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# Decentralized Evaluation of UNHCR's Livelihoods Programme in South Sudan (2016-2018)

EVALUATION REPORT  
DECEMBER 2019

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INTERNATIONAL  
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE to NGOs

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Evaluation information at a glance	
<b>Title of the evaluation:</b>	Decentralised Evaluation of UNHCR's Livelihood Programme in South Sudan
<b>Timeframe covered:</b>	2016-2018
<b>Expected duration:</b>	June 2019 – February 2020
<b>Type of evaluation:</b>	Decentralised evaluation of country livelihood operations (developmental)
<b>Countries covered:</b>	Malaysia, Djibouti, Senegal, South Sudan, Mauritania
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Commissioned by [UNHCR Evaluation Service](#)

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# Executive Summary

## Introduction

**Purpose and objectives:** This evaluation of UNHCR's livelihoods and economic inclusion activities in South Sudan (2016-2018) is part of a multi-country evaluation commissioned by the UNHCR Evaluation Service and conducted by TANGO International. The purpose of the evaluation is two-fold:

- ✓ To contribute evidence to inform UNHCR's global strategy development and implementation in the selected country operations (Djibouti, Malaysia, Mauritania, Senegal and South Sudan); and
- ✓ To provide recommendations that will lead to enhanced economic inclusion of persons of concern (PoC) globally by assisting the organisation to develop further guidance on the approach to livelihoods, self-reliance, and economic inclusion for refugees.

The evaluation assesses results using a resilience framework and with respect to the global objectives stated in the *Refugee Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion: 2019-2023 Global Strategy Concept Note* and the forthcoming global livelihoods strategy. These documents are designed to guide UNHCR's articulation of its comparative advantages in refugee livelihoods and economic inclusion, particularly regarding advocacy, partnership and implementation. The exercise supports UNHCR in defining its place in light of the new Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and the Global Compact on Refugees, which highlight the need for taking on a whole-of-society approach engaging a range of stakeholders to support refugees in achieving self-reliance.

The primary audiences are UNHCR country and regional offices and the Division of Resilience and Solutions in Geneva. UNHCR's implementing and operational partners, including government, humanitarian and development actors, comprise a secondary audience.

**Evaluation design:** The evaluation employed a mixed-methods methodology that involved desk review and collection of primary quantitative and qualitative data. The evaluation team (ET) assessed two key evaluation questions (KEQ):

- **KEQ 1:** What **changes/results** have emerged from UNHCR-funded livelihoods interventions on employment/business opportunities and household well-being for targeted PoC in each country? What **factors** contribute to desirable results in terms of economic inclusion, household well-being and self-reliance/resilience of refugees and other persons of concern?
- **KEQ 2:** How can UNHCR **better position** its approach to and role in refugees' livelihoods and economic inclusion vis-à-vis those of other stakeholders, and what are the current opportunities for enhancing **sustainability** and phasing out of direct implementation of livelihood programme activities?

**Country-specific scope:** This evaluation focuses on UNHCR South Sudan's livelihood activities from 2016-2018 and is expected to result in evidence and recommendations for the future direction of livelihood and economic inclusion (LEI) activities in the operation. This evaluation focuses on the protracted refugee setting (Juba and Yei in Central Equatoria; Yambio in Western Equatoria) and camps in the emergency contexts (Jamjang in Unity State; greater Maban in Upper Nile State).

The findings are informed by qualitative data collected 22 July–2 August 2019 via key informant interviews with 84 programme stakeholders and focus group discussions with 104 PoC participants in Central Equatoria (Juba), Upper Nile (Maban), and Unity (Jamjang); a quantitative survey of 406 participant households in Maban and Unity conducted in early July 2019; and a desk review of roughly 60 documents provided by the country operation (CO) and retrieved from publicly available sources.

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**Programme background:** South Sudan maintains an open-door policy for refugees who have freedom of movement, the right to work and own animals, and access to land. However, the South Sudan context—owing to protracted conflict and insecurity compounded by weak Government systems, a nascent private sector, poor infrastructure, an aid-dependent economy, low education levels and high unemployment rates among a large population—has limited economic inclusion opportunities for refugees and nationals, and the enabling environment remains very weak.

Most refugees in South Sudan are from Sudan (over 240,000) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (almost 16,000); a small proportion are from Ethiopia and Central African Republic. As of July 2019, 297,239 refugees, 3,011 asylum seekers, and 1.77 million internally displaced South Sudanese were living in South Sudan.

UNHCR South Sudan's Livelihoods Strategy for 2016-2018 outlines their approach for emergency and protracted contexts. Multiple implementing partners (IP) provide livelihood activities in refugee camps including training in carpentry and tailoring, agriculture and livestock, commercial trade, catering, small business opportunities, and poultry-raising. The UNHCR-supported work has also included peaceful coexistence with host communities, natural resource management, infrastructure developments, and advocacy. The livelihood budget increased from US\$2.2 million in 2015 to US\$4.1 million in 2018, with expected budget decreases for the coming years due to global budget shortfalls.

## Findings by evaluation question

### KEQ 1: Key findings – Results and factors affecting results

UNHCR, through IP, has achieved scale (i.e., reaching 50 percent of the targeted households) in promoting agricultural production in Maban. Vocational and entrepreneurship trainings are being implemented at a smaller scale. Multi-year livelihood programme planning is integrated with other sectoral areas, which promotes PoC protection and well-being. In Maban and Jamjang, livelihood programming is integrated with education, protection and nutrition, leading to synergies such as improved nutritional outcomes and women's economic empowerment. **Cross-sector linkages have contributed to the reduction of protection risks** such as the need for early marriage, withdrawal of children from school, and tensions with the host community.

Inclusion of host community members in livelihoods programming and the establishment of Peaceful Co-Existence and Conflict Resolution Committees have importantly reduced tensions between PoC and host communities. Imbalanced investments between refugees and host communities have contributed to tensions. **Integration of activities with host communities** is a key factor for livelihood programming success, according to PoC and partners.

According to the qualitative study, **livelihood programmes are favourably perceived by PoC**, who reported having improved capacity to manage their lives due to increased access to livelihood opportunities and income. Focus group participants stated that with their income, they were able to purchase essential non-food items such as clothing, additional staple foods, and diversified foods. They also reported that participating in livelihood programming helped them reduce their use of negative coping strategies (e.g., reducing meals; early marriage).

The quantitative survey data provide important evidence of livelihood programming results. The most common trainings were kitchen gardening, farming, and micro-enterprise/business. Most (89 percent) received productive assets associated with the training; just five percent received cash grants or business start-up support. Almost three-quarters of respondents in Unity reported that their households' ability to recover from shocks (e.g., flooding, theft, price fluctuations, civil unrest) improved as a result of UNHCR/partner programming; less than half (45 percent) of Maban respondents reported the same.

Survey data indicate that UNHCR-funded livelihood programming **increased participants' income, access to food and non-food items, and access to markets and ability to sell their products**. More than half (55

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percent) of the respondents reported that they had made changes to how they earn money as a result of participating in UNHCR/partner trainings; the most common changes were to adopt improved practices, start a business, and engage in new income-earning activities. Most respondents who made changes reported increased income (85 percent in Maban; 73 percent in Unity).

Most respondents reported that their feeling of safety for family members has increased and **protection risk decreased as a result of participating in UNHCR/partner livelihood activities**. The most important protection risks identified by survey respondents are domestic violence and sexual assault (for women), substance abuse and death or serious injury (for men), forced/early marriage (for girls) and child labour and family separation (for boys).

The survey also provides information about food security and coping strategies. Just over six in ten respondents reported being food secure in Unity, whereas just under half reported the same in Maban. For the overall sample, the most common food insecurity coping strategy reported was reducing the number of meals eaten in a day. To cope with a lack of food or money, the most commonly reported strategies are borrowing money/purchasing food on credit more than usual; asking community members for food; hunting or gathering wild foods more than usual; and sending household members to eat elsewhere.

About three in ten Maban respondents reported having loans, most of which were used to buy food. Only one in ten Unity respondents reported having loans, most of which were used to cope with emergencies. Most respondents do not have savings; among those who do, most reported an increase in savings in the last year because of higher income from employment.

According to key informants in Maban, vocational training lacked coherence in the past. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) entrepreneurship and business training model, Start and Improve Your Business, was recently adapted and used to promote entrepreneurship and has contributed to improved management, performance, and sustainability of enterprises established. The ILO Master Training of Trainers model has been successfully introduced and implemented to roll out business trainings and has improved the performance of the entrepreneur programme. The weak enabling environment limits business opportunities.

Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) helped participants diversify their income and build social capital with other participants, elements which contribute to resilience capacities. Through VSLA, the livelihoods programme strengthened informal safety nets and promoted financial literacy and consumption smoothing through access to micro-credit. Quantitative analysis shows that among respondents participating in a combination of trainings or VSLA and training, **higher percentages of these beneficiaries participating in a 'package' of support reported an increase in assets and productive assets**, as compared to households that participated in only one type of training/or no savings group.

Efforts to protect natural resources (e.g., establishment of tree nurseries, woodlots; introduction of efficient stoves) have helped increase environmental awareness and reduce natural resource-based conflict. UNHCR has advocated on behalf of PoC regarding several topics (e.g., access to land, taxation), and advocacy on work permits is needed.

### **Factors affecting livelihood results:**

**Internal factors:** The presence of UNHCR livelihood staff in Maban supported livelihood activities in a systematic way through better multi-year planning and training, making significant contributions to the success of the programme and increased accountability of IP. Livelihood activities have recently gained momentum, which are threatened by UNHCR budget cuts. Due to lack of funding, the staff position in charge of monitoring and evaluation activities at the Juba level ended two years ago. A strategy is in place for monitoring by partners with standardised monitoring of nutrition and food security; yet, other indicators lack harmonisation.

**External factors:** The CO has a strong presence in the country and a good relationship with local government in Jamjang and with UN agencies and IP. The immense development challenges in refugee hosting areas—such as

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weak enabling environment, lack of access to markets, poor infrastructure, lack of security, political uncertainty—make it difficult to attract development actors to work in Maban and limits PoC livelihood opportunities. PoC livelihood options are also limited by high levels of illiteracy and limited functional adult literacy.

## KEQ 2: Key findings – UNHCR’s strategic positioning to enhance scale and sustainability

South Sudan’s weak enabling environment limits opportunities to strengthen transformative and adaptive resilience capacities. Given the lack of government systems and the shortage of development partners to work with, **UNHCR’s role in strengthening all three resilience capacities** through the promotion of livelihoods will continue to be important until opportunities arise to bring in more development partners to focus on adaptive capacity.

UNHCR advocacy for refugees is critical and should target Government and other relevant actors to ensure that refugees are part of future economic inclusion efforts, to improve security, and the overall enabling environment. All activities across the operation should support the advocacy strategy led by senior management.

**UNHCR’s systematic programming is demonstrating approaches that other development actors can follow.** Funding cuts before other development partners are in place could increase refugee-host community tensions. UNHCR could play an important role in ensuring that monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems are in place and harmonised among partners.

**UNHCR will need to work more closely with partners to mobilise resources for livelihood activities.** This includes other UN agencies and IP. The lack of technical livelihood staff based in Juba to lobby for additional resources from donors hurt UNHCR’s efforts to secure more resources for livelihood programmes.

## Conclusions

### KEQ 1: Results and factors (retrospective)

**Relevance:** Livelihoods programming is highly relevant given the high prevalence of food insecurity and its contribution to conflict, and given reductions in the general food distribution ration and limited alternative options to meet the food gap. The livelihood programmes in Maban and Jamjang demonstrate that even in an unstable political environment, a great deal can be done to improve the lives of refugees and host communities.

**Efficiency:** Short-term funding limits UNHCR’s ability to implement multi-year planning. To overcome this challenge, the livelihood staff person based in Maban developed a systematic three-year planning approach where livelihood activities were mapped out using annual funding streams. IP stated that this approach was very timely.

**Effectiveness:** The agriculture programme is working at scale, reaching nearly 50 percent of the targeted beneficiaries. Vocational and entrepreneurship trainings are being implemented at a smaller scale. People participating in livelihood trainings have expanded their businesses, generated more income, supported their children’s education, and improved their food security. Cross-sector links between livelihood programme activities (e.g., perma-gardens linked to nutrition interventions; entrepreneurship activities linked to VSLA) contributed to positive outcomes. The lack of livelihoods staff has limited the CO’s ability to oversee and advocate for livelihood programming and resources.

**Impact and sustainability:** Most participants in agricultural or small business skills trainings or another combination of trainings reported increased income and access to food—which also contribute to reduced gender-based violence. Sustainability is threatened by declining funds and a shortage of trained staff. These threats could be mitigated by increased networking with other UN agencies and IP that could implement livelihood programmes.

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## KEQ 2: UNHCR strategic positioning (prospective)

**Absorptive capacity:** The livelihood activities implemented by UNHCR through agricultural training, entrepreneur training, and VSLA help participants save money and improve food security, helping them prepare for and respond to shocks. Funding for these efforts should not be cut, and more livelihood staff are needed to advocate for programming activities.

**Adaptive capacity:** Where possible, UNHCR should convene experts to facilitate the inclusion of refugees into existing programmes and services. This is possible in Yambio through the Partnership for Recovery and Resilience. UNHCR should only implement livelihood programmes in constricted scenarios such as in Maban and Jamjang. This will be necessary until more development partners can be brought in.

**Transformative capacity:** In South Sudan, particularly in Maban and Jamjang, the enabling environment is weak and unstable. UNHCR should continue to advocate to improve the political and economic contexts where refugees reside.

## Recommendations

### Recommendations for UNHCR South Sudan

- R1. Support the application of refugee law.** In South Sudan, opportunities for policy advocacy on the part of refugees are limited. Where government does exist, UNHCR should support the application of refugee law.
- R2. Focus on advocacy, particularly with development stakeholders.** Opportunities to strengthen transformative capacity are limited. UNHCR should have a strong focus on advocacy with development actors for investments in refugee areas.
- R3. Work with partners to secure funding.** Although the livelihoods programme is successful in Maban and Unity, funding cuts will result in programmes being scaled back. A shift in focus is needed where UNHCR works closely with other UN agencies to strengthen livelihood activities. UNHCR should seek opportunities to assist IP to raise additional resources for livelihood programming directly. UNHCR can act as a quality control agent for donors that are considering funding IP livelihood programmes.
- R4. Prioritise livelihoods, and appoint staff.** Livelihood programming should remain a high priority for the CO. Thus, livelihood staff with technical expertise need to be based in Juba, Maban, and Jamjang. Even as programming funds are reduced, having livelihood expertise embedded in the programme will encourage other partners to invest in livelihood activities for refugees.
- R5. Establish monitoring and evaluation (M&E) positions in Juba and the camps.** Although a strategy is in place to have partners monitor changes in nutrition and food security, there is a need for M&E officers in the field to harmonise data collection and ensure that data can inform adaptive management. In addition, a technical M&E person in Juba should oversee this effort. This will ensure that the indicators used by the implementing partners are harmonised and easier to roll up for reporting purposes.

### Recommendations for UNHCR HQ/RB

- R6. Develop an advocacy strategy for unstable environments and where governments are weak.** HQ/RB should have guidance on how to strengthen the enabling environment (transformative capacity) through partnerships with other development partners and the private sector. Taking the evidence from South Sudan, this may involve strengthening livelihood programmes through UNHCR activities to catalyse other development actor engagement. The biggest impediment to implementing the new LEI strategy in this context is convincing development partners to go where UNHCR is working.

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**R7. Ensure that adequate livelihood staff are available in country to move to a more facilitative role.**

UNHCR South Sudan's ability to advocate to donors and other development partners for livelihood programming was seriously limited by a shortage of livelihood staff. Even as UNHCR's role in direct implementation decreases, technical expertise is needed within the CO to advocate on behalf of IP to secure livelihood resources.

**R8. More resources should be used to carry out performance evaluations as in South Sudan.**

Although UNHCR has carried out numerous assessments of its operations, the survey carried out as part of this evaluation provided valuable information on improved outcomes that have resulted from the livelihood programmes. This information provides evidence to donors and other development partners that livelihood activities in Maban and Jamjang are working. In this way, the information can attract other resources for infrastructure, improved access to markets, and financial service providers, and other improvements in the enabling environment.



*Woman participating in agriculture project in South Sudan, supported by UNHCR. TANGO/2019*

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## List of abbreviations

AAH-I	Action Africa Help International
ACTED	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (French: <i>Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique Et au Développement</i> )
CO	Country Operation
CRA	Commission for Refugee Affairs
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
ET	Evaluation Team
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FCS	Food Consumption Score
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
HDI	Human Development Index
HH	household
HQ	Headquarters
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IP	Implementing Partner
IRC	International Rescue Committee
KEQ	Key Evaluation Question
KI	Key Informant
KII	Key Informant Interview
LEI	Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OP	Operational Partner
PDM	Post-Distribution Monitoring
PoC	Persons/Person of Concern
PRM	Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
RB	Regional Bureaux
rCSI	Reduced Coping Strategy Index
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
TANGO	Technical Assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations International
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
US\$	United States Dollar/USD
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Associations
VTC	Vocational Training Centres
WFP	UN World Food Programme

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# Introduction

## Purpose of evaluation

**Purpose and objectives:** The motivation for a multiple country livelihoods programme evaluation arose per the requests from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) country operations and the Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion (LEI) Unit headquartered in Geneva. The evaluation was commissioned by the UNHCR Evaluation Service and independently conducted by Technical Assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations (TANGO) International. The evaluation seeks to build on the evidence and findings from the recently published Evaluation of UNHCR's Livelihoods Strategies and Approaches (2014-2018), conducted by TANGO in 2018.<sup>1</sup> According to the Terms of Reference (TOR), the purpose of the evaluation is two-fold:

- ✓ Contribute evidence to inform UNHCR's global strategy development and implementation in the selected country operations;
- ✓ Provide recommendations that will lead to enhanced economic inclusion of persons of concern (PoC) globally, by assisting the organisation to develop further guidance on the approach to livelihoods, self-reliance, and economic inclusion for refugees.<sup>2</sup>

The multi-country evaluation gathered evidence from five country operations (CO)—Djibouti, Malaysia, Mauritania, Senegal, and South Sudan—selected based on CO requests for evaluation and considerations of operational and contextual variety. As a decentralised evaluation, it is co-managed by the UNHCR LEI unit and the CO. The evaluations are designed to inform future strategy and planning of economic inclusion and livelihoods activities at the country level. Programmatic results are assessed against a resilience framework (see Annex 3 and Approach, below) and most importantly, with their alignment to the global objectives set out in the forthcoming global strategy on refugee livelihoods and economic inclusion. In advance of the strategy, the *Refugee Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion: 2019-2023 Global Strategy Concept Note* was released to all UNHCR staff to replace previous operational guidance.<sup>3</sup> The key message of the concept note is for UNHCR operations to consider their comparative advantage and decide on their role in the area of livelihoods and economic inclusion vis-à-vis the presence of other stakeholders, including through the following:

- Engage in **advocacy** to enhance the enabling environment such that refugees have legal and de facto access to decent work.
- **Partner** with and convene expert entities to facilitate inclusion of refugees into existing programmes/services.
- **Implement** interventions as a **last choice**, to fill a gap in service.

The evaluation seeks to provide strategic recommendations for CO on partnerships and private sector engagement, improved leveraging and mobilisation of resources, advocacy for economic inclusion and access to decent work, as well as suggestions for phasing out of small-scale and direct implementation. This new direction is ultimately aligned with UNHCR's advances within the development of new international frameworks such as the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and the Global Compact on Refugees, which highlight the need for taking on a whole-of-society approach engaging a range of stakeholders to support refugees towards self-reliance. Based on the Grand Bargain, UNHCR has committed to the New Way of Working and is piloting a Multi-Year Multi-Partner protection and solutions strategy aimed at reducing dependency on aid through a durable solutions and resilience approach.

<sup>1</sup> UNHCR (2018a).

<sup>2</sup> UNHCR (2019a). (TOR text used for the remainder of this section, unless cited otherwise)

<sup>3</sup> UNHCR (2018b).

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**Country-specific scope:** This evaluation focuses on UNHCR South Sudan livelihood activities from 2016-2018, with programme context and strategy development considered since 2014. This evaluation focuses on camps in Unity and greater Maban in Upper Nile, which are in the emergency contexts, and Juba and Yei in Central Equatoria and Yambio in Western Equatoria, which are in the protracted refugee setting. The evaluation is expected to result in relevant evidence and recommendations for the future direction of LEI activities in the operation, taking into consideration the programme's evolution and thinking already underway.

**Audience:** The primary audiences for this evaluation are the UNHCR CO, Regional Bureaux (RB), and the headquarters (HQ) Division of Resilience and Solutions (DRS). UNHCR's implementing and operational partners, including government, humanitarian and development actors, are a secondary audience.

## Operational context

South Sudan represents a context with the least favourable enabling environment with weak government systems, nascent private sector, poor infrastructure, an aid-dependent economy, high insecurity, economic crisis driven by year-to-year hyperinflation, limited market infrastructure and high unemployment with a huge population in the informal labour market. Lack of education is also a critical barrier to livelihoods.

South Sudan has been independent since 9 July 2011. Conflict between the government and opposition forces erupted in 2013, leading to food insecurity, displacement of millions of South Sudanese, and tens of thousands of deaths.<sup>4</sup> In August 2015, a peace agreement created the Transitional Government of National Unity in April 2016, but conflict arose a few months later,<sup>5</sup> and ethnic violence, communal clashes, and armed gangs were common in the following two years.<sup>6</sup> In September 2018, a peace agreement was signed,<sup>7</sup> and in the first quarter of 2019, political conflict was low compared to the previous five years.<sup>8</sup> The overall political context remains unpredictable.<sup>9</sup> For example, in 2018, the UNHCR compound was attacked, and after the ET's fieldwork, armed men attacked an NGO compound in Bunj, a town in Maban, targeting Relief International staff and resources.<sup>10</sup> The lack of security severely inhibits the presence of humanitarian and development actors.

