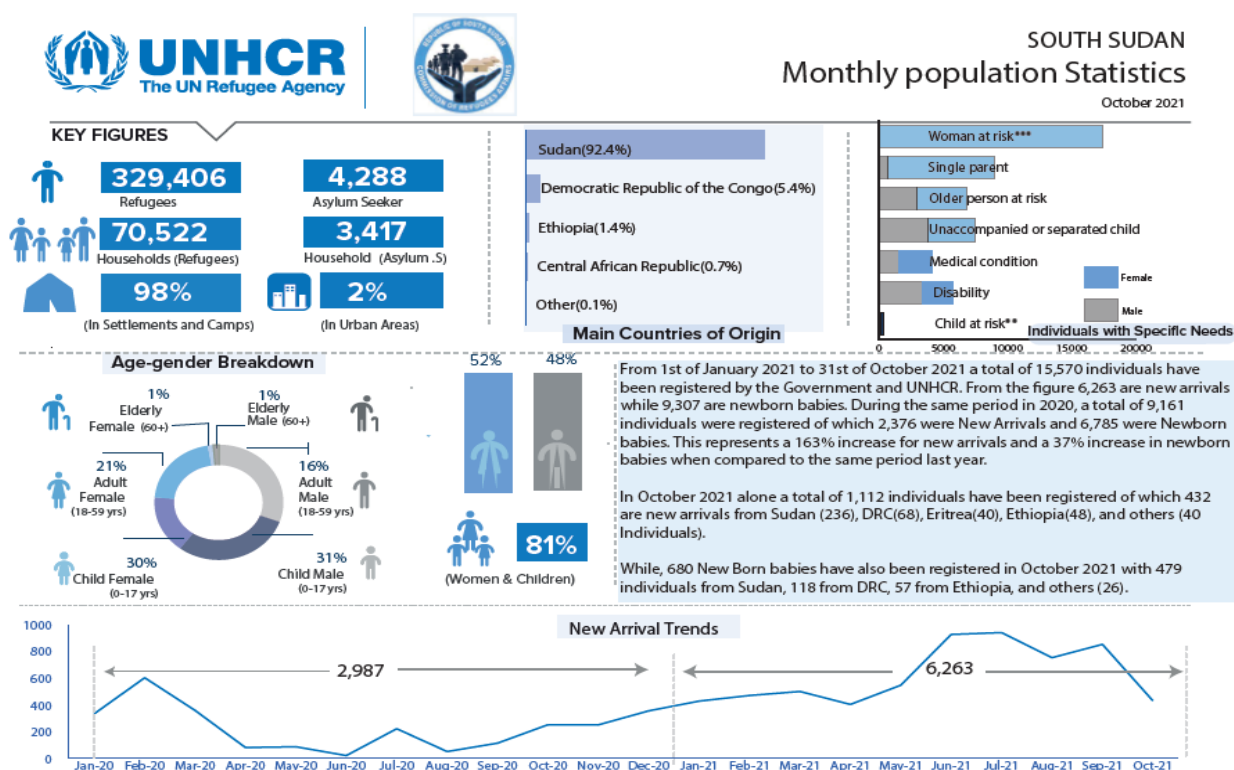
Partnership and coordination: The WFP and UNHCR partnership in South Sudan is derived from the global MoU signed in January 2011. The country-level tripartite (WFP, UNHCR and NGOs) partnership agreements are reviewed and signed every year to address specific objectives and to ensure the partnership focus on jointly agreed strategic objectives essential to the success of the food security and nutrition program of refugees. The GFD and nutrition programs are the major areas of collaboration. UNHCR and WFP are closely coordinated through meeting between senior management, technical counterparts, joint mission and assessment, and data sharing. Likewise, local level inter-agency coordination mechanisms were established and coordinated by UNHCR and government counterpart (camp management). Regular post/pre-distribution meeting and ad-hoc meetings are held to discuss any issues arising from the camps, with the inputs and participation of refugee leaders who act as a focal point in terms of community engagement, dissemination of information and community mobilizations. The JAM recommends continuing and strengthening partnership on joint assessments and monitoring mission to support the coordination and collaboration at all levels. The joint mission needs to be broadened in terms of the scope of data sharing, analysis, project reviews, plan of actions, reporting and dissemination of information to concerned partners and refugees.

1. Refugee Context in South Sudan

1.1. Refugee Population

The South Sudan hosts refugees mostly fleeing from neighboring countries: Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia and the Central African Republic (CAR). As of 31 October 2021, the total number of refugees in South Sudan were estimated to be 329,406 people – Sudanese (92.4%), DRC (5.4%), Ethiopian (1.4%), Central Africa Republic (0.8%) and others (0.1%)—of which more than 98% resides in camps. Female accounts for 52% of the refugees and women and children representing 83% of the total population.

Figure 1: Refugee population in South Sudan, as of 31 October 2021.



Source: UNHCR monthly population dashboard, October 2021

Since the last JAM in 2018, the refugee population has grown by 11.3 %, or 33,473 additional people were newly registered as new arrivals and newborns in South Sudan⁸. In 2021, the government of South Sudan and UNHCR registered a total of 15,570 refugee people (6,263 new arrivals and 9,307 newborns) from January to October 2021 (Figure 1). The new arrival increased by 163% and newborns by 37%, as compared to the same period in 2020.

⁸ UNHCR monthly statistical population data dashboard as of October 31st, 2021.

Most of the refugees are hosting in greater Upper Nile (50%) and greater Unity State (40%) in South Sudan. The rest of them are hosting in CES (5%), WES (3%) and Jonglei (1%). Many refugee children have exposed high risk, especially when travelling alone, and over 66,000 children were registered as unaccompanied or separated from their parents or usual caregivers⁹.

1.2. Refugees' settlements

The refugee population in South Sudan mostly comprises communities who fled the 2011 fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) in Sudan's South Kordofan State and Blue Nile State. Refugees are hosted in camps and settlements dispersed in rural settings and urban areas in five locations: Upper Nile, Unity, Jonglei, WES and CES; and 90% of them are in Upper Nile and Unity¹⁰. The JAM 2021 exercise cover only refugees in major camps (>2000 refugees), which consist of four refugee camps in Maban, Upper Nile, two camps in Jamjang, Unity, one camp in Yambio, WES, and one camp in Juba, CES. Yida settlement, which hosts some 34,957 refugees (10.6% of all refugees in South Sudan), was not assessed by the JAM 2021 team as the Government of South Sudan and UNHCR have been in the process of relocating the Yida refugees to Jamjang refugee camps. The refugees relocated from Yida to Jamjang camps were considered in this assessment. Other major camps, Lasu in CES, Pochalla in Jonglei, and Ezo in WES, are not included amid to the security concern and limited access to services in the locations.

The refugees reside in four camps in Maban county: Doro, Yusuf Batil, Gendrassa and Kaya. Maban county is in Upper Nile State of South Sudan and is characterized by semi-arid region with sparse vegetation and a limited surface water, as well as with extreme temperatures during the dry season and occasional flooding in the rainy season. May to October is the main rainy season. The road surface is composed of clay soil, which is impassable during the rainy season, however significant work has been carried out between and within camps to upgrade the quality of roads using *Marram*¹¹ that ensures humanitarian work is not hampered. There are two main markets accessible to all refugees from all camps. Bunj market is the first market largely run by the local host community and businessmen from Ethiopia which is close to Doro camp. Batil market is the second market located in southwest of the county and run by a mix of refugees and host communities and serves refugees in Gendrassa, Batil, and Kaya camps. There is only a single cropping season for main field crops such as rice, sugarcane, sesame, and groundnut, while horticulture can be planted throughout the year if there is access to enough irrigation water during dry season.

⁹ WFP-IOM: LIFE AMIDST A PANDEMIC: Hunger, Migration and Displacement in the East and Horn of Africa, June 2021

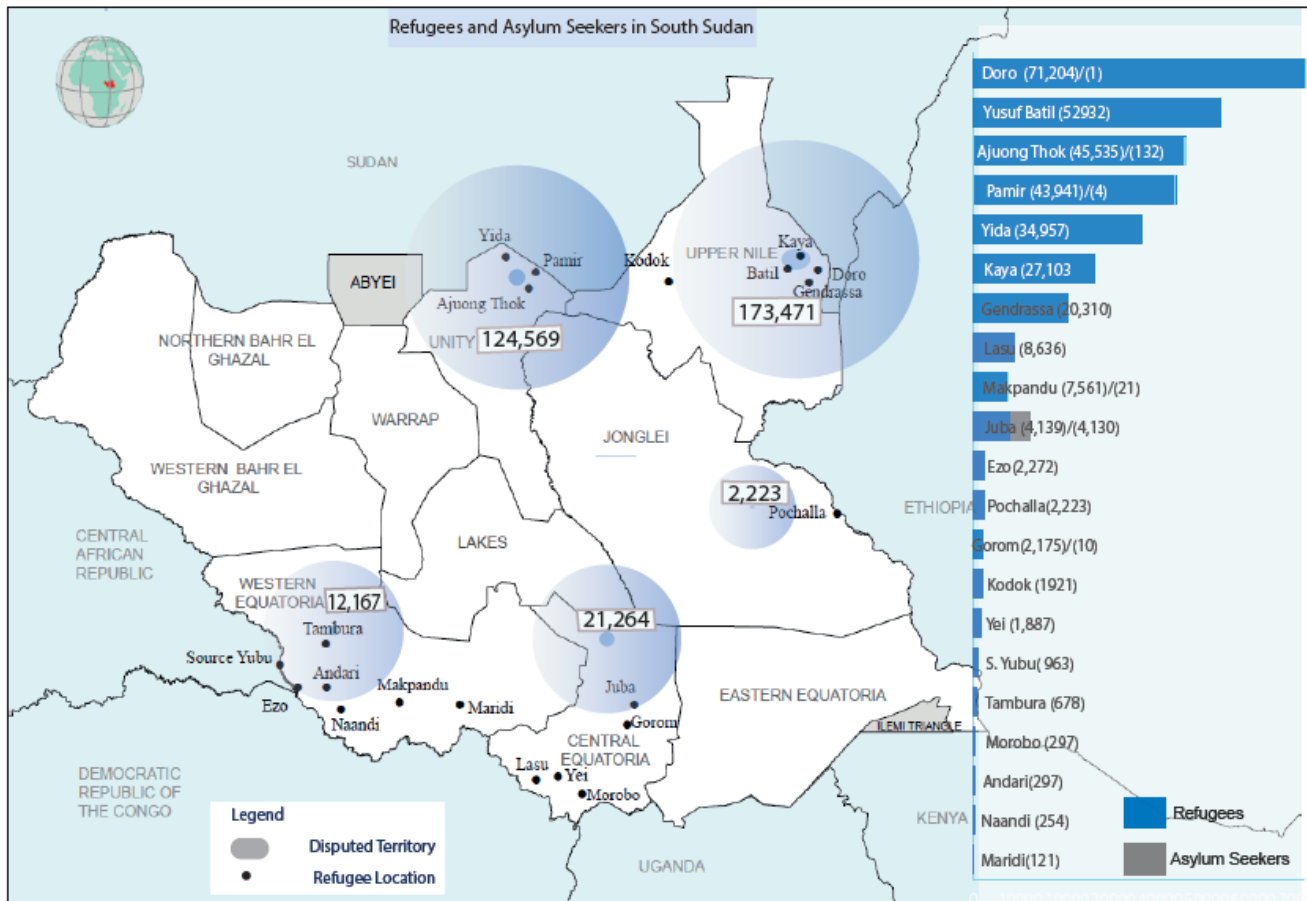
¹⁰ UNHCR South Sudan Refugees: Three Year 2020- 2022 Strategy on livelihoods and Economic inclusion

¹¹ Marram: volcano red ash used as gravel to pave roads in muddy areas.

Jamjang is in Pariang County of Unity State and hosting refugees from Nuba Mountainous area of South Kordofan, neighboring with Sudan and are mainly Nubians. Ajourng Thok and Pamir refugee camps are less than 50km away from the northern border of South Sudan and Sudan. Their livelihoods from the origin are agriculture and livestock herders. The two camps are situated in a forest area, known for its flat terrain surrounded by black cotton soils and prone to floods during rainy season. The rainy season is known as unimodal, starts in June and ends in October. The main crops grown in the area are sorghum, groundnuts, cowpeas and sesame, but maize is grown marginally. Sorghum is the staple grain. The surrounding host community are mainly pastoralists, who rely on livestock. There is a small proportion of the host community who practice sorghum cultivation.

WES host refugees mainly fled the Lord Resistance Army (LRA) attacks in DRC and CAR. The Congolese refugees are settled in Makpandu refugee settlement in Yambio County. Makpandu has an estimated refugee population of 7,561 mainly from DRC and CAR, and a few from Sudan and Eritrea. The Ethiopian Anyuak refugees who fled ethnic tensions in Ethiopia (Gambella) settled in the Gorom refugee camp, 25km from Juba town. They arrived in South Sudan between December 2003 and February 2004 due to threats against their community in Gambella. In November 2020, conflict started in Tigray region of Ethiopia, resulted in fleeing into South Sudan and settling in urban areas. Lasu refugee settlement is located in Lasu Payam of Yei River County, hosting Congolese refugees from the neighboring DRC (Figure 2). Western, Central, and parts of Eastern Equatoria states are known as the Greenbelt with the bi-modal rainfall regime which enable two cropping seasons and have high potential for cultivation. The crop most cultivated are sorghum, maize, cassava, and groundnuts.

Figure 2: Refugees' settlement sites in South Sudan



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined
 Source: UNHCR
 Feedback: ssdjuodm@unhcr.org

2. Objectives of the Joint Assessment Mission (JAM)

The overall objective of the JAM is to reassess and update the food security and nutrition situation in the refugee operation, considering different needs of men, women, girls, boys, and various vulnerable groups, analyze the effectiveness and appropriateness of ongoing food security and nutrition interventions in the refugee settlements/camps, and propose the most appropriate food security, nutrition, and livelihood interventions for the next planning period (2022-2023)¹².

2.1. The specific objectives of the JAM

- I. Assess the food security and nutrition situation of refugee population hosted in South Sudan and identify the main causes of food insecurity.

¹² WFP and UNHCR JAM TOR, 2021

- Assess household food availability and access, market access and utilization in selected refugee locations considering the wide range of factors that directly and indirectly affect food security.
 - Assess the public health, nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), education situation and service effectiveness, with reference to the impact on nutrition and food security.
 - Assess the protection risk/gaps impacting the food security status and is created by the food insecurity status.
- II. Review the quality and appropriateness of ongoing food security and nutrition related interventions identifying good practices, principal constraints, lessons learned and areas requiring improvement.
- Review progress on food and cash-based intervention recommendations from the 2018 JAM and JPA
 - Review modes of interventions and assess the logistical and human resource capacity to deliver assistance in an efficient and cost-effective manner.
 - Evaluate the needs, priorities, and plans of the refugees versus the current food and non-food assistance
 - Review program monitoring systems and coordination mechanism being undertaken jointly by WFP and UNHCR related to the management of joint programs
 - Review data sharing needs and current modality of data sharing between UNHCR and WFP
- III. Identify effective food security, nutrition, and livelihood interventions to protect and ensure the optimal food security and nutrition status of the refugees with prospects for sustainable solutions in the 2022-2023 period. This to include timing, location, and duration.
- Review the impact of the livelihood interventions and social services in place and identify effective responses that can further improve food security and self-reliance among refugees.
 - Assess ways of ensuring refugee community participation and contribution of their capacities towards the achievement of better food security and nutrition outcomes.
 - Review the effect of refugees' presence on the environment and the host community and make recommendations on sustainable rehabilitation/co-existence interventions.
- IV. Develop a joint plan of action (JPA) to guide the implementation of the identified interventions for the next two years (2022-2023).

3. Methodology

The 2021 JAM assessment focused on six thematic areas, closely related to food security:

- 1) Food security and livelihoods;
- 2) Health, nutrition, and WASH;
- 3) Protection and education;
- 4) Energy and environment;
- 5) Logistics, warehousing, non-food items, shelter and roads;
- 6) Coordination and Partnership.

The assessment is largely based on review of secondary documents/data and then primary information from focus group discussions (FGD) with representatives of women, men, youth and people with special needs; refugee community leaders, and key informant interviews (KII) with knowledgeable persons, as well as a transect walks and observations in the refugee camps. The WFP and UNHCR sector experts (team leaders) of each thematic area review the secondary documents under the guidance of JAM coordinators and consultant. Key information gaps from each sector were identified and compiled into a semi-structured questionnaire and then organized into information matrix to be collected through primary data collection to triangulate subjective opinions and contextualise findings from the quantitative data.

The primary information was collected between 06 and 28 September 2021 from 8 refugee camps. The field teams were composed of WFP and UNHCR sector experts from Juba, thematic team leaders and members from field offices of UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, and partner NGOs in the field offices (Annex 1). In each camp, focus group discussions were formed in four sub-groups with 10-15 participants in each sub-group: (1) mixed gender (men and women of different age groups and people with specific needs), (2) host community members (men and women), (3) refugee leaders (men and/or women) and (4) women/caretaker/adolescent women (Table 1). The team of each thematic area carried out FGD with their respective groups and accomplished a total of 112 FGD sessions in 8 refugee camps (14 sessions per camp)¹³. The thematic teams conducted KII with the key informants identified from WFP, UNHCR, CRA, partners staff in field offices and in health, warehouse and school facilities, and community workers (Table 1). The information to be collected is guided by semi-structured questionnaires divided by thematic areas, and notes were taken onsite, followed by a daily debriefing discussion among all thematic teams in each camp. The semi-structured questionnaires are available in Annex 3.

Table 1 Primary data sources for FGD and KII.

| Focus group discussion (FGD) | Key Informant Interviews (KII) |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refugee leaders ▪ Host community (Male and Female) ▪ Women/caretakers/adolescent women ▪ People with specific needs ▪ Mix group of refugee men and women | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WFP and UNHCR program, nutrition, public health, supply/logistic staffs in field office ▪ CRA staff ▪ Staffs and technical experts of the thematic sectors from UNICEF, FAO, partner NGOs in office or facilities (health facility, warehouse, borehole, school) ▪ Community workers ▪ Technical experts |

¹³ The focus groups were formed based on the needs of each thematic area. Each team conduct the discussion with specific focus groups pertinent its needs.

4. Thematic analysis and recommendations

According to the 2018 JAM assessment, the overall food security situation of refugees in the camps primarily rely on the WFP monthly general food assistance (or GFD). The livelihood options to supplement food and income for refugees settled in the camps were limited, only few refugees were practising small tradings and kitchen gardening. The refugees in the WES and CES were relatively in a better position to exploit their agricultural skills and supplement the GFD through local production. The 70% of the 2100 kcal PPPD standard food ration was further reduced to 50% in April 2021 and negatively impacted food consumption, quantity and dietary diversity in all camps, subsequently leading to malnutrition among the most vulnerable groups. There will be additional burden in the areas where a high level of malnutrition and anaemia rates are recorded. The JAM 2021 assessed the overall food security via a multi-sectoral way, and the related non-food requirements of PoCs. The assessment findings are presented in separate topics under thematic areas.

4.1. Food security and Livelihoods

This section outlines issues related to food security (availability, access, utilization, and sustainability) and refugee livelihoods across the refugee settlements/camps covered by the JAM thematic teams. The summary of the main findings from review of secondary data and primary information are presented below.

4.1.1. Food Access and Availability

General food assistance (or GFD) is the primary source of food for most refugees in South Sudan. The JAM 2021 assessment underscore the situation will continue in 2022 and beyond. Some households supplement the GFD with their own production or purchase from the local markets. Since November 2017, all registered refugees in South Sudan and settled in camps had access to the GFD at 70% ration in cash/voucher or in-kind modalities or a combination of them. Since April 2021, the ration was further reduced to 50%, representing approximately 1050 kilocalories per person per day, while the SPHERE minimum standards for humanitarian responses recommended a 100% ration or hybrid basket providing 2,100 kilocalories PPPD. Cash for milling was initiated in the fourth quarter of 2017 in Maban and Jamjang camps and in May 2018 in Makpandu. In Jamjang, food assistance is in-kind since the initial of operation. A hybrid basket of in-kind and cash has been served in Maban refugee camps since July 2018. In Makpandu fully cash assistance has been delivered since January 2021. A new modality of combining cash-based transfer (CBT) for food and business-to-business (B2B) contracting of retailers (in short of voucher) started to be piloted in Gorom camp since September 2021. The 2018 JAM recommended WFP and UNHCR to explore options of complementing the 70% ration to allow the provision of the minimum dietary requirements of 2100kcal/person/day in all the refugee camps/settlements. Notwithstanding, the ration cut was further reduced to 50% since in April 2021 amid to funding constraints. Table 2 illustrates the standard food ration size calculation.

Table 2: The standard food ration plan in South Sudan for refugees and IDPs

| Ration plan | Commodities in gram | | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|--------|-------|------|-----------|
| | Cereals | Pulses | V.Oil | Salt | Kcal PPPD |
| 100% | 500 | 50 | 30 | 5 | 2100 |
| 70% | 350 | 35 | 21 | 3 | 1491 |
| 50% | 250 | 25 | 15 | 2 | 1065 |

Despite the funding constraints, WFP continued providing access to safe and nutritious food for food-insecure populations and refugees in South Sudan, as per strategic objective 1 and 2. Activities cover the entire country and different approaches are undertaken to ensure the most vulnerable group are targeted and reached out with assistance¹⁴.

The food pipeline (cereals, pulses, and oil) and cash supply has been relatively consistent since early in 2021. There were no reported cases of pipeline breaks throughout the operations, with only few delays of cash distribution due to the movement restriction. WFP continues providing a mixed basket of in-kind food and CBT, on average, for about 250,000 refugees across eight refugee camps every month (Table 3). The distribution cycle was changed from monthly to every two months in April 2020, as COVID-19 mitigation mechanisms. WFP and UNHCR reviewed and updated distribution guidelines for food and non-food assistance in the camps amid to COVID-19 protocols to limit large gatherings and promote social distancing and hygiene practices. The guidance helped partners to follow measures in the COVID-19 context to minimize the risk of exposure of beneficiaries and staffs. Accordingly, adjustments to existing food distribution SOPs were made in alignment with country-specific guidance and shared with the relevant health authorities and partners (e.g., Ministry of Health, WHO), where available. Since September 2021, the GFD resumed back to monthly cycle in all camps.

