

1. General Information

Assessment Location State, County, Payam, Boma, Precise Location	Jonglei, Pigi County, Diel payam, Diel boma			
Type of Crises (Conflict/Natural Disaster/Other)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conflict <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Disaster <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Protracted, under-served displacement (under- served)			
Site Type	<input type="checkbox"/> PoC <input type="checkbox"/> Collective Centres <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spontaneous Settlements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Host Communities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): returnees			
Assessment Team (Name of I/NGO in the Assessment Team, Name of Staff, Contract Details of Staff including Sat Phone)	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)/ Partners			
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Date of Alert	30 th April 2019			
Date of Assessment (starting date/ending date)	30 th May to 7 th June 2019			
Date of Submission	12 th June 2019			
Population Size (estimated)	7730 (1288 HHs)			

Introduction

This assessment was carried out after the WASH cluster called for a scale up of humanitarian response in Diel payam of Pigi County. This area was reported to be a catchment area for IDPs and returnees.

According to secondary data sources, there were approximately 22,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) who arrived in Diel Payam between February and March 2017 due to increasing insecurity near Canal, Khorfulus and Kaldak Payams in Canal/Pigi County and also due to insecurity on the eastern bank of the White Nile River. There are reportedly no host community in the area. The original inhabitants of Diel were reported to have left the area at the upsurge of the crisis in 2014.

As result NRC conducted an assessment mission to Diel to carry out an in-depth multisectoral assessment of the needs of the Hosts/ IDPs/returnees as well as protection risks in the area.

The objectives of the multisectoral assessment were to:

- Determine the protection risks/needs of the IDPS/Returnees in Diel
- Determine the humanitarian needs in term of WASH, shelter/ NFIs, Food security and Education
- Provide recommendations for appropriate response based on the needs identified in the field.

The protection assessment and the need assessment covered area around Diel such as Cinuerben, Hai Suk, Hai Mozifin and Wunden. This report will only cover protection assessment; sector needs are included in the WASH assessment report.

Background

Diel Payam is Pigi County, Jonglei State, is an IDP catchment site where displaced households have resettled after armed conflict Pigi Canal, Khorfulus, Kamel, Kaldak and Atar 1 Bomas in early 2017 (REACH March 2018). The payam is located on the southern bank of the White Nile River in northwestern part of Pigi County. According to local authorities, Diel Payam consists of seven bomas and most of the occupants are considered to be IDPs, with the highest concentration in Diel Boma.

According to the authorities and the Rehabilitation Organization of South Sudan (ROSS), there are currently 7,730 individuals residing in Diel town and the surrounding villages. This number includes host communities, returnees and IDPs living in Diel town itself, as well as in the wider areas, including the IDP settlements at Wichnor and Magok which was assessed by the team. According to ROSS, 5644 individuals were verified by WFP and NPA in March during head count and biometric registration. However, 1750 individuals were said to be returnees from Khartoum, Malakal POC, Bentiu and Juba, they arrived in Diel from mid-March to date and the new of returnees may increase and 335 individuals were fresh IDPS were displaced from Kaldak due to internal communal and armed conflict and others were from Ayod County of Jonglei state were displaced as a result of cattle raiding. The returnees and IDPs population were not verified because they arrived in Diel after WFP and NPA have completed the verification exercise.

Assessment Methodology

The assessment consisted of a secondary data review, particularly updates and assessment reports provided by the need analysis working group (NAWG), REACH Assessment report as well as direct observations, key informant interviews and Focus group discussions as mentioned below:

FGDs: Three focus group discussions were carried out, 3 of them were done with Female groups only, made of IDPs, returnees and host community (First FGD consisted of 6 Females of 20 to 35 years of age, and the second one consisted of 10 Females of 40 to 60 years of age). The third FGD was done with both males and females (3 males and 5 females) and this group was also covering people from the IDPs, returnees and the host community. People from different ages ranging from 18 to 50 years old have participated in order to cover all people needs.

