




Human Security Survey 2022 Annual Summary Report


Jonglei State, South Sudan


By Anton Quist

protectionofcivilians.org

Main recommendations to local government and UNMISS

 **Flood Prevention** | PAX calls on humanitarian organizations to continue providing necessary **emergency assistance** to displaced communities fleeing the recent flooding, as well as developing projects and programs to address livelihoods affected by frequent flooding more sustainably. At the same time relevant national and local government institutions, such as the Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation, the Jonglei State Government and the respective Commissioners' offices, are called to develop **immediate (re)construction** of dykes and the development of future infrastructural plans in Greater Bor with flood prevention measures in mind;

 **Community Protection** | PAX advises international donors active in South Sudan to invest more funds and political capital into **community-based Security Sector Reform**, specifically in developing necessary capacities, skills and resources for law enforcement actors, most notably the police, in order to provide better protection and rule of law for communities and address their security concerns;

 **De-escalation & Peace** | PAX calls on national and local government officials, community leaders and local civil society actors across Jonglei and the GPAA to get the Bor Dinka-Murle peace process back on track and invest in **transparent de-escalation** and **confidence-building measures**.



HUMAN SECURITY SURVEY: INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY



About us & contact

The Human Security Survey (HSS) is a unique survey methodology developed by PAX, that includes a series of complementary activities, including population-based research, active community engagement, and advocacy. The objectives of the HSS are: 1) to increase knowledge and understanding of local human security dynamics and trends; 2) to enhance the 'claim-making capacity' of civilians to hold security providers and decision-makers accountable; and 3) to inform evidence-based advocacy that enables (inter)national stakeholders to design and implement protection activities that reflect local realities. PAX currently implements the HSS in South Sudan in close collaboration with local field partners on the ground. For more information, please visit <https://protectionofcivilians.org/topics/human-security-survey/> or contact Anton Quist (quist@paxforpeace.nl).



Facts & figures

In February 2022, 14 local enumerators were trained and deployed to the field, where they collected 437 surveys across 3 counties making up 'Greater Bor' (Bor South, Twic East & Duk counties) in Jonglei State. This report summarizes the community perceptions and security dynamics observed during the 5th round of data collection in the area since 2016. This survey therefore reflects on the security situation in 2021-2022 until February. More than half (53%) of respondents were women and 82% of respondents were between the ages of 16-45.



MAIN SECURITY DYNAMICS OBSERVED

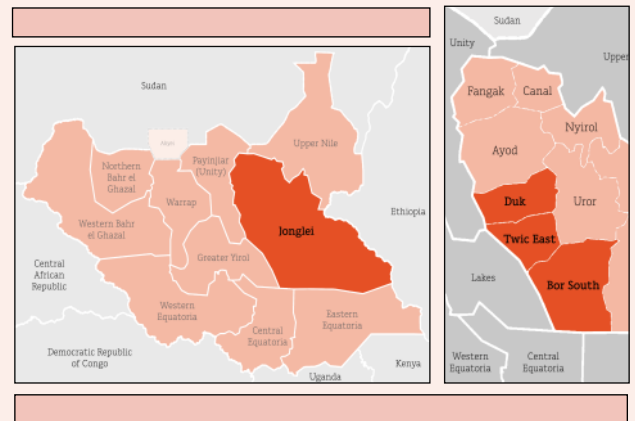


More than half of respondents in Jonglei State (56%) declared that the security situation over the past year 2021-2022 had become worse, while 38% claimed that it had not changed. Relative security levels have worsened most in Duk County (67%). 90% of respondents claim not to feel safe in their own community. The perceived deterioration of security perceptions fits a trend of longer term deteriorating

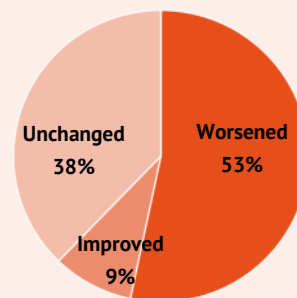
security perceptions generally ongoing since 2018. 35% of respondents expect further deterioration, 40% expect no changes at all. The previously conducted peace process between Dinka Bor representatives from Jonglei and Murle representatives from the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA) have stalled.



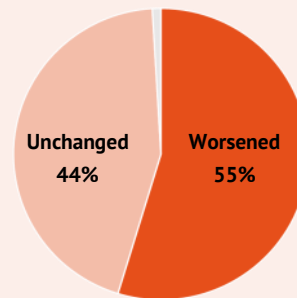
Left: Map of South Sudan. Right: Map of Jonglei State, highlighting the counties surveyed in 2022. Disclaimer: These maps are intended for illustrative purposes only and do not warrant accuracy or completeness, nor do they imply the expression of any opinion by PAX.



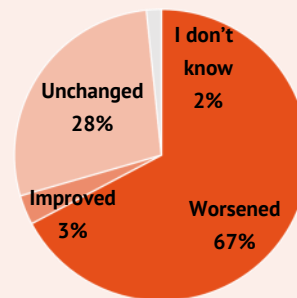
HOW DID YOUR PERSONAL SECURITY SITUATION CHANGE SINCE LAST YEAR?



Bor South County
(N = 270)



Twic East County
(N = 106)



Duk County
(N = 61)



Almost a quarter of all respondents (22%) indicate they have migrated from their payams during the last 5 years, mostly due to insecurity (62%) and environmental hazards (51%). In line with this, during 2021-22, Greater Bor as other areas of Jonglei, and across South Sudan straddling the White Nile, was affected by widespread flooding and 90% of respondents indicated that floods were getting more serious over the last years.