South Sudan's 2012 Refugee Act incorporates an internationally recognised definition of refugees, guarantees them rights established under the South Sudan constitution, and allows refugees to work and access primary education and basic health care.<sup>11</sup> Refugees also have access to land and have the right to own animals, though the amount of land allocated is insufficient to meet demand,<sup>12</sup> and access to allocated land is restricted by insecurity. In June 2017, the Minister of Interior signed the "Refugee Status Eligibility Regulations" to facilitate development of national asylum procedures in alignment with international standards. Refugees report having freedom of movement.<sup>13</sup> South Sudan has an agricultural policy, which was not being implemented as of 2017, and did not have a comprehensive national strategy on livelihoods from 2016-2018<sup>14</sup> but launched the South Sudan National Development Strategy (2018-2022) in late 2018.<sup>15</sup> South Sudan acceded to the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol on 28 September 2018 and refugees thus have the right to work. Due to limited livelihood opportunities and the overall difficult context, PoC experience dire socio-economic conditions that further compromise their protection.

<sup>4</sup> Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) (N.d.).

<sup>5</sup> CIA (N.d.).

<sup>6</sup> UNHCR South Sudan (2016).

<sup>7</sup> CIA (N.d.).

<sup>8</sup> FEWS NET (2019).

<sup>9</sup> UNHCR South Sudan (2016).

<sup>10</sup> See: <https://www.unhcr.org/news/briefing/2019/12/5de6234c4/unhcr-outraged-senseless-attacks-humanitarians-south-sudan.html>

<sup>11</sup> UNHCR (2016).

<sup>12</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>13</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>14</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>15</sup> Government of the Republic of South Sudan (2018).

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Most refugees in South Sudan are from Sudan (over 240,000) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (almost 16,000); a small proportion are from Ethiopia and the Central African Republic. Refugees from Ethiopia arrived in South Sudan in 2003, and from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Central African Republic in 2008 and 2009. As of the end of July 2019, 297,239 refugees, 3,011 asylum seekers, and 1.77 million internally displaced South Sudanese were living in South Sudan.<sup>16</sup> UNHCR's focus in-country are the refugees and asylum-seekers. See Annex 1 for more detail about the operational context.

**Livelihoods programme overview:** Following UNHCR South Sudan's Livelihoods Strategy for 2016-2018,<sup>17</sup> and in line with the UNHCR Global Strategy for Livelihoods 2014-2018, the CO has collaborated with partners to meet its objective:

*“Between 2016-2018, support the socio-economic self-reliance of 70% of the refugee households in protracted refugee situations (Central and Western Equatoria 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 investments.”*

The Livelihoods Strategy outlines approaches for emergency and protracted contexts. In the emergency settings of 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. Since 2015, World Food Programme (WFP) has provided a general food ration at a 70 percent ration scale, equivalent to 1471 kilocalories against a recommended standard of 2100 kilocalories in all camps; limited funding has prevented provision of a full ration.<sup>18</sup> The paucity of self-reliance interventions and opportunities to access sustainable livelihoods have contributed to depletion of PoC household assets over time, leaving PoC with limited resources and income to meet basic needs in a context of dwindling humanitarian funding and no resilience-building interventions by development actors. 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 established.<sup>19</sup>

UNHCR's implementing partners (IP) include Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED),<sup>20</sup> Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), and Relief International. The main project areas supported by UNHCR include: agricultural production and marketing; microenterprise development, entrepreneurship, and business training; vocational and skills training; infrastructural development; peaceful coexistence with local communities; natural resource and shared environment protection; and advocacy.

During the 2016-2018 implementation period, relevant higher-level strategic developments influencing the programme strategy, according to the CO, include: the CRRF/GCR; the Multi-Year Multi-Partner Protection and Solutions Approach, UNHCR's involvement in the revision of the Minimum Economic Recovery Standards, and launch of the LEI Concept Note.<sup>21</sup>

The UNHCR South Sudan livelihoods budget increased from about US\$2.2 million<sup>22</sup> in 2015 to over \$4.1 million in 2018, with a total operating budget (2016-2018) of \$10,370,698 (Figure 1).<sup>23</sup> It is expected by the CO, however, to

<sup>16</sup> UNHCR (N.d.). *South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan, January 2019 — December 2020.*

<sup>17</sup> UNHCR South Sudan (2016).

<sup>18</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>19</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

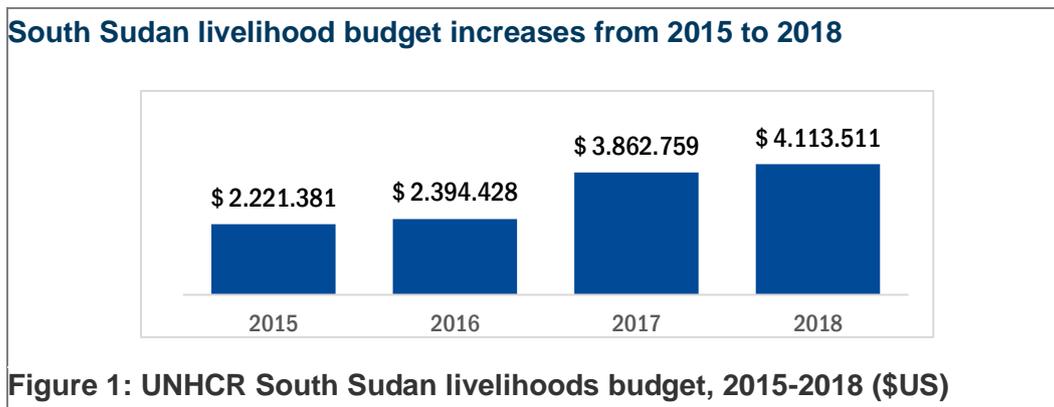
<sup>20</sup> French: *Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique Et au Développement*

<sup>21</sup> UNHCR (2019a). ToR.

<sup>22</sup> All \$ amounts hereafter are US\$ in United States Dollar (USD).

<sup>23</sup> UNHCR programme documents

be reduced significantly as UNHCR faces a decline in funding in 2019-2020 due to donor shortfalls worldwide.



## Methodology

### Evaluation questions

The evaluation team (ET) assessed two key evaluation questions (KEQ) along with relevant sub-questions; *italicised* sub-questions show below are country specific:

**KEQ 1:** What **changes/results** have emerged from UNHCR-funded livelihoods interventions on employment/business opportunities, and household well-being for targeted persons of concern (PoC) in each country? What **factors** contribute to desirable results in terms of economic inclusion, household well-being, and self-reliance/resilience of refugees and other persons of concern?

#### Sub-questions:

- How did UNHCR utilise livelihood monitoring systems to measure outcome and impact on economic inclusion and resilience, and what are the major gaps?
  - *How did other monitoring tools and indicators (Results Based Management, RRP indicators) contribute to the measurement of impact? (from RB)*
- What are the most important internal and external cross-cutting factors that enabled or inhibited the achievement of sustainable results?
  - *How relevant was the context specific strategy in promoting socio-economic self-reliance and improving overall protection for targeted population?*
  - *To what extent was effectiveness and efficiency realised during the implementation?*
  - *What synergies and coordination mechanisms were put in place during implementation of 2016-2018 Livelihoods Strategy?*
- How does UNHCR engage with other development actors to further enhance economic inclusion, and what are the major gaps in the current approach?
- How well do the different livelihood interventions align themselves to the objectives of protection and durable solutions?
- Are there examples of good practices that led to desirable outcomes, and under which conditions were these results achieved?

**KEQ 2:** How can UNHCR **better position** its approach to and role in refugees' livelihoods and economic inclusion vis-à-vis those of other stakeholders, and what are the current opportunities for enhancing **sustainability** and phasing out of direct implementation of livelihood programme activities?

#### Sub-questions:

- How do the results achieved in livelihood interventions align themselves with the objectives of the new global strategy?

- What key areas of livelihood programming need to be addressed in order to enhance an enabling environment for economic inclusion and protection within the different country contexts, and how can UNHCR better adopt a market-systems approach to its programming?
  - *How can UNHCR better promote market-based approaches in the programming of other agencies/entities? (from RB)*
- What factors and conditions should be taken into account to determine UNHCR's strategic role across these different country contexts?
- How can UNHCR strategically build capacity of operational partners in order to strengthen national and local ownership of systems that promote economic inclusion?
- How can different country operations address funding gaps, and what short-term and long-term strategies can UNHCR adopt?
- How can UNHCR responsibly phase out of small-scale livelihood activities, keeping in mind the different contextual challenges and situational realities?

## Analytical framework

The resilience analytical framework that was developed by TANGO in the 2018 livelihoods strategy evaluation (see Annex 3) is used. This conceptual framework has also been integrated into UNHCR's forthcoming livelihoods strategy. The following text (and Box 1) describe this framework.

### Box 1. What is resilience?

UNHCR defines resilience as the ability of individuals, households, communities, national institutions and systems to prevent, absorb and recover from shocks, while continuing to function and adapt in a way that supports long-term prospects for sustainable development, peace and security, and the attainment of human rights.

Fostering resilience requires strengthening **resilience capacities** at the individual, household community and systems levels. Resilience capacities can be broken down into three types:

- **Absorptive capacity** or the ability of households and communities to minimise exposure to shocks if possible and to recover quickly after exposure;
- **Adaptive capacity** or the ability of households and communities to make pro-active and informed choices about their lives and their diversified livelihood strategies in response to changing conditions;
- **Transformative capacity** encompasses the system-level changes that ensure sustained resilience, including formal safety nets, access to markets, infrastructure and basic services

Initiatives to foster refugees' economic inclusion, whether implemented by UNHCR or other actors, should work to reinforce existing capacities and build new capacities as needed across all three areas to ensure the long-term sustainability of refugees' economic activities.

*Source: UNHCR (2019b).*

A resilience framework is relevant to UNHCR's objectives because it links the work of supporting refugees' economic inclusion, protection and durable solutions for refugees. Protection and basic services and assistance to meet needs help refugees to cope with the shocks and stressors related to forced displacement, while livelihoods and economic inclusion support refugees in gaining the resources and skills to recover from these shocks and prepare for the future. Durable solutions, in turn, support refugees' long-term resilience through ensuring they are in an environment where national systems guarantee protection and reinforce their ability to earn a sustainable income and absorb and recover from future shocks.

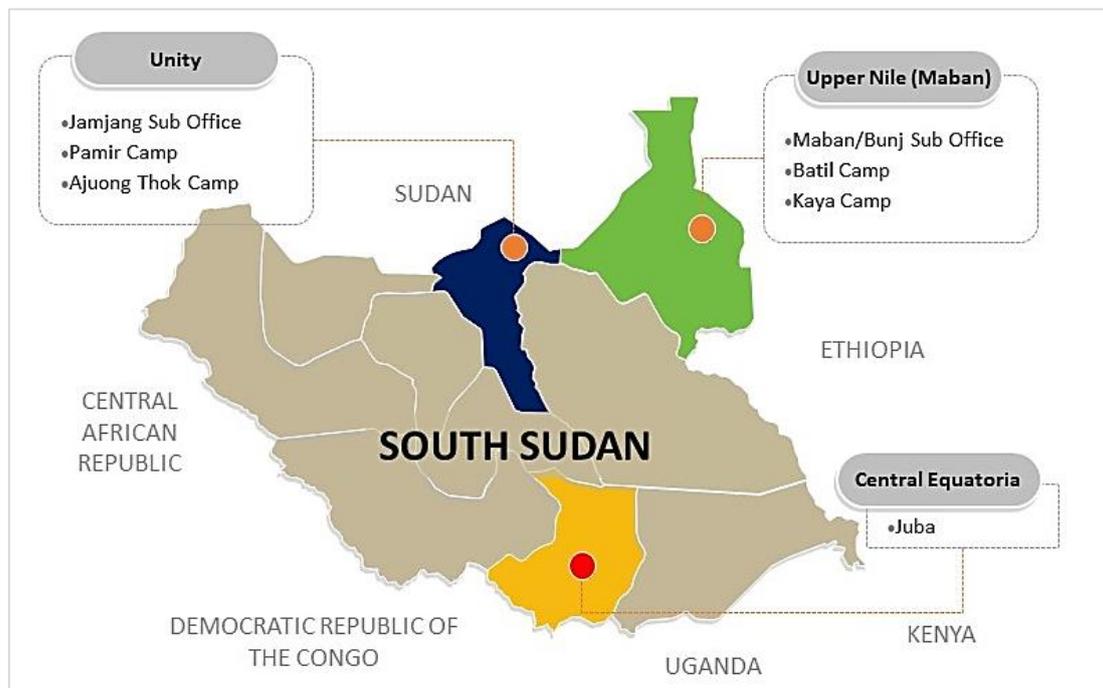
In applying this framework to the new strategy, it should be noted that UNHCR is urging livelihood programmes to focus on strengthening absorptive and transformative capacity, and to promote adaptive capacity through partnerships that can operate at scale. This evaluation utilises qualitative methods that gather descriptive information related to absorptive, adaptive, and transformative resilience capacities and the components that comprise each capacity. A summary of the resilience capacities accessible to refugees is presented in this report and describes where gaps exist in livelihood programming, partnerships, and the enabling environment as they relate to the capacities.

*UNHCR is urging livelihood programmes to focus on strengthening absorptive and transformative capacity, and to promote adaptive capacity through partnerships that can operate at scale.*

## Approach

The TANGO ET included two male international senior evaluators with extensive livelihood-related experience and one female national research assistant. The Livelihoods Head of Unit (at the CO) and the Associate Economic Inclusion Officer (at UNHCR HQ) participated in fieldwork and provided insights that were incorporated into the final analysis.

The ET led a quantitative survey of 406 participant households in Maban and Unity in early July 2019, and the preliminary findings of this survey were used to inform and complement the qualitative study.<sup>24</sup> The ET then collected qualitative data 22 July – 2 August 2019. This included focus group discussions (FGD) with 104 PoC participants (34 males, 70 females), and key informant interviews (KII) with 84 programme stakeholders in Central Equatoria (Juba), Upper Nile (Maban), and Unity (Jamjang) (Figure 2). The ET also conducted a desk review of approximately 60 documents provided by the CO and retrieved from publicly available sources. See Annex 1 for the full methodology and Annex 2 for interview lists.



**Figure 2: South Sudan fieldwork map**

Source of map graphic: [yourfreetemplates.com](http://yourfreetemplates.com)

<sup>24</sup> The quantitative survey was implemented in response to a 2018 audit recommendation to conduct an impact assessment of the livelihood interventions.

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# Evaluation Findings

## Preface

As an introduction to this evaluation, the reader should note that this is not a typical performance evaluation because major shifts are underway in how UNHCR supports refugee livelihoods. The livelihood programme results are assessed against a new rubric, that is, how the programme can be better aligned to the forthcoming global livelihoods strategy. UNHCR is shifting away from the traditional humanitarian livelihood activities that would comprise an acceptable livelihood programme in the past, aiming instead to support an enabling environment that can provide widespread opportunities for economic inclusion. The ET recognises this is a significant new direction with implications for budgets and staffing structure that will take time to implement. This evaluation is one step in that direction.

## KEQ 1

*What changes/results have emerged from UNHCR-funded livelihoods interventions on employment/business opportunities, and household well-being for targeted PoC in each country? What factors contribute to desirable results in terms of economic inclusion, household well-being, and self-reliance/resilience of refugees and other PoC?*

### Box 2. Main findings: Results and factors affecting results

- **Multi-year livelihood programming integrated with other sectoral areas promotes positive results.** In Maban (Upper Nile State) and Jamjang (Unity State), livelihood programming is integrated with education, protection, and nutrition, leading to synergies such as improved nutritional outcomes and women's economic empowerment. Cross-sector linkages have contributed to the reduction of protection risks such as the need for early marriage, withdrawal of children from school, and tensions with the host community.
- **UNHCR, through IP, has achieved scale (i.e., reaching 50 percent of the targeted households)** in promoting agricultural production in Maban.
- **Inclusion of host community members in livelihoods programming and the establishment of Peaceful Co-Existence and Conflict Resolution Committees have importantly reduced tensions between PoC and host communities.** Whereas the imbalance of investments between refugees and host communities has contributed to tensions.
- **The livelihood projects are favourably perceived by PoC,** who mention improved capacity to manage their lives due to access to livelihood opportunities and income. FGD participants reported reduced use of negative coping strategies.
- **Quantitative survey results provide evidence that livelihood programming has increased PoC income, access to food and non-food items, and access to markets, among other benefits.** Of the participants who made changes to their livelihoods as a result of UNHCR/partner programming, a higher percentage had increased income and a

smaller percentage reported decreased income, compared to survey respondents who made no changes to their livelihoods. The majority of respondents reported that their feeling of safety for family members has increased and protection risk has decreased as a result of participating in UNHCR/partner livelihood activities.

- **Most survey respondents attribute their main source of income to participation in and support from the livelihoods programme.** FGD participants stated that with their income, they were able to purchase essential non-food items (e.g., clothes, shoes), additional staples (e.g., sorghum, beans), and diversified food not available in the general food distribution.
- **The International Labour Organisation (ILO) entrepreneurship and business training model was adapted and used to promote entrepreneurship,** and has contributed to improved management, performance, and sustainability of enterprises established. The ILO Master Training of Trainers (TOT) business model has been successfully introduced and implemented to roll out business trainings and has improved the performance of the entrepreneur programme. The weak enabling environment limits business opportunities.
- **Village Savings Loans Associations (VSLA) have helped participants diversify their income and build social capital with other participants, which contribute to resilience capacities.** Through VSLA, the programme has strengthened informal safety nets and promoted financial literacy and consumption smoothing through access to micro-credit. The quantitative analysis shows that among households participating in a combination of trainings or VSLA and training, higher percentages reported an increase in assets and productive assets, compared to households that participated in only one type of training.
- **Efforts to protect natural resources (e.g., establishment of tree nurseries, woodlots; introduction of efficient stoves) are important,** helping to increase environmental awareness and reduce natural resource-based conflict.
- **UNHCR has been advocating on behalf of PoC regarding several topics** (e.g., access to land, taxation). Advocacy is needed on work permits.

### Factors affecting results

- **Internal factors:** The presence of UNHCR livelihood staff in Maban supported livelihood activities in a systematic way through better multi-year planning and training, making significant contributions to the success of the programme and increased accountability of IP. Livelihood activities have recently gained momentum, which are threatened by UNHCR budget cuts. Due to lack of funding, the staff position in charge of monitoring and evaluation activities at the Juba level ended two years ago. A strategy is in place for monitoring by partners with standardised monitoring of nutrition and food security; other indicators lack harmonisation.
- **External factors:** The CO has a strong presence in the country and a good relationship with local government in Jamjang and with UN agencies and IP. The immense development challenges in refugee hosting areas—such as the weak enabling environment, lack of access to markets, poor infrastructure, lack of security, political uncertainty—make it difficult to attract other development actors to work in Maban and limits PoC livelihood opportunities. PoC livelihood options are also limited by high levels of illiteracy and limited functional adult literacy.

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## Overall results of the livelihood programme

**Livelihood outcomes and impacts:** To meet its objective of supporting the socio-economic self-reliance of refugees and host community members in emergency and protracted refugee settings, the UNHCR South Sudan Livelihoods Strategy proposes a workplan with seven intervention areas, which are described below with key findings from the qualitative study and desk review. This is followed by some overarching findings from the quantitative survey and fieldwork.

**Agricultural production and marketing:** Several partners have provided agricultural trainings and inputs (e.g., seeds, tools) and advocated for access to land. Agricultural production has increased dramatically in all the camps in Maban. Innovative approaches build on successful climate smart agriculture for small areas such as perma-gardens. The introduction of perma-gardens has had a big impact on improving household access to vegetables for sale and consumption. These perma-gardens are linked to nutrition interventions for malnourished children and school programmes. According to one KI, the integrated livelihood and health component has contributed to improved nutritional status, as confirmed by annual nutritional surveys between 2016-18, with significant improvement in Global Acute Malnutrition, severe malnutrition, and a decline in anaemia. FGD participants in Ajuong Thok Camp also attributed reduced anaemia to increased dietary diversity (e.g., fruit, milk) due to the livelihoods programme.

From 2015-2018 ACTED has provided agricultural support (e.g., inputs, seeds) and trainings on chicken rearing and school and kitchen gardens in Maban. Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) in 2016 found that three-quarters of respondents were satisfied with the types and quantity of seeds distributed by ACTED.<sup>25</sup> A 2017 PDM report of seed distribution by Relief International and ACTED in Maban refugee camps and host communities found that almost 94 percent of survey respondents planted the seeds they received, and about six percent planted, sold, saved, ate, and/or exchanged their seeds.<sup>26</sup> In 2018, ACTED met three (out of four) of its agricultural-related targets and fulfilled 97 percent of its goal to distribute 4,000 production kits or inputs for agriculture/ livestock/ fisheries activities.<sup>27</sup> ACTED KII stated that 32,000 households (50 percent of the targeted households) are participating in agricultural production. One KI stated that, to deal with security risks, ACTED introduced group farming. UNHCR, through its IP, has achieved scale in promoting agricultural production in Maban.

