Endline Study on Peace, Security and Sexual and Gender Based Violence in South Sudan

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Final Report

November
2017

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Acknowledgement

At the various stages of the Endline Study, a number of institutions played pertinent roles. In particular, the Contractor would like to thank the following government departments for offering specialised support.The Bureau for Community Security and Arms Control (BCSAC) was a close partner and very instrumental in the entire process. South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (SSNBS) offered technical guidance in the sampling of enumeration areas while South Sudan Peace and Reconciliation Commission (SSPRC) contributed substantive information for the study.

The Endline Reference Group (ERG) and UNDP Technical Team were very supportive throughout the study; they offered guidance, key information and insights that were invaluable. Expression of gratitude: to the donors for Financial Assistance utilized in this study granted by DFID, Embassy of Sweden and Embassy of Switzerland through UNDP.

Data collection and entry were realized through the work of committed teams consisting of supervisors, enumerators and data clerks. Appreciation goes to the teams for enduring long hours of service to deliver respective assignments. The contractor would also like to appreciate Opinion Research Centre (ORC), a local partner, for support extended in the administration process of the Endline Study.

All the resource persons consulted during the data collection phase either as: key informants, focus group discussion, coded questionnaire respondents as well as community based organisations; are highly appreciated for sharing their perceptions and providing feedback that informed the Endline Study and subsequently this Report.

Author

Security Research and Information Centre (SRIC), prepared this Report in her capacity as the Contractor for development of Endline Study on Peace, Security And Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) for Community Security and Arms Control Project in South Sudan.

SRIC is an independent, not-for-profit organization that specializes in conducting applied research, survey and disseminating knowledge-based information on matters relating to peace and security in Kenya, East Africa/Great Lakes Region (EA/GLR) and the Horn of Africa sub-regions.[1]

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1 See more at: http://www.srickenya.org/

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ARCSS	Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan
ATT	Arms Trade Treaty
BCSSAC	Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control
BPS	Baseline Perception Survey
CBR	Centre for Basic Research
CPDS	Centre for Peace and Development Studies
CSAC	Community Security and Arms Control
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DFID	Department for International Development
EAs	Enumeration Areas
EA/GLR	East Africa/Great Lakes Region
ECC	Emergency Call Centres
ERG	Endline Reference Group (ERG)
FBOs	Faith Based Organizations
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ICF	Interim Cooperation Framework
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IPCA	Initiative for Peace Communication Association
LEA	Law Enforcement Agencies
NBHS	National Baseline Household Survey
NPSSS	National Prison Service of South Sudan
NWN	National Women's Network
ORC	Opinion Research Institute
PCA	Project Cooperation Agreements
RoLOs	Rule of Law Officers
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SPLM	Sudan People's Liberation Movement
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SRIC	Security Research and Information Centre
SSIC	South Sudan Islamic Council
SSLS	South Sudan Law Society
SSNBS	South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics
SSNPS	South Sudan National Police Service

SSPRC	South Sudan Peace and Reconciliation Commission
ToR	Terms of Reference
UN AFPs	United Nations Agencies Funds and Programmes
UNMSS	UN Mission in South Sudan
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNSC	United Nations Security Council

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Executive Summary

UNDP commissioned an Endline Study on peace, security and sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) to assess the overall contribution of CSAC Project towards improving community security and reducing the levels of local and communal conflicts. The study analysed progress on indicators from the 2015 baseline survey, and expanded to include indicators on access to justice and rule of law and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), number 16. The inclusion of additional indicators was driven by the need to inform assessment of peace and security from a broader perspective given the fundamental correlation between peace, security, rule of law and development.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile, and Warrap states. A mix of qualitative and quantitative data collection methods was employed; questionnaires, key informant interviews, documentation review and focused group discussions.

Data was collected from 2,511 interviews, 35 key informants drawn from; donor community, UN Mission and agencies, academic institutions, national prisons service, national and county governments and civil society organisations contributing to qualitative data. Focus group discussions were conducted in the 18 counties with 250 sample areas.

Main study limitations faced during the study were insecurity and access. To safeguard quality output, the survey team replaced enumeration areas affected by insecurity and relied on air travel.

Peace and Security: Key Findings and Trend

Indicator 1: percentage of individuals with confidence in peace and security in selected states.

Percentage of individuals with confidence on peace and security was 47.4 percent, down from 52.5 percent in 2015. Factors contributing to this decline include: political instability and sporadic attacks. Respondents expressed concern over; escalation in proliferation of small arms, cattle rustling incidences and failed disarmament

interventions. Rising tensions in the country have increased culture of violence and negative ethnicity.

Government failure to provide adequate security at the national and state levels and failure to safeguard community safety have contributed to a deteriorating situation in South Sudan. A myriad of problems were identified as major security threats particularly: the political crisis that commenced in 2013 and related violence; weak security institutional structures; ethnised politics and elite competition.

Indicator 2: percentage of individuals assessing that local government (county) was responsive to community needs.

Baseline rating was at 10.5 percent in comparison with Endline's 67.8% respondents expressing confidence with county governments. The improvement was attributed to the implementation of various projects at the community level and humanitarian aid. Implementation increased communities' resilience against adversity caused by the fragile peace and security situation in the country. This improvement should however be understood within the context that local level communities rarely differentiate interventions by development partners and humanitarian agencies from those of the local government. It's possible this positive trend is due to this factor.

Indicator 3: perceptions of community level security and incidences of SGBV.

At baseline, 30.1 percent of respondents felt secure at the community level. At Endline, the trend remained fairly the same with 31 percent feeling secure in their communities. Upward trend was noted on confidence in police ability to assure justice; baseline was at 28.7 percent. At Endline 52 percent expressed confidence that the police had the ability to prosecute and assure them justice on reported cases. The upward trend was appraised on the fact that the police is the first point of reference when citizens seek for justice and not necessarily improved police capacity because there were complaints regarding how the police handle the public despite related reforms in the sector.

At baseline 39.6 percent observed that the rate of SGBV incidences decreased but at Endline when asked to assess SGBV in the past two years only 19.4 percent noted a decline. The downward trend was corroborated by 58.5 percent who felt that SGBV was a major problem in South Sudan. Factors blamed for increased SGBV incidences included; cultural norms and practices, poverty, illiteracy and natural disasters. Environment of political instability, insecurity and low level development increased incidences of SGBV.

Indicator 4: proportion of individuals perceiving decrease in levels of inter-communal violence with their neighbouring tribes/clans.

Decrease in the level of intercommunal violence was observed by 46 percent at baseline in contrast with 22.7 percent at Endline. Increase of inter-communal violence was attributed to political tensions in different parts of the country that had a negative impact on the implementation of projects and programmes.

Some areas in Warrap, Jonglei and Unity where implementation of peace and security projects progressed smoothly, intercommunal violence reduced. Notable projects highlighted by respondents and commended for contributing towards reduction of intercommunal violence included: women empowerment programs; establishment of peace committees and construction of police stations, leading to deployment of more security agents. Setting up of shared water points reduced intercommunal violence and improved integration of communities.

Indicator 5: proportion of households perceiving decrease in levels of competition and grievances between regions.

At baseline, the situation was better with a proportion of 40.3 percent citing decrease of competition and grievances compared with 17.1 percent at Endline. Prevailing economic difficulties occasioned by inadequate accountability, weak institutions, bad governance and mismanagement of available resources were identified as the major causes of competition and grievances.

Increased level of competition at Endline was corroborated by 56.8 percent of respondents who noted that communities were exposed to intense and violent competition over resources. Main causes were identified as; unequal opportunities, domination of national resources by a few individuals or communities, outdated cultural norms such as raiding of livestock, competition over land and natural resources.

At Endline, leading grievances among communities were found to be political injustices, 12.7 percent, followed by poverty at 12.4 percent and negative ethnicity affecting peaceful co-existence among communities. Key informants observed that as the country engages in national dialogue, the causes of competition and community grievances should be addressed.

Slightly more than 17 percent indicated that the intensity of competition had reduced since baseline of 2015. Reduction was attributed to peace dividends accrued from projects initiated by different peace and security actors including UNDP.

Shared water points established by donors and government contributed to reduced competition. Establishment of grazing committees also reduced competition through improved sharing of available grazing fields because pasture and water sources often cause tension and conflicts.

Access to justice assessed on the basis of nexus with peace and security

Indicator 1: Percentage of individuals perceiving that indigent defendants received free legal assistance.

Majority or 53.7 percent affirmed free legal services for indigent defendants. However, additional lawyers were required to provide free legal services. A key respondent pointed out that some of the suspects were convicted out of ignorance. Paralegal services were also found to be dysfunctional and require re-establishment.

Indicator 2: Percentages of individuals assessing that right of accused persons were adequately protected.

According to the findings, 41 percent observed that accused persons were fairly treated and an equal number 41.8 percent noted that they were unfairly treated. Language barrier, delay in concluding court and pending cases, lack of sufficient correctional facilities and judges were some of the reasons advanced for unfair treatment of accused persons.

Indicator 3: percentage of population believing that women who are victims of sexual and other gender-based violence were treated fairly by the courts.

An equal number of respondents believed women were treated fairly 46.6 percent or unfairly 46.8 percent. According to the findings, women who reported SGBV incidences were stigmatized because police lacked investigative skills thus making it difficult to pursue cases. Hostile environment at the facilities was cited as the reason why victims were less enthusiastic to report SGBV cases.

SGBV incidences negatively impact peace and security largely because individuals break the law as they seek justice for the victims. Revenge meted against perpetrators lead to intercommunal spiral conflicts.

Weak laws or lack of proper legislation were found to perpetuate SGBV among communities and culprits often escaped punishment. Considering the diverse causes of SGBV and as part of the remedy to the challenges facing lack of justice for SGBV

victims, key informants proposed that traditional leaders should be empowered to deal with the cases instead of looking at them purely from a criminal perspective.

Indicator 4: proportion of population perceiving that police have ability to control crime in community.

Confidence in police and courts were on an upward trend given that at baseline, 28.7 percent of the respondents went to police when aggrieved while 23.6 percent preferred formal courts. At Endline, 46 percent acknowledged police as the most reformed followed by the judiciary at 14.9 percent.

The above trend was further corroborated at Endline by 24 percent who observed that more courts were required while 22.8 percent noted that training of law enforcement officers was crucial towards improving access to justice. Corruption was identified by 26.9 of the respondents in 2017 as the greatest impediment to accessing justice.

Lack of technical expertise was blamed for inefficiency in service delivery particularly in the following; judiciary, police and correction units. Key informant respondents observed that deliberate effort was required in training more youthful police and members of the judiciary. Youthful police would be more adaptive to the rapid changes taking place in South Sudan, in the region and globally.

Respondents were also gravely concerned over the aging members of judiciary and the challenges they faced communicating in English language considering that most trained in Arabic.

Sustainable Development Goal Number 16 Assessment

Lack of knowledge about SDGs was expressed by 70.5 percent while 27 percent indicated that they were knowledgeable about all the 17 SDGs. Respondents from government, institutions of higher learning and civil society were among those conversant with SDGs. However, majority of those interviewed could hardly outline the list of SDGs or even correctly identify the one that relates to peace, security and justice.

Specific knowledge on Goal Number 16 was expressed by 18.8 percent while 21.6 percent indicated that they were not knowledgeable about SDG number 16. Majority 45.8 percent opted to abstain from the question due to lack of information relating to SDGs.

Indicator: Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live.

Over 51 percent felt secure and 10 percent felt very secure moving within their residential areas in the day. On the contrary, 38 percent felt insecure and unsafe moving around during the day.

Indicator: Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported to relevant authorities

A total of 77.5 percent had no confidence with justice institutions while 17.2 percent reported victimization to authorities, thus reflecting a low trend in reporting crimes. It's worth to emphasise here that the above analysis does not include the traditional judicial and justice structures at community and lower levels.

Conclusion

From the key findings of the Endline Study, the conclusion is that community security and arms control project significantly contributed to peace and security in South Sudan along initiatives undertaken by the donor community, other UN Agencies and the government. In spite of deteriorating political instability that negatively impact on peace, security and community safety, programmes implemented contributed to resilience in adversity.

A key indicator to this conclusion is that security sector capacity building and service delivery improved citizens' confidence in the police. Respondents expressed confidence that the police had ability to prosecute and assure justice on reported cases. However, a notable number of respondents seemed unware of ongoing reforms and programmes. Essentially, community involvement and participation in the reform agenda needs to be improved through awareness creation and bottom-up approach.

Reluctance in reporting crimes, including SGBV, to the police due to lack of confidence in the system, implied that there was room for improvement towards enhancing public trust in law enforcement agencies and related government institutions. This also indicated that some respondents had limited interactions with the court system. For justice to be realized, the needs of all citizens have to be addressed in the course of service delivery so as to enhance peace and security.

Public knowledge on SDGs in South Sudan is low and information gap require to be filled. The small proportion of individuals knowledgeable about SDG number 16 further confirmed knowledge gap that call for deliberate effort to be filled.

Key recommendations

A mechanism for transforming competition into cooperation needs to be established for future programmes. Further, mechanisms for equitable representation in the key sectors of the society; political, economic, national and lower levels of government administration were emphasized by respondents as important foundation towards addressing community grievances and competition.

Respondents called for immediate civilian disarmament to reduce the number of people moving around with arms in the country. Even though the current situation in South Sudan might not be suitable for civilian disarmament, communities need to be empowered through development of voluntary and long-term mechanisms for collection of illegal firearms so as to promote peaceful coexistence as well as to enhance peace and security.

The respondents also recommended that the police need to be professionalised. Further, police service should endeavour to be friendly and responsive to the members of the public. For these milestones to be fully achieved, most of the current officers need to undergo refresher training since majority have a military background.

Further, new recruits should undergo training on public relations and human rights in view to transform the culture of violence that causes tension and deep rift between some of the officers and members of the public. Capacity and skills assessment of the current serving force is required and respective profile captured in an electronic database so as to improve service delivery, accountability and transparency.

Coordination between line Ministries, Departments and Agencies, for example Interior and Justice; the Police, Judiciary and Correction respectively, contributed to service delivery. However, respondents observed that there was room for improvement in coordination, service delivery and distribution of required resources.

Tripartite cooperation and coordination between the donors, government and communities need to be improved for better management of available resources including humanitarian aid.

A policy on resource distribution is required in the country so as to address grievances, competition and to safeguard equitable distribution of resources. Such a policy will also enhance peace and security as the overarching pillar to development, rule of law and access to justice.

Whereas community security and arms control programmes were appreciated for contribution towards harnessing peace, security and safety for the people of South Sudan, key informant respondents recommended that a policy should be instituted

for resource allocation to critical development and humanitarian initiatives. Such a policy would guarantee sustainability of programmes and resources beyond donor support and funding.

Emergency Call Centre (ECC) was cited as an example for having stalled after donor funding ended. Another example cited was failure by government agencies and departments to embrace information technology (ICT) due to lack of Solar Power which inhibit use of computers donated by UNDP to the police. Respondents from national government recommended that development partners could play a pivotal role in the formulation of such interventions.

At the local level, communities benefit from projects among other development initiatives that have been established to meet their basic needs and to improve peace and security. Availability of humanitarian support and ongoing security capacity improvement contribute to accessing justice services and raise confidence in the police. Essentially, local and national government's responsiveness to respective community needs should be enhanced to maintain momentum and build on the gains made by development partners.

Table 1: Indicators success standards matrix

Situation at 2015 Baseline in comparison with Endline Study 2017

Indicators	Situation at Baseline	Situation at Endline	Interpretation of Success
Percentage of individuals with confidence in peace and security in selected States	52.5%	47.4%	Level of confidence on peace and security reduced due to political instability and sporadic attacks experienced by respective communities.
Percentage of individuals assessing that local government (county) is responsive to community needs	19%	67.8%	Government responsiveness to community needs improved with a convincing margin. This improvement should however be understood from the fact that at the local level communities rarely differentiate interventions by development partners and humanitarian agencies from those of the local government. It's possible this is overrated due to this factor.

Table 1: Indicators success standards matrix			
Situation at 2015 Baseline in comparison with Endline Study 2017			
Indicators	**Situation at Baseline**	**Situation at Endline**	**Interpretation of Success**
Perceptions of community level security	30.1%	31%	There was a slight reduction of the number of people who felt secure at the community level.
Confidence in police to assure justice	28.7%	52%	Upward trend reported on confidence in police ability to assure justice. This should be understood from the fact that the police is the first reference point in search of justice and not necessarily improved capacity of the police.
Incidences of SGBV (Sexual and Gender-Based Violence) in past two years.	39.6%	SGBV 19.4% (decrease)	Only 19.4% reported a reduction of SGBV incidences. The current political instability negatively impacted on community level security and SGBV, thus causing major concerns among citizens.
Proportion of individuals perceiving decrease in levels of inter-communal violence with their neighbouring tribes/ clans;	33%	22.7%	This indicated reduction from the baseline. Respondents attributed trend to political tensions in some parts of the country which hindered smooth implementation of projects by different peace and security agencies.
Proportion of individuals perceiving decrease in levels of competition and grievances between regions	50%	17.1%	This indicated a reduction compared to the baseline position due to prevailing economic difficulties occasioned by inadequate accountability, weak institutions, bad governance and mismanagement of available resources.

…table ends.

Table 2: Access to Justice	
Indicators	**Situation at Endline**
Percentage of individuals perceiving that indigent defendants receive free legal assistance.	53.7% Additional lawyers required to provide free legal services. Suspects convicted out of ignorance. Paralegal services found to be dysfunctional.
Percentages of individuals assessing rights of accused persons are adequately protected.	41% accused treated fairly 41.8% unfairly treated Reasons advanced for unfair treatment; language barrier, delay in concluding court and pending cases, lack of sufficient correctional facilities and judges.
Proportion of population believing that victims of SGBV are fairly treated by justice system	46.6% fairly treated by justice system whilst 46.8% unfairly treated. Victims of SGBV were stigmatized because police lacked investigative skills. Hostile environment at the facilities cited for less enthusiasm to repot SGBV cases.
Proportion of population perceiving that police have ability to control crime in community.	52% assured of getting justice; after all it's the only available legal avenue. The high mark is not an approval of service quality. However, more courts required and training of law enforcement agencies crucial towards improving access to justice. Corruption was identified by 26.9% of the respondents as the greatest impediment to accessing justice.

Table 3: Sustainable Development Goals	
Indicators	**Situation at Endline**
Percentage of population knowledgeable about SDGs and Goal Number 16.	70.5% lacked knowledge and 27% were knowledgeable about SDGs; 18.8% had knowledge on Goal 16 while 21.6% were not knowledgeable. Majority 45.8% abstained due to lack of information on SDGs.
Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live.	51% felt secure and 10% felt very secure within residential areas. 38% felt insecure and unsafe during the day.
Proportion of victims of violence who reported in the previous 12 months.	77.5% lacked confidence in justice institutions. 17.2% reported victimization to authorities.

Proposed Indicators for Future Programmes

1. Percentage of population convinced that involvement of communities in peace and security initiatives increased;

2. Number of mechanisms put in place to ensure equitable representation in the key sectors of the society; political, economic, national and lower levels of government administration;

3. Percentage of population convinced that implemented programmes contributed to peace connectors leading to social cohesion/peaceful co-existence;

4. Percentage of population agreeing that their respective communities were consulted regarding priority areas ahead of implementation of new Projects and programmes;

5. Proportion of population identifying social, political and economic activities that lead to increased levels of community interdependence;

6. Percentage of population perceiving that competition of resources was transformed into cooperation and number of projects enhancing cooperation;

7. Percentage of citizens with confidence in national dialogue and the number of recommendations from peace institutions acted upon by government.

The security situation in South Sudan was described by respondents as "alarming, fragile, violent and unpredictable."

All states expressed overall poor perception of community security except Warrap state.
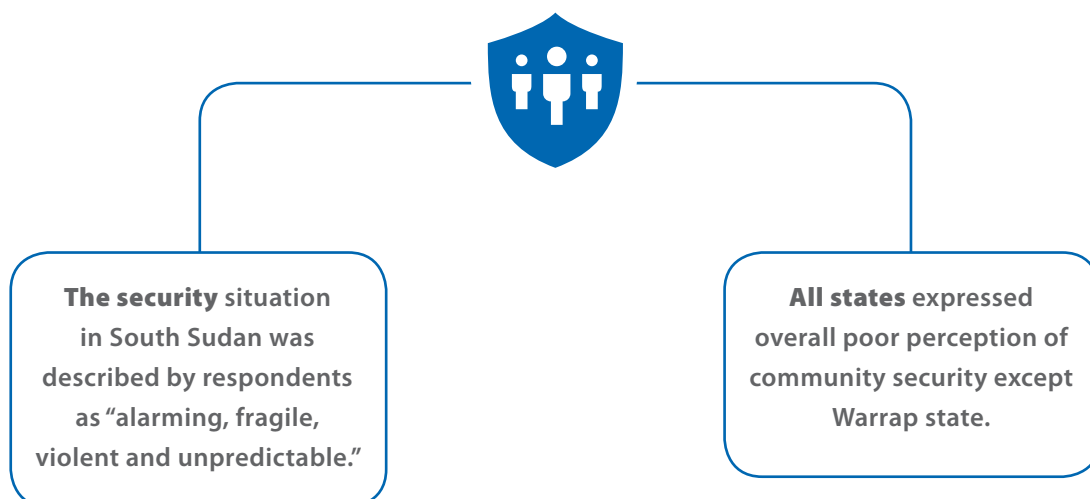
Chapter One: Introduction and Methodology

1.0 Introduction and Methodology

1.1   About This Report

This Report is as a result of an Endline survey conducted in April-May 2017 to assess the perceptions of South Sudan citizens on community security and arms control programmes. The significance of the study was to test the validity and reliability of indicators generated through the baseline survey of 2015.

Endline survey focused on assessing the overall contribution to CSAC Project and programmes towards improving community security and reducing the levels of ethnic conflicts while distilling lessons and best practices to feed into the post 2016 programming.

A set of new indicators were proposed in this study to be measured over the next programme cycle. Most importantly Endline Study provide new entry points and valid assumptions for outcome level monitoring in order to contribute towards strengthening of peace and governance in South Sudan.

Chapter one includes introduction, methodology, background information and outlines the study objectives. Chapter two focuses on perceptions of peace and security. The chapter also reviews the following indicators generated by baseline study of 2015: Percentage of individuals with confidence in peace and security; Proportion perceiving decrease in levels of inter-communal violence; Proportion perceiving decrease in levels of competition and grievances; Percentage of individuals assessing that government is responsive.

Chapter three focuses on sexual and gender based violence. Chapter four is on sustainable development goals. Chapter five focuses on access to justice including women access to justice services with specific reference to SGBV. The chapter also includes monitoring and impact evaluation of community security and rule of law interventions. Chapter six captures the key findings, conclusion and recommendations. The final chapter presents the annexures.

1.2   Background and Rationale

Since 2013, the people of South Sudan have been experiencing protracted conflicts which have resulted to political, socio-economic, and humanitarian crisis. To mitigate some of the challenges facing the citizens, the international community continue to seek sustainable solutions to address the crisis.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) South Sudan Country Office has been implementing a Community Security and Arms Control (CSAC) projects since 2009. The aim of the project has been to support the Government of South Sudan to build sufficient capacity to reduce violence and improve community security for South Sudanese citizens.

In 2015, a Baseline Study was conducted by Centre for Basic Research (CBR), to assess the perception of the people of South Sudan on Peace, Security, Sexual and Gender Based Violence. The core objective of the study was to generate information and strengthen the implementation of UNDP country office interventions under its Community Security and Arms Control (CSAC) Project.

To effectively assess the project performance and draw lessons learned from the programme implementation, the sample target size for the Endline Study was significantly reduced to 2,500 from baseline's 5,000 respondents. Available resources were a determining factor in reducing the sample size.

The findings of the Baseline Survey provided indicators and the strategic direction for CSAC Project in 2016. Following the conclusion of the CSAC Projects and programmes in 2016, Security Research and Information Centre (SRIC) was contracted by UNDP to conduct an Endline Study.