KIIs: One KII was conducted with 15 people. In this interview, we made sure to include both males and females from the IDPs, returnees and host community, we also made sure to include people from different age groups in order to cover all group's needs.

HH Interviews: A total number of 71 HH interviews were done, 25 were done with the Host community, 30 with the returnees and 16 interviews were done with the fresh IDPs. This process was carried out with help of trained enumerators who administered the questionnaires to the respondents using KOBO Collect application which was uploaded on smartphones

WASH Findings

WASH services in the payam is been managed by Nile Hope. In regard to water supply, there is no safe water source such as hand pumps or tap water, the households reportedly collect untreated water directly from the river and swamps for their domestic needs for the observation. From the household's interviews, 92% of the respondents confirmed that their main source of water is from the river/ stream, 4% of the respondents the main source of water is mentioned swamps, 1% said their main source is rain water. However, other 1% indicated that they are getting their water from tap stand or water but no tap stands or water yard were seen on ground as shown in the figure 1 below

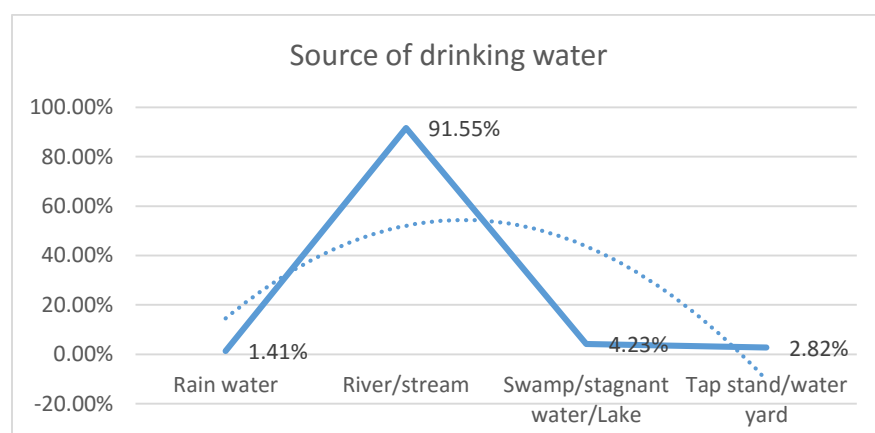


Figure 1: Figure showing water sources in Diel boma (Source: Field data June 2019)

Therefore, river and stream are the main source of water the population of Diel payam and no safe water sources are available as seen in the figure.

On water purification, from the household interviews, 41% reported not treating their water and the reason being not treating their water was the lack of water purifiers as reported by respondents and 59% said they treat their water as indicated on the figure 2 below;

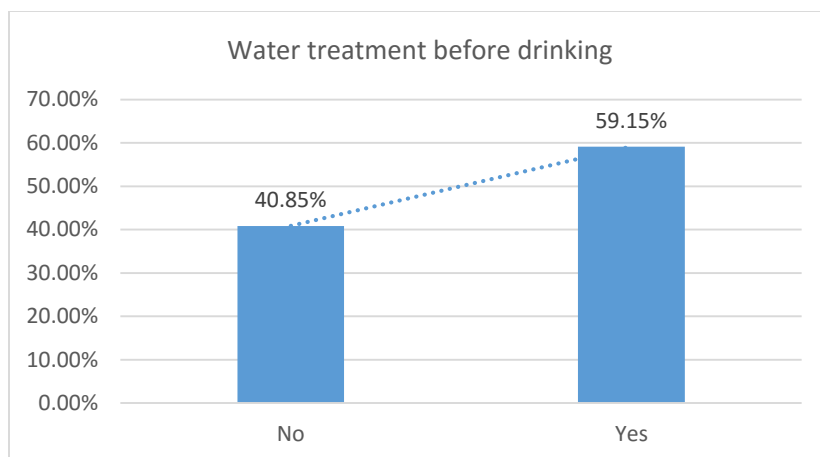


Figure 2: Figure showing proportion of water treatment in Diel boma (Source: Field data June 2019)

From the FGD only few households treat their water using chlorine water purifiers (Aqua tab or PUR Sachet) the reason for not treating their drinking water was based on the lack of the water purifiers. From observation, there were not PUR Sachets littered on the ground. This implies that more awareness on the usage of the water treating materials need to be done at household level.

