Dear colleagues,

Attached, the presentation we shared at Monday’s OPS meeting.

Kindly note that the attached and below findings are the results of consultations with partners – who, in turned, conducted focus group discussions (FGD) and key informant interviews (KII). A more in-depth assessment is being conducted by partners on the ground, both in Greater Nyal and Greater Ganyiel – assessment not yet concluded as there has been some tension in Yai Payam of Ganyiel sub-county.

CONTEXT

PANYIJAR COUNTY PROJECTED in IPC phase 4 (emergency) for the May – July 2020 projection.

- The first large-scale incident of flooding in 2020 occurred on Monday 22 June 2020, after a weekend of heavy rains and overflowed waters of nearby rivers.
- Heavy rains delayed compared to 2019 when the rainy season started in May.
- On 23 June 2020, Panyijar commissioner reported through UNMISS that recent large-scale flooding destroyed 45,000 households, displaced population to higher land and submerged livestock (600 cows).
- Preliminary NGO reports confirmed that large-scale flooding occurred; however, numbers of affected population remain unconfirmed.
FLOOD-AFFECTED AREAS

Greater Nyal: Nyiem, Doli, Panyala, Kuernor, Dhorbuoni, Luongemeth, Wangyaka, Pakeen, drop zone, Majak low land, Kueryieka, Pantuak, Ngapraan, Goak_One, Duongnyabang, Game, Tharbar, Pulmala, Rotdiit, Thongrier, Pachar, Tuochuor, Gap.
All cattle keeping areas in Greater Nyal were affected by flooding, and half of the cattle were taken to Yup, Kuol and Maluok.

Greater Ganyiel: Tiap payam, Leidit, Dhor_Manyang, Bor_Jakar, Lirpuok, Leaydit, Pading, Makur, Ngoany Kuari, Jiach, Wiyiiy and Allcattle.
More than half of Tiap’s population left their homes. People fled to Pah and Palukuach and many others to Maluak. All cattle taken to Maluak and Palukauach.

Panyijiar HQ: Yangah, Dhorpuokoah, and Kuicrial.
Most people moved to Maluak with their cattle and few others remained in small high land near the Commissioner’s office.

MAIN FINDINGS

DISPLACEMENT

- Most displaced people in the flood-affected areas have not returned because their homes remain flooded.
- In Northern Ganyiel (Tiap and Thoarnhom payams) more than half of the population fled with their cattle to Maluak and Palukuach. Few others moved to high land places in southern Ganyiel, Pachar and Pachinjok payams.
- In Greater Nyal, communities affected fled with their cattle to Nyandong, Yup, and Kuol. Few others fled to Nyal and Katieth towns without cattle.
- Some IDPs are reportedly sheltering in NGO-run health facilities in Maluak and Haykur. Most schools and hospitals are inadequate to shelter flood-affected communities as they’re located in low land areas.
- Places like Maluak, Kuol, Nyandong and Yup do not have enough shelters to accommodate the large number of IDPs.

FOOD SECURITY and LIVELIHOODS

- Restricted access to sources of food: flood-affected communities in Kol unable to reach Nyal market to access food; similarly, those affected in Panyijar HQ and Tiap areas could not access Ganyiel market due to flooding and closed roads.
- Flooding destroyed maize, sorghum, beans and vegetable crops. People lack seeds and tools to replant once water level recede.
- Flooding also disrupted common livelihood activities such as charcoal and firewood collecting and casual agricultural jobs.
- Cattle, goats and sheep were evacuated from homes affected by flooding, and taken to areas where it is more difficult for the communities to access their milk and meat.
• **Inadequate livestock evacuation areas.** The areas to which the cattle were evacuated cannot accommodate the large numbers of cattle. Persistent fear of cattle raiding limits the choices for safe livestock movements.

• **Limited access to grazing land** as flood-affected settlements remain under water. If flooding continues, more cattle is likely to die due to lack of pastures and disease.

• **Disease outbreak is happening now** since cattle are gathered in one place and the ground is full of water. FGD participants estimated in 600 the number of animals submerged during the recent flooding (160 cows, 300 goats and 140 sheep).

**KEY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- NFIs

- In terms of food assistance, as Panyijar county is already benefitting from a RRM-type of assistance, which is universal coverage of registered population, no need to increase caseload. However, VAM would recommend:
  - To verify no community was left out from registration;
  - To have next RRM distribution cycle ASAP;
  - To verify with partners on the ground whether traditional FDPs are still accessible by beneficiaries as a result of flooding

**Following further information and the result of the assessment, we will update our analysis. Questions arise on whether the current distribution cycle is appropriate to cover existing needs, or whether the priority level should be revised.**

Happy to discuss further.

Lia