SOUTH SUDAN
Food Security & Livelihoods Cluster
Strengthening Humanitarian Response

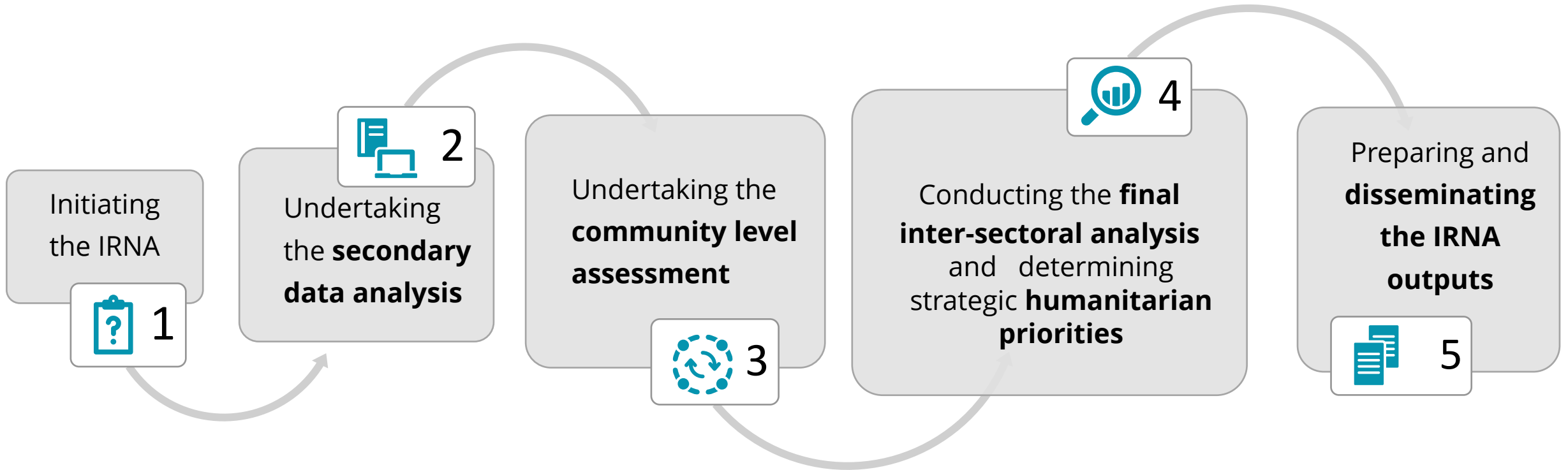# IRNA QUICK GUIDE

for FSCL partners

WHAT IS IRNA?

Initial Rapid Needs Assessment (IRNA) aims to provide an immediate and quick overview of the emergency situation in order to:

- **identify the immediate impacts of the crisis**,

- **make initial rough estimates of the needs of the affected population** for assistance, and

- **define the priorities for humanitarian action**, and also

- **identify aspects for which more detailed follow-on assessments, incl. sector specific assessments, would be needed**.

IRNA PROCESS IS BASED ON FIVE BROAD STAGES

Initiating the IRNA

1

Undertaking the **secondary data analysis**

2

Undertaking the **community level assessment**

3

Conducting the **final inter-sectoral analysis** and determining strategic **humanitarian priorities**

4

Preparing and **disseminating the IRNA outputs**

5

IRNA utilizes a **mix methods approach** and collects both qualitative and quantitative data.

QUANTITATIVE

QUALITATIVE

Surveys	Observations Focus Group Discussions Key Informant Interviews
Closed questions	Open questions
Randomized and, ideally representative sampling	Non-randomized and, in most cases purposive sampling

Go to Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster South Sudan website
https://fscluster.org/south-sudan-rep

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FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER

ABOUT ▾   WORKING GROUPS ▾   NEWS ▾   COUNTRIES ▾

South Sudan (Rep.)

OVERVIEW   ABOUT

In the current analysis period of February to March 202...
an estimated 6.83 million people (55.3% of the populat...
are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food
insecurity,...