Table 3: General Food Distribution for refugee population (August and September 2021)

| Location | Camps | Modality | August 2021 Distributions | | | September 2021 Distributions | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| | | | (# Beneficiaries) | | | (# Beneficiaries) | | |
| | | | Planned | Actual | % | Planned | Actual | % |
| Yambio | Makpandu | CBT | 7,220 | 6,939 | 96% | 7,220 | 7,123 | 99% |
| Maban | Doro, Kaya, Gendrassa, and Batil | Hybrid | 166,480 | 163,646 | 98% | 170,318 | 168,723 | 99% |
| Jam Jang | Ajoung Thok & Pamir | Hybrid | 85,387 | 82,599 | 97% | 85,387 | 78,359 | 92% |
| Juba | Gorom | CBT | 2,150 | 2,150 | 100% | 2,150 | 2138 | 99% |
| Total Refugees | | | 261237 | 255,334 | 97.7% | 265,075 | 256,343 | 97% |

¹⁴ WFP South Sudan Country strategic document 2020

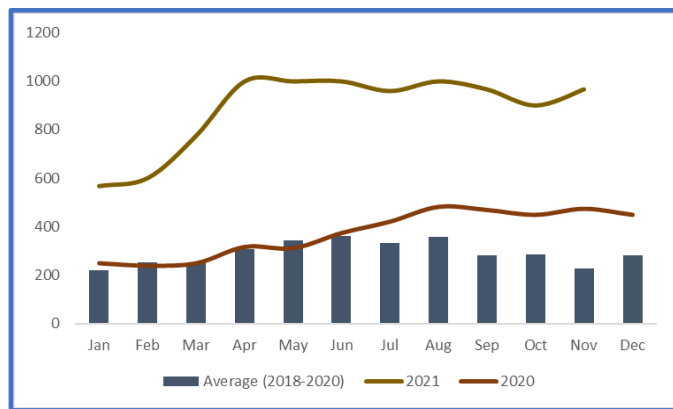
The assessment team reviewed the ongoing GFD modalities across the refugee camps. Although none of the locations requests revisions of the ongoing modalities for food assistance, respondents complaint that the high market price for staple commodities and increasing levels of taxation have posed a challenge in ensuring the provision of cash assistance to meet the household’s basic food needs. The assessment revealed the decision on cash value for CBT requires periodic assessment and discussion with beneficiaries.

4.1.2. Market price for main staple food

Refugees have access to markets within and outside the camp without restrictions. Sorghum and maize are the two most preferred and traded staple cereals across South Sudan. As a net cereal importer, with the highest estimated cereals gap, South Sudan is particularly vulnerable to movements in global and regional food prices. Hence, the level of staple food prices in South Sudan is the highest in East Africa Region. Maize is the most grown and preferred cereal in Western Equatoria where the Makpandu refugee camp is situated. Similarly, sorghum is the most preferred cereal in Maban, where the Sudanese refugees settled.

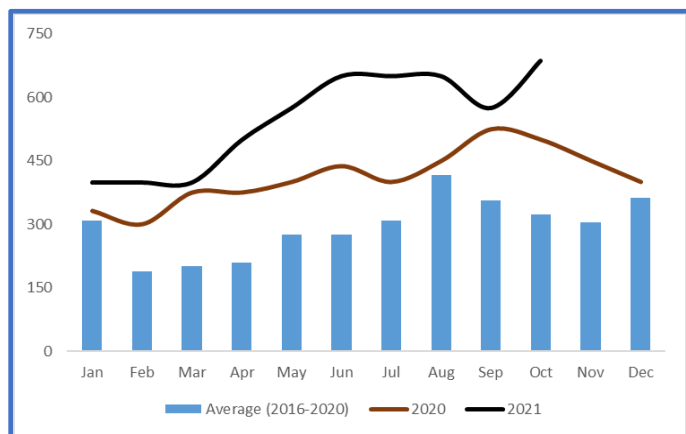
In 2021, the retail prices of white maize in Makpandu were increased higher than 100% as compared to the corresponding months in 2020 and the long-term average (Figure 3). Despite the relatively better cereals production in Western Equatoria, the increase in prices was primarily driven by the insecurity situation in Tembura which has restricted the movement of goods coupled with the depreciation of the local currency and other non-market factors.

Figure 3: Retail price of Maize in Makpandu market October 2021



WFP: Weekly market monitoring report October 2021

Figure 4: Retail price of Sorghum in Bunj market October 2021



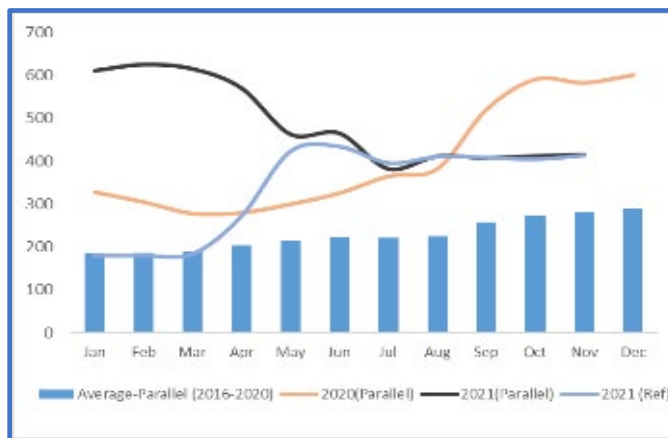
WFP: Weekly market monitoring report October 2021

increased in October 2021 (Figure 4) as compared to September, mainly driven by the inaccessibility of roads coupled with the suspicion that the closure of trade between Sudan and South Sudan might continue for long. However, the resumption of trade between the two countries during November is likely to contribute to the seasonal pattern of prices.

The political and economic crisis in the country has negatively impacted the exchange rate, and hence there was a wide divergence between the parallel and official markets. In August 2021, the government initiated a Public Financial Management (PFM) to stabilize the exchange rate regime with the support of International Monetary Fund (IMF). The Central Bank of South Sudan has unified the exchange rates and introduced a market value of the US dollars to auction US dollars to commercial banks and forex bureaus. The synchronization of the official rate with the parallel rate has provided equal opportunity among importers, and hence strengthen competitiveness. In August, the daily average exchange rate at commercial banks fluctuated from SSP 400 to 412 per US dollar. The parallel market rate was almost the same to the reference rate and was exchanged at SSP 411/US dollar. As depicted in Figure 5, the reference and parallel market exchange rates have converged in the past few months.

The supply of sorghum and other food items into the Bunj market comes from Renk (locally produced sorghum and imports from Sudan). The trends of white sorghum prices show upward movement, specifically during the rainy months when roads connecting the Bunj to Renk is inaccessible due to floods. The retail price of white sorghum price was rising from March to August/September, and then prices showed marginal downward trends during the dry season. In 2021, the retail price of white sorghum has doubled in most months as compared to the long-term average. The price of sorghum has sharply

Figure 5: Trends of exchange rate in Juba SSP/US\$ October 2021



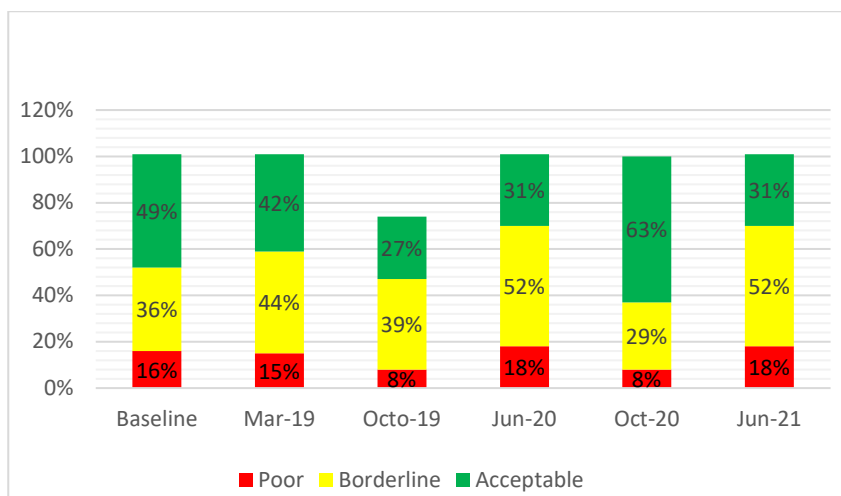
WFP: Weekly market monitoring report October 2021

The dynamics of the exchange rate have a direct impact on commodity values, mainly on imported goods. Though the cash-based transfer is adjusted as per the Market retail price monitoring, the 50% reduction on transfer value remain a challenge to refugees to access the recommended type and amounts of commodities from the local market.

4.1.3. Food utilization/consumption

Using food consumption patterns as a proxy of households’ food security status over the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) period, the food security status of refugee households marginally increases from poor food consumption of 16% at baseline to 18%, as of June 2021 (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Trends in refugee household food consumption patterns over ICSP period (2019-2021)



Source: WFP PDM July 2021 report

Acceptable food consumption.

Households that are consuming staples and vegetables every day, frequently accompanied by oil and pulses, and occasionally meat, fish, and dairy.

Borderline food consumption.

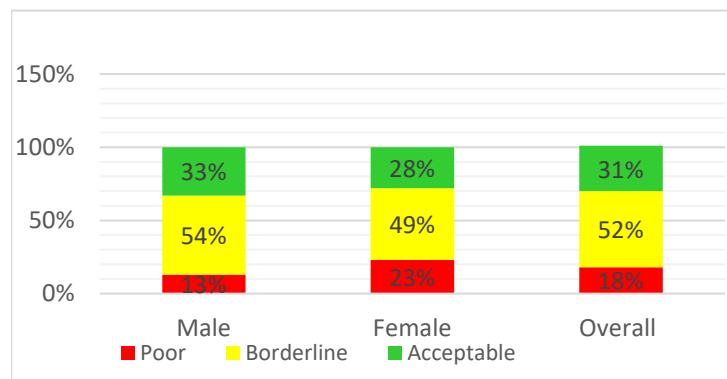
Households that are consuming staples and vegetables every day, accompanied by oil and pulses a few times a week.

Poor food consumption: Households that are not consuming staples and vegetables every day and never or very seldom consume protein-rich food such as meat and dairy.

However, the food consumption patterns vary by gender of household head (Figure 7). 23% female headed households are with poor food consumption as compared to 13% of their male headed counterparts¹⁵.

Likewise, the joint UNHCR and partners SENS survey (November 2021) preliminary results show households with acceptable food consumption score (FCS) accounts for about half of refugee households in Gendrassa, 40% in Yusuf Batil, 35% in Doro and Gorom,

Figure 7: Household Food consumption patterns by sex of household head

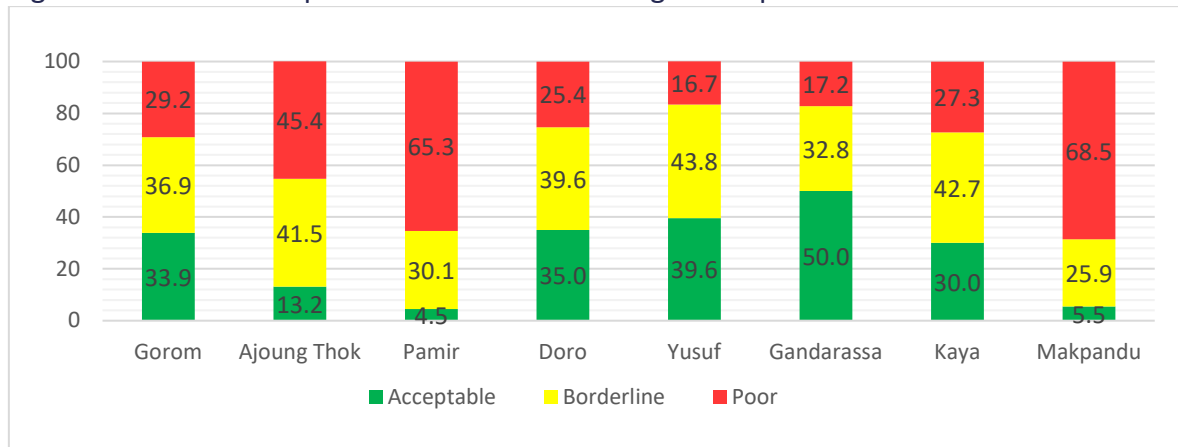


Source: WFP PDM July 2021 report

¹⁵ WFP General Food Distribution (GFD), 2021 Round 1 Post Distribution Monitoring Summary Report, July 2021

but as low as less than 6% in Pamir and Makpandu. Households with poor FCS are as high as 65% in Pamir and 69% in Makpandu (Figure 8). However, the information needs to be evaluated with caution as SENS survey was conducted during harvest season when household consumption level is better-off. According to focus group discussion, the principal duration of the GFD consumed in the household widely affected due to reduced ration. Most of the households consume the entire ration within 18 days and face critical food shortages until the next distribution.

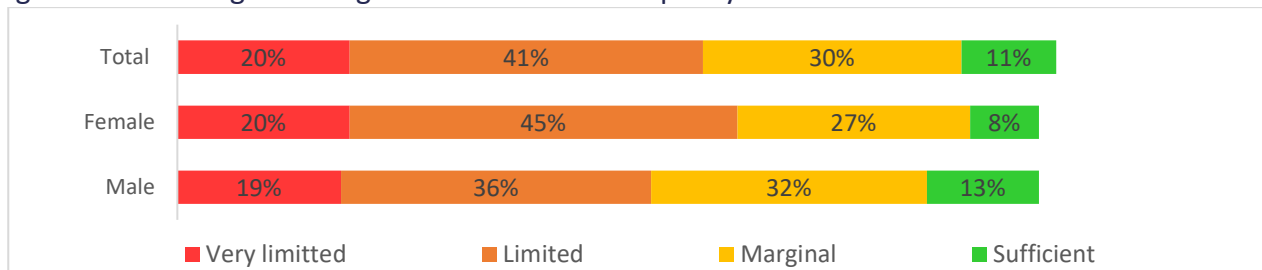
Figure 8: Food consumption score across the refugee camps



Source: SENS 2021

Notwithstanding, the WFP PDM (March 2021) report shows about 61% of refugees' households in South Sudan have limited or very limited capacity to meet their food needs. Only 11% of the households have the capacity to meet household food needs with slightly more male headed households (13%) than their female counterparts (8%) (Figure 9). Household with limited or very limited capacity to meet their household's food needs largely depend on food assistance and are more vulnerable to food insecurity if not supported.¹⁶

Figure 9: Percentage of refugee households with capacity to meet food needs.



Source: WFP PDM March 2021 report

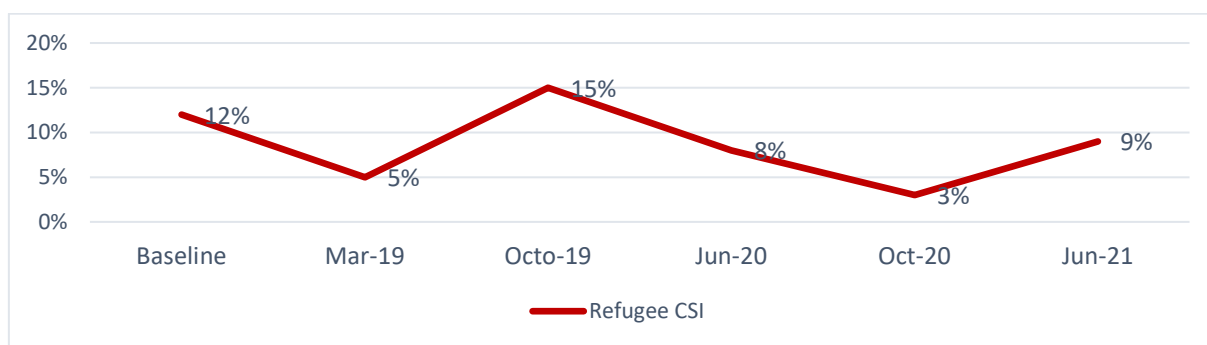
¹⁶ WFP post distribution monitoring report March 2021

4.1.4. Coping strategies

Vulnerability is increasing across South Sudan due to unprecedented conflict, limited economic growth, COVID-19 pandemic, and the effects of climate change with a devastating impact on food security and livelihoods and lead to a structural large food deficit^{17, 18}. The pandemic further fueling economic crises through sharply reducing household income amid to restrictions of movement (during the onset of the pandemic) and related activities. Food insecurity worsened particularly in the Greater Upper Nile (Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity states) and in Warrap and CES states. The confounding effects on local food supply chain including rising cereal prices across the markets, the high inflation rate, limited supplies and the impact of conflict and floods on transportation costs and weak market integration affecting access to food. The pandemic screening process along the border with Uganda, an important source of imported food commodities, further fueling the high food prices. As a result of the deterioration of the food security situation, the adoption of adverse coping strategies has increased in the late 2020 throughout the country and reach the highest level in early 2021. In 2021, WFP plans to assist over 5.2 million people in South Sudan through life-saving food and cash assistance to crisis-affected people and refugees, nutrition support and resilience-building activities in communities affected by recurrent shocks.

The Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) measures the stress level a household is facing when exposed to food shortage by assessing the frequency of adoption of the food consumption coping mechanisms, as well as their relative severity. The higher the score, the higher the stress. Figure 10 presents the trends in consumption based coping strategy index revealed a declined trend from about 15% in October 2019 to about 3% during the same period in 2020, but slightly increased to 9% in June 2021 which is after 50% ration cut since April 2021.

Figure 10: Trends in Consumption Based Coping Strategy Index for refugee population



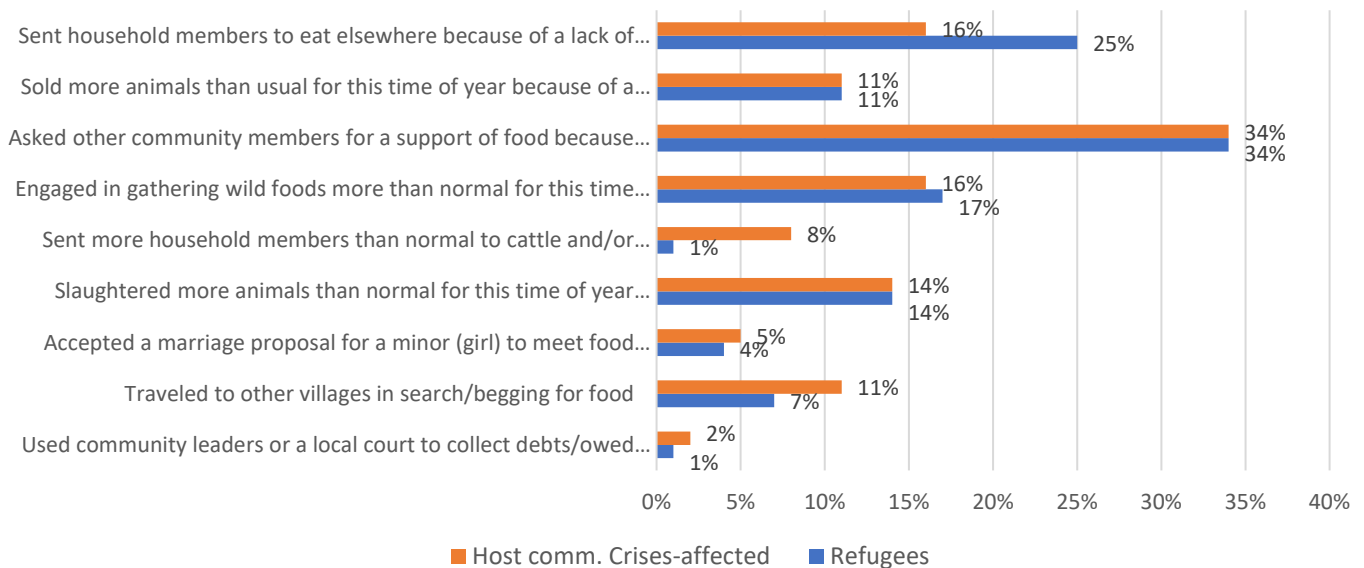
Source: WFP PDM July 2021 report

¹⁷ SPECIAL REPORT 2020 FAO/WFP CROP AND FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT MISSION (CFSAM) TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN 13 May 2021

¹⁸ WFP South Sudan Situation Report #291, 16 July 2021

WFP PDM (2021) used the livelihoods based coping strategies to better understand the longer-term coping capacity of households in refugees and host community. Proportion of refugee households that have not adopted livelihood coping strategies has reduced over time from a baseline of 36% to 22% in June 2021¹⁹. The coping strategy adopted most by refugees is asking support of food from other community members (34% households), while refugees rely more on sending household members to eat elsewhere than the host community affected by crisis (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Livelihood-based coping strategies.



Source: WFP General Food Distribution (GFD), 2021 Round 1 Post Distribution Monitoring Summary Report, July 2021

Table 5 present the commonly practiced coping strategies by refugees disaggregated by location before the COVID-19 pandemic. Maban camps showed the worst situation with only 19% households reported not using any negative coping strategies in the past month, and a high level of begging (15%) and engaging in risky activities (28%) which are severe coping strategies. Whereas other locations reveal similar level of not using negative coping strategies, but different pattern on the strategy adopted.

Furthermore, focus group discussions and key informant interviews widely expressed their views on negative coping mechanisms including adolescent engagement in adverse coping mechanisms (such as underage labor work and early marriage to benefit from dowry, etc.), reduced daily food intake, increased out-of-camp migration, reliant on wild food gathering, borrowing money/food (at high interest rate), and begging.

¹⁹ WFP MEAL, Round 1 General Food Distribution (GFD), Post Distribution Monitoring Summary Report, 2021

Table 4: Coping strategies used by the refugee population in the refugee camp, South Sudan

| Lists of refugees coping strategies | Makpandu | Ajounj Thok | Maban | Gorom |
|--|----------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Borrowed cash, food, or other items with or without interest | 26.4% | 25.9% | 38.5% | 17.5% |
| Sold any assets that would not have normally sold (furniture, seed stocks, tools, other NFI, livestock etc.) | 12.0% | 14.7% | 31.6% | 9.2% |
| Requested increased remittances or gifts as compared to normal | 11.2% | 8.6% | 27.1% | 5.0% |
| Reduced the quantity and/or frequency of meals and snacks | 44.8% | 42.6% | 57.1% | 40.0% |
| Begged | 0.0% | 4.1% | 15.0% | 0.8% |
| Engaged in potentially risky or harmful activities | 17.6% | 7.6% | 28.0% | 4.2% |
| Proportion of households reporting using none of the negative coping strategies over the past month | 41.6% | 42.6% | 19.0% | 43.3% |

Source: UNHCR Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey, October 2019

Overall, a combination of factors affecting the food security (availability, access, utilization, and stability) of refugee populations across the camps. The JAM 2021 food security key issues and recommendations are summarized in (Table 6).