Relief International also implemented agricultural activities in Maban,<sup>28</sup> including agricultural input distribution, land tillage, and establishment of 200 perma-gardens replicated as 380 home gardens in 2018. Through a pilot initiative to strengthen linkages between agriculture and nutrition, UNHCR and partners pursued agri-nutrition interventions in which nutritionally vulnerable households can be referred from the health facility where acute malnutrition is managed to the agri-nutrition centre. Relief International referred cases to the agri-nutrition centre, reached almost 600 households with agri-nutrition messages, and 12 schools with agri-nutrition gardening and messaging. Relief International trained 31 trainers in nutrition sensitive-farming and basic applied nutrition practices and supported 16 producer groups to produce crops and cereals.

One issue that all IP highlighted in Maban was the need for more resources to be provided to the host community. According to KII and programme documents, the imbalance of investments between refugees and host communities has contributed to past and present tensions. The ET finds that inclusion of host community members in livelihoods programming has importantly reduced tensions and should be continued and increased.

UNHCR recognises this need but has been unable to secure increased investments by other development partners. The current livelihood activities that host community households engage in, such as charcoal production and gathering of wild foods, are precarious and unsustainable. In a context with very limited alternative livelihood opportunities—including livelihoods that are not dependent on natural resources—competition between host

<sup>25</sup> ACTED (2016).

<sup>26</sup> Relief International and ACTED (N.d.). *Summary of 2017 Maban Post Seeds Distribution Monitoring*.

<sup>27</sup> ACTED (2019).

<sup>28</sup> Relief International (2019).

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communities and refugees over dwindling natural resources has contributed to conflict. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) does some work with the host communities, but the activities are fairly limited. WFP plans on expanding activities with the host communities in the next year (cash for assets).

In Unity, IRC has provided agricultural support, including input distribution, land advocacy, and TOT for 100 lead farmers on improved agricultural techniques.<sup>29</sup> Lead farmers trained 3,101 farmers who also received agricultural inputs. Demonstration plots were established in two camps. Two KII stated that in 2018, seeds were distributed late in Unity and mostly did not germinate; IRC addressed this through a Local Seed Purchase initiative in 2019, sourcing cowpeas, sorghum, maize, millet, and simsim that were better adapted to local conditions and were purchased and distributed in a timely manner. In Jamjang, farmers are more successful in increasing production, multiplying seed, and transferring local knowledge to the host community.

According to survey results, the main obstacles to buying agricultural inputs or selling agricultural crops, livestock, or other products in markets are the long distance to market and the lack of transportation. Three-quarters of survey respondents think UNHCR programming improved access to markets for purchasing inputs and selling agricultural goods. FGD and KII in Maban stated that expansion of agricultural production is constrained by limited access to land, markets, and tractors, and limited IP extension staff. They also stated that a remaining gap is post-harvest technology (e.g., storage sacks, plastic sheets) and storage sheds; this comment was not heard in Unity, where two KII stated that post-harvest skills were included in IRC training.

**Microenterprise development, entrepreneurship, and business training:** Multiple partners including ACTED,<sup>30</sup> IRC,<sup>31</sup> and Relief International<sup>32</sup> have worked to establish VSLA. The ET finds that the VSLA projects in Maban and Jamjang are very successful. With a majority of formal financial service providers concentrated in the capital in Juba, lack of access to formal financial services in remote refugee hosting areas remains a serious concern.

In the absence of formal financial services, VSLA help increase savings and reduce vulnerability of PoC holding cash, which puts them at risk of theft. VSLA programming is tied to economic opportunities and farmer producer groups. However, as VSLA become more successful, they are more vulnerable to theft. Many members stated that they had to hold their meetings in secret and hide their cash box due to security risks. A plan for integration with other partners/services is key.

**Vocational and skills training:** KII in Maban stated that vocational training in the past lacked coherence. UNHCR at the global level has collaborated with ILO. The ILO Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) entrepreneurship and business training model was adapted and used to promote entrepreneurship. The model has contributed to improved management, performance, and sustainability of enterprises established. The ILO Master TOT business model has been successfully introduced and implemented to roll out business trainings to beneficiaries and has improved the performance of the entrepreneur programme. Again, the major problem with growing businesses is the lack of a favourable enabling environment. There is a lack of start-up capital, limited human capital (e.g., low literacy skills), and a lack of financial services. When businesses start to become more successful, they get hassled by government officials for licences, taxes, and the collection of random fees. Successful businesses are also affected by rent-seeking behaviour by militias in the camps.

In Jamjang, DRC had engaged in Income Generating Activities (IGA) (e.g., beekeeping, poultry rearing, leatherwork), VSLA, and Women's literacy and numeracy. In 2018, DRC handed over the VSLA and business training elements to IRC and focused on two vocational training centres (VTC), one in Ajuong Thok (established in 2015) and one in Pamir (2017). Each VTC has 100 students (80 percent refugees, 20 percent host community). The VTC offer four nine-month courses—welding and metal fabrication; building construction; furniture making; tailoring—and one 18-month course on solar and electrical installation. FGD report challenges such as limited

<sup>29</sup> Okwadi, J. (2018).

<sup>30</sup> UNHCR & ACTED (2019).

<sup>31</sup> Okwadi, J. (2018).

<sup>32</sup> Relief International (2019).

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electricity, tools, and materials needed for the courses. The VTC also offer "soft skills" training (e.g., behavioural change, stress management) for 30 students per camp. Former graduates are called back for periodic business skills training, and if they present a workable business plan, they are given additional start-up kits. KII and FGD participants noted that the vocational training activities implemented by DRC have had some issues related to distance to the training centre for the host community.

According to FGD participants, vocational training courses are linked with other NGO activities, such as construction students working with DRC and Action Africa Help International (AAH-I) at the Ajuong Thok airstrip waiting area. One KI and participants in one FGD also reported that graduates have won business contracts doing building construction, making school desks, and sewing school uniforms. Positive impacts of VTC, as noted by one KI, include improved beneficiaries' coping mechanisms, sense of inclusion, and self-esteem and the transfer of knowledge to others in the Nuba Mountains.

Challenges reported by one KI and participants in one FGD include the long duration of courses without food or incentives; the opportunity cost of missing out on farming; limited or no support from NGO after graduation; and limited business or employment opportunities after graduation. One KI explained that leatherworking courses were discontinued due to challenges with sourcing materials and marketing finished products. This is demonstrated by an example from an FGD participant, who described a leatherwork graduate who earned \$1,750 over five months with items provided in the start-up kit but was unable to replace the materials in Juba. The next-nearest market, Kampala, is expensive to reach. One KI noted that host community participants have a high dropout rate, likely due to the long distance between their homes and the VTC in camps, and due to lack of interest in livelihood diversification outside of pastoralism.

**Infrastructural development:** The UNHCR strategy outlines plans for infrastructure improvements, but programme documents do not indicate any work in this area. One KI stated that Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) and UNHCR lobbying had resulted in construction of a telecommunication mast. Another KI described how UNHCR has contributed to substantial infrastructure improvements in the Jamjang area, including construction of roads, the airstrip, government offices, schools, solar power, piped water, hospitals, the provision of vehicles being used by the CRA staff, and a generator to power the telecom network. However, it is unclear how much of this is attributable to the UNHCR livelihood programme. UNHCR staff and one FGD also reported that around 2016-2017, UNHCR installed solar-powered lighting systems for household lighting and to improve night-time security, but the solar power systems have been vandalised, stolen, or sold.

In Jamjang, markets are slowly developing. However, financial services are lacking in the area. A 2018 assessment found that poor road conditions, especially in the rainy season, along with high transportation costs and informal payments constrain traders' ability to meet demand in Ajuong Thok and Pamir.<sup>33</sup>

In Maban, without investment in road infrastructure to improve access to markets and financial services, the livelihood programme will be limited in its ability to expand. One KI stated that in order for refugees to scale up business activities, they would need to work in groups and import supplies by road from Juba during the dry season, which requires security and storage.

WFP is bringing in a service provider (Galaxy International) to Maban to handle the cash resources that will be used as part of their cash-for-assets programme. They also said that oil companies were trying to improve the roads so that supplies could more easily come from Khartoum, and Zein mobile services is expanding in the region. This could make mobile money more easily accessible to refugees and host communities. All of these developments would benefit the livelihood programme supported by UNHCR.

**Peaceful coexistence with local communities:** In Maban and Jamjang, peace-building efforts have been very successful at easing tension between the host communities and refugees. Peace committees have been

<sup>33</sup> REACH (2018).

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established that include representatives from both the host community and refugees to discuss issues and to resolve conflicts. In Maban, it is now much easier for members of both sides to do business together and move more freely. Soccer clubs have also been supported to ease tension.

Sources of tension with host communities in both Maban and Jamjang include theft and access to land and wood for charcoal. One KI in Jamjang stated that there had been some isolated incidents of crime such as livestock raiding and petty theft. KII and FGD participants in Maban and Jamjang stated that refugees have been given land for agricultural cultivation. However, in Jamjang the host community has on multiple occasions reclaimed the land, sometimes after the land has been ploughed (reported by one FGD in Ajuong Thok Camp) or at harvest time (reported by a KI and FGD in Unity).

Such events led to the formation of the Peaceful Co-Existence and Conflict Resolution Committee in Jamjang supported by UNHCR, the CRA, and the IRC, with refugee leaders and host community leaders from nearby villages. In Jamjang, the local government is very supportive of the programme. The IRC livelihoods project facilitated monthly meetings in different locations. Three KII in Jamjang reported improved security and relations between PoC and the host community since 2018, and one FGD reported improved farming activities due to increased security, all of which were attributed to the Peaceful Co-Existence and Conflict Resolution Committee. One KI from IRC credited livelihood programming with easing tensions with host communities (see quote, below).

*“If you take away the livelihoods programme for the host community, tension will go up. Livelihood programmes are key to protection, reducing conflict. When UNHCR cuts, they don’t understand the implication to protection.”*

~KII with NGO

**Natural resource and shared environment protection:** In Jamjang, environmental awareness has increased through tree nurseries and training to reduce conflict with the host community over firewood. DRC environmental activities in Unity, as described by one KI, include (1) Tree seedling nurseries that grow moringa, cassia, neem, and fruit trees for distribution to refugees and the host community; (2) woodlots for re-forestation, which planted 25,000 acacia and arbaiin/neem seedlings in four locations (two camps, Yida and Jamjang) in 2018 and is targeting more in 2019; (3) tree marking in the camps using white paint to alert refugees that trees should not be cut; and (4) energy saving stoves, which are credited with reducing demand for firewood, the risk of wildfire from traditional cooking fires, and time burden among women (women report spending 50 percent less time gathering firewood).

In Maban, Relief International is also supporting the establishment of woodlots and seedlings for distribution. They are also introducing production of wood-efficient stoves, which are linked with the seedling distribution and environmental protection. Relief International KII say the refugees are producing 7,000 stoves per year. The stoves are also linked to the nutrition interventions on how to cook nutritious foods grown in the perma-gardens.

**Advocacy:** Given the political uncertainty in South Sudan, opportunities for policy advocacy on the part of refugees are limited. Programme documents do not describe UNHCR advocacy activities, but KII provide information about UNHCR advocacy on several topics.

UNHCR has been working closely with CRA to gain access to land for refugees in Maban, Jamjang, and Gorom. It has also been working with CRA to lobby the Ministry of Education for access to schools and teachers for refugees and the Ministry of Health for access to health care for refugees. KII indicate that urban refugees are taxed, but should not be. UNHCR staff has lobbied local authorities to follow Refugee Conventions regarding taxation.

The ET finds that an important area where UNHCR is not advocating is around refugee work permits. Refugees have the right to work through the Government of South Sudan Refugee Act of 2012.<sup>34</sup> However, KII reported that

<sup>34</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

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work permits, required by labour law to secure a job, are difficult for refugees to acquire due to the large number of unemployed host community members. Many refugees are therefore working informally outside of the camps.

In addition to political advocacy, UNHCR is currently engaging with other UN organisations that work in the Maban area. It is collaborating with WFP on food assistance and will support them to expand their cash-for-assets work with host communities. UNHCR will advocate for refugee access to the financial service provider that WFP is bringing to Maban. UNHCR also collaborates with FAO in seed distribution to host communities in the area. UNICEF is supporting health clinics in the host communities.

**Crosscutting results:** According to three KII and an evaluation of IRC activities,<sup>35</sup> livelihoods programming is key to reducing gender-based violence. Food insecurity is considered a major contributor to violence, and empowering women with livelihood opportunities can increase food production and household income, and reduce household violence. All three KI stated that Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) had declined as a result of UNHCR livelihood programming; one KI stated that interviews of women conducted by their safety audit group provide evidence to this point.

## Survey results

This section summarises the quantitative survey findings. Further narrative, the survey questions, and the complete results are presented in Annex 4.

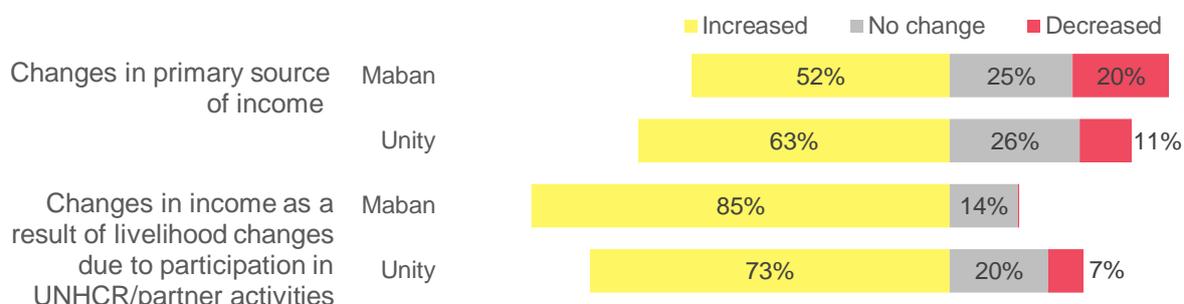
**Beneficiary characteristics:** Of the 432 beneficiaries in the overall survey sample, all are from Sudan, the majority are women, and the average age is 34.2 years old. Beyond that, differences in other beneficiary household characteristics in Maban and Unity should be considered when interpreting the results for the two regions. More of the respondents from Unity—8 out of 10—are female, compared to just over half in Maban. More of the respondents from Maban have never attended school (50 percent in Maban compared to 38 percent in Unity). More Maban beneficiaries are married/living together (about 9 out of 10 versus 6 in 10 in Unity). Maban beneficiaries also have more household members than those in Unity (7.7 members compared to 6.8, respectively) and have more employed household members (1.2 compared to 0.6, respectively).

**Participation in UNHCR/partner livelihood activities:** Almost all survey respondents (97 percent) reported participating in at least one UNHCR/partner livelihood training in the past three years. The most common trainings were kitchen gardening, farming, and micro-enterprise/business. Most (89 percent) received productive assets associated with the training; just five percent received cash grants or business start-up support. Most respondents completed the training; dropout rates were higher in Unity than Maban (20 percent versus 5 percent). More than four out of five respondents from the overall sample reported that the livelihood programme helped them secure their primary source of income.

More than half of all respondents (55 percent) reported that they had made changes to how they earn money as a result of participating in UNHCR/partner trainings. The most common changes were to adopt improved practices, start a business, and engage in new income-earning activities. Most respondents who made changes reported increased income (85 percent in Maban; 73 percent in Unity) (Figure 3) and access to food (89 percent in Maban; 77 percent in Unity) as a result of those changes. This reflects an improved outcome compared to the overall sample (all respondents, regardless of changes to livelihoods), of whom smaller percentages reported an increase in their primary income source in the last year (52 percent in Maban; 63 percent in Unity).

<sup>35</sup> Okwadi, J. (2018).

**The majority of survey respondents/beneficiaries reported increased income. Of the respondents who made changes to their livelihoods as a result of participating in a UNHCR/partner training, more reported increased income, and fewer reported decreased income.**



**Figure 3: Percentage of survey respondents in Maban and Unity reporting changes in their primary income source, and changes in income as a result of livelihood changes due to participation in UNHCR/partner activities**

**Access to markets:** More of the respondents in Unity than in Maban reported that they have access to markets outside the camp without restrictions (over 80 percent in Unity versus over 60 percent in Maban). Most respondents reported that UNHCR/partner programming improved their access to markets for selling or purchasing agricultural (crop/livestock) products (65 percent in Maban; 81 percent in Unity). Constraints to selling include being too far away from markets (reported in both areas), the lack of transport (Maban), and road closures due to conflict (Unity).

**Access to credit:** The most commonly reported places in both areas where people can borrow money are from relatives, VSLA, and money lenders. No respondents reported formal banks as a source for a loan. About three in ten Maban beneficiary respondents have a loan; about one-third are from VSLA, one-third from relatives, and the rest from other sources. In Unity, just over one in ten respondents have loans, about half of which are from VSLA and about one-third are from relatives. Almost nine out of ten loans in Maban are used to buy food; and three-quarters of Unity respondents with loans used them to cope with emergencies.

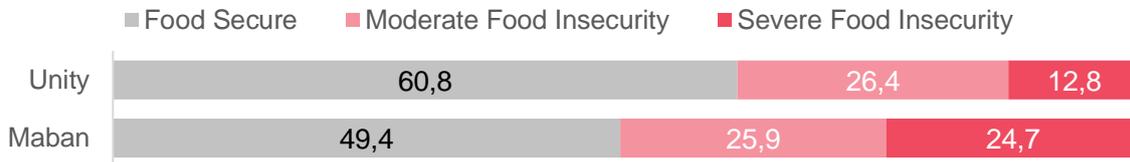
**Access to savings:** The majority of respondent households do not have cash savings; yet, just under half (46 percent) of respondent households in Unity and 28 percent in Maban have managed to accumulate cash savings.

**Access to financial services:** After holdings at home, VSLA is the second most common place to hold savings (almost half in Maban and Unity). Among the people who reported savings, most reported that their savings had increased in the last year (83 percent of households with savings in Maban; 60 percent in Unity), mostly because of higher income from employment. Most respondents reported that UNHCR/partner programming improved their access to financial services (60 percent in Unity; 51 percent in Maban). Compared to Maban, more respondents in Unity reported improved ability to save as a result of the programming (58 percent versus 44 percent, respectively).

**Food consumption:** The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is calculated based on how frequently households consume items from different food groups in the seven days prior to the survey.<sup>36</sup> Responses are weighted using standard weights for each of the food groups. Just over six in 10 respondents reported being food secure in Unity, whereas just under half reported the same in Maban (see Figure 4, below).

<sup>36</sup> WFP (2015).

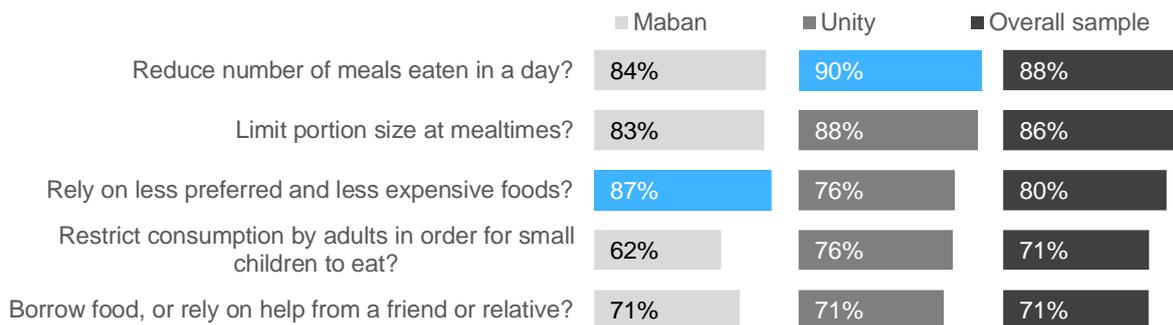
**A higher percentage of households in Unity reported being food secure.**  
**Just over half of Maban households reported moderate to severe food insecurity.**



**Figure 4: Food Consumption Score in Maban and Unity based on survey responses**

**Food insecurity coping strategies:** A majority of respondents reported using each of the five food insecurity coping strategies listed in the seven days prior to the survey (Figure 5). For the overall sample and in Unity, the most common strategy reported was reducing the number of meals eaten in a day. Relying on less preferred and cheaper foods was the most commonly reported strategy in Maban.