Indicators generated through the baseline survey 2015 informed the coded questionnaire and unstructured questions for the Endline Study. A total of 75 questions were spread over seven sections: perceptions on security at the community level and incidences of sexual and gender based violence; inter-communal violence; national and local government responsiveness to community needs; access to justice services; priority areas in improving justice system; monitoring and impact evaluation of community security and rule of law interventions.

Rationale for the Endline perception survey was to assess the overall contribution of CSAC Project towards improving community security and reducing the levels of ethnic conflicts in South Sudan. Also, the study gauged the extent to which violence has been reduced and the level to which the communities feel secure. Further, the study assessed the contribution of the local government and rule of law institutions towards improving community security.

SDG Goal 16 provided important benchmarks in the assessment of the contribution made by CSAC projects and programmes towards the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, access to justice for all and building of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.[2]

2 See more at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg16 accessed on 06 June 2017.

Through a consultative process with the Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control (BCSAC) and the South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (SSNBS), the following States were sampled; Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile, and Warrap. The scope covered beyond areas where CSAC projects were implemented.

Endline Study process was undertaken through four milestones: production of an inception report, preparation and training; pilot Endline survey; national Endline survey, production of a draft report and a power point presentation; validation workshop and final Endline survey report. For each of the four milestones, Security Research and Information Centre closely consulted Endline Reference Group through UNDP Technical Team towards the full realization of contractual obligations and fulfilment of stakeholders' expectations.

1.3   Methodology

1.3.1 Study Objectives

The main objective of the Endline Study was to assess the overall contribution of CSAC Project towards improving community security and reducing the levels of ethnic conflicts while distilling lessons and best practices to feed into the post 2016 CSAC programming as per the following objectives.

Specific objectives:

1. To obtain statistically reliable data on the current perceptions of South Sudanese on peace and security, including SGBV;

2. To assess the current level of national and sub-national governments' responsiveness to citizens' needs;

3. To obtain statistically reliable data on current accessibility of justice services to end users and to identify the primary barriers to accessibility;

4. To establish the current extent and sources of competition and grievances between communities, and its effects on community peace and security;

5. To obtain statistically reliable data on the needs and priorities of end users of justice to enable more efficient and targeted programming and resource allocation;

6. To establish current baselines to enable effective monitoring and impact evaluation of community security and rule of law interventions.

1.3.2 Conceptual Framework

This conceptual framework is meant to encapsulate the core theme of human security. Important also to clarify the main concepts on which the Endline survey was anchored. In South Sudan, the main concept of human security is affected by political violence, SGBV, poverty and underdevelopment.

Developed in 1994 by the United Nations Development Programme,[3] the Human Security concept seeks to move the understanding of security away from the focus on what it means for the state to be secure, to what it means for the individual to be secure.[4] Human security emphasizes two aspects of individual security namely, freedom from fear and freedom from want. Individuals are secure when they are free from threats to their physical well-being. The Human Security Centre[5] sees human security as the protection of individuals and communities from war and other forms of violence.

As Mack[6] has pointed out, the threat of political violence to people, by the state or any other organized political actor, is the proper focus of the concept of human security. In South Sudan context, the state of human security has deteriorated since the outbreak of the ongoing political crisis since 2013. State sponsored violence, including SGBV directed particularly towards political opponents, and communities allied to them on the one hand, and violence orchestrated by opposition-supporting armed groups on the other, have combined to render individual and community security in South Sudan a mirage.

Human security is also understood in a broader context to mean freedom from want. It is not only about freedom from fear of violence, but also freedom from want in the context of underdevelopment. It involves other freedoms and values. In the context of South Sudan, human security is concerned with the protection of people and communities from critical life-threatening dangers. It is human centred and security oriented.[7]

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3 See United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (1994), Human Development Report 1994, New York, Oxford University Press

4 For a detailed discussion on Human Security, see Kerr, P. '*Human Security*', in Collins, A. (2013), *Contemporary Security Studies, 3rd Edition*, Oxford, Oxford University Press

5 Human Security Centre (2005), '*Human Security News*', www.hsc.list@ubc.ca.

6 Mack, A (2004), '*A Signifier of Shared Values*', Security Dialogue, 35/3: 366-7

7 See Thakur, R. (2004), '*A Political World View*', Security Dialogue, 35/3:347

Human security in South Sudan is about ensuring that people and communities are free from hunger, disease and poverty. It is about ensuring that communities are secure to the extent that their rights are protected. According to Alkiri, the objective of human security is 'to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that advance human freedoms and human fulfilment.'[8]

Development and humanitarian agencies working in South Sudan are driven by this broadened understanding of Human Security in designing programmes that focus on reducing individuals and community vulnerabilities created by poverty, hunger, disease, violence and state neglect.

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

= Human Security

Freedom from political violence

Freedom from SGBV (Sexual and Gender Based Violence)

Freedom from poverty and underdevelopment
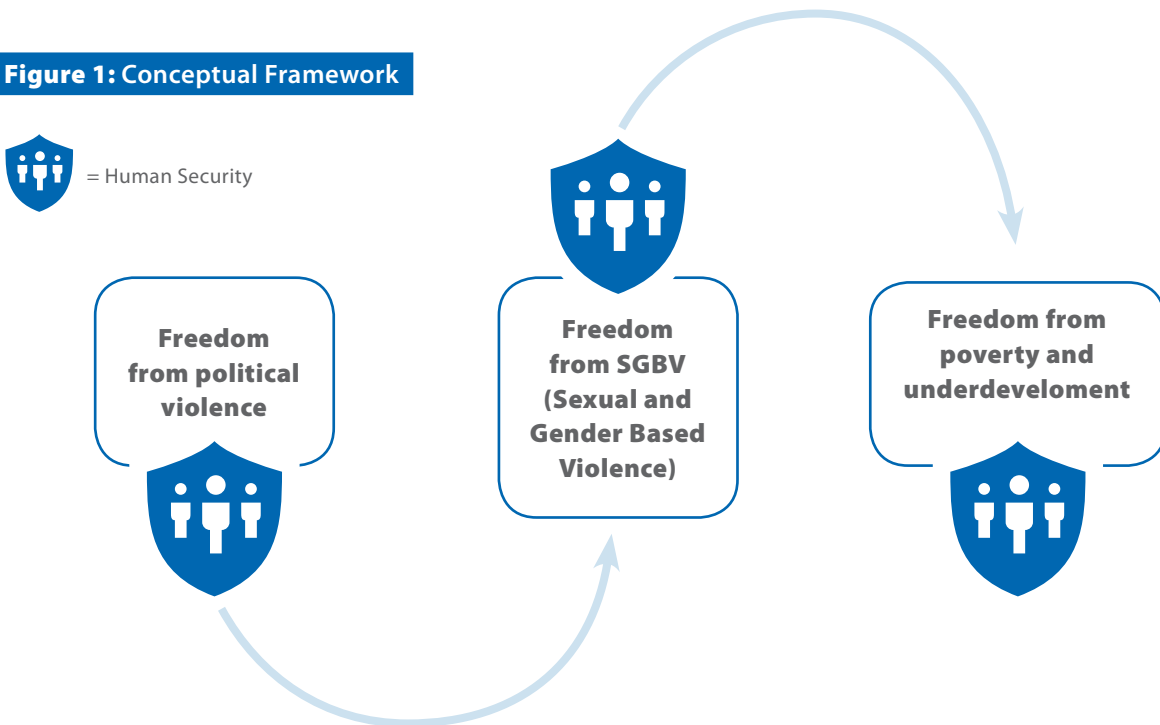
8 Alkiri, S. (2004), '*A Vital Core that must be Treated with the Same Gravitas as Traditional Security Threats*', Security Dialogue, 35/3: 359-60

1.3.3 Theory of Change

In the Endline Study, theory of change is anchored on assessing the approach of a mix of upstream policy work and downstream community engagement in order to realise a fundamental transformation towards peace and stability on one hand, and towards sustainable development on the other. It recognizes that both upstream and downstream engagements are linked and inseparable, in the short, medium and long-term and at all levels of South Sudanese transformative agenda.

Theory of Change is based on recognition of the current serious realities and challenges in South Sudan. It recognizes that international support for the country has to be a step-by-step process, based on an overall strengthening of mutual accountability between national and international actors.

The establishment of local and national participation and ownership of initiated interventions is at the heart of change theory. Consultation of the population prior to the implementation of new projects would contribute towards desired change through increased level of ownership by the citizens.

UNDP Cooperation Framework in South Sudan aims at a fundamental transformation towards peace and stability on one hand, and towards sustainable development on the other. The theory of change recognizes that the two tracks are linked and inseparable, in the short, medium and long-term and at all levels of South Sudanese society stabilization.

It is envisaged that by engaging in grassroots peace processes and accelerated inter communal interdependency and outreach, working to amplify the voices of civil society organisations (CSOs) and blending these interventions with the policy work at the national level, the projects contribute to a reduction in armed violence in South Sudan. This fits into the Interim Cooperation Framework 2016 -2017, Outcome 3: Peace and Governance Strengthened.

The institutional capacity building for both the law enforcement agencies and legal and justice sectors such as the courts and prosecution units are meant to be steady steps towards the desired end of justice for victims and deterrence to perpetrators of SGBV and other human rights violations.

The partnership with BCSAC is a step towards armed violence reduction through proper management of stocks held both by the state agencies and those outside state control. Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) and peace initiatives are building blocks to the desired state of stability in South Sudan.

Hierarchy of change is therefore double sided, building resilience at grass-root levels through practical interventions and initiatives; impacting the top with policy influence and support to national dialogue towards the desired or envisioned future of peaceful co-existence, stability and sustainable development.

1.3.4 Data Collection Tools and Methods

Endline study methodology largely remained the same as that of baseline. The only significant difference was a reduction in the sample size. This was done majorly because the study was carried out in a conflict context implying mass displacements of people and therefore rendering some of the areas identified during the baseline survey inaccessible. According to United Nation Security Council in 2016 conflicts had led to mass displacements of people, rising from 1,000,000 people in September to 1,250,000 in November, with most moving to towns and cities considered to be experiencing some relative calm (UNSC, 2016). Also, the reduction was anchored on the assumption that any sample randomly drawn from the areas where the projects were implemented and as long as it meets the threshold of 10% of the population in that area, will give similar results. The sampled areas remained similar. Respondents for key informant interviews were also similar and drawn from the same institutions.

The survey employed both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection. This was achieved through use of participatory evaluation techniques including questionnaire, key informant interviews and focused group discussions. Secondary means of collecting data were also applied.

Unstructured interviews were conducted among key informants including expert interviews with; national government respondents, donors and UN system, academic institutions, civil society groups and grassroots organisations. Focus group discussion among organized sets at the community level, civil society organisations and experts were useful approaches in triangulating gathered information.

The study made use of Likert scale to ensure overall measurement of sentiment around a particular topic, opinion, or experience and to also collect specific data on factors that contribute to that sentiment.

Primary data sources focused on collecting information at sub national and national levels.

At subnational, the following were interviewed: community members; local leaders (youth, women, religious, political, cultural and others); representatives of formal

institutions such as local governments; law enforcement agencies; county and state leaders and CSOs representatives.

The survey team sought to triangulate the information generated from different sources by interviewing key policy leaders who included; UNDP management, project donors, counterparts and wider UN Country Team under outcome 3 of the Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF).

To ensure that the sample was representative of the general population in every enumeration area, effort was made to reach out to a wide stratum of the society. Majority of the respondents were the youth aged 26-35 who constituted over 32 percent of the sample. Middle age, those aged 36-45 were 29 percent while those aged 18-25 claimed 27 percent of the sample; those aged above 46 were the least with a sample size of 19 percent. Majority of the population (90.9 percent) were interviewed in a local community setting and 4.2 percent were internally displaced persons. In terms of gender distribution, 52.1% (1308) were male while 47.9% (1203) were female which is consistent with the national population distribution of almost 1:1 sex ratio.

Out of the total sample population, majority of the respondents had primary and secondary school as their highest level of education (45.3% or 1149); while 38.9% or 977 of the sampled population indicated that they lacked any qualifications of formal education. Slightly more than 15% (395) indicated that they had attained both college and university levels of education.

Table 4: Education and Gender Distribution of Respondents						
Gender	**Education**					**Total**
	None	**Primary Level**	**Secondary Level**	**College Level**	**University Level**	
Male	411	252	378	125	142	**1308**
Female	566	299	210	90	38	**1203**
Total	977	551	588	215	180	**2511**

As an integral part of the Inception Report, a comprehensive training manual was developed. This important Hand Book detailed the Endline Study process and equipped the field force with information that guided the survey. Important tools and instruments were included in the study, in particular consent form and interview guide used in the survey process.

1.3.5 Sampling Procedure

To ascertain a reduced margin of error and as per the terms of reference (ToR), the sample was drawn at 95 percent confidence interval and 5 percent margin of error. A multi-stage sampling process was employed in close consultation with the South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (SSNBS).

Sampling procedure was based on area and state estimates so as to make national generalisation. The choice of basing estimates on the area and state was informed by the fact that the two are mutually reinforcing. Also, national politics play out at state level while ethnic competitions at state level have implications on national government operations.

Considering that CSAC moved towards area based approach that focuses on clusters, area estimates were applied. The clusters cut across the state boundaries and as such opposed to relying solely on state estimates. The survey team with guidance from SSNBS Sampler relied on the Enumeration Areas (EAs) that were designated by the SSNBS from the 2009 National Baseline Household Survey, published in 2012. This is also based on the 2008 South Sudan National Population and Housing Census. The essence of using designated EAs by SSNBS was to provide population statistics per state, county and boma.

In every enumeration area, the survey team sought to identify the current population estimates and then used the formulae below to establish the desired sample size. The survey team liaised with NBS sampler to identify the minimum sample for every enumeration area. The size of the sample population to be interviewed was determined using Raosoft[9] sample size calculator guided by the equation presented in table 5 below.

Table 5: Sample equation
The following sample equation was applied in the Study.
n = N x/((N-1)E² + x) Where n = sample size **N** = Total number of people in every enumeration area **E** = Margin of error **Z(c/100)** = critical value for the confidence level c (1.96) **r** = fraction of responses interested in (0.5) **x** = Z(c/100)²r(100-r)

9 See more at: http://www.raosoft.com/samplesize.html. Retrieved on 11/02/2017

The calculation of the sample in every enumeration area was based on normal distribution and assumed that there will be more than 30 samples. The study used response distribution of 50% with view to generate the largest sample size and reduce the margin of error.

Table 6: Summary sample	
Fraction of responses of interest (r) – population response distribution	0.5
Z(c/100) = critical value for the confidence level c (95%)	1.96
Number of targeted individuals	1,265,660[10]
Desired margin of error (E)	0.05
Total sample size	**2,500**

1.3.6 Sampling Frame and Design

Security considerations were taken into account in selecting survey sites. Due to insecurity, a number of enumeration areas were replaced; Unity State was replaced with Western Equatoria. In Warrap, Jonglei and Eastern Equatorial, enumeration areas were replaced with different sites due to insecurity.

For each State, the survey team randomly selected 2 counties from which enumeration areas were identified. A reduced number of enumeration sites were selected in comparison to the 2015 baseline enumeration areas that had a national outreach. The study adopted a random way of selecting respondents in order to ensure every individual within the targeted area stood an equal chance of being selected for the study.

10 This is according to estimates by the National baseline household survey, published in 2012.

S/N	Region	CSAC Area	POPULATION	Sample Population	Sample EAs
Table 7 : Sample Frame					
1	**Upper Nile**	Melut	49,242	57	5
		Renk	137,751	160	16
		Akoka (Baliet)	48,010	56	5
2	**Jonglei**	Bor South	221,106	257	24
		Duk	65,588	76	7
		Twik East	85,349	99	10
3	**Western Equatoria**	Yambio	9,973	117	10
4	**Warrap**	Gogriel West	243,921	283	32
		Gogrial East	103,283	120	13
		Tonj South	86,592	101	11
5	**Lakes**	Rumbek Centre	153,550	178	13
		Cueibet	117,755	137	13
		Awerial	47,041	55	6
6	**Central Equatoria**	Juba	368,436	428	43
		Terekeka	144,373	168	19
7	**Eastern Equatoria**	Torit	99,740	116	14
		Kapoeta South	79,470	92	9
Total		**18 Counties**	**2,061,180**	**2,500**	**250**

In every enumeration area as outlined in table 6, the minimum number of recommended units for attaining homogeneity was randomly drawn. The 10 individuals were considered representative. An individual was identified for purposes of administering the questionnaire. The study assumed self-weighting or equal probability of selection design to ensure every individual in the population stood an equal chance of selection.

1.3.7 STUDY LIMITATIONS

A number of limitations were encountered during the Endline Study and mitigating factors put in place to safeguard quality output. Insecurity led to replacement of identified enumeration areas. Inaccessibility due to poor infrastructure and rainy season limited movement during field data collection. Air travel was the main mode of transport due to insecurity and inaccessibility. This mode of transport was not very reliable because the field teams were forced to put up with several flight cancellations. This delayed fieldwork activities across the 7 areas because of the constant changes in flight scheduling.

For sustainability,
a policy should be instituted
to guide resource allocation
to critical initiatives

Establish a mechanism
for equitable representation
in the key sectors of the society

Chapter Two: Perceptions on Peace and Security

2.0 Peace and Security

2.1 Indicator: Confidence In Peace And Security

Percentage of Individuals with Confidence in Peace and Security

To obtain statistically reliable data on the current perceptions of South Sudanese on peace and security, including SGBV, data was collected and analysed at national and community levels. The key findings indicate that since the eruption of the 2013 political crisis, the security situation in South Sudan continued to deteriorate. Mistrust and competition for scarce resources among communities contributed to insecurity.

A myriad of problems were identified as major security threats. Proliferation of arms and failed disarmament interventions; cattle rustling and a culture of violence are major impediments to peace and reconciliation due free circulation. Government efforts and initiatives are hindered by increasing level of insecurity.[11]

Militarization of policing and impunity among law enforcement agencies continues to erode public trust on institutions responsible for maintaining law and order. Displacement of communities into IPDs and refugees due to the on-going political crisis is a glaring demonstration of insecurity and vulnerability in South Sudan.

The above findings relate with the UN Security Council briefing in January 2017.

> *"The security and humanitarian environment in South Sudan continues to deteriorate amidst a faltering political process. Fighting in the Equatoria region, in Western Bahr el Ghazal and Unity State between government and opposition forces has deepened the security crisis, with reports of rape, looting, and destruction of property by armed actors. There are now more than 1.87 million internally displaced people in South Sudan, while 1.15 million refugees have fled to neighbouring countries since the start of the civil war in December 2013."* [12]

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11 Interview with South Sudan Peace and Reconciliation Commission April 2017
12 Read more at: http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2017 01/south_sudan_2 7.php?print=true

To encapsulate the findings and UN Security Council Report, a key respondent summarized the security situation as follows during key informant interview session;

> *"The situation in South Sudan remains fluid and has been the case since 2013. You are never sure of what to expect but overall for the purposes of this interview I would say that as a result of the prolonged conflict, South Sudanese continue to face dehumanising conditions. The IDPs cannot talk of decent life because they face challenges like poor hygiene, congestion and SGBV cases among other problems."*

The collapse of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS) has exacerbated the security situation in the country. It has dashed any hope for power sharing between the two competing political divide. While SPLA continues to consolidate its control of the State, SPLA-IO fragment to various units due to dwindling leadership and role in the on-going restructuring of the government in the country.[14]

In terms of physical security there has been relative peace since the declaration of unilateral ceasefire in the country by the president. Less firing is an indicator that there is relative peace because government currently controls vast majority of the country.

To further corroborate the above views on peace and security in the country, a key respondent expressed the view that the economic crisis being experienced across the country had created high levels of insecurity especially in Juba inform of robberies, targeted attacks/snatching of valuables applying violent means, house break-ins and carjacking incidences. He also observed that it's very risky to move freely in Juba with valuables and especially at night.[15]

Security situation differ from one place to another depending on the extent of impact caused by the current political crisis and other factors such as cattle rustling and unresolved inter-community disputes.

2.1.1 Security at National Level

Nearly half of the respondents, 47.6 percent perceived the security situation at the national level as bad. At baseline, 52.5 per cent indicated that there was absence of peace and security. Political tension prevailing in the country was of great concern to most respondents.

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13 Interview with RRP Section UNIMSS May 2017
14 Ibid
15 Interview with Sudd Institute, May 2017

Several focus groups discussants described the deteriorating security situation in South Sudan as alarming, fragile, violent and unpredictable. This state of affairs was largely attributed to: the on-going political crisis in the country; continued violence; rampant killing of innocent people; revenge attacks; existence of rebellion against the government and a failing economy.

Further, the worsening security situation was attributed to illegal ownership and possession of small arms by civilians and lack of a national identity that lead to negative competition among various ethnic communities. A focus group discussion illustrated dominance of state positions by few communities.[16]

A key informant observed that;

> *"This state of affairs is the legacy of decades of conflict in which communities were pitted against one another only to be somewhat artificially and superficially 'reunited' without reconciliation of any kind."*[17]

Figure 2: Assessment of Security
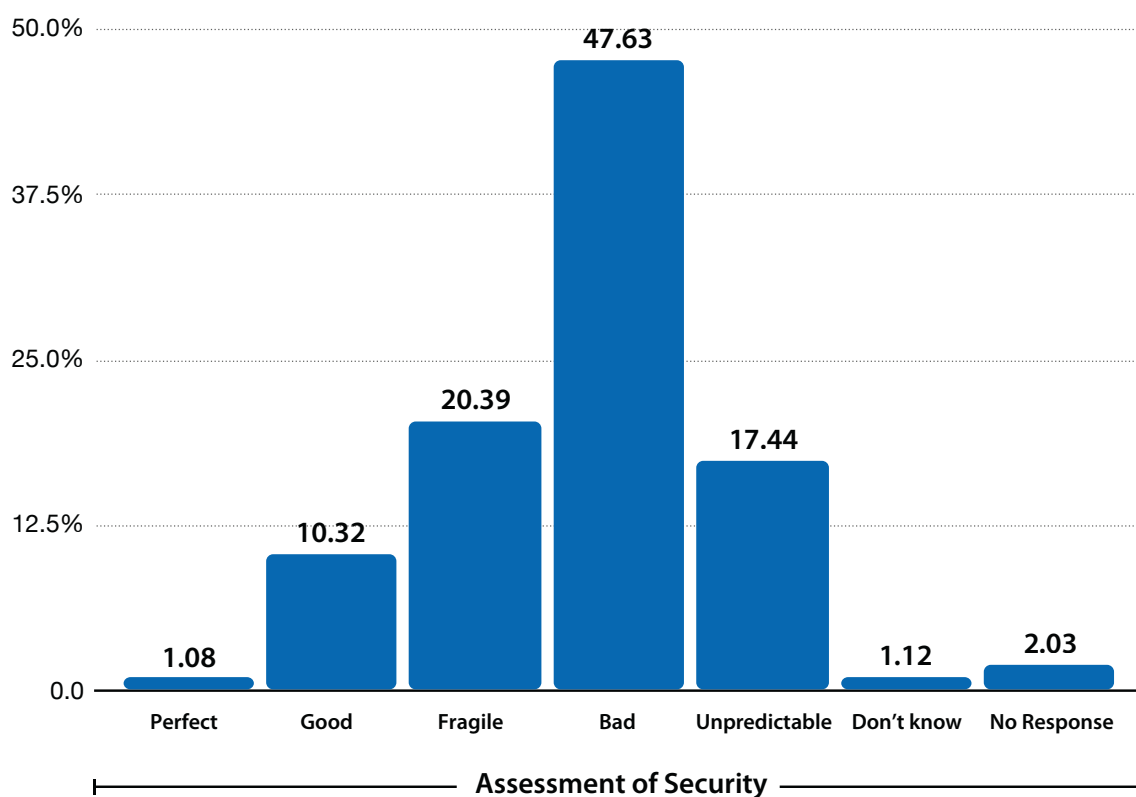
16 Assertions by participants of focus group discussion held in Juba. Discussion held in May 2017
17 Interview with Key Informant, University of Juba, May 2017

Upper Nile was the worst hit by insecurity with as many as 92 percent of respondents feeling the state was either fragile or badly off. Central Equatoria, 85 percent and Western Equatoria, 84 percent, had unpredictable or bad security situation. For Warrap State, majority of the respondents, 64 percent pointed out that the region was largely peaceful, only experiencing sporadic inter-communal conflicts mostly in Gogrial East County. Other states considered as relatively secure were Jonglei, 38.5 percent, Lakes at 33 percent and Eastern Equatorial.

