Summary of
Rapid Needs Assessment Report
Greater Mvolo, Western Equatoria

17th to 24th May 2018

South Sudan
Since the definition of the new administrative boundaries, Greater Mvolo, located in the Eastern part of Western Equatoria, has been divided in 3 counties: Mvolo, Bahr El Grindi and Yeri. The overall population is estimated at 64,399 individuals in 2018\(^1\). As of May 2018, the estimated number of IDPs is 5,078 individuals (4,250 in Mvolo payam and 828 in Yeri payam) and estimated number of returnees is 12,166 individuals. Locations of return are: Lessi payam (4,090 returnees), Kokori payam (3,175 returnees), Bahr El Grindi payam (2,175 returnees), Dari payam (1,940 returnees) and Bogori payam (786 returnees)\(^2\).

The national conflict had forced thousands of people to flee their home land and interrupt their farming activities to find refuge in the centres of Mvolo and Yeri. Currently, only the southern former payams Yeri, Dari and Lessi are still suffering from regular incidents involving SPLA-IO forces, the rest of Greater Mvolo being under governmental control. In addition, for decades, regular incursions of armed pastoralists, mainly from Rumbek and Yirol, seeking resources and land for their cattle, also contributed in increasing movements of population.

The population in Greater Mvolo is entirely crop farmers. The years 2015, 2016 and 2017 have had consecutive dry spells provoking limited harvests leading to food insecurity that recently culminated into widespread malnutrition and hunger related deaths.

\(^1\) Population projections 2015-2020 issued in April 2015 by the SSNBS and based on the 2008 Sudan census
\(^2\) IDPs and returnees figures are based on preliminary findings of the IOM DTM mobility tracking round 2
Key findings

Food Security and Livelihood

- **100% interviewed HH** have farming as one of main sources of income
- **63% interviewed HH have less than 1 week food stock** at the time of the assessment
  - drought last year and then heavy rains over the summer have destroyed most of last year’s crops
  - due to the lack of food during 2017 planting season, many people were not able to go to the field due to sickness/weakness
- **FCS**⁴: 51% HH with poor food intake
- **86% adults** interviewed mentioned the lack of food as one of their 3 main sources of stress
- **86% HH have access to land for cultivation;** mainly sorghum: up to 6 months before it is harvested (only 1 planting season in that region)
- **Only 2 operational markets** in all locations visited, limited food availability in markets, continued inflation.

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² HH: household
³ Food Consumption Score
Water Sanitation Hygiene

- 20% HH have access to 15L/pers/day
- 40% of the population routinely consume unsafe water
- Main water supply at risk for 40% of IDPs VS 12% for host communities
- For 62% HH, access to water is 2nd most mentioned priority immediate need
- Estimated 90% of the population practice open defecation in rural areas
- Estimated 49 587 people (77%) don’t have access to sanitation.
- Water and soap for hand washing are available in only 5% of the households

Education

- 58 functional schools in Greater Mvolo (27 from government)
- 36 schools do not have proper classrooms
- Unskilled teachers, lack of teachers, lack of educative material
- Poor conditions of infrastructures
- No provision of meals
- 6 out of 9 schools assessed have space to cultivate; none has kitchen

Provision of food for education would be a big step in improving the general situation in the area

- 39 schools with no access to sanitation
- 22 schools with no access to water
- 90% schools didn’t have hygiene promotion in the past year
Health and Nutrition

- 2 PHCC\(^5\)s and 9 PHCU\(^6\)s in Greater Mvolo
- 47% HH mentioned access to health services as a priority immediate need (3rd most mentioned after food and water)
- Unskilled medical staff, lack of some basic medical supplies, poor conditions of the infrastructures, no routine vaccination
- 6 HCFs are not permanent structures
- Lack of water supply in health centers
- 5 HCFs do not have sanitation
- 9,95% of acutely malnourished based on MUAC in Greater Mvolo early April 2018. Aggravating factors in the current period (lower food stocks than in March, rainy season prone to diseases, low fishing period)
- Highest ratios of malnourished children in Mvolo (11%) and in Bogori (15%)

Protection

- 92% interviewed IDPs left their home land due to insecurity
- “at home” is the most mentioned in terms of locations where risks are higher for children in their village
- 36% respondents estimate that women and girls are exposed to violence due to their gender
- No mental health support

Shelter and Non Food Items

- 47% of the interviewed IDPs who want to return to their place of origin \(\rightarrow\) shelter as one of the main challenges for their return
- Needs for shelter in Bahr El Grindi county stressed out by 100% informants there
- Lack of NFIs highlighted by 100% respondents in all locations visited

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\(^5\) Primary Health Care Center
\(^6\) Primary Health Care Unit

Tdh / SI_Summary of rapid needs assessment report Mvolo – May 2018, South Sudan
## Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency actions</th>
<th>Medium to long-term actions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Immediate direct food distribution</td>
<td>- Distribution of fishing kits for the next fishing season (September)</td>
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<td>- Increase the quantity and diversity of seeds distributed</td>
<td>- support to gardening</td>
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<td>- Seeds and tools distribution to more HH</td>
<td>- Distribution of seeds and tools for 2019 planting season (if possible through fairs to</td>
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<td>- Distribution of different type of tools to improve productivity</td>
<td>support local economy</td>
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<td>- Re-stocking of livestock (goat, sheep and poultry)</td>
<td>- Awareness and training to farmers to diversify their production → increase nutritional</td>
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<td></td>
<td>diversity and diversify harvesting times</td>
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<td>- Food for work</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- support to diversification of livelihood</td>
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<td>- Support revitalization of economic activities in Bahr El Grindi county</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>- Massive boreholes repairs</td>
<td>- Construction of water points accessible for people with disabilities</td>
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<td>- Emergency support to Mvolo spare parts store.</td>
<td>- reinforce network of repairers</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Massive distribution of PURR(^7) and training</td>
<td><strong>A focus on targeting schools and on protection and accessibility of facilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Distribution of slabs and digging tools + Cash/food for digging latrines</td>
<td>- Construction of community latrines accessible for people with disabilities.</td>
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<td><strong>A focus on targeting schools</strong></td>
<td>- Support for households latrines construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Massive hygiene promotion and container cleansing campaign</td>
<td>- Child to parents hygiene promotion</td>
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<td>- Massive training in safer open air defecation</td>
<td>- Scholar brigades</td>
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<td>- Massive cholera sensitization</td>
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<td>- Massive distribution / support with soap</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Sensitization around menstrual hygiene</td>
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<td><strong>A focus on targeting schools</strong></td>
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\(^7\) Water purification tablets
### EDUCATION

- Provision of educative material
- Construction of temporary learning spaces
- Construction or rehabilitation of WaSH facilities in the schools
- Hygiene promotion and distribution of soap
- Training to teachers and training to Inspector and payam supervisors
- Construction of learning spaces
- School feeding to students, including construction of cooking facilities and school gardening
- Provision of furniture
- Set up of waste management facilities

### PROTECTION

- Awareness raising to community and mainstreaming on GBV, domestic violence and Child protection
- Reinforce referral pathways to enable reporting of protection concerns and train relevant authorities/stakeholders on handling cases
- Support peace building efforts in Bahr El Grindi, Kokori and Bogori

### SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

- Distribution of emergency shelters (tents) in Bahr El Grindi, Kokori and Bogori
- Distribution of NFIs
- Support re-construction of shelters in Bahr El Grindi, Kokori and Bogori
- NFI fairs to support local economy

*The complete version of the assessment report is available upon request.*

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