**All food insecurity coping strategies are used by the majority of respondents. Most common in Maban: relying on less preferred and cheaper foods. Most common in Unity: skipping meals**



**Figure 5: Percentage of survey respondents in Maban, Unity, and overall reporting household use of food insecurity coping strategies in the seven days prior to the survey**

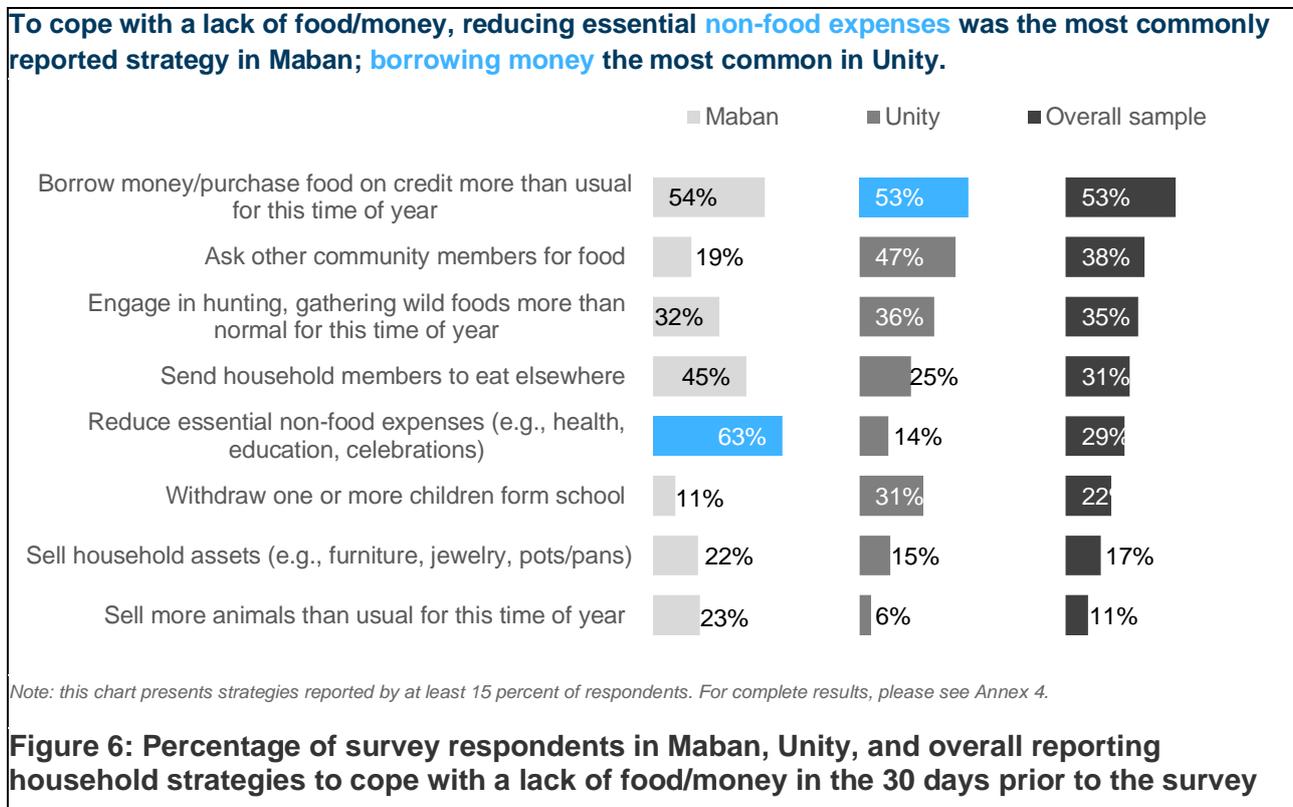
The Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI), adapted from Maxwell and colleagues,<sup>37</sup> is computed based on how frequently respondents use five possible strategies (Figure 5). The frequency response for each strategy (i.e., number of days in the last week) is then weighted by the severity weight of each strategy. Higher index scores indicate more food insecurity. The mean rCSI (range 0-56) is 16.1 in Maban and 14.4 in Unity. The scores suggest relatively low levels of negative coping strategies, so although most respondents reported using coping strategies, the rCSI is relatively low due to low frequency of use in week prior to the survey.

To cope with a lack of food or money, the strategies most commonly reported by respondents in the overall sample are borrowing money/purchasing food on credit more than usual for this time of year; asking other community members for food; engaging in hunting or gathering wild foods more than normal for this time of year; and sending household members to eat elsewhere (Figure 6). Reducing essential non-food expenses was the most commonly reported strategy in Maban; borrowing money was the most common in Unity.

These results are supported by qualitative data. FGD participants stated that in the past, when households had no

<sup>37</sup> Maxwell, D., R. Caldwell and M. Langworthy (2008).

source of income, the family would employ negative coping strategies such as reducing meals, begging at markets (by young children), and engaging in survival sex (by women) and early marriage (of young girls for the household to sustain itself through dowry).



**Protection:** The majority of respondents reported that as a result of participating in UNHCR/partner livelihood activities, their overall feeling of safety for family members has increased (84 percent in Maban; 79 percent in Unity) and protection risks have decreased (69 percent in Unity; 57 percent in Maban). The most common protection concerns for adult women are domestic violence (Maban) and rape/sexual assault (Unity). For men, the most common concerns are substance abuse (Maban) and death or serious injury (Unity). For girls in both areas, the most common protection concern is forced/early marriage. For boys, the main concerns are child labour (Maban) and family separation (Unity).

Relations between refugees and the host community have improved over the last three years. Qualitative data, such as about Peaceful Co-Existence and Conflict Resolution Committees (described previously in this section) support this finding.

**Perceived impacts:** Three-quarters of survey respondents reported that they are better able to meet household food and non-food needs as a result of participating in the UNHCR or partner livelihood programming. The majority (85 percent) said they have more control over their lives as a result of UNHCR/partner training, and nearly seven in 10 reported an improved ability to support social events (e.g., paying dowry, for funerals or sick relative expenses) in the last three years, which was included as a proxy indicator for income sufficiency.

Qualitative data support these findings. Most of the refugee households interviewed mentioned that with their income they were able to purchase additional staples (e.g., sorghum, beans) and diversified food not available in the general food distribution basket.

**Shocks and needs:** Almost three-quarters of respondents in Unity reported that their households' ability to recover from shocks improved as a result of UNHCR/partner programming; less than half (45 percent) of Maban

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respondents reported the same. The most important shocks that impact household income or food, as reported by survey respondents, include seasonal flooding, markets/price fluctuations and civil unrest in Sudan for Maban, and thefts/insecurity, erratic rainfall/drought, and flooding for Unity.

Survey results highlight some important needs. According to survey results, the most important basic needs not adequately covered through humanitarian assistance and household income include access to food and shelter, safety and security, and access to core relief items (non-food). Respondents in Maban also noted a lack of access to sanitation facilities, drinking water, and health care. Among respondents who reported they did not feel more in control of their lives, the primary reasons are insufficient material support (amount, time), lack of permanent job, and not enough training (topics, amount, time).

## Comparison of impacts from trainings and VSLA

Among survey respondents, most (82 percent) participated in one type of training—either agricultural or small business—while just 12 percent participated in training and VSLA, and even fewer (6 percent) participated in another combination of trainings (Figure 8, Annex 5, where further results can be found on the impacts of an intervention package).

To determine whether participating in VSLA and training led to better outcomes compared to participating in either one type of training (agriculture or small business) or a different combination of trainings, the ET conducted statistical analyses of the survey results. The analyses indicate statistically significant differences between the groups; higher percentages of households participating in a combination of trainings or VSLA and training reported an increase in assets (Figure 10, Annex 5) and productive assets (Figure 11, Annex 5) in the last three years. Households that participated in small business training were the most likely to report increases in livestock assets (Figure 12, Annex 5). For pastoral households, an increase in livestock assets is synonymous with an increase in financial capital.

Survey results also indicate that among the people who participated in trainings for agriculture or small business skills (with or without VSLA) or another combination of trainings, the majority reported increased income and access to food (part “j” and “k,” table on Intervention Packages and Livelihood Changes, Annex 6). Among training and VLSA participants who made changes in the way they earn money as a result of participation in trainings, the most common changes were to start a business and to adopt improved practices.

## Resilience capacities

**Social capital:** Considerable social capital has been built through farmer groups and VSLA. Farmers groups were organised by IP to share in labour associated with agriculture production and seed multiplication. FGD participants in Maban and Unity described the types of support available from VSLA: loans from the VSLA to pay for family emergencies; social support and sharing labour if a spouse dies; and sharing of money for transportation in the event of a sick child. Most survey respondents (85 percent in Maban; 91 percent in Unity) reported improved relationships among refugees in their camp as a result of the livelihood trainings/support promoted by UNHCR/partners over the last three years (i.e., ‘bonding social capital’). This could be a result of working closely together in trainings, learning about each other’s lives, and supporting each other during times of need.<sup>38</sup> Almost all (97 percent) respondents attributed this improvement to UNHCR/partner programming.

Unity beneficiaries in particular reported improved ability to support important family social events (a proxy for stability/income/social capital), and most attribute this change to UNHCR/partner programming. Survey results also indicate that relations between refugees and the host community have improved in the last three years. Nine out of 10 respondents from Maban and almost eight out of 10 in Unity reported improved ‘bridging social capital’ (i.e., relationships with people outside their immediate community); of those, 95 percent attributed the improvements to

<sup>38</sup> See Annex 3 for more details about social capital.

UNHCR/partner programming.

**Table 1: Profile of refugee resilience capacities in South Sudan**

**How the evaluation results reflect on the resilience framework:**

Absorptive Capacity	Adaptive Capacity	Transformative Capacity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bonding social capital</b> was built through VSLA and farmer groups</li> <li>• <b>Assets</b> were accumulated through gains made through livelihood activities</li> <li>• <b>Savings</b> were generated through the VSLA</li> <li>• <b>Peace-building committees</b> helped reduce PoC-host community conflict</li> <li>• <b>Access to informal safety nets</b> increased through VSLA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Human capital</b> was built through the entrepreneur training and farmer group training and garden work</li> <li>• <b>Bridging social capital</b> was strengthened with the host community through the peace committees and economic activities</li> <li>• <b>Confidence to adapt, mindset and psychosocial health</b> improved through participating in program</li> <li>• <b>Livelihood diversity</b> increased</li> <li>• <b>Access to productive assets</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Women’s empowerment and gender equity</b> in the HH/ community</li> <li>• <b>Access to informal safety nets</b> was strengthened, allowing options to further pursue access to formal safety nets in the future<sup>39</sup></li> <li>• <b>More secure environment</b> in Maban and Jamjang</li> <li>• <b>Government support</b> of livelihood programme in Jamjang</li> <li>• <b>Local government and refugee leaders’ support</b> through established environment task force for natural resource management in Maban</li> </ul>
<p><b>Foundations of LEI and refugee resilience – basic needs are met:</b> Access to social protection and safety nets, safe water and sanitation, electricity, food and nutrition security, health services, education, shelter, safety, etc.</p>		

*Note: According to new livelihood strategy draft, LEI units should focus on absorptive and transformative capacities, while the CO also ensures foundational basic needs and protection needs are met.*

## Factors affecting livelihood results

**Internal factors: Enabling factors** – UNHCR South Sudan has been active in the country since 2011 and has a good understanding of the dynamic and challenging context. Several IP staff indicated that successful agricultural activities in Maban were heavily influenced by the presence of UNHCR livelihood staff stationed in Maban. When the UNHCR livelihood staff arrived, she supported livelihood activities in a systematic way through better multi-year planning and training, making significant contributions to the success of the programme. IP said they are more accountable when UNHCR staff oversight is present. IP KII in Unity stated that they would have appreciated having a livelihood person stationed there as well, but this was not the case.

**Inhibiting factors** - Due to lack of funding, the staff position in charge of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities were stopped at the Juba level two years ago. A strategy is in place for a monitoring system implemented by partners with standardised monitoring of nutrition and food security. According to one IP, the main problem of not having someone from UNHCR overseeing M&E activities is that the indicators used by the IP are not harmonised. Next year, the overall budget for UNHCR South Sudan is being reduced by 30 percent; the livelihood programme budget is being reduced as well.

The livelihoods programme is constrained by its limited number of livelihood officers. As of 2017, UNHCR South Sudan had only one livelihood staff person in Bunj, one in Juba, and no livelihoods expert in Jamjang.<sup>40</sup> The ET found that the CO still does not have a livelihood staff person in Jamjang and has not had any livelihood staff in Juba for some time. The absence of a UNHCR Livelihood Officer in Juba limits the CO’s ability to engage the other

<sup>39</sup> South Sudan currently has no formal safety nets. Government capacity to facilitate social protection programmes is limited, with focus placed on peace and governance due to protracted conflict and instability in the country.

<sup>40</sup> UN OIOS (2018).

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UN partners, donors, or government on livelihood matters or advocate for livelihood programmes and funding. This has put UNHCR at a disadvantage in securing more support for the programme. This is expected to change in the near future. At the end of the ET field visit, the livelihood staff person in Maban was being transferred to Juba. Senior management recognises the importance of the livelihood programme to protection. It is anticipated that more staff will be hired with these technical skills in the near future.

**External factors: *Enabling factors*** - There is a good relationship with local government in Jamjang. The CO has a strong presence in the country and has good working relationships with UN agencies (e.g., FAO, WFP) and IP (e.g., ACTED, Relief International, IRC, DRC). According to one KI: “[UNHCR is] running the show” in both Maban and Jamjang.

*Inhibiting factors* - According to UNHCR staff, measuring the true level of impact is difficult because refugees are wary of general food distribution and other support being cut, and thus, they may understate improvements. Refugees from the Nuba Mountains are highly mobile; they regularly move from one location to another, making it hard to track their numbers for planning purposes. Further, inter-tribal conflict and militia conflict contributes to delays in distribution of goods as UNHCR waits until they have enough for everyone.

Low levels of functional literacy and financial literacy are a challenge in Maban according to four KII. For example, some participants had difficulty maintaining records of sales and loans, so training curricula have been tailored to meet the low levels of education, which somewhat limits livelihood options.

The enabling environment in both Maban and Jamjang is underdeveloped, has poor infrastructure, poor access to markets, very limited access to financial services, and weak government institutions. The political uncertainty of what will happen in South Sudan makes it difficult to have a stable programming environment making it difficult to attract development partners. Local government in Maban is almost non-existent and is not capable of providing security. There have been six local government Commissioners in the last five years. UNHCR South Sudan staff reported that operating costs are also rising due to air transportation being more expensive than other countries.

The enabling environment is much better in Yei and Yambio. For this reason, CRRF-like efforts can be implemented such as the Partnership for Recovery and Resilience implemented by multiple donor and UN partners. Donors are creating a trust fund that is area-focused where both peace and resilience are promoted.

Frequent climatic and other shocks inhibit progress of agricultural and other livelihood activities. In the quantitative survey, the main shock reported in Maban was seasonal flooding (reported by 46 percent of respondents) and in Unity, thefts/insecurity (29 percent) and erratic rainfall/drought (25 percent). Qualitative data support these results; FGD in Maban and Unity reported crop damage due to variable rain, flooding, agricultural pests (e.g., fall army worm). Agriculture is vulnerable to drought and flooding and in some areas limited by the quality and availability of land. UNHCR activities are using drought tolerant seeds and promoting climate smart agriculture, which can mitigate these risks. Two FGD and five KII in Maban and Unity also noted the poor road conditions, especially during the rainy season, which limits access to markets, causes delays in getting materials, and contributes to price variability (i.e., inflation). Insecurity and road blocks also constrain movement and supply chains; supplies are airlifted from Juba when roads are impassable, adding to costs.

Following the Government of South Sudan decision in 2016 to close Yida, general food distribution is being phased out at Yida by the end of September 2019. The closure of Yida could result in a large influx of people into Pamir and Ajuong Thok camps. General food distribution rations provided in refugee hosting areas run the risk of further reduction owing to lack of resources. This, in the absence of asset creation interventions, and coupled with the reduced budget for livelihoods, could have a negative effect on the food security gains that Maban and Jamjang have experienced in recent years.

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## KEQ 2

*How can UNHCR better position its approach to and role in refugees' livelihoods and economic inclusion vis-à-vis those of other stakeholders, and what are the current opportunities for enhancing sustainability and phasing out of direct implementation of livelihood programme activities?*

### Box 3. Main findings: UNHCR's strategic positioning to enhance scale and sustainability

- **South Sudan's weak enabling environment limits opportunities to strengthen transformative and adaptive capacities.** Given the lack of government systems and the shortage of development partners to work with, UNHCR's role in strengthening all three resilience capacities through the promotion of livelihoods will continue to be important until opportunities arise to bring in more development partners to focus on adaptive capacity.
- **UNHCR advocacy for refugees is critical and should target Government and other relevant actors to ensure that refugees are part of future economic inclusion efforts and improve security and the overall enabling environment.** All activities across the operation should support the advocacy strategy led by senior management.
- **UNHCR's systematic programming is demonstrating approaches that other development actors can follow.** Funding cuts before other development partners are in place could increase refugee-host community tensions. UNHCR could play an important role in ensuring that monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems are in place and harmonised among partners.
- **UNHCR will need to work more closely with partners to mobilise resources for livelihood activities.** This includes other UN agencies and IP. The lack of technical livelihood staff based in Juba to lobby for additional resources from donors hurt UNHCR's efforts to secure more resources for livelihood programmes.

**Enabling environment:** The weak enabling environment limits opportunities to strengthen transformative and adaptive resilience capacities. Given the lack of infrastructure and poor development of markets, opportunities to strengthen transformative capacity are limited. Furthermore, the lack of security makes it difficult to attract development partners to Maban and Jamjang to strengthen adaptive capacity. UNHCR should continue to strengthen absorptive capacity through livelihoods programming that provides the foundation for economic inclusion, which is one of the best ways to strengthen the protection of PoC, as described by IP and UNHCR staff. Given the lack of government systems and the shortage of development partners to work with, UNHCR's role in strengthening all three resilience capacities through the promotion of livelihoods will continue to be important until opportunities arise to bring in more development partners to focus on adaptive capacity. This will become more difficult with funding cuts and a limited number of technical staff based in these areas.

**UNHCR role in advocacy:** Coherent with the direction of the new livelihood strategy, the important role of UNHCR in advocacy continues to be a strong theme. Although UNHCR globally aims for full implementation of the CRRF, security issues continue to deter development partners from working in the Maban and Unity areas. For example, even though UNHCR wants to work with the World Bank, the Bank will not fund livelihood activities or infrastructure in the area. Thus, UNHCR needs to have a strong role in advocating with Government and other relevant actors from the private sector, financial institutions, and development organisations to ensure that refugees are part of future economic inclusion efforts and to improve security and the overall enabling environment.

As described above, opportunities for policy advocacy related to refugees are limited but critical, given the political

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uncertainty in South Sudan. UNHCR needs to continue to advocate that the Government honour the Refugee Act of 2012 and allow refugees to work in the formal sector without a permit. UNHCR must also continue to lobby Government to improve the security situation and infrastructure in the region to allow for improved economic activities.

Advocacy efforts must also focus on bringing more development partners to Maban and Jamjang. UN actors have to be brought on board to respond to the GCR. UNHCR should continue to work with WFP to bring in a financial service provider to Maban and to improve infrastructure (e.g., cell towers for mobile money and better roads to access markets). UNHCR should continue to lobby for more resources for host communities. Additionally, UNHCR needs to build the partner capacity to ensure that they consider PoC needs in ongoing development efforts.

**UNHCR's role amidst other actors:** The UNHCR livelihood programming in Maban and Jamjang provide examples of systematic programming that is, in part, achieving scale in a politically uncertain environment. They have demonstrated that much can be done in politically unstable contexts, implementing approaches that other development actors can follow. Of concern to the ET is that the funding cuts for the livelihood programme will take place before other development partners are in place to support these livelihood efforts. If the livelihood programme is reduced for the host community and refugees, tensions will likely increase between these groups.

To provide evidence of PoC needs and programme effectiveness, UNHCR could play an important role in ensuring that monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems are in place and harmonised among partners. Such data would be useful for programme design and resource mobilisation.

**Resource mobilisation:** Although the livelihood programme is very successful in both Maban and Jamjang, as noted above, funding cuts will result in some programmes being scaled back. Given this situation, a shift in focus will be needed where UNHCR works more closely with other UN agencies such as FAO, WFP, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the World Bank to strengthen livelihood activities. Dialogue with other agencies is already taking place. This is consistent with CRRF and the global UNHCR strategy on refugee LEI.

Given the certainty of funding cuts, UNHCR needs to hire more livelihood staff, now more than ever, to lobby donors for more resources to be used by development partners in their operational areas. The lack of technical livelihood staff based in Juba to lobby for additional resources from donors hurt UNHCRs efforts to secure more resources for livelihood programmes. IP stated that donors felt that UNHCR was technically weak in its representation at livelihood meetings and this affected funding. This also affected livelihood funding coming from the United States' Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM). The PRM strategy for South Sudan focused more on health issues than on livelihoods because no technical livelihood person in Juba was lobbying for livelihoods. Not having a livelihood technical staff person in Jamjang has also limited lobbying efforts for livelihood programme resources in that location. Thus, partners like IRC lobbied for livelihood programmes on UNHCRs' behalf. In all, having a knowledgeable livelihood person at the table representing UNHCR can help convince donors and other partners that more resources are needed for livelihood programmes in support of host communities and refugees.

Finally, although it is possible to raise additional funds to support livelihood activities in South Sudan, UNHCR's funding envelope stipulated by Geneva places limitations on how much can be raised. UNHCR should seek opportunities to assist its IP to raise additional resources for livelihood programming directly. UNHCR can play a key role in lobbying for these funds for the partners.

*“People have just started and [now] we are stopping... It is not possible to do more with less at this stage.”*

*~KII with NGO*



*Men participating in entrepreneur project in South Sudan, supported by UNHCR. TANGO/2019*

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# Conclusions and Recommendations

## Conclusions

### KEQ 1: Results and factors (retrospective)

The conclusions for KEQ 1 are drawn around the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD DAC) evaluation criteria of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability.<sup>41</sup>

**Relevance:** The livelihoods programme is highly relevant given that food security is one of the top concerns of households; general food distribution has been diminishing and will be cut in one camp (Yambio); limited alternative options exist to meet the food gap; and food insecurity contributes to conflict with host communities. Refugees need increased self-reliance and income generation. The systematic and layered approach of the livelihood programmes being implemented in Maban and Jamjang has demonstrated that even in an unstable political environment, much can be done to improve the lives of refugees and the host community.

**Efficiency:** The short-term funding from some donors limits UNHCR's ability to implement multi-year planning. To address this, the livelihood staff based in Maban developed a systematic planning approach where investments in livelihood activities were planned three years out using annual funding streams. This strategy was also applied in Jamjang. All of the implementing partners stated that this approach was very timely.

