



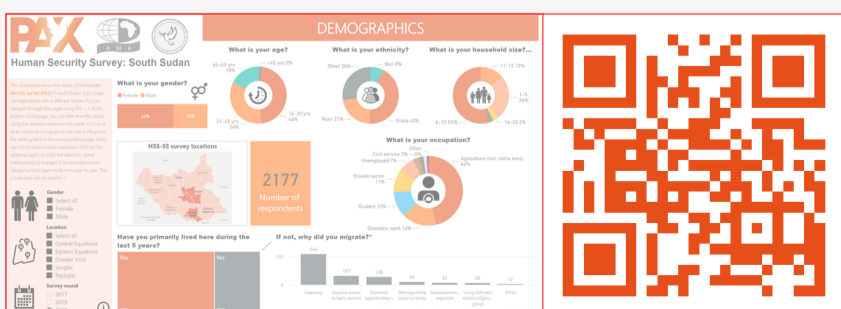
# Human Security Survey

## Expert Panel Monitor

### Highlights

- All consulted **local security experts (100%)** unanimously claimed that the local security situation in Greater Yirol had **further improved** during the first half of 2023. **Intercommunal violence and crime rates have decreased**, even though **occasional cattle raids** by neighboring Payinjar youth **still occur**. The improved security situation is mainly a result of **successful governance by Rin Tueny**, the popular Governor of Lakes State.
- All consulted experts (100%) acknowledged that **environmental challenges are affecting the area**, and all experts agreed that this amounted to **long(er) periods of drought**, a direct cause from the lack of rain at the start of the rainy season (somewhere between April and July). Consequently, the drought will lead to challenges in food production and food security, as harvests will likely be smaller than usual. No steps were taken yet to address the situation.
- While the **2018 peace agreement between Greater Yirol and Payinjar communities is still in force and generally respected**, some authorities have requested **more intercommunity conferences and peace dialogues** to further strengthen the foundations of this intercommunal peace deal. In addition, **calls for investments into more developmental activities** such as **road improvements, schools, and medical facilities** were made to further sustain the current peace agreement between Greater Yirol and Payinjar. These peace dividends would support the peace process between both parts of the community while they enjoy a higher and more stable quality of life. It was also suggested that while **the Yirol communities already experienced multiple civilian disarmament rounds**, it would be **necessary to start disarming neighboring communities** such as Payinjar or Terekeka as well, in the near future.

For more information about PAX or the Human Security Survey in South Sudan, visit [protectionofcivilians.org](https://protectionofcivilians.org) or contact Anton Quist ([quist@paxforpeace.nl](mailto:quist@paxforpeace.nl)). Find more HSS data on our interactive dashboards of [South Sudan](#) and [Iraq](#).



## UPDATE

### Q1-Q2 2023, Greater Yirol



Security situation:  
**Improved**



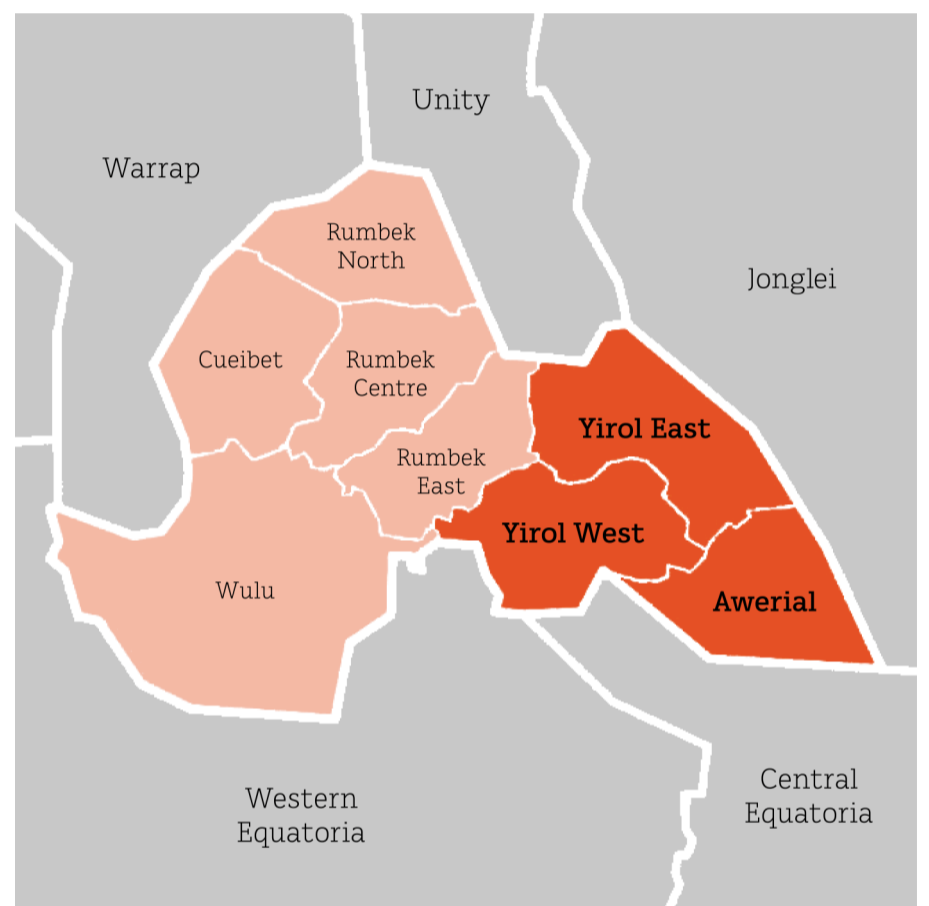
Biggest contributing factor:  
**Governance**



Biggest Development:  
**Delayed Rainy Season**



Biggest challenge:  
**Drought & Food Security**



### Methodology

The **Human Security Survey (HSS)** in South Sudan collects security perspectives of local community members through randomized household surveys on an annual basis. To supplement these findings, **PAX** has developed the Expert Panel Monitor to closely and timely monitor the local security situation by interviewing a group of experts twice a year about general local security dynamics as well as developments on a number of previously identified community security issues.

In August 2023, **12 individual interviews** were conducted with local experts in Greater Yirol, Lakes State. The group of experts included local government officials including an acting Commissioner, senior police officials, court officials, communal chiefs, and religious and women leaders. The experts represented the countries of Yirol West, Yirol East and Awerial equally. This report summarizes the security dynamics observed by the consulted experts between January and June 2023 (so roughly Q1-Q2 of 2023).