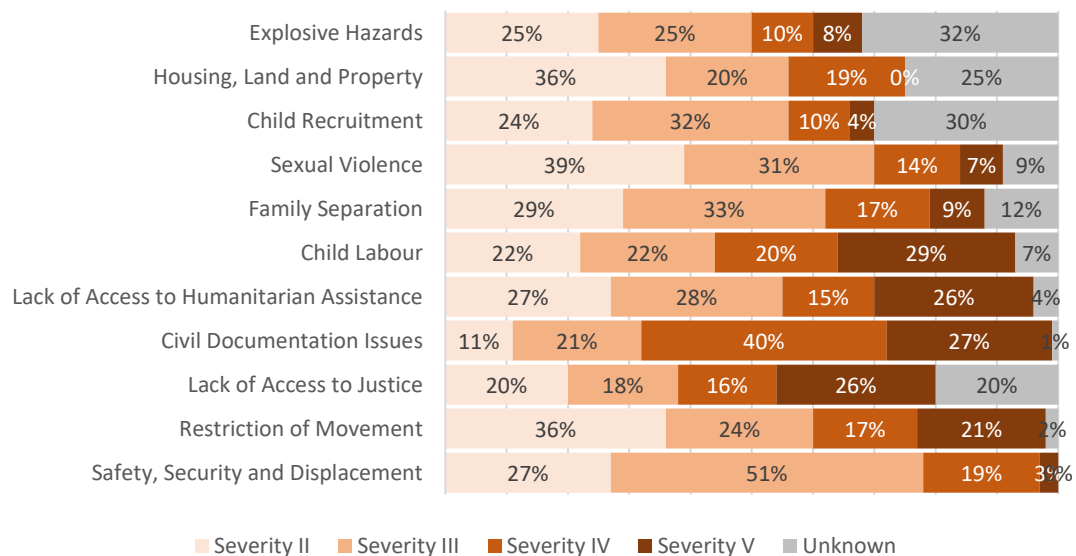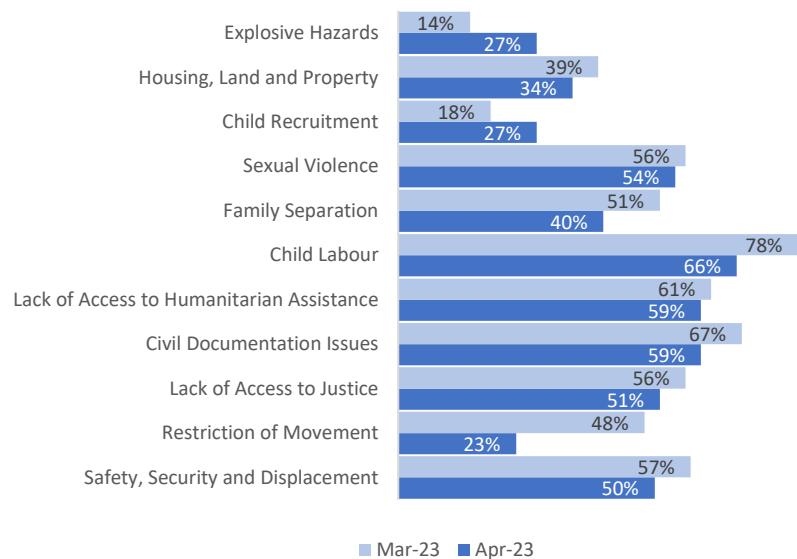Protection Cluster
South Sudan

UNHCR/ADRA protection monitor conducting KI interview in Upper Nile

In October 2022, the Protection Cluster initiated a pilot trial of the **Protection Monitoring System (PMS) in South Sudan**. After a comprehensive testing phase consisting of six rounds of data collection and analysis, a modified PMS questionnaire was deployed by the PROMO in April 2023. The Protection Cluster expects to deploy the Protection Monitoring dashboard in the second half of May 2023.

The below graph shows the overall % of reported occurrence of protection violations and comparison to the previous month to demonstrate trends.

The below graph shows the reported severity of protection violations in the payams covered by protection monitoring in April 2023:

Violation	Severity II	Severity III	Severity IV	Severity V	Unknown
Explosive Hazards	25%	25%	10%	8%	32%
Housing, Land and Property	36%	20%	19%	0%	25%
Child Recruitment	24%	32%	10%	4%	30%
Sexual Violence	39%	31%	14%	7%	9%
Family Separation	29%	33%	17%	9%	12%
Child Labour	22%	22%	20%	29%	7%
Lack of Access to Humanitarian Assistance	27%	28%	15%	26%	4%
Civil Documentation Issues	11%	21%	40%	27%	1%
Lack of Access to Justice	20%	18%	16%	26%	20%
Restriction of Movement	36%	24%	17%	21%	2%
Safety, Security and Displacement	27%	51%	19%	3%	

Severity graph (Mar-23 / Apr-23):

Violation	Mar-23	Apr-23
Explosive Hazards	14%	27%
Housing, Land and Property	39%	34%
Child Recruitment	18%	27%
Sexual Violence	56%	54%
Family Separation	51%	40%
Child Labour	78%	66%
Lack of Access to Humanitarian Assistance	61%	59%
Civil Documentation Issues	67%	59%
Lack of Access to Justice	56%	51%
Restriction of Movement	48%	23%
Safety, Security and Displacement	57%	50%

UNHCR
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The below **high-level protection snapshots of the 11 thematic areas** monitored, are, for the most part, based on multiple choice answers, and percentages reflect the number of times a key informant (KI) chose one of the response options.