Participants of focus group discussion observed that the presence of several militia/ gang groups, illegal weapons and cattle rustling were some of the reasons respondents felt insecure in most of the surveyed states. Increased violence at state and community level reflects the situation of security at the national level.[18]

The absence of peace was noted by many respondents from different States to be forestalling the efforts towards the realization of national cohesion and integration in South Sudan. A key informant consulted in this study intimated that;

> *"The government should bolster its efforts towards achieving a ceasefire with the rebels and other militia groups. This is one of the issues forestalling efforts aimed at ensuring harmonious co-existence of different communities in this country.... Support from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the international community is required to address the quagmire."[19]*

Such initiatives they noted, should also receive support from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the international community.

The call for a national dialogue to resolve the myriad of security related challenges was pointed out as essential for the future stability of the country. Respondents' call to the government to provide an enabling environment for national dialogue was in line with the views of the African Union (AU) High Representative for South Sudan Alpha Oumar Konaré who stated,

> *"the envisioned national dialogue process announced by President Kiir should be led by independent personalities accepted by the people and must include all parties to the conflict." [20]*

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18 Focus Group Discussion Gogrial East County, April 2017

19 Key informant remarks on peace in South Sudan, May 2017

20 African Union (AU) High Representative for South Sudan, Alpha Oumar Konaré, while visiting Yei in South Sudan's Central Equatoria State, March 2017: See, http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2017-04/south_sudan_30.php

Table 8: Assessment of security per state							
Region	Perfect	Good	Fragile/ Unpredictable	Bad	Don't know	No response	Total
Warrap	32	251	69	86	0	5	443
Eastern Equatoria	3	108	103	127	2	2	345
Western Equatoria	12	30	58	179	0	2	281
Jonglei	21	123	88	139	1	2	374
Central Equatoria	1	69	238	177	0	1	486
Upper Nile	2	16	67	140	0	0	225
Lakes	12	106	102	132	0	5	357
Total	**83**	**703**	**404**	**980**	**3**	**17**	**2511**

2.1.2 Security at Community Level

Insecurity caused communities a wide range of problems including: hunger due to food shortage while children were unable to attend school due to the on-going conflict. Further, the survey found that 80.3 percent felt insecure during the night while 61.1 percent felt secure during the day.

Key informants observed that insecurity was fuelled by cattle rustling. In Jonglei State sharing of the oil proceeds largely contributed to insecurity between different political groups. Communities residing where the oil fields are located languish in poverty because oil dollars fail to trickle down to the local people. Unity State and parts of Upper Nile are exposed to contention between the SPLM and SPLAM/IO.

Some focus group respondents pointed out that the mistrust between communities emanates from failure by the government to provide essential services and security to the citizens. A different source corroborated this proposition stating that;

> *"the elephant in the room on security provision is the predatory behaviour of security actors against communities they regard as enemies and lack of espousing civilian centred policing culture."*[21]

21 HSBA Synthesis Report; Accessed on 10th June, 2017. Available at: http://www.smallarmssurveysudan.org/fileadmin/docs/issue briefs/HSBA-IB28-Spreading-Fallout.pdf

Figure 3: Assessment Of Security At Community Level
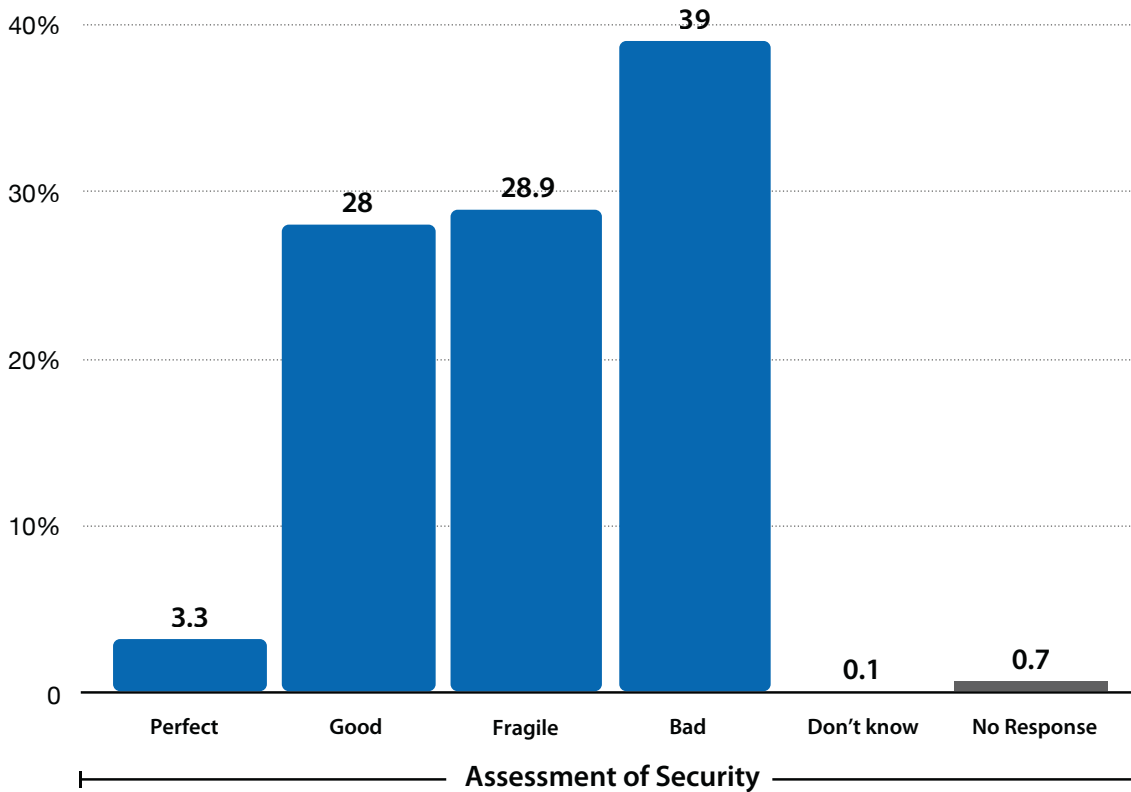
Asked about security at the community level, 67.9 percent felt insecure because the situation was fragile and bad in contrast to 31.3 percent who felt that security at community level was perfect and good.

2.2   Indicator: Inter-Communal Violence

Proportion Perceiving Decrease in Levels of Inter-Communal Violence

As indicated in table 9, respondents felt that conflicts had increased at the local levels in all states except Lakes, where the situation had improved with a vote of 159 individuals supporting decline.

Table 9: Status of conflict over the past 2 years							
Status of Conflict in South Sudan							
Region	**Increased**	**Remained the same**	**Decreased**	**Bad**	**Not aware**	**No response**	**Total**
Warrap	199	129	75	32	8	443	443
Eastern Equatoria	186	104	38	10	7	345	345
Western Equatoria	222	39	9	10	1	281	281
Jonglei	220	94	38	13	9	374	374
Central Equatoria	393	64	21	6	2	486	486
Upper Nile	215	3	3	3	1	225	225
Lakes	62	97	159	30	9	357	357
Total	**1497**	**530**	**343**	**104**	**37**	**2511**	**2511**

Inter-community conflicts increased as noted by 38.4 percent while 30.7 percent noted that they remained the same. Respondents cited the main sources of inter-communal conflicts as; scarcity of resources (30.5%), political instability (25.6%) and ethnicity (17.9%). Increase in levels of inter-communal conflicts was explained by the fledgling peace efforts that have so far not yielded the desired results.

Levels of inter-community conflicts decreased according to 22.7 percent particularly in states such as Warrap, Jonglei and Unity that reported low levels of insecurity over the same period. Notable projects highlighted during this study and contributed to reduction of conflict included: women empowerment; establishment of peace committees; construction of more police stations leading to deployment of more security agents and setting up of shared water points aimed at improving integration of bordering communities.

However, the reduction is comparatively lower in relation to the baseline report findings which showed that 46.2 percent of the citizens were of the view that inter-communal violence with the neighbouring tribes/clans had reduced. The decline was linked to continued political tensions in some parts of the country which have hindered smooth implementation of projects by different peace and security actors. Figure 4 shows the level of inter-community conflicts over the past two years.

Figure 4: Level of Inter-Community Conflicts

- Decreased
- Remained the same
- Increased
- Not sure
- Don't know
- No Response

0.87%   0.72%

6.73%

22.66%

38.35%

30.67%
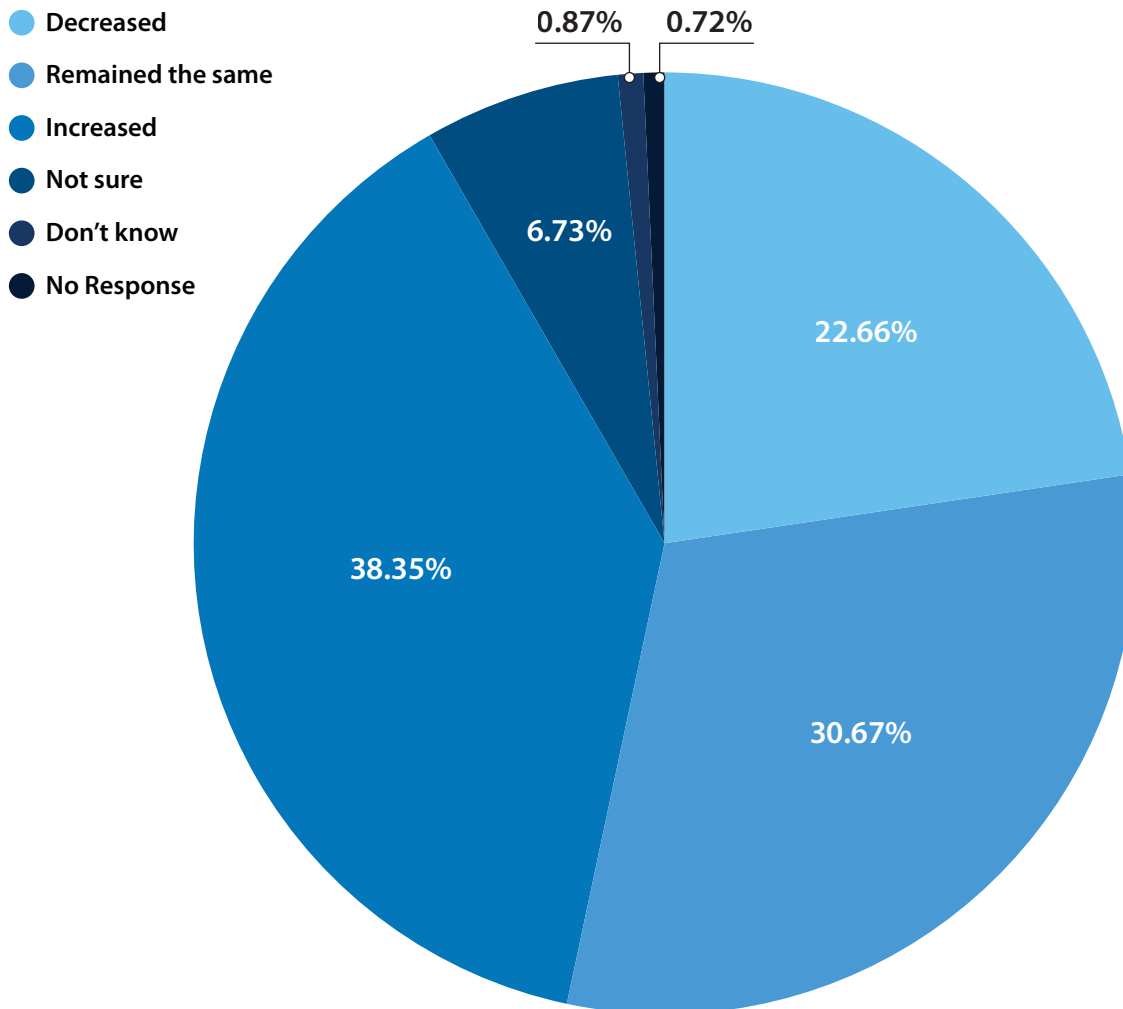
2.2.1 Main Source of Inter-Communal Conflicts

Increase in level of inter-communal conflicts corresponded with heightened levels of competition for resources among communities. Key informants noted that intense competition among communities emanated from; unequal opportunities, domination of national resources by a few individuals or communities, outdated cultural norms such as raiding of livestock, limited resources and competition for land.

At baseline, the highest cause of inter-communal conflict was proliferation of firearms in civilian hands (41%) in comparison with Endline's 2.1 percent. The sharp drop at Endline indicated that communities were discreet on firearms possession. Other major causes of inter-communal conflicts included unequal opportunities and distribution of resources, 20.7 percent and ethnicity, 17.9 percent; cattle rustling 1.4 and famine 0.4 percent respectively. These factors were found to be triggers of conflicts between different communities in the country. Refer to table 10.

Table 10: Sources of inter-communal conflicts		
Inter-Communal Conflicts	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Scarcity of resources	767	30.5
Politicization	642	25.6
Ethnicity	449	17.9
Unequal opportunities and distribution of resources	521	20.7
Proliferation of SALW	52	2.1
Cattle rustling	36	1.4
Don't know	18	0.7
Famine	10	0.4
No response	16	0.6
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

At Endline, scarcity of resources was the main source of inter-communal conflicts as indicated by 30.5 percent in comparison with baseline at 29.4 percent.

Political control over the state and related resources caused inter-communal conflicts as indicated by 25.6 percent. The situation was similar at baseline with intensification of national level political conflicts indicated by 24.5 per cent of the respondents.

A key informant summarized level of inter-communal conflicts as follows;

> *"Competition and control of resources is most severe amongst the political elite fighting for power as a tool to control state resources. Management system is poor and most resources end up with few individuals. This explains the major conflicts in some of the areas where resources are found."[22]*

22 Key informant remarks on sources of inter-communal conflicts in South Sudan. Interview held on May, 2017 in Juba

2.3   **Indicator:** Competition and Grievances

Proportion Perceiving Decrease in Levels of Competition and Grievances

2.3.1 Level of Competition

Figure 5: Level of Competition Among Communities

- ● Moderate
- ● Intense
- ● Violent
- ● Don't know
- ● No Response

2.94%   1.00%

29.47%   39.31%

27.28%
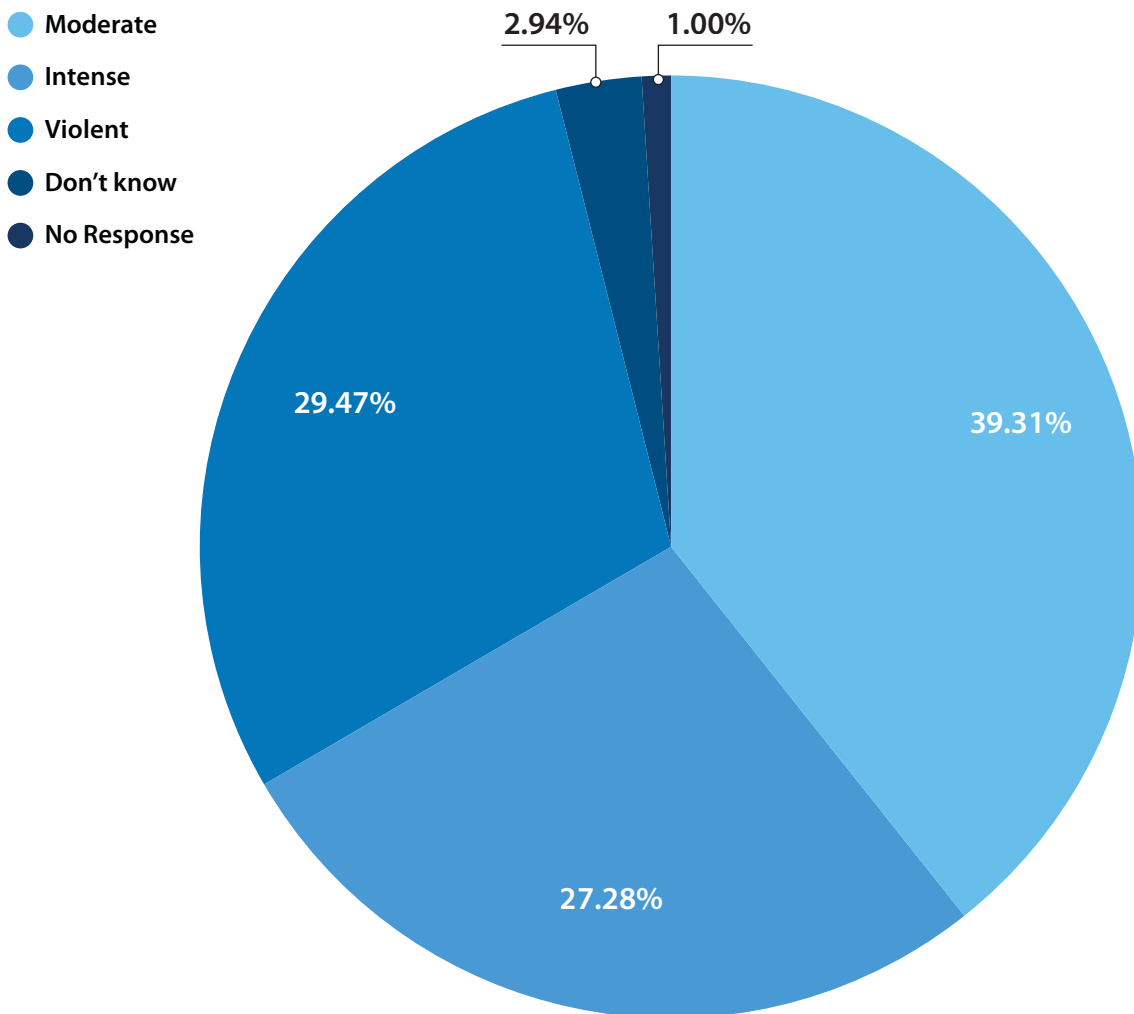
The level of competition among communities was rated as, intense by 27.3 percent, violent 29.5 percent and 39.3 percent moderate. Key informants observed that level of competition among communities was somewhat moderate citing the following causes; unequal opportunities, domination of national resources by a few individuals or communities, outdated cultural norms such as raiding of livestock due to limited resources and competition for land.

According to a participant of an FGD held in Juba,

> *"The major contention is political control of the state and related resources which account for the current crisis in the country. The competition is more severe among the elite class who are seeking to attain or retain political power."[23]*

Status of Competition for Resources/ Opportunities over the past two years

Figure 6: Status of Competition

- Increased
- Remained the same
- Decreased
- Don't know
- No Response

2.99% 2.99%

17.08%

40.74%

36.20%
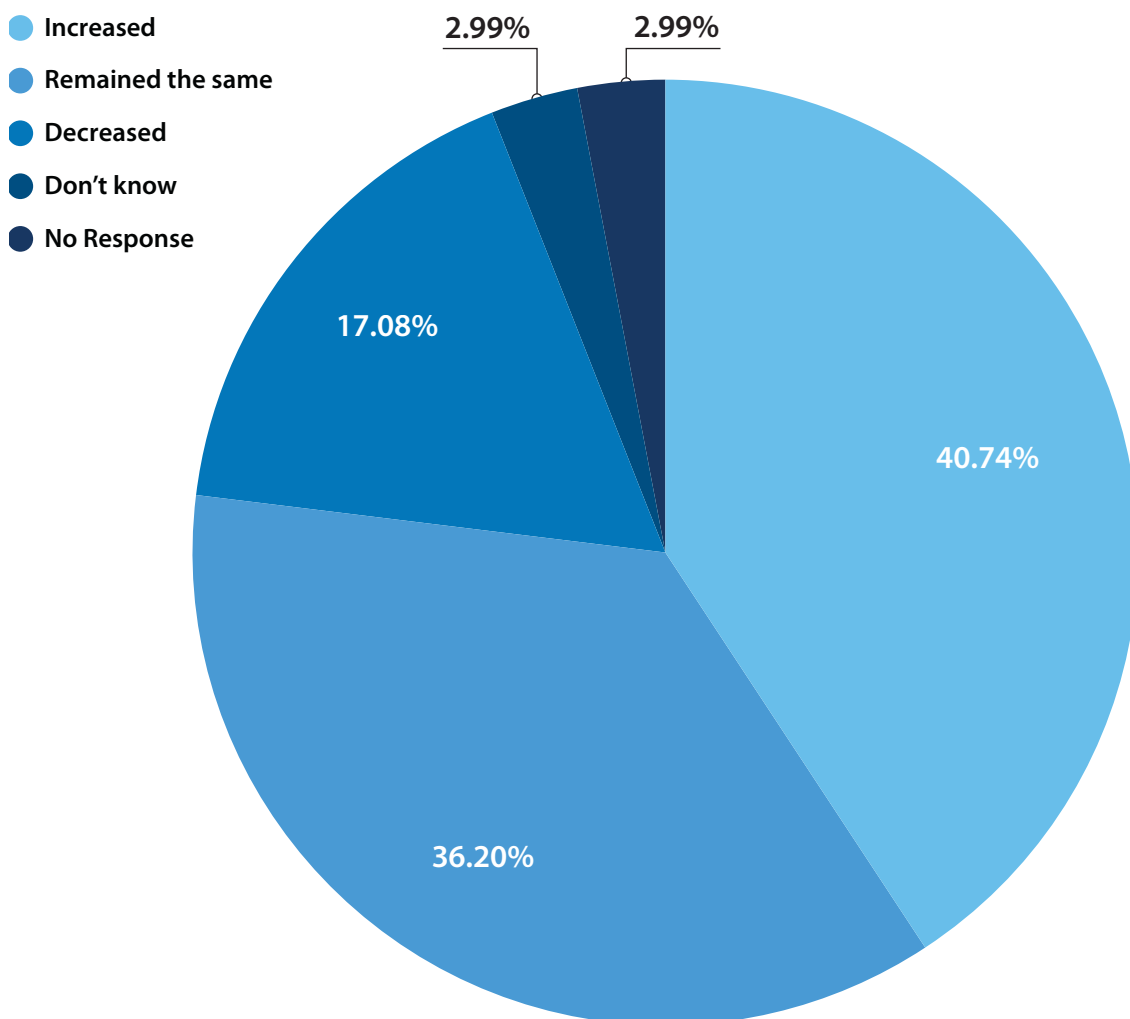
23 An FGD participant comments on levels of competition among communities in South Sudan

As shown in figure 6, competition intensified as indicated by 40.7 percent followed by 36.2 percent who posited that the situation had remained the same. Further 17.1 percent opined that competition for resources and opportunities reduced. This corroborates earlier findings that the level of competition among communities was intense. During the baseline, 50 percent of the respondents perceived a reduction in the levels of competition and grievances between regions.

Intensity of competition for resources and other opportunities was different across the seven regions covered in the study. A key informant in Juba commented that:

"This country is endowed with so many resources…lack of accountability and control structures on use and management of these resources has made the country incapable of providing services to the people rendering communities desperate and also intensifying competition for the available resources."[24]

Embezzlement of public resources, insecurity and poor road network were blamed for government failure to provide basic services

Grievances affecting peaceful co-existence were stated as political injustices, poverty and negative ethnicity

2.3.2 Leading Grievances Between Communities

Leading grievances among the communities were outlined as: political intolerance 12.7 percent; poverty at 12.4 percent. Negative ethnicity was also found to be a critical issue among the communities as indicated by 11.8 percent. Other grievances included limited resources (10.3%); cattle rustling/raids (9.3%); economic crisis (8.8%); unequal distribution of resources (6.3%) and corruption 4.3% respectively.

