

**CHILD RIGHTS VIOLATION AND ROLE OF TEACHERS
IN PROTECTION MONITORING AND COMMUNITY
RISK ANALYSIS REPORT
DECEMBER 2020**

MAIWUT COUNTY UPPER NILE STATE, SOUTH SUDAN
July 2020 - November 2020 FINDINGS



ABOUT THIS REPORT

Coalition for Humanity is a National NGO (NNGO) with its headquarters in Juba. Coalition for Humanity's mission is to save lives, alleviate suffering, build resilience of the vulnerable people, through programmes in Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation, Protection/GBV, WASH, Food Security and Livelihoods, Health and Nutrition through strategies like community capacity building, Social Behavior Change Communication, market linkages, advocacy and governance to enhance contextualized innovative solutions for service delivery in Emergency Response and Sustainable development in South Sudan. Coalition for Humanity is currently implementing a protection project funded by South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF). The project seeks to assess the general protection concerns in Upper Nile Maiwut County. A meeting was held with teachers from different schools, the discussion sort to assess any protection concerns. The teachers were asked questions about their general welfare, the general safety of children in school and in the community, children access to education and welfare, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). This report consolidates findings from 60 teachers randomly sampled across different Payams in Maiwut County, Upper Nile State, South Sudan. A total of 5 focus group discussions were held, and the findings consolidated.

The findings of this report are necessary in raising awareness about challenges the community, coming up with redress mechanisms and various interventions. This report is important for humanitarian workers, Protection and GBV cluster, WASH cluster, NFI clusters, South Sudan government, ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare and global GBV call to action, the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There is insecurity in Maiwut county, safety concerns had been reported in November, 2020 particularly in Kumedur area, Kiech Boma. This had affected school going children where three boys, 15 years old were kidnapped in the area. Floods were risking the lives of school going children in Jekow. During rainy season, the swollen rivers are a threat to access to education. Children stay at home waiting for dry season. Scarcity of schools and long distance covered to school is a major threat to school going children. The schools lack stationary, most children don't have proper school uniform, the parents are no supportive enough. Lack of sufficient classrooms is also a barrier to education; children learn under trees and are not able to attend classes during rainy season. In few instances where there are temporary structures, the schools lack sufficient structures to accommodate all the children for classes, including benches for pupils to sit on. The schools lack essentials like water and sanitation facilities.

Most parents do not see the value of education, they don't provide writing materials, no uniform, no shoes. Some parents withdraw kids from school and send them to the market to sell some items. Girls are mostly engaged in household chores while boys herd cattle. Some parents marry off girls at a tender age, to get cows.

Most teachers are not qualified professionally to teach. Most teachers volunteer and are not willing to teach due to lack of incentives. Teachers said that they were facing a lot of challenges in the process of providing education to the pupils. A number of challenges needed to be addressed so as to ensure improved levels of children welfare in the schools.

Recommendations

1. There is need for an integrated Education/WASH/ Protection/GBV in school's project.
2. The projects should focus on construction of schools, boreholes and construction of latrines.
3. The projects should consider provision of learning materials
4. Projects to consider provision of incentive for teachers.
5. There is need for sensitization of the community on the importance of education
6. There is need for law enforcement on education, to compel parents to take children to school
7. There need for law enforcement against early child forced marriages

1.0 FINDINGS

1.1 General security and safety of children

There is reported insecurity in Maiwut county, conflict was reported between Maiwut Payams and Jekow. There were also some cases of kidnapping reported at the border towards Ethiopia. Teachers suggested the establishment of child friendly spaces to ensure issues from children were monitored and attended to. They also mentioned the need to drill more boreholes in Jekow Payam to ensure easy access of water to pupils. To enhance safety of children in school, the teachers recommended on the need to increase games kits to facilitate playing of children during leisure time. Floods were risking the lives of school going children in Jekow. Children were however safer at school compared to when they would be at home according to the teachers.

1.2 Children Access to Education

Few children started school at the age of six while most of them between the age of ten and fifteen above which was a bit late according to the teachers. The rate of schooling was therefore very low since most parents kept children at home. Classes were also very few that is 2-3 classes in every school with a population of over 300 children. They also said the rate of progression from one level to the other was very low since pupils were not consistent with schooling. Most of them would attend only for one term and miss the rest of the year which affected their level of performance. Pupils would progress to the next level when they attained a pass mark of 50%. All genders were dropping out of school though girls were the most affected. The teachers believed that conflicts that came as a result of community differences within Maiwut people themselves should end so as to allow smooth education system in the area. They also recommended the need to capacity build teachers, PTA and the local authority on the importance of educating children especially the girl child.