Table 5: Food security key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeline |
|--|--|--|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reliance on the WFP general food assistance as the main food resource will continue during 2022 and beyond. ▪ Lack of long-term /durable solutions jeopardize the resilience capacity of refugees for self-sufficiency in terms of food security. ▪ Access to food from local markets will continue declining as the purchasing power of refugees diminishing due to | UNHCR and WFP jointly advocate for funding to continue the GFD ration. | All camps | short-term (2022) |
| | WFP and UNHCR explore the targeting approach to meet food and non-food needs based assistance as per the UNHCR-WFP Joint Guidance on Targeting of Assistance to Meet Basic Needs ²⁰ , starting with conducting refugees household vulnerability assessment/profiling. | Pilot in camps where the GAM rate <5% (Makpandu, Ajounj Thok, and Pamir camps) | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | | | |

²⁰ UNHCR-WFP Joint Guidance on Targeting of Assistance to Meet Basic Needs, 2020

| Key issues | Recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeline |
|---|--|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <p>limited income sources and soaring market food price.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some refugee camps are receiving new arrivals and as a result, the settlement sites are expanding (such as in Ajoung Thok). The existing centralized food distribution site became far for refugees coming from the outskirt areas. It has generated additional costs of transportation and spending much time on round trips. The untimely communication of food ration cut, and delay of food distribution and cash transfers caused the tension and mistrust of refugees to food distributing agencies (partners). Security concerns including threatening actions from refugees and looting of food commodities are reported several times in the past, mainly in Jamjang and Maban, which caused reluctance of partners in delivering services as planned. The repercussions affected the timely distribution of food ration. | WFP and partners continue providing cash-for-milling assistance to facilitate the utilization of the whole grain provided as the general food ration cereal option. | Maban and Jamjang camps | Regular |
| | WFP and its partners periodically review the ongoing cash assistance considering the market price fluctuations and adjust cash value accordingly. | Makpandu, Gorom, and Maban camps | Regular |
| | WFP, UNHCR, and partners timely communicate and engage with refugee on the change and arrangement of food assistance, including change of ration and cash value, schedule, and modality. | All camps | Regular |
| | WFP, UNHCR and partners timely report and engage CRA for any looting or violence incidence to arrest the criminals. | Maban and Jamjang camps | As per the incidence |
| | WFP and its partners preposition cash required for distribution in advance, and the timely preparation and communication for the administration process required for the mobilization with cash. | Jamjang camps | Regular |

4.1.5. Livelihoods

According to the UNHCR South Sudan’s Livelihoods Strategy (2016-2018), the CO has collaborated with partners to meet its objective of:

“supporting the socio-economic self-reliance of 70% of the refugee households in protracted refugee situations (CES, WES, and Jonglei); and 30% of the refugee households in emergency situations (Unity and Upper Nile) in South Sudan, plus host community households equivalent to

30% of the targeted refugee households, with interventions aiming at increasing assets and capacities, reinforcing social services to attract stakeholders and development investments²¹.”

The Livelihoods Strategy outlines approaches for emergency and protracted contexts. In the emergency settings in Unity and Upper Nile, the strategy focuses on providing basic needs and access to livelihoods opportunities to bolster food security in a context of reduced food rations and limited livelihoods opportunities. In the protracted refugee setting, refugees have been settled for a longer period, have better agricultural conditions, and/or are closer to towns, so livelihoods are expected to be more established²².

The current UNHCR South Sudan strategy plan (2020-2022) on livelihoods and economic inclusion situates itself within the framework of the new approaches following an external evaluation of UNHCR South Sudan’s Livelihoods Strategy for 2016-2018. The strategy considers the major shifts underway including Global Compact of Refugees, cash-based interventions programming, Global Alliance for Economic Inclusion, Poverty Alleviation Coalition, and dynamics in the current operational context following the launch of South Sudan National Development Strategy (July 2018 – June 2021), the United Nations Cooperation Framework (2019 -2021) and formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in February 2020. With a focus on food security, jobs and livelihoods and acknowledging the need to ease burden on hosting communities; the current strategy draws inspiration from UNHCR Global Strategy concept note 2019 - 2034 and envisions *“inclusive economic opportunities and equitable socio-economic development in refugee hosting areas”*²³.

Agriculture accounts for two-thirds of employment in South Sudan and primary source of livelihoods for 83% of households (World Bank, 2018). South Sudan produces a large variety of agricultural commodities for local consumption including sorghum, maize, rice, sunflower, cotton, sesame, cassava, beans, and peanuts, see Table 7 and Figure 12. Agriculture based activities such as kitchen gardens, sedentary livestock and poultry rearing, petty trading, tea and coffee houses, and restaurants are part of main livelihood activities of refugees²⁴. According to South Sudan’s 2012 Refugee Act²⁵, refugees have access to land and have the right to own animals and agricultural products. The CRA of the South Sudan government allocated land for cultivation and grazing to households living in the refugee camps in Maban, Jamjang, Yambio and Gorom. However, the focus group discussion mirrored the allocated land (1 to 3 feddans or 0.2 to 1.2 hectares) is insufficient to meet the actual needs. Safe access to land is also limited because of insecurity, as well as natural barriers including climate related hazards (floods, irregular rainfall, and long dry periods), that have probated refugees from scaling-up land-based

²¹ UNHCR Decentralized evaluation of livelihoods program in South Sudan, December 2019

²² UNHCR Decentralized evaluation of livelihoods program in South Sudan, December 2019

²³ UNHCR Three Year 2020- 2022 Strategy on livelihoods and Economic inclusion.

²⁴ UNHCR 2019: Decentralized Evaluation of UNHCR’s Livelihoods Programme in South Sudan (2016-2018)

²⁵ Government of South Sudan, Ministry of Justice REFUGEE ACT, 2012: Act No. 20

livelihood interventions. Furthermore, crop and livestock diseases and pests and lack of technical support are among challenges the refugees and host community have both been facing.

Figure 12: Livelihood zone map in South Sudan



Source: Three Year 2020- 2022 Strategy on livelihoods and Economic inclusion

Table 6: Livelihood zone in South Sudan

| Livelihood Zone | Geographical areas | Refugee hosting locations | Suitable crops |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| The greenbelt | Southern parts of Eastern Equatoria, and the western parts of Western Equatoria (which has two rainy seasons and the most fertile arable land in South Sudan) | Gorom, Pochalla, Yambio, Lasu | Palm oil plant, coffee, fruits, Irish potatoes, maize, vegetables, cassava, and tropical forestry |
| Ironstone plateau | Most of Bahr el Ghazal, west of River Nile | | Sorghum, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, and livestock |
| Nile sobat zone | Along the bank of the river Sobat which flows from Ethiopia and receives numerous tributaries before draining into the Nile | | Sugarcane, rice, and sorghum |
| Flood plain zones | Including the Sudd a vast area of swamp | Maban and Jamjang | Sorghum, rice, sugarcane, sesame, and groundnut |
| Hilly and mountainous zone | | Makpandu | Tea, coffee, temperate fruits (apples and grapes), wheat and forest plantations |
| Pastoral zone | | | Gum Arabic, acacia. |

Source: Three Year 2020- 2022 Strategy on livelihoods and Economic inclusion

Overall, the most prominent factors hindering refugees from self-reliance underscored during the JAM 2018 are yet persisted in the JAM 2021 which is coupled with the economic and COVID-19 related burdens. These includes lack of safe access to farmland, limited land size and poor land fertility in and around the camps, limited opportunities for income generation in and around the refugee camps, the long distance of the camps from functioning and well-stocked markets, and high rate of inflation and the rising cost of food.

Likewise, the JAM 2021 identified some of the most prominent reasons for the inadequate livelihood interventions and key issues to be addressed in Table 8.

Table 7: Livelihood key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Key recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|---|---|---|---------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to land: The allocated land is insufficient to meet the actual needs and access to land is also restricted by insecurity. ▪ COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted on refugees' livelihoods due to restriction of movements and social gatherings in which most of the activities demanding movements and open markets where the application of social distancing is difficult. ▪ Insecurity threats hindered by armed cattle raiders, especially during harvest seasons, as a common threat in most refugee camps. The pastoralists allow their animals to feed on crop fields and destroy cultivations. They also apply physical attacks when resisted. ▪ Long distance to allocated farmland hinder women and children from cultivating who are more vulnerable to the insecurity. Women mentioned the reluctance to cultivate in far located farmland due to the security concern. | UNHCR with partner NGOs continue engage CRA and local authorities on security matters, and device a mechanism of joint committee of refugee and local community for agriculture to coordinate security, make joint decision, and share information and resources. | All camps | Short-term (2022) |
| | UNHCR, WFP and FAO together with partner NGOs consider host/local community during provisions of services and agricultural inputs. | All camps | Regular |
| | UNHCR and CAR to work together and avail safe farming land for refugee population to grow own food. | Agriculture feasible camps | Medium to Long-term |
| | UNHCR and WFP accompany livelihood interventions to targeted approach of food assistance to avoid inclusion and exclusion errors of targeted population from the short-term and long-term assistances (study feasibility and apply in feasible areas). | Jointly study and select where to implement | Medium to Long-term |
| | UNHCR and WFP to advocate and engage other development agencies or partners for resources | All camps | Medium to Long-term |

| Key issues | Key recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|--|--|-----------|----------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flooding and other natural hazard which are intensified by climate change in recent years. Seasonal flooding not only damaging crops but also discouraging people from cultivation. ▪ Meanwhile, refugees reported the access to water for irrigation is limited, especially in dry season. ▪ The distribution of seeds and farming tools are insufficient and not timely for the best planting period. ▪ Reliance on hand tools (hoes and sickles) limits production efficiency whereas the access to mechanic tools is not practical, such as renting tractors is too expensive. ▪ Heavy and duplicative taxation for small business by various groups including local authority and community leaders. ▪ Limited access to local market/value chain to sell farmers' surplus agricultural products due to the long distance, security concern, tension between refugees and host communities, especially in Maban, Upper Nile State. ▪ Only very few people are included in the livelihood programs such as vocational training and small business due to funding constraints, limited local labor market, and lack of certification of graduation. | and support on self-reliance and livelihood programs to be implemented in refugees and host communities. | | |
| | UNHCR, WFP, FAO and livelihood specialized partners to scale up existed livelihood interventions, including agriculture, group farming, kitchen/school gardening, vocational training, etc. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR, WFP, and partner NGOs to work in multi-sectoral approach to strengthen the linkage between livelihood programs and other programs, such as kitchen/school gardening; and explore innovative interventions, such as vocational training on shelter construction. | All camps | Short to medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR, WFP, FAO and Livelihood partners to discuss and coordinate with ministry of agriculture and concerned line agencies to timely avail crop pesticides and drugs for the livestock diseases. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR, WFP, and CRA to discuss with various levels local authorities to address issues of duplicate and high burden of taxation, and work on creating access and expansions of markets for refugees | All camps | Regular/periodic |
| | UNHCR and livelihood partner to engage Ministry of Education or training institution to grant the well-accepted certification after graduation from the training program. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | WFP to promote Food for Assets programme for agriculture-based livelihoods and CBT to access to improved seeds and tillage services | All Camps | Medium term (2022-2023) |

| Key issues | Key recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | UNHCR and development agencies together with WASH partners to find solutions to supply water for irrigation. | Maban and Jamjang camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |

4.2. Health, nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene

4.2.1. Health

Overview

The health status is closely linked with the food security and nutrition status of refugees bidirectionally. The poor food secure and livelihood situation will make refugees more vulnerable to diseases due to poor nutrition. On the other hand, suboptimal health will reduce the productivity and increase domestic cost. UNHCR and partners have continued efforts to maintain and increase access to public health services to improve health for refugees and the surrounding host communities. Refugees have access to primary health care services provided through facilities run either by the UNHCR Health partners or the Ministry of Health (MoH) in the refugee camps/refugee settlements. Each refugee camp has at least one primary health care (either from primary health care unit - PHCU, or primary health care center -PHCC), there are 9 PHCC and 7 PHCU as of October 2021 in Maban, Jamjang, Gorom and Makpandu refugee locations. Refugees in the camps are expected to seek health/nutrition care services from these centers. Some of the health facilities, specifically in Maban, are still in semi-permanent structures. For cases that cannot be treated at this level, a referral is carried out to secondary/tertiary level hospitals such at the county level hospital or the Juba referral teaching hospital. UNHCR established updated referral guidance and standard operating procedure (SOP) for all camps to facilitate the referral activities²⁶.

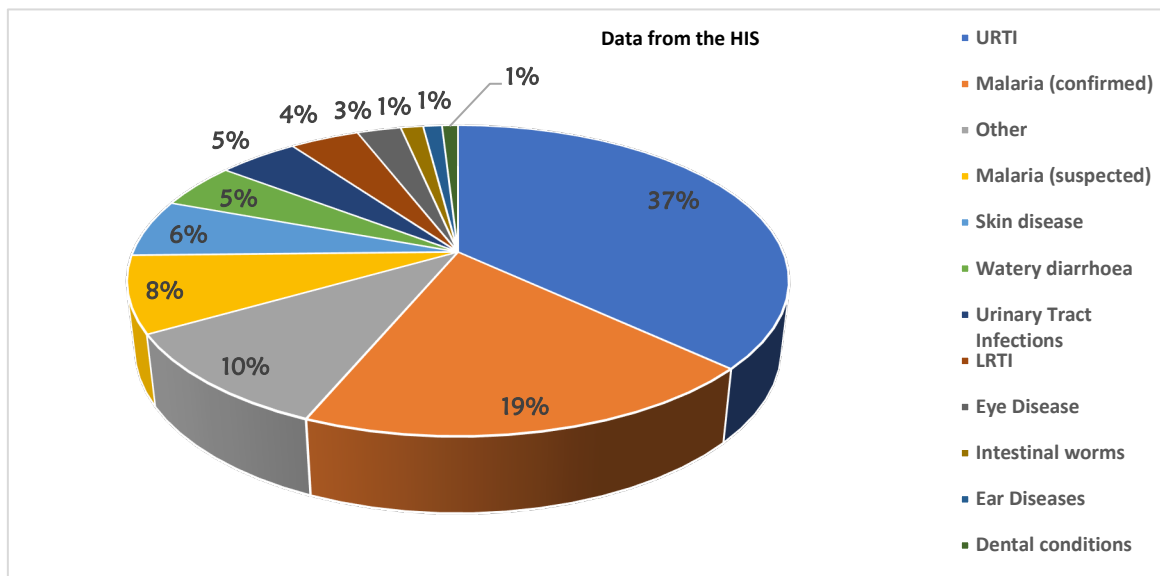
Morbidity and mortality

The leading causes of morbidity in all camps include upper respiratory tract infections (URTI), malaria, skin and eye diseases, diarrhoea, and intestinal worms (Figure 13). Acute infections are intrinsically linked to acute and chronic malnutrition as malnutrition lowers immunity, especially among children, making them more susceptible to and slower recovery from infections and illness. Malaria is among the life-threatening infections across all refugee camps. The overcrowding and the settlement sites/camps are in malaria-prone areas and exposed refugees to malaria and other disease-transmitting vectors. The levels of vulnerability increase during the rainy season (between June to October). Malaria is also a leading cause of anaemia due to the infection of blood cells. UNHCR and partners (NGOs and Government) have implemented malaria control programmes in all refugee camps, which included prevention through provisions of bed nets and Indoor Residue Spraying (IRS), medicines and rapid diagnostic tests supplies,

²⁶ UNHCR South Sudan Public Health Standard Operating Procedures for secondary and tertiary level referrals, 2020

case management, training, and community awareness interventions. However, the effort requires continuous support and engagement to protect refugees from the cycle of malaria epidemics and consequent mortality.

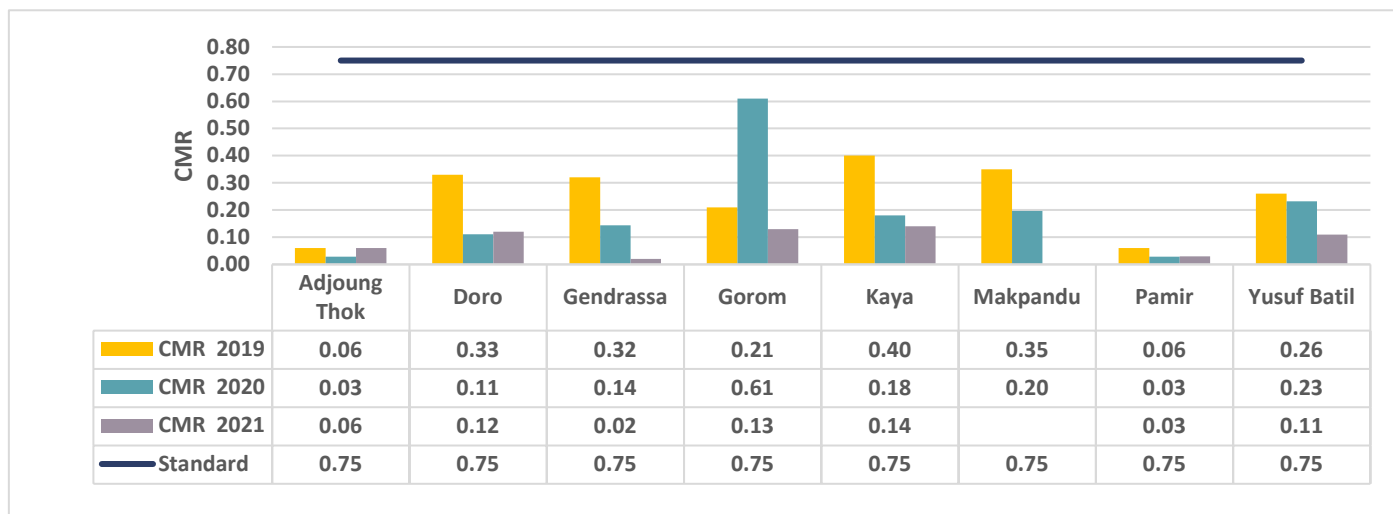
Figure 13: Top causes of morbidities in South Sudan refugee camps as of October 2021



UNHCR: Health information system

As of September 2021, the crude mortality and under-5 mortality rates were at 0.24 per 10,000 population per month and 0.31 per 10,000 population per month, respectively, which are within the acceptable range according to the WHO thresholds. In general, mortality rates continued to reduce in all camps since 2019²⁷ (Figure 14).

Figure 14: Crude Mortality Rate for South Sudan Refugee camps 2019-2021



Source: UNHCR health information system

²⁷ UNHCR health information system, October 2021

Health service delivery

The health facilities in the refugee camps provide primary health care services to the refugees and the surrounding host community. The host communities account for about 20%-35% in Maban and Pariang/Jamjang; and 45% - 55% in the Equatoria three camps (Figure 15). This ratio is even higher at the two county hospitals supported by UNHCR in Pariang and Bunj, within which the host populations account on average for about 70% of the beneficiaries. UNHCR and its health partners have successfully advocated for the inclusion of refugee into the national health systems. Inpatients and their caretakers in these facilities are provided feeding. WFP provides dry food while UNHCR and partners support on serving the wet meals.

Overall, the JAM team noted sufficient stocks of essential medical items supplied by UNHCR and MoH despite some community members claiming on the difficulty of accessing certain medications. Besides in Juba, UNHCR has medical warehouse in Jamjang and Maban run by AAHI (UNHCR Logistics Partner). This has facilitated the timely delivery and storage of essential medical items. MoH supplies Anti-retroviral medicines, tuberculosis treatment medicines, vaccines, and some antimalarial medicines.

Reproductive health and HIV/AIDS

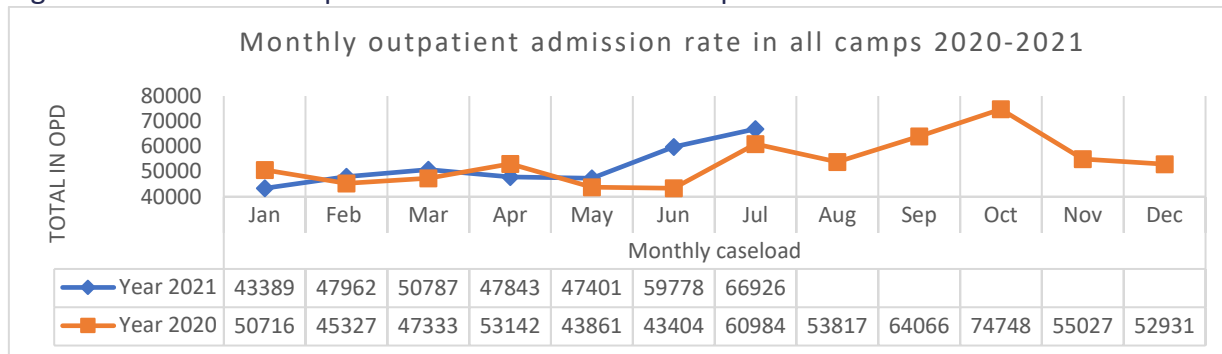
Access to maternal and child health care services for refugees has improved compared to the previous JAM in 2018. The supply from the Global Fund channeled through IGAD and UNAIDS, and the commitment and supply from the national government (MoH) counted on the effort made by UNHCR and partners. The funding supported to provide comprehensive HIV/AIDS programmes include Anti Retro Viral Therapy (ART) in all camps and two referral hospitals. GeneXpert devices were installed in Pamir, Pariang and Bunj hospitals, Yei Civil Hospital, and in Makpandu PHCC, and in Gentil PHCC benefiting both refugees and host communities; These devices help in ART monitoring through viral load, and in detecting multidrug resistance TB, COVID-19, as well as Ebola Virus Disease. HIV/AIDS was not raised by refugees as a main concern during the JAM, but programme and health staff mentioned the stigma surrounding the disease persist to some extent among refugees.