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24 Comments by a key informant in Juba while commenting on competition among Communities; interview held in May, 2017

Table 11: Leading community grievances		
Grievances	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Poverty	311	12.4
High population	14	.6
Economic crisis	221	8.8
Limited resources	259	10.3
Negative ethnicity/ tribalism	297	11.8
Political injustices	319	12.7
Cattle rustling	234	9.3
Unequal resources	157	6.3
Don't know	233	9.3
Corruption	108	4.3
No response	285	11.4
SGBV	73	2.9
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

2.3.3 Attempts to Alleviate Hostility

Table 12: Alleviation of hostility		
Attempts to alleviate hostility among communities	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Projects initiated by CSOs	149	5.9
Religious peace initiatives	29	1.2
Efforts by local administration	108	4.3
Inter-community dialogues	191	7.6
Deployment of security forces	81	3.2
Peace conferences	118	4.7
Not applicable	276	11.0
No response	1559	62.1
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

Several initiatives have been undertaken by different actors to alleviate hostility amongst communities. Mechanisms include: CSOs projects 5.9 percent; peace conferences at 4.7 percent; efforts by local administration 4.3 percent and community dialogue 7.6 percent.

At least 62.1 percent did not respond to the question because they were not aware of various projects within their locality.

The low responses indicate that there is room to improve publicity and awareness creation on the initiatives undertaken to harness peaceful coexistence. It also means the communities were not consulted. Refer to table 11 above.

On means of improving cooperation between communities, opinions ranged from social, economic, religious and cultural approaches. Need to promote social integration beyond ethnic groupings was cited the most critical approach of enhancing relations between different communities in South Sudan. One of the key informants commented that:

> *"Customary systems are key contributing factors towards improving social cooperation between communities. Notably, chiefs have been very important in regulating cooperation and managing conflict as well as dispensing justice."[25]*

Inter-community marriages were identified by a cross section of key informants as one way of improving social integration. Granting equal economic opportunities was supported by respondents. Dominance of single communities in various sectors of the government was expressed as a point of concern. One key respondent captured this as follows;

> *"Provide equal opportunities for all…based on merit but not on tribal basis and develop national identity." [26]*

Cultural cooperation, a call for peace and dialogue were also cited as means to improving cooperation between communities. A majority of key informants underscored the importance of peace in improving social cooperation between communities. This was rightly captured as follows in a focus group discussion:

> *"Peace is vital in achieving cooperation among communities and of course, the second in line is good governance."[27]*

Mopping out illegally held SALW was mentioned as a means to promoting cooperation between communities and respondents called for disarmament of civilian population.

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25 DFID South Sudan, June 2017.
26 Key Informant Interview with Respondent, University of Juba held in May 2017.
27 A participant's remarks in a FGD held at Torit, Eastern Equatorial April 2017

2.3.4 Activities Contributing to Cooperation Between Communities

Table 13: Activities improving cooperation		
Activities improving cooperation between communities	Frequency	Percent
Community meetings	282	11.2
Sports	733	29.2
Arts	359	14.3
Religious activities	183	7.3
Intermarriages	163	6.5
Youth and women forums	54	2.2
Trade	274	10.9
Don't know	184	7.3
Education	103	4.1
No answer	176	7.0
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

The study also sought to identify activities that improve cooperation between communities in South Sudan. Among the activities rated for contributing to cooperation were; sports, 29.2 percent with 733 respondents; arts 14.3 percent; community meetings 11.2 percent and trade 10.9 percent. These statistics are a pointer to the activities and areas that require more resources in future programming.

2.3.5 Factors Uniting Communities and Sustainable Peace

Table 14: Factors uniting communities		
Uniting Factors	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Dialogue	239	9.5
Language	40	1.6
Community policing	41	1.6
Trade	31	1.2
Peace activities	349	13.9
Free movement of people across boundary	56	2.2
Trust among communities	133	5.3
Religious practices	132	5.3
Co-curricular activities	83	3.3
General disarmament	42	1.7
Don't know	290	11.5
Social activities – intermarriages	531	21.1
No response	283	11.3
Sharing of facilities/ resources	260	10.4
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

A number of factors were identified as essential in the road map towards national cohesion and integration. Inclusive and effective national dialogue; tolerance of dissenting opinion by giving the opposition space; allocation of jobs based on merit and not tribal considerations and respect for the rule of law.

The international community has continued to support South Sudan with technical and financial support in this process.

In a focus group discussion, an individual expressed the essence of inclusive politics by saying;

> *"avail everybody access to the national cake … we must rally behind the national dialogue for people to express their grievances if it is done with a pure heart or Gods' fear."[28]*

28 Interview session conducted with SPLA Official, April 2017

It is notable from the above responses that social activities such as intermarriages (21.1%), peace activities (14%) and sharing of resources (10.4%) were highly rated as factors that unite communities.

> **To build** national cohesion and peaceful coexistence, elders should spearhead locally instituted initiatives

> **Need to promote** social integration beyond ethnic groupings was cited most critical towards enhancing relations

2.3.6 Promoting National Cohesion and Integration

Table 15: Promoting national cohesion and integration		
Promoting National Cohesion	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Uphold democracy	148	5.9
Disarmament	112	4.5
Promote peace and security	858	34.2
National dialogue - Cease fire	507	20.2
Good leadership and governance	212	8.4
Sensitization on human rights	97	3.9
Youth empowerment	57	2.3
Don't know	249	9.9
National language	55	2.2
No response	216	8.6
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

To enhance national cohesion and integration, solution has to start with addressing the current political crisis in the country.

Mechanisms for equitable representation in the key sectors of the society such as political, economic, national and lower levels of government administration are emphasized.

Asked about national integration and cohesion, respondents observed that the police should be professionalised and endear themselves to the population by being friendly and responsive. Refer to table 15 above.

2.4   **Indicator:** Government Responsiveness

Percentage of Individuals Assessing that Government is Responsive

2.4.1 Government Responsiveness

Asked about satisfaction of government responsiveness to community needs, 65 percent were dissatisfied while only 17.8 percent were satisfied. Respondents argued that the government abdicated its primary responsibility to the citizens; in particular provision of security, education, adequate food supply and other basic needs.

A respondent in Western Equatorial noted that "children are not getting quality education due to non-payment of salaries to teachers." Failure by the government to perform its role has seen non-governmental organizations (NGOs) stepping in to fill the gap through offering services in essential sectors such as education and health care.[29]

The study established higher confidence with lower levels of governance as opposed to the national government. This was attributed to projects such as humanitarian aid implemented at lower levels. The national government's presence is also not evenly felt across the country, hence the low rating by at the states level.

2.4.2 Change In Responsiveness to Citizens Needs

Figure 7:
Change in Responsiveness

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- No Response

2.51%
9.88%
23.66%
63.95%

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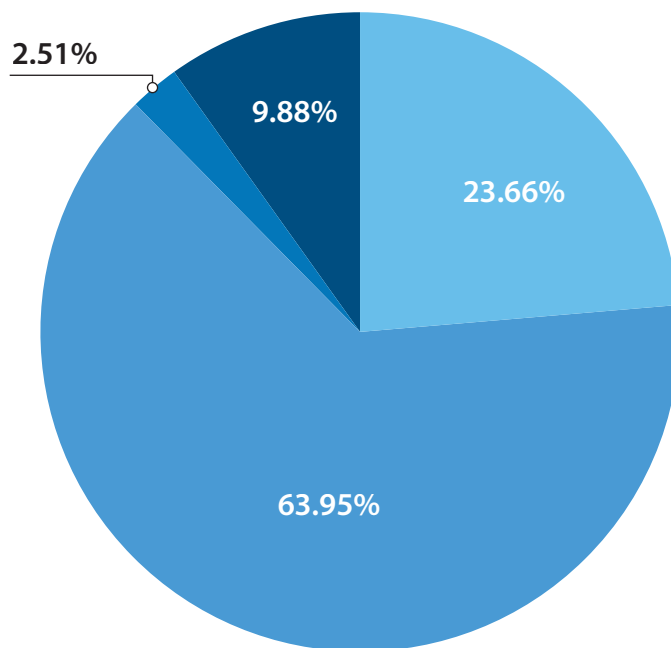
29 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in Yambio Western Equatoria

Asked whether there was any change in different government responsiveness to the citizens needs over the past two years, about 64 percent of respondents felt there was no change at all while 23.7 percent felt there were some changes.

2.4.3 National Government Responsiveness

The national government's responsiveness to community needs was rated at 46.2 percent bad and 31.5 percent fair. However, a minority 15.3 and 4.7 percent found it good and very good respectively. In comparison to the baseline 25.8 percent observed that national government was the most responsive. The slight positive variation indicates a trend in increased confidence in national government.

The on-going conflict and political tensions in parts of the country were highlighted as indicators of failure by the government to provide security. A respondent in a FGD stated; "the government is doing poorly in terms of basic social services especially at this time of crisis." Another observed, "The government is trying its best but with this current crisis, everything is just terrible."[30]

Key informants blamed government's unresponsiveness to inability of establishing accountability and proper control systems to curb corruption and misappropriation of resources. A key informant reiterated that:

> *"The South Sudan government responsiveness to citizen's need is limited. Government's reliance on oil as a major source of revenue is uninformed since oil prices dropped immensely worldwide. Available resources are mismanaged by few individuals in the government. Currently oil workers are killed and kidnapped limiting the production of oil, thus contributing to government's failure to meet citizens' needs."[31]*

On food security, 61.9 percent felt that the national government failed to address the problem. Only 27 percent felt that food security needs had been addressed though at a minimal level. At baseline 5.4 percent said the national government responded effectively to food security by supporting production. Refer to figure 8 below.

A member of the clergy noted that the government had sufficient resources but lacked controls and accountability structures to ensure that the resources were only used for the common good of the county and its citizens as opposed to embezzlement by a few highly placed individuals in the government.

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30 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in Torit East Equatoria

31 Remarks by a key informant in SSCC while commenting on government responsiveness to Community needs. Interview held in May, 2017.

Figure 8: National Government Responsiveness
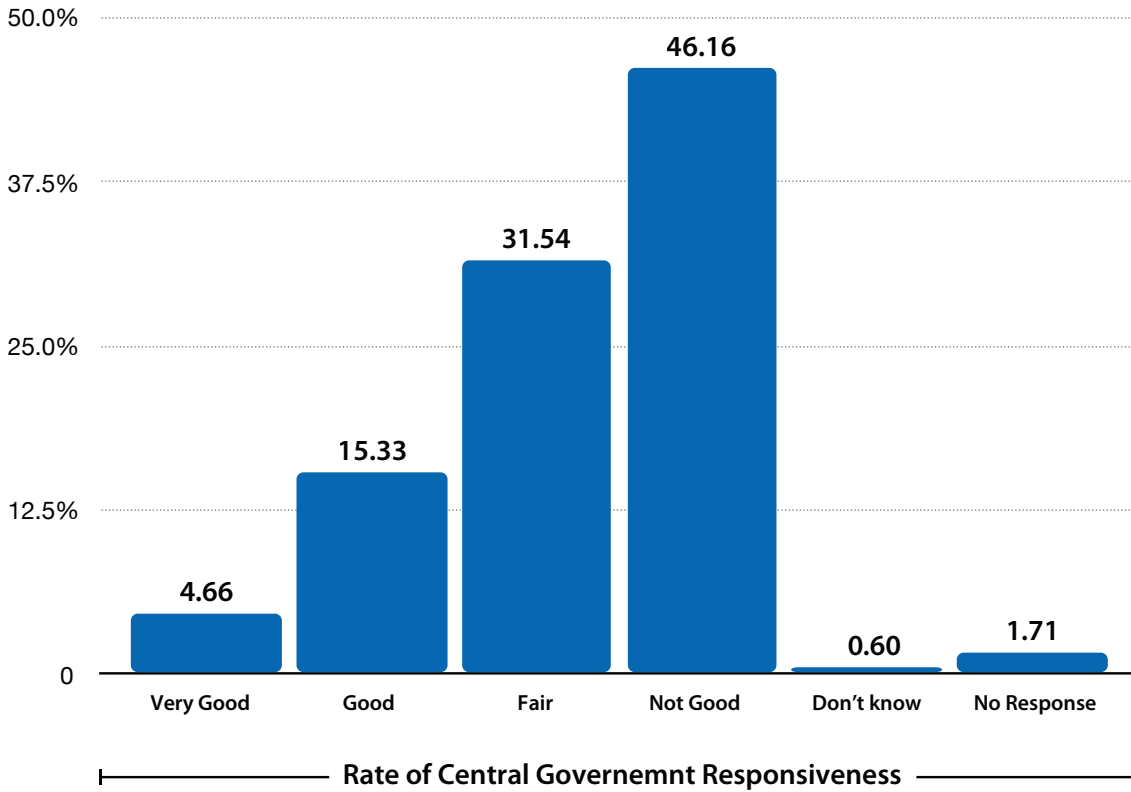
Rate of Central Governemnt Responsiveness

A member of the clergy noted that the government had sufficient resources but lacked controls and accountability structures to ensure that the resources were only used for the common good of the county and its citizens as opposed to embezzlement by a few highly placed individuals in the government.

He commented that;

"the Government has sufficient resources to meet citizen's needs but there are many loopholes of accountability which some highly placed individuals take advantage of to serve their own selfish interests. For example, gold mining in Kapoeta, benefits a few people." [32]

32 A key informant commenting about government responsiveness to community needs. Interview conducted in May, 2017, Juba.

Another key respondent contextualised the situation as;

> *"the government has not been responsive to the basic social needs; people are suffering ... civil servants have not been paid for months and it is difficult to survive, especially with the current economic crisis."[33]*

2.4.4 Responsiveness by State Governments to Community Needs

All States, with the exception of Jonglei (43.6%) and Warrap (37%), poorly responded to community needs. Eastern, Western and Central Equatoria, Lakes and Upper Nile reported "not good or fair" on States' responsiveness to community needs. Table 15 below shows the findings with regards to State government's responsiveness to community needs. At baseline, state governments were supported by 12.6 percent as the most responsive, a rank lower than the national government.

> **On responsiveness** to community needs, there was a huge vote of confidence with lower levels of governance as opposed to national government

Table 16: State government responsiveness to community needs							
Region	Very good	Good	Fair	Not good	Don't know	No response	Total
Warrap	20	146	178	93	0	6	443
Eastern Equatoria	4	43	174	121	1	2	345
Western Equatoria	2	30	100	149	0	0	281
Jonglei	68	95	147	56	5	3	374
Central Equatoria	9	56	207	212	2	0	486
Upper Nile	2	31	120	70	0	2	225
Lakes	9	86	110	136	0	16	357
Total	114	487	1036	837	8	29	2511

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33 Local Government Officer Imatong-East Equatoria

Figure 9: Responsiveness to Community Security
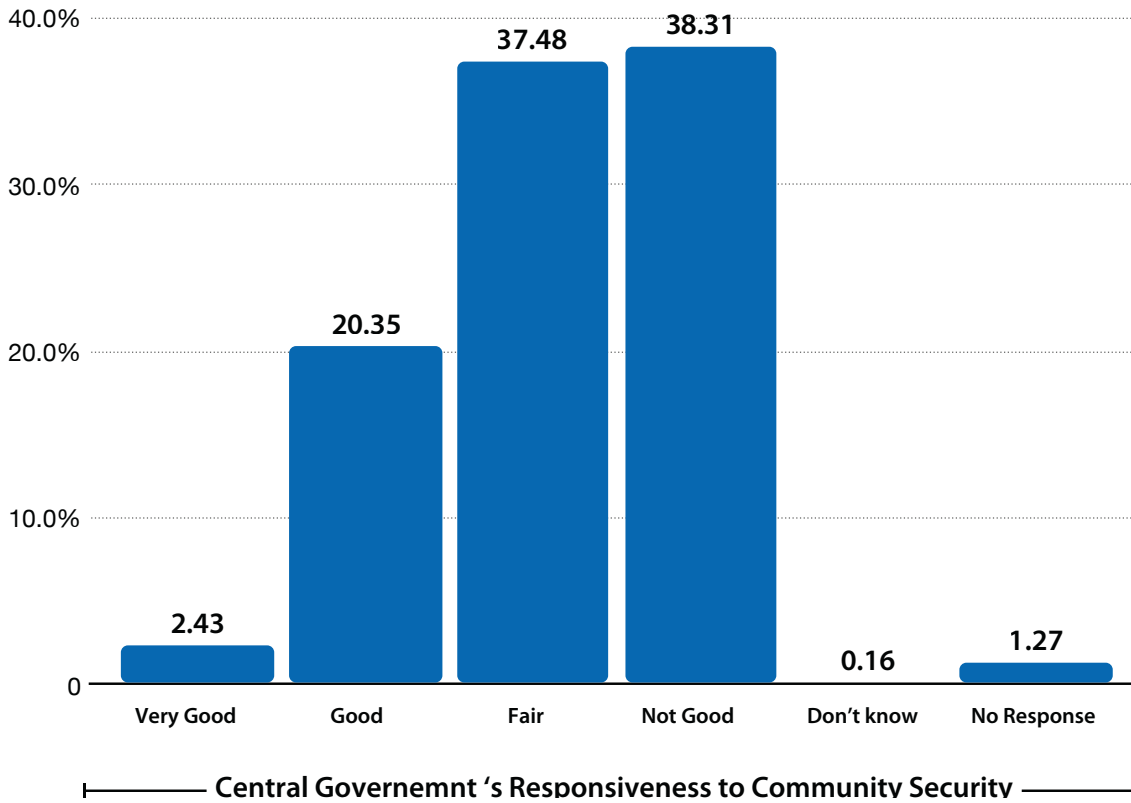
Central Governemnt 's Responsiveness to Community Security

Overall, 38.3 percent expressed displeasure with government response, while 37 percent returned a verdict of fair response. At least 20 percent said government responsiveness to community security needs was good. At baseline, 6.9 percent said the national government was extremely effective in responding to citizens needs through ensuring peace and security in the communities. Overall, 38.3 percent expressed displeasure with government response, while 37 percent returned a verdict of fair response. At least 20 percent said government responsiveness to community security needs was good. At baseline, 6.9 percent said the national government was extremely effective in responding to citizens needs through ensuring peace and security in the communities.

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) revealed that citizens felt secure only during the day, and that at various locations, venturing out at night was unthinkable owing to imminent danger associated with marauding militia, gangs and other bad elements, including government soldiers.

The current situation of raging political crisis that has been marked by gross human rights violations, killings, rape, gender and sexual violence defines unresponsiveness to peace and security. Internal displacements and general break down of law and order characterized by deep societal divisions' require government's attention to enhance peace and security throughout the country. Refer to figure 9 (left).

Table 17: Challenges Encountered by Government		
Challenges	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Corruption	603	24.0
Insecurity	530	21.1
Poor governance	102	4.1
Economic crisis	286	11.4
Political instability	155	6.2
Poor infrastructure	357	14.2
High population	14	0.6
Don't know	286	11.4
Response	178	7.1
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

2.4.5 Challenges Encountered Towards Addressing Community Needs

At 24 percent, corruption was rated as the highest impediment hindering response to community needs, peace and security. It was described as a "serious disease practiced by government officials…and driven by greed, tribalism, public apathy or resentments, marginalization of some communities by others, poor infrastructure and devaluation of the national currency thereby eroding the capacity of the government to deliver services."[34]

At baseline, corruption and institutional weakness were cited by 44.2 percent of the population. Hence, there was a downward trend on corruption between baseline and Endline period. Similar causes of corruption were cited in both baseline and Endline Study; nepotism and favouritism in public offices, embezzlement of public funds, bribery/ extortion of money for services rendered and inflation of costs for services rendered.

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34 A key informant remarks while commenting on corruption within the government institutions.

Insecurity was cited by 21.1 percent followed by poor infrastructure at 14.2 percent and economic crisis 11.4 percent as key challenges facing national government responsiveness to community needs, peace and security. A similar trend was observed during baseline though with positive variance; insecurity and crime 18.3 percent, unavailability of basic services 13.9 percent and inaccessibility at 8.1 percent. Refer to table 17.

The means for addressing challenges were identified as: establishment of strong institutions to improve service delivery, inclusive national dialogue and equal opportunities.

A key informant summarised the proposition as;

> *"Restore trust and confidence in the people, allocate jobs and promotions on merit and the matter will be resolved." This is to be complimented by bringing warring parties to the negotiating table. Also rehabilitation and reconstruction of roads need to be prioritized as a means to improving transportation and rapid response."[35]*

2.4.6 Police Response to Crime

As shown in figure 10, 37 percent indicated that there was no notable change with regard to police response time when called upon to assist during crime incidences; 31 percent indicated that the response time had reduced or improved while 26.6 percent were of the view that the response time worsened.

According to a key informant, Emergency Communication Centre (ECC), a police pilot project greatly contributed to rapid response. The ECC was established in partnership between the government and development partners for rapid response to crime.

The centre rendered policing services efficient and effective over the period it was operational. Since the crisis of July 2016 and in the absence of a sustainability policy, ECC failed to be operational. ECC requires support from development partners and the government in order to restore full operations and realize full potential in rapid response mechanism.[36]

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35 Senior School Official at Riak Dor Secondary School, Rumbek May 2017.
36 Emergency Call Centre (ECC), interview session held in April 2017.

Figure 10:
Police Response to Crime
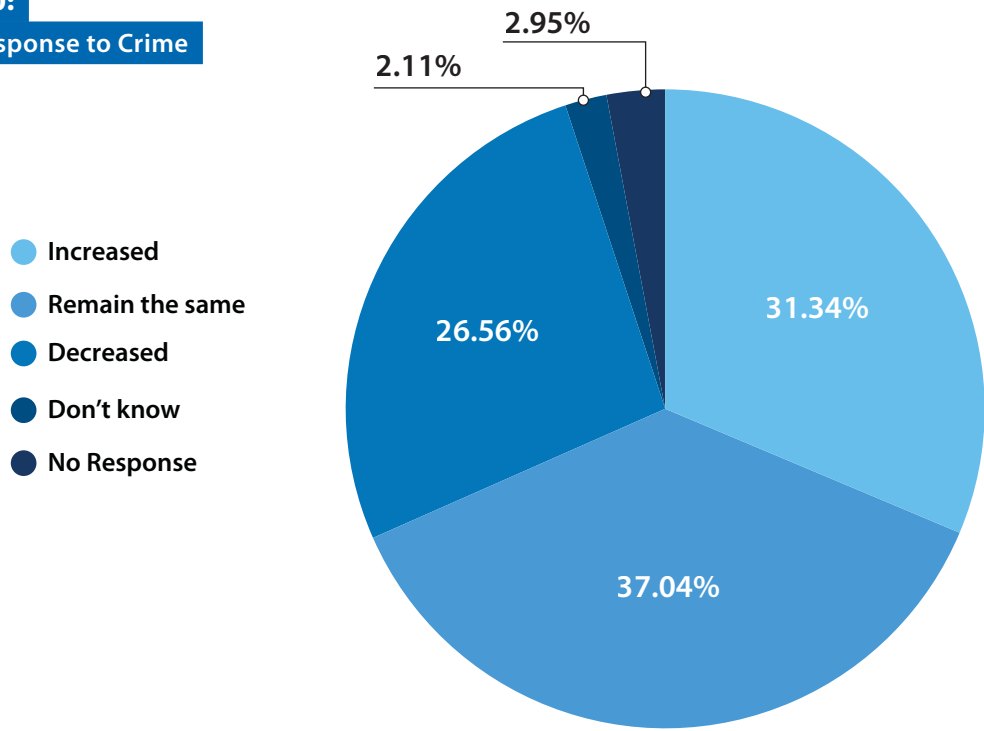
- Increased
- Remain the same
- Decreased
- Don't know
- No Response

2.11%

2.95%

31.34%

37.04%

26.56%

Chapter Three:
Perceptions on SGBV

3.0 Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

Indicator: Perceptions of community level security and incidences of SGBV

When respondents were asked whether sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) was a problem in their communities, a majority 58.5 percent responded positively while 37 percent did not consider it a problem. This was further reinforced by more than 60 percent who indicated that they were aware of an SGBV incident within their areas of residence. In comparison to the baseline findings, 63.2 percent of respondents indicated that SGBV was a problem within their communities and remains a security concern. Refer to figure 11 below.