1.3 Children Welfare

Children have got a number of challenges as was reported by the teachers. They lacked school stationery and teaching aids, low attendance due to lack of support from parents. The sanitation was not that good as there are no latrines and washrooms as well as clean water in schools. There is no school feeding program in all schools. Despite the teachers' effort to create a conducive environment for the children, conflicts in Maiwut had become a barrier to their efforts. The schools also lack sufficient structures to accommodate all the children for classes, there are no benches for pupils. The teachers however believed that training the PTA on their roles would help improve the status of school. They are also advocating for support from NGOs to help in provision of learning materials to the pupils. The teachers hence recommended for a collaboration between the local authority, Teachers and the PTA in ensuring the schools attained the minimum standards required to qualify as learning institutions. They also suggested on the need to involve the humanitarian workers in advocating for the education of the pupils.

1.4 Teachers Welfare

The teachers said there was a lot of insecurity in the area and schools faced a lot of challenges which included but not limited to; shortage of qualified trained teachers (most of them were untrained form four leavers), shortage of learning materials and lack of motivation for the teachers and poor education system since the community had adopted the Ethiopian system of education. The schools had also been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic that led to closure of schools. The teachers recommended addition of classrooms and development of a curriculum for other classes; Primary seven to eight. They also mentioned the need for motivation in terms of salary to allow them be in school full time.

1.5 Conclusions

A number of challenges needed to be addressed so as to ensure improved levels of children welfare in the schools. There is need for construction of classrooms, provision of seats for the pupils, drinking water, additional classrooms, emergency first aid services, school feeding program, provision of sanitation facilities, provision of learning and writing materials e.g. textbooks and pens and provision of dignity kits for the girls. Schools lacked adequate water and sanitation blocks/changing rooms for the girls. The teachers believed that there would be need to follow up and scale up provision of menstrual hygiene dignity kits in all schools. The consistency in learning depends on supporting teachers with an incentive.

1.6 Recommendations

1. There is need for an integrated Education/WASH/ Protection/GBV in school's project.
2. The projects should focus on construction of schools, boreholes and construction of latrines.
3. The projects should consider provision of learning materials
4. Projects to consider provision of incentive for teachers.
5. There is need for sensitization of the community on the importance of education
6. There is need for law enforcement on education, to compel parents to take children to school
7. There need for law enforcement against early child forced marriages

ANNEXES MONTHLY TEACHERS FGDs JULY 2020 TO NOVEMBER 2020

Findings from Teachers FGD July



**Maiwut County
protection monitoring Report, Teachers FGD**

**Date: 24th July, 2020
Payam: Jekow
State: Upper Nile**

Introduction

The focus group discussion was conducted on 24th July, 2020 in Jekow Payam. The meeting was attended by 12 teachers between the age of 22 and 45 years and the discussions were facilitated by Coalition for Humanity Field Staff based in Maiwut County.

Teacher's welfare

The teachers said there was a lot of insecurity in the area and schools faced a lot of challenges which included but not limited to; shortage of learning materials, lack of games items such as balls for playing, shortage of teachers since most of them were volunteering and lack of motivation for the teachers since ADRA had offered some 40\$ a month for them which was also not consistently paid. They however recommended on the need to implement the peace agreement that was signed in 2018 for peaceful coexistence and teachers' incentives to be reviewed and be given on time.

General safety security of children

Floods were risking the lives of school going children in Jekow. Children were however safer at school compared to when they would be at home according to the teachers.

Access to education

Most children in the area started school at age 6 which was a bit late to the teachers. Pupils would progress to the next level when they attained a pass mark of 50%. All genders were dropping out of school though girls were the most affected. The teachers believed that conflicts that came as a result of who owned Maiwut should end so as to allow smooth education system in the area.

Children welfare

Children had a number of challenges as was reported by the teachers. They lacked school stationery, Lack of teaching aids, lack of latrines in school, lack of school feeding program and there was less attendance due to lack of support from parents. Despite their efforts to create a conducive environment for the children, the teachers said that conflicts in Maiwut had become a barrier to their efforts. The schools also had poor infrastructure and benches for pupils as well as lack of latrines and washrooms for girls to use during menstrual hygiene. The teachers however believed that training the PTA on their roles would help improve the status of school. They also advocated for support from NGO to help in provision of learning materials to the pupils.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

The teachers said there were no cases of sexual exploitation and abuse in school. They however recommended teachers capacity building on PSEA. In case of such an incidence in the school set up, the teachers said the head teacher would write a warning letter to the teacher who would be involved and a repeat of the same would lead to his/her dismissal from the teaching profession.