**Effectiveness:** The agriculture programme is working at scale, reaching nearly 50 percent of the targeted beneficiaries. Vocational and entrepreneurship trainings are being implemented at a smaller scale and produced mixed results. People participating in livelihood trainings have expanded their business opportunities, are generating more money for their families, supporting children in education, and are more food secure. In addition, all of the livelihood programme activities were linked. The perma-gardens were linked to nutrition interventions; the entrepreneur activities were linked to VSLA; and the agricultural production activities were linked to VSLA. A lack of livelihoods staff has limited the CO's ability to oversee and advocate for livelihood programming and resources.

**Impact and sustainability:** Among the people who participated in trainings for agriculture or small business skills (with or without VSLA) or another combination of trainings, the majority reported increased income and access to food. Increased income due to increased agricultural production and diversified income opportunities are credited with contributing to reduced SGBV. Survey results and KII provide evidence that livelihood activities help decrease protection risks and contribute to improved feeling of safety. Sustainability is threatened by declining funds, and a shortage of trained livelihood staff. Threats to sustainability could be mitigated by increased networking with other UN agencies and operating partner organisations who could implement livelihood and development programmes.

### KEQ 2: UNHCR strategic positioning (prospective)

UNHCR's future strategic role in LEI programming in South Sudan is relevant to the use of the resilience framework provided in the UNHCR 2019-2023 Global Strategy Concept Note (see references) and the Refugee Resilience Theory of Change (see Annex 3).

<sup>41</sup> See: <https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm>

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**Absorptive capacity:** Absorptive capacity is the prerequisite foundation for building refugee resilience and self-reliance, a core mandate area of UNHCR in ensuring that protection and basic needs are met for PoC. This evaluation finds that the livelihood activities implemented by UNHCR through agricultural training, entrepreneur training, and VSLA help participants save money and improve their food security, which helps them prepare for and respond to shocks. Livelihood programming is one of the best ways to support protection, as stated by IP and UNHCR staff. Funding for these efforts should not be cut, and more livelihood staff are needed to advocate for these programming activities.

**Adaptive capacity:** Where possible, UNHCR is to partner and convene experts to facilitate the inclusion of refugees into existing programmes and services that address livelihood skills development, jobs, and business opportunities. This is possible in Yambio through the Partnership for Recovery and Resilience. UNHCR should only implement livelihood programmes in constricted scenarios such as in Maban and Jamjang. This will continue to be the case in these regions until more development partners can be brought in.

**Transformative capacity:** Transformative capacity, which includes advocacy and systems-level capacity building to enhance the enabling environment, is a critical strategic area for UNHCR in future years. In South Sudan, the enabling environment is weak and unstable, especially in Maban and Jamjang. UNHCR needs to continue to advocate with government, private sector and other development partners to improve the political and economic context where the refugees are residing. This includes access to infrastructure, access to markets, access to health and education services, improved security, and reduction of government rent-seeking behaviour towards refugees.

## Recommendations

### Recommendations for UNHCR South Sudan

1. **Support the application of refugee law.** Given the political uncertainty in South Sudan, opportunities for policy advocacy on behalf of refugees are limited. Where government does exist, UNHCR should support the application of refugee law at all levels. **When:** begin by mid-2020.
2. **Focus on advocacy.** Given the lack of infrastructure and poor development of markets, opportunities to strengthen transformative capacity are limited. UNHCR should have a strong focus on advocacy with development actors for investments in refugee areas. This is consistent with the movement of other UN actors in supporting the CRRF. **When:** begin by mid-2020.
3. **Work with partners to secure funding.** Although the livelihood programme is successful in Maban and Unity, funding cuts will result in some programmes being scaled back. UNHCR's funding envelope stipulated by Geneva places limitations on how much can be raised for the programme. Given this situation, a shift in focus will be needed where UNHCR works more closely with other UN agencies such as FAO, WFP, and UNDP, and the World Bank to strengthen the livelihood activities. Further, UNHCR should seek opportunities to assist its IP to raise additional resources for livelihood programming directly. UNHCR can act as a quality control agent for those donors considering funding for implementing partners engaged in LEI with refugees. **When:** by spring 2020.
4. **Prioritise livelihoods and appoint staff.** Given the importance of livelihood programming to protection, livelihood programming should remain a high priority for the CO. This means that livelihood staff with technical expertise need to be based in Juba, as well as in Maban and Jamjang. Even as the programming funds are reduced by UNHCR, having livelihood expertise embedded in the programme will encourage other development partners to invest in livelihood activities for PoC. As UNHCR moves to a more facilitative role, such expertise is vital. **When:** by spring 2020.
5. **Establish monitoring and evaluation (M&E) positions in Juba and the camps.** Although a strategy is in place to have partners monitor changes in nutrition and food security, there is a need for M&E officers in the field to harmonise data collection and ensure that data can inform adaptive management. In addition, a

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technical M&E person in Juba should oversee this effort. This will ensure that the indicators used by the implementing partners are harmonised and easier to roll up for reporting purposes. **When:** begin process by mid-2020, establish positions by end of 2020.

## Recommendations for UNHCR HQ/RB

6. **Develop an advocacy strategy for unstable environments and where governments are weak.** HQ/RB should provide guidance on how to strengthen the enabling environment (transformative capacity) through partnerships with other development partners and the private sector. Taking the evidence from South Sudan, this may involve strengthening livelihood programmes through UNHCR activities to catalyse other development actor engagement. The biggest impediment to implementing the new LEI strategy is getting development partners to go where UNHCR is working. **When:** by the end of 2020.
7. **Ensure that adequate livelihood staff are available in Country Operations to move to a more facilitative role.** UNHCR South Sudan's ability to advocate to donors and other development partners for livelihood programming was seriously limited by a shortage of livelihood staff. Even as UNHCR's role in direct implementation decreases, there is a need to have technical expertise within the CO to do advocacy, such as to advocate on behalf of IP to secure livelihood resources. **When:** by the second quarter of 2020.
8. **More resources should be used to carry out performance evaluations similar to the one conducted in South Sudan.** Although UNHCR has carried out numerous assessments of its operations, the quantitative survey that was carried out as part of this evaluation provided great information on the improved outcomes that have resulted from the livelihood programmes. This information provides evidence to donors and other development partners that the livelihood activities in Maban and Jamjang are working. In this way, the information can be catalytic for attracting other resources for infrastructure, improved access to markets and financial service providers, and other improvements in the enabling environment. **When:** by the second quarter of 2020.

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# Annex 1: Background & Methodology

## Background

**Socio-economic context:** South Sudan's population increased from 5.4 million people in 1994 to 12.6 million in 2017.<sup>42</sup> Oil contributes to about 60 percent of South Sudan's gross domestic product (GDP) and comprises almost all of its exports. However, due to bilateral disagreements with Sudan, the South Sudan government shut down oil production in January 2012. As a result, the GDP plummeted from \$15.1 billion in 2014 to just \$2.9 billion in 2016, and the Gross National Income in 2017 was half of what it was in 2010 (\$963 compared to \$2094, respectively).<sup>43</sup> In terms of the Human Development Index (HDI),<sup>44</sup> South Sudan is ranked among the lowest, 187<sup>th</sup> out of 189 countries, and its HDI value declined 6 percent from 2010 to 2017 (0.413 to 0.388).<sup>45</sup> The decrease in HDI is attributable to the decline in Gross National Income. For the other HDI indicators, life expectancy at birth increased by 13.8 years between 1990 and 2017, but the mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling remained constant at just under five years each. Low education levels impact the country's human capital. A 2015 assessment found that more than half the population of Maban had received no education.<sup>46</sup>

South Sudan thus has limited economic inclusion opportunities for refugees and nationals. Unemployment and underemployment in South Sudan are quite high, with the majority of refugee and host community youth not engaged in education, employment or training, further limiting productive participation in the labour market.

Outside of oil production, South Sudan faces macro-economic challenges including inflation and limited economic opportunities.<sup>47</sup> In Maban county, most members of the host community are subsistence agro-pastoralists.<sup>48</sup> In 2015, NGO activities and the influx of refugees had stimulated previously sparse formal markets, which are vulnerable to conflict-related road closures.

**Refugee context:** Sudanese refugees began fleeing in large numbers to Upper Nile and Unity States in South Sudan beginning in mid-2011, following conflict between the Sudan Armed Forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement–North.<sup>49</sup> Sudanese refugees settled in Maban (Doro, Yusuf Batil, Gendrassa and Kaya camps) and Yida. Assistance delivery in the Yida refugee settlement in Unity— where refugees faced protection risks (e.g., forced recruitment)—is being phased out following the 2016 Government of South Sudan's announced plan to close the settlement.<sup>50</sup> As of 2017, UNHCR was relocating refugees from Yida to other nearby camps, such as Ajuong Thok and Pamir.<sup>51</sup> Some refugee households are reluctant to move, though, due to better livelihoods opportunities around Yida.

**Areas of focus:** This evaluation focuses on livelihood activities in (1) greater Maban in Upper Nile State, which hosts approximately 144,000 PoC from Sudan in four refugee camps (Doro, Yusuf Batil, Kaya and Gendrassa

<sup>42</sup> World Bank (2019).

<sup>43</sup> UNDP (2018).

<sup>44</sup> HDI assesses long-term progress toward three aspects: a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living.

<sup>45</sup> UNDP (2018).

<sup>46</sup> Forcier Consulting (2015).

<sup>47</sup> World Bank (2019).

<sup>48</sup> Forcier Consulting (2015).

<sup>49</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>50</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>51</sup> Muthoka, R and J. Mwangangi (2017).

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camp), (2) Jamjang in Unity State, which hosts approximately 117,696 PoC in Ajuong Thok, Yida and Pamir Camps, and (3) refugee-hosting areas (Juba and Yei in Central Equatoria; Yambio in Western Equatoria) where livelihood interventions have been supported since 2016.<sup>52</sup>

A 2015 assessment found that male refugees and refugees in Gendrassa camp had the least food aid, water, and income; further, refugees in Gendrassa had the least opportunities to participate in livelihood training.<sup>53</sup> In contrast, most hosts in Maban county relied on their own production as their main food source; about 80 percent of hosts reported having enough food. More hosts than refugees participated in livelihoods trainings. Although hosts had less education, youth refugees were less likely than hosts to have income.

In Unity's Ajuong Thok and Pamir Refugee Camps, a 2017 Multi-sector Needs Assessment found that education was a "pull" factor drawing people to camps; housing and water were adequate given the emergency context, and food security was a concern for both camps, driven by limited livelihood options.<sup>54</sup>

**Food security:** Reliance on food assistance is widespread, and food insecurity was common among refugee households. Since August 2015, all registered refugees in South have received a monthly World Food Programme (WFP) General Food Ration at a 70 percent ration scale, representing 1491 kilocalories per person per day.<sup>55</sup> The food ration gap and limited livelihood opportunities contribute to food insecurity. In 2017, half the households in Pamir and 29 percent of those in Ajuong Thok did not have any source of income, which increases their reliance on general food distribution and the likelihood that they will deplete their savings on key expenses such as food.<sup>56</sup> In 2017, more than one-third of refugees reported having moderate challenges accessing food, and more than that had borderline or poor food consumption scores (e.g., 69 percent of respondents in Doro, Maban county<sup>57</sup> and 84 percent of households in Ajuong Thok camp in Unity<sup>58</sup>).

**Conflict:** Scarcity of food and natural resources contributes to tensions between host communities and PoC. Tensions are exacerbated by the general perception among hosts that refugees are favoured and given more support.<sup>59, 60</sup> Primary drivers of conflict between host communities, refugees and internally displaced persons in Gendrassa and Yusif Batil Camps in Maban County in 2016 were access to land and natural resources (e.g., water, firewood, grass).<sup>61</sup> Refugees who cultivated outside the camps in Maban were more likely to experience conflict compared to those who did not cultivate or who cultivated within the camps.<sup>62</sup> As of 2017, Ajuong Thok and Pamir Refugee camps were experiencing a period of security<sup>63</sup> but refugees reported tensions with the host community.

**Livelihoods background:** As of 2015, multiple partners had provided livelihood activities in refugee camps in Maban county.<sup>64</sup> Of the livelihood activities implemented, carpentry and tailoring were the most popular trainings and catering the least due to expected profits from each livelihood. In 2017, the predominant livelihoods for refugees and hosts in Maban county were agriculture and livestock (i.e., goats, sheep and pigs), with only about 20 percent of respondents reporting other sources of income: commercial trade, catering, poultry-raising, and beekeeping.<sup>65</sup> About one-third of refugees in Maban county report having livestock, and only 8 percent of

<sup>52</sup> UNHCR (2019a). ToR.

<sup>53</sup> Forcier Consulting (2015).

<sup>54</sup> REACH (2017b).

<sup>55</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>56</sup> REACH (2017b).

<sup>57</sup> REACH (2017a).

<sup>58</sup> REACH (2017b).

<sup>59</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>60</sup> UNHCR (2017).

<sup>61</sup> REACH (2016).

<sup>62</sup> REACH (2016).

<sup>63</sup> REACH (2017b).

<sup>64</sup> Forcier Consulting (2015).

<sup>65</sup> UNHCR (2017).

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households in Ajuong Thok and Pamir camps reported owning livestock in 2017.<sup>66</sup> Promising business opportunities included: brick production, agro-processing, bread baking, chicken raising, fruits and fruit juice blending, hairdressing, tailoring, and weaving.<sup>67</sup>

A 2018 assessment found that firewood collection—an unsustainable practice with long lasting environmental impacts that also contributes to tensions with host communities—remained a primary source of income for many refugees.<sup>68</sup> Moreover, women and girls are the main firewood collectors, which exposes them to risk of SGBV, kidnapping, and harassment. During the growing season, crop cultivation is the second most common income source for refugees.

**Policy:** South Sudan maintains an open-door policy for refugees, and through the Government of South Sudan Refugee Act of 2012, refugees have the right to work.<sup>69</sup> Refugees also have access to land and have the right to own animals, though the amount of land allocated is insufficient to meet demand. Further, access to allocated land is restricted by insecurity. In June 2017, the Minister of Interior signed the “Refugee Status Eligibility Regulations” to facilitate development of national asylum procedures in alignment with international standards. Refugees report having freedom of movement. South Sudan has an agricultural policy, which was not being implemented as of 2017, and did not have a comprehensive national strategy on livelihoods from 2016-2018 but launched the South Sudan National Development Strategy (2018-2022) in late 2018.<sup>70</sup>

## Methodology – continued

**Approach:** A key element to TANGO’s approach is the participatory and systematic feedback process through all phases of evaluation. The evaluation design was jointly agreed on by all involved levels of UNHCR. The fieldwork was conducted to solicit sensemaking<sup>71</sup> and validation from a broad range of stakeholders. This is critical because the organisational change required of the new global livelihoods strategy by the operations has to ‘make sense’ in order for new strategies to be effectively adopted. In the post-fieldwork and analysis phase, preliminary analysis and results briefings engaged UNHCR and partners in order to ensure the results and subsequent conclusions and recommendations are relevant and actionable. After submission of the draft evaluation report, there was a period of time to collect and submit comments to TANGO by UNHCR. The comments process is a crucial step to ensuring the usability of the final deliverable for UNHCR stakeholders. This process was repeated for a second and third draft before this report was finalised.

This evaluation examined the results of livelihood activities and factors affecting those results (KEQ 1) in light of the strategic objectives of the CO and the strategic direction promoted by HQ through the new global livelihoods strategy (KEQ 2). The two KEQ thus represent retrospective and prospective inquiries.

**Summary of methods/techniques:** The South Sudan ET includes Tim Frankenberger, TANGO President, with livelihoods and resilience expertise; joined by Ken Miller, international consultant; and Tukwajje Christine Taban, national research assistant. Two UNHCR staff participated in qualitative fieldwork, providing their observations and insights. The quantitative survey was conducted by TANGO partner, Kimetrica. The TANGO country team was supported by TANGO HQ senior researchers and desk-based analysts, ensuring consistency in approach across the country evaluations.

The ET conducted an in-depth evaluation focusing on programmatic results of the past five years, factors that

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<sup>66</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>67</sup> UNHCR (2017).

<sup>68</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>69</sup> UNHCR and WFP (2018).

<sup>70</sup> Government of the Republic of South Sudan (2018).

<sup>71</sup> Critical sensemaking is a method for understanding the intricacies and larger context of organisational processes and change. Source: Mills, A.J., et al. (2010).

affected results, and the role of UNHCR during this period and moving forward. The ET used a mixed-methods approach to ensure triangulation of evidence. The main techniques included a desk review of approximately 60 documents provided by the CO and retrieved from publicly available sources (e.g., revised livelihoods monitoring indicators, programme documents, monitoring data from implementing partners, etc.) and relevant external literature or policies, and primary quantitative and qualitative data collection.

A quantitative survey was implemented in response to a 2018 audit recommendation to conduct an impact assessment of the livelihood interventions<sup>72</sup> and to establish an evidence base to triangulate with the qualitative data to inform the future livelihoods and economic inclusion strategy (2019-2022) in South Sudan. The sampling for the quantitative survey was designed to provide statistically representative results of beneficiaries (margin of error of eight percent, with 90 percent confidence) for two programme intervention categories: (1) agriculture, including inputs and training, and (2) entrepreneurship, including vocational training and business support. The target sample size, including a buffer for non-response (30 percent), was 250 respondents for each of these two groups, to give a total target sample of 500, stratified across the two regions. Note: 188 per strata was the minimum required sample, not including the non-response buffer, and the final sample included 406 participant interviews total (209 in Maban and 197 in Unity); see Table 2, below.

**Table 2: Type and number of interviews completed**

Quantitative interview	Maban	Unity	Total
Minimum target sample size	188	188	376
Total interviews (including non-participants)	235	197	432
Number of interviews with respondent who <i>did not</i> complete UNHCR training	26	0	26
Total participant interviews	209	197	406

The sample was randomly selected from the list of beneficiaries, excluding host community, for the two regions. Regarding the unit of analysis, it is a combination of individual beneficiary responses and reported impacts at the household level. The beneficiary responded to modules related to the UNHCR training and changes to their livelihood strategies, activities, and income related to their individual participation; but for modules related to assets, food security, access to financial services, protection risks, and recovery, the beneficiary responded for the household. The enumerator training and data collection were completed from 26 June – 11 July 2019. The full quantitative data collection methods are recorded in the survey protocol, as agreed by TANGO and the CO.

The preliminary findings of the quantitative survey were then used to inform and complement the qualitative inquiry. Qualitative data collection entailed focus group discussions (FGD) with livelihood programme beneficiaries (refugees and host community) and non-beneficiary refugees, and key informant interviews (KII) with programme stakeholders such as UNHCR staff, government officials, partners, private sector representatives, and donors.

The TANGO-led team, in close collaboration with UNHCR, used a purposive sampling method for this qualitative study to explore the effectiveness of current livelihoods models supported by UNHCR. The ET collected qualitative data in Central Equatoria and—to complement and add depth to the interpretation of the quantitative data—Unity and Upper Maban (Figure 2). The sites were selected based primarily on origin of refugee population, population size, length of time activities have been implemented, differences in geographic setting, proximity to urban areas, and potential value chains. The sampling method does not allow generalisation to the full PoC population.

The sampling strategy ensured that the most significant partners and perspectives are included. This approach ensured age, gender, and diversity (AGD) considerations in the perspectives gathered. The focus groups were conducted with youth and adult groups disaggregated by gender, as well as by intervention type. Qualitative field work was conducted 22 July – 2 August 2019. The team conducted FGD with 104 refugee and host community

<sup>72</sup> UN OIOS (2018).

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representatives (34 men, 70 women), and interviewed 84 KII. See Annex 2 for the interview lists.

**Analysis and quality assurance:** At the end of the field mission, the ET gave a debrief presentation for members of the livelihood team and CO senior management to present emerging findings. This report was prepared with information collected during the field visit and subsequent interviews/validation discussion and triangulated with survey results and secondary data.

For analysis, the ET used a matrix approach. The ET began with open coding to become familiar with the data and develop initial interpretations of emerging themes and concepts, and thus gain a sense of how to proceed with analysis. Coding schemes were developed, which is an arrangement of related themes and concepts into which data are classified to draw findings.

The draft report and preliminary recommendations were discussed via teleconference with UNHCR stakeholders in the analysis and reporting phase. UNHCR HQ and the livelihood coordinator in South Sudan submitted detailed comments on the draft report, and TANGO revised and finalised the report based on this feedback to ensure relevant and actionable final recommendations.

**Limitations/constraints:** The primary constraint for the quantitative survey is the absence of a comparison data set or counterfactual group. This limits TANGO's ability to attribute any observed outcomes to the UNHCR programme. TANGO has attempted to address this limitation by including many questions that are respondents' recall about changes in their livelihood behaviours/conditions, as well as their assessments for the reasons for those changes, including changes that may be associated with their participation in the programme. Secondly, the beneficiary sample is not representative of the full refugee population in the sampled regions. This is due to the budget constraints that limited the sample size and geographic scope of the survey sample. Therefore, care must be taken in generalising the findings of this study to the larger population of refugees in South Sudan.

The exclusion of host community beneficiaries from the sample design due to budget constraints limiting survey scope means their perspective will not be included in the quantitative component of the evaluation. However, the host community were included in the qualitative data collection.

The qualitative data collection via purposive sampling are not meant to provide findings that are generalisable to the entire PoC population in country. The evaluation focused on the benefits and beneficiaries of the livelihood activities and sought to conduct sufficient fieldwork to reach saturation of ideas for those beneficiaries. However, the ET was not able to travel to Doro camp due to security concerns. In-country phone communication between UNHCR offices was limited due to poor infrastructure, and transportation was constrained by rain, which were general challenges faced during fieldwork.

