

Pockets of Hope

Qualitative Tools for KIIs (Government officials (payam, county, boma officials), RRC officials, aid actors, faith-based actors, chiefs/paramount chiefs, community leaders, elders, youth leaders, women leaders etc.

Date of interview	
Length of interview	
Location of interview	
Interviewer name	
Language of interview	
Name and role of the person interviewed	
Gender of interviewee	
Government agency/state /county level interviewee works for	

Introduction and explanation of the research/research ethics:

We are part of a team of researchers from who are conducting a community-based assessment of this area. The assessment aims to comprehensively map services provided as well as gaps considering both local and displaced populations (returnees, IDPs, refugees), allowing for coordinated and inclusive development approaches by all stakeholders, including national and local Governments, international development actors and humanitarian.

The information collected today **will be anonymous and treated as confidential** – we will **not share your name or personal contact information with anyone else outside the research team. Your name will also not appear on any published document.** Your participation in the **research is completely voluntary - it is your choice whether you participate or not.** If you do not want to take part in the research, there are no negative consequences and this will not impact your access to assistance or services. The discussion will take around 60 minutes. **You do not need to answer every question that we ask if you are not comfortable and you are free to stop the conversation at any time, just let me know. If you have any questions, you can ask me at any time before, during, and after the interview.**

Based on the information that you have just heard – are you happy to proceed?

Respondent has agreed to be interviewed: ____ yes ____ no

Do you have any questions for us?

Questions for KIIs: (NB we are talking about both displaced persons - returnees (these could be people returning from abroad, as well as within South Sudan), existing IDPs, existing refugees in the area) as well as hosts in the area).

1. Returns and integration

- 1.1. Are people returning to this area? Please explain who is returning, how many (if you know), where are people coming from and which areas they are returning to.
- 1.2. In your opinion, what is the main reason people are returning to this area?
- 1.3. Are people returning to this area because it is their area of origin or are they newly settling here, for example because they cannot or do not want to go to their original home areas?
- 1.4. What are the key challenges returnees face when returning here? Are challenges different for returnees, refugees, IDPs depending on who they are and where they come from? How about challenges for host communities? *Please explain. (probe for services, land issues, communal conflicts/security, climate issues etc).*
- 1.5. What solutions exist to these challenges?
- 1.6. How is this area coping with the arrival of returnees/refugees/IDPs? Has the impact been more positive or negative? Please explain how.
- 1.7. What kind of support is extended to people coming here? Is there support for people to (re)integrate here? Please explain. *(probe for support only to transportation, or other support for integration, longer term support and by whom.)*
- 1.8. Are there any current IDPs or refugees residing in this area? If so, can you explain where they came from and how long they have been here? Where do they reside ? *(check for integrated within hosts or in a camp-type settlement).*

2. Social cohesion

- 2.1. How would you characterise returnee and host community relations? Are they positive /negative and if so, why? How do you characterise IDP/refugee and host relations in the area (in areas where there are existing IDPs/refugees residing in the area)?
- 2.2. How are returnees being received by hosts in this area? Are there any conflicts between hosts and returnees? Or between hosts and existing IDPs/refugees? If so, over what and how are they being addressed?
- 2.3. Are there opportunities for returnees and hosts to interact? For example by working together, going to church together, celebrating together etc.? What about for IDPs/refugees and hosts to interact? Please explain.

3. Security/ stability / Protection

- 3.1. What are the key security concerns in this area?
- 3.2. How secure is the area for returnees and other displaced persons (IDPs, refugees) to return to/ settle?
- 3.3. Are there concerns/risks that affect different groups differently – e.g. returnees, refugees, hosts, IDPs, women and girls, youth, minorities, people with disabilities? Please explain (*probe for discrimination, SGBV, violence, forced recruitment, kidnapping, etc.*)
- 3.4. How are these issues being addressed / solved? *Please probe for (referral pathways for SGBV cases, follow up / reporting on these and other violence, safe houses for women and girls)*
- 3.5. What are the key security organs that are available in this area to keep the area safe? (*probe for police, army, informal security/neighbourhood police, others?*)
- 3.6. Do you feel the current responses cater for people with specific needs such as woman/children/person with disability, vulnerabilities (physical/mental health challenges, minorities), if not why not? Please explain what risks they face and what shortcomings there are to address these risks?