Flooding has led to direct humanitarian impact on civilians, but also a longer-term security impact. Apart from direct damages to houses, roads, pastures and agricultural fields, leaving people in a dire humanitarian situation amidst food insecurity (51% of respondents indicated this as an impact of the floods) and waterborne diseases (42%), displacement of others led to tensions with host communities (38%), rise of crime and contested access to already scarce resources. Victims relied on assistance, as they left their villages and abandoned cultivation. Some armed cattle keepers from Jonglei escaped the floods by migrating to Magwi County (Eastern Equatoria) where they became embroiled in bloody communal disputes with local farming communities claiming dozens of lives and leading to displacement (especially from January-July 2022), until it was agreed by local leaders that the



49%

Households reported *at least one* security threat in the previous year

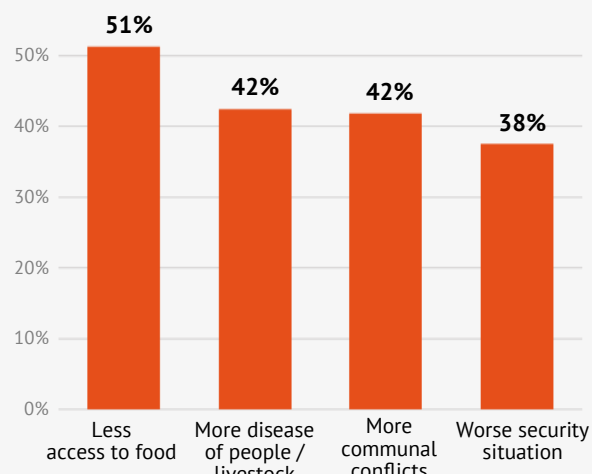
MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED INCIDENTS
(percentage of all incidents in Greater Bor)

29%	Imprisonment	
27%	Cattle raiding	
19%	Robbery	
19%	Killing	
11%	Forced marriage	
11%	Kidnapping	

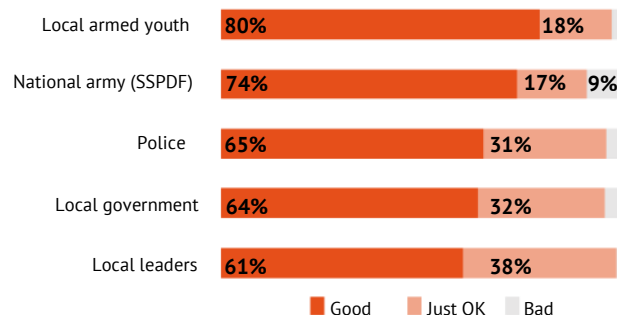
cattle keepers and their herds needed to return to Jonglei in July 2022. In addition, respondents across Greater Bor indicated that they need help from international NGOs in how they can adapt their livelihoods to the recurring floods.



WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES?



HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE PERFORMANCE OF THIS ACTOR IN PROVIDING SECURITY?



Nearly half (49%) of respondents reported at least one security incident happening to them or a household member. Among the most frequently reported security incidents in Greater Bor were unlawful imprisonment (29% of respondents), cattle raiding (27%), Robbery, murders (both 19%), kidnappings and forced marriages (both 11%), etc. Most of these incidents were blamed on neighboring communities (39%) and criminal gangs (37%). Just a month before the data was collected, an attack by suspected Murle armed youth killed more than 30 civilians in the village of Baidit in Bor South County, representing the biggest single incident which was widely reported in national media.



62% of respondents indicated that when confronted with insecurity, they sought assistance from informal security actors, such as the armed youth militia most accessible to rural communities. 37% of respondents indicated that they sought assistance from formal security actors such as the police. Half on the respondents indicated that they reported the security incidents they experienced to an outside actor, which

most often proved out to be the police (62% of reporting respondents), local armed youth (50%) and chiefs (33%), among others. However, nearly three-quarters (74%) of the respondents reporting their cases were not satisfied with its resolution.



The most accessible security actors across Greater Bor are local armed youth (83%), police (54%) and chiefs (34%). Local armed youth is trusted more for security provision than other actors according to 80% of all respondents, and community members in rural areas are often relying on them. All three of the main actors are considered to be performing well according to 80%, 65% and 61% respectively. Nevertheless, these actors should receive (more) training, have more capacity (higher numbers) or better equipment to be able to serve communities better. More women are requested to join the police force (78%). UNMISS appreciation levels have declined (57% not agreeing that they are assisting the government well in protecting communities). Also the national government in Juba was criticized for not taking effective steps to reduce communal violence (61%).



Crime levels in Bor town continue to be lower than previous years, thanks to the crackdown by the joined security forces consisting of police and SSPDF (army). However, inadequate salaries are threatening these improvements as police officers, especially in rural areas, abandon their jobs, leading to exacerbated capacity constraints.



Support for communal disarmament decreased (35%), while 62% of respondents indicate that people need arms to provide their own security.



The proposed main changes to prevent future conflict are: improved governance at the national level (70%), economic development or livelihood opportunities (52%), and improved community relations through local reconciliation and dialogue (42%), among other less mentioned factors.



Two-thirds of respondents think that all community members, irrespective of gender, are equally vulnerable to become victims of violence. With this in mind, respondents indicate that increased community security is linked to engagement with the local government. 79% of respondents think it is important for civilians to meet with members of local government and the organized forces to advocate for better protection in their communities.

Peace. Are you in?

PAX



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

This project is supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of its foreign development policy.