In addition, social desirability or other types of response bias are common potential constraints with beneficiary respondents, including the tendency of respondents to answer questions in a way they think the interviewer (or UNHCR/partner) or their social group wants them to respond. To limit this bias, the evaluation team was clear in its introduction that it is independent of UNHCR and does not make decisions for the programme. The interviewer used techniques to promote comfortable interaction and honest exchanges of views during the interview. TANGO does not believe the overall quality of the data were impacted by this bias.

# Annex 2: Interview Lists

## Key informants

List of persons and institutions consulted.

Note: both individual and small group interviews were conducted

**Total Number Key Informants: 84**

Date (Day/Month/Year)	Name <sup>73</sup>	Title	Organisation
22/07/2019	Love Amey	Programme Officer – on mission	UNHCR (all South Sudan CO)
22/07/2019	Caroline Marko Poni	Assistant Programme Officer	UNHCR
22/07/2019	Terry Njeri Theuri	Nutrition and Food Security Officer	UNHCR
22/07/2019	Birhanu Alemayu	Programme Officer	UNHCR
22/07/2019	Anthony Lemi	Programme Associate, Juba	UNHCR
22/07/2019	Jovana Mbuyo	Programme Associate, Juba	UNHCR
22/07/2019	Ketevan Kamashidze	Protection Officer	UNHCR
22/07/2019	Lilian Otieno	Associate Livelihoods Officer	UNHCR
23/07/2019	Whitney Hostetter	Programme Director	Relief International
24/07/19	Magok Dengali	Field Associate	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Lokiri Luke	Assistant Education Officer	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Nnamdi Nnaji	Physical Site Planner	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Akala Janet	Associate Education Officer	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Leon Banks	Programme Officer	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Syed Shabbir Hussain	Supply Officer	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Evans Njoroge	Associate ICT and Infrastructure Officer	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Lomuya Tobias Gabriel	Assistant Protection Officer	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Lilian Otieno	Associate Livelihoods Officer	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	Daniel Thon Wuor	Protection Associate	UNHCR Maban
24/07/19	John Ndengu	Field Safety Advisor	UNHCR Maban
25/07/19	Betty Makka	FSL Team Leader	ACTED
25/07/19	Lemeriga Elnoma	Business Development Officer	ACTED
25/07/19	Alim Bakhit Jalin	Business Monitor	ACTED
25/07/19	Achan Hellen	Business Development Officer	ACTED
25/07/19	Izama Joshua	Handcraft Trainer	ACTED
25/07/19	Aber Jakai	Field Extension Assistant	ACTED
25/07/19	Stephen Mawadri	FSL Programme Manager	ACTED
25/07/19	Adam Eldouma	Business Monitor	ACTED
25/07/19	Jafar Jakolo	Camp Chairman	Gendrassa
25/07/19	Abe John Kiri	Senior Nutrition Associate	UNHCR Maban
26/07/19	Name not recorded	FSL Committee Chairman	Kaya Camp
27/07/19	Umada Adam	Committee Chairman	Yusif Batil Camp
27/07/19	Omony Henry	Livelihoods Manager	Relief International
27/07/19	Anzoyo Josephine	M&E Officer	Relief International
27/07/19	Ngobi Yairo	Entrepreneur & Microfinance Coordinator	Relief International
27/07/19	Gwolo Samuel	VSLA & Entrepreneurship Project Officer	Relief International

<sup>73</sup> The TANGO evaluation team expresses their regrets for any name that is inaccurate or misspelled.

Date (Day/Month/Year)	Name <sup>73</sup>	Title	Organisation
27/07/19	Yoanes Simon Nyik	VSLA & Entrepreneurship Project Officer	Relief International
27/07/19	Peter Muriuki	Senior Protection Officer	UNHCR Maban
27/07/19	Yairo Ngobi	Master Trainer Entrepreneur	ILO Master Trainer
27/07/19	Omar - Name not recorded	School Garden Patron	Batil Camp
27/07/19	Smael Hussain	FSL Chair	Batil Camp
27/07/19	Alfi Tilum	Farmers Group Committee Chairman	Batil Camp
27/07/19	Wilfred Tokpah	Head of Field Office, Maban	WFP
27/07/19	Andrea Ujang	Programme Officer	WFP
27/07/19	Mohamad Khamis	Logistics	WFP
31/07/19	Martin Omukubwa	Country Director, Juba	IRC
31/07/19	Celine Bore	Deputy Director of Programmes, Juba	IRC
31/07/19	Benson Adoko	Livelihoods Coordinator	IRC
31/07/19	Cosmas Ayella	M&E Coordinator	IRC
31/07/19	Beyene Tassie	ERD Manager	IRC
31/07/19	Getasew Belete	Senior Grants Manager	IRC
31/07/19	Glory Makena	IRC Coordinator – SGBV/ Former DRC SGBV Manager based in Maban	IRC
31/07/19	Victor Makovere	(Former, Livelihoods & Environment Coordinator) Currently, Food Security and Livelihoods Programme Manger	Action Africa Help International (AAH-I)
31/07/19	Frida Amoding	Former – Entrepreneurship and Micro-finance Coordinator	Relief International
31/07/19	David Kinyera	Associate Education Officer	UNHCR
31/07/19	Basilica Paul Jurkin	Community Services Associate	UNHCR
31/07/19	Eujin Byun	External / Donor Relations	UNHCR
01/08/19	Dr. Richard Ofwono	AAH-I Manager	AAH-I
01/08/19	Iman Opan John	Livelihoods staff	AAH-I
01/08/19	Lokoji Peter Samuel	Livelihoods staff	AAH-I
01/08/19	Adan Ilmi	South Sudan Representative a.i	UNHCR
01/08/19	Malual Deng Chier	Head of Programmes, Director General for Programme Coordination	CRA
01/08/19	Joseph Mawejje (and on colleague, Senior Rural Development Specialist, D.C.)	Economist, Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment	World Bank
01/08/19	Kavita Belani	Senior Protection – Cluster Coordinator	UNHCR
01/08/19	Nicholas Ochieng	Roving Protection Cluster Coordinator	UNHCR
01/08/19	Madam Ida Christopher	Vocational Training Principal in Juba	Multi-Purpose Vocational Training Centre – Juba
01/08/19	Eujin Byun	External / Donor Relations/, Public Information Officer	UNHCR
01/08/19	Felicia Mandy	Assistant Representative (Operations)	UNHCR
2/08/19	Hala EL Khoury	Livelihoods Focal Point and Area Manager	DRC
2/08/19	Abdifatah Issack	Livelihoods Manger	DRC
2/08/19	Matteo Oliveri	GIS/ Assessment Officer	REACH Initiative
2/08/19	Phokarel Bharati	Programme Specialist	UNESCO
2/08/19	Saluwen Yoasa	Programme Officer (Education)	UNESCO
2/08/19	Daro Justine	Programme Assistant	UNESCO
2/08/19	Felicia Mandy	Assistant Representative (Operations)	UNHCR

Date (Day/Month/Year)	Name <sup>73</sup>	Title	Organisation
2/08/19	Inna Gladkova	Assistant Representative (Protection)	UNHCR
2/08/19	Elizabeth Stuart	Associate External Relations & Reporting Officer	UNHCR
2/08/19	Shane Yates	Field Security Advisor – Roving	UNHCR
2/08/19	Tumaini Stanslaus Sango	Former Field Officer Unity/ Head of Office Yei	UNHCR
2/08/19	Louis Severino Androga	Assistant Field Officer	UNHCR
2/08/19	Jonas Yongolem	UMCOR Livelihood Officer	UMCOR

## Beneficiary and PoC interviews

Total number of beneficiary and PoC FGD participants: 104 (34 males, 70 females)

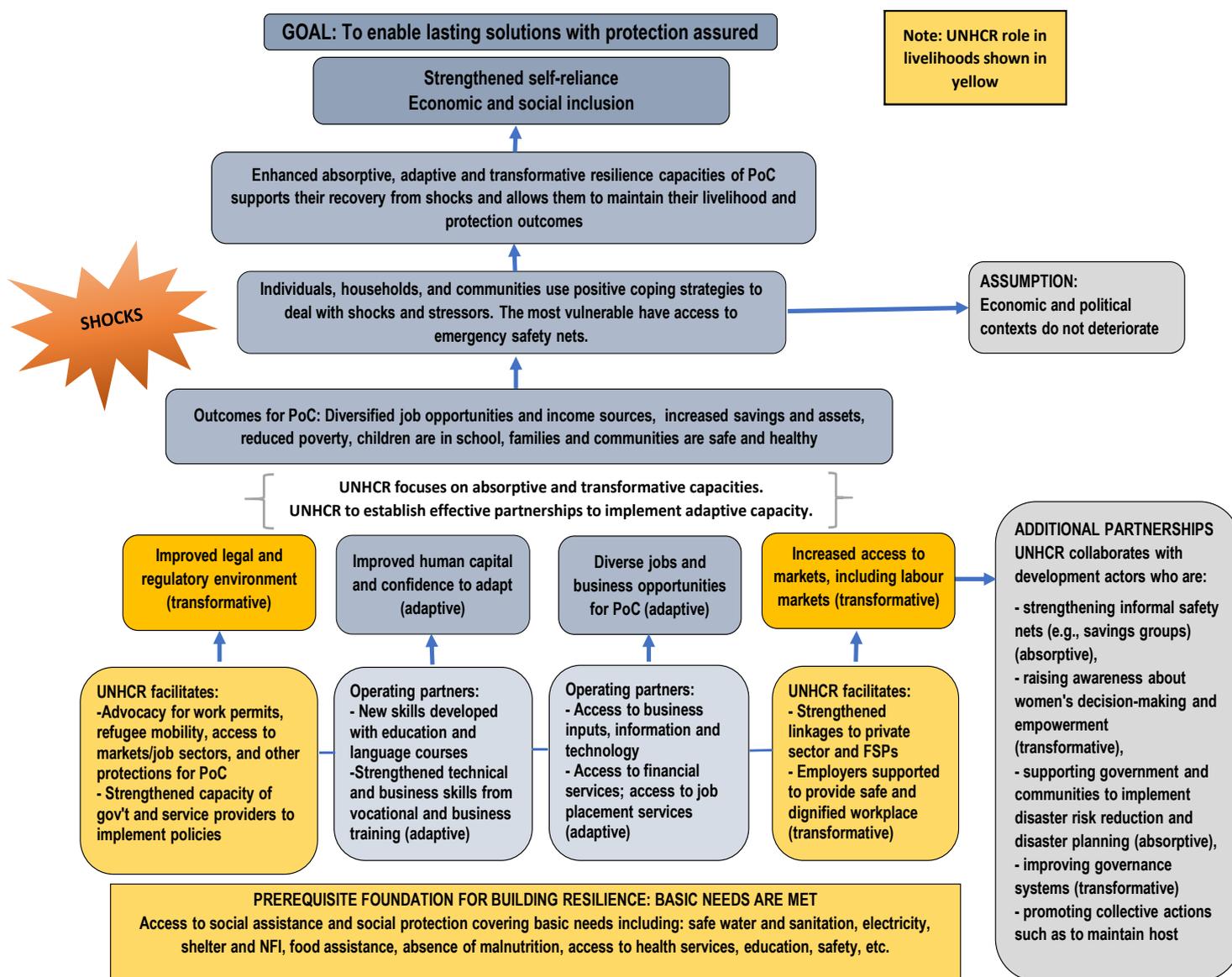
Date (Day/Mo)	Type (e.g., men, women)	Location	PoC ethnic group (or other strata)	Livelihood activity participant?	# of females	# of males	# of participants
24/7/19	Women	Kaya and Gendrassa camp		Entrepreneurs	12		12
24/7/19	Men & Women	Gendrassa camp		Life Skills	6	6	12
26/7/19	Men & Women	Kaya Camp	PEAs, SM & KG PoC	Agriculture	9	8	17
26/7/19	Hussan	Kaya Camp		Owner, food and commodities shop		1	
26/7/19	Adam	Kaya Camp		Owner, clothing shop		1	
26/7/19	Men & Women	Pekeji		Targeted seed distributors in host community	6	7	13
27/7/19	Men & Women	Yusuf Batil Camp youth		VSLA	7	5	12
27/7/19	Men & Women	Yusuf Batil Camp		Entrepreneurs	6	6	12
27/7/19	Women	Yusuf Batil Camp		Farmers/ ag groups	12		12
27/7/19	Women	Bung		Host Community VSLA programme village agents in Bung (Relief International)	12		12
<b>Totals</b>					<b>70</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>104</b>

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# Annex 3: Resilience Capacities and Framework

- 1. Absorptive capacity is the:** Ability of households and communities to minimise exposure to shocks if possible and to recover quickly after exposure.
  - Informal Safety Nets (e.g., involvement in savings groups, *zakat*, mutual help groups, civic or charitable groups, religious groups, women's groups)
  - Asset Ownership (e.g., productive assets and livestock gained through the programme)
  - Local shock preparedness plan or protection structures in place and disaster risk reduction (e.g., awareness of disaster preparedness plans (for natural hazards) and about their awareness of how to prevent protection risks such as SGBV trainings or through conflict management committees, or how to report abuses.)
  - Household savings (e.g., use savings to cope with shock, not negative coping strategies such as distress sale of productive assets, withdrawing children from school to work, or taking on consumptive debt)
  - Bonding Social Capital (e.g., connected to informal safety nets, above, it is seen in the bonds between community members. It involves principles and norms such as trust, reciprocity and cooperation, and is often drawn on in the emergency context, where PoC work closely to help each other to cope and recover)
- 2. Adaptive capacity is the:** Ability of households and communities to make pro-active and informed choices about their lives and their diversified livelihood strategies based on changing conditions.
  - Livelihood diversity (e.g., what have been the opportunities for PoC to diversity their livelihoods and income sources? What livelihoods can be sustained in the face of different kinds of risks/shocks?) and asset ownership (same as above)
  - Human capital (e.g., basic literacy, primary or higher education, trainings received)
  - Access to financial services (e.g., access to bank accounts, loans, micro-credit)
  - Psychosocial adaptations (e.g., confidence, perceived ability to adapt and be self-reliant)
  - Bridging social capital with the host community and to others in different risk environments (e.g., those with social ties outside their immediate community can draw on these links when local resources are insufficient or unavailable. Some PoC may heavily depend on remittances, for example. For this evaluation, it may also mean ties to the host community indicating greater social inclusion.)
- 3. Transformative capacity is the:** System-level changes that ensure sustained resilience, including formal safety nets, access to markets, infrastructure, and basic services.
  - Access to basic services (e.g., nearby health centre, primary school, security services, etc.)
  - Policy changes regarding work permits and mobility
  - Access to formal safety nets (government, NGO, or UN- provided food or cash assistance for relief or for the most vulnerable)
  - Access to infrastructure (e.g., water and sewerage systems, shelter, electricity, telecommunications, paved roads)
  - [For rural areas] Access to livestock services or natural resources (e.g., grazing land)
  - Access to markets (e.g., regulations and policies allow PoC to access work permits, land, formal employment in all sectors)
  - Linking social capital (e.g., a refugee group leader is designated to participate in local government decision making)

## Refugee Resilience and Self-Reliance Theory of Change



# Annex 4: Quantitative survey results

This section presents results from the quantitative survey with some additional narrative summarising the results for livelihood activities and household assets and wellbeing.

## Household Characteristics

### Is the beneficiary male or female?

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Female	54	80.9	72.2
Male	46	19.1	27.8

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Total	235	197	432
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### What is the beneficiary's current marital status?

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Married or living together	90.5	60.1	69.9
Divorced/separated	3.5	18.9	13.9
Widowed	4.1	10.7	8.6
Never Married	1.9	10.3	7.6

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n	235	197	432
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### What is the highest level of education attended at school? (of the beneficiary)

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Don't Know	0.7	0.0	0.2
Never Attended	50.3	38.0	42.0
1st Grade	1.7	6.8	5.1
2nd Grade	6.4	15.8	12.7
3rd Grade	6.9	9.3	8.5
4th Grade	7.2	5.2	5.8
5th Grade	2.9	6.6	5.4
6th Grade	3.3	1.0	1.8
7th Grade	5.1	3.5	4.0
8th Grade	2.6	4.6	4.0
9th Grade	0.1	0.3	0.3
10th Grade	0.6	1.0	0.9
11th Grade	1.0	1.4	1.2
12th Grade	1.0	5.7	4.1
Incomplete higher educ	0.3	0.0	0.1
Completed higher educ	2.2	0.9	1.3

### What is the highest level of education attended at school? (of the beneficiary)

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Adult literacy program	7.8	0.0	2.5

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n	235	197	432
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### What is the country of origin of the beneficiary?

(% households (HH))	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sudan	100	100	100

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n	235	197	432
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### Beneficiary age

(mean years)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Avg age of beneficiary	36.4	33.2	34.2

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n	235	197	432
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### Household size

(mean)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Avg. # in HH	7.7	6.8	7.1

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n	235	197	432
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### Household members employed

(mean)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Avg. # HH members employed	1.2	0.6	0.8

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n	235	197	432
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## Beneficiary Engagement in UNHCR/Partner Activities

### Did you participate in any trainings implemented by UNHCR or its partner(s) over the last 3 years?

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Participated in at least one training	89.3	100.0	96.5
Refused	1.3	0.0	0.4
Don't Know	9.5	0.0	3.1

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n	235	197	432
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### Type of training (participated in)

(% beneficiary trained)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Kitchen gardening	36	55.5	49.7
Farming	57.4	38.8	44.4
Micro-enterprise/business	13.5	14.7	14.4
VSLA or "Sanduk"	7.8	9.3	8.9

Vocation/skills training	6.3	3	4
Soil/water management	6.9	0.9	2.7
Life-skills/psychosocial skills	0.8	2.3	1.9
Livestock herding/selling	2.5	0.9	1.4
Animal healthcare	3.8	0	1.1
Post-harvest handling	0.8	0	0.2
Agroforestry	0.8	0	0.2
Financial literacy/ numeracy	0.5	0	0.1
Functional literacy/ language training	0.5	0	0.1
n	209	197	406

**Did you complete a training? (at least 1, if participated in multiple)**

(% beneficiary trained)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	94.6	80.3	84.6
No	5.4	19.7	15.4
n	209	197	406

**Did you receive productive assets associated with a training (e.g., seed, fishing kits, tools, etc.)?**

(% beneficiary trained)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	81.2	92.8	89.3
No	18.8	7.2	10.7
n	209	197	406

**Did you receive a cash grant/ business start-up (e.g., to start a business, help find employment, etc.)?**

(% beneficiary trained)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
No	92.4	95.7	94.7
Yes	7.6	4.3	5.3
n	209	197	406

**Did you make any changes to how you earn money as a result of participation in any UNHCR or partner trainings?**

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	51.5	56.6	54.9
No	45.4	43.4	44.1
Refused	0.7	0.0	0.2
Don't know	2.5	0.0	0.8
Total	235	197	432

**If yes, what changes did you make? (to earn money)**

(% beneficiary making changes)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Adopted improved practices	79.2	51.9	60.2
Started a business	25.2	35.7	32.5

Engaged in new income-earning activities	19.3	20.5	20.1
Expanded or diversified existing activities	0.6	5.1	3.7
Other	0	1.6	1.1
Hired employees	0.8	0.2	0.4

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n	141	135	276
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**How did your income change as a result of changes you made to your livelihood?**

(% beneficiary making changes)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Increase	84.7	72.9	76.7
Did not change	13.8	20	18
Decrease	0.3	7.1	4.9
DNK	1.3	0	0.4

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n	148	135	283
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**What is the main reason your income decreased?**

(% beneficiary making changes income decreased)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Business failed	0	85.7	80
Market constraints (high prices, increasing prices)	0	14.3	13.3
No capital to invest	100	0	6.7

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n	1	14	15
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**How, if at all, did your household's access to food change as a result of changes you made to your livelihood?**

(% beneficiary making changes)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Increased	88.9	76.6	80.5
Did not change	9.3	20.7	17.1
Decreased	0.5	2.6	2
DNK	1.3	0	0.4

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n	148	135	283
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**Did any other member of your household receive any other trainings/information from any source?**

(% beneficiary making changes)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
No	64.7	81.7	76.3
Yes	34	18.3	23.3
Don't know	1.3	0	0.4

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n	148	135	283
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**If yes, what types of support? (received other support)**

(% beneficiary making changes receiving outside support)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Kitchen gardening	45.8	23.3	33.7
Farming	43.5	11.9	30.9

**If yes, what types of support? (received other support)**

(% beneficiary making changes receiving outside support)

	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vocational/skills/training	7.5	28.9	19
VSLA	23	13.3	17.8
Seeds	31.7	0	14.7
Micro-enterprise/business	15.8	7.7	11.4
Agricultural tools	8.1	8.9	8.5
Water, sanitation, and hygiene training	1.5	10	6.1
Life skills/psychosocial skills	0	11.1	6
Health and nutrition training	1.5	8.9	5.5
Livestock herding/selling	7.3	0	3.4
Soil/water management (e.g., water harvesting, agroforestry, rotational grazing, intercropping, etc.)	7.3	0	3.4
Other	5.2	0	2.4
Functional literacy/language training	3.7	1.1	2.3
Kitchen gardening inputs	3.7	1.1	2.3

**If yes, what types of support? (received other support)**

(% beneficiary making changes receiving outside support)

Post-harvest storage/handling	3.7	0	1.7
Agroforestry	3.7	0	1.7
Financial literacy/numeracy	2.3	0	1.1
Plastic covers during wet season	0.8	0	0.4
Animal healthcare	0	0	0
Job tool kits	0	0	0
Fishing kits	0	0	0
Cash grant	0	0	0

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n	47	27	74
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**Livelihood Activities**

Across both areas, the main agricultural source of income is crop production and sales, and the main non-agricultural income is from food preparation and sales. In Maban, the main sources of income are from agriculture (50 percent), business or wage work (20 percent), cash for work/ labour (15 percent), and selling food rations (12 percent). In Unity, the main income sources are “own business or wage work” (51 percent), agriculture (18 percent), cash for work/labour (17 percent), and selling food rations (7 percent). Overall, almost 9 out of 10 beneficiaries who are employed are self-employed, including owning a business, and about 14 percent employ others.

