



World Food
Programme

May 2021

Rapid Needs Assessment in Lokoromach and Moloktoch

Greater Pibor Administrative Area,
Jonglei State

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY



Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA) faces severe acute food insecurity. According to the IPC analysis report of December 2020, **parts of Pibor experiences famine likely at least through July 2021.**



The severe acute food insecurity is a result of frequent waves of violence and adverse climatic conditions. Repeated attacks carried out by the neighbouring communities caused massive **displacement, livelihood disruptions** and **assets depletion**. Thousands of heads of livestock were looted compromising with the ability to cope with the ongoing shocks and undermines potential resilience of households. Meanwhile, two consecutive years of above average rainfall resulted in record levels of flood which also devastated homes and destroyed crops.



Focus group discussion was used to gather information using a semi-structured checklist. The assessment team split into sector-specific sub-teams including two food security and livelihood sub-teams, logistics, gender and protection sub-teams. Each focus group comprised of 10 – 15 individuals (mixed groups of males and females). Population figures estimates were obtained from local authorities through key informant interviews.

KEY FINDINGS

- **Severe acute food insecurity exists among the population in Lokoromach and Moloktoch Bomas.** The main drivers of the food insecurity include livelihood disruption resulting from the repeated attacks and cattle raiding as well as looting and destruction of assets. The situation is yet compounded by two consecutive years of above average flooding affecting both livestock and crops. Although the rapid assessment did not do households interviews, it was clear from the focus group discussions and observations that there is a large food consumption gap among households in the two locations.
- At the time of the assessment the population in Moloktoch received assistance until April 2021 while in Lokoromach, the last distribution of humanitarian food assistance was in October/November 2019. **While severe food shortage exists in the two locations, Lokoromach appears to be the worst affected. The population has not recovered from the attacks in 2020 and are not receiving any kind of humanitarian assistance.** The food stored in Gumuruk had been destroyed during the recent attack in Gumuruk in May 2021. This has deprived the population including those in Moloktoch from the humanitarian food assistance.
- **The households depend on wild foods including fruits, roots/tubers, and leafy wild vegetables for survival.** Fish contributed substantially to the diet of the households during the rainy season starting from July. With the advent of the dry season fish became unavailable and hunting increased starting mainly in December. Access to game meat has started to reduce since the animals have started seasonal migration away from GPAA.

KEY FINDINGS

- **Livestock were looted and households do not have access to livestock products currently.** The current food security situation in Lokoromach suggests Emergency food security outcomes (IPC Phase 4) with proportion of population in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). In Moloktoch, households received food assistance in Gumuruk in response to the IPC famine-likely classification of parts of GPAA. The last general food distribution was conducted in April 2021 before the recent attacks. The humanitarian interventions helped to improve the situation from November/December 2020 IPC analysis; however, needs remain high among the affected population.
- **The communities in Lokoromach and Moloktoch have no intention to migrate to other areas.** The population in Moloktoch feel more secure where they are right now and do not have intention to migrate except for people who are currently displaced and are expected to return. Similarly, the community in Lokoromach do not have a plan to move elsewhere.

LOKOROMACH



Foods consumed by households in Lokoromach to cope with the ongoing food insecurity. **Left:** Wild tuber locally know as awolech, and **Right:** spoiled dried fish and the same tuber.



Left: Maize seedling in Lokoromach.

MOLOKTOCH



Part of the population in Moloktoch gathered to listen to the team prior to breaking into small teams for focus group discussions

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Given the severe acute food insecurity, **provision of food assistance to the affected populations to prevent deterioration of the situation is recommended.**
- **Verification and registration** (headcount) are recommended to generate accurate figures prior to intervention. This will minimize exclusion error especially among the population in Lokoromach where households were not previously registered. Like the population in Lokoromach, it is likely that there are pockets of isolated population in GPAA not currently registered for assistance.
- Given the distance of the two locations from the Payam headquarters which are WFP food distribution points and coupled with security threats along the long routes, **it is important to establish new food distribution points in Lokoromach and Moloktoch.**
- Advocate for other humanitarian actors to **provide non-food items as well as health, shelter, and protection services.** Given that the rainy season has arrived, plastic sheets are important to protect the population from rains. Other NFI needs include cooking utensils and chlorine tablets for water purification.
- **Provision of agricultural inputs including seeds and tools.** Since households have lost tools and seeds, this is important to enable the households to plant as the season progresses.



WFP RESPONSE

	Planned caseload	Actual Served	Planned MT	Total MT received	Remarks
Lokomarch	3,842	3,842	94		96 received 2 months (July and August)
Moloktoch	9,432	9,432	232		228 received 2 months (July and August)
	13,274	13274	326		324



THANK YOU