The international Organization for Migration’s (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Missions in South Sudan (UNMISS) and other humanitarian partners conducted a biometric registration exercise at Malakal Protection of Civilians (PoC) site from 12 December 2019 to 6 January 2020. Prior to the registration, the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the PoC site were targeted through a process known as temporary registration (T-Reg) on 26 November 2019 to quickly determine the actual residents. Those who participated in the T-Reg were screened and allowed to participate in the full biometric registration.

At the end of the exercise, 27,924 individuals (8,520 households) were registered as residents of the PoC site. About 54.1 per cent of the registered population were found to be youths under the age of 18 years, while 53.9 per cent were female. Sector 1 in Malakal PoC site is most populated accounting for 43.7 per cent of the population while Sector 3 is the least populated with 11.8 per cent of the population.

Malakal PoC site’s population peaked in August 2015, at almost 48,000 individuals, which drastically decreased to 23,343 individuals according to a DTM biometric registration exercise in August 2017. The current exercise found that the majority of site residents was displaced from within (77%) Malakal. DTM found that 44 per cent of the households considered leaving the PoC site in an earlier intention survey conducted in May 2019.