About 6 in 10 respondents have access to arable land without significant restrictions (Figure 7); of those with access to land, more than 9 in 10 beneficiaries cultivated crops in the last year.

The majority of respondents have access to arable land without significant restrictions.



Figure 7: Percentage of households in Maban and Unity with access to arable land

#### Do you or does anyone in your household have access to arable land?

(% HH)	Maban	Unity	Total
Yes, without significant restrictions	58.7	61.2	60.4
No	14.6	30.7	25.5
Yes, with significant restrictions	26.7	8.1	14.1
n	235	197	432

#### Have you cultivated any crops over the last 12 months?

(% HH w access to land)	Maban	Unity	Total
Yes	95.5	92.5	93.6
No	4.5	7.5	6.4
n	197	126	323

#### Are you currently employed (self-earning or receiving wage/incentive from employer, including temporary labour)?

(% beneficiary)	Maban	Unity	Total
No	38.7	59	52.4
Yes	61.3	41	47.6
n	235	197	432

#### What is your main source of income?

(% beneficiary employed)	Maban	Unity	Total
Non-Agriculture Sector (own business or wage work)	19.8	50.9	37.9
Agriculture Sector	49.6	18.3	31.3
Cash for work, including labour intensive temporary work	15.2	16.8	16.1
Relying on/selling general food ration	12.4	7	9.2
Remittances (from friends/relatives)	0	4.5	2.6
Other (specify):	2.7	2.3	2.4
Relying on/selling core relief items (non-food)	0.5	0.3	0.4
n	157	112	269

**What area of agriculture or forest products are you engaged in as your main source of income?**

(% beneficiary employed in ag)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Crop production/sales	55.4	50.8	53.9
Vegetable production/	39.6	24.6	34.5
Livestock rearing/sal	2.3	12.3	5.7
Other (specify):	2.3	12.3	5.7
Firewood/charcoal	0.5	0	0.3
n	54	9	63

**As your primary income source, what non-agricultural area of employment are you engaged in?**

(% beneficiary employed in non-ag)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Food preparation/sales (e.g., tea vendors, caterers)	42.9	36.8	38.1	
Petty trade (hawking on foot, under a tree, or roadside)	22.8	32.9	30.7	
Other (specify):	12.7	13.7	13.5	
Incentive Teacher	0	9.4	7.3	
Auto mechanic	0	4.4	3.5	
Artisanal products (basketry, beadwork, crocheting, leather, bed/furniture making, etc.)	8	2.2	3.4	
UN/NGO worker	6.8	0.6	1.9	
Tailoring	6.8	0	1.5	
n		47	84	131

**Employment type (% HH)**

(% beneficiary employed)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Self-employed, including own business	88.1	88.6	88.4
Incentive worker	4.2	6.5	5.5
Wage-employed	4.8	5.3	5.1
n	101	93	194

**Do you employ others?**

(% beneficiary self-employed)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
No	86.9	84.1	85.2
Yes	13.1	15.9	14.8
n	92	86	178

**For your primary source of income, how are you employed?**

(% beneficiary employed)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
On daily/weekly basis	42.1	37.7	39.5
On monthly/seasonal basis	23.8	34.4	30
On long-term basis (ex: 6 to 12-month contract or longer)	30.2	27.9	28.8
I don't want to answer	1.9	0	0.8
Don't know	1.9	0	0.8
n	101	93	194

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**Is your primary source of income employment a formal contract or informal contract?**

(% beneficiary employed)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Informal	94.9	96.4	95.7
Formal	5.2	3.7	4.3
<hr/>			
n	101	93	194

**How does your primary source of income from this year compare to the previous year?**

(% beneficiary employed)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Increased	52.3	63.1	58.6
Remained/stayed the same	24.9	26.4	25.8
Decreased	19.6	10.5	14.3
Don't know	3.2	0	1.3
<hr/>			
n	101	93	194

**Did the training/livelihood support you received from UNHCR or partner help in securing your primary source of employment?**

(% beneficiary employed)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	79.4	87.8	84.3
No	17.4	12.2	14.4
Don't know	3.2	0	1.3
<hr/>			
n	101	93	194

**What other sources contribute to your household's income?**

(% beneficiary employed)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vegetable production/kitchen gardens	44.9	25.5	33.6
No other sources of income	14.9	34	26
Crop production/sales	42.9	12.2	25
Food preparation/sales	13.6	10.1	11.6
Relying on/selling humanitarian assistance	21	2.4	10.2
Other (specify):	9	3.7	5.9
Cash for work	6.5	5.3	5.8
Firewood/charcoal	4.6	4.9	4.7
Livestock rearing/sales	9.7	0.4	4.3
Tailoring	1.6	3.3	2.6
Fisheries	0.3	4.1	2.5
Brewing	0	3.7	2.1
Remittances (from friends/relatives)	0	3.7	2.1
Artisanal production/sales (basketry, beads, etc.)	1.9	0.4	1
Incentive Teacher	0.3	1.2	0.8
Forest-harvested plants (cutting grass, etc.)	0.3	0.8	0.6
Auto mechanic	0.3	0	0.1
Driver	0	0	0
Solar panel maintenance/electricity	0	0	0

Plumbing	0	0	0
UN/NGO worker	0	0	0
n	101	93	194

## Household Assets

Household assets mostly increased or stayed the same across the two regions in past three years; 13-15 percent of households reported a decrease. The most common assets reported are poles or roofing materials followed by sewing machines. Newly acquired assets were largely purchased with household income; only about of third of the respondents with increased assets reported having received those assets as part of a programme; yet, there are regional differences in these findings.

Respondents reported a similar pattern with productive assets: most households reported the same or more productive assets over the last three years, while 16 percent of households in Maban and 10 percent in Unity reported a decrease. The most commonly reported productive assets are farm hand tools. In Unity, among the respondents who reported decreased assets, half sold them to cover household expenses. Among the households in Maban that reported an increase in productive assets, about two-thirds purchased assets with household income, whereas increases in Unity were mostly due to having received assets through the livelihood programme. Among respondents who experienced a decrease in productive assets, about half in Maban attributed the decrease to the end of programme support/aid. In Unity, almost half of the households that experienced a decrease in productive assets sold them to cover non-food expenses, and almost 4 in 10 had items stolen.

### Does your household currently own any of these assets?

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Poles or roofing materials	91.4	86.7	88.2
Sewing machines	40.5	83.3	69.7
Seed kits (crops or vegetables)	42.8	21	28
Basket/mat weaving materials, Beads	11.6	33.3	26.3
Grinding mills	11.2	24.2	20
Poultry stock	17.9	5.2	9.2
Plastic covers during wet season/flooding	9.7	7.4	8.1
Farming tools	8.7	7.3	7.7
Other in-kind business start-up items (tables, chairs, etc.)	5.2	8.2	7.2
Auto mechanic tools	4.9	2.3	3.1
Other (specify):	5.2	0	1.7
Utensils (pails, plates, cups, kettle, etc.)	0.3	0.9	0.7
Donkeys or Donkey carts	0.1	0.3	0.3
Post-Harvest kits (sacks, mats for drying, etc.)	0.6	0	0.2
n	232	197	429

### Overall, how have your household assets changed over the last 3 years?

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Remained/stayed the same	39.7	55	50.1
Increased	43.4	32.2	35.8

Decreased	14.8	12.8	13.5
Don't know	2.1	0	0.7

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n	235	197	432
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#### Why did they increase? (HH assets)

(% HH w assets increased)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Purchased more w/own income	73.3	53.9	61.5
Received as programme support/aid	25.7	36.5	32.3
Purchased more w/loan	0.3	6.4	4
Other	0.3	2.9	1.9
Received as gift	0.3	0.4	0.3

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n	115	77	192
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#### Why did they decrease? (HH assets)

(% HH w assets decreased)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sold to cover other household expenses	15.74	51.38	38.65
Other	43.36	15.32	25.33
Items were stolen	5.57	15.32	11.84
Sold to purchase food	13.06	9.88	11.02
Stopped receiving as programme support/ai	17.67	0	6.31
Gave as gift	0	7.21	4.64
Don't know	4.6	0	1.64
Had no need for them	0	0.89	0.57

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n	32	20	52
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#### Does your household currently own any of these (productive) assets?

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Farm hand tools (ex: panga, axe, pick axe, maloda, diffing hoe, pruning shears)	95.1	80	84.8
Watering can	13.4	44.5	34.5
Agricultural land – owned (feddans)	0.1	29.1	19.8
Sickle	33.4	12.9	19.5
Spade or shovel	32.1	12.4	18.8
Stone grain mill	44.3	0.2	14.4
Agricultural land – leased/rented (feddans)	2.9	11.6	8.8
None of these assets	0.9	12	8.4
Motorised grain mill	0.7	0.1	0.3
Knapsack chemical sprayer	0.7	0	0.2
Mechanical water pump	0.1	0.2	0.2
Hand-held motorised tiller	0.7	0	0.2
Mechanical plough	0.3	0	0.1
Broad bed maker (oxen-pulled)	0	0.1	0.1
Plough (oxen-pulled)	0	0	0
Traditional beehive	0	0	0

Modern beehive	0	0	0
Motorised water pump	0	0	0
Manual milling machine (including paste machine)	0.1	0	0
Small tractor	0	0	0

n	232	197	429
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**Overall, how have your productive assets changed over the last 3 years?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Remained/stayed the same	47.8	57.3	54.2
Increased	35.9	32.6	33.6
Decreased	16.2	10	12
Don't know	0.1	0.1	0.1
n	235	197	432

**Why did they increase? (productive assets)**

(% HH w prod assets increased)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Received as programme support/aid	33.6	60.8	51.4
Purchased more w/own income	66	32.8	44.3
Purchased more w/loan	0	6.4	4.2
Other	0.4	0	0.1

n	85	73	158
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**Why did they decrease? (productive assets)**

(% HH w assets decreased)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sold to cover other household expenses	9.3	47.2	30.7
Items were stolen	6.9	38	24.4
Stopped receiving as programme support/aid	46.6	2.3	21.6
Other	27.1	10.3	17.6
Sold to purchase food	6	2.3	3.9
Don't know	4.2	0	1.8

n	34	17	51
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**Livestock assets:** Livestock ownership is more prevalent in Maban than in Unity. Poultry, goats, and sheep are the most common livestock. About a quarter of Maban households reported a decrease in livestock holdings in the last 12 months; slightly more reported an increase. The majority of Unity households reported no change. Most increases were due to animals being born or purchased with household income. Decreases in livestock were due to animal deaths with only a small percentage of households reporting selling animals to purchase food. Livestock theft was more common in Unity than Maban.

**Does your household currently own any of these (livestock) assets?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
None of these livestock items	37.8	71.4	60.8
Poultry	40.7	21.5	27.6
Goats	30.1	10.5	16.7
Sheep	12.2	3.1	6

Donkey/mule	9.1	0	2.9
Cattle	2.2	0	0.7
Honey bee hives	0.9	0	0.3
Oxen	0.7	0	0.2
Camels	0	0	0
Horses	0	0	0

n	229	196	425
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#### How have your livestock assets changed over the last 12 months?

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Did not change	39.7	65.6	57.2
Decreased	23	17.4	19.2
Increased	26.8	11.8	16.7
Don't know	9.9	5.2	6.7
I don't want to answer	0.7	0	0.2

n	235	197	432
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#### Why did they increase? (livestock)

(% HH w livestock increased)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Animals born	51.7	56.4	53.9
Purchased more animals w/own income	45.7	39.8	42.9
Received as programme support/aid	2.6	3.8	3.2

n	74	33	107
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#### Why did they decrease? (livestock)

(% HH w livestock decreased)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Animals died	60	58.9	59.4
Sold animals to purchase food	16.1	17.2	16.8
Animals were stolen	8.9	16.6	13.6
Sold to cover other household expenses	12	1.3	5.5
Stopped receiving as programme support/aid	0	5.3	3.3
Other	3	0.7	1.6

n	59	39	98
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## Access to Markets

#### Are you able to move about freely in order to access markets outside the camp?

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes, without restrictions	61.9	81.5	75.1
No	22.2	11.4	14.9
Yes, with restrictions	12.9	2.5	5.9
Not applicable	3	4.6	4.1
n	235	197	432

**What, if any, constraints do you face trying to sell crops/livestock or their products in markets (either inside or outside the camp)?**

(% beneficiary without access to markets)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Too far away	54	38	46.5
Lack of transport	52.2	6.6	30.9
Lack of market information	29	8.3	19.3
Limited suppliers in market	20.3	6.6	13.9
None of these constraints	15.3	11.5	13.5
Discrimination against refugees	17.8	0	9.5
Road closures due to conflict	2.9	14.1	8.1
Low/variable prices	4.2	6.6	5.3
Gov't taxes	2.1	8.3	5
Lack of physical market/structure	2.1	6.6	4.2
Poor roads	0.9	0	0.5
Too many sellers	0	0	0
Gender discrimination	0	0	0
n	69	30	99

**Did UNHCR/partner programming improve your access to markets for selling agricultural products?**

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	65.2	80.6	75.6
No	31.6	18.5	22.8
Don't know	3.2	0.9	1.7
n	235	197	432

**Did UNHCR/partner programming improve your access to markets for purchasing agricultural products?**

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	65.9	81.2	76.3
No	30	17.8	21.8
Don't know	4.1	0.9	2
n	235	197	432

**What, if any, constraints do you face trying to purchase agricultural inputs (for crops and livestock) in markets (either inside or outside the camp)?**

(% beneficiary without access to markets)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Too far away	45.3	49.6	47.4
Lack of transport	60.7	0	31.9
Lack of market information	28.5	8.3	18.9
None of these constraints	17.9	18.2	18
Limited suppliers in market	17.6	6.6	12.4
Discrimination against refugees	12.4	0	6.5
Road closures due to conflict	0.4	13.2	6.5

Low/variable prices	10.7	0	5.6
Gov't taxes	0	10.7	5.1
Too many sellers	4.3	0	2.2
Lack of physical market/structure	2.1	0.8	1.5
Poor roads	1.3	0	0.7
Gender discrimination	0	0	0
n	66	30	96

## Access to Financial Services/Credit

### Please select all the places where people can borrow money?

(% beneficiary)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Relative/family member	46.7	54.9	52.2
VSLA	33.6	31.3	32
Money lender	26.1	2.3	10
Livelihood group	1	10.9	7.7
Don't know/refused	7.4	6.6	6.8
Other	5.6	5	5.2
NGO	0.7	3.3	2.5
Religious organisation	0	1	0.7
MFI	1.4	0	0.4
Bank	0	0	0
n	235	197	432

### Do you or anyone else in the household currently have any loans

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
No	69.3	88	82
Yes	29.4	12	17.6
Don't know	1.4	0	0.4
n	235	197	432

### What is the source of the loan?

(% beneficiary w loans)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
VSLA	33.6	48	40.4
Relative/family member	31.5	36.5	33.9
Other (specify):	16.7	8.7	12.9
Money lender	21	1.9	12.1
Livelihood group	2.9	16.4	9.2
NGO	0	9.6	4.5
MFI	0	0	0
Bank	0	0	0
Religious organisation	0	0	0
n	61	27	88

### How are loans used?

(% beneficiary w loans)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
To buy food	87.2	45.2	67.9
For emergencies	16.4	74	42.9
To purchase productive inputs	14.8	9.6	12.4
Other (specify):	9.8	0	5.3
Medical expenses	5.1	1	3.2
Invest in IGA	0	1.9	0.9
School fees (including supplies)	0	1	0.4
Servicing debt	0	0	0
n	61	27	89

### Did UNHCR/partner programming improve your access to financial services?

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	50.9	59.7	56.9
No	49.1	40.3	43.1
n	235	197	432

## Access to Financial Services/Savings

### Do you or any other household member currently have cash savings?

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
No	70.8	54.5	59.7
Yes	28.4	45.6	40
Don't know	0.8	0	0.3
n	235	197	432

### Where are the savings held

(% HH w savings)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
At home	76.9	63.4	66.5
VSLA	45	48.5	47.7
Livelihood group	1	9.3	7.4
NGO	0	0.7	0.6
MFI	0	0.2	0.2
Bank	0	0	0
Other (specify):	0	0	0
n	89	102	191

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**What is the primary way you use savings?**

(% HH w savings)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
For emergencies	35.4	67.5	60.1
To buy food	22.9	18.2	19.3
Income-generating investments	24.9	10.8	14.1
To purchase productive inputs	13.4	1.5	4.2
Other (specify):	2.4	2	2.1
Medical expenses	1	0	0.2
<hr/>			
n	89	102	191

**How have your savings changed in the last year?**

(% HH w savings)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Increased	82.9	60.1	65.3
Did not change	14.7	21	19.5
Decreased	2.4	18.9	15.1
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n	89	102	191

**Why did they increase?**

(% HH w savings increase)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Higher income from employment	51.7	35.7	40.4
Got a job (wage, casual, etc.)	39.2	21	26.3
Reduced household expenses	31	21	23.9
Received remittances	2.9	25.7	19
Other	2.9	4.2	3.8
<hr/>			
n	74	70	144

**Did UNHCR/partner programming improve your household's ability to have savings?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	43.9	58.4	53.7
No	52.1	41.6	45
Don't know	4	0	1.3
n	89	102	191

**Are you or any other household member able to open a bank account?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
No	96.4	98.9	98.1
Yes	3.6	1.2	1.9
<hr/>			
n	89	102	191

## Food Insecurity Coping Strategies

### In the last 7 days, did the household have to:

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Reduce number of meals eaten in a day?	84	89.6	87.8
Limit portion size at mealtimes?	83.2	87.5	86.1
Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods?	86.7	76.3	79.6
Restrict consumption by adults in order for small children to eat?	62.2	75.5	71.2
Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative?	71.4	70.9	71.1

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n	235	197	432
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### Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

(mean; min = 0 max = 56)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Avg. R-CSI score (higher = more food insecurity)	16.1	14.4	15.0

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n	235	197	432
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### In the last 30 days, did the household have to:

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Borrow money/purchase food on credit more than usual for this time of year	54.4	52.7	53.2
Ask other community members for food	18.6	46.6	38.3
Engage in hunting, gathering wild foods more than normal for this time of year	32.2	36.3	35.1
Send household members to eat elsewhere	45.3	25.1	31.1
Reduce essential non-food expenses (e.g., health, education, celebrations)	62.8	14	28.5
Withdraw one or more children from school	1.1	30.9	22
Sell household assets (e.g., furniture, jewellery, pots/pans)	21.7	15	17
Sell more animals than usual for this time of year	22.7	5.7	10.8
Sell productive assets or means of transport (e.g., tools, bicycles, canoe)	13.7	9.3	10.6
Slaughtered more animals than normal for this time of year	9.5	8.9	9
Used community leaders or a local court to collect debts or bride wealth/dowry, or to gain support for food or other resources from another community member	1.6	4.3	3.5
Send more household members than normal to cattle and/or fishing camps	8.3	1	3.2
Sell the last remaining female animal of any kind (i.e., no female animals of that type remain)	1.7	3.5	3

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n	212	193	405
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## Food Consumption

### In the last 7 days, did your family eat any of these items both inside or outside of your home:

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Any food made from cereal/grain?	99.7	98.9	99.1
Any vegetables (leaves)?	95.5	91.7	92.9
Any pulses or foods made from them?	87.8	92.1	90.7
Any other foods, such as condiments, etc.?	83.1	94	90.5

Any foods made with oil, animal fat or butter?	84.5	93.1	90.3
Any sugar or honey, granulated sugar?	81.4	88.2	86
Any meat?	60.4	61.2	60.9
Any fresh or dried fish?	45.4	22.1	29.5
Any milk, sour milk, skimmed milk, or other dairy products?	38.4	22.9	27.9
Any eggs (e.g., chicken, duck)?	30.7	9.4	16.3
Any roots/tubers or foods made from them?	30.5	8.3	15.4
Any fruits?	23.3	6.1	11.6
n	231	197	428

#### Food security (based on Food Consumption Score)

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Food Secure	49.4	60.8	57.4
Moderate Food Insecurity	25.9	26.4	26.3
Severe Food Insecurity	24.7	12.8	16.4
n	214	195	409

## Protection Risks and Security

#### What is the most common protection concern for women in your household aged 18 yrs. or more?

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Rape/sexual assault	3.3	62.1	43.1
Domestic violence	29.8	5.2	13.1
Harassment	8	7.8	7.9
Family separation	13.4	4	7.1
Looting/robbery/theft	4.5	6.3	5.7
Death or serious injury	10.5	2.9	5.4
Other (specify):	6.6	1	2.8
Forced/early marriage	7.6	0.1	2.5
Lack of psychosocial support from family	1	3.1	2.4
Getting lost in the bush	1.4	2.4	2.1
Don't know	5.5	0.3	2
Fires	0	2.9	2
Substance abuse (alcohol, drug, tobacco)	3.6	0	1.2
FGM	2.9	0.2	1.1
Abduction/kidnapping	0	1.5	1
Violence at market	1.7	0	0.5
Attacks by dogs in camp	0.4	0	0.1
n	235	197	432