Summary of findings

1. Teachers lack motivation to teach due to lack of incentives hence most of them only volunteer
2. Majority of the teachers lack the prerequisite skills in teaching (untrained).
3. The children lack basic needs e.g. uniforms and books,
4. The school lacks proper learning facilities e.g. classrooms, toilets etc.
5. The issues of Sexual exploitation and abuse were not there in Jekow Payam according to the participants.

Conclusions and recommendations

1. Provision of school materials, including benches and books
2. Need to adopt a school feeding program for pupils in schools to address their nutritional needs and to enhance their concentration during studies
3. There's a need for capacity building training for teacher on how to handle children in the school
4. There's need to upgrade schools through construction of fences, boreholes and latrine to make school a safer and better place for children as well as teachers

Findings from Teachers FGD August



Maiwut County
protection monitoring Report, Teachers FGD

Date: 24th August, 2020

Payam: Jekow

State: Upper Nile

Introduction

The focus group discussion (FGD) was conducted in Jekow on 24th August, 2020. Twelve teachers attended the meeting with sessions being facilitated by Coalition for Humanity Field Staff based in Maiwut County.

Teacher's welfare

The teachers said there was increased insecurity in the area and schools faced a lot of challenges which included but not limited to; shortage of learning materials, lack of games items such as balls for playing, shortage of teachers since most of them were volunteering and lack of motivation for the teachers since ADRA had offered some 40\$ a month for them which was also not consistently paid. They however recommended on the need to implement the peace agreement that was signed in 2018 for peaceful coexistence and teachers' incentives to be reviewed and be given on time

General safety security of children

Floods were risking the lives of school going children in Jekow. Children were however safer at school compared to when they would be at home according to the teachers.

Access to education

Most children in the area started school at age 6 which was a bit late to the teachers. Pupils would progress to the next level when they attained a pass mark of 50%. All genders were dropping out of school though girls were the most affected. The teachers believed that conflicts that came as a result of who owned Maiwut should end so as to allow smooth education system in the area.

Children welfare

Children have got a number of challenges as was reported by the teachers. They lacked school stationery and there was low attendance due to lack of support from parents.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

The teachers said there were no cases of sexual exploitation and abuse in school. They however recommended teachers capacity building on PSEA.

Summary of findings

The welfare of the teachers in Jekow is bad due to clan conflicts that happened in Maiwut County in 2019. Though primary education is free, schools have got limited classrooms that are not sufficient to all pupils. Most of the schools also lacked stationeries and Bullying of the children by their school mates was reported

Conclusions and recommendations

1. There is need for a refresher training/induction of all teachers in critical areas of teaching such as preparation of lesson plans and content delivery
2. There is need to improve payment of teachers in terms of the amount paid and the payment periods in order to increase their morale
3. There is need to avail important games kits to school to help in engaging children during break time

Findings from Teachers FGD September



Maiwut County
protection monitoring Report, Teachers FGD

Date: 18th September, 2020
Payam: Jekow
State: Upper Nile

Introduction

The focus group discussion was conducted on 18th of September, 2020 in Jekow Payam. The meeting was attended by 12 teachers between the age of 22 and 45 years and the discussions were facilitated by Coalition for Humanity Field Staff based in Maiwut County.

Teacher's welfare

The teachers said there was a lot of insecurity in the area and schools faced a lot of challenges which included but not limited to; shortage of learning materials, lack of games items such as balls for playing, shortage of teachers since most of them were volunteering and lack of motivation for the teachers since ADRA had offered some 40\$ a month for them which was also not consistently paid. They however recommended on the need to implement the peace agreement that was signed in 2018 for peaceful coexistence and teachers' incentives to be reviewed and be given on time

General safety security of children

Floods were risking the lives of school going children in Jekow. Children were however safer at school compared to when they would be at home according to the teachers.

Access to education

Most children in the area started school at age 6 which was a bit late to the teachers. Pupils would progress to the next level when they attained a pass mark of 50%. All genders were dropping out of school though girls were the most affected. The teachers believed that conflicts that came as a result of who owned Maiwut should end so as to allow smooth education system in the area.

