

**Terms of Reference**

**Research on the impact of famine on women and girls in Pibor**

**Introduction**

Pibor county in the Jonglei State South Sudan has seen increased levels of Man-made and natural disasters between 2019 and 2020 leading to unprecedented numbers of households with high levels of Food insecurity. According to the analysis released by the IPC Global Unit (GU)[[1]](#footnote-1) on the 11th of December 2020, 4 Pibor county western Payam’s (Gumuruk, Pibor, Lekuangole, Verteth) which make up about 80% of the population of Pibor counties was classified in IPC PHASE 5 (**Famine Likely)**  based on the findings from the IPC Acute food insecurity conducted in South Sudan between October 26th and November 16th 2020. In 2020, Pibor was hugely affected by Sub-national localized violence and flooding which affected over 60,000[[2]](#footnote-2) people. An escalating cycle of intercommunal violence involving the Dinka, Nuer and Murle communities in Jonglei left hundreds dead and thousands of cattle’s stolen, homes burnt, and thousands displaced. This Violence also led to the destruction of Schools, Health facilities, WASH facilities and Markets.

The Unprecedented 2020 flooding in Pibor further exacerbated the already stretched population who barely recovered from the 2019 floods, experienced one of the most violent ICV spells in history while also dealing with the harsh economic impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic coupled with lack of access to humanitarian aid as a result of insecurity and floods leading to high levels of inflation, hunger. Gender based violence including abduction and forced marriages and gender inequity are deeply rooted in these communities and account for major humanitarian and protection risks that increase the populations’ vulnerability to food insecurity and starvation. In addition, cattle raiding remains one impediment to sustainable livelihoods of the agro-pastoral communities in Jonglei while perpetuating a virtuous circle of violence. Much of the conflict is over basic resources of food, grazing land, power, water for both domestic and animal use, personal revenge grudges related to children and women abduction, and cattle raids. As part of the response, Oxfam is implementing various projects in Pibor and surrounding areas and in line with the response, Oxfam has planned to conduct research on the impact of famine on women and girls that will contribute to policy discussions and changes to improve the status of women and girls.

**Objectives**

To conduct research on the impact of famine on women and girls in Pibor in order to inform Oxfam humanitarian programming and provide recommendations on how the needs of women and girls can be highlighted and addressed

Research questions:

The number of women and girls coping with famine? The extent of the famine?

The effects of famine on their livelihood, education/marriage/children bearing/ household chores, social status, health, security etc?

What are their coping mechanisms? (negative and positive coping mechanisms)

What services are they currently receiving? (Nature of services, from who, and what are the gaps etc)

What are the recommendations for our programming (Gender Justice, Protection, Food Security and Livelihoods, WASH, Education, Food Distribution, Nutrition?

**Research methods**

The research will follow a qualitative methodology. It is expected that the consultant will utilize some of the following data collection options: desk review/ literature review, semi-structured interviews/key informant interviews, and Focus group discussions (FGDs). The Consultant will develop the data collection tools and the Oxfam Field Staff will conduct the data collection exercise. The Consultant will remotely orient and train the field staff on the data collection tools and were possible will conduct some interviews remotely

Field data collection will be done by Oxfam Field Staff in Pibor in the selected Payams (Pibor, Gumuruk, Vertheth, Lekuangole) as follows:

* Two (2) KII for Community Leaders in each of the Payams – I male & 1 Female
* Two (2) KII for NGOs/ Govt/ UN in each of the Payams - I male & 1 Female
* One FGD for Women in each of the Payams
* One FGD for girls in each of the Payams
* One FGD for boys in each of the Payams
* One FGD for men in each of the Payams

**Tentative timeline of activities**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Number of working days** | **Deliverable** |
| 25 to 26 Oct 2021 | 2 days | Desk research/review of relevant documents  |
| 27 to 29 Oct 2021 | 3 days | Design of the research methodology & tools |
| 1 to 2 Nov 2021  | 2 days | Virtual orientation/training of Oxfam staff on tools |
| 3 to 12 Nov 2021 | 8 days | Field data collection in the Pibor Payams |
| 15 to 19 Nov 2021 | 5 days | Data analysis and drafting of first report  |
| 22 Nov 2021 | 1 day | Validation of research findings: virtual meeting with Oxfam staff |
| 24 to 26 Nov 2021 | 3 days | Submission of second draft report and submit to comments/feedback |
| 29 to 30 Nov 2021 | 2 days | Oxfam staff to provide feedback and comments |
| 1 to 2 Dec 2021 | 2 days | Revise report based on feedback and submit final report |
| 3 Dec 2021 | 1 day  | Stakeholder meeting to present the research findings |
|  | Total: 19 working days (Oxfam staff days not included) |  |

**Expected deliverables and payment schedule**

The consultancy is proposed for a total number of 19 working days within the period of 25 Oct 2021 and 3 Dec 2021.

* 25% upon submission of agreed research plan and inception report
* Draft full research report (no more than 50 pages)
* 75% upon submission of full research report (no more than 50 pages) and presentation of research findings

**Research management**

The consultancy will be managed by Christine Lundambuyu (Gender Justice Coordinator, Oxfam South Sudan) who will be responsible for managing the research process and will be the primary point of contact. The commissioning manager is Michael Pepple (Program Manager, Oxfam South Sudan). The consultancy will also be coordinated with Iulia Andreea Toma (Gender Advisor, Program Support Team - GHT) and other relevant Oxfam GHT colleagues who will be providing technical review and support.

**Person specification and team composition**

* Experience in related research and qualitative research methods
* Experience in gender programming
* Background in international development or displaced populations/ humanitarian work

**Supporting documents required**

1. Cover letter and CV
2. Research proposal
3. Outline budget

**Application:** To submit an expression of interest, please send the relevant information requested above to Juba Quotations at JubaQuotations@oxfam.org.uk,HRSouthsudan@oxfam.org.uk and CLundambuyu@oxfam.org.uk before 11 October 2021.

Research ToR prepared by:

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June 2021

1. http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user\_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC\_South\_Sudan\_Famine\_Review\_2020Nov.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/wfp-south-sudan-situation-report-274-14-august-2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)