About 708 patients from both refugee and host communities were on ART by the end of September 2021, of which 67 are mothers enrolled on the prevention of Mother-to-Child transmission (PMTCT) program and received ART. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, 23,915 individuals attended HIV testing and counselling, out of which 10,374 were pregnant women. All individuals living with HIV and TB treatment were targeted as per the WFP selective feeding criteria for malnutrition. In this regard, a total of 114 (66 F, 48 M) patients benefitted from the supplementary feeding (CSB++) and wheat flour to support treatment adherence. Furthermore, as of mid-September 2021, about 330 men and boys undertook voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) which is part of the strategy to reduce female-to-male sexual transmission of HIV

COVID-19 and impacts on refugees:

The surge of COVID-19 affected the public health interventions across the camps, as many refugees refuse to attend health services due to fear of being detected with COVID-19 at the health facility. Trends of outpatient consultation decreased as of April 2020 after the onset of the pandemic, but started increasing ed from July 2020.

Figure 15: Trends of Outpatient Consultation in all camps in 2020-2021



UNHCR: Integrated Refugee Health information system

The closure of schools for a prolonged period came with health, social and psychosocial negative impacts on the refugee population. Lockdown imposed by the government as preventive measures interrupted the education system in 2020 and the first quarter of 2021 with the reported increased cases of early pregnancies and school dropouts. The imposed COVID-19 restrictions in movements to limit spread reduced refugees' access to tertiary care as referrals were put on hold. Stigma and discrimination on those who tested positive, especially on home-based care observed. The repercussion negatively affected people seeking health care, including those who have symptoms. Some camps noticed an increase in mental illness due to the psychological impacts of COVID-19. It has increased social stigma and social isolation, mainly due to COVID-19 is perceived as "imported". The host community and authorities suspect foreigners or those travelled abroad including refugees. Besides the negative consequences, COVID-19 has brought positive behavioral and attitudinal changes towards COVID-19 preventive measures, especially hand washing and personal hygiene practices across the camps.

UNHCR and partners continued to implement comprehensive COVID-19 response activities in all refugee camps including surveillance, infection prevention and control measures (IPC), risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), case management and care; the surrounding host populations also benefit from these programmes. UNHCR also coordinates with the relevant national bodies and provides updates and guidance to its partners. In response to the COVID-19 situation, UNHCR and partners commenced program adaptations. The UNHCR has updated the COVID-19 guidance: adopting from the national/WHO policy documents, guidelines, and disseminated it to health partners. Efforts also made and achieved refugees to be included in the national COVID-19 response plans, such as COVID-19 vaccination, construction of isolation center, training, and materials (cartridges, PPEs, VTMs, and lab items) provisions. Furthermore, UNHCR also procured COVID-19 items in two rounds (2020 and 2021),

distributed, and made in use in all camps. The COVID-19 prevention and control materials (gloves, face masks, and sanitizers) were procured and distributed to all health facilities in refugee camps and the referral County Hospitals. WFP and UNHCR also agreed on serving meals to patient in isolation center together with partners. The infection prevention and control measures introduced by supporting temperature screening at the entrance of each health facility, social distancing, distribution of face masks, promotion of health education, and installation of handwashing facilities in various locations including food distribution site. Moreover, community workers were provided with reusable face masks and hand sanitizers, and other PPEs to ensure continuation of community services. COVID-19 testing facilities and devices have been procured and made available in all refugee camps and the referral facilities in the field; including GeneXpert devices in six health facilities mentioned above; COVID-19 rapid diagnostic tests are available in all health facilities and being utilized. Integrated COVID-19, HIV and TB prevention and care is in place at point of entry (POE) and refugee returnees who need treatment is linked to treatment sites in hosting areas.

As of the beginning of November 2021, a total of 346 health care workers, 274 refugees, 161 host populations, and 116 other partners staff have been fully vaccinated in refugee camps against COVID-19 (Table 9). There were 445 refugees who tested positive for COVID-19 with no deaths and no severe cases so far among refugees²⁸.

Table 8: Status of COVID-19 Vaccination as of November 04, 2021 per locations

| Site | 1st dose (AstraZeneca) | | | | | 2nd dose (AstraZeneca) | | | | | Total 1st & 2nd doses |
|---|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------------------|
| | HCWs | Refu. | Host Com | Others | Total | HCWs | Refu. | Host Com | Others | Total | |
| Pariang Hospital | 304 | 355 | 166 | 0 | 825 | 126 | 72 | 33 | 0 | 231 | 1056 |
| Bunj Hospital | 53 | 11 | 43 | 12 | 119 | 39 | 14 | 6 | 31 | 90 | 209 |
| Jamjang Camps (2) | 60 | 54 | 10 | 11 | 135 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 31 | 166 |
| Maban camps (4) | 88 | 16 | 20 | 0 | 124 | 63 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 73 | 197 |
| Gorom camp | 5 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 14 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 24 |
| Lasu camp | 34 | 98 | 424 | 0 | 556 | 10 | 46 | 83 | 0 | 139 | 695 |
| Makpandu camp | 49 | 247 | 109 | 0 | 405 | 14 | 51 | 36 | 0 | 101 | 506 |
| Urban | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 593 | 789 | 773 | 23 | 2178 | 284 | 196 | 161 | 34 | 675 | 2853 |
| Johnson & Johnson Vaccine | 62 | 78 | 0 | 82 | 222 | | | | | | |
| Total Vaccinated (all types of vaccine) | 939 | 1063 | 934 | 139 | 3075 | | | | | | |
| Total fully vaccinated | 346 | 274 | 161 | 116 | 897 | | | | | | |

The public health services remain a challenge as the dwindling of funding, and the high turnover of health staffs, which continues to negatively impact the availability of sufficient numbers of qualified health staff for partners and the quality of health care. Consequently, the average consultations per clinician per day have escalated (85 and 65 patients per clinician per day in Pamir and Ajoung Thok respectively observed

²⁸ UNHCR monthly COVID-19 monitoring report 4th November 2021

by JAM 2021 team) over the acceptable cut-off point of 50. Home based care contact tracing (especially among the host population), movements across borders, physical/social distancing, and to some extent hesitation to/myths on COVID-19 vaccines are among the challenges.

Despite some improvements since 2018, the JAM 2021 outlined key issues and recommendations as presented in Table 10.

Table 9: Health key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Key recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Malaria, URTI, skin diseases and diarrhoea are the leading causes of morbidity in all sites. Environmental sanitation, mosquito breeding sites due to surface water and weak outreach interventions during the rainy season are main contributing factors. ▪ COVID-19 pandemic and its subsequent restriction on movement between states have affected medical referral of patients to the secondary and tertiary level services. ▪ Irregularities of medical supplies due to funding constraints and understaffing in some of the facilities encountered has affected the 24hrs services. Refugees reported difficulties in access to health services during the weekends. ▪ Some of the health facilities require renovation or expansion especially in Maban camps. | <p>UNHCR and health partners to maintain and strengthen the integrated and comprehensive public health services, emergency preparedness and response of key outbreak diseases including COVID-19, and strengthen community outreach services, through fundraising to address the recommendations.</p> | All camps | Regular |
| | <p>UNHCR and partners to ensure prevention, control of infection and vector-borne diseases, especially to combat malaria. This includes the provision of sufficient Long-Lasting Insecticide-treated mosquito bed nets (LLIN), targeting refugee camps/settlements with the highest malaria prevalence, prioritizing homes with children and pregnant and lactating women. If feasible and funding is available, UNHCR to consider the blanket distribution of LLINs and/or Indoor Residue Spraying (IRS) in the refugee camps/settlements.</p> | All camps, prioritize Gorom and Makpandu | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | <p>UNHCR and health partners to increase triage areas, adequate and appropriate staffing and retentions, ensure adequate staffing such as clinicians and doctors, and capacity building to improve the quality of services and consultation time and provide emergency service.</p> | All camps | Long-term |
| | <p>UNHCR and Health partners to monitor the implementation of the updated</p> | All camps | Regular |

| Key issues | Key recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pandemic has affected some service provisions and procedures, like nutrition and education, and the reduction in community outreach interventions which adversely affect the nutritional wellbeing of refugees. | <p>medical referral SOP, review as the situation changes. Continue the joint effort on addressing some of the negative impacts of COVID-19.</p> | | |
| | <p>UNHCR and WFP to consider provisions of food for the patients and caregivers in the inpatient outside the camp for the duration of inpatient treatment.</p> | All camps | Long-term |

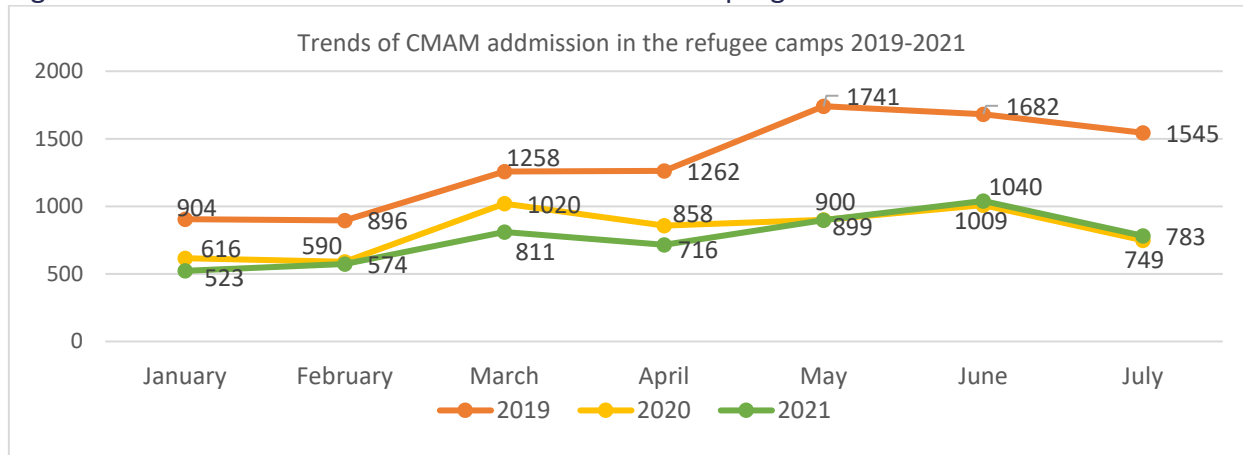
4.2.2. Nutrition

In general, the South Sudan national nutrition situation remains critical, with an estimated GAM prevalence of 16% which is above the WHO’s emergency level. There is a total of 1.8 million children and PLW in need of acute malnutrition treatment in 2021²⁹. The nutrition facilities in the camps provide services for both refugees and nationals living close to the camps. Furthermore, South Sudan context is fragile with multiple vulnerabilities comprising high malnutrition, food insecurity, high disease burden, and insecurity, etc.

The WFP and UNHCR with partner NGOs and the government counterparts provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance in all refugee camps. Notwithstanding, the nutrition situation among refugees remained serious in some of the camps although a bit improved since 2013. The nutrition program in the camps supported by WFP and UNHCR are composed of the target supplementary feeding program (TSFP, curative program) to moderate acute malnourished children (aged 6-59 months), pregnant and lactating women (PLW), and patients with HIV and TB; and blanket supplementary feeding program (BSFP) (preventive measures) which provide fortified food to children (age 6-23 months) and PLW regardless their nutrition status. UNHCR and partner NGOs are also providing outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) and inpatient stabilization center (SC) services to severe malnourished children with the support from UNICEF. Other nutrition programs provided with the support from the government and other partners including infant and young child feeding program (IYCF) which screen and consult PLW for good practice of breastfeeding and young child feeding practices; nutrition education in facilities and through mother-to-mother support group (MtMsG); kitchen gardening and cooking demo to increase the dietary diversity. The cases admitted into CMAM programs in 2020 and 2021 are far less than in 2019 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic (Figure 16).

²⁹ WFP: East Africa Regional Food Security & Nutrition Update Regional Bureau Nairobi, March 2021.

Figure 16: Trends of Children admitted into the CMAM program in 2019 and 2021



Source: SENS 2021

Factors attributed to the overall admission rate in the camps after COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, as compared to in 2019 are:

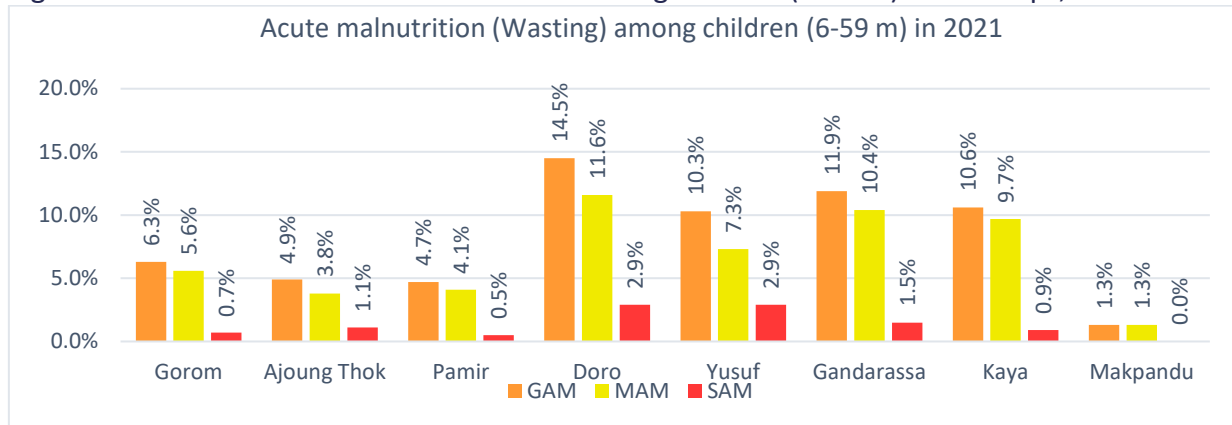
- The first two months of every year experienced challenges with the financial and logistical delivery to partners and operational sites to start the new project activities on timely manner.
- The active case finding for malnutrition children and PLW was hindered due to COVID-19. Only MUAC screening has been carried out in both community and facilities, and the use of weight for height has been shelved to reduce the contact between the outreach worker and children to be screened. And the quarterly mass malnutrition screening was also suspended since the pandemic until the change of local COVID-19 situation in 2021.
- Some mothers refuse to come for services or refuse screening of their children in fear of contracting the virus. UNHCR and partners engaged in MUAC Screening Training for 410 Lead Mothers, 2,839 Households and 188 Community Outreach Workers to implement mother MUAC screening to their children. These groups were provided with PPEs as well as MUAC tapes to mothers/caregivers. However, it's not progressing as expected due to disruption of outreach activities, and high damage of MUAC tapes.

In BSFP, CSB++ used to be nutritional product provided to both children and PLW as preventive measure, LNS-MQ was introduced in 2021 replacing CSB++ to be provided to children 6-23 months. There was no complaint from beneficiaries registered to this switch into new commodity so far. To response to the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP increased the provision for 3,730 additional caseloads for inpatient and 62.664 MT of assorted commodities for COVID 19 patients who might be identified in the camps. And supplies for at least 10 patients were stored by partners in camp for immediate response.

According to the SENS (November 2021) preliminary results, the nutrition situation among the refugee population varies among camps, which indicate different challenges are facing by refugees residing in different locations. The prevalence of GAM and SAM rate was as much as 14.5% and 2.9% (serious) in Doro, 11.9% and 1.5% in Gendrassa, 10.3% and 2.9% (serious) in Yusuf and 10.6% and 0.9% in Kaya

refugee camps (serious), respectively. This result indicates the burden of malnutrition in these camps persists as a key challenge. Unlike the mentioned camps the GAM rate in Makpandu is 1.3%, Pamir 4.7%, Ajoung Thok 4.9% (all at acceptable rate) and Gorom 6.3% (poor, within the UNHCR intended target to keep below emergency thresholds) (Figure 17). This indicates the interventions in these camps were able to sustain or curb the deterioration of the nutrition situation among the refugee population.

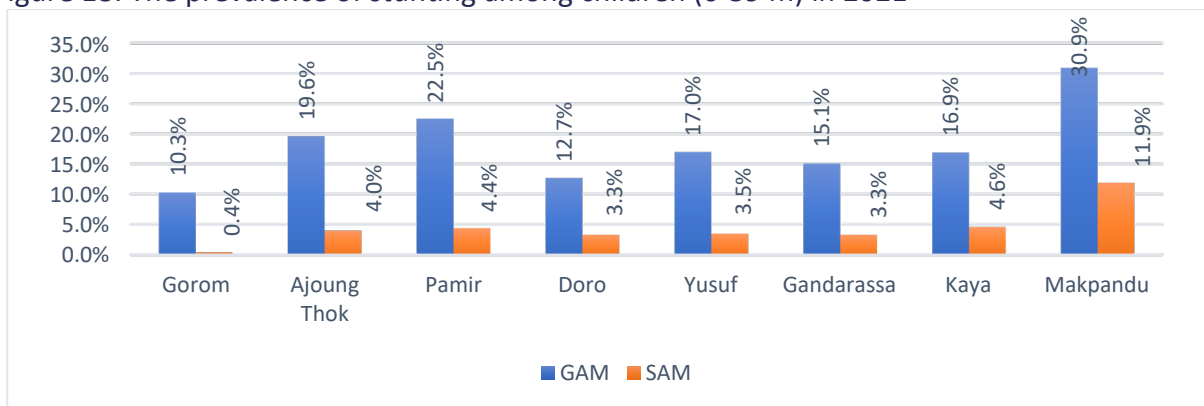
Figure 17: Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children (6-59 m) in all camps, November 2021



Source: UNHCR Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey, November 2021

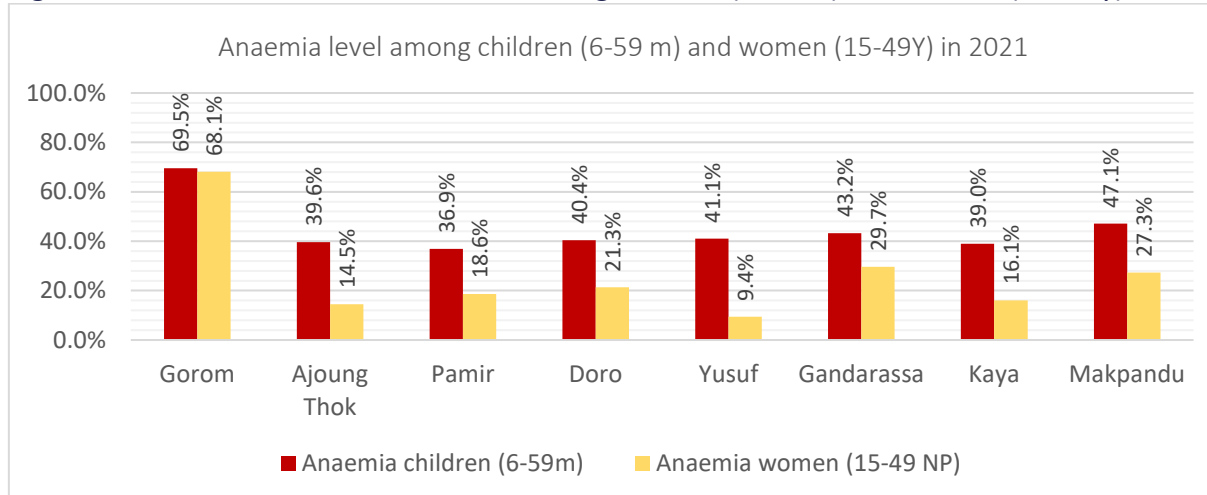
The prevalence of global stunting is 30.9% in Makpandu (very high) and 22.5% in Doro (high), the rest of the camps are within acceptable threshold (Figure 18).

Figure 18: The prevalence of stunting among children (6-59 m) in 2021



Source: UNHCR Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey, November 2021

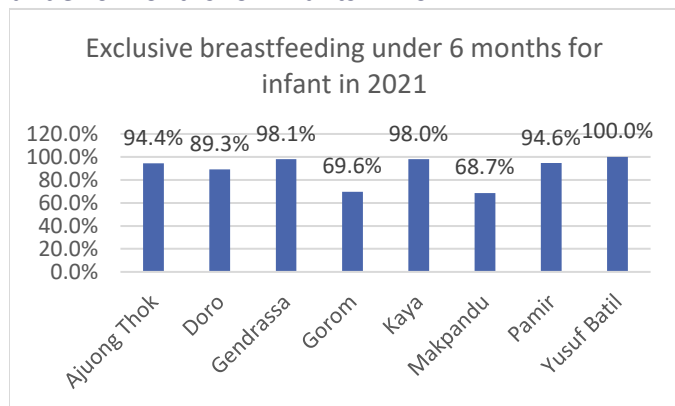
Figure 19: Prevalence of Anaemia level among children (6-59 m) and women (15-49 y) in 2021



Source: UNHCR Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey, November 2021

Moreover, iron and folic acid supplement to PLW, vitamin A supplement is given to children above six months in the facility and through campaigns supported by MoH twice a year to prevent micronutrient deficiency and anaemia among women and children. However, the prevalence of anaemia was found high among children 6 to 59 months and non-pregnant women 15-49 years (Figure 19). The highest prevalence rate is 69.5% among children and 68.5% among women in Gorom, which is the highest (The WHO cutoff point $\geq 40\%$ is high). The high anaemia level negatively impacts the nutritional wellbeing of

Figure 20: Proportion of exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months for infants in 2021



Source: UNHCR Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey, November 2021

children and reproductive-age women. UNHCR developed and periodically review the Integrated Strategy to Address Anaemia and Micronutrient Deficiency In Refugee Camps in South Sudan with the recommended intervention to combat high anaemia prevalence among refugees³⁰.

Exclusive breastfeeding for infant under 6 months is one of the good practices of IYCF. As shown in figure 20, all camps except for Gorom, Makpandu, and Doro meet the UNHCR target of above 90% on this indicator.

Contextualized intervention should be applied to different location to reduce the high level of different types of malnutrition while keep the acceptable status for others. Collective effort to continue and

³⁰ UNHCR Integrated Strategy to Address Anaemia and Micronutrient Deficiency in Refugee Camps in South Sudan 2021-2025

strengthen the implementation of the Community based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) program across the camps during 2022/2023. Table 11 presents key issues and recommendations.