On water collection and storage, the respondents when asked about the presence of water collection and storage containers, 55% of the respondents said they have either jerry cans or buckets but 45% said they don't have water containers, and those without water containers were mostly those who might have arrived to Diel by the end of last year or this year, mostly the returnees. Consider the statistical representations below;

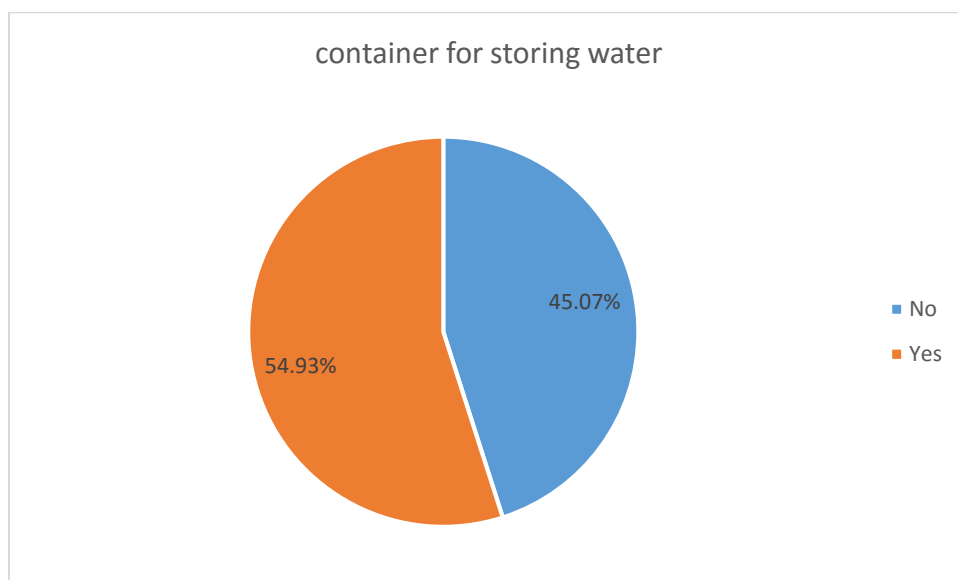


Figure 3: water collection and storage information (Source: Field data 2019)

On sanitation, Nile Hope constructed some few households shared latrines but the latrines were not enough to meet the sanitation needs of the affected population, however, from the FGD and

the KII most households expressed their willingness to use the latrines but need more latrine to be constructed through the involvement of the community.

However, observations, 51% of the households visited open defecation areas were observed and 41 % were clean with no open defecation seen on the ground.