Learn more

1 of 4 ›

fscluster.org/south-sudan-rep

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at the bottom, on the right side in the LINKS section, you will find a link to Google Drive repository

LINKS

FSLC Interactive Operational Presence and Response Dashboard 2022
https://app.powerbi.com/view

Needs Assessment Repository
https://drive.google.com/open

IRNA Tools 2021 Updated
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ntl0keobpYOyZFqzby6vli

FSLC SSD - Sub Cluster Repository of Support Missions
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1xvt7y-DaMI9ADxyXT0IFKr3Z-ruUsyKl

Livelihood Programming
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/177XVzzs14xB4GyAVeJnq_

1 of 4 ›

Go to Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster South Sudan website
https://fscluster.org/south-sudan-rep

You will find a folder with tools and resources developed specifically for assessments in South Sudan context

IRNA TOOLS

Simple check list for FSLC partners joining IRNA

- Resolve all **practical matters first**: security brief & protocols; water, food accommodation, charging Thuraya, transport etc.

- **Context analysis using participatory mapping tool** with available NGO/ authority/ community key Informants:
  - Agro ecology: farming zones & characteristics; main geographical features: mountains, swamps, rivers;
  - Roads, market towns; border crossing
  - Trade routes: imports/ exports; mines; commercial forests;
  - Seasonal movements of people & cattle etc.

- **Population movement mapping tool**: baseline populations (use % piling); returns & gaps; track forecasted movements & reasons why/ why not;

- Make sure you have details of the **specific livelihood zone** (see FEWNET manual on livelihood zones in South Sudan updated in 2018) for the location that you are planning to assess.

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Name ↑

📁 CONTEXTUAL RESOURCES

📄 20200504_Kobo_Data_Collection_User_guide.pdf

📄 20200925_Kobo_Data_Collection_User_guide (003).pdf

📄 FGD Tool At Risk of Famine.pdf

📄 HFA enquiry tool REACH.pdf

📄 IRNA household survey_2021.pdf

📄 Rapid Assessment Mission Tools - Focus Group Discussion updated June 2021.pdf

📄 Rapid Assessment Mission Tools - Focus Group Discussion.pdf

📄 Rapid Assessment Mission Tools - Key Informant Interview updated June 2021.pdf

📄 Rapid Assessment Mission Tools - Key Informant Interview.pdf

📄 Simple IRNA check list for FSLC partners context & background updated October 2021.docx

IRNA TOOLS

QUALITATIVE

- **FGD tool** especially men & women groups; possibly other vulnerable groups: youth/ children/ elderly/ child headed HHs etc.

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- **At Risk of Famine tool** – special KII/ FGD tool with men, women & authorities (chiefs etc.)

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- **At Risk of Famine tool** – special KII/ FGD tool with men, women & authorities (chiefs etc.)

- **Humanitarian Food Assistance (HFA) enquiry tool** – special KII/ FGD tool with men, women & authorities (chiefs etc.)

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Focus Group Discussion

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (60 minutes)

Enumerator Name:		**Team Number:**	
Date (DD/MM/YYYY):		**Name of settlement:**	
Primary Language of Interview:		**Name of Translator Used:**	
Interview Start Time:		**Interview Stop Time:**	
State		**County**	
Payam		**Boma**	

1. Population & demographics (use % piling with beans); population pre crisis 100%;
   a. Crisis: Who stayed & who departed (where) or were killed – find proportions;
   b. Current: proportion of host now; proportion of returnees (when from where); and IDPs (when & where)