Table 10: Nutrition key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The BSFP products which are provided to children (age 6-23 months) and PLW are often shared among all family members. The intensity of sharing increased further since the introduction of 50% of the GFD ration cut. Additionally, the exchange of these products for other food increased. The situation may not change soon as the ration cut continues and income source devastating. ▪ The active case finding for malnourished children are affected by the COVID-19 and lacking incentive to community workers. ▪ COVID 19 affected programme follow up visit frequency that were adjusted due to the lock down, hence this affected the programme outcomes. ▪ The Vitamin A supplementation and deworming campaign, which is supported by MoH, often encountered delay or suspension due to challenges of supplies. | WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and nutrition partners continue and strengthen the implementation of the comprehensive CMAM program to facilitate the rehabilitation of identified acute malnourished and preventive programmes for persons including children (6-59 months), PLW, people living with TB and HIV. | All camps | Regular |
| | WFP and UNHCR to expand the BSFP program to children (age 24-59 months) based on nutrition assessment results (GAM >15% and aggravating factors). | In the camps with GAM >15% | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | WFP and UNICEF provide enough MUAC tapes, UNHCR and partners to enforce the training of MUAC measuring and monitoring measures to control the damage and loss of tapes, in order to implement the mother MUAC effectively to identify malnourished cases. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | Nutrition and health project implementing partners to devise mechanisms to increase outreach and awareness interventions. Develop a strategy for integrated outreach interventions for hygiene, health, and nutrition and avail funding for incentive workers. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR, WFP, FAO and nutrition partners to implement and expand kitchen gardening, provide vegetable seeds and kits, and promote cooking demonstrations to more beneficiaries to increase the dietary diversity to prevent micronutrient deficiency. | All camps (Start in feasible areas and rollout to the others) | Long-term |

| Key issues | Recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IYCF program is not implemented effectively in some camps (Gorom and Makpandu). | UNHCR and nutrition partners to roll-out the IYCF-Emergency framework including providing training to staffs to improve IYCF practices. | All camps, prioritize Gorom, Makpandu, and Maban | Medium-term (2022-2023) |

4.2.3. Water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

WASH programmes in the refugee camps are aimed at ensuring refugees have safe and adequate access to water supply, live in a clean environment, improved access to hygiene services, and access to improved WASH services at institutions through innovative and appropriate WASH projects implementation and in close coordination and partnership with WASH stakeholders.

The JAM 2018 outlined water supply is much better in the refugee camps than in the host communities. UNHCR and partners constructed several boreholes in host community, and some host community members near the refugee locations have access to water from the refugee camps/settlements. All refugee camps/settlements had above the emergency minimum standards of at least 15 liters of water available per person per day (ltpppd), however, only 50% met the UNHCR standards of ≥ 20 ltpppd. The JAM in 2018 specify some challenges such as materials for building latrines, soap, and sanitary supplies, as the major barrier to improving hygiene practices. The new arrivals with large family sizes do not receive the UNHCR minimum water collection and storage containers per person. The prolonged procurement processes for sanitation construction materials were additional challenges affecting the improvement of sanitation services in all the refugee locations³¹.

According to the WASH Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice (KAP) survey (2020), the water consumption was estimated at 17.1 ltpppd in Maban, 19.3 ltpppd in Gorom, 14.2 ltpppd in Makpandu, which is below UNHCR standards of ≥ 20 ltpppd. All refugees from Maban and Jamjang camps and most of them in Makpandu and Gorom were collecting water from protected sources. Refugees in Gorom and Makpandu don't have enough water storage with only 36% and 32% had 10 liters water containers per person respectively. About 94% of refugees has water containers in Maban. Refugees using latrines ranges up to 96% in Maban, 89% in Jamjang, 49.4% in Gorom, and 58.7% in Makpandu. The hygiene practise of using water and soap during hand washing account for about 90% in Makpandu, 80% in Gorom and 50% in

³¹ JAM 2018 p41

Maban. The awareness of COVID-19 preventive measures is as much as 98% in Maban camps, 66.3% in Makpandu, and 86.2% in Gorom.^{32, 33, 34, 35}

The JAM 2021 teams underscored access to a safe and adequate water supply by refugees and the nearby host community is affected by the frequent water supply interruption in all camps. According to the UNHCR South Sudan WASH strategy (2021-2025), water supply interruptions were associated with inadequate and delay of water production and distribution operations, a limited number of water sources such as wells and few water distribution taps stand. Moreover, very old generators and pumps, as well as a failure of timely maintenances of solar power systems, contributed to the malfunctioning of water supply systems. Furthermore, the community use drinking water for other purposes such as for livelihood and construction works, which adversely affects the water supply system for domestic users³⁶. Access to family latrines for refugees considering safety, privacy and cleanable slabs has remained part of the gap across refugee camps. According to SENS 2019 survey, using communal and shared family latrines are common among refugees in the camps. Children under 5 have also practiced in open defecation around the compound.

The collapse of the pit latrine during the rainy season due to flooding remains critical gaps, which has been subsequently leading to open defecation. The inaccessibility of construction materials such as the slab challenged the community-based approach for the promotion of family pit latrines construction. This photo shows pit latrine slab production in Maban camps.



Photo by JAM team; slab production for latrine

Despite some improvement on overall WASH interventions since the JAM 2018 recommendations, the JAM 2021 identified certain gaps and recommendation during 2022-2023 operations (Table 12).

Table 11: WASH key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate water collection points in the camps have resulted in overcrowding at collection points which negatively led to fighting among women coming to water points. | UNHCR and WASH partners to expand water collection points, optimize the use of existing water systems, and upgrade works to minimize congestion and improve the availability of water at the distribution points. | All camps, prioritizing Pamiir, Yusuf Batil, and Makpandu camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |

³² UNHCR and ACTED KAP survey September 2020

³³ UNHCR and Samaritan’s Purse International Relief September 2020

³⁴ UNHCR and ACROSS KAP survey December 2020

³⁵ UNHCR and WVI KAP survey November 2020

³⁶ UNHCR South Sudan water supply, sanitation, and hygiene strategy 2021-2025

| Key issues | Recommendations | Site/Camp | Timeframe |
|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The daily water supplies in the camps are scheduled, once or twice a day, to regulate pumping and power supply. However, many households lack enough water containers to collect water and store it at home for domestic use. The distributed containers were aged and inadequate, in some camps the last jerrycans distribution was in 2017. ▪ The ongoing soap distribution was not adequate in the context of COVID-19. ▪ Low latrine coverage in the camps mentioned; specifically, the elderly and people with special needs (PSN) households were the most affected. The low coverage was associated with a delay of construction materials distribution for roofing, wall, and slabs. As a result, neighbors shared latrines which cause difficulty for hygiene maintenance and waste management. ▪ Inadequate WASH facilities at institution level, including in schools and health facilities. | UNHCR and WASH partners to rehabilitate existing water facilities, and timely maintain generators, and solar powers to minimize water supply interruptions and increase water supply period. | All camps | Regular |
| | UNHCR to develop the contingency plan for the potential influx of refugees from Sudan and Ethiopia for the additional needs of water supplies. | Camps in Maban and Jamjang | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR and WASH partners to quantify the amount of water required for non-domestic use, including irrigation for agriculture, brickmaking, animals and institutions, and plan for additional boreholes or other water resources to meet the gap. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR, UNICEF and WASH partners to strengthen the construction of sanitation facilities and promote hygiene activities such as safe water management, safe excreta disposal, and proper waste management. | All camps | Long-term |
| | UNHCR, UNICEF and WASH partners to ensure timely distribution of WASH NFIs, particularly water storage containers. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR and WASH partners to make community engagement activities including in pit latrine construction and avail construction materials (slabs, roofing, and related items) with due consideration to PSNs for the expansion of family latrines. | All camps, prioritizing Makpandu and Gorom camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |

4.3. Energy and Environment

Energy needs and environment are directly interlinked and impacted food security. Refugees are reliant on firewood and charcoal for cooking. About 90%-95% of energy needs of refugees are met through firewood collection and charcoal making from the surrounding environment, and few depend on

purchased wood and charcoal from the local market³⁷. According to focus group discussions, the price for a small bundle of firewood is about 500-1000 SSP, which usually lasts for on average of three days. The surrounding areas of camps have been widely depleting and can no longer provide enough firewood and construction materials. As a result, refugees tend to travel far distance which cost on average 5-8 hours of round trip to collect firewood. Selling the firewood and charcoal is also a common means to earn additional income and fulfil other unmet needs.

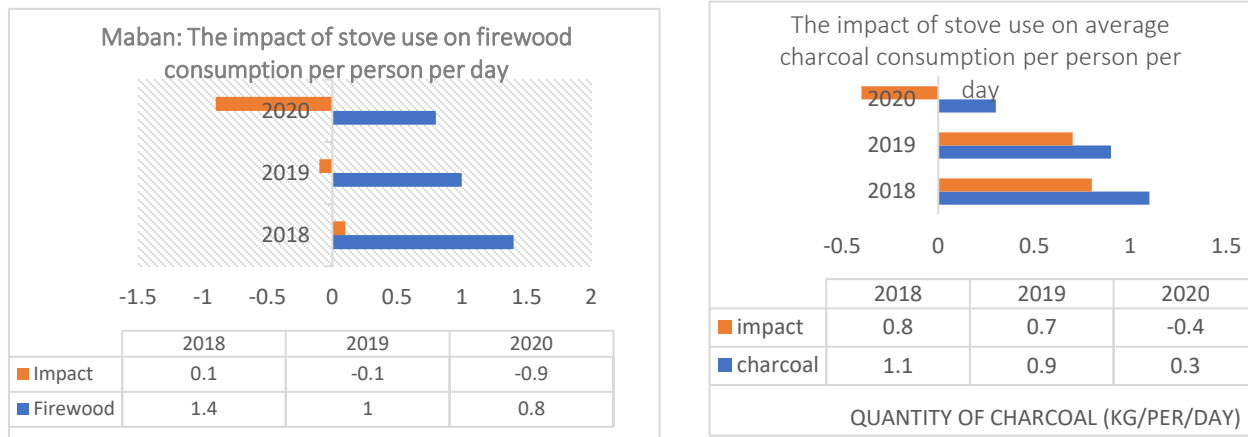
The refugee households in all camps depend on firewood and charcoal to meet their cooking needs – a major driver of deforestation. According to key informants interviews, deforestation in-and-around the refugee camps is expected to continue, as the reliance on the environment for energy, construction materials and income source is continuing. Host communities have raised concerns about environmental degradations, though charcoal making is a joint activity by refugees and the local community, which triggers tensions over the use of natural resources. Women in the focus group discussion emphasized they have been facing protection-related challenges in the forest and bushy areas, as they are responsible to collect firewood. The rainy season aggravates such acts: sexual assault, intimidations, beating, etc. due to grass becoming taller above human heights and hides criminals from exposure.

There is little or no access to electricity at the community and household level in the refugee hosting areas across South Sudan. Over 80% of households are reliant on biomass-based fuel from the local environment for cooking, using three-stone fires and mud stoves characterised by high level of inefficiency for firewood and charcoal consumption (Table 14). The study conducted in 2012 showed the average firewood consumption was 1.8kg/person/day in Maban refugees³⁸ which was recorded as the highest. The 2020 KPT assessment findings revealed that the average firewood consumption per person per day is 0.8kg signifying a 56% reduction in fuelwood consumption over three years period. Figure 21 shows the impact of stove use on firewood and charcoal consumption in Maban.

³⁷ Subjective estimate during focus group discussions

³⁸ UNHCR, UNEP, OCHA, Government of South Sudan, 2012: Joint Mission Report for Maban camps

Figure 21: The impact of stove use on fuel use in Maban, 2012



Source: Joint Mission Report for Maban camps (UNHCR, UNEP, OCHA, Government of South Sudan), 2012

With the introduction of fuel-efficient stoves since 2017 (Figure 21), an improved energy-saving efficiency was noted. Though UNHCR and its partners promoting fuel saving stoves, the achievement is sub-optimal. It is therefore worth noting that fuel-efficient stove use is inversely proportional to fuel consumption.



Photo by JAM team: Gendrassa RI fuel saving stove production

The JAM 2018 assessment suggested that household income is one of the determining factors whether a family will use wood or charcoal, the latter being widely acknowledged as a better fuel for cooking that is beyond the affordable reach by a majority of refugee households. Table 13 shows cost of fuel in 2021.

Table 12: Average household expenditure on all fuels for cooking per month

| Fuel type | Average (SSP) | Average (USD) |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Wood | 3155 | 26.1 |
| Charcoal | 2445 | 20.2 |

Source: UNHCR country energy analysis 2021

Table 13: Types of stoves used to cook the main meal at household

| Stove type | Sample | % |
|------------------|--------|-----|
| Three stone fire | 232 | 80% |
| Solar stove | 2 | 1% |

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|------|
| Mud stove | 160 | 55% |
| Charcoal stove | 5 | 2% |
| Other cookstove | 2 | 1% |
| Total | 291 | 100% |

Source: UNHCR country energy analysis 2021

Morover, UNHCR and partners have been promoting environmental rehabilitation through tree seedlings productions and plantation, awareness campaigns and establishing joint refugee and local community environment clubs. However, the demand and interventions are not to the level of actual needs.



Photo by JAM team: Gandarasa RI nursery site

The collection of firewood remains the main source of domestic energy and livelihood for refugees. Thus, effective natural resource management and rehabilitation efforts in the camps and surroundings, along with the introduction of alternative sources of fuels to be prioritized to minimize uncontrolled depletion of the forest resources.

Relief International USA in Maban and some partners in Gorom and Jamjang are implementing energy saving project in South Sudan. The project comprises promotion of sustainable fuel, cookstove, and energy for lighting in the refugee camps. The JAM 2021 assessment recommends a multi-sector approach to respond to energy needs across the refugee camps and increase access to renewable energy and clean cooking equipment. The energy sector is central in providing access to lighting, cooking, and promoting the efficient use of natural resources. Table 15 presents key issues and priorities with corresponding recommendations.

Table 14: Energy and Environment: Key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reliant on forest products for energy, construction materials and income source is expected to continue. ▪ The continuous firewood collection result in deterioration of environment and cause the | UNHCR, Energy and Environment partners to look for a multi-sector approach to respond to energy needs across the country by establishing coordination forum with UNFPA and concerned agencies to jointly advocate for funding and energy and environment interventions. | General at coordination level (Juba and county) | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR and partners to explore the possibility of the use of alternate energy sources, such as solar energy, briquette | All camps | Long-term |

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|---|---|-------------|-------------------------|
| tension between refugees and host community due to the competition. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The wide use of traditional open three stone stove, which is known for high energy consumption/loss contribute to additional challenge. ▪ Women facing physical assault or harassment during firewood collection. ▪ Lack of sustainable lighting at night in the camps resulting in protection and security concerns. | production by using grass and other biomasses. | | |
| | UNHCR and partners to promote the use of fuel-efficient stoves. | All camps | Short-term (2022) |
| | UNHCR and partners to explore means to establish roadside lights (solar energy) in main areas of security concerns, and sensitize communities to avoid vandalism character and dismantling of communal facilities. | All camps | Long-term |
| | UNHCR, FAO, and partners to strengthen tree nursery sites and establish in the areas where activities are not yet started, including fruit trees and agroforestry seedling productions and plantations. | All camps | Long-term |
| | UNHCR, WFP and partners strengthen the community approach through increasing members of the community environment club which comprising youth from refugees and host community; providing capacity building training; and equipping them with communication materials to promote user-friendly approach to the environment. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | WFP through the Food For Assets (FFA) programme to promote access to renewable energy and environment protection projects in the targeted locations | All camps | Long term |

4.4. Protection and education

4.4.1. Protection overview

The impact of COVID-19 pandemic compounded the economic crisis of decreasing exchange rate for SSP against US dollar, leading to escalated prices for most food items, because of travel and transport restrictions³⁹. The impact was intense on the refugee population, mainly on women, girls, and children to be susceptible to protection risks such as sexual exploitations and gender-based violence (GBV). In

³⁹ WFP: South Sudan Annual Country Report, Country Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021, December 2020.

response to the increased gender protection risks of exploitation, abuse and violence for women and children, posed by the pandemic and economic challenges, UNHCR, WFP and protection partners delivered awareness sessions on GBV prevention and responses with due considerations of mainstreaming GBV and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in Food Security, Livelihoods and Nutrition interventions.

There have been protection-related incidences in-and-outside of refugee settlements in the past three years. The focus group discussion participants in all locations mentioned that the protection concerns are associated with the engagement in income generating activities. For instance, the recent inter-communal conflict initiated by cattle raiders around Gorom resulted in refugees' fear to move and do their usual livelihood activities including cultivating and firewood collection. Some of the disputes are associated with competition over scarce resources (natural resources, water, grazing fields etc.), as refugees being denied access to some resources by the local community. According to focus group discussion with the host communities, they witnessed that all supports were provided to refugees, but nothing/little planned for the host community. They claim that several promises were made and not fulfilled, including during the initial settlements of refugees in the areas. Such a situation negatively affects the coexistence of refugees and the local community. Despite the incidences, both refugees and host community leaders underscored such issues can be resolved together with the support of local authorities and humanitarian agencies.

4.4.2. Gender Base Violence:

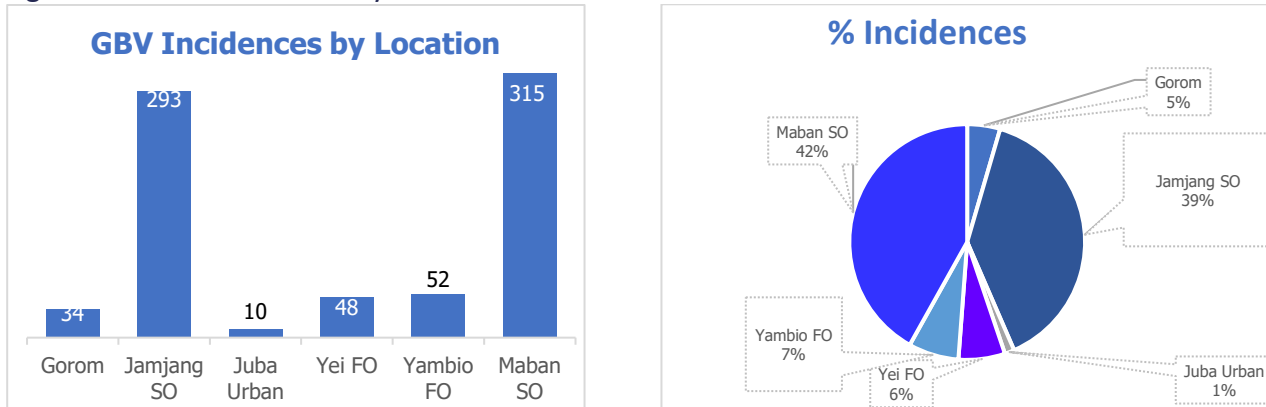
The JAM 2018 assessment identified insecurity as the protection concern in all camps⁴⁰. Likewise, the current JAM 2021 identified a similar situation with growing incidences of GBV and physical attacks on refugee girls and women. The presence of South Sudan defense force (SSDF) officers who disserted their military posts around refugee camps such as in Jamjang increased security incidents. According to the host community, refugees are arrested when they violate local/government laws and regulations. However, the GBV incidences might have been largely hidden or underreported. According to UNHCR (September 2021) report more than 52% of the refugees (adult female-21%, elderly-1% & children-30%) heightening risks and vulnerability (Figure 22). Refugees' leaders, women and men group mentioned that freedom of movement within the camps is acceptable. Most of the issues and security incidents are related to movement outside their camps to search for livelihood activities.

Children are exposed to many risks, including GBV, as their parents go out to look for job opportunity and come back late to fill the gap for the 50% food ration cut. Some children after classes also go and work in tea places and restaurants to earn income from labour works such as washing dishes and cleaning. After the recent crises, about 70% of refugee households are headed by female who struggle to provide a living

⁴⁰ JAM 2018 p60.

for their children⁴¹. As mitigation mechanisms, UNHCR and its protection partners have made concerted efforts to curbe the GBV situations. The intervention measures include social norm change, survivor cantered, and participatory program designed and implemented.

Figure 22 : GBV incidences by locations and % of incidences



Source: UNHCR GBV Dashboard September 2021

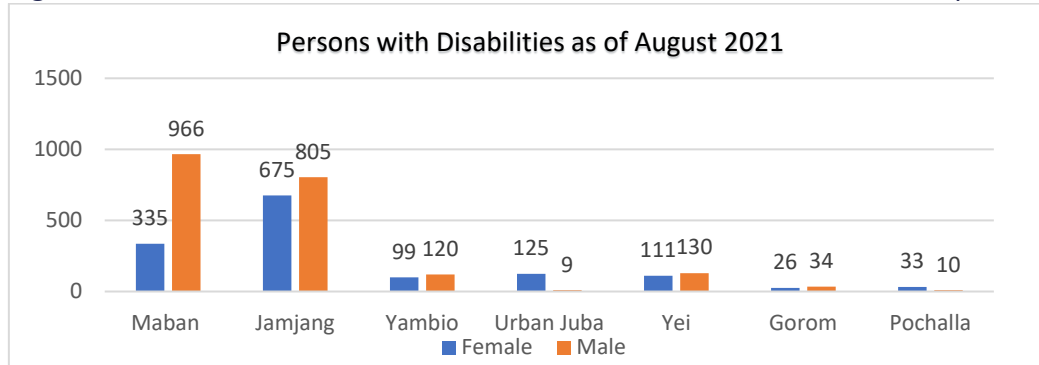
4.4.3. Person with specific needs (PSN)

UNHCR and protection partners provide protection assistance and solutions to about 3,478 people (2,074 Male & 1,404 female) with disabilities residing in various locations (Figure 23). The operation ensures inclusivity for all programs to enhance access to services and participation of persons with disabilities in all activities. A mechanism for coherent identification and verification, monitoring, and documentation was established to facilitate the timely update of the database to guide interventions, comprised of regular home visits and routine assessments. The most common disability identified among refugees includes mobility/physical, vision, hearing, cognitive and psychological impairments. About 70% of persons with physical disabilities are male, either wounded during armed conflict, as some of the refugees were combatant during war or in road traffic accidents. The cases of cognitive/ learning impairment are mostly among children who were born with such disabilities⁴².

⁴¹ UNHCR ProGress data as of October 2021.

⁴² UNHCR participatory assessment refugees' settlements 2020.