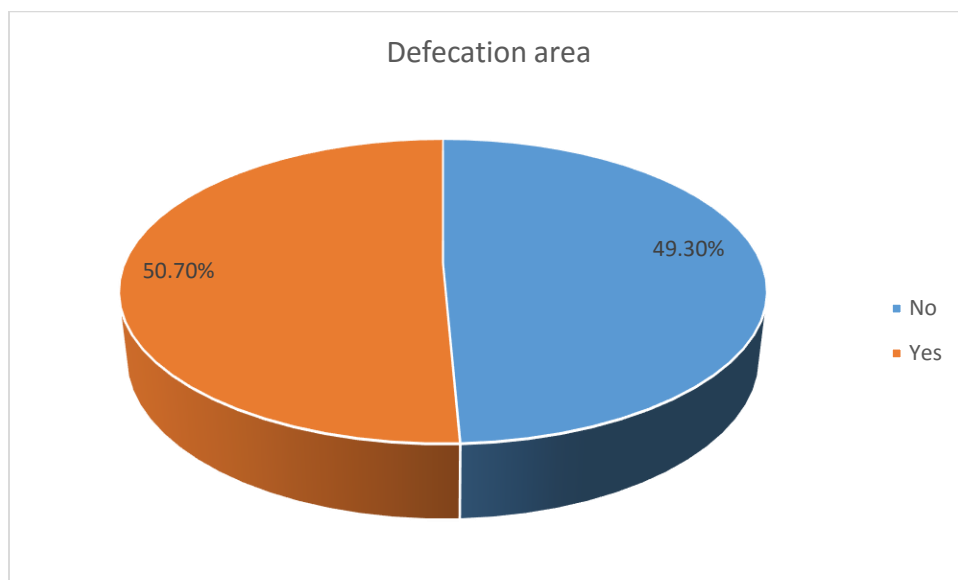


Figure 4: presence of open defecation (Source: Field data June 2019)

On access to functional latrine, on 13% of the respondents have latrine in their homes and 87% reported not having functional latrines at home. Most of the households without latrine said they don't have material for latrine construction but they are willing to construct.

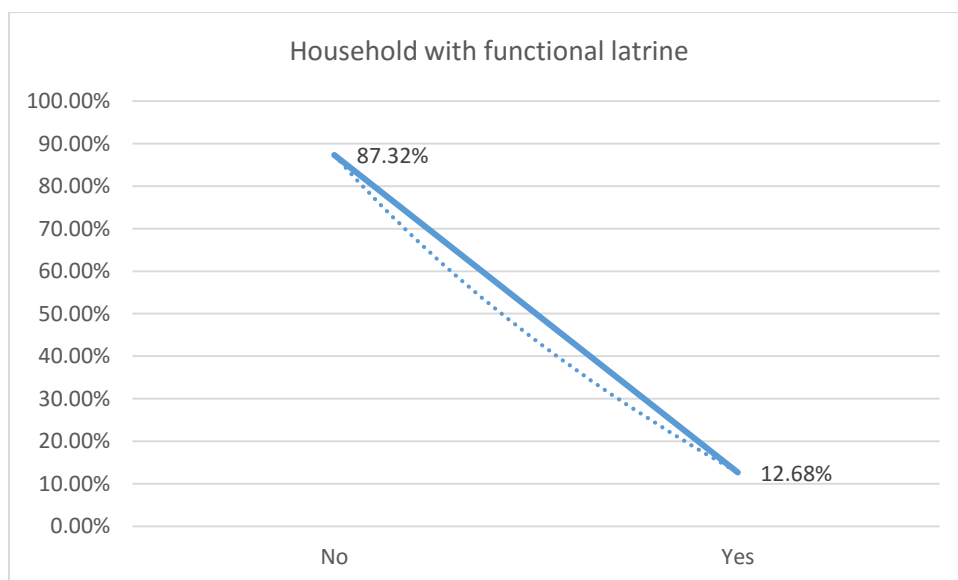


Figure 5: Access to functional latrines (Field data June 2019)

On hygiene promotion, the knowledge of the of the affected population to the basic hygiene practices such as hand washing is really low among the women and children in the area. It was not from the household interviews as few respondents can at least mention three critical handwashing moment as in shown in the figure below;