Implications of SGBV are well captured by the UN Secretary General António Guterres,

> *"For every child who dies, for every woman or girl raped with impunity, for every young boy conscripted into fighting and fed only hatred, there is an angry parent, husband or father plunged into sorrow and prone to seek revenge."[37]*

Inability of police officers to investigate cases of SGBV was blamed for frequent dismissal from law courts due to insufficient evidence thus discouraging affected victims from reporting. An officer in the ministry of gender summarised this position by commenting that:

> *"The stigma associated with sexual related crimes hinders victims from reporting to the police. Incidences associated with SGBV have been prevalent since 2013 to an extent that some victims and their families have opted to live in IDP camps for protection."[38]*

On factors contributing to prevalence of SGBV, a majority 17 percent indicated poverty, and a further 16.1 percent mentioned social breakdown due to conflict while 14.8 percent blamed the vice on illiteracy. Other drivers of SGBV included cultural factors (11.8%), early marriages (10.8%) and natural disasters (2.1%).

The survey established that the level of unemployment in South Sudan is very high especially amongst women, who are lowly educated and are viewed as inferior to

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37 See more at https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sc12761.doc.htm
38 A comment by a key respondent from the Ministry of Gender during an interview held in May, 2017.

men. Hence, women are least prepared to defend their rights especially when faced by retrogressive cultural perceptions. Some respondents observed that lack or weak laws perpetuate SGBV because culprits go unpunished.

Figure 11:
Whether SGBV is a Major Problem

Legend:
- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- No Response

1.63%
3.03%
36.88%
58.46%
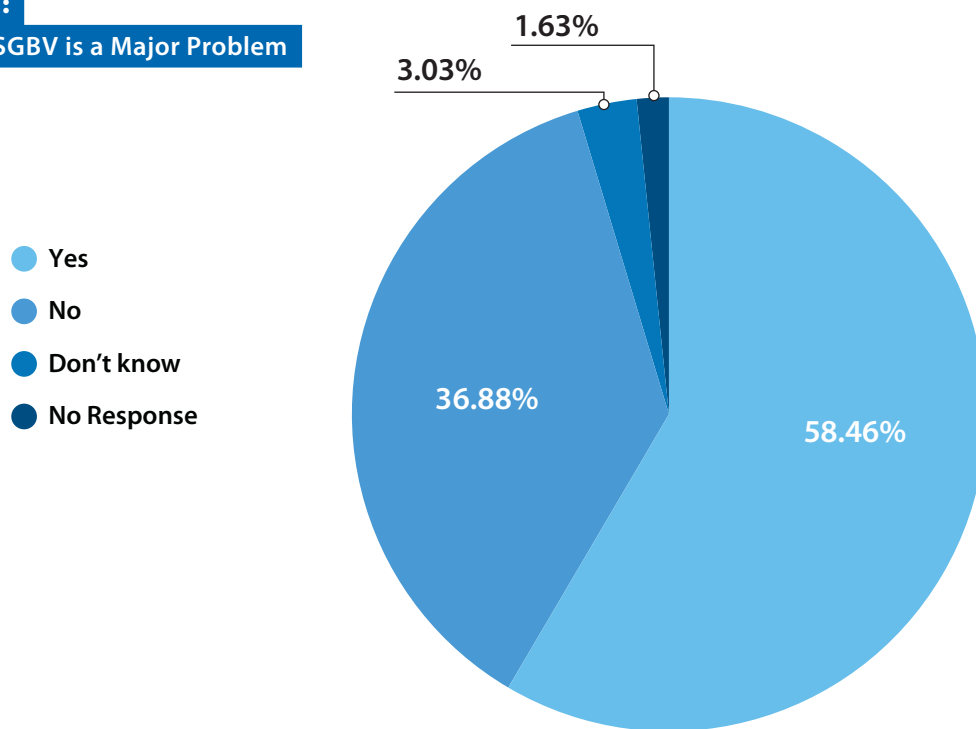
Table 18: Prevalence of SGBV incidences								
Region	**SGBV Situation**							**Total**
	Non-existent	Un-common	Common	Prevalent	Crisis level	Don't know	No response	
Warrap	110	243	47	6	22	7	8	**443**
Eastern Equatoria	5	169	135	9	18	3	6	**345**
Western Equatoria	7	74	174	7	16	1	2	**281**
Jonglei	21	190	123	4	11	9	16	**374**
Central Equatoria	15	200	165	35	41	21	9	**486**
Upper Nile	2	11	139	52	13	7	1	**225**
Lakes	33	149	71	26	68	1	9	**357**
Total	**193**	**1036**	**854**	**139**	**189**	**49**	**51**	**2511**

An Assessment of SGBV based on Levels of Education

The study also sought to gauge perceptions on SGBV from people of different education levels. As shown in the graph below the prevalence or the lethality of the vice seemed more pronounced amongst people with no formal education. Indeed people with college and university education seemed less exposed to SGBV. This could be partly due to the levels of exposure in terms of knowledge or the fact that with the escalation of conflicts, people with more education are more likely to move to safer areas through networks established over time.

Figure 12: Whether SGBV was a major problem in South Sudan for people of different education levels
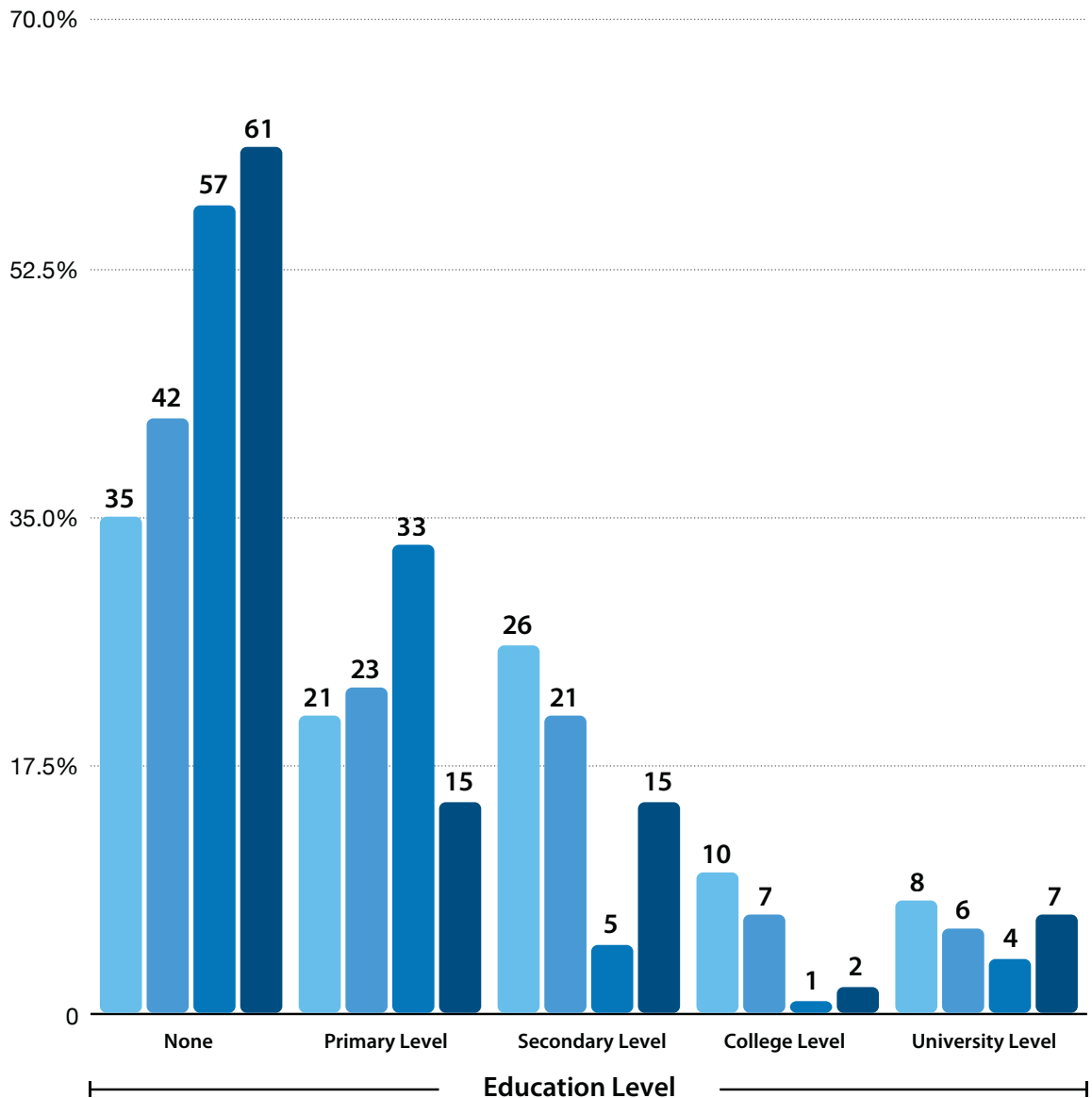
3.1   Assessment of SGBV Over the Past 2 Years

The survey found that cases of SGBV were on the decline mainly in Warrap State, Lakes and Eastern Equatoria while the remaining states posted an increase. Peace and security reported in Warrap State could explain relatively fewer cases of SGBV in the state. Prevailing insecurity and conflict were mainly blamed for the upward trend of SGBV incidences.

Table 19: Perceptions of decreasing incidences of SGBV							
Region	**SGBV Incidences over the past 2 years**						**Total**
	Increased	Decreased	Moderate	Not sure	Don't know	No response	
Warrap	41	130	77	180	4	11	**443**
Eastern Equatoria	82	116	107	22	7	11	**345**
Western Equatoria	156	20	68	35	0	2	**281**
Jonglei	119	64	94	77	5	15	**374**
Central Equatoria	99	28	220	98	26	15	**486**
Upper Nile	188	8	11	11	5	2	**225**
Lakes	33	120	100	90	3	11	**357**
Total	**718**	**486**	**677**	**513**	**50**	**67**	**2511**

To mitigate and prevent SGBV incidences, key informants and FGDs discussants suggested that the first step would be to strengthen legal capacity. This would entail establishment of relevant laws, building capacity of law enforcement agencies to adequately deal with SGBV and establishment of safe havens for the victims.

Awareness on the need to respect the rights and dignity of all people remains critical as observed by some respondents who indicated that wife beating was viewed as a sign of domestic authority. A key informant noted that awareness creation was required so as to enlighten women on the importance of reporting SGBV cases. A government officer reported that Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) exist and provide the pathway over how SGBV cases should be handled by the relevant authorities.[39]

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39 A key respondent remarked on fighting SGBV in South Sudan during an interview held in Juba, May 2017.

In a focus group discussion (FGD) session, women respondents emphasized that creation of employment and economic opportunities for both genders would encourage mutual respect and sharing of domestic responsibilities. Respondents observed that underage marriages should be outlawed and perpetrators adequately punished by law.

Education was underscored as an important tool to equip women with knowledge so as to defend their rights. Further, women noted that to address the issue of forced marriages, community awareness on the negative impact of SGBV should be a public welfare.

Key informants and participants of FGDs further observed that traditional leaders should be empowered to deal with SGBV cases instead of approaching related issues purely from a criminal angle. Study findings underscored the importance of alternative dispute resolution especially through use of traditional leaders. This was properly captured by one of the key informants who mentioned that:

"Traditional leaders are in a better position to talk to community members on dangers and illegality of early marriages with discretion to dissolve instead of arresting and imprisoning the culprits. Economic empowerment of women across different parts of the country remains critical towards addressing SGBV."[40]

Figure 13: Assessment ofSGBV Over 2 Years
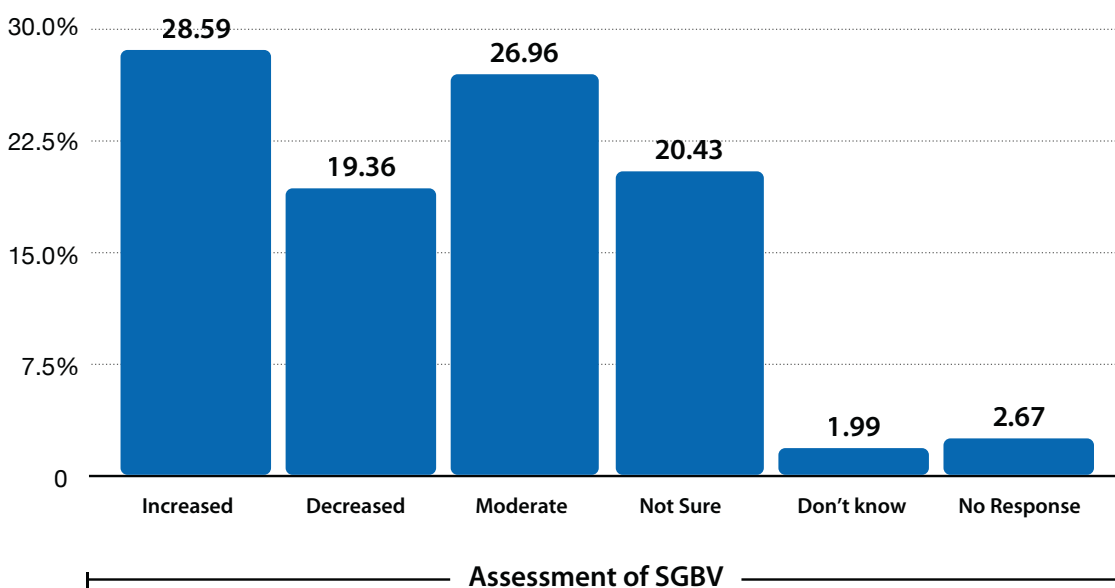
40 Key informant interview, May 2017.

Compared to the baseline report findings, there seemed to be a reduction in number of reported SGBV incidents in some states; Warrap, Lakes and Eastern Equatoria. Indeed and as shown in figure 13, more than 46 percent of the respondents indicated that SGBV incidents had either decreased (19.4%) or were moderate (26.96%).

> **Weak laws** or lack of proper legislation found to perpetuate SGBV … culprits often escape unpunished

> **Prevailing insecurity** and conflict were mainly blamed for the upward trend of SGBV incidences

A further analysis showed that more men (377) than women (341) were of the feeling that SGBV incidents had increased though the vice versa was true for the decrease. As shown in the table below, 237 respondents reported that SGBV incidents had decreased compared to 249 women.

Table 20: Level of safety by State

Gender	Assessment of SGBV						Total
	Increased	Decreased	Moderate	Not sure	Don't know	No response	
Male	377	237	359	286	17	32	1308
Female	341	249	318	227	33	35	1203
Total	718	486	677	513	50	67	2511

Interestingly, there were more women than men who chose to either abstain from answering the question or returned a "Don't know" verdict as shown in the table above. This is to confirm cultural prohibitions associated with SGBV or the fact that some people do not consider GBV as a serious security issue or concern.

Chapter Four: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

This chapter aims at establishing the current levels of awareness of SDGs in general with specification of Goal Number 16. Also, the section focuses on what South Sudanese citizens consider as the priority SDGs to be implemented in their country. Linkage between peace, security and development informed inclusion of this section in the Endline Study.

The following are key indicators in the implementation process of goal number 16 and key to peace, security and safety of communities. Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live and Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported to relevant authorities.

4.1   Public Knowledge of SDGS

Survey findings on whether the citizens had knowledge of the SDGs indicated that majority 70.5 percent expressed lack of information while 27 percent noted that they were knowledgeable about all the 17 SDGs. Those who opted to abstain from the question were 2.5 percent. The situation reflected responses from qualitative interviews indicating that respondents were not knowledgeable of SDGs. Respondents with vague idea of SDGs could hardly outline the list or even identify the one that relates to peace, security and justice.

Key informant respondents from government and institutions of higher learning were conversant with SDGs and specifically number 16. However, most of the respondents expressed lack of sufficient information on SDGs stating that the knowledge gap needed to be filled in view to enable implementation and compliance with international obligations.

Figure 14:
Public Knowledge of SDGs

- Yes
- No
- No Response

2.51%

27.04%

70.45%
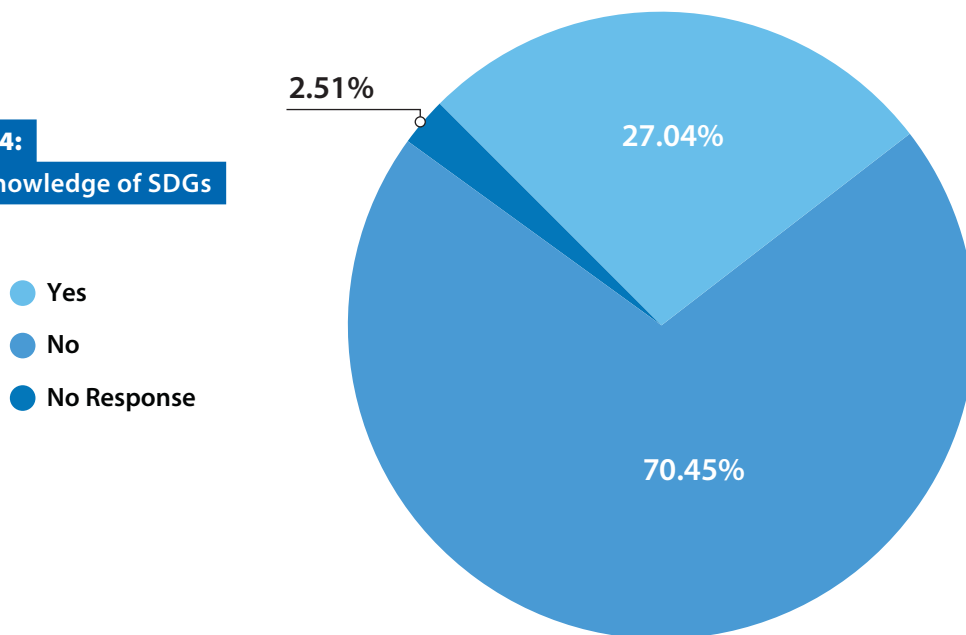
4.1.1 Public Knowledge of SDG Goal Number 16

Asked about SDG number 16, a majority 45.8 percent opted to abstain from the question, while 21.6 percent indicated that they were not knowledgeable about SDG#16. Only 18.8 percent acknowledged that they were aware of SDG#16 and mentioned that it relates to a nexus between peace and justice vis a vis strong institutions of governance. Respondents reiterated that conflict undermines development and negates institutional accountability, thus underscoring the need to deepen understanding of SDGs.

Figure 15:
Knowledge on Goal Number 16

● Yes
● No
● Don't Know
● No Response

18.84%

21.62%

13.78%

45.76%
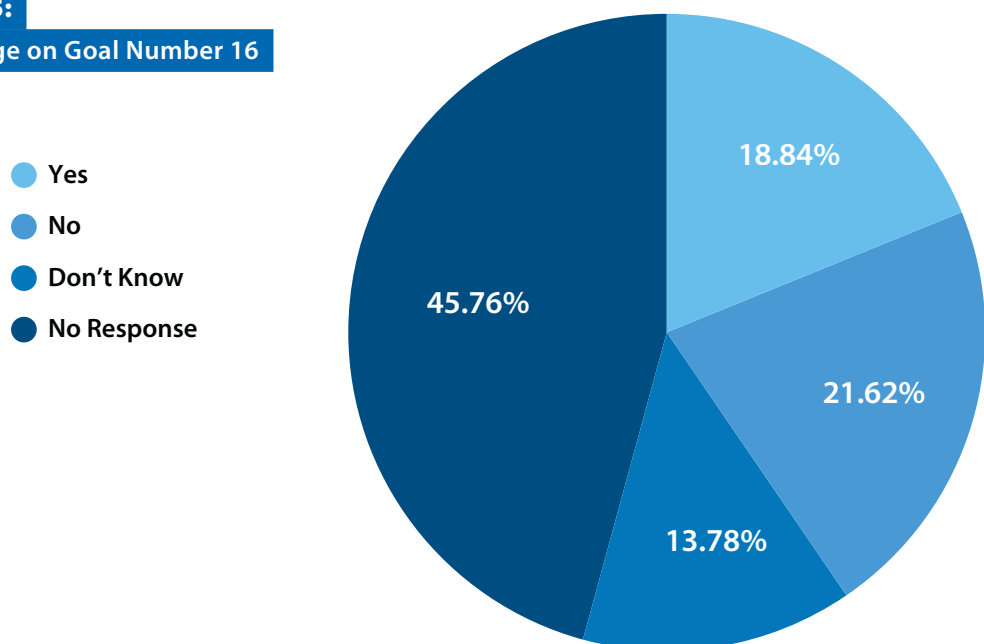
4.1.2 Level of Security

Level of Security during the Day

Majority 51.1 percent indicated that they felt secure moving around in their areas of residence during the day. A further 10 percent indicated that they were very secure. This confirmed that majority of residential areas were safe during the day. On the contrary, 38 percent felt insecure and unsafe moving around during the day.

When disaggregated per state, 279 of the 345 (80.8%) respondents in Eastern Equatoria; 161 of the 225 (71.5%) respondents in Upper Nile; 306 0f the 443 (69%) respondents in Warrap; 234 of the 357 (65.5%) respondents in Lakes; 298 0f the 486 respondents in Central Equotoria; 153 0f the 374 (40.9%) respondents in Jonglei and 104 0f the 281 (37%) respondents in Western Equatoria indicated that they felt secure moving around during the day.

Figure 16:
Level of Security

0.44%

0.07%

- Very Secure
- Secure
- Insecure
- Very Insecure
- Don't Know
- No Response

9.40%   10.00%

28.95%

51.14%
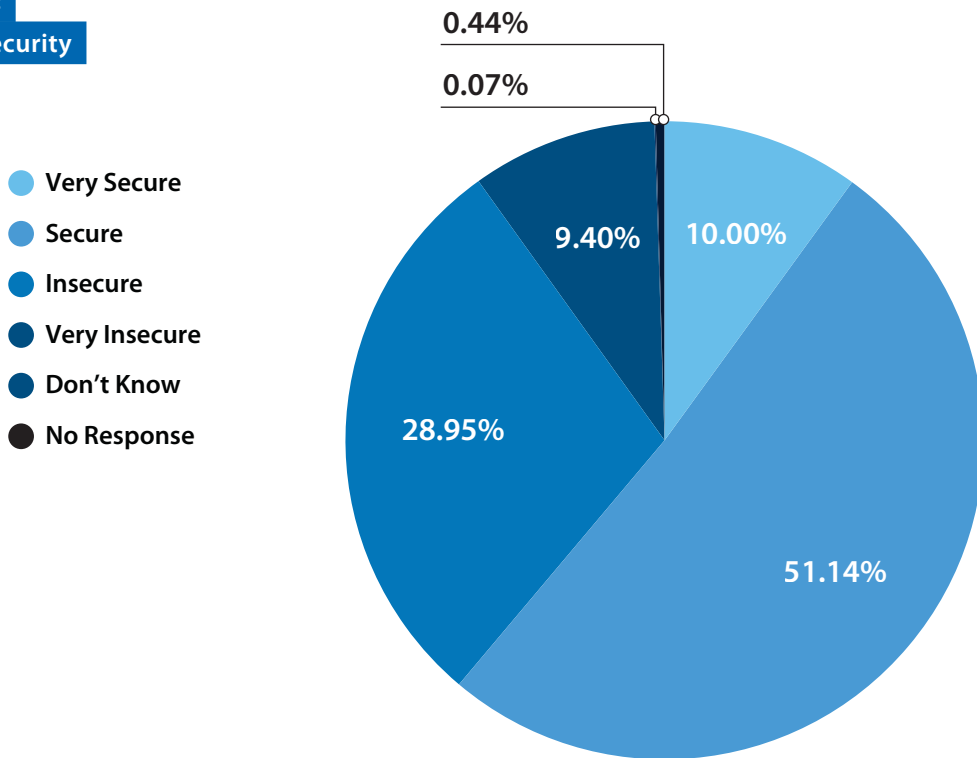
Lack of sufficient knowledge and information on SDGs calls for awareness creation

Partnership with media on awareness creation would be one of the approaches to fill knowledge gap on SDGs

4.1.3 Proportion of Population Feeling Safe

Possession of SALW

When respondents were asked on sources of intercommunal conflicts in the country, 2.1 percent indicated presence of small arms as a threat to community security. On the section regarding ways of promoting cooperation between communities, only 2.5 percent of the respondents indicated disarmament. Generally, absence or presence of small arms was ranked last in priority areas.. Also, possession of SALW could be a necessity to the South Sudanese due to the perceived insecurity and the need to protect lives and property.