Figure 23: ProGRES Statistics of Persons with Disabilities in South Sudan operation



Source: UNHCR refugee data as of August 2021

In general, the protection concerns are reflected by the various groups during focus group discussions and key informant interviews. Among others, timely registration is a concern in some locations (such as Ajoung Thok and Gorom) as registration is prerequisite to access the WFP food and services in camps. The JAM 2021 noted that the issues are cross-sectional and require a comprehensive approach with due considerations of both refugees and the host community. Table 16 presents key issues and concerns, as well as recommendation, related to protection.

Table 15: Protection key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|--|---|---|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased security incidents restricted the movements of refugees and negatively affected their struggle for self-reliance (livelihood) activities. The conflict escalates when the nomadic pastoralist community brings their cattle to graze around the settlement and farmlands, affecting refugees crop fields. ▪ Women are facing GBVs related incidences whenever they go to their farmland, collection of firewood and livelihood opportunities. | UNHCR and government authorities (camp management), with partner NGOs to strengthen coordination among refugees and local community watch groups, introduce night petrol. Provide proper training for the police force, CRA and apply a rotation of assignments to minimize unnecessary incidences in the refugee camps. UNHCR and local authorities to provide visibility for community watch groups for easy identifications. | All camps (mainly in Ajoung Thok and Pamir camps) | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The established theft network among refugees and host communities affects the safety and security of refugees in camps. ▪ The level of vulnerability increased among PSNs, elderly, chronically ill and widows, who are the most affected by | | |

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|--|--|------------------------------|-----------|
| <p>the GFD ration cut, as they have limited options for livelihood and coping mechanisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GBV concerns remain prevalent, and was compounded with the economic crises including a negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which exposes women and girls to the risk of GBV in the family, as men could not respect economically vulnerable women. ▪ The presences of active combatants in the camps (Ajong thok and Maban) threaten the safety of refugees, as perpetrated most of the GBV cases. ▪ Some elements of the armed personnel residing in the camp and trying to mobilize some refugees to join an armed group and those oppose to their request are being threatened. ▪ The options for durable solutions amongst the refugee community have not yet been explored. ▪ Early marriages and teenage pregnancy growing in all camps as one of the major concerns. ▪ Some of new arrivals in the camp are not registered timely which lead to delay of getting assistance from either WFP and UNHCR, especially in Gorom camp. | <p>UNHCR and WFP, together with the support of the South Sudan government and partners to explore and support refugees in durable solutions and strengthen refugees' resilience capacity through long-term interventions. Start with the durable solution option for the Anyuak refugees in Gorom, such as local integration and rollout in other locations.</p> | All camps, piloting in Gorom | Long-term |
| | <p>UNHCR and protection partners to strengthen women empowerment in livelihood to enable them to be in a position of decision making and reduce the deeply rooted, pervasive and harmful gender inequalities.</p> | All camps | Long-term |
| | <p>UNHCR, and Partners to mainstream and promote trauma-informed programming for women and adolescents, and GBV mainstreaming across sectors to address GBV across the camps.</p> | All camps | Long-term |
| | <p>UNHCR and Government to timely register new arrivals and timely share with WFP and partners to facilitate access to food and other services without delay.</p> | Camps receiving new arrivals | Regular |
| | <p>UNHCR, Protection and education partners to promote peer to peer education in schools through school clubs to build on their self-confidence.</p> | All camps | Long-term |

4.4.4. Education

Education for refugee children is considered an integral part of refugee protection specifically girls school attendance helps to prevent early pregnancy and subsequent child motherhood. Primary and secondary school is available and accessible for refugees. The UNHCR and partners support education system in the camps through provisions of education materials, distribution of girls' sanitary kits and school uniforms. The programme incorporated the provision of learning materials, including uniform and sanitary kits for

schoolgirls, to promote enrollment and retention in schools. WFP, UNHCR and partners provide school meals to both refugee and host community students in nursery and primary schools in Gorom and Makpandu.

The JAM 2021 team identified various challenges faced by boys and girls. Girls’ enrollment was reduced due to irregular distribution of sanitary kits, early marriage/pregnancy, and due to the responsibilities imposed by parents to undertake domestic work and family care. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and closure of schools for an extended period has resulted in increased number of young girls’ pregnancies. The issues of early marriages and young pregnancy in the camp have now become a major problem among young girls. Boys school dropout increased since the introduction of 50% ration cut. Lack of sufficient food in the households forced young boys to go to market areas and nearby towns for opportunities to feed themselves. Nevertheless, participants in the focus group discussions mentioned that the shortage/lack of school supplies such as teaching materials, pens and books, uniforms, and shoes. Lacking school meals was raised in Maban and Jamjang camps as part of the main reasons for children not attending school.

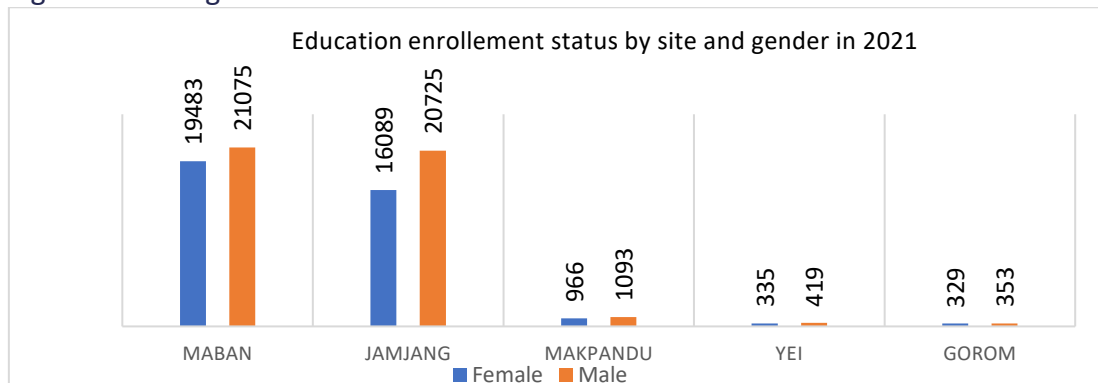
UNHCR operation in partnership with the government is providing a wide range of formal education programs ranging from early childhood education, primary education, alternative education programs, secondary and tertiary level education to 147, 911 (73, 256 Female & 74, 655 male) refugees’ and host communities children and youth across South Sudan.



Photo by JAM team: Refugee school in Jamjang camp 2021

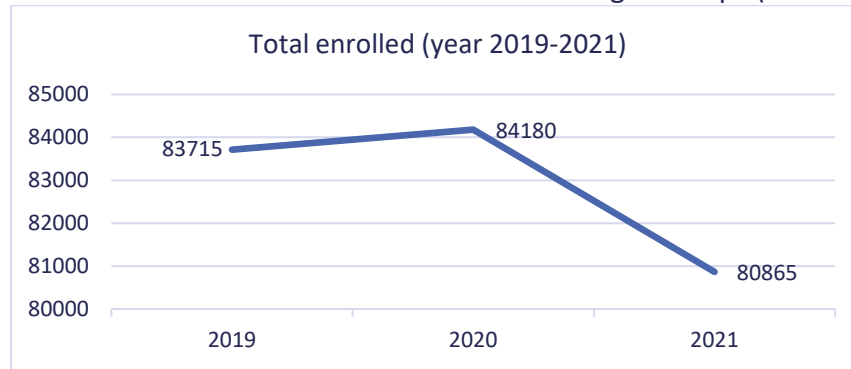
Access and quality of education enhanced through the construction of 43 schools with 599 classrooms and the employment of 877 teachers to facilitate learning. Total students enrolled in 2021 by locations and gender and trend analysis during 2019 to 2021 was illustrated in Figure 24 and Figure 25.

Figure 24: Refugee education enrollment status as of October 2021 in all sites



Source: UNHCR education data October 2021

Figure 25: Trends of education enrollments status across the refugee camps (2019-2021)



Source: UNHCR education data October 2021

However, the education services in the camps are affected by the country’s political and natural landscape with volatile and a high propensity to drastic shifts in education service delivery with a focus from early recovery to emergency and vice versa. Despite the existence of primary and secondary level education in all camps, the post-secondary education opportunities for refugees have remained a challenge. Table 17 presents key issues and recommendations.

Table 16: Education key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WASH facilities in most schools are substandard: Latrines and water supply are inadequate to meet the needs. ▪ Targeted assistance or incentives for Girls’ Education South Sudan (GESS) and provisions of school uniforms and solar lamps for only girls created tension amongst boys. ▪ Lacking School feeding program in camps in Maban and Jamjang, which can encourage enrollment status and retentions, and can improve the nutrition outcome of school-age children. | WFP, UNHCR and education partners to implement school feeding programs in primary and nursery schools in refugee camps, considering the 50% GFD ration cut and the level of household food insecurity. WFP provide dry ration and UNHCR support kitchen setup and running costs. | Continue in Gorom and Makpandu, rollout in other locations | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR, WFP and education partners to assess the infrastructure status in school and renovate and improve school facilities including fencing schoolyards, water facility, latrines gender-segregated, dry waste disposal sites, etc. | Sites to be determined based on school assessments | Short-term (2022) |
| | UNHCR, WFP and education partners to explore multi-sector activities, such as vegetable gardens and food for work. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | UNHCR, UNICEF and education partners support the schools/pupils with the necessary learning materials and timely distribution in sufficient quantities for the numbers of enrolled students and regularize distribution dates across all the schools. | All camps | Regular |
| | UNHCR, UNICEF, and partners to continue advocating against forced/child marriage | All camps | Regular |

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No opportunities for refugees to continue education at the tertiary level. ▪ Inadequacy of education supplies, a limited number of female teachers, and congestion in some of the primary schools. | and to sensitize community leaders and parents on girls' rights and the legal age of marriage in South Sudan. Establish youth educational clubs to promote public awareness through music and theatres/drama. | | |
| | UNHCR and education partners to improve recruitment of trained and qualified teachers and increase the number of female teachers to demonstrate a role model for girls' enrollments. | All camps | Medium-term |
| | UNHCR and Education partners conduct capacity gap assessment for teachers in selected areas to identify gaps and capacity building. Consider affirmative program for trainings should be encouraged especially for female teachers to strengthen their knowledge and skills | All camps | Long-term |

4.5. Logistics, non-food items and shelter

4.5.1. Logistics and non-food items (NFI)

The JAM 2021 team assessed the situation of logistics and non-food items in the refugee camps focusing on warehouse, distribution facilities and road infrastructure connectivity to the camps, blocks within camps, and to the basic facilities such as clinics, schools, and markets. A review of JAM 2018 shows some of the concerns presented persist and have not been addressed such as the renovation/expansion of warehouse and distribution sites. Most blocks and facilities in camps connected with road networks. However, access to the camps during the rainy season (May-October) has remained a challenge, especially for camps in Maban and Jamjang, which are often affected by flooding. Based on standing MoU between WFP and UNHCR and shared responsibilities, WFP and UNHCR established warehouse facilities in the camps. WFP supports the establishment and management of food and nutrition products storage facilities, whereas UNHCR supports the non-food items storage facilities. The GFD distribution facilities are jointly established and found properly arranged to provide food and non-food items in a dignified manner. However, some of the key informants and participants from focus group in Pamir camp in Jamjang, stated the distribution site is far from outskirts blocks and additional cost is paid for the transportation of goods to their home.

According to the discussion with key informants, as well as a review of secondary data, all new arrivals were provided with one-time standard NFI kits comprised of an emergency shelter and core relief items

(CRI) to help them settle in the refugee camps. This NFI kit comprises of plastic sheets for shelter, blankets, kitchen sets, Jerrycans, soaps, and mats as shown in the photo below.



Photo by JAM: Types of NFI in Kaya refugee camp

UNHCR developed SOP for the overall NFI distribution and governed by a case-by-case approach for the protracted situation, as needs are different, and resources are limited and constrained by the decline of funding. Hence, replenishment or additional assistance is provided based on vulnerability status drawn by assessments including need-based assessment. In most visited camps, the last mass NFI distribution was conducted in 2017. This was due to resource constraints and funding challenges. The resource constraints have also meant not being able to meet the full demand for certain key items, including plastic sheets or transition shelter material for shelter construction by refugees beyond emergencies. On the other hand, some refugees sold these plastic sheets in market to support other needs. In addition, refugees mentioned that the jerrycans and kitchen sets distributed were not adequate to address family needs, and mat and blanket are too small or in poor quality which sustain short time. Thus, refugees spend a substantial amount of their income to purchase traditionally acceptable kitchen utensils and other unmet needs, such as closing, shoes, mattresses, etc.

Like access to food, access to NFI is determined through documented registration of refugees and must be registered to access resources and services at receptions and in settlement sites/camps. Furthermore, registration-related complaints were mentioned during focus group discussions and key informant interviews. There are asylum seekers not yet registered as refugees and not receiving assistance. As a result, refugee household who are hosting unregistered individuals have to share limited resources. The summary of key issues and recommendation are presented in Table 18.

Table 17: Logistics and NFI key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeline |
|---|--|-------------|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of proof of registration hindering access to NFIs, the registered head of households travel back to Sudan and the children left behind are unable to access assistance | UNHCR and shelter partners to widen the scope of NFI need assessments and address the needs of core items to prevent refugees from selling their resources to access culturally accepted NFI, this can be further explored by multi-purpose cash assistance in the area where market supply is feasible. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeline |
|--|--|----------------------------|-------------|
| <p>due to unmatched card names with the caretakers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor road networks throughout the country affect the transportation of NFIs and food items. | WFP and UNHCR to continue facilitating preposition of resources for the timely distribution and avoid disruption of assistance during the rainy season, warehouses to be maintained during the dry season to avoid damages during the rainy season and encourage partners to collect items timely. | All camps | Regular |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor road condition between Banketta and Ofra during the rainy season from July to October affecting timely delivery of Food and NFIs | UNHCR to regularly update registration data and avail for the distribution of food and non-food items, data sharing to be reviewed per the standing MoU. | All camps | Regular |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are over 50 checkpoints between Maban and Renk, and the people operating in those road blockages are unknown and ask a lot of money from travellers and service providers. | A collaboration between UN (WFP, UNHCR, UNDP, etc.) agencies and government authorities to be considered and look for mechanisms of proper/transparent low enforcement mechanisms for taxations and checkpoints regulations. | All camps | Long-term |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High NFI prices in the market, which is not affordable by refugees. | UNHCR and WFP to improve the general food distribution site infrastructure and consider the set-up of a secondary distribution site to cater for the increasing population. | Priority in Pamir and Kaya | Medium-term |
| | UNHCR considering install air conditioner in medication and food storage room in health facility to ensure the temperature control. | Maban, Makpandu, Gorom | |

4.5.2. Shelter

According to the UNHCR shelter strategy, all new arrivals are provided with an emergency shelter, mostly in the form of a tent upon arrival, and plastic sheets provided as maintenance support. The need to upgrade the structures or maintenance remains a burden on the environment. Unlike firewood, refugees cut live trees for the construction of houses and fences.

The JAM 2021 team understood tensions with host community escalates whenever refugees depend on natural forests for shelter materials. The traditional shelter depends on environmental resources, strong poles and cover grasses are main part to establish Tukul. Funding challenge underscored by UNHCR respondents, as a result, rehabilitation of shelter adopts and focusing on the provision of emergency shelters to new arrivals and a limited number to protection relocation cases are prioritized. Key issues and recommendations are presented in Table 19.



Photo by JAM team: Refugee camp Alock Thok

Table 18: Shelter key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|---|---|-------------|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overpopulated shelters due to an increase in the family size (natural growth an new arrivals), and not enough materials provided to build an additional shelter. ▪ Reliant on natural resources for shelter construction materials increase the tension with the local community and adversely affecting coexistence. ▪ Lack of building materials nearby or in market results in searching in further locations such as forest to get items like poles and grass of which impose additional security concern. ▪ Lacking ability to construct shelter by PSNs, such as disabled people, elderly, and children. | UNHCR and Shelter partners to explore sustainable shelter solutions, beyond initial emergency assistance, need to ensure better communication and collaboration with environmental and livelihoods teams at all levels to formulate innovative solutions to environmental degradation as well as ensure sustainable and long-term shelter solutions for refugees. | All camps | Regular |
| | UNHCR and shelter partners to focus on environment-friendly shelter construction with locally available materials, such as stones and mud bricks engaging refugees. | All camps | Long-term |
| | UNHCR and shelter partners continue to lobby with donors for additional funding for the shelter programme to enable sufficient emergency shelter assistance for all new arrivals and the support on shelter construction for PSNs. In addition, scaling up support to refugees in terms of shelter building materials should be considered as part of a wider environmental and peaceful coexistence strategy in the camps. | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |
| | | | |

4.6. Partnership and Coordination

The South Sudan WFP and UNHCR offices partnership was derived from the global MoU signed in January 2011 on amendments made to address various aspects of food security, nutrition, livelihoods, and protection of persons of concern. Joint selection of partners stands, and tripartite agreements is signed among WFP, UNHCR and the selected partner NGOs annually. In 2021, WFP and UNHCR signed Tripartite Agreements with five Implementing Partners: Relief International, IRC, AHA, ACROSS and WVI that have provided nutrition services to vulnerable target group as illustrated in nutrition section, including TSFP, BSFP and Institutional Feeding Programme (IFP). WFP provides supplies through the concerned field offices and CMAM tools while UNHCR supports running costs of facilities and staffs.

UNHCR and WFP are closely coordinated through meeting between senior management, technical counterparts, joint mission and assessment, and data sharing. Likewise, local level inter-agency coordination mechanisms were established and coordinated by UNHCR and government counterpart (camp management). Regular post/pre-distribution meeting and ad-hoc meetings are held to discuss any issues arising from the camps, with the inputs and participation of refugee leaders who act as a focal point in terms of community engagement, dissemination of information and community mobilizations. However, some sites such as Jamjang reported the level of coordination among concerned agencies are poor and further affected by the subsequent impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNHCR, WFP and partners (Government and NGOs) coordinated to address the situation of COVID-19 during service delivery. UNHCR developed a guideline to support the registration process and non-food items (in-kind and cash) distribution and service delivery in the refugee sites focusing on camp settings. WFP also revised the SOP for food and cash assistance. The two agencies revised the standing tripartite agreements and included the additional provision of food for a potential increase of inpatients and people in quarantine and isolation.

4.6.1. Standard Operating Procedures in the context of COVID-19

The UNHCR SOP states that all measures must be taken, decreasing the risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19 during service delivery in the refugee camps. The document also outlines guidance to UNHCR and partners staff on ongoing registration, assistance, and distribution activities to minimize the risks for persons of concern, staff, and partners⁴³. Any distribution must adapt to reduce crowding and physical contact and ensure robust hygiene procedures and referrals.

⁴³ UNHCR Adapting registration activities and assistance distribution in response, March 2020.

Likewise, the WFP revised SOP aims to guide the revision of Food Distribution Standard Operating Procedures in the COVID-19 context at the country level, to minimize the risk of exposure of personnel, partners, and beneficiaries. Adjustments to existing food distribution SOPs aligned with country-specific guidance shared by the relevant health authorities and partners (mainly are MoH, WHO)⁴⁴. Using the no-biometrics feature to allow ‘verification of identity’, social distancing, double distribution etc. were recommended to reduce risk.



Source: WFP PDM report March 2020

Adjustments to existing food distribution SOPs organized and shared with implementing partners. Distribution sites organized with a clear mark at the distribution site, reception point, (identity) verification point, collection point and exit to channel off traffic and allow for personal space of at least one meter between each beneficiary (picture right side) for physical distancing as part of COVID-19 prevention. Table 20 presents key issues and recommendations for partnership and Coordination.

Table 19: Partnership and Coordination key issues and recommendations

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The weakened field coordination in the context of COVID-19. ▪ Some key issues are left out during coordination, such as issues regarding NFIs and overall performances of services in the camp. ▪ Host community not supported to the level of their expectations ▪ Coordination at camp level, such as mobilization of community-based organizations, social work and voluntary clubs are not | <p>UNHCR and WFP to strengthen joint assessments and monitoring missions to support and strengthen coordination and collaboration at all levels. The joint mission to widen the scope of analysis, project reviews, joint plan of actions, reporting and dissemination of information to concerned partners and refugees.</p> | At coordination level (Juba and field offices) | Regular |
| | <p>WFP and UNHCR to consider the reactivation of logistics cluster in Maban to widen options for the delivery of humanitarian cargo using river/water transport for the effective delivery of resources.</p> | Camps in Maban | Regular |
| | <p>UNHCR, WFP and partners to devise a mechanism how the field/camp level coordination to be strengthen</p> | All camps | Medium-term (2022-2023) |

⁴⁴ WFP: Recommendations for adjusting food distribution standard operating procedures in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak, *Version 2 – 13 March 2020*.

| Key issues | Recommendations | Sites/camps | Timeframe |
|--|---|---------------------------|----------------|
| <p>supported to the extent expected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information sharing mechanisms not clear, such as the multi-sectoral refugee response plan is not clear among refugees and some partners. | <p>considering the COVID-19 prevention protocols.</p> | | |
| | <p>UNHCR, WFP and partners ensure timely information and data sharing regarding program on refugees including any assessment.</p> | <p>Juba and all camps</p> | <p>Regular</p> |




5. Conclusion and summary of key issues and recommendations





The JAM 2021 assessment witnessed the availability of several studies and assessments for refugees' settlement sites and host communities and the progress was observed in terms of the availability of secondary information. Like the JAM in 2018, the JAM 2021 reviewed the available resources and conducted field missions to verify information and to flag new issues, through direct interactions with the key informants and community members, as well as observations on site. While some recommendations from the JAM 2018 have been acted upon, some are yet to be addressed due to a shortage of funding.




The JAM 2021 acknowledges challenges caused by COVID-19 to implement some actions recommended in the JPA 2018, such as interventions requiring physical contacts and gatherings; the increasing resources needed for delivering services; and the limited funding can be allocated to non-COVID-19 activities. However, there are still some agreed actions in the last JAM that required little or no additional funding and physical contacts have not been achieved. This is mainly due to lack of active follow-up and/or timely coordination. Thus, the JAM 2021 strongly recommends UNHCR and WFP to strengthen the coordination after the conclusion of JAM via periodic meeting, follow up, and review progresses on the implementation of detailed recommendations in accordance of the Joint Plan of Action (JPA). This meeting should engage sectors of the thematic areas in this report and staffs from both country and field offices.

Key priorities of JAM 2021 are summarized in Table 21. Finally, key recommendations of the present JAM will be translated into a JPA between UNHCR and WFP covering the years 2022-2023.