Focus Group Discussion

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (60

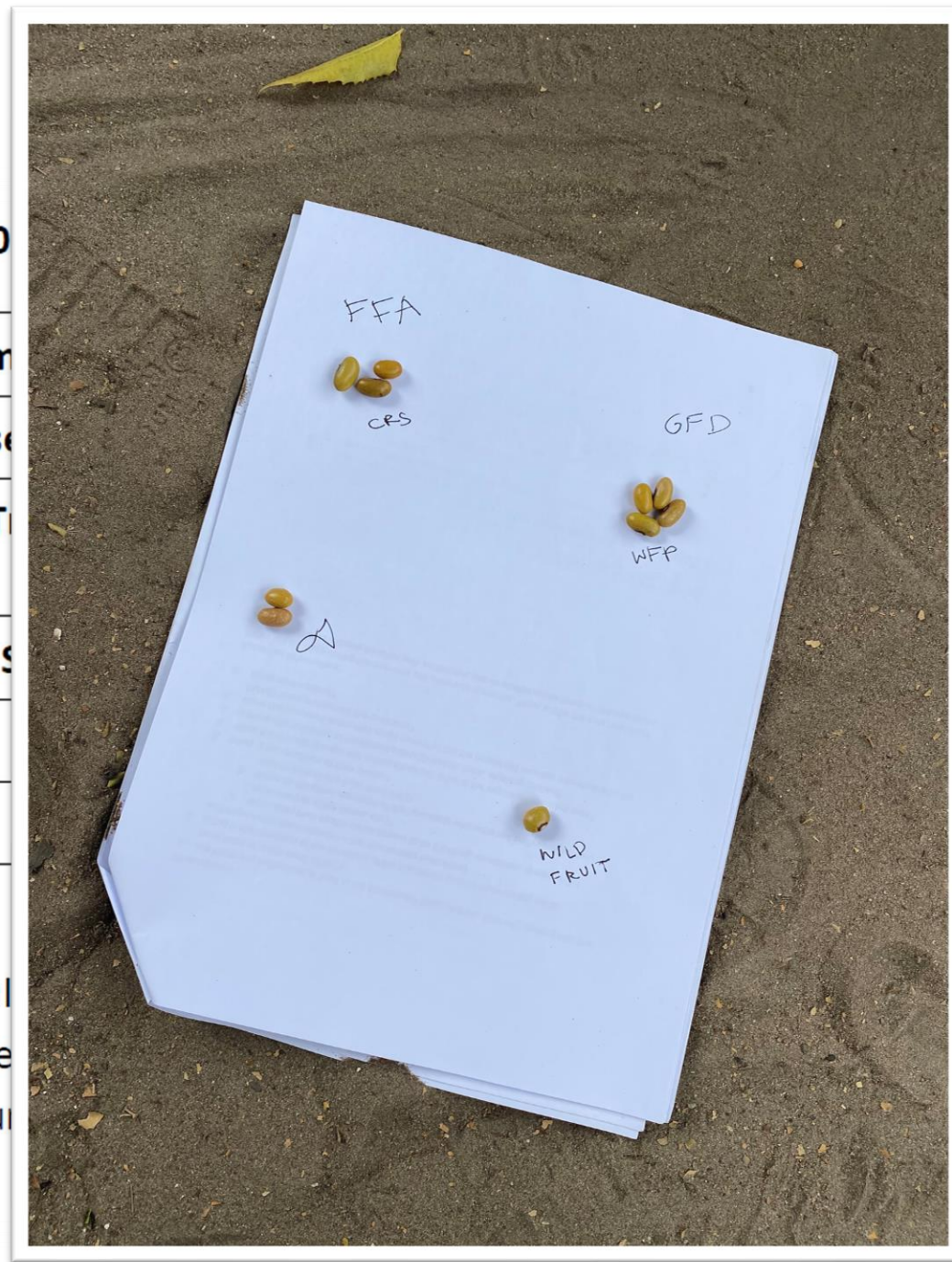|			
Enumerator Name:		**Team Num**	
Date (DD/MM/YYYY):		**Name of s**	
Primary Language of Interview:		**Name of T** **Used:**	
Interview Start Time:		**Interview S**	
State		**County**	
Payam		**Boma**	

1. Population & demographics (use % piling with beans); popul
   a. Crisis: Who stayed & who departed (where) or were
   b. Current: proportion of host now; proportion of retur
      (when & where)

Rapid Assessment Tool for Assessing Famine and Famine Risk

Rapid Assessment Tool for Assessing Famine and Famine Risk – Focus Group Discussion (FGD) for Food Source Exhaustion, Historical Comparisons, and Prospective Distress Migration

Objective 1: Assess stability of food access by documenting local predictions of when current food sources will exhaust and if new food sources are likely to be found in a future period.

Objective 2: Determine key manifestations of a collapse in coping to inform famine early warning, including by comparing local perceptions of the current period with recent and/or historical periods of extreme food insecurity and famine and by assessing likely routes and destinations for distress migration if food insecurity becomes extreme again.

This tool is intended to move an FGD through three related topics regarding how a given set of communities may experience and react to declines in food availability and access over a defined period of time in their own views. One of these discussions typically moves through all current food sources currently available to the assessed population, when these food sources may be exhausted, what a period of widespread food source exhaustion has looked like in the assessed area in the past, and how communities may respond if it is expected to happen or does happen.