Above findings were corroborated by assertions attributed to Broga (2016) who indicated that increased civilian armament has been the result of the general insecurity and the need for self-defence. According to the report, even in instances where some communities surrendered arms temporarily, they often found themselves attacked by others who were still armed. Thus, there have been few incentives for communities to disarm but plenty to rearm for self-defence, cattle-raiding, and revenge attacks, etc.[41]

Region	Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live, by State						Total
	Very secure	Secure	Insecure	Very insecure	Don't know	No response	
Warrap	93	213	108	26	1	2	**443**
Eastern Equatoria	31	248	58	7	0	1	**345**
Western Equatoria	18	86	145	31	0	1	**281**
Jonglei	24	129	138	81	0	2	**374**
Central Equatoria	32	266	144	43	1	0	**486**
Upper Nile	14	147	49	15	0	0	**225**
Lakes	39	195	85	33	0	5	**357**
Total	**251**	**1284**	**727**	**236**	**2**	**11**	**2511**

Table 21: Level of safety by State

> **A lot** of focus on small arms and light weapons (SALW) could have rendered the topic monotonous to the locals

41 Broga, D. (February, 2016): Loaded guns, smoking barrels and the proliferation of arms in South Sudan retrieved from: https://weareiguacu.com/the-proliferation-of-arms-in-south-sudan/ August, 2017.

4.1.4 Proportion of Victims of Violence Who Reported Victimization

The study sought to establish locals' confidence levels on justice institutions in terms of reporting to authorities such as police and courts. As outlined in figure 16, majority 77.5 percent had no confidence while 17.2 percent affirmed the statement reflecting a low trend in reporting crimes to relevant authorities.

Figure 17:
Victims Reporting Victimization

5.10%
0.16%

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know
- No Response

17.20%

77.54%
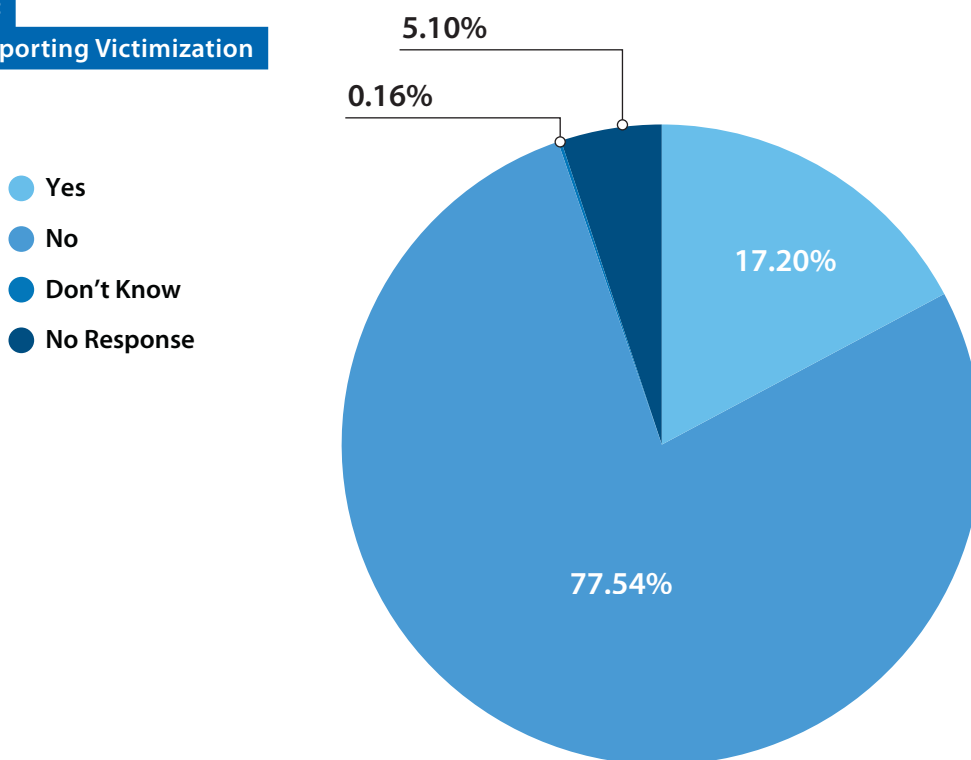
Whether respondents reported cases

Table 22: Experience upon reporting violent incidents to authorities		
Experience upon reporting	Frequency	Percent
Took a short time to get justice	153	6.1
Ineffective justice system	194	7.7
Takes a long time to achieve justice	54	2.2
Don't know	250	10.0
No response	1860	74.1
Total	2511	100.0

Upon reporting crimes, 7.7 percent respondents felt that justice system was very ineffective and was compounded by lengthy processes. On the contrary, 6.1 percent expressed that justice system was effective and they obtained justice appropriately. A large number of respondents, 74.1 percent had no response confirming that fewer individuals reported incidences to authorities.

> **The rate** of reporting crimes to authorities remain low due to lack of confidence in the process of seeking justice for the victims.

Chapter Five:
Access to Justice

5.1   JUSTICE SERVICES

In order to understand existing gaps and priority areas requiring support, the study sought to rate the effectiveness of the justice system in terms of challenges faced and also ease at which citizens access services.

In rating the effectiveness of the justice system, the study compared responses across the seven areas as shown in table 21 below. Majority of the respondents indicated that the justice system was very effective. According to 69 percent of the respondents in Jonglei, the justice system within the state was effective. This was followed closely by Warrap with more than 67 percent observing effectiveness of the justice system.

Other regions in which more than 50 percent of the residents were of the view that the justice system was effective included Upper Nile and Lakes with 54.2 and 52.4 percent respectively. In Eastern Equatoria, slightly more than 41 percent indicated that the state had an effective justice system. Central Equatoria and Upper Nile had the least number of people who felt that the justice systems in the two regions were effective as indicated by 33.1 and 32 percent respectively.

Challenges associated with access to justice included; weakness due to political interference, corruption, high legal fees and language barrier. Courts were dominated by old and insufficiently trained personnel. Also, communities covered long distances to access courts.

A respondent in a focus group discussion (FGD) captured the situation as

> *"access to justice in South Sudan is at a very sorry state. Corruption, incompetence and intimidation is at the centre of such services."*

Another respondent expressed…"access to justice is in a sorry state. A lot of crimes happen but most go unpunished. Police and the army who are supposed to protect the population are partly the source of this problem."

5.1.1 How Accused Persons are Treated Within the Justice System

As shown in figure 16 below, indications on whether the accused were being treated fairly or unfairly were almost the same at 41 and 41.9 percent respectively. A further 9.7 percent indicated that they had never thought about how accused persons were treated by the justice system while about 7 percent chose to abstain from the question. Those who abstained (16%) was an indicator that they may not have reported any criminal case to the police.

The study identified a gap in terms of raising awareness and civic education at the grassroots level. Also, improving the relations between the law enforcement agencies and their client could boost confidence and progressively improve delivery of justice.

Figure 18:
Rating Justice System

Legend:
- Fairly
- Unfairly
- Never thought about it
- Don't know
- No response

Pie chart values:
- 3.78%
- 3.70%
- 9.72%
- 40.98%
- 41.82%

Region	Effectiveness of the Justice System						Total
	Very effective	Effective	Ineffective	Non existent	Don't know	No response	
Warrap	112	186	124	11	2	8	**443**
Eastern Equatoria	9	134	182	13	1	6	**345**
Western Equatoria	23	67	154	15	21	1	**281**
Jonglei	79	182	94	10	7	2	**374**
Central Equatoria	16	145	243	24	45	13	**486**
Upper Nile	25	97	88	12	0	3	**225**
Lakes	34	153	118	25	9	18	**357**
Total	**298**	**964**	**1003**	**110**	**85**	**51**	**2511**

Table 23: Rating the effectiveness of the justice system

5.1.2 Ease in Accessing Justice Services

At least 35.3 percent expressed that it was not easy to access justice services. More than 57 percent indicated that access to justice services was both not easy and very difficult in some areas compared to 38 percent who felt that it was either very easy or moderately easy to access the services. Refer to figure 19 below.

> **Access to** justice in South Sudan
> is at a very sorry state. Corruption,
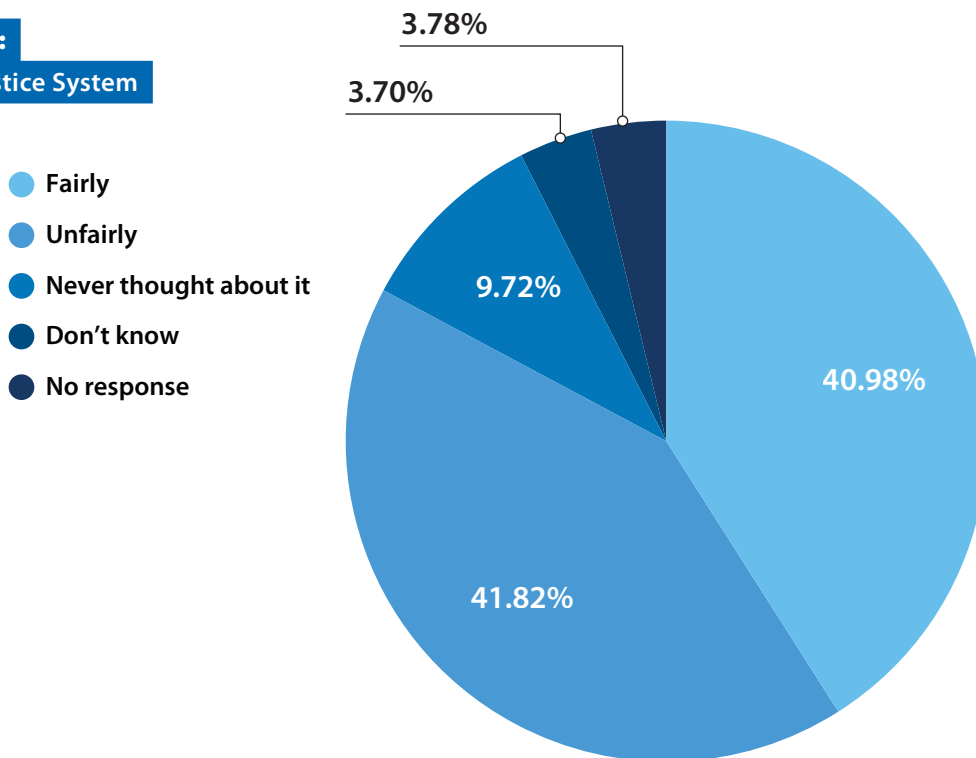> incompetence and intimidation is at the
> centre of such services

Figure 19: Ease in Accessing Justice Services
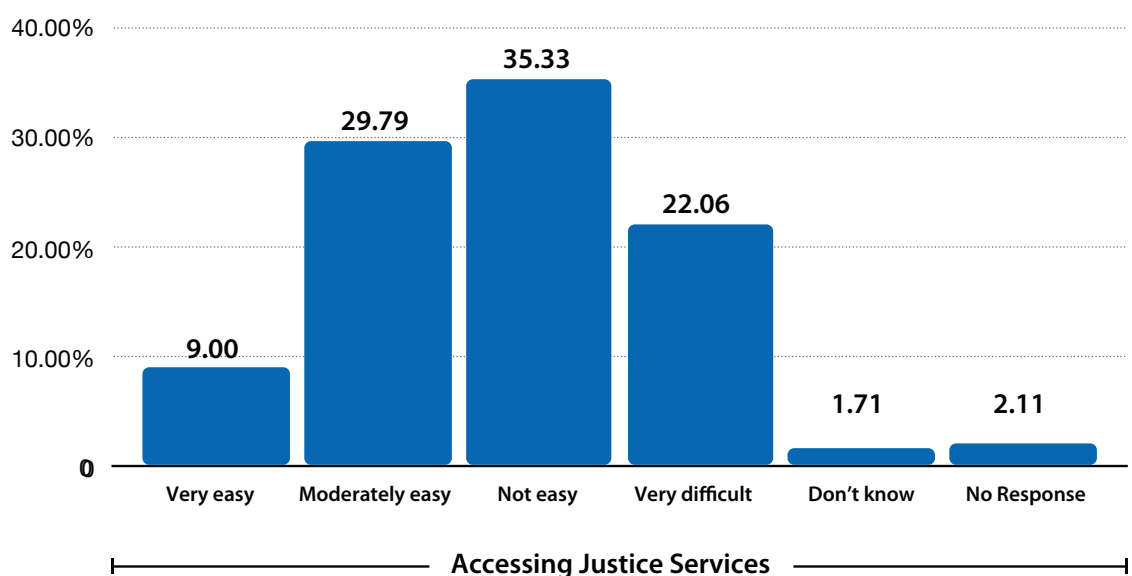
5.1.3 Challenges Citizens Face in Accessing Justice Services

Majority of the respondents indicated that corruption was the biggest challenge at 26.9 percent followed by distance and unaffordable legal fees as indicated by 14.4 and 14.1 percent respectively. Refer to table 22 below.

Language barrier (6.6%), delays in concluding court and pending cases (6.4%), lack of sufficient correctional facilities (3.1%) and lack of sufficient judges (2.4%) were other challenges faced by citizens. Findings from key informant interviews pointed

to the fact that South Sudan has lawyers who were educated and trained in Arabic and are now occupying positions yet they can't speak English fluently thus creating communication breakdown, failed prosecution and miscarriage of justice.

Politically motivated judgements and pronouncements were also cited as serious challenges largely because justice institutions struggle with interference from the Executive. Further, lack of sufficient training and experience affect justice system. In some instances, some judges were facing challenges adapting to the Common Law System due to language barrier. While commenting on access to justice services, a key respondent noted that:

> *"In most cases, access to justice depends on individuals. Some people fear to open up cases against crime perpetrators because of certain interests, thus making access to justice very weak in the country. Many cases are dismissed and several criminals go unpunished."[44]*

The above assertions were also confirmed by an advocate of the high court based in Juba, a key informant identified for this study;

> *"Justice System is not independent; most of the cases in courts are influenced by the top politicians to meet their own selfish interests. Citizens and lawyers have spoken of regular injustices, backlog of cases and lack of law knowledge by the judges to successfully prosecute cases. The system is too weak and cannot be trusted by the citizens."[45]*

The *Saferworld Report* on exploring the justice sector reforms in South Sudan defined the myriad of challenges faced such as; basic infrastructure, court houses, office buildings, desks, chairs and stationery. Sector also lacks; adequate human resources, judges, paralegals, defence, attorneys and public prosecutors. Inadequate judges contribute to backlog. This was confirmed by an officer from prisons who complained over the large number of detainees awaiting trial.[46]

The *Saferworld Report* underscored language barrier as a big challenge in South Sudan considering that previously, most of the judges were accustomed to Arabic as the 'lingua franca' and dealt with laws written in Arabic. Independence brought a

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44 A key respondent while commenting on the ease of accessing justice services in South Sudan. Interview held in May, 2017.

45 Remarks by an advocate of the high court based in Juba; he was expressing views on independence of the justice system. Interview held in May, 2017.

46 Focus Group Discussion with South Sudan Prisons Service May 2017.

shift towards embracing English as the primary language for the legal system; State and national laws were initially drafted in Arabic.[47]

In appreciation of the efforts made towards improving access to justice services, a key respondent noted that -

"development partners through UNDP participated in improving the capacity of lawyers and judges. This has been realized through training and development of a template for case management. In the course of time, the initiative has led to improvement of performance of legal staff. For justice system to be administered effectively and efficiently, both human and capital resources are required. Administration of justice will certainly impact positively on peace and security."[48]

Table 24: Challenges experienced in Accessing Justice Services		
Challenges	Frequency	Percent
Language barrier	165	6.6
Distance	361	14.4
Lack of sufficient judges	60	2.4
Correctional facilities	79	3.1
Corruption	675	26.9
Unaffordable legal fees	354	14.1
Delay of justice	161	6.4
Don't know	225	9.0
Biasness	135	5.4
No response	296	11.8
Total	2511	100.0

47 Saferworld (October, 2011). Institutions, laws and services: Exploring justice sector reform in South Sudan (ISBN 978–1–904833–71–0).

48 Interview session with Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs May 2017

5.1.4 Change in Accessing Justice Services Over the Past 2 Years

On whether there had been any notable change in terms of accessing justice services over a period of two years, a majority 48.4 percent were of the view that there was none while 25.1 percent indicated that there were some notable changes. More than 25 percent of the respondents indicated that they had never thought about it, did not know or simply opted to abstain from the question. Refer to figure 20.

Figure 20:
Change in Accessing Justice

- Yes
- No
- Never thought about it
- Don't know
- No response

7.05%
3.70%
25.09%
15.77%
48.39%
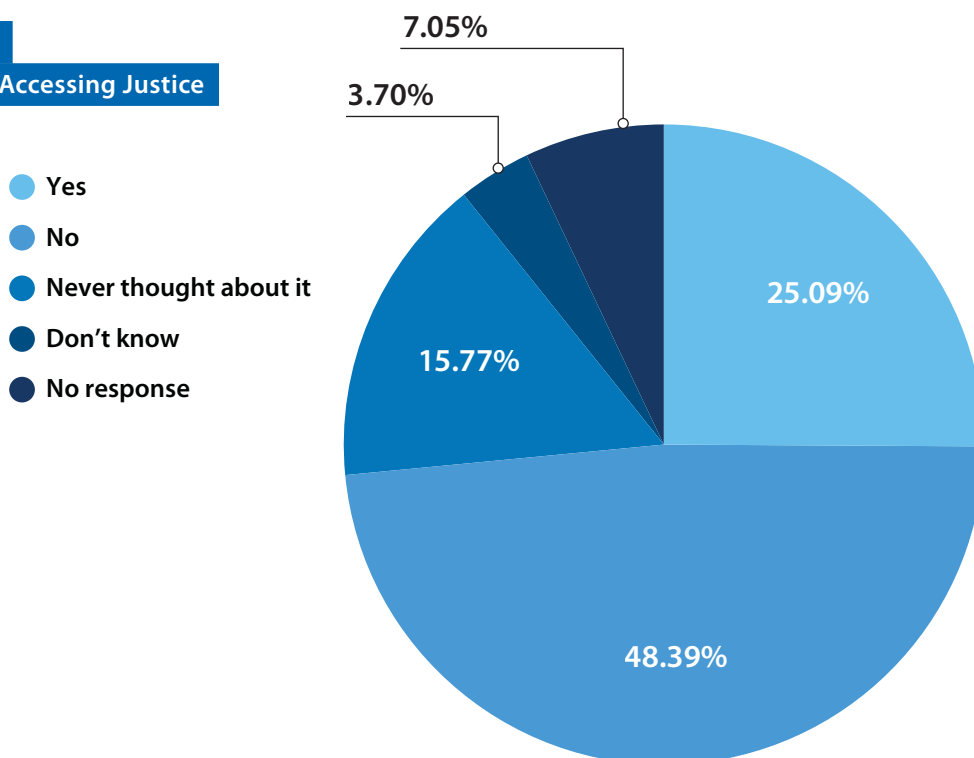
5.1.5 Free Legal Services for People Facing Criminal Charges

On whether people facing criminal charges had access to free legal services, majority 53.7 percent affirmed while 34.4 percent were of the contrary view. Respondents who either did not know or opted not to respond were 5.8 and 6.1 percent respectively. Refer to figure 21.

A key informant was emphatic that the Ministry of Justice needed to provide lawyers for those who cannot afford because …

"some of the suspects were convicted out of ignorance. Indeed, paralegal services have been dysfunctional and require to be reinstated as a means to prisoners accessing free legal services."[49]

Figure 21:
Free Legal Services

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know
- No Response

6.09%

5.77%

34.41%

53.73%
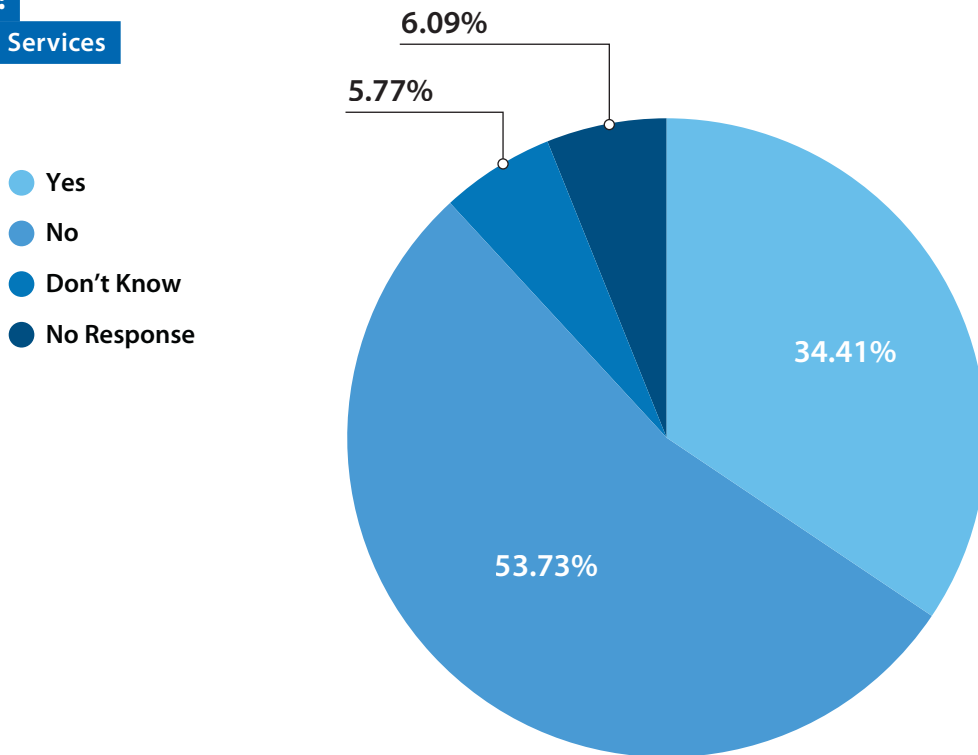
5.2   Women Access to Justice Services – SGBV

The study sought to understand whether women who experienced SGBV were treated fairly upon reporting to justice institutions. As shown in figure 20 below, respondents seemed to be torn between Yes and No; both responses were indicated by almost a similar number of people. Those who felt women were being treated fairly by the justice system, accounted for 46.6 percent while 46.8 percent were of the contrary view.

Poor investigative skills were blamed for stigmatization of SGBV victims at police stations. Also, hostile environment at these facilities was one of the reasons cited for the victims' reluctance to report SGBV cases. Respondents argued that the best option for SGBV victims to get justice would be to empower traditional leaders to

49 National Prisons Service Focus Group Discussion conducted in May 2017.

deal with SGBV cases instead of looking at the incidences from a purely criminal perspective.