Table 20: Summary of Key issues and recommendations

| Thematic areas | Key issues | Recommendation |
|--|--|---|
|  <p>Food security</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prospect 50% reduction on GFD to continue in 2022 and 2023 ▪ Lack of long-term /durable solutions jeopardize the resilience capacity of refugees ▪ Limited access to food from local markets due to limited income sources and soaring market price ▪ Untimely communication of food ration cut and change of distribution plan to beneficiaries ▪ Access to the distribution site is far for refugees living in outskirts areas in some camps ▪ Looting of food commodity, threatening, and other security concern | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue providing GFD and cash-for-milling assistance for refugees residing in the camps (WFP and Partners) ▪ Jointly fundraise (UNHCR and WFP) ▪ Pilot target food assistance in GAM rate < 5% (UNHCR and WFP) ▪ Periodically review and adjust cash value distributed according to the market price fluctuations (WFP) ▪ Timely communicate and engage with refugee on any change of food assistance (WFP, UNHCR, and partners) ▪ Timely report and engage CRA for any looting or violence incidence (WFP, UNHCR and partners) ▪ Preposition cash required for distribution in advance and timely clearance for administration process (WFP and partners) |
|  <p>livelihoods</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agriculture-based livelihood not enough due to insufficient agriculture land, agriculture inputs, water for irrigation, technical support, insecurity, and natural hazard ▪ COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted on refugees' livelihoods ▪ Small scale of livelihood intervention due to funding constraints, limited local labor market, and lack of certification of graduation ▪ Heavy and duplicative taxation for small business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fundraise and scale up livelihood interventions working in multi-sectoral approach (UNHCR, FAO, WFP, and partners). ▪ Engage CRA and local authorities to lobby more farmland for refugees, increase security, address taxation issues (UNHCR, WFP and government) ▪ Coordinate with Ministry of Agriculture and FAO for support on agriculture inputs and technical support (UNHCR, FAO, WFP, and government) ▪ Engage Ministry of Education for certification of vocational training (UNHCR and government) |
|  <p>Health</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Malaria, URTI, skin diseases and diarrhoea are the leading causes of morbidity in all sites ▪ COVID-19 currently is the main threats to health, delivery of services, and socioeconomics ▪ Irregularities of medical supplies, understaffing, and semi-permanent infrastructure in some facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prevent and control of infection and vector-borne diseases, especially Malaria (UNHCR and health partners) ▪ Strengthen health services and emergency response including COVID-19 by fundraising, renovating facilities, ensuring appropriate staffing, reviewing referral SOP, strengthen community outreach services, and providing feeding to inpatients and caregivers (UNHCR, WFP, and health partners) ▪ UNHCR and partners to work on further improving on the timely delivery of medical items to the field through improving the in-country logistics part. |

| Thematic areas | Key issues | Recommendation |
|--|---|---|
|  <p data-bbox="289 459 394 483">Nutrition</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased sharing of nutrition product among family members ▪ The active case finding for malnourished children are affected by the COVID-19 and lacking incentive to community workers ▪ Delay of Vitamin A supplementation and deworming campaign | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen the implementation of the comprehensive CMAM program (UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, and nutrition partners) ▪ Expand the BSFP program to children (age 24-59 months) in camps with GAM >15% (UNHCR, WFP, and nutrition partners) ▪ Implement the mother MUAC effectively to identify malnourished cases (UNHCR, WFP, and nutrition partners) ▪ Implement and expand kitchen gardening cooking demonstrations (UNHCR, WFP, FAO, and nutrition partners) |
|  <p data-bbox="300 751 384 776">WASH</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inadequate water collection points and inconsecutive water supply ▪ Inadequate soap and jerrycan distributed ▪ Low latrine coverage ▪ Lacking water supplying agriculture and other non-domestic usage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construct new and rehabilitate existing water facilities, and timely maintenance to minimize water supply interruptions (UNHCR and WASH partners) ▪ Quantify the amount of water required for non-domestic use (UNHCR and WASH partners) ▪ Ensure timely distribution of WASH NFIs (UNHCR and WASH partners) ▪ Continue engaging and supporting refugee communities in pit latrine construction (UNHCR and WASH partners) |
|  <p data-bbox="268 979 420 1036">Energy and environment</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deep reliance on surrounding environment for cooking fuel (firewood/charcoal), shelter construction, and income generating ▪ Protection concerns and tension with host community caused by firewood collection ▪ High waste and low efficiency of fuel use | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Look for a multi-sector approach to respond to energy needs and access to alternate better renewable energy sources (UNHCR and partners) ▪ Promote the use of fuel-efficient stoves (UNHCR and partners) ▪ Strengthen tree nursery sites (UNHCR, FAO and partners) |
|  <p data-bbox="275 1287 409 1312">Protection</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Restricted movement out of camp due to security concern and COVID-19 ▪ Increased GBV incidence, early marriages and teenage pregnancy related to food insecurity and fetching livelihoods ▪ Security threats imposed by active combatants and armed personnel in camps ▪ Untimely registration of new arrivals ▪ Lacking durable solutions for refugees | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore and support refugees in durable solutions and strengthen refugees' resilience capacity (UNHCR, government and protection partners) ▪ Empower women in livelihood (UNHCR and protection partners) ▪ Timely register new arrivals and share with WFP and partners (UNHCR and protection partners) ▪ Strengthen coordination among refugees and local community watch groups to enhance security (UNHCR, government and protection partners) |

| Thematic areas | Key issues | Recommendation |
|--|--|--|
|  <p>Education</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inadequate and imbalanced assistance on school materials to girls and boys ▪ Lacking School feeding program in camps in Maban and Jamjang ▪ Lacking opportunities for refugees to continue tertiary education ▪ Substandard WASH facilities in most schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement school feeding programs in primary and nursery schools (UNHCR, WFP, and education partners) ▪ Assess and renovate school facilities especially WASH facilities (UNHCR, WASH and education partners) ▪ Explore multi-sector activities, such as vegetable gardens and food for work (UNHCR, WFP, and WASH and nutrition partners) ▪ Ensure sufficient support to necessary learning materials (UNHCR and education partners) ▪ Provide training and hire female teachers (UNHCR and education partners) |
|  <p>NFI, shelter and logistics</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shortages of NFI distributed to refugees ▪ Poor transportation networks and road condition nationwide ▪ Overpopulated shelter fueled by lacking building materials and capacity for shelter construction ▪ Some distribution sites far for some refugees | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore sustainable shelter solution and environment-friendly shelter construction for refugees (UNHCR and partners) ▪ Widen the scope of NFI need assessments and address the needs of core items (UNHCR and partners) ▪ Facilitate preposition supplies for the timely distribution and avoid disruption of assistance (UNHCR, WFP, and partners) ▪ Consider set-up of a secondary distribution site in enlarged camp (UNHCR, WFP, and partners) |
|  <p>Coordination and Partnership</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Host community not supported to the level of their expectations ▪ Weakened field coordination affected by COVID-19 ▪ Information sharing mechanisms not clear | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any programming in the refugee camp vis-a-vis host community to consider joint benefits (UNHCR, WFP, CRA, and partners) ▪ Reactivate camp level coordination in the context of COVID-19 (UNHCR, WFP, CRA, and partners) ▪ Strengthen coordination and communication at all level, including joint mission, information sharing, and joint advocacy (WFP and UNHCR) |

Annexe1. Lists of Participants

| Name | Function | Organization, location | Name | Function | Organization, location |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Samuel Tadesse Beyene | JAM Consultant | WFP, Juba | Leju Francis | Field team | ACROSS, Juba |
| Heqian Kuang | JAM Co-coordinator | UNHCR, Juba | Emmanuel Mogga | Field team | ACROSS, Juba |
| Nigussie Tefera | JAM Co-coordinator | WFP, Juba | Paul Hillary | Field team | ACROSS, Juba |
| Gummat ABDALLATIF | Sector leader | WFP, Juba | James Wani | Field team | ACROSS, Juba |
| Ndjinyo Fouda Ndikintum | Sector expert | UNHCR, Juba | Yongule Atanasio | Field team | ACROSS, Juba |
| Job Gichuki | Sector expert | WFP, Juba | Joseph Benea Lemi | Field team | IRC, Jamjang |
| Maria Chidumu | Sector leader | UNHCR, Juba | Manyok Abraham Maluk | Field team | IRC, Jamjang |
| Peter KWAJE | Sector leader | WFP, Juba | Abraham Haar | Field team | Samaritan Purse, Jamjang |
| Stella Akabwai Ariko | Sector expert | UNHCR, Juba | Lobut Charles | Field team | IRC, Jamjang |
| Amias Aryampa AMPURIRE | Sector leader | UNHCR, Maban | David Akonyu | Field team | AHA, Jamjang |
| Abdullah Zaman | Sector expert | WFP, Juba | James Lino | Field team | AHA, Jamjang |
| Koja Nasona Kupia | Sector leader | UNHCR, Juba | Anteneh Mamo | Field team | AHA, Jamjang |
| Caroline Poni Marko | Sector leader | UNHCR, Juba | Temesgen Endale | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Grace MAKHALIRA | Sector expert | WFP, Juba | Benson Tebere | Field team | WFP, Yida |
| Mary Sunday | Sector expert | WFP, Juba | Dorin Keji | Field team | WFP, Yida |
| Simeneh Gebeyehu | Sector expert | UNHCR, Juba | Chol Monyluok | Field team | CARE, Pariang |
| Gebrewold Petros | Sector expert | UNHCR, Juba | Lomuya Tobias | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Regina MUNENE | Sector expert | WFP, Juba | Regina Wude | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Kinyera David Jada | Sector expert | UNHCR, Juba | Abraham Mijok | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Wani SESNAN | Field team | WFP, Juba | Abraham Achiek | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Merlyn Chapfunga | Field team leader | WFP, Juba | Elly Joseph | Field team | LWF, Jamjang |
| Dassan HATEGEKIMANA | Field team | WFP, Juba | Moyak Deng | Field team | WFP, Yida |
| Sebit Mustafa Sebit | Field team | UNHCR, Juba | Ropani Jackline Justin | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Nelson KENYI | Field team | WFP, Juba | Paul Juach Arol | Field team | AAH, Jamjang |
| Haile Abera | Field team | WFP, Juba | Anyama Gilbert Abago | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Kiden Esther | Field team | ACROSS, Juba | Mustafa Kur Lueth Kaman | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang |
| Agele A. Confusas | Field team | ACROSS, Juba | Jacob Alier Mayol | Field team | DRC, Jamjang |
| Nancy Poni | Field team | WFP, Juba | Miaker Mijok | Field team | AHA, Jamjang |
| Iman Opan | Field team | ACROSS, Juba | Alexander Makuach | Field team | WFP, Yida |
| Letio Charity | Field team | WFP, Juba | Abe John Michael Kiri | Field team leader | UNHCR, Maban |
| Mary Nyancheek Monyjur | Field team | DRC, Jamjang | Elias Bii | Field team | WVI, Yambio |

| Name | Function | Organization, location | Name | Function | Organization, location |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------------------|
| Adan Dakane | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang | Ujeyo Rose | Field team | UNHCR, Yambio |
| Clement Taban Dominic Modi | Field team | UNHCR, Jamjang | Ujeyo Rose | Field team | WFP, Yambio |
| Peter Stephen | Field team | ACTED, Maban | Victor Diko | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Chol Philip | Field team | RI, Maban | Richard Badagbu | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Mary Nyabuok | Field team | Samaritan Purse, Maban | Chan Guatlack | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Philemon Simon | Field team | | Arnold Walter | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Akech Deng | Field team | SCI, Maban | Mario Ngari | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Andrea Ujang | Field team | WFP, Maban | Victor Ngbaapi | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Baibai Joseph | Field team | RI, Maban | Hope Lalia | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Eida Michael | Field team | RI, Maban | Natale Duasengi | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Amon ODHIAMBO | Field team | ACTED, Maban | Wakero | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Jackline Juru | Field team | ACTED, Maban | Takoyo Andrew | Field team | WVI, Yambio |
| Joseph John Chol | Field team | UNHCR, Maban | Christine Ochieng | Field team | UNICEF, Yambio |
| Afendi Justine | Field team | LWF, Maban | Eusebio Francis | Field team | UNHCR, Yambio |
| Mary Pita | Field team | HDC, Maban | Lucy Mbarago | Field team | UNICEF, Yambio |
| Abraham Garang | Field team | HDC, Maban | Benjamin Kebi | Field team | UNHCR, Yambio |
| Anur Mahadi | Field team | SCI, Maban | Peter Emirate | Field team | UNHCR, Yambio |
| Jokudu Stella | Field team | LWF, Maban | Thompson Ndungu | Field team | AAH, Maban |
| Daniel Wuor | Field team | UNHCR, Maban | Ohure Alfred Ojura | Field team | AAH, Maban |
| Lokiri Luke | Field team | UNHCR, Maban | Khamis Mathew | Field team | RI, Maban |
| Esam Ramadan Buto | Field team | UNHCR, Maban | Gak Jacob Angok | Field team | LWF, Maban |
| Magok Dengali | Field team | UNHCR, Maban | Lagu William Lodovick | Field team | SCI, Maban |
| Charles Aropmoi | Field team | UNHCR, Maban | Alor Kuol | Field team | ACTED, Maban |
| Babu Nicolas | Field team | WFP, Maban | Mathew Deng | Field team | WFP, Maban |

Annex 2. JAM checklist, notetaking form, and questionnaires

Field work sample introduction/consent taking checklist

1. Welcome participants: Good morning/afternoon. Thank you for taking the time to join us for this discussion today.

2. Introduce yourself: My name is _____, and I'm here on behalf of _____ (organization) _____, working on _____ (field) _____.

3. Explain purpose: We are conducting a series of discussions with the refugee community ... to learn from each other about...

4. Explain your role: In the coming hour, I will be asking questions. I am interested to listen to all points of view in this room and I will not be participating in the discussion (explain the role of the note-taker and interpreter).

5. Ensure Confidentiality: We will be calling each other with our first names.

We are committed to maintain your confidentiality, we are interested in your points of view and not in who said what. We kindly ask you to respect the confidentiality of each other and not to say who said what when you leave this room. If you would like to tell us a relevant story from your community, please do not reveal the names of the people concerned, or any detail that might reveal their identities (notify participants beforehand that we are taking notes).

6. Introduce the topic in general then move from general to specific questions if required.

- Explain discussion process to participants: "We will start now by discussing"
- For each of the themes, use open-ended questions to encourage discussion and explore participants' points of view. Note down recurrent points and re-visit them as necessary.

7. Summarize keys points; encourage some general agreement: To summarize what we discussed; you think _____. Does this capture the essence of what was said today?

8. Thank participants, inform them about next steps: Thank you again for coming today. The points of view you shared today are really important to us and for the success of the Thank you for helping us in evaluating.... We will make sure to take your opinions into consideration in the....

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION (FGD) NOTE TAKING FORM

Instructions:

Please use this form to record the proceedings of the focus group. This form should be filled one per group.

Notes should be extensive and accurately reflect the content of the discussion, as well as any salient observations of nonverbal behavior, such as facial expressions, hand movements, group dynamics, etc.

Please specify which sector team you are (please check one):

- Food security and livelihood
- Health, nutrition, WASH
- Protection and education
- Energy and environment
- Logistics, warehousing, non-food items, shelter and roads
- Coordination and Partnership

Please specify which focus group you are recording (please check one):

- Women/caretakers/adolescent women
- Mixed men and women refugees
- PSN refugees
- Refugee leaders
- Host community

Date of FGD: _____

Location of FGD: _____

Name of Note Taker: _____

Food security & livelihoods

Focal Group Discussion

| No | Key questions (FGD) | Method of enquiry |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Food security | | |
| 1 | What are your 3 main resources for food? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with PSNs |
| 2 | How long (minutes) does it take you to walk to food distribution point? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with PSNs |
| 3 | Do you know your ration entitlement? Does it change ever? Are you informed of this? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 4 | How do refugees transport food from the GFD to the HHs (any cost involved, tax, security issue, constraint on movement)? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with PSNs |
| 5 | How much do you pay for milling? Have you received the cash assistance for milling? Is it helpful? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 6 | Do you give out any of your ration? If so, how much (% or weight)? To whom and why? How often? Which commodities? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with PSNs |
| 7 | What is the food preference of refugee population? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 8 | What is the impact of double distribution to the beneficiaries? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| Livelihoods | | |
| 9 | What are the refugee traditional livelihoods? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 10 | What are the main sources of income in the hosting area? What are the main sources of income of refugees? | FGD with mixed women and men KII with FSL partners |
| 11 | Are you farming? If yes, where and how much land do you have? What crops do you plant? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with PSNs |
| 12 | How easily accessible is land, seed, farming tools, water for farming? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 13 | Who actively participates in the growing of crops (weeding, planting, harvesting and selling) in your households? Woman, man, children under age 15? Proportionate the labour distribution by women and men. | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 14 | How many crop products do households get from farming? And how long does it last? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 15 | What proportion of products do you keep for your own household consuming? What proportion do you sell or give to others? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 16 | Are crops affected by pests at farm and household level? Severity? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 17 | How do you do the pest control? Do you receive any support? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 18 | What storage and crop and seeds preservation methods are used by households and how effective are they? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 19 | Do you keep livestock? If yes, who actively participates in livestock management (watering, grazing, milking, selling of animal products, selling the livestock)? Woman, man, | FGD with mixed women and men |

| | | |
|----|---|------------------------------|
| | children under age 15? Proportionate the labour distribution by women and men. | |
| 20 | Do girls (under age 15) graze the animals in the field? How far? Any protection/gender related concerns during grazing? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 21 | What are the main challenges you are facing for income generating activities, agriculture, and livestock? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 22 | How do beneficiaries feel about the impact of COVID-19 on their access to food and market? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 23 | Are there any constraints to refugees accessing markets? Discrimination, tensions? | FGD with mixed women and men |

Key Informant Interview

| No | Key questions (KII) | Method of enquiry |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Food security | | |
| 1 | How do refugees transport food from the GFD to the HHs (any cost involved, tax, security issue, constraint on movement)? | KII with GFD partner |
| Livelihoods | | |
| 2 | What is the economic and livelihoods in areas hosting the refugees? | KII with FSL partners |
| 3 | What are the main sources of income in the hosting area? What are the main sources of income of refugees? | KII with FSL partners |
| 4 | How much land was cultivated by refugees in 2020, by how many households? How much land is allocated to refugees this year, to how many households, what's the proportion? | KII with FSL partners |
| 5 | Were there kitchen garden activities in the camps currently. If yes, who is the target group? If not explain why | KII with FSL partners |
| 6 | How many crop products do households get from farming? And how long does it last? | KII with FSL partners |
| 7 | What storage and crop and seeds preservation methods are used by households and how effective are they? | Observation during transect walks |
| 8 | Who are the main traders in the markets and their capacity to supply goods (both food and non-food)? | KII with FSL partners KII with traders in local markets |
| 9 | What are the main supply routes and source of commodities for the markets? | KII with FSL partners KII with traders in local markets |
| 10 | What are the main commodities sold in the market (both food and non-food)? | KII with traders in local markets Observations in the market |
| 11 | What interventions are in place to address refugee's medium- and long-term food security. Who is included? Is the quality adequate? Are there any gaps? | KII with FSL partners |
| 12 | What are the hindering factors and future threats to livelihood support and promotion of self-reliance in the current context | KII with FSL partners |

Health, Nutrition, and WASH

Focal Group Discussion

| No | Key questions (FGD) | Method of enquiry |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | What is causing the drop in admissions? is the malnutrition status in the camps improving? | FGD with women, caretakers/adolescent women |
| 2 | How does children-U2 and PLW consumed the LNS-MQ, RUSF and CSB++? What is beneficiaries' feeling towards these two commodities? | FGD with women/caretakers/adolescent women |
| 3 | What were some of the changes that were adopted to address covid-19 spread at facilities? How did these changes impact on nutrition services? Quality | FGD with women/caretakers/adolescent women |
| 4 | How has reduction of ration affected the HH? (no of meals....) | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 5 | What are the main challenges you faced in safe and adequate water access? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 6 | How do you manage drainage/waste? Do you use them for irrigation for farming? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 7 | What are the main challenges you faced in access latrines? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 8 | When (at what times) do you practice hand washing? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 9 | Is there collaboration between WASH sector and refugees to address these challenges? | FGD with refugee leaders |
| 10 | How has reduction of ration affected the HH? (no of meals....) | FGD with refugee leaders |

Key Informant Interview

| No | Key questions (KII) | Method of enquiry |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Triage efficacy at the health centres. Does this include severe cases? Fast tracking of vulnerable groups- disabled, elderly? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities Observation in health facilities |
| 2 | What are the main constraints faced in maintaining adequate health practices? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 3 | How does COVID-19 impact the health services provided to refugees? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 4 | Are any shocks that could affect the health situation predicted? What is the likely future evolution? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 5 | What are the current trends of morbidity in community? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 6 | How is the HIV/AIDS/TB situation in the camp? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 7 | Was there a major stock out of essential medicines /medical supplies? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 8 | What sub-groups are most affected by malnutrition? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities, KII with CNV/CHP |
| 9 | What is causing the drop in admissions? is the malnutrition status in the camps improving? | KII with CNV/CHP |

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 10 | Has there been micronutrient deficiency (other than anaemia) outbreak in the past two years in your area? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 11 | How has reduction of ration affected the HH? (no of meals....) | KII with refugee leaders |
| 12 | What is the perception of nutrition staffs in camps on the future evolution of nutrition status in camp? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities, KII with CNV/CHP |
| 13 | Is there any other nutrition support provided to the vulnerable groups, such as elderly, disabled people, patients with chronic diseases, caretakers? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities KII with CNV/CHP |
| 14 | Are there additional groups that are vulnerable and need support? Please list the groups | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities, KII with CNV/CHP |
| 15 | What is the partners' capacity e.g., trained health/nutrition staff? Improvement possibility of the quality of Nutrition Services? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities, Observation in health facilities |
| 16 | How is community mobilization, screening (including family MUAC) and information dissemination carried out for health, nutrition, and hygiene? Frequency? Target group? | KII with CNV/CHP |
| 17 | What were some of the changes that were adopted to address covid-19 spread at facilities? How did these changes impact on nutrition services? Quality | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities KII with CNV/CHP Observation |
| 18 | Has food support provided to people in COVID-19 quarantine or isolation? What type (dry food or meal) and frequency? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities Observation |
| 19 | Do we have counselling reports and numbers? What is the reach? | KII with health/nutrition staff at facilities |
| 20 | How do you manage drainage/waste? Do you use them for irrigation for farming? | KII with WASH partner staff Observation |
| 21 | What are the main challenges you faced in hygiene promotion? | KII with WASH partner staff KII with camp manager |
| 22 | Did the nearby health facility in the camp/settlement have access to water connection? | KII with WASH and health partner staff , Observation in facilities |
| 23 | Any general WASH challenges observed at institutions in the camp/settlement? | KII with WASH partner staff KII with camp manager |
| 24 | Is there collaboration between WASH sector and refugees to address these challenges? | KII with WASH partner staff KII with camp manager |