IRNA TOOLS

QUANTITATIVE

- **IRNA household survey**
  - HHS (experience of hunger)
  - HDDS (diet diversity)
  - LCS (Livelihood coping strategy);

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  - HDDS (diet diversity)
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- **Kobo Data Collection User Guide**

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FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS CLUSTER HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

DEMOGRAPHICS AND **VULNERABILITIES**

DISPLACMENT AND **MOBILITY**

LIVELIHOOD CHANGE

SHOCKS

HOUSEHOLD HUNGER SCALE

FOOD CONSUMPTION: HH DIET DIVERSITY SCORE

LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGY CONTEXTUALIZED TO CATTLE BASED/ AGRO PASTORAL UPPER NILE

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

DEMOGRAPHICS AND VULNERABILITIES **DISPLACMENT AND MOBILITY** **LIVELIHOOD CHANGE** **SHOCKS** **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

DISPLACMENT AND MOBILITY

What is the residence status of the household?	1 = Resident 2 = IDP 3 = IDP Returnee 4 = Refugee 5 = Refugee Returnee
If the household is a Returnee, Refugee or IDP, where is your place of origin?	Country
Place of origin:	State/Province
Place of origin:	County/District
Place of origin:	Payam/Village
Is your household currently displaced	0= No 1= Yes
If the household is a returnee or IDP, where is your place of origin?	Country
Place of origin:	State/Province
Place of origin:	County/District
Place of origin:	Payam/Village
How long has the household stayed at this location	1= Never moved 2 = Came back in the last one year (returnee) 3 = Moved from another location within SSD in the last year and intend to return (IDP) 4 = Moved to this location from another country (not originally from here) – Refugee
What are the reasons that made you move to this area /village	1. Natural disaster destroyed home 2. Natural disaster interrupted access to livelihoods (cannot work) 3. Natural disaster interrupted access to services (education, healthcare) 4. Personal insecurity because of generalized violence / armed conflict (area unsafe) 5. Personal insecurity because of targeted violence / persecution (area unsafe for a specific group) 6. Communal clashes (inc. cattle and revenge raids, frictions with host community) 7. Conflict interrupted access to livelihoods (cannot work) 8. Conflict interrupted access to services (education, healthcare) 9. Food insecurity 10. Fear of epidemic / disease (e.g. COVID-19, EVD) 11= Resettle 12= Join relatives 13 = Security 14 = Search for livelihoods/employment opportunities/food 15= Safe from floods 16. Other, specify _____ 17. Prefer not to answer

LIVELIHOOD CHANGE

What has been the main source of HH livelihoods in the past 6 months	1. Casual labour related to agricultural activities 2. Casual waged labour related to construction 3. Other non-agricultural casual waged labour (porter, domestic labour etc.) 4. Skilled labour 5. Trader/shop owner/ commerce 6. Salaried work (public/private) 7. Sale of firewood/ poles, charcoal, stones, etc 8. Petty trading/small business/self-employed/street vendor (tea seller, kiosk, sales of handicraft etc.) 9. Kinship/gifts from family friends/remittances 10. Renting out rooms/apartments 11. Food assistance/Sale of food assistance 12. Sale of NFI assistance 13. Pension 14. Poultry keeping 15. Begging 16. Sale of alcoholic beverages /brewing 17. Others (specify)_____
Has **the** household's livelihood changed in the past 3 months?	0 =No 1 =Yes
If yes, why?	

SHOCKS

Has your household experienced any difficulties or **shocks** /concerns since in the last 3 months?	0=No 1= Yes	
If yes, please list three main types of shocks that have affected the household in the past 3 months. (Do NOT list, let the household answer spontaneously)	1= Loss or reduced employment for HH member(s)/ disruption of livelihoods 2= Reduced income of a household member(s) 3= Serious illness or accident of HH member(s) 4= Death of head of household/Spouse 5= Death of working HH member(s) 6= Unusually high food prices 7 = Unusually high prices of fuel/transport and other non-food prices 8= Eating less preferred foods 9 = Lack of foods in the markets	10 = Insecurity/violence/theft/ robbery 11= High food prices 12= Covid-19 related restrictions/disruptions 13 = Other Diseases 14 = Shortage of food in the household 15 = Shortage of medicines / disruption of medical services 16 = Disruption of education for children 17 = Travel restrictions 18= Travel restrictions 19= Difficulty to get SOAP, FACEMASK, SANITIZER at affordable prices etc 20= Increased domestic violence 21= Floods 22= Insecurity 23= Other (Specify)

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

R01	Have any of your household members received any [FORM OF ASSISTANCE] in the past 3 months?	0=No 1=Yes 2= Prefer not to answer	
R01.1	(If R01=1) Did the household receive any of the following humanitarian assistance in the last 3 months?	1 = General food for all 2 = Food for school children 3 = Food for assets 4 = Nutrition (e.g. Blanket supplementary feeding, etc.)	