Children welfare

Children had a number of challenges as was reported by the teachers. They lacked school stationery, Lack of teaching aids, lack of latrines in school, lack of school feeding program and there was less attendance due to lack of support from parents. Despite their efforts to create a conducive environment for the children, the teachers said that conflicts in Maiwut had become a barrier to their efforts. The schools also had poor infrastructure and benches for pupils as well as lack of latrines and washrooms for girls to use during menstrual hygiene. The teachers however believed that training the PTA on their roles would help improve the status of school. They also advocated for support from NGO to help in provision of learning materials to the pupils.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

The teachers said there were no cases of sexual exploitation and abuse in school. They however recommended teachers capacity building on PSEA. In case of such an incidence in the school set up, the teachers said the head teacher would write a warning letter to the teacher who would be involved and a repeat of the same would lead to his/her dismissal from the teaching profession.

Summary of findings

1. Teachers lack motivation to teach due to lack of incentives hence most of them only volunteer
2. Majority of the teachers lack the prerequisite skills in teaching (untrained).
3. The children lack basic needs e.g. uniforms and books,
4. The school lacks proper learning facilities e.g. classrooms, toilets etc.
5. The issues of Sexual exploitation and abuse were not there in Jekow Payam according to the participants.

Conclusions and recommendations

1. Provision of school materials, including benches and books
2. Need to adopt a school feeding program for pupils in schools to address their nutritional needs and to enhance their concentration during studies
3. There's a need for capacity building training for teacher on how to handle children in the school
4. There's need to upgrade schools through construction of fences, boreholes and latrine to make school a safer and better place for children as well as teachers

Findings from Teachers FGD October



Maiwut County
protection monitoring Report, Teachers FGD

Date: 28th October, 2020

Payam: Jekow

State: Upper Nile

Introduction

The focus group discussion (FGD) was conducted on 28th October, 2020. Twelve teachers attended the meeting that discussions were facilitated by Coalition for Humanity Field Staff based in Maiwut County.

Teacher's welfare

The teachers said there was a lot of insecurity in the area and schools faced a lot of challenges which included but not limited to; shortage of qualified trained teachers (most of them were untrained form four leavers), shortage of learning materials and lack of motivation for the teachers and poor education system since the community had adopted the Ethiopian system of education. The schools had also been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic that led to closure of schools. The teachers recommended addition of classrooms and curriculum for other classes e.g. Primary 7-8. They also mentioned the need for motivation in terms of salary to allow them be in school full time.

General safety security of children

Floods were risking the lives of school going children in Jekow. Children were however safer at school compared to when they would be at home according to the teachers. There were also no cases of kidnapping though cases had been reported in sides Ethiopia. To enhance safety of children in school, the teachers recommended on the need to increase games kits to facilitate playing of children during leisure time. They also suggested on establishing child friendly spaces to ensure issues from children were monitored and attended to. They also mentioned the need to drill more boreholes in Jekow Payam to ensure easy access of water to school going children.

Access to education

Most children in the area started school at age 10 and above which was a bit late according to the teachers. The rate of schooling was therefore very low since most parents kept children at home. Classes were also very few that is 2-3 classes in every school with a population of over 300 children. They also said the rate of progression from one level to the other was very low since pupils were not consistent with schooling. Most of them would attend only for one term and miss the rest of the year which affected their level of performance. Pupils would progress to the next level when they attained a pass mark of 50%. All genders were dropping out of school though girls were the most affected. The teachers believed that conflicts that came as a result of who owned Maiwut should end so as to allow smooth education system in the area. They also recommended the need to capacity build teachers, PTA and the local authority on the importance of educating children especially the girl child.

Children welfare

Children lacked latrines, clean water for drinking and dignity kits for the girls. The schools also lacked a feeding program for the children and games kits to be used by pupils during break time. The teachers added and said they were doing their best to improve the welfare of the children but conflicts between Maiwut and Jekow were a setback. The schools also lacked sufficient structures to accommodate all the children for classes. The teachers hence recommended for a collaboration between the local authority, Teachers and the PTA in ensuring the schools attained the minimum standards required to qualify as learning institutions. They also suggested on the need to involve the humanitarian workers in advocating for the education of the pupils.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

The teachers said there were no cases of sexual exploitation and abuse in school though it was happening elsewhere in the community. They added and said that schools had good management systems that were sensitized to issues of children. According to them, drunkards, youth and the army men were the notorious lot of people that exploited school children. Schools on the other hand prevented cases of SEA from teachers by the head teacher issuing a warning letter to whoever would be involved. A repeat of the same would lead to dismissal of the staff. They however recommended teachers capacity building on PSEA and adoption of PSEA code of conduct and creating awareness in the community on the disadvantages of SEA in the society

Summary of findings

The welfare of the teachers in Jekow is bad due to clan conflicts that happened in Maiwut County in 2019. Though primary education is free, schools have got limited classrooms that are not sufficient to all pupils. Most of the schools also lacked stationeries and Bullying of the children by their school mates was also reported