	Explosive Hazards	Housing, Land and Property	Child Recruitment	Sexual Violence	Family Separation
In April 2023, protection monitors conducted 186 key informant interviews covering 79 payams in 24 counties in seven states of South Sudan	25% of KIs interviewed flagged Explosive Hazards presence, stating all demographics are similarly impacted. 18% highlight women and girls, and 16% underline people with disabilities as particularly affected. Per 29% of KIs, land blockage due to explosive hazards hinders community livelihoods. Over 43% of respondents lack awareness of mine action responses to incidents.	25% of interviewed KIs flagged HLP issues, claimed all demographics are equally affected. 20% highlight the elderly and 16% underline IDPs and Returnees as particularly affected. 38% of KIs note absence of title deeds, 30% note destruction from armed conflict as most frequent reasons for land grabbing/destruction of property. For numerous KIs (30-45%), homelessness, GBV risks, and increased risk of violence are prevalent effects of unaddressed HLP issues in their communities.	42% of interviewed KIs noted Child Recruitment, indicating boys are most affected demographic. 38% highlight negotiations and 34% highlight requesting help from authorities as most common actions taken to address the situation.	38% of interviewed KIs reported incidents of Sexual Violence, KIs reported compensation as the most common coping mechanism. 24% reported communities establish or enhance reporting mechanisms. While 50% of KIs identify Health Centres as common referral points for reporting sexual violence, over 61% reported violence is not reported due fear of retaliation by perpetrator.	35% of interviewed KIs who flagged Family Separation, reported all groups are affected while 25% point to women and girls being particularly affected. Between 30% and 40% of KIs note access to education, disagreement and violence in families, security and safety and death or illness of caregiver as contributing factors to separations.

Child Labour	Lack of Access to Humanitarian Assistance	Civil Documentation Issues	Lack of Access to Justice	Restriction of Movement	Safety, Security and Displacement
64% and 55% of interviewed KIs who flagged Child Labour, reported child-heed households and lack of work opportunities for adults in families as the largest contributing factors to child labour. 72% of those KIs reported that school drop-out is the most common effect on children while, at the same time, 38% of KIs note exploitation and abuse to be common.	38% of interviewed KIs who flagged Lack of Access to Humanitarian Assistance, reported woman and girls and the elderly are the most affected. According to 40% to 50% of KIs, main reasons for unequal access is lack of awareness, corruption, and lack of registration cards for food distribution. According to 40% to 50% of KIs, food, education and Shelter/NFI are sectors with most challenges in access to assistance, while early marriage, school drop-out and alcohol and/or drug abuse are most common negative coping mechanisms, according to 45% to 60% of KIs.	57% of interviewed KIs who flagged Civil Documentation Issues, Kis reported lack of understanding of the processes as a major barrier to access to documentation while 52% flag unreachable registrars. 60% to 68% of KIs note birth certificates, National Identity Cards (IDs) and travel documents as types of documents people are mostly unable to obtain. Ability to be employed (55%), registration of SIM cards (43%) and ability to do banking (37%) are top three reasons for people to seek legal documents.	34% of interviewed KIs who flagged Lack of Access to Justice, reported women and girls are particularly affected. 49% of KIs flag corruption, 27% lack of funds and 22% flag fear of stigmatisation as main obstacles to access to justice. 62% of KIs note Customary Law as most used justice mechanism in monitored payams.	When restriction of movement occurs, according to 45% of KIs interviewed, all groups are equally affected, while 23% note women and girls being particularly affected. Between 30% and 40% of KIs flag fear of death or injury, fear of GBV, and fear of kidnapping as being main reasons for restrictions to movement. According to 55% of KIs, access to livelihood opportunities and life-saving services are the most common impacts to restriction of movement.	19% of KIs flagging safety and security issues, claim the situation in their communities to be severe. 60% of interviewed KIs observed displacement movements in their communities, mostly due to economic reasons, return or search for better access to humanitarian assistance. Conflict was flagged by 13% of interviewed informants while natural hazards by 11%.

The PMS relies on contributions from PC member organisations to collect data via a Key Informant Interview (KII) questionnaire at payam-level across eleven thematic areas, thereby monitoring the occurrence of protection violations, their scale, and their impact on communities over time. Key informants are selected to represent a variety of backgrounds and profiles in a community. At the country level, the PMS is coordinated through the Cluster's Protection Monitoring (PROMO) working group. The PMS was rolled out by UNHCR and NRC with financial support from ECHO.

Organizations contributing to the PMS in March 2023: Hope Restoration South Sudan, Handicap International, UNHCR/Adventist Development and Relief Agency, UNHCR/Humanitarian & Development Consortium, UNHCR/ACROSS, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, INTERSOS, UNHCR/Hope Restoration South Sudan, UNHCR/Mission to Alleviate Suffering in South Sudan, UNHCR/World Vision, Survivor Aid, Agency for Women and Children Development, Alliance for Action Aid, Wider Aid & Development Agency – South Sudan, Nonviolent Peaceforce, UNHCR/International Rescue Committee, Community Empowerment Against Poverty, International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council, Community Care & Development Support, Humanitarian & Development Consortium, UNHCR/Danish Refugee Council, UNHCR/INTERSOS, World Vision International. **Thank you to all the member organizations for their contributions!**