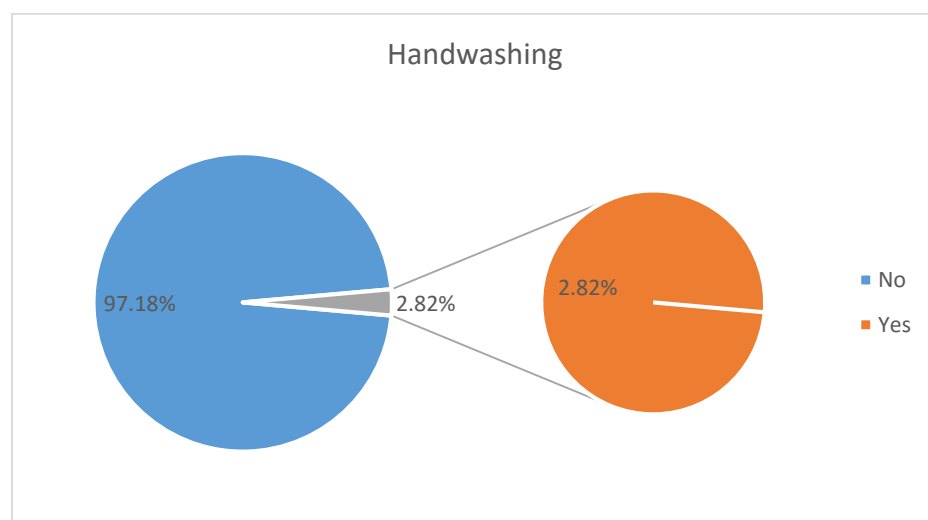


Figure 6: Data on hand washing

From the figure above, only 3% of the respondents could mention three critical moments of handwashing and the rest could only mention one or two of the hand washing moments.

On WASH NFIs, most of the interviewed households to have received some water containers (collapsible jerry cans and buckets) and soap in the last RRM conducted in March 2019 but the distribution was only for few vulnerable women.

Protection

General information

- According to local authorities and based on observations, Diel Payam and areas around it are secure. It is safe for the IDPS and Returnees because there has not been fighting in the area. The major safety concern exist at the moment is the threat of crocodiles in the White Nile which attack women and children who go into the river to collect water or swim.
- The IDPs and returnees co-exist very well. All the IDPs and returnees are integrated into the communities; although some reside in makeshift tukuls, others have already constructed better shelters (Tukuls).
- The effects of the conflict and displacement have left most of the population in destitution as they lost almost all of their belongings in the conflict and process of escaping for safety and they are now struggling to rebuild their lives in Diel.
- Forced and early marriage, domestic violence, physical assault, and rape cases appear to be common but not given due attention. In a FGD, an adolescent girl reported that rape

occurs in the community especially when they go to collect firewood; but when they report such cases nobody takes them seriously.

- Most parents say their children are not in school and therefore because of their idleness, parents might encourage early marriage of the girls.
- No cases of separated and unaccompanied minors were reported during the assessment. But some respondents say there were cases of UASC at the time of conflict but many of them got reunited with their families after the signing of the peace agreement in September 2018.
- Families headed by women whose husbands are or were involved in the conflict on the opposite sides face challenge as people seem to believe they are also their foes.

Specific protection information

a) Safety and security

According to the respondents, Diel is secured a place simply because they are in charge of their security. The presence of the military, in same location makes people safe because the soldiers provide security and they have strong command which ensures serious disciplinary measures against any errant forces in the area.

However, the major safety concern mentioned by the respondents was frequent attacks by crocodiles when people go to collect water or swim in the White Nile. At least two children were reported attacks by crocodiles while fetching water or swimming in the White Nile river in May 2019.

Most of the IDPS interviewed stated that they were free to move from one location to another in the villages, adding that people are even returning from other locations to Diel because it has been safe and they can receive food and water is available (River Nile).

There was no evidence of restriction of movement observed and noted in Diel during the assessment. The area was reported free of land mines or UXO.

b) Relation to Host Community

There are three ethnic groups in Diel such as Nuer, Shilluk and Dinka. Most of our respondents applauded the existence of cordial relationships among the people. Interviews conducted with ordinary people and local authorities revealed that IDPs/ Returnees in Diel live in harmony with each other and there are no conflicts among them. Many respondents revealed that they are the same people with similar problems and as such they don't see the need for grudges against each other. They work together in organizing events such as marriage, food distribution and other cultural events without hindrance. Other respondents stated that whenever people come to Diel, they are hosted by the families that came in earlier.

c) Intentions

According to the respondents, they will stay in Diel until a lasting peace is achieved in their home areas while other say they have returned home. According to the respondents, the best place for

their children in the future is Malakal, Juba or even abroad (Uganda and Kenya) where there are better education services to restore hope in their children after witnessing series of conflicts throughout this time.

d) Access to services

Despite the fact the displacement into this area occurred in 2017, access to humanitarian assistance has been minimal. There are local and international organizations on the ground in Diel payam such as Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)/WFP partner, Reference Simon Christian Orphans Foundation (RESCOF), Nile Hope, MSF among other. KIs respondents mentioned the most significant problems as lack of food, health and education.

