Overview
The continuation of conflict since December 2013 has created a complex humanitarian crisis in the country, restricting humanitarian access and hindering the flow of information required by aid partners to deliver humanitarian assistance to populations in need. To address information gaps faced by the humanitarian response in South Sudan, REACH employs its Area of Knowledge (AoK) methodology to collect relevant information in hard-to-reach areas to inform humanitarian planning and interventions outside formal settlement sites.

Using the AoK methodology, REACH remotely monitors needs and access to services in the Greater Upper Nile, Greater Equatoria and Greater Bahr el Ghazal regions. AoK data is collected monthly and through multi-sector interviews with the following typology of Key Informants (KIs):

- KIs who are newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month
- KIs who have been in contact with someone living in a hard-to-reach settlement, or have been visiting one in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.)
- KIs who are remaining in hard-to-reach settlements, contacted through phone

Selected KIs are purposively sampled and have knowledge from within the last month about a specific settlement in South Sudan, with data collected at the settlement level. About half of settlements assessed have more than one KI reporting on the settlement. In these cases, data is aggregated at the settlement level according to a weighting mechanism, which can be found in the Terms of Reference (ToRs).

All percentages presented in this factsheet, unless otherwise specified, represent the proportion of settlements assessed with that specific response. The findings presented in this factsheet are indicative of the broad water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) trends in assessed settlements in March 2020, and are not statistically generalisable.

Assessment Coverage
2,793 Key Informants interviewed
2,109 Settlements assessed
71 Counties assessed
70 Counties with 5% or more coverage

Assessment coverage
Proportion of settlements assessed

Improved Water Sources
Proportion of assessed settlements reporting their main source of drinking water is an improved source (borehole, tap stand & water-yard) that is available within 30 minutes

1 Data is only represented for counties in which at least 5% of settlements have been assessed.
The most recent OCHA Common Operational Dataset (COD) released in March 2019 has been used as the reference for settlement names and locations.

For more information on this factsheet please contact:
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Other counties where 100% of settlements reported that most people need more than 30 minutes to access water were: Pariang and Terekeka.

**Drinking water source**

Top five counties where the highest proportion of settlements reported that the main source of drinking water is an unprotected water source (e.g. river, swamp, unprotected well):

- **Panyikang**: 95%
- **Canal/Pigi**: 94%
- **Ezo**: 88%
- **Baliel**: 86%
- **Manyo**: 85%

**Water access time**

Top five access time settings where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that most people need more than 30 minutes to access and return from their preferred drinking water source:

- **Abiennhom**: 100%
- **Canal/Pigi**: 100%
- **Malakal**: 100%
- **Mundri East**: 100%
- **Mvolo**: 100%

- Other counties where 100% of settlements reported that most people need more than 30 minutes to access water were: Pariang and Terekeka.

**Seasonal access to water**

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that the preferred drinking water source is only accessible during the wet season:

- **Mvolo**: 65%
- **Mundri East**: 54%
- **Mundri West**: 50%
- **Nazara**: 45%
- **Yambio**: 39%

**Protection and water access**

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that safety concerns prevent people from accessing their preferred water source:

- **Rumbek East**: 65%
- **Uor**: 54%
- **Rumbek Centre**: 54%
- **Rumbek North**: 52%
- **Duk**: 47%
Other counties where 100% of settlements reported that latrines are unavailable: Pariang.

Top five counties where overcrowding prevents people from using latrines:
- Tonj East: 56%
- Raja: 40%
- Ayod: 38%
- Uror: 38%
- Akobo: 31%

Top five counties where latrines are unavailable:
- Abiemnhom: 100%
- Budi: 100%
- Canal/Pigi: 100%
- Kapoeta North: 100%
- Malakal: 100%

Top five counties where cholera and/or diarrhoea are the main causes of death:
- Malakal: 81%
- Canal/Pigi: 81%
- Aweil East: 42%
- Aweil Centre: 33%
- Twic: 33%

Top five counties where cholera and/or diarrhoea are the main health problems:
- Malakal: 85%
- Canal/Pigi: 77%
- Mayom: 67%
- Nyirol: 50%
- Uror: 50%