7

	Select multiple	5 = Unconditional cash/ voucher transfer 6= Cash for work/cash for training 7 = Agricultural inputs e.g. seeds 8 = Agricultural tools 9 = Fishing gear 10 = Veterinary 11 = School fees /uniforms 12 = Health /medicines 13 = Shelter material 14 = Household utensils	
R02.1	(If R01.1=1, 3, 5 or 6) When did you receive food or cash from the most recent distribution?	1= Within last week 2= 2-3 weeks ago 3= A month ago 4= Between 1 and 2 months 5=More than 2 months	
R03	(If R01.1=1, 3, 5 or 6) How many days did the food or the food purchased from the cash assistance last?	_____ Number of days	
R04	(If R01.1=1, 3, 5 or 6) Did you share the food or cash assistance with relatives and/or neighbors?	0=No 1=Yes	
R05	(If R05=1) How much of the food or cash assistance did you share?	1=Less than half 2=Half 3=More than half 4 = None	
R06	Did your household receive food or cash assistance from any other households?	1=Yes 0=No	
R07	Are there any challenges you faced in getting the food assistance		
	Collect the GPS coordinates of this household		

HOUSEHOLD HUNGER SCALE (HHS)

a new, simple indicator to measure household hunger in food insecure areas.

HHS is collected by asking three questions on potentially experienced food deprivation at household level over the past 30 day.

These questions were designed to represent varying levels of food insecurity while also reflecting three domains perceived as central to the experience of food insecurity cross culturally:

1. anxiety about household food supply;

2. insufficient quality, which includes variety, preferences, and social acceptability; and

3. insufficient food supply and intake and the physical consequences.

	HOUSEHOLD HUNGER SCALE				
2.1.0	In the past 4 weeks (30 days), was there ever no food to eat of any kind in your house because of lack of resources to get food? (if No, Skip to Q6.2.0)			1= Yes	0= No
2.1.1	How often did this happen in the past 4 weeks/30 days?	1 = Rarely (1–2 times) / 2 = Sometimes (3–10 times)	3 = Often (more than 10 times)		[___]
2.2.0	In the past 4 weeks (30 days), did you or any household member go to sleep at night hungry because there was not enough food? (If No, Skip to Q6.3.0)			1= Yes	0= No
2.2.1	How often did this happen in the past [4 weeks/30 days]?	1 = Rarely (1–2 times) / 2 = Sometimes (3–10 times)	3 = Often (more than 10 times)		[___]
2.3.0	In the past 4 weeks (30 days), did you or any household member go a whole day and night without eating anything because there was not enough food? (If No, Skip to Q6.00)			1 = Yes	0 = No
2.3.1	How often did this happen in the past [4 weeks/30 days]?	1 = Rarely (1–2 times) / 2 = Sometimes (3–10 times)	3 = Often (more than 10 times)		[___]

FOOD CONSUMPTION: FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS) HOUSEHOLD DIET DIVERSITY SCORE (HHDS)

Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) is the average number of different food groups consumed by the household the previous day or night.

Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a composite indicator that measures dietary diversity, food frequency and the relative nutritional importance of food groups based on a seven-day recall of food consumed at household level.