Conclusions and recommendations

1. There is need for a refresher training/induction of all teachers in critical areas of teaching such as preparation of lesson plans and content delivery
2. There is need to improve payment of teachers in terms of the amount paid and the payment periods in order to increase their morale
3. There is need to avail important games kits to school to help in engaging children during break time

Findings from Teachers FGD November



Maiwut County
protection monitoring Report, Teachers FGD

Date: 21st November, 2020

Payam: Jekow

State: Upper Nile

Introduction

The focus group discussion (FGD) was conducted on 21st November, 2020. Twelve teachers attended the meeting and discussions were facilitated by Coalition for Humanity Field Staff based in Maiwut County.

Teacher's welfare

Teachers face a number of challenges in school including lack of teaching aids for pupils. The teachers also said they were not safe at some point during intercommunal violence/conflicts among the 2 communities in Jekow and Maiwut due to the risk of attacks. Children were reported to have escaped from school especially in Nyang Boma as a result of the conflicts. They however recommended on the need for the community to support them in establishing better schools for safe learning of children.

General safety security of children

Safety concerns had been reported in November, 2020 particularly in Kumedur area, Kiech Boma. This had affected school going children where three boys, 15 years old were kidnapped in the area though the security in school was said to be better than when children would be at home according to the teachers. The teachers however suggested on the need to encourage children to be walking in groups to and from school. They also suggested if parents could organize on how to be escorting them to school just ensure their safety on their way. The teachers recommended on the need for parents, local authority and community members to work in collaboration with teachers to ensure that schools were good environments for the children. They advocated for more recreational activities at school and attention to the adolescents.

Access to education

The rate of schooling was generally low according to the teachers and children would begin school at a very advanced age mostly between 5 and 14 years of age. Most of the children were however not going to school though those who attempted would be adolescents which was not the ideal age as per the teachers. Due to lack of schools beyond primary 6, most children do not progress to higher levels. School attendance was said to be affected by a number of factors including; insecurity on the way to school, displacement of families due to war and the long distances that children covered between home and school. The teachers however believed that good management of the institutions with pupils tracking registers would improve attendance of pupils. They also suggested on the need to improve teachers teaching skills through refresher trainings since most of them just volunteered as Non-trained teachers.

Children welfare

Children faced challenges in school which were said to include; lack of sufficient classrooms, lack of other learning facilities such as libraries and lack of enough recreational facilities. In addition, the teachers said the schools lacked arrangements to ensure safety of children in schools including rules and regulations e.g. children would frequently fight in school and there were no proper regulations to handle the cases. Due to small and inconsistent payments, teachers also lacked the morale to offer the required services in school for the children. The schools also lacked water and sanitation facilities for children and this the teachers said to have been a big problem especially to the girls' privacy. The teachers however believed that improved quality of education and children welfare would encourage school attendance by children.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Teachers said they had not heard of sexual exploitation and abuse in the community or people taking advantage of school going children sexually. They however mentioned men and army officers as people who would be most tempted and associated with sexual exploitation and abuse. It was also highlighted that some teachers though rarely, would award high marks to particular girls for sexual relationships in return. In addition, they said some girls had also been reported to admire teachers and would often make approaches that would insinuate the desire for sexual relationship with their teachers. To prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, the teachers said schools had strict rules and regulations in place to govern the conduct of teachers. They added that those who would be found guilty would be arrested, charged and put in prison for at least six months. The community also participated through the parents' teachers' association meetings (PTA) and the school management committee (SMC) in ensuring that the community complied PSEA requirements

Summary of findings

1. Schools lack proper infrastructure and facilities for proper learning of children
2. Teachers lack the prerequisite teaching skills to deliver content to children due to lack of training in teaching
3. Unstable security affects schooling of children and majorly contribute to high number of drop outs.

Conclusions and recommendations

1. There is need for a refresher training/induction of all teachers in critical areas of teaching such as preparation of lesson plans and content delivery
2. There is need to improve payment of teachers in terms of the amount paid and the payment periods in order to increase their morale
3. There is need to avail important games kits to school to help in engaging children during break time

**CHILD RIGHTS VIOLATION AND ROLE OF TEACHERS IN
PROTECTION MONITORING AND COMMUNITY RISK
ANALYSIS REPORT, DECEMBER 2020**

The background of the page is a complex, abstract composition of overlapping, semi-transparent purple and dark purple geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic and layered visual effect. The shapes are concentrated on the right side and bottom of the page, leaving the top-left area white where the text is located.