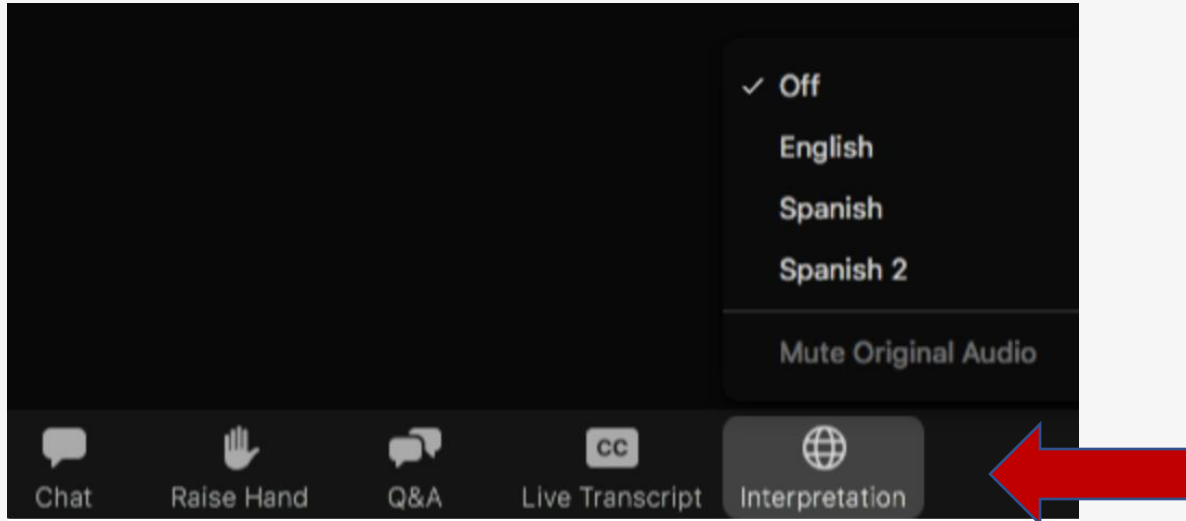


Interpretación - Interpretation - للترجمة



1. Click interpretation

Haga clic en interpretación

Cliquez sur interpretation

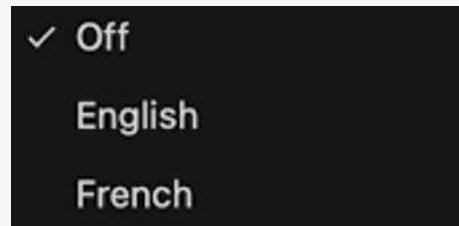
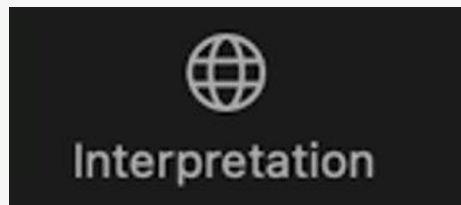
اضغط هنا للترجمة الفورية

2. Select your language

Elija su idioma

Choisissez votre langue

اختر اللغة العربية



Global CWG

October 2023



Today's Agenda

- Welcome
- Reviewing and refreshing the Global CWG's purpose – 30 mins
- Presentation & discussion: How can cash actors better adapt to inflation and deflation? - 40 mins
- Presentation of initial research findings from the Global Shelter Cluster – 10 mins
- Wrap up and AOB



Global CWG

- Background to the group's formation
 - Information sharing (lessons learned)
 - Linkages to global and policy discussions/forward planning overviews
 - Inclusive and open to all
- Changing global, regional and county landscape
 - Formalised roles and accountability of CWGs at country level
 - Formalised role and function of CAG at global level
 - More engagement with Regional and Cluster working groups (still ongoing)
- What should the group focus on moving forward

Group Work

In light of the cash coordination model, what should be the purpose of this forum?

- What value does this platform provide for you?
- How can the platform be improved?
- How should the platform be linked to formal structures?


Next Steps

- Updated TORs for end of 2023
- Leadership
- Linkages with other structures
- Name?

Adapting cash transfers to inflation, depreciation and economic volatility

CALP Learning

Approach

- Technical support to 5 countries: Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Malawi, South Sudan and Zimbabwe
 - Literature review
 - Turning the "Good Practice Review" on inflation into practice
 - Workshop and validation session with each CWG
 - Validation session with the gFSC sub-group & the DCF
 - 5 country reports & 1 learning brief summarising the key issues across the countries
- 

Recommendations for CWGs

- Ensure that there are clear and predictable processes
- Deepen understanding of the economic outlook and the consequences
- Ensure preparedness and contingency planning
- Monitor and respond to program recipients' preferences



Dilemmas and Challenges



- Depth vs. Breadth
- Administrative and bureaucratic barriers
- Use of hard currency
- Transfer values vs. SP and wage rates
- Changing modalities

What next?

- Need for forward planning, imaginative and pragmatic solutions and flexibility to adjust to new ways of working re. economic volatility
- Collaborative efforts are needed to address some dilemmas
- Candid conversations are needed to find common ground on some issues

More reading...

<https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/adapting-cash-programming-to-inflation-depreciation-and-economic-volatility/>





Afghanistan CVWG + FSAC

The AFG MEB is on a 6-month review cycle however, changing market prices necessitated a more agile mechanism to re-cost cash-based food basket

The following thresholds were agreed to trigger a review discussions

1. Threshold 1: A change in food basket cost => $\pm 10\%$ (± 1 percentage point) and $< 20\%$ sustained for a period of eight consecutive weeks.
2. Threshold 2: A change in food basket cost => $\pm 20\%$ (± 2 percentage points) sustained for a period of four consecutive weeks.



Once a trigger is reached

Process of implementation:

FSAC monitors
weekly price
trackers

One of the thresholds is
reached

6 Working days

FSAC + CVWG discussions
to confirm reasons for
price change

FSAC/CVWG
guidelines updated
accordingly

New transfer value
proposed at general FSAC
meeting