According to a key informant,

> *"a traditional leader would be in a better position to talk to the parents about the dangers, illegality of SGBV and early marriage while taking into consideration the social-cultural and economic condition of the victim. This approach would satisfy both parties, instead of merely arresting and imprisoning the culprits."*[50]

Figure 22:
SGBV Vis Justice Services

- ● Yes
- ● No
- ● Don't Know
- ● No Response

2.55%

4.10%

46.59%

46.75%
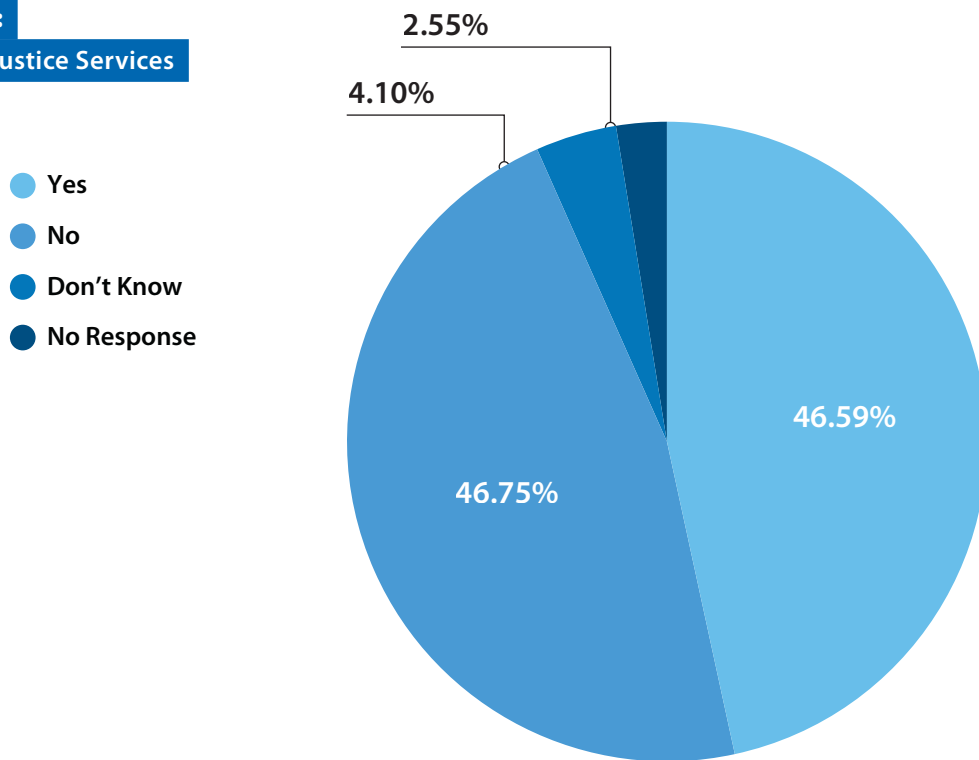
5.3   Priority Areas in Improving the Justice System

5.3.1 Resources Required to Enable More People Access Justice Services

As shown in table 23 below, 24 percent proposed establishment of more courts across the States to reduce the distance citizens' travel to access justice services. Improving the capacity of law enforcement agents required as indicated by 22

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50 Key informant interview held in Juba, April 2017.

percent. Both human and material resources required to improve police capacity in conducting investigations and to successfully prosecute cases. Skills in espousing human rights and customer care were emphasized as a priority.

Table 25: Resources required in improving access to justice		
Resources required to improve	**Frequency**	**Percent**
More courts	603	24.0
More police stations/ personnel	553	22.0
Community sensitization	382	15.2
Local justice systems	293	11.7
Training law enforcement agents	573	22.8
Don't know	36	1.4
No response	71	2.8
Total	**2511**	**100.0**

The respondents indicated need to build more police stations and also increase police personnel across the states in view to reduce the distance covered by citizens in search of justice as they report cases to the police. Establishment of Chiefs' Courts was suggested by the respondents as an alternative channel of justice at the community level.

Community sensitization programmes were proposed in view to raise awareness on the importance of reporting criminal incidences to the police. Also, resources are required to improve public trust on the justice system and establishing local justice systems as indicated by 15.2 and 11.7 percent. To implement above priorities, increased budgetary allocation would be required.

5.4   MONITORING AND IMPACT EVALUATION OF COMMUNITY SECURITY AND RULE OF LAW INTERVENTIONS

5.4.1 Best Placed Institution to Assess Security and Rule of Law

On the individual or institution to assess security and rule of law, majority 33.3 percent were of the view that elders were the best placed followed by local administrators (22.3%) and religious leaders (20.8%). Other individuals mentioned included politicians (8.3%) and ordinary citizens (12.6%). Refer to figure 23.

The study established that elders held a prominent role in securing peace in the country as indicated by one of the key informant who mentioned that:

> *"Ceasefire or mopping out illegally held arms is a necessary short-term goal. But bringing about lasting peace and alleviating poverty will involve substantial grass-roots efforts. Local elders, religious figures, and civic activists could share a message of mercy and forgiveness that transcends ethnic, national, political, and religious divisions that too often catalyse youth into battle."[51]*

The above observation was echoed by majority key informants who suggested that the clergy, elders and other community leaders (both genders) were important resources that could help diffuse existing and simmering tensions across the country. Local elders have pertinent roles to play as gatekeepers of their communities. Indeed, humanitarian workers and other groups cannot venture out to new areas without the support and guidance of local elders due to community's confidence.[52]

> **Ministry of** Justice need to provide lawyers for those who cannot afford because some suspects are convicted out of ignorance

Figure 23: Best Placed to Assesses Security and Rule of Law
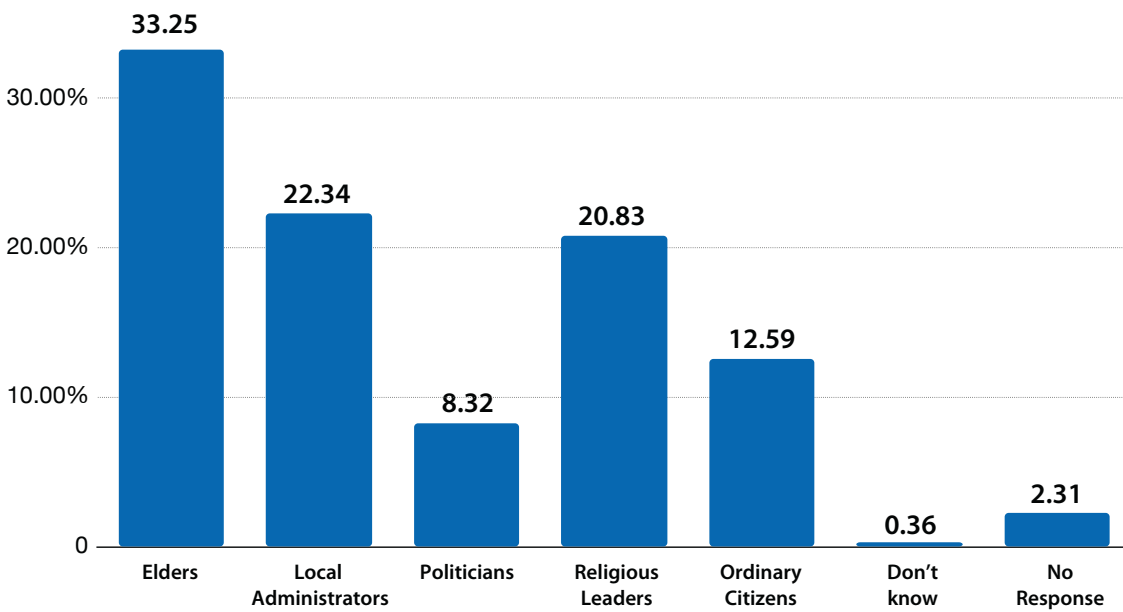
51 A key respondent in Bor while emphasizing on the need to involve local elders in grassroots.
52 Ibid.

The observations outlined in figure 23 were echoed by majority key informants who suggested that the clergy, elders and other community leaders were important resources that could help diffuse existing and simmering tensions across the country. Local elders have pertinent roles to play as gatekeepers of their communities.

"Indeed, humanitarian workers and other groups cannot venture out to new areas without the support and guidance of local elders."[53]

5.4.2 Trust in Police to Prosecute Successfully

In total, more than 52 percent of the respondents (14.4% strongly agree and 37.6% agree) affirmed the statement that by reporting a case to the police, they were assured of getting justice. This confirmed earlier findings that police reforms had positive impact. Also, more citizens were beginning to develop trust in the institution. A lesser number 34.5 percent lacked confidence in the police (25.1% disagree and 9.4% strongly disagree).

A further 11.27 percent of the respondents indicated they were not sure on whether by reporting a case to the police they were assured of justice. Respondents in this category were uninformed of the reforms process within the institution. Refer to figure 24.

Figure 24: Assurance of Getting Justice
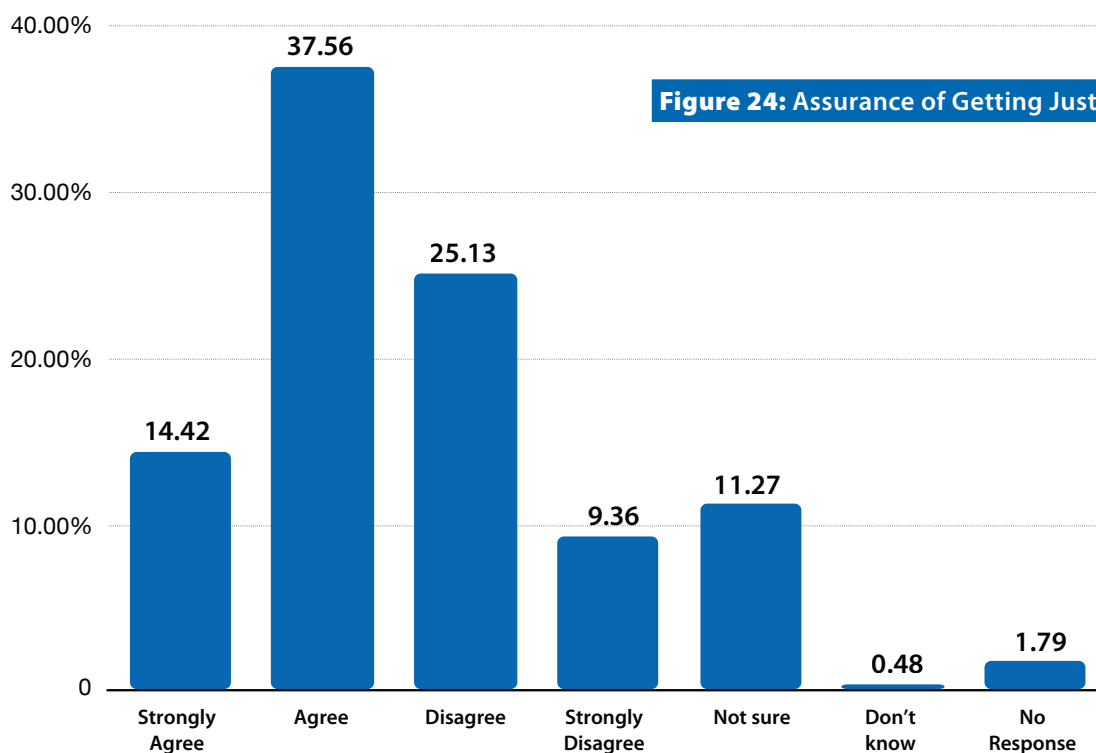
53 Ibid.

5.4.3 Trust in Police to Keep Information Shared Confidential

As shown in figure 25 below, more than 48 percent indicated that they agreed (strongly agree 15.1% and 33.7% agree) with the statement that information provided to assist the police with investigation and prosecution of cases would be kept confidential. This compared to slightly more than 34 percent of the respondents who disagreed (23.3% and 11.7% strongly disagreed) with the statement. This indicates and confirms upward trend in citizens' trust in the police. Refer to figure 25.

Figure 25: Confidentiality in Prosecution
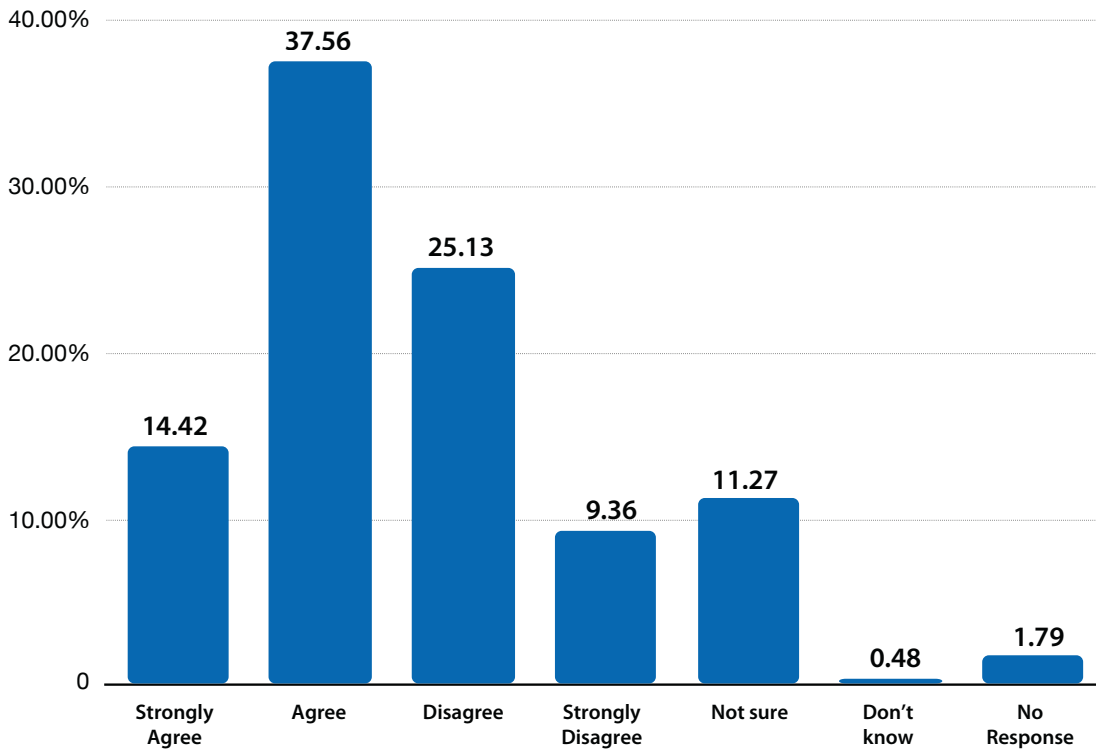
5.4.4 Trust in Court System to Render Fair Judgement

In total 50 percent agreed (strongly agree 13.8% and agree 36.2%) with the statement that 'by reporting/ taking a case to court, they were assured of getting justice,' while a total of 35% disagreed (23.9% and 11.3% strongly disagree). A further 12.4 percent were not sure of the situation due to limited interactions with the courts and justice system. Refer to figure 24.

Figure 26: Confidence With the Court System
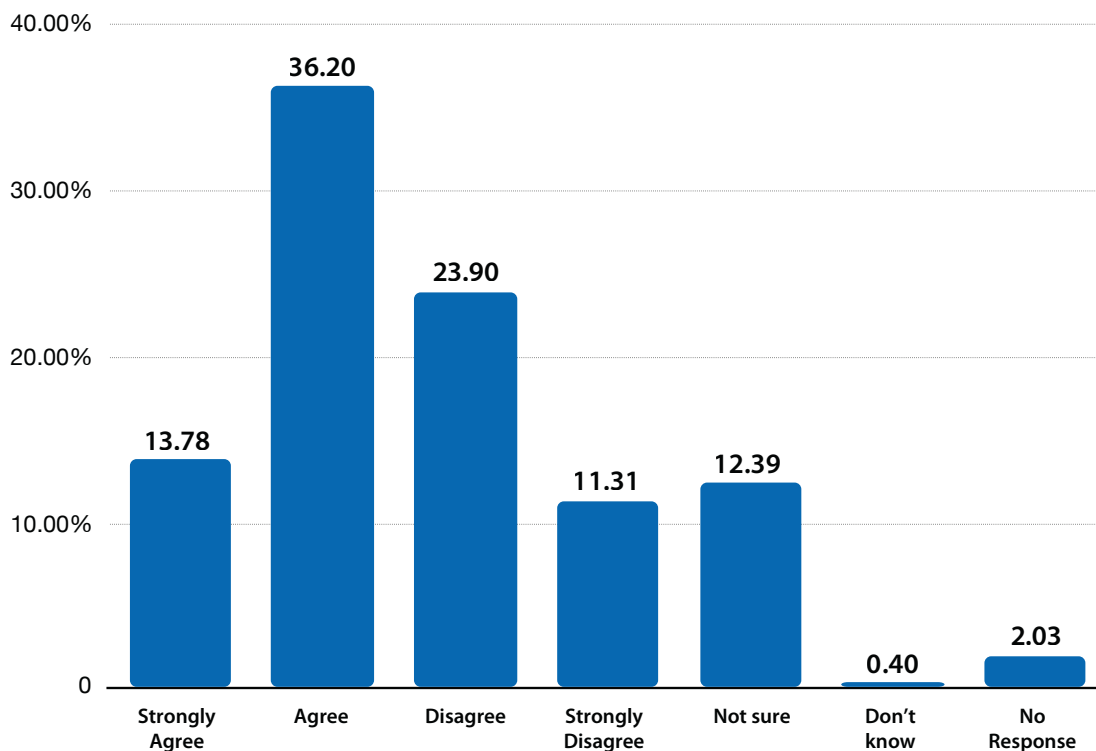
A key informant underscored challenges within the justice system. For the public to increase confidence in the justice system, he noted that deliberate effort would be required to address challenges particularly allocation of human and material resources. Professionalism has been affected by lack of motivation as noted by the respondent.

> *"Judges are poorly paid - highly paid judge in this country, earns 19,000 South Sudan pounds - and work under poor conditions. Judiciary is not independent; the system is not accountable but a rubber stamp to executive orders of corrupt leaders."[54]*

The above findings were corroborated by Saferworld Report: Exploring justice sector reform in South Sudan. The Report indicated that chiefs and judges who provide services in the criminal justice sector were affected by poor compensation and irregular pay, leaving them vulnerable to bribery and other forms of corruption. Lack of proper training and infrastructure investment through the regular government

54 An advocate of the high court while commenting on the challenges of the court system in rendering judgement. Interview conducted in May, 2017.

budget has resulted in considerable dependency on donor support for infrastructure and operational development.[55]

5.5   MOST REFORMED GOVERNMENT ENTITY

5.5.1 The Most Reformed Entity Over a Period of 2 Years

In order to measure the level of reforms across different government entities in the country, the study sought to establish the most reformed institution. As figure 25 below shows, majority 46 percent indicated police as the most reformed institution. Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control (BCSAC) followed with 18.4 percent. Judiciary came third as indicated by 14.9 percent. The executive were indicated as the least reformed institution as indicated by 6.6 percent of the respondents.

According to one of the key informants interviewed for this study, the SSNPS enjoyed good support from the government and development partners especially in improving response to distress calls. The informant went further to report that through support from the government and other development partners, police were in the process of digitizing some of their operations with the view to improve reporting and follow up of reported incidences.

> **To deal** with SGBV related problems, legal capacity should be strengthened and relevant laws established

> **Lack of** sufficient training and experience affect justice system in South Sudan

55 Abraham Sewonet Abatneh and Simon Monoja Lubang (2011) Police reform and state formation in Southern Sudan, Canadian Journal of Development Studies / Revue canadienne d'études du développement, 32:1, 94-108, DOI: 10.1080/02255189.2011.576143

Figure 27: Most Reformed Entity/Organisation

Value	Category
46.12	Police
14.89	Judiciary
6.58	Executive
18.34	BCSAC*
7.85	Don't know
6.17	No Response

Entity/Organisation
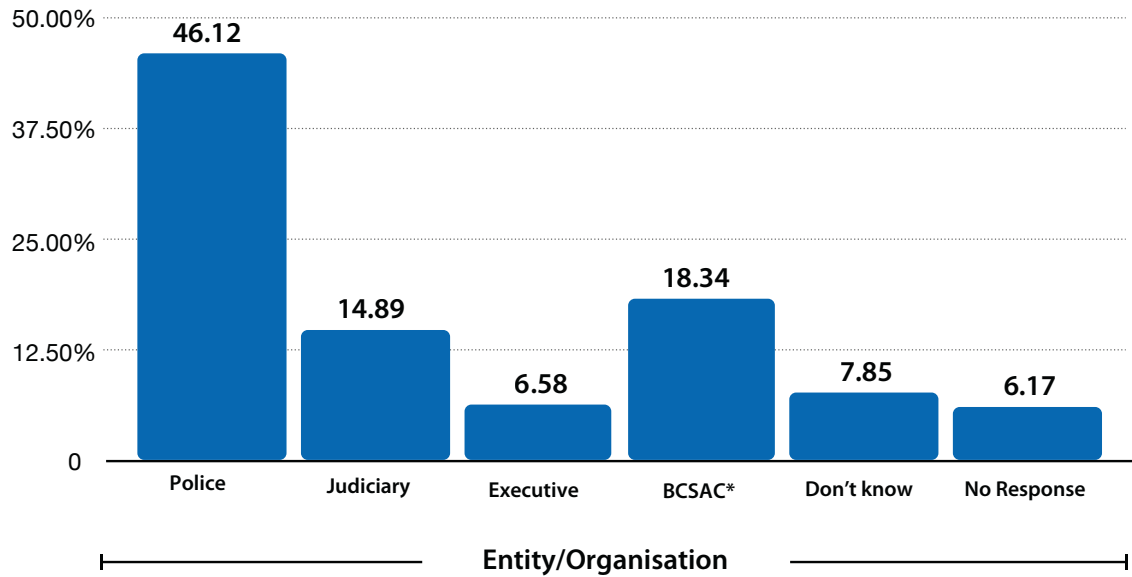
*Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control

Establish more courts across the regions to cut on the distance citizens' travel to access justice services

Public confidence in the police and the judiciary on upward trend because of improved service delivery

Chapter Six:
Key Findings, Conclusion
and Recommendations

6.1   FINDINGS

6.1.1 Perceptions on Peace and Security Including SGBV

Since the eruption of the 2013 political crisis, the security situation in South Sudan has continued to deteriorate. Among the factors identified to be major contributors to insecurity were mistrust and competition for scarce resources among communities. To confirm the situation, close to a half of the respondents, 47.6 percent, felt that security at the national level was bad. The survey established that about 67 percent of the respondents felt insecure in respective communities.

The survey found that the level of intercommunity conflicts had increased (38.35%) and main sources of inter-communal conflicts were reported to be scarcity of resources (30.5%), politicization (25.6%) and ethnicity (17.9%).

The fact that 62.1 percent of the respondents did not respond to the question on attempts made to alleviate animosity among different communities imply that there is room for improving the initiatives and harness peaceful co-existence. Direct involvement of communities and their leaders should increase visibility of the initiatives being undertaken to promote peaceful coexistence.

According to 58.5 percent of the respondents consulted, SGBV is a major problem in South Sudan. Leading causes include outdated cultural norms, early and forced marriages. The stigma and trauma associated with the SGBV incidences discourages individuals from reporting the cases. In some of the communities, victims of SGBV are ostracised and are not married off to prospective suitors.

6.1.2 Sustainable Development Goals

Majority, 70.5 percent expressed lack of public knowledge about the SDGs while 27 percent indicated that they were knowledgeable about all the 17 SDGs. Key informants from government and institutions of learning were aware of SDGs including number 16. However, they expressed lack of sufficient information on SDGs stating that knowledge gap needed to be filled to enable the officers play respective roles more effectively towards the implementation of SDGs and compliance with international obligations.

6.1.3 Responsiveness to Citizens Needs

On central government responsiveness to peace and security, majority felt that the government had done poorly and that citizens only felt secure in the day. With the exception of Warrap, the rest of the States observed that the national government had poorly responded to community needs. According to a police source, the capital (Juba) was reported to be returning to normal and the situation had improved at 70 percent rate.

County governments received a favourable verdict that they were fairly responsiveness to peoples' needs as indicated by 40.8 percent of the respondents. A further 27 percent seemed convinced that the county governments were responsive enough to community needs.

Regarding food security, a large majority, 61.9 percent felt that the central government had failed in addressing food security needs for the people of South Sudan.

6.1.4 Institutional Capacity

Establishment of strong institutions was viewed by many respondents as capable of addressing most of the challenges related to service delivery.

To improve police service, a national screening within the force is required in view to find out the actual number of officers and to determine individual capacity. Information gap exist in determining individual capacity and training needs.

Challenges affecting delivery of justice service include the fact that majority of the police lack various skills including information communication technology, forensic science and effective investigation. Key informants from police expressed the desire to improve the current situation but cited lack of resources as a great impediment.

6.1.5 National Cohesion and Integration

Among the activities highly rated for contributing towards cooperation between communities, sports were acknowledged by 29.2 percent with 733 respondents followed by arts 14.3 percent; community meetings 11.2 percent and trade 10.9 percent.

Respondents were emphatic of the need to forge national identity where citizens would view themselves first as South Sudanese and secondly as belonging to various

ethnic communities. The possibility of this would be grounded in appreciation of diversity as a positive attribute to national identity.

