Rapid assessment findings from Tonj North and Gogrial’s
September 2021
The cumulative effects of conflict and flooding left Tonj North, South and East facing Emergency (Integrated Phase Classification Phase 4) levels of food insecurity – with 5% to 10% of the population projected to face Catastrophic (IPC Phase 5) food insecurity until July 2021.

Since December 2020:
- Increased raids by armed cattle keepers from Koch and Mayom
- Pre-existing tensions between communities in Tonj North and Tonj East also intensified resulting on attacks on humanitarian infrastructure
- Increase in internal tensions
Population movement

• Insecurity has caused large-scale displacement in 2021, with populations largely converging on Payam and Boma headquarters.

• Populations in Marial Lou face substantial movement barriers in all directions. Population mainly moved to Rualbet (45%), and Akop (30%). The most vulnerable groups who were unable to make longer displacement journeys, displaced to settlements in close proximity to Marial Lou.
Livelihoods

Cultivation and Livestock
- Insecurity has prevented many households in Tonj North from cultivating
- Displacement has placed substantial pressure on host community members
- Reliance on cattle is typically highest during the lean season but most cows have been moved away from the settlement
- Harvested food stocks are expected to be exhausted as early as November 2021
- Atypically severe, widespread and prolonged food consumption gaps, particularly for IDPs, are likely in the near term

Coping capacity and wild food access
- Reliance on wild foods has increased substantially, particularly amongst IDPs, due to widespread livelihood collapse
- Reliance on wild foods will likely remain very high in the near and medium term, but insecurity may limit access
- Continued reliance on wild foods is very likely to result in sickness particularly amongst younger children
- Decrease in community level coping capacity and chief court functionality, due to a lack of resources and mass displacement
Humanitarian Service Access

- HFA scheduled to end in September
- Looting of food supplies in Marial Lou has meant that distributions have been moved to Akop
- Populations from Majok and Pagol face substantial challenges to reach Parasika

- Temporary health and nutrition facilities scheduled to close in October
- No access to health or nutrition services in Marial Lou since July and displacement has put pressure on hard-to-reach facilities in Akop and Rualbet
The cumulative effects of conflict left Gogrial East and West facing Emergency (Integrated Phase Classification Phase 4) levels of food insecurity.

Since December 2020:

- Population movement from Tonj North
- A combination of shocks, including floods, limited insecurity incidents has exacerbated chronic food insecurities.
Livelihoods

- Most common source of livelihood is agriculture, followed by firewood collection and preparing charcoal.
- Harvested food stocks are expected to last approximately 2-3 months after harvest in October, fear of low productivity due to excessive rain. Possibility of crop loss if rains continue to flood areas (current damage estimated at 30%).
- Reliance on cattle is typically highest during the lean season. However, IDPs report to have lost a majority of their livestock to conflict.
- Fishing was a very popular source of livelihood but due to insecurity in the swamp areas that has stopped completely.
- Displacement has placed substantial pressure on host community members.
- Displaced populations are relying on cash for labour to work on host community harvests.
- Atypically severe, widespread and prolonged food consumption gaps for IDPs expected once harvest stocks depleted or when harvest labour opportunities finish.

Coping capacity and wild food access

- Reliance on wild foods has increased substantially, particularly amongst IDPs especially in the near term as the harvest season looms when casual labour jobs are getting harder to come.
- Reliance on wild foods will likely remain very high in the near and medium term, but insecurity may limit access.
- Continued reliance on wild foods is very likely to result in sickness particularly amongst younger children and older groups.
- Reduced availability of wild foods near larger towns.