Logistics, Supplies, Warehousing, NFIs, Shelter & Roads

Focal Group Discussion

| No | Key Question (FGD) | Method of enquiry |
|----|--|-------------------------|
| 1 | What is the refugee capacity to fill the NFI gaps? Availability of NFI items in the refugee location market? What are the refugee capacities regarding shelter construction skills and material acquisition? | FGD with mixed refugees |

Key Informant Interview

| No | Key Question (KII) | Method of enquiry |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | Is the food and cash prepositioned timely to distribution point for GFD, BSFP, and Cash for milling? | KII with GFD partners/WFP |
| 2 | Are there any losses incurred during the GFD/BSFP? What measures can reduce this? | KII with GFD partners/WFP |
| 3 | Distribution monitoring carried out jointly and reports shared for GFD, cash and NFI distribution? Improvement possibility? | KII with GFD partners/WFP/UNHCR |
| 4 | Are the warehouses adequate and secure for both food and NFIs? Any warehousing challenges? Is the quality of food items vs temperature of the warehouses an issue? | KII with WFP/UNHCR supply/logistics officer KII with partners warehouses manager, Observation in warehouse |
| 5 | Are there any stolen or looting happened in warehouse of food and NFI in the past 6 months? What measures to prevent it from happening? | KII with GFD partners/WFP/UNHCR |
| 6 | What is the refugee capacity to fill the NFI gaps? Availability of NFI items in the refugee location market? What are the refugee capacities regarding shelter construction skills and material acquisition? | Observation in the market |
| 7 | What is the effectiveness of the current NFI targeting and distribution modality? Any problems? Improvement possibility? | KII with WFP/UNHCR/partner officer |
| 8 | Can livelihood projects be able to support shelter construction needs? E.g., Mud brick production, pole production, construction training? | KII with livelihood partners |
| 9 | How does COVID-19 impact the supplies and logistics on food and NFIs? | KII with WFP/UNHCR officer |
| 10 | What is the NFI package distributed (2020) versus planned and the regularities of deliveries to distribution sites? | KII with WFP/UNHCR officer |
| 11 | What is the road transportation status currently? Any block/damage happened in past year? | KII with WFP/UNHCR officer |
| 12 | What is the status/number of shelters in the camp? What is the type of houses the refugees live in? | KII with WFP/UNHCR officer |
| 13 | What is the size of each house and average number of people that sleep in it? | KII with WFP/UNHCR officer |
| 14 | Are shelters provided to people with special needs/EVIs (Extremely Vulnerable Individuals)? Only materials provided, or support on building is provided as well? | KII with WFP/UNHCR officer |

Energy & Environment

Focal Group Discussion

| No | Key questions (FGD) | Method of enquiry |
|----|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | What fuel source is used daily for cooking at households? How much do HH spend on firewood/charcoal weekly (buying, transport)? | FGD with mixed women and men |

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 2 | What is the source of utensils (market, agencies, homemade)? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 3 | What months of the year do POCs have difficulty with access to cooking fuel and the reasons? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 4 | What approaches can improve supply of sustainable cooking techniques and energy for POCs? | FGD with refugee leaders KII with partners |
| 5 | What is the main stove category available (Mud stoves, ceramic stoves or prefabricated stoves)? Do you received energy saving stoves? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 6 | what protection incidences are most frequently reported regarding to firewood collection? Who is most frequently identified as the victim and who is most frequently identified as the perpetrator (i.e. host/refugee/family member/women/men/children)? | FGD with community mobilizers FGD with refugee leaders |
| 7 | What is the attitude towards environmental degradation and protection? Is awareness on environmental protection being offers, what are the modes of delivery of the awareness? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with refugee leaders |
| 8 | What is the top climate related risks related to food access and cooking fuel? Who is most affected by these risks? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with community mobilizers FGD with refugee leaders |
| 9 | Is access to cooking fuel a potential trigger for tensions and negative coping strategies that heighten food insecurity risks? | FGD with community mobilizers FGD with refugee leaders |
| 10 | Are there tree planting activities within or surround the camps? What's the number of hectares established/ dedicated for establishing the plantation? | FGD with refugee leaders |

Key Informant Interview

| No | Key questions (KII) | Method of enquiry |
|----|--|----------------------------|
| 1 | What is the main stove category available (Mud stoves, ceramic stoves, or prefabricated stoves)? Do you received energy saving stoves? | Observation when transect |
| 2 | what protection incidences are most frequently reported regarding to firewood collection? Who is most frequently identified as the victim and who is most frequently identified as the perpetrator (i.e. host/refugee/family member/women/men/children)? | KII with protection staffs |
| 3 | What is the attitude towards environmental degradation and protection? Is awareness on environmental protection being offers, what are the modes of delivery of the awareness? | KII with agency staffs |
| 4 | Are there tree planting activities within or surround the camps? What's the number of hectares established/ dedicated for establishing the plantation? | KII with agency staffs |
| 5 | What energy-specific programming is your organization undertaking/if any? | KII with agency staffs |

Protection & Education

Focal Group Discussion

| No | Key Question (FGD) | Method of enquiry |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Protection | | |
| 1 | Refugees have the right to work and conduct commercial activities. What is the practical implementation of this? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 2 | Refugees have the freedom of movement. What is the practical implementation of this? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 3 | Do refugees feel safe outside the camp? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 4 | With the recent ration cut from 70% to 50%, how do the Refugees cope up with the situation particularly the extremely vulnerable groups (FHHs, Child HHs, PWDs and others) | FGD with mixed refugees |
| Education | | |
| 5 | What is the length of school day/number of hours children spend at school? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 6 | Do children eat at home before going to school, or go home to eat during the school day? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 7 | Is school feeding provided in schools in the surrounding area? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 8 | What appropriate food/nutrition-related measures should be in place for girls and boys, to increase their attendance, retention, and performance in school and/or to address specific nutritional needs? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 9 | What other initiatives organized by the community promote girls' and boys' enrolment and retention in school | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 10 | What can parents contribute (cash, complementary food commodities, other)? Packed lunch options? Refugee- led school feeding? | FGD with mixed women and men |
| 11 | Which other entities within the refugee community would be interested to promote school feeding programmes, and what can they do? | FGD with mixed women and men FGD with refugees' leaders |
| 12 | Lesson learning on the Gorom and Makpandu refugee ran school feeding. Who provides the supplies, who supports the cooking, what time is the meal prepared? Facilities in place to ensure necessary hygiene standards. (E.g., hand-washing facilities, latrines/toilets)? | FGD with refugee leaders (Gorom and Makpandu only) |
| 13 | Do children with disability attend school in this community? Why if not? How can they be included? | FGD with mixed women and men |

Key Informant Interview

| No | Key Question (KII) | Method of enquiry |
|----|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Is school feeding provided in schools in the surrounding area? | KII with education committee/partners |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | What other organizations, including local organizations, would be interested and help to make school feeding sustainable? | KII with education partners/WFP/UNHCR |
| 3 | Are safe and appropriate food storage and cooking facilities available at schools or nearby? If not, can they be constructed | KII with education partners/WFP/UNHCR Observation |
| 4 | Is cooking fuel readily available? | KII with education partners/WFP/UNHCR Observation |
| 5 | Did the nearby school have access to safe and adequate water? Latrines? Hand washing facilities? Waste pits? If no, why? | KII with education partners/WFP/UNHCR Observation |
| 6 | What forms of technical support would be required for school feeding? | KII with education partners/WFP/UNHCR Observation |
| 7 | Lesson learning on the Gorom and Makpandu refugee ran school feeding. Who provides the supplies, who supports the cooking, what time is the meal prepared? Facilities in place to ensure necessary hygiene standards. (E.g., hand-washing facilities, latrines/toilets)? | KII with education partners/WFP/UNHCR Observation (Gorom and Makpandu only) |
| 8 | Do children with disability attend school in this community? Why if not? How can they be included? | KII with education, committee/partners |
| 9 | Are children dewormed in school? | KII with education committee/partners |

Coordination & Partnership

Focal Group Discussion

| No | Key Question (FGD) | Method of enquiry |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Are pre and post distribution meetings held? Who is involved? Refugee committee involvement? Are women represented in the committees, Any challenges? | FGD with refugee leaders |
| 2 | How effective is the current arrangement, any gaps, possibility for more effective partnerships and coordination among all partners | FGD with refugee leaders |

Key Informant Interview

| No | Key Question (KII) | Method of enquiry |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | How is the compliance with WFP/UNHCR MoU, UNHCR/FAO MoU, UNHCR/UNICEF LoU policies rules and procedures? Is it actively used to divide roles and responsibilities? | KII with UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UNICEF program officers, nutrition, and food security officers |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 2 | What are the programme monitoring systems undertaken jointly by WFP and UNHCR? Examine WFP/UNHCR distribution reports looking at the handling & management of food supplies, management of the sites and process, distribution process, Exit surveys: food basket monitoring, beneficiary contact monitoring at the household level. Check frequency of monitoring, report availability and time taken to provide remedial measures. Any gaps? | KII with UNHCR, WFP, FSL/nutrition/GFD partners program officers, nutrition, and food security officers |
| 3 | Are pre and post distribution meetings held? Who is involved? Refugee committee involvement? Are women represented in the committees, Any challenges? | KII with GFD partners |
| 4 | How effective is the current arrangement, any gaps, possibility for more effective partnerships and coordination among all partners | KII with CRA, UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, FSL/nutrition/GFD partners head of FO, program officers, nutrition, and food security officers |
| 5 | What are the funding constraints affecting programming? | KII with UNHCR, WFP, FSL/nutrition/GFD partners head of FO, program officers, external/donor relations officer |
| 6 | Are there possibilities for shared programming? | KII with CRA, UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, FSL/nutrition/GFD partners head of FO, program officers, nutrition, and food security officers |

Annex 3. JAM Terms of Reference

WFP/UNHCR Joint Assessment Mission (JAM)

South Sudan, June 2021

1. Context and rationale

South Sudan continues to face ongoing humanitarian crisis as a result of multiple factors such as conflict, economic decline, epidemics (including COVID-19) and climatic shocks. Despite these challenges, refugees from the neighbouring countries continue to seek protection within its borders. As of 31st May 2021, the total number of refugees in South Sudan is estimated to be 318,914 of whom >96% live in camps; 93% are Sudanese refugees and 5% from DRC. 52% of the refugees are female with women and children representing 83% of the total population. Majority of the refugees are hosted in greater upper Nile (50%) and greater unity state (40%) in South Sudan. The rest are hosted in central Equatoria (5%), Western Equatoria (3%) and Jonglei (1%).

South Sudan continues to maintain its open-door policy to refugees. In June 2017, the Minister of Interior signed the “Refugee Status Eligibility Regulations” to the 2012 Refugee Act of the Minister of Interior which is expected to facilitate developing national asylum procedures in conformity with international standards and good practices of refugee protection. The Commission of Refugees Affairs (CRA) is responsible for the management of refugee affairs in South Sudan. UNHCR continues its technical and operational support to CRA in the management of refugee protection, maintenance of refugees and seeking durable solutions, while WFP is responsible for the entire food supply chain including through use of cash where feasible. UNHCR has continued to develop strategies to provide essential services to refugees even during the time of heightened insecurity.

UNHCR, WFP, and other partners provide lifesaving food assistance and nutrition services in Gorom, Makpandu, Maban and Jamjang refugee locations. Refugees in South Sudan continue to rely on the general food ration as their main source of food while a minority relies on own production/market. Since 2016, all registered refugees in these refugee locations received general food distribution (GFD) at a 70% ration (1476 Kilocalories per person per day against a recommended 2100 Kilocalories per person per day). And in April 2021, the GFD is further reduced into 50% ration for all refugees (1050 Kilocalories per person per day). The ration includes dry cereals (sorghum or maize), pulses, oil and salt. In addition, some cash for milling is also provided. The food basket does not reach 100% due to budget constraints and risks to be reduced even further.

According to the latest nutrition survey in 2019, the food and nutrition situation among the refugees is classified as serious based on WHO classification with an average Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 11.2%; prevalence of global stunting was 37.1 (very high) and prevalence of anaemia was 52.4% (high). This indicates a high multiple malnutrition burden among the refugee population. To fill the food assistance gap, majority (83%) of refugees in South Sudan have adopted negative coping strategies to fill the food security gap. This indicates that only approximately a quarter (17%) are not under significant stress to meet their food needs.

In order to assess the current food security situation and develop the concrete action plan to address the needs. UNHCR and WFP is jointly organized and co-coordinated the Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) with the participation of other UN agencies, Government of South Sudan, donors, and partners working in the refugee locations. The JAM will therefore re-assess the current food security and nutrition situation of South Sudan refugees and surrounding communities, the quality and appropriateness of ongoing intervention and the refugee capacity for self-reliance. This will facilitate the development of a joint plan of action (JPA) and

intervention strategy to guide interventions from 2021 to 2023 and also inform the UNHCR COP and WFP Integrated Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) process.

2. Objectives

The overall objective of this Joint Assessment Mission is to update the food security and nutrition situation in the refugee operation, taking into account different needs of men, women, girls, boys, and various vulnerable groups, analyse the effectiveness and appropriateness of ongoing food security and nutrition interventions in Central Equatoria, Western Equatoria, greater Unity and Upper Nile, and to propose the most appropriate food security, nutrition and livelihood interventions for the next planning period (2021-2023).

The specific objectives of the Joint Assessment Mission include:

- V. Assess the food security and nutrition situation of the South Sudan refugee population and identify the main causes of food insecurity. This to look at food availability and access, market access, utilisation and nutrition status and mortality.
 - Assess household food availability and access, market access and utilization in all the accessible refugee locations taking into account the wide range of factors that directly and indirectly affect food security.
 - Assess the public health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education situation and service effectiveness, with reference to the impact on nutrition and food security.
 - Assess the protection risk/gaps impacting the food security status or is created by the food insecurity status.
- VI. Review the quality and appropriateness of ongoing food security and nutrition related interventions identifying good practices, principle constraints, lessons learned and areas requiring improvement.
 - Review progress on food and cash-related recommendations from the 2018 JAM and JPA
 - Review modes of interventions and assess the logistical and human resource capacity to deliver assistance in an effective and cost-effective manner.
 - Evaluate the needs, priorities, and plans of the refugees versus the current food and non-food assistance
 - Review program monitoring systems and coordination mechanism being undertaken jointly by WFP and UNHCR related to the management of the food security/assistance
 - Review data sharing needs and modes of data sharing between UNHCR and WFP
- VII. Identify effective food security, nutrition, and livelihood interventions to protect and ensure the optimal food security and nutrition status of the refugees with prospects for sustainable solutions in the 2021-2023 period. This to include timing, location, and duration.
 - Review the impact of the livelihood interventions and social services in place and identify effective responses that can further improve food security and self-reliance among refugees.
 - Assess ways of ensuring refugee community participation and contribution of their capacities towards the achievement of better food security and nutrition outcomes.

- Review the effect of refugees' presence on the environment and the host community and make recommendations on sustainable rehabilitation/co-existence interventions

VIII. Develop a joint plan of action to guide the implementation of the identified interventions for the next two years.

3. Methodology

The Joint Assessment Mission will assess and make recommendations on the six broad thematic areas mainstreaming gender as crosscutting theme:

- 1) Food security and livelihood
- 2) Health, nutrition, water and sanitation and education
- 3) Protection
- 4) Energy and environment
- 5) Logistics, warehousing, non-food items, shelter, and roads
- 6) Coordination and partnership

The JAM will be led by UNHCR and WFP. The assessment teams will include other UN agencies (UNICEF, FAO etc.), staff from government agencies (CRA), partners working in refugee locations and donor representatives. The participating staff should have the relevant technical skills and knowledge to conduct the assessment.

3.1 Data collection, analysis and report finalisation

The JAM will collect secondary and primary data and information for the above themes. This will either be qualitative and quantitative. Secondary data will be from available information. Previous JAM reports, nutrition surveys, WFP/UNHCR/partner monitoring reports and evaluations, refugee update reports, participatory assessment reports, livelihood reports and other relevant documents will be used for the consolidation, organisation, and the summarization of the secondary data. This will be carried out prior to the field visits as it will highlight outstanding information to triangulate and gaps in information that will need to be collected. Primary data will be collected through field visits, where focus group discussions, key informant, household visits and transect walks and community group discussions. Primary data collection will be mainly qualitative. Refugee and surrounding community views, perception and opinions will be investigated and documented during the field visits. Considering the current COVID19 pandemic we have outlined various adaptable scenarios, according to the local COVID19 situation and restriction, factoring implementation of field visits with COVID19 programme adaptation adhered to, as well as the security situation, hence that would guide our primary data collection. Maban, Jam Jang and Yambio refugee locations are planned to be visited as appropriate the COVID19 and security situation.

An information matrix will be used to organise and manage information and facilitate analysis. The preliminary analysis of the secondary data will be carried out during the secondary data review before the field visit as the findings will inform the primary data collection needs. Overall analysis will be carried once all the data is collected.

Recommendations will be developed following the analysis. They will look at the needs, refugee priorities/plans, capacities and partnerships available, linkages between nutrition, food security, livelihood and self-reliance to

ensure integrated programming, linkage between relief and self –reliance, prioritisation, assumptions and risks. Gender, protection, and accountability to affected population will be cross-cutting themes across all programming.

A report with the key recommendations will thereafter be written to inform agencies and partners on the refugee needs, disseminate recommendations, support the development of the Joint Plan of Action (JPA) and to mobilize the necessary support and resources for the execution of the JPA.

Once the JAM process is concluded with the JPA development, debriefing of the refugees, donors, and partners will be carried out.

3.2 Required inputs

1. Workshop venue for training and debriefing sessions
2. Data collection and analysis stationery and equipment
3. Provision of staffs from UNHCR, WFP, and partners
4. Transport to and from the camps
5. Accommodation in the camps to be visited
6. Secondary data documents
7. A JAM consultant hired

3.3 JAM team constitution

The JAM team comprises of UNHCR/WFP senior management, JAM coordinators, sector experts to lead the key thematic areas, field team leaders, field team members, WFP and UNHCR, partners working in the refugee locations and other key UN agencies (FAO, UNICEF), the Commissioner for Refugee Affair and Humanitarian Affairs Representative. Representative(s) of the donor community will be invited to join the JAM as observers.

3.4 JAM timeline:

| JAM phase | Action points | Responsible | Timeline |
|--|---|---|---|
| Initial discussion and planning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Agree on next JAM implementation dates. Draw a tentative timeline ➤ Advocate for allocation of resources for the JAM. Decide who funds what between WFP and UNHCR ➤ Advocate for collection of key secondary data from the last quarter of 2020 and 1st quarter of 2021 including livelihood and market analysis, Participatory assessment ➤ Identify key stakeholders | UNHCR/WFP UNHCR/WFP UNHCR/WFP management and sector heads UNHCR/WFP | March 2021 April 2021 April 2021 April 2021 |
| Review of the last JAM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ JPA distribution for review by the various sectors/stakeholders | JAM Coordinators for WFP & UNHCR | July 2021 |
| Planning and preparation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ JAM process joint initiation by the UNHCR Country Representative and the WFP Country Director. ➤ Identify JAM Co-Coordinators (UNHCR/WFP) ➤ Identify core team leads for (food security, nutrition, other sector experts, sociology/anthropology, livelihood, logistics/Administration, protection, quality analysis/report writer) that will be available for at least 3 months. ➤ Develop JAM TOR, action plan and budget ➤ Identify JAM consultant (qualitative analyst/Report writer) ➤ Pre-JAM workshop | UNHCR / WFP Senior Management UNHCR/WFP Senior Management JAM Co-Coordinators UNHCR/WFP JAM Co-Coordinators, Sector heads and Partners UNHCR/WFP management, consultant, sector heads and Partners | May 2021 May 2021 June 2021 June 2021 June-July 2021 5 August 2021 |
| Identification and organization of information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identification of information to collect ➤ Organization of information and development of the information matrix ➤ Data collection method decision and tool development | JAM Coordinators/consultant /core team lead | 22 July - 4 August 2021 |

| JAM phase | Action points | Responsible | Timeline |
|--|---|--|---|
| Data collection - secondary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secondary data collection and review ➤ Secondary data analysis and summary of findings ➤ Identification of gaps in the secondary data review for collection at the field level ➤ Primary data collection and review ➤ Field visits to triangulate secondary data, get firsthand information and fill minor gaps | JAM Coordinators/ consultant/ Sector leads/JAM field teams | 6-23 August 2021 |
| Data collection - primary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ JAM workshop – concrete field visit plan ➤ Field visit preparation ➤ Field visits to triangulate secondary data, get firsthand information and fill minor gaps ➤ Primary data consolidation and review ➤ Primary data analysis and summary of findings | JAM Coordinators/consultant /Sector leads/JAM field teams | 24 August 2021 24-31 August 2021 1-7 September 2021 (Maban & Jamjang) 8-12 September 2021 (Yambio & Gorom) |
| Analysis and recommendation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review, triangulate and discuss data that has been collected ➤ Identify key finding based on the objectives and questions in the JAM TOR ➤ Develop recommendations | JAM Coordinators/consultant /Sector leads/JAM field teams | 13-27 September 2021 |
| Report consolidation and dissemination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Report writing and feedback sharing ➤ Present final report to key stakeholders (refugee debriefing and donor/partners debriefing) | Consultant/JAM coordinators JAM coordinators | 28 September-19 October 2021 20 October 2021 |
| JPA development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Workshop - discuss the report and develop JPA ➤ JPA writing and signing off | JAM coordinators/consultant/ UNHCR and WFP management | 21 October 2021 22-29 October 2021 |