FOOD CONSUMPTION: HH DIET DIVERSITY SCORE		A	B	C
		How many days over the last 7 days, did members of your household eat the following food items, prepared and/or consumed at home? (0 to 7)	Did your household eat any of the listed food items yesterday during the day and night? 0 = No 1 = Yes	Main source of food for the last seven days
101	Cereals, grains, roots and tubers, including wild roots: maize, sorghum, cassava, rice, millet, meals made from these including sorghum beer ("white stuff"), yams, sweet potatoes, all wild roots including water lilies, any other cereals, roots, and tubers		■	
	If 101=0 → Skip to 102			
101.1	Cereals and grains: maize, sorghum, rice, millet, meals made from these including sorghum beer ("white stuff"), any other cereals			
101.2	Roots and tubers, including wild roots: Cassava, potato, yam, white sweet potato, all wild roots including water lilies, all other roots and tubers			
102	Legumes / nuts: Beans, cowpeas, peanuts/g-nuts and g-nut paste, lentils, nuts, soybeans, pigeon pea, all wild nuts, all other nuts			
103	Milk and other dairy products: Milk fresh or sour, yogurt, ghee, cheese, all other dairy products (Exclude margarine / butter or small amounts of milk for tea / coffee)			
104	Meat, fish and eggs: Goat, beef, chicken, pork, all bush meat, animal blood, all fish, including canned tuna, any type of eggs, any other meat(meat and fish consumed not only as a condiment)		■	
	If 104=0 → Skip to 105			
104.1	FLESH meat: Beef, pork, lamb, goat, rabbit, chicken, duck, other birds, any other flesh meat (This could be dried)			
104.2	Organ meat: Liver, kidney, heart and/or all other organ meats			■
104.3	Fish: Fish, including canned tuna, (fish not only as a condiment)			
104.4	Eggs			■

LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGY
CONTEXTUALIZED TO CATTLE BASED/ AGRO PASTORAL UPPER NILE

Livelihood coping strategies is an indicator to measure the **extent of livelihood coping households need to utilise as a response to lack of food or money to buy food**.

Yes, I did

No, I did not do it because I did not need to

No, I did not do it because I did it so often in the past I cannot continue

Not Applicable

No, I did not do it, however I tried to do it

LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGY CONTEXTUALIZED TO CATTLE BASED/ AGRO PASTORAL UPPER NILE		
During the past 30 days, did anyone in your household have to engage in any of the following activities because there was not enough food or money to buy food?		
J08	Sent household members to eat elsewhere because of a lack of food/ money 1 = Yes 2 = No, my household did not experience hunger that would make me do this 3 = No, because I have already engaged in this activity in the last 12 months and cannot continue doing it 4= Not applicable – It is not possible for me to do this 5=No, I attempted to do this and was refused	Stress
J09	Sold more animals than usual for this time of year because of a lack of food/ money 1 = Yes 2 = No, my household did not experience hunger that would make me do this 3 = No, because I have already sold those assets in the last 12 months and cannot continue doing it 4 = Not applicable – It is not possible for me to do this, even if I needed to (household never had animals to sell, household sold or lost all animals more than one year ago)	Stress
J10	Borrow money/ purchase food on credit because of a lack of food/ money more than usual during this time of year 1 = Yes 2 = No, my household did not experience hunger that would make me do this 3 = No, because I already did this in the last 12 months and cannot continue doing it 4 = Not applicable – It is not possible for me to do this, even if I needed to (there is nowhere to purchase food on credit or no one is loaning money at this even I wanted to do these things) 5=No, I attempted to do this and was refused	Stress
	Engaged in gathering wild foods more than normal for this time of year because of a lack of food/ money 1 = Yes 2 = No, my household did not experience hunger that would make me do this 3 = No, because I have already engaged in this activity in the last 12 months and cannot continue doing it 4 = Not applicable – it is not possible for me to do this (it is not the season for these activities, the areas where I would do this	Stress

Borrow money/ purchase food on credit because of a lack of food/ money more than usual during this time of year

1 = Yes

2 = No, my household did not experience hunger that would make me do this

3 = No, because I already did this in the last 12 months and cannot continue doing it

4 = Not applicable – It is not possible for me to do this, even if I needed to (there is nowhere to purchase food on credit or no one is loaning money at this even I wanted to do these things)

5=No, I attempted to do this and was refused

CONTEXTUAL RESOURCES

- Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (OCHA)

- Technical Brief: Direct Observation and Key Informant Interview Techniques for primary data collection during rapid assessments (ACAPS 2011)

- Livelihoods Zone Map and Descriptions for the Republic of South Sudan (FEWS NET)

- Indigenous Solutions to Food Insecurity, Wild Food PLANTS of South Sudan (Oxfam)

FOR ANY QUESTIONS AND/OR REQUESTS FOR TRAINING ON HOW TO USE THOSE TOOLS PLEASE CONTACT:

info.southsudan@fscluster.org

For additional information, please visit

https://fscluster.org/south-sudan-rep

THANK YOU