6.1.6 Access to Justice

Majority of the participants indicated that the justice system was very effective. However, a number of factors were blamed for infectiveness in delivery of justice that is; political interference, corruption, unaffordable fees, delays in concluding court processes and pending cases.

Among the respondents consulted, 57 percent indicated that access to justice services was both not easy and very difficult; 35.3 percent complained that the courts were far removed from some communities and long distances had to be covered to access justice.

Dominance of senior and poorly trained personnel, who were struggling with language barrier, was also cited as a factor hindering access to justice. A more youthful judiciary would be effective towards improving the current situation.

At least 48.4 percent of the respondents were of the view that there was no notable change in terms of accessing justice services over a period of two years while 25.1 percent indicated that there were some notable changes. Some of the challenges facing delivery of justice included insufficient correctional facilities and judges.

Elders, local administrators and religious leaders were identified as the individuals or institution most suited to assess security and rule of law with respondents views expressed by 33.3, 22.3 and 20.8 percent respectively.

Respondents expressed trust in the police in terms of their ability to prosecute and assure justice on reported cases. A remarkable 52 percent of the respondents agreed with the statement that by reporting a case to the police, they were assured of getting justice. On the contrary, 19 percent disagreed with the statement.

The rate of reporting cases to the police was found to have increased as indicated by 38.7 percent of the respondents. An increase in reported cases is a confirmation that the citizens' trust in the justice system was in the process of being restored.

Majority of the respondents, 46 percent indicated that police were the most reformed institution, followed by Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control (BCSAC) as indicated by 18.4 percent. This was a manifestation that the initiatives implemented through CSAC bore impact in reforming the security sector.

6.2   Lessons Learned and Best Practices

■   Regular field visits were reported as playing a key role of informing implementers of facts and reality on the ground.

■   Development partners need to make use of easy language that resonates with respective communities as opposed to using complex language, foreign at the grassroots level. For example, phrases like cohesion, integration and sustainable were reported to be complex and hard to be interpret by the communities. Consulting and involving communities would contribute to identifying priorities and mode of communication.

■   Partnership with media was applauded as an effective mechanism for creating community awareness. Hence future programmes need to factor media outreach in respective implementation budgets.

■   Adequate resources need to be allocated to running programmes and safeguard completion while a sustainability policy should be instituted to guarantee impact.

■   Partnership and cooperation in the implementation process of programmes is not only cost effective but it also demonstrates to the communities the importance of interdependence.

6.3   Conclusion

Even though the security situation in South Sudan has continued to deteriorate since 2013, the initiatives implemented at various levels of the country have improved the level of community security. This does not contradict half of the respondents 47.6 percent who felt that security at the national level was bad. While the situation at the national level reflects at the community level, it is evident that CSAC Projects and programmes among other humanitarian initiatives continued to build communities' resilience and improved the level of security and safety.

A comparison between baseline and Endline indicators presented a positive scenario with improvement in access to justice, confidence in police and determination by law enforcement agencies to improve the situation in South Sudan for the benefit of her citizens. With regard to SGBV, the communities were not keen to report incidences to authorities due to stigma associated with the crime and concern that the police were

not doing enough to defend the victims and to uphold justice against the perpetrators.

The respondents observed that women empowerment through micro-finance and social groups should be supported not only to address the poverty levels amongst women but also to economically empower them to address SGBV and related injustices they were exposed to due to poverty and dependence on men.

Overall, awareness level for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) appeared to be low with only a few respondents from government and institutions of learning expressing limited knowledge of Goal number 16. A number of government employees observed that they were already implementing SDGs but they needed support to deepen their understanding for effective participation in the implementation process.

The study established that the citizens' level of education was low and needed to be prioritized in view to increase awareness levels and participation in ongoing projects and initiatives. Formal education would also play a key role in enabling communities learn to coexist for the common good of the society. Essentially, education changes individuals' perspectives, broadens analysis of issues and widens world view. Also, education is a central pillar towards strengthening the notion of patriotism and national identity.

A well-educated population will be empowered to seek justice and improve participation in political and economic processes in support of peace and security. For constructive competition where individuals and communities learn to concede defeat, traditional sporting activities like wrestling should be revived and promoted. Such initiatives will create opportunities to cement interdependence, cooperation and peaceful coexistence.

While civilian disarmament is an important element in reduction of armed violence, the situation currently in South Sudan is not conducive for such an intervention. The emphasis should be on confidence and trust building among communities and security agencies in the country.

Destruction of recovered illegal firearms at the community level is important for building trust and confidence in local and national governments and to show case commitment to ensure safety, security and peaceful coexistence for the people of South Sudan.

Common markets are crucial towards enhancing community interdependence and need to be a central pillar for interdependence. When communities converge at the market place, in addition to exchanging commodities they interact and get to appreciate that they are dependent on each other.

A key outcome of the study was positive perception on peace and security that need to be enhanced through national dialogue. In line with national dialogue, strengthening local administration and governance structures are also key initiatives that will eventually impact on the national government levels. As a result locally targeted capacity building interventions would be enhanced.

6.4   Programmatic Recommendations

Key informants corroborated the importance of establishing a policy to address marginalization.

1. Expansive and sustainable public awareness programmes are required in view to sensitize the communities of the importance to report SGBV incidences and other crimes to the authorities.

2. Safe havens for SGBV victims should be established to serve as rehabilitation centres that provide the victims with a sense of belonging and grant them the opportunity to recover from trauma as they heal.

3. Community sensitization programmes are required at the grassroots to create awareness of initiatives undertaken to address SGBV and related police reforms. In particular, awareness on Referral Path Way needs to be raised so as to inform the public on the steps to follow with regard to reporting SGBV incidences to respective authorities.

4. Support is required towards the improvement of technical capacity for law enforcement agencies and the judiciary in view to counter SGBV through effective investigations, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators.

5. To improve institutional capacity, further police training is required to improve skills in legal aspects and ability to handle crimes.

6. For parliamentarians to play their legislative role effectively, they require specialized training including mechanisms on improving citizens' accessibility to justice.

7. Police require technical and financial support to conduct national screening in view to establish the total number of officers currently

serving in the institution and to determine individual training needs. As a matter of priority, an electronic data base is required to align the officers' profile and to streamline future recruitment and deployment.

8. Provision of paralegal services was emphasized as a crucial approach as a means to decongesting the prisons considering that some of the suspects are convicted out of ignorance and due to lack of legal advice or intervention.

9. Access to justice services needs to be improved through the construction of more police stations, customer care desks and courts near communities.

10. In terms of justice service delivery, police require specialized skills in ICT, forensic science, conducting effective investigations and successful prosecution of various crimes including SGBV.

11. The Directorate of Gender require further support towards ending child marriages by 2030 in line with addressing SGBV in the country and specifically the protection of the girl-child's education and prosperity.

12. Low level education manifested through 40 percent illiteracy among those interviewed is an indication that more resources should be invested in the sector as a matter of priority.

13. Inter-communities dialogue should proceed simultaneously at the State, county and national government levels as key milestones towards building envisaged national dialogue and to create cohesion at all levels.

14. Documentation and dissemination of peace dialogue should be undertaken for purposes of providing learned lessons.

15. To enhance inter community cooperation, adequate resources should be directed to sports, arts, community meetings and trade.

16. Initiatives to support common markets that target intercommunity trade should be enhanced and new ones created where none exist.

17. Support is needed towards establishing a mechanism for instilling nationalism tendencies in youthful South Sudanese to address ethnic divisions.

18. Destruction of small arms and light weapons recovered through disarmament should be conducted at the community level to demonstrate government's commitment towards increasing community safety, security and peaceful coexistence.

19. The government of South Sudan needs to participate more in the implementation process of Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in view to address the sources of arms that keeps piling in the country and constitute great security threat.

20. Safe armouries should be provided or constructed for safe storage of recovered arms ahead of destruction. Even temporary armouries should be well secured to guarantee the safety of recovered firearms and officers guarding such installations.

21. Inter-Agency coordination among different institutions dealing with peace, safety, security, access to justice and SGBV needs to be enhanced.

22. A mechanism for holding public servants accountable and responsible in an effort to improve access to justice and rule of law needs to be established. In the absence of such a mechanism, the current situation will prevail to the detriment of innocent citizens.

6.5   Policy Recommendations

23. National agenda should inform policy as opposed to the current situation of ethnic and individual preservation interests.

24. To achieve national cohesion and integration, a policy should be put in place to ensure that children are taught early in school about nationalism and patriotism.

25. The current police training programme is short and the learning period needs to be increased from six months to three years. A policy needs to be instituted to ensure officers are properly and fully prepared in terms of acquiring high standards and specialized skills.

26. Humanitarian organisations should support and integrate economic activities to deter conflict; for example, establish agricultural activities along shared water sources and create economic models.

27. A sustainability policy is required to ensure that the government undertakes projects and programmes initiated by development partners. Projects should not fail due to lack of resources as this has a direct impact on peace, safety and security. An example was cited of Emergency Call Centres (ECC) that supported the police in the effective and efficiency delivery of service. The centre stalled due to lack of resources and policy for sustainability.

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Annexures

Annex I: Risks and Mitigating Measures

Table 26: Risks and Mitigating Measures	
Risk	**Mitigation**
1. Political instability	Continuous assessment of safety and security was conducted in consultation with security agencies. Consequently, Unity State was replaced with Western Equatorial. In addition, a number of enumeration areas in Warrap, Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile and Eastern Equatoria were adjusted to avoid insecure sections.
2. Language limitations & team inconsistency	Access to internet could be attributed to the fact that a large number of enumerators were from Central Equatorial. Inability to speak local languages prevented such enumerators from being deployed to other States. To mitigate the problem, new enumerators with local language strength were trained at the State level.
3. Limited time	To ensure successful and efficient completion of the Endline Study, SRIC had to negotiate with UNDP for no cost extension with two months period. New dates were agreed upon and captured in Note to File.
4. Availability of interviewees	In some instances, the targeted respondents and interviewees had to be replaced by those available.
5. Logistic problems caused by unseasonal weather	Unprecedented delays were occasioned by inaccessibility due to poor road network. In a few cases, the field teams were delayed by rainfall.

Annex II: Data Collection Tools/Questionnaires and Guides

Annex II.1   FDG And KII Interview Questions

Focused Group Discussion (FDGs) and Key Informant Questions (KII)

A. Perceptions of South Sudanese on peace and security, including SGBV;

1. What is your assessment of peace and security situation in South Sudan?
2. In your opinion what could greatly improve cooperation between communities?
3. In your opinion, what needs to be done to realize national cohesion and integration in South Sudan?
4. What are the contributing factors to SGBV?
5. In your view, what is the most effective way to deal with SGBV perpetrators?
6. Are you aware of SDG Goal number16?
7. Explain what SDG Goal number 16 is all about.
8. Among the 17 SDG Goals, which one would you like to see implemented in your County?

B. Level of national and sub-national governments' responsiveness to citizens' needs;

1. In your view, how has the government been responsive to citizens' basic social needs?
2. What challenges do you think the government has encountered in providing basic social services to the population?
3. How could these challenges be addressed?

C. Accessibility of justice services to end users and to identify the primary barriers to accessibility;

1. What is your view on access to justice services in South Sudan?
2. What changes have you witnessed in this sector over the past 2 years?
3. In your opinion, which institutions should be capacitated to address any existing challenges?
4. What could be done to improve access to justice services for all?

D. Extent, sources of competition and grievances between communities; effects on community peace and security;

1. In your opinion, what is the state of competition among communities in the country?

2. How has the current competition situation impacted on peace and security?

3. 3. What do you think should be done to improve resource sharing or reduce negative competition among different communities in this area/ state?

E. Needs and priorities of end users of justice to enable efficient, targeted programming and resource allocation;

1. What is your view on access to justice services in South Sudan?

2. What are the major hindrances to accessing justice services by the end users?

3. In your view, what could be done to improve the current situation?

Annex II.2: Coded Questionnaire

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

End-line Study for UNDP's Community Security & Arms Control (CSAC) Project, South Sudan

Group		Date of interview
Enumerator's Signature		
Supervisor's Name		
Supervisor's Report	☐ Complete	☐ Incomplete
State & Region		

ENDLINE STUDY FOR UNDP CSAC PROJECTS

Introduction

This questionnaire is designed to assess the overall contribution of UNDP CSAC Project towards improving community security and reducing the levels of ethnic conflicts in South Sudan. Kindly answer all the questions as truthfully as possible. All information volunteered, including respondent identity, will be confidential.

77 = Don't know	88 = No Answer
Region (Enumeration Area) where the interview was conducted:	

Part ONE: Respondent's residential details				
i	Language used during the interview:			
ii	Administrative Area	State		
iii		County		
iv		Payam		
v		Boma		
vi	Location of current residence	1. Urban Area 2. Rural Area		
vii	Status of current area of residence	1 = Normal local community setting 2 = Camp for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) 3 = UN Protection of Civilian (PoC) Site under GoRSS 4 = UN Protection of Civilian (PoC) Site - SPLM-iO 5 = Autonomous Community for IDPs 6 = Other: (Please Specify) ……………………………………………… ……………………………………………… ……………………………………………… ……………………………………………… ………………………………………………		

1. Sample point…………………………………………………..

2. Gender (please tick):

　　1 = Male 　☐

　　2 = Female ☐

3. Age bracket (please tick):

　　1 = (18 – 25) ☐

　　2 = (26 – 35) ☐

　　3 = (36 – 45) ☐

　　4 = (46 – 55) ☐

　　5 = 56+ 　　☐

4. Highest level of Education:

1 = None

2 = Primary level

3 = Secondary level

4 = College level

5 = University level

5. Occupation (Artisan, lawyer, doctor, teacher, farmer, herder, etc)

　　…………..………..………..………..……………………

Part TWO: Perceptions of security at the community level and incidences of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

6. In your opinion what could greatly improve cooperation between communities? 　　　　　　　　　　**6.**

　　　1 = cultural cooperation
　　　2 = economic cooperation
　　　3 = social cooperation
　　　4 = Other (specify)

　　　………………………………………………………

7. What **facilities** have contributed to cooperation between communities in this area? i) ii) iii) 　　　**7.**

　　　……………………………………………..………………

8. What **activities** have contributed to cooperation between communities in this area? i) ii) iii) ………………………………………….	**8.**
9. What unites the members of your community, on the basis of which sustainable peace could be built?	**9.**
10. In your opinion, what needs to be done to realize national cohesion and integration in South Sudan………………...………	**10**
11. What is your assessment of security in South Sudan? 1 = Perfect 2 = Good 3 = Fragile 4 = Bad 5 = Unpredictable	**11.**
12. What is your assessment of security in the community where you come from: 1 = Perfect 2 = Good 3 = Fragile 4 = Bad 5 = Unpredictable	**12.**
13. To what extent do you feel secure moving around during day time in your area? 1 = Very secure 2 = Secure 3 = Insecure 4 = Very Insecure	**13.**
14. To what extent do you feel secure moving around during night time in your area? 1 = Very secure 2 = Secure 3 = Insecure 4 = Very Insecure	**14.**
15. Compared to the past 2 years, what is the state of security in your community now? 1 = Improved 2 = Remained the same 3 = Deteriorated	**15.**
16. Has your community experienced armed conflicts in the recent 2 years? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Can't remember	**16.**

17. In your opinion, do you think conflict in South Sudan has reduced or increased in the past two years? 　　1 = Increased 　　2 = Remained the same 　　3 = Decreased 　　4 = Not aware	**17.**	
18. In your opinion do you think sexual and gender based violence is a major problem in South Sudan? 1 = Yes 2 = No	**18.**	
19. Are you aware of any case of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) in your community? 　　1 = Yes 　　2 = No 　　3 = No response	**19.**	
20. If your answer to question 14 is "YES", what do you think is the major contributing factor to SGBV? 　　1 = Cultural factors 　　2 = Illiteracy 　　3 = Poverty 　　4 = Early marriages 　　5 = Social breakdown due to conflict 　　6 = Natural disaster 　　7 = Other (specify	**20.**	
21. How would you rate the SGBV situation in your community 　　1 = Non-existent 　　2 = Uncommon 　　3 = Common 　　4 = Prevalent 　　5 = At crisis level	**21.**	
22. What is your assessment of SGBV over the past 2 years? 　　1 = Increased 　　2 = Decreased 　　3 = Moderate 　　4 = Not sure	**22.**	
23. Have you heard about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? 　　1 = Yes 　　2 = No	**23.**	
24. If your answer to Qn. 18 above is "**YES**", do you know the one relating to peace and security? 　　1 = Yes 　　2 = No 　　3 = No response	**24.**	

Part TWO ends, Part THREE next page…

Part THREE: Inter-communal violence		

25. In your opinion, would you say there is peace between your community and the neighbouring ones?
    1 = Yes
    2 = No
	25.	

26. How would you rate level of inter-community conflict in the past 2 years?
    1 = Decreased
    2 = Remained the same
    3 = Increased
    4 = Not sure
	26.	

27. What is the main source of inter-communal conflict?
    1 = Scarcity of resources
    2 = Un-equal opportunities
    3=Politicization
    4 = Ethnicity
    5 = Unequal distribution of resources
    6 = other (specify)
 	
    ………………………………………………………
	27.	

28. How would you describe the level of competition among communities in this area?
    1 = Moderate
    2 = Intense
    3 = Violent
	28.	

29. In your view, would you say competition for resources/ opportunities have reduced or increased in the past 2 years?
    1 = Increased
    2 = Remained the same
    3 = Decreased
	29.	

30. What are the leading grievances?
    Kindly list;
        i) ………………………………………………………
        ii) ………………………………………………………
        iii) ………………………………………………………
	30.	

31. Are you aware of any incidences of violent conflict between pastoralist tribes along South Sudan–Sudan border?
        1 = Yes
        2 = No
	31.	

32. Has there been any attempt to address the sources of conflict/competition with a view to alleviate animosity among different communities in this area/ State?
        1 = Yes
        2=No
	32.	

33. If your answer is **YES** to Question 25 above, briefly explain your answer.
        …………………………………………………………
        …………………………………………………………
        …………………………………………………………
        …………………………………………………………
        …………………………………………………………
	33.	

34. What is the major impact on peace and security as a result of competition for opportunities and resources? …………………………………………………………	**34.**	

Part FOUR: National and local government responsiveness/sensitivity to community needs.		

35. Are you satisfied with your government's responsiveness/ sensitivity to community needs?
    1 = Yes
    2 = No
    3 = Not sure
    4 = Not at all
	35.	

In the following questions (Questions 36 - 39), answer either;
    1 = Very good
    2 = Good
    3 = Fair
    4 = Not good		

How would you rate the responsiveness/sensitivity of the following levels of government to citizen's needs?		
36. Central Government	**36.**	
37. State	**37.**	
38. County	**38.**	
39. Payam	**39.**	

How would you rate the **central government's** responsiveness to the following needs? (Questions 40 - 45) Answer either;
    1 = Very good
    2 = Good
    3 = Fair
    4 = Not good		

40. Food security	**40.**	
41. Shelter	**41.**	
42. Peace	**42.**	
43. Community security	**43.**	
44. Health care services	**44.**	
45. Education	**45.**	

How would you rate your **State** government's responsiveness/sensitivity to the following needs? (Questions 46 - 51) Answer either;
      1 = Very good
      2 = Good
      3 = Fair
      4 = Not good		

46. Food security	**46.**	
47. Shelter	**47.**	
48. Peace	**48.**	
49. Community security	**49.**	
50. Health care services	**50.**	
51. Education	**51.**	

52. What challenges has the government encountered in providing basic social services to the population? (Indicate all the challenges mentioned).
    i) ……………………………………………………………
    ii) ……………………………………………………………
    iii) ……………………………………………………………
	52.

53. How could these challenges be addressed? (Indicate all solutions mentioned).
    i) ……………………………………………………………
    ii) ……………………………………………………………
    iii) ……………………………………………………………
	53.

54. In your own assessment, do you think there is any change by different levels of government responsiveness/sensitivity to citizens' needs in the last 2 years?
    1 = Yes
    2 = No
	54.

Part FIVE: Access to Justice Services	

55. How would you rate the effectiveness of the justice system in this State?
    1 = Very effective
    2 = Effective
    3 = Ineffective
    4 = Non-existent
	55.

56. How easy is it for citizens to access justice services in South Sudan?
    1 = Very easy
    2 = Moderately easy
    3 = Not easy
    4 = Very difficult
	56.

57. What are the challenges citizens faces in accessing justice services?
    1 = Distance
    2 = Cost
    3 = Language
    4 = Corruption
    5=Other: (specify)….
    ……………………………………………………………
	57.	

58. How effective are the justice providers?
    1 = Not effective
    2 = Moderately effective
    3 = Very effective
	58.	

59. In your opinion, do you think women who experience gender based violence are treated fairly by the justice system?
    1 = Yes
    2 = No
	59.	

60. Have you ever taken any case/ issue to court?
    1=Yes
    2=No
	60.	

61. If your answer to Question 55 is "**YES**" briefly share your experience…
    …………………………………………………………
    …………………………………………………………
	61.	

62. Compared to the last 2 years are there any notable changes in terms of access to justice?
    1 = Yes
    2 = No
    3 = Never thought about it
	62.	

Part FIVE ends, Part SIX next page…

Part SIX: Priority areas in improving the Justice System		

63. In your assessment, how are accused persons treated within the justice system?
        1 = Fairly
        2 = Unfairly
        3 = Never thought about it
	63.	

64. Do people in your community facing criminal charges receive free legal assistance? 1 = Yes 2 = No	**64.**	
65. What are some of the challenges experienced in accessing justice in your community? (Rank them in order of priority with 1 indicating the prominent challenge). i) ii) iii) iv) ………………………………………………	**65.**	

i)   What resources would be required to enable more people access justice?
        1 = More courts
        2 = More police stations/personnel
        3 = Community sensitization programmes
        4 = Local justice systems
        5 = Training Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA)
        6=Other (specify).
	66.	

ii)   Which government entity or organ would you say has reformed the most over the past 2 years?
        1 = Police
        2 = Judiciary
        3 = Executive
        4 = Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control (BCSAC).
        5 = Other (specify) ….
	67.	

iii)   Where should the government and other development partners direct more resources to enable more citizens to access justice services?
        1 = Courts
        2 = Police
        3 = Training LEAs
        4 = Local justice systems
        5 = Awareness creation
        6 = Other (specify)…
	68.	

Part SEVEN: Monitoring and impact evaluation of community security and rule of law interventions

69. In your opinion, who is the best placed individual/ institution to assess security and rule of law in your community?
    1 = Elders
    2 = Local administrators
    3 = Politicians
    4 = Religious leaders
    5 = Ordinary citizens
    6 = Other (Specify)……………..
	69.	

70. To what extent do you agree with the following statement:
"By reporting a case to the police, I am assured of getting justice"
    1=Strongly agree
    2=Agree
    3=Disagree
    4=Strongly disagree
    5 = Not sure
	70.	

71. To what extent do you agree with the following statement:
"information provided to the police to assist in prosecution of cases will be kept confidential?"
    1 = Strongly agree
    2 = Agree
    3 = Disagree
    4 = Strongly disagree
    5 = Not sure
	71.	

72. To what extent do you agree with the following statement:
"By taking/reporting a case to court, I am assured of getting justice"
    1 = Strongly agree
    2 = Agree
    3 = Disagree
    4 = Strongly disagree
    5 = Not sure
	72.	

73. Over the past 2 years, has reporting of crime incidences in your community increased or decreased?
     1 = Increased
     2 = Remained the same
     3 = Decreased
	73.	

74. Over the past 2 years, has the police response to crime incidences in your community increased or decreased?
     1 = Increased
     2 = Remained same
     3 = Decreased
	74.	

75. Over the past two years, what is your general feeling of crime and conflict in your area of residence? Briefly explain. ……………………………………………………………………… …………….………………………………………………………… …………………………..…………………………………………… ………………………………...…………………………………… ………………………………………..…………………………… ……………………………………….…..………………… ……………………………………………………………..	**75.**	

Thank you for your time

Endline Study on Peace, Security
and Sexual and Gender Based
Violence in South Sudan

Final Report

Empowered lives.
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