4. Governance / Administrative capacity

- 4.1. Which administrative entities are dealing with returnees/refugees/IDPs in the area? *Probe for official government structures like county commissioners, RRC etc. or is it informal structures such as chiefs?*
- 4.2. What are the main tasks they are performing to support returnees/refugees/IDPs? (*eg. Probe for land allocation, dispute settlement etc. and how this is done*)
- 4.3. What are the main disputes arising with regard to returnees/refugees/IDPs coming to this area? And how are disputes related to returnees/refugees/IDPs handled in this area ? (*probe for example for customary courts or official court, or law enforcement such as the police*).
- 4.4. Is the RRC office adequately staffed and working in the area? Is it working together with government line ministries and other stakeholders to assist with the return/reintegration of displaced people in this area?
- 4.5. What should be done to ensure that the administrative structures are better prepared to support returnees/refugees/IDPs? What are the gaps?
- 4.6. Is there support from other stakeholders (NGOs, UN and others) for integration of returnees, refugees and IDPs in this area? If so what kind of support is it? Is it emergency support or also support for longer term reintegration? Please explain.

5. Livelihoods

- 5.1. How would you characterise the food security situation in the area?
- 5.2. Can people grow crops easily? If not, why not?

5.3. Can people acquire livestock easily? If not, why not?

5.4. What kind of economic/livelihood activities are returnees/refugees/IDPs engaging in in this area? *Please specify any differences for the different groups of displaced people and how they engage in economic activities or not.*

5.5. What kind of economic/livelihood activities are hosts engaged in in the area? Are these different to the kinds of activities that returnees/displaced people are engaging in? If so, please specify how, and why.

5.6. Are there any barriers for returnees/refugees/IDPs to engage in livelihood activities? If so, which ones? *Please probe for financial barriers, legal/administrative barriers, security barriers, discrimination/social barriers, barriers related to documentation, any other barriers*

5.7. How could these barriers to engagement be addressed or overcome? *Please provide examples.*

5.8. What opportunities are there for returnees/refugees/IDPs to engage longer term, sustainable livelihoods?

5.9. Do returnees / refugees/IDPs engage in economic /collaborative activities together with hosts in the area? Can you give some examples? What opportunities are there for further collaboration?

6. Basic Services

6.1. Do returnees and displaced people (IDPs, refugees) have access to basic services such as schools, health centres, water, latrines etc.? Please explain how and which ones.

6.2. How do you see the quality of these services (schools, health centres, water, latrines) and what are the key issues with the quality? Please explain.

6.3. What are the main barriers to access services such as schools, health centres and water, latrines?

6.4. Are the barriers different for hosts, and displaced people (returnees, refugees, IDPs etc) depending on what group they belong to? If so, how?

6.5. Do other groups (women, people with disabilities, children, elderly, other groups have any barriers to access basic services? If so, please explain why.

6.6. Is there support to mental health /psychosocial support? Are returnees/displaced people able to access it? If not, why not?

6.7. What will be the impact of arrival of returnees (and where applicable, IDPs and refugees) on food, education, healthcare, sanitation provision in the area? Please explain.

7. Movements/Durable Solutions /Land/Conflicts

7.1. Are people currently moving back and forth between this area and other places or are they settling permanently in the area? *If so, please specify where, how people move. Probe for cross-border movements, movements between rural and nearest towns, rural and larger towns such as Juba, etc.*

7.2. If there are back-and forth movements, can you explain the reasons why people are moving? *(please probe for family reasons, different livelihood opportunities, security, health, schooling, any others)*

7.3. What are some of the key factors that determine whether or not people settle here permanently? What are the factors affecting people's decision-making?

7.4. Are there any issues preventing people from settling here permanently? *(probe for any ongoing community conflicts, insecurity, basic services availability, climate related issues such as flooding, etc.)*

7.5. Are returnees being given land here or able to access land belonging to them or their community? *(please probe for how they are able to recover their land, or if they are being given land if this is permanent, are they getting land titles etc. and any other issues surrounding land.)*

7.6. If not, how/where are they staying currently? Please explain.

7.7. Could this area receive more returnees coming back or other displaced people (IDPs, refugees)? If not, why not?

8. Future Outlook

8.1. How do you see the future of this area?

8.2. How can the government and its partners support this area following the arrival of returnees and/or other displaced people (IDPs, refugees) here?

8.3. What do you see as key priority areas that need to be addressed in order for returnees/other displaced people/and hosts to settle peacefully and permanently in this area?