**What is the most common protection concern for men in your household (18 yrs. +)?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Death or serious injury	14.1	38.9	30.9
Harassment	6	21.5	16.5
Looting/robbery/theft	3.8	15.7	11.8
Substance abuse (alcohol, drug, tobacco)	23.6	3.9	10.3
Forced recruitment/involvement with military	15.7	4.7	8.3
Lack of psychosocial support from family	4.8	4	4.3
Getting lost in the bush	3.8	3.1	3.3
Don't know	4.8	2.4	3.2
Other (specify):	6.8	0.5	2.5
Domestic violence	2.6	2	2.2
Family separation	3.2	0.9	1.7
Fires	0.1	1.8	1.3
Violence at school	2.8	0	0.9
Attacks by dogs in camp	2.5	0	0.8
Violence at market	2.2	0	0.7
Abduction/kidnapping	0.7	0.5	0.5
Forced/early marriage	1.3	0	0.4
FGM	0.7	0	0.2
Rape/sexual assault	0.1	0.1	0.1
Child labour	0.1	0	0
n	235	197	432

**What is the most common protection concern for girls in your household younger than 18 yrs.?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Forced/early marriage	64.2	37.1	45.9
Rape/sexual assault	9.5	29.3	22.9
Abduction/kidnapping	0	6.2	4.2
Other (specify):	4.5	3.3	3.7
Getting lost in the bush	2.2	3.6	3.1
Lack of psychosocial support from family	0	4.4	3
Domestic violence	3	3	3
Family separation	1.1	3.8	2.9
Violence at school	1.9	3.2	2.8
FGM	6.7	0	2.2
Harassment	1	2.1	1.7
Violence at market	1.3	0.9	1
Don't know	2.1	0.3	0.9
Looting/robbery/theft	0	1.3	0.9
Attacks by dogs in camp	2.1	0.2	0.8
Fires	0	1	0.7
Child labour	0.4	0.2	0.3
Death or serious injury	0	0.1	0.1
n	235	197	432

**What is the most common protection concern for boys in your household younger than 18 yrs.?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Child labour	31.5	10	17
Family separation	2.8	14.4	10.6
Looting/robbery/theft	2.1	10.1	7.5
Substance abuse (alcohol, drug, tobacco)	5.5	6.5	6.2
Violence at school	10.3	4.3	6.2
Forced recruitment/involvement with military	16.6	0.1	5.5
Harassment	0.7	6.8	4.8
Abduction/kidnapping	0	6	4.1
Attacks by dogs in camp	7.5	2.1	3.8
Domestic violence	3.4	2	2.4
Fires	2.7	2.1	2.3
Forced/early marriage	0.6	2.8	2.1
Death or serious injury	4.9	0.2	1.8
Don't know	1.4	1.3	1.3
Violence at market	1.1	1	1.1
Lack of psychosocial support from family	1.5	0.5	0.8
Rape/sexual assault	0.3	0	0.1
FGM	0.3	0	0.1
Child labour	31.5	10	17
Family separation	2.8	14.4	10.6
n	235	197	432

**How, if at all, have your risks changed as a result of participating in UNHCR/partner livelihood activities?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Decreased	57.4	69	65.3
Did not change	25	16	18.9
Increased	13.6	15	14.5
Don't know	4.1	0	1.3
n	235	197	432

**In general, do you feel you and your family members are safe?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	84.2	79.3	80.9
No	12.6	20.7	18.1
Don't know	3.2	0	1
n	235	197	432

## Social Capital

**How, if at all, have relations between refugees and the host community changed over the last 3 years?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Improved	89.7	77.4	81.4
Did not change	8.2	15.2	13
Got worse	0.7	7.4	5.2
Don't know	1.4	0	0.4
n	235	197	432

**If better, do you think the livelihood trainings/support promoted by UNHCR and partners have contributed to the improvements?**

(% HH that think host comm relations improved)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	93	96	94.9
No	1.1	4	3
Don't know	6	0	2.1
n	216	162	378

**How, if at all, have relationships among refugees in this camp changed as a result of the livelihood trainings/support promoted by UNHCR and partners over the last 3 years?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Improved	85.2	90.8	89
Did not change	6.7	6.2	6.4
Don't know	7.4	0	2.4
Got worse	0.7	3.0	2.3
n	235	197	432

**If better, do you think the livelihood trainings/support promoted by UNHCR and partners have contributed to the improvements?**

(% HH think camp relations better)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	95.5	97.8	97.1
No	3.2	1.1	1.8
Don't know	1.3	1	1.1
n	203	180	383

**How, if at all, has your household's ability to support important family social events (such as paying dowry, for funerals or sick relative expenses, etc.) changed over the last 3 years?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Improved, can support more social events	49.6	77.7	68.6
Did not change	47.2	12.6	23.8
Got worse, support fewer social events	0.1	9.8	6.7
Don't know	3	0	1
n	235	197	432

**If better, do you think the livelihood trainings/support promoted by UNHCR and partners have contributed to this improvement?**

(% HH think social ability better)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	64.6	98.8	90.8
No	35.1	1.2	9.1
Don't know	0.3	0	0.1
n	132	164	296

## Shocks and Impacts

**What is the most important shock that currently affect your income or household food?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Seasonal flooding	45.8	16.9	26.3
Thefts/insecurity	4	29.1	21
Erratic rainfall/Drought	1.9	24.9	17.5
Markets/price fluctuation	11.2	6.9	8.3
Civil unrest in Sudan	15.3	1.3	5.8
Political tensions/violence between groups	2.2	6.6	5.2
Conflict/armed groups	6.7	4.1	5
Livestock disease (including New Castle)	4.4	4.3	4.3
Sudden/increased incidence of crop pest	4.4	2	2.8
Other: (Specify)	2.3	2.1	2.2
Fires	0.3	1.8	1.3
Don't know	1.4	0.1	0.5
n	235	197	432

**What is the second most important shock that currently affect your income or household food?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Thefts/insecurity	11.7	28.1	22.8
Markets/price fluctuation	35	12	19.4
Seasonal flooding	18.7	7.1	10.9
Conflict/armed groups	8.9	11.4	10.6
Livestock disease (including New Castle)	5.9	9.2	8.1
Political tensions/violence between groups	8.5	7.3	7.7
Sudden/increased incidence of crop pest	4	8.6	7.1
Erratic rainfall/Drought	4	8.4	7
Other: (Specify)	1.9	3.1	2.7
Civil unrest in Sudan	0.1	2.8	1.9
Fires	1.1	1.8	1.6
Don't know	0	0.2	0.2
n	235	197	432

**What is the third most important shock that currently affect your income or household food?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Thefts/insecurity	17.4	27.9	24.5
Markets/price fluctuation	14.3	11.9	12.6
Sudden/increased incidence of crop pest	13.8	11.3	12.1
Livestock disease (including New Castle)	7.5	8.4	8.1
Political tensions/violence between groups	13.6	5.4	8.1
Erratic rainfall/Drought	6.5	7.9	7.5
Conflict/armed groups	8.1	6.8	7.2
Seasonal flooding	9.3	4.8	6.3
Civil unrest in Sudan	1.8	5.7	4.4
Fires	1.3	4.4	3.4
Don't know	1	2.3	1.9
I don't want to answer	0	0.1	0.1
n	235	197	432

**How has the ability of your household to recover from a shock changed as a result of UNHCR/partner programming?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Improved	45.2	71.9	63.3
Did not change	41.8	14.7	23.5
Decreased	8.9	13.4	11.9
Don't know	4.1	0	1.3
n	235	197	432

**As a result of UNHCR/partner training, do you feel you have more control over your life?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	76.4	89.3	85.1
No	20.1	10.7	13.7
Don't know	3.6	0	1.2
n	235	197	432

**Why not? (have more control after trainings)**

(% HH that responded they don't have more control)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Not enough material support (amount, time)	72.5	26.9	48.4
Lack of permanent job	49.2	38.7	43.7
Not enough training (topics, amount, time)	30.2	8.6	18.8
Other (specify):	25.9	0	12.3
Lack of permanent home	1.4	17.2	9.7
Poor training	19.1	0	9.1
Lack of functional literacy	13.6	0	6.4
Belief related to God's will	1.4	8.6	5.2
n	46	16	62

**What are your household's most important basic needs (not adequately covered through humanitarian assistance and your household's income)?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Access to food	46.7	51.9	50.2
Access to shelter	7.6	22.9	18
Safety and security	13.2	12	12.4
Access to core relief items (non-food)	8	6.7	7.1
Access to healthcare	9.1	3.1	5
Access to education	5.4	2	3.1
Access to drinking water	3.2	1.3	1.9
Access to sanitation facilities	4.8	0.2	1.7
Other (specify):	2.1	0	0.7
n	235	197	432

**What are your household's second most important basic needs (not adequately covered through humanitarian assistance and your household's income)?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Access to shelter	19.1	30.6	26.9
Access to food	15.4	30.4	25.5
Access to core relief items (non-food)	8.1	13.8	12
Safety and security	4	11.8	9.2
Access to sanitation facilities	18.5	3	8
Access to drinking water	14.1	4.3	7.5
Access to healthcare	12	2.3	5.4
Access to education	5	3.9	4.3
Other (specify):	2.5	0	0.8
I don't want to answer	0.7	0	0.2
Don't know	0.7	0	0.2
n	235	197	432

**What are your household's third most important basic needs (not adequately covered through humanitarian assistance and your household's income)?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Access to shelter	15.7	23.1	20.7
Access to core relief items (non-food)	13	17.6	16.1
Safety and security	4.8	18.5	14.1
Access to drinking water	15	10.1	11.7
Access to healthcare	12.2	8.9	10
Access to education	8.7	8.9	8.8
Access to sanitation facilities	19.8	3.1	8.5
Access to food	5.4	9.4	8.1
Other (specify):	3.7	0.3	1.4
Don't know	1.7	0	0.5
n	235	197	432

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**Is your household better able to meet its food and non-food needs as a result of participating in the UNHCR or partner livelihood programming?**

(% HH)	<u>Maban</u>	<u>Unity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	56.9	84	75.2
No	41.6	16	24.3
Don't know	1.5	0	0.5
<hr/>			
n	235	197	432

# Annex 5: Comparison of VSLA and training outcomes

**Further discussion of key study finding:** This section presents results of statistical analyses comparing participants who participated in VSLA and agriculture or small business training (abbreviated as “VSLA + ag/small biz” below) against those who participated in only one type of training or a different combination of trainings.

**Most survey respondents participated in just one training, either agricultural or small business. A smaller proportion participated in training and VSLA.**



N= 406

**Figure 8: Types of trainings received by number of survey respondents**

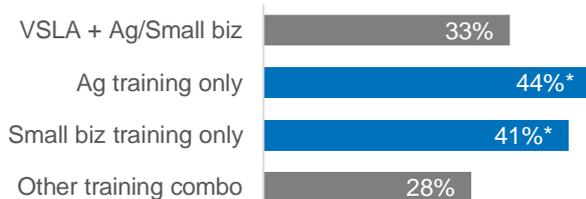
**Table 3 : Household characteristics of training participants and comparison between groups**

<b>Beneficiary sex=male</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>7.7%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	29.5% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	30.1% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	3.7% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Mean beneficiary age</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>28.0</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	35.9 *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	27.8
	<i>Other training combo</i>	30.8 *
	<b>n</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Beneficiary is married/living together</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>81.9%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	67.5% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	66.4% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	54.0% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Beneficiary has no schooling</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>25.7%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	45.0% *

	<i>Small biz training only</i>	25.7%
	<i>Other training combo</i>	40.3% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Mean HH size</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>7.0</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	7.2
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	6.7
	<i>Other training combo</i>	6.2 *
	<b>n</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Mean # HH members employed</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>0.7</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	0.7
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	1.0 *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	0.8
	<b>n</b>	<b>406</b>

\*denotes statistically significant difference ( $p=0.05$ ) with "VSLA + ag/small biz"

### Food insecurity is most prevalent among households that participated in a single type of training (agriculture or business)

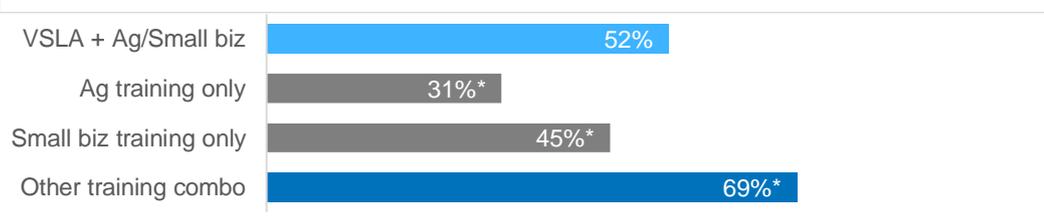


N=390, Based on FCS

**Figure 9: Percent of households that are food insecure, by type of training(s) received**

## Changes Resulting from Participation

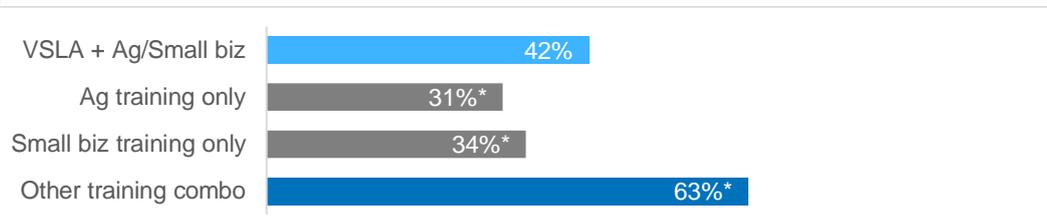
### More of the households that participated in a combination of trainings or VSLA and training reported an increase in assets



\*denotes statistically significant difference ( $p=0.05$ ) from "VSLA + ag/small biz"

**Figure 10: Percentage of households whose assets increased in the last 3 years, disaggregated by type/combo of interventions HHs participated in**

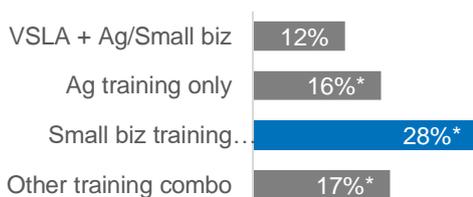
**More of the HHs that participated in a combination of trainings or VSLA and training reported an increase in productive assets**



\*denotes statistically significant difference (p=0.05) from "VSLA + ag/small biz"

**Figure 11: Percentage of households whose productive assets increased in the last 3 years, disaggregated by type/combo of interventions HHs participated in**

**More of the HHs that participated in small business training only reported an increase in livestock assets**



\*denotes statistically significant difference (p=0.05) from "VSLA + ag/small biz"

**Figure 12: Percentage of households whose livestock assets increased in the last 3 years, disaggregated by type/combo of interventions HHs participated in**

**More of the HHs that participated in VSLA and agricultural or small business training reported that UNHCR programming had improved access to markets for selling agricultural goods**



\*denotes statistically significant difference (p=0.05) from "VSLA + ag/small biz"

**Figure 13: Percentage of survey respondents who said that UNHCR programming had improved access to markets for selling agricultural goods**

**More of the HHs that participated in VSLA and training or a different combination of training reported that UNHCR Programming had improved access to markets for purchasing agricultural inputs**



\*denotes statistically significant difference (p=0.05) from "VSLA + ag/small biz"

**Figure 14: Percentage of survey respondents who said that UNHCR Programming had improved access to markets for purchasing agricultural inputs**

## Intervention Packages and Livelihood Changes

<b>a) Training participant received asset</b>	
VSLA + Ag/Small biz	96.0%
Ag training only	90.7% *
Small biz training only	73.4% *
Other training combo	98.6% *
<i>n</i> 406	
<b>b) Training participant received grant</b>	
VSLA + Ag/Small biz	8.0%
Ag training only	0.8% *
Small biz training only	26.5% *
Other training combo	14.8% *
<i>n</i> 406	
<b>c) Did you make changes in how you earn based on participation?</b>	
VSLA + Ag/Small biz	84%
Ag training only	49% *
Small biz training only	78% *
Other training combo	70% *
<i>n</i> 406	
<b>d) How did you change - Adopted improved practices</b>	
VSLA + Ag/Small biz	57.1%
Ag training only	70.4% *
Small biz training only	22.3% *
Other training combo	39.5% *
<i>n</i> 275	
<b>e) How did you change -Started a business</b>	
VSLA + Ag/Small biz	47.8%
Ag training only	17.9% *
Small biz training only	71.2% *
Other training combo	57.9% *
<i>n</i> 275	

<b>f) How did you change -Hired employees</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	
Ag training only	0.0%	*
Small biz training only	1.5%	
Other training combo	0.0%	
<b>n 275</b>		
<b>g) How did you change -Engaged in new income-earning activities</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	
Ag training only	17.5%	
Small biz training only	22.7%	
Other training combo	40.3%	*
<b>n 275</b>		
<b>h) How did you change -Expanded or diversified existing activities</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	
Ag training only	3.8%	*
Small biz training only	0.0%	*
Other training combo	1.8%	*
<b>n 275</b>		
<b>i) How did you change - Other</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
Ag training only	1.9%	*
Small biz training only	0.0%	
Other training combo	0.0%	
<b>n 275</b>		
<b>j) Income increase due to participation?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>72.1%</b>	
Ag training only	75.4%	
Small biz training only	83.1%	*
Other training combo	84.4%	*
<b>n 406</b>		
<b>k) Food access increase due to participation?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>61.3%</b>	
Ag training only	84.6%	*
Small biz training only	77.4%	*
Other training combo	84.4%	*
<b>n 406</b>		
<small>*denotes statistically significant difference (p=0.05) from "VSLA + ag/small biz"</small>		

## Intervention Packages and Ability to Recover

<b>Has the ability of your HH to recover from shocks improved due to UNHCR programming?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>76.0%</b>	
	Ag training only	64.1% *
	Small biz training only	67.0% *
	Other training combo	70.7%

		<b>n 406</b>
<b>As a result of UNHCR/partner training do you feel like you have more control?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>90.9%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	86.2% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	91.1%
	<i>Other training combo</i>	89.1%
		<b>n 402</b>
<b>Is your HH better able to meet its food and non-food needs due to UNHCR programming?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>86.8%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	76.0% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	78.3% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	86.6%
		<b>n 405</b>

## Coping and Intervention Package

<b>rCSI score (mean)</b>	
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>14.3</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i> 15.2 *
	<i>Small biz training only</i> 11.7 *
	<i>Other training combo</i> 14.8
<b>n 406</b>	

<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: <i>Send household members to eat elsewhere</i></b>	
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>20.2%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i> 30.2% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i> 27.9% *
	<i>Other training combo</i> 39.6% *
<b>n 383</b>	
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: <i>Sell more animals than usual for this time of year</i></b>	
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>11.8%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i> 8.7%
	<i>Small biz training only</i> 12.8%
	<i>Other training combo</i> 6.0% *
<b>n 383</b>	
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: <i>Sell household assets (e.g., furniture, jewellery, pots/pans)</i></b>	
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>14.1%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i> 18.4% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i> 9.2% *
	<i>Other training combo</i> 5.2% *
<b>n 383</b>	
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: <i>Borrow money/purchase food on credit more than usual for this time of year</i></b>	

<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>42.7%</b>	
	<i>Ag training only</i>	55.3% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	35.6% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	66.9% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: Ask other community members for food</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>24.5%</b>	
	<i>Ag training only</i>	44.8% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	31.3% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	12.8% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: Engage in hunting, gathering wild foods more than normal for this time of year</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>32.8%</b>	
	<i>Ag training only</i>	37.6% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	17.5% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	33.6%
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: Withdraw one or more children from school</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	
	<i>Ag training only</i>	25.4% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	17.8%
	<i>Other training combo</i>	27.2% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: Sell productive assets or means of transport (e.g., tools, bicycles, canoe)</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	
	<i>Ag training only</i>	10.3%
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	9.6%
	<i>Other training combo</i>	5.2% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: Reduce essential non-food expenses (e.g., health, education, celebrations)</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	
	<i>Ag training only</i>	27.6% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	28.1% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	16.9%
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: Send more household members than normal to cattle and/or fishing camps</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	
	<i>Ag training only</i>	2.8% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	1.2% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	0.0% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>

<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: <i>Sell the last remaining female animal of any kind (i.e., no female animals of that type remain)</i></b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>0.5%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	3.4% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	4.6% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	0.0%
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: <i>Slaughtered more animals than normal for this time of year</i></b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>11.8%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	7.4% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	12.2%
	<i>Other training combo</i>	16.4%
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Has your HH had to engage in the following strategies over the last 30 days: <i>Used community leaders or a local court to collect debts or bride wealth/dowry, or to gain support for food</i></b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>0.0%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	4.1% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	3.9% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	0.0%
	<b>n</b>	<b>383</b>

## Social Capital and Intervention Package

<b>Has your HH ability to support family/social improved?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>80.1%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	70.4% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	79.7%
	<i>Other training combo</i>	60.2% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>403</b>

## Access to financial services and Intervention Package

<b>Has your access to loans improved due to UNHCR programming?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>73.9%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	54.6% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	65.8% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	74.0%
	<b>n</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Did UNHCR programming improve your ability to have savings?</b>		
<b>VSLA + Ag/Small biz</b>		<b>90.2%</b>
	<i>Ag training only</i>	48.2% *
	<i>Small biz training only</i>	73.1% *
	<i>Other training combo</i>	71.0% *
	<b>n</b>	<b>401</b>

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