Food distribution was done by Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)/WFP. The IDPs interviewed say they receive insufficient quantities of food from NPA/WFP. There are also delays in distribution of food; citing an example of where the last food rations were distributed in March 2019 and up to June 2019 no distributed has taken place.

Nile Hope and MSF operate health facilities in the area. However, these health facilities do not operate on daily basis. According to the respondents, the services are insufficient and whenever there is a critical medical case, it has to be referred to Old Fangak which is very far and requires speed boat.

Education services are very limited in Diel. There are existing primary schools in Diel boma and three schools in different locations. According information obtained from a focused group discussion with adolescent girls in Diel, the school has only five classes (Primary 1- Primary 5) and thereafter they cannot continue with education. As a result, adolescent girls are tempted to get married because there is nothing they can do thereafter.

According to a women leader in Diel, older people and people with disabilities face challenges in accessing services especially those who don't have care takers. "Nobody has ever asked us for anything in exchange for humanitarian assistance...", the woman leader said. There are no services for GBV cases in the area since there is no partner on the ground which provides response and mechanisms for addressing GBV cases.

e) People with Specific needs

According to the authorities, there are 180 people registered as vulnerable during WFP Registration. Children with disabilities were observed in Diel; in one family the assessment team found two CWDS and both had wheel chairs. Although attempts to talk to the care takers were not successful because the care takers (mother) was reported to have gone to the cattle camp to milk cows; through observation, these children seemed neglected and malnourished. They spend their time under the tree shades near their house which are locked.

f) Gender based violence

Women respondents mentioned the existence of gender based violence (domestic violence) which was reaffirmed by the male respondents in the community but stated that it is away to enforce discipline in the family. Women and girls are more prone to GBV attacks perpetrated by men/youth

but no respondent mentioned men in uniform as perpetrators of “attacks” against girls or women. Most women interviewed admitted that it was a “normal practice” for men to beat their wives after family disagreements. It was also reported that whenever an adolescent girl gets pregnant in the village, the mother is more likely to be beaten by her husband. Another respondent stated “women are born to suffer in this community and there is nothing we can do”.

Rape is another form of violence mentioned by adolescent girls in the community of Diel. The adolescents say this is one of the causes of early pregnancy or marriage. According to the adolescents in FGD, this act usually goes unreported because it is not treated seriously in the community. The respondents say people pay little attention to a girl whenever she reports an issue of sexual assault or rape. In many occasions girls remain silent even if they are raped for fear of ridicule when the information is passed to the community.

Although most respondents including women stated they were respected in the community of Diel, one group of women which faces challenge is female headed households. One respondent stated that families headed by women (FHH) whose husbands are fighting in the opposite side of the conflict are usually treated with contempt and discriminated against by the community; nobody is willingly to help their “enemies”. Another respondent who is also a female head of her house said sometimes they are harassed by men when they attempt to take their cattle to the market in a far location such as Tonga (Upper Nile).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Following influx of the returnees from Khartoum, Malakal, Bentiu and Juba early this year, as well as the IDPs fled to Diel Payam due to inter communal fighting and cattle raiding. FGD participants reported that most of the population has no intention of leaving the payam unless forced by insecurity. KIs regard a lack of safe water sources and other WASH services as a major concern, citing an increased risk of an outbreak of water-borne diseases as there are inadequate latrines and poor hygiene practices in the area.

Recommendations.

WASH

- Training of community hygiene promoters and conducting hygiene promotion activities
- Provision of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials to enhance hygiene promotion activities.
- Distribution of WASH NFIs materials and water treatments materials and to be backup with hygiene promotion activities in the Community.
- Distribution of hygiene and dignity kits for feminine Menstrual Management hygiene to be accompanied by menstrual hygiene awareness among the feminine of reproductive age on the usage and disposal of the sanitary pads.
- Construction of communal latrines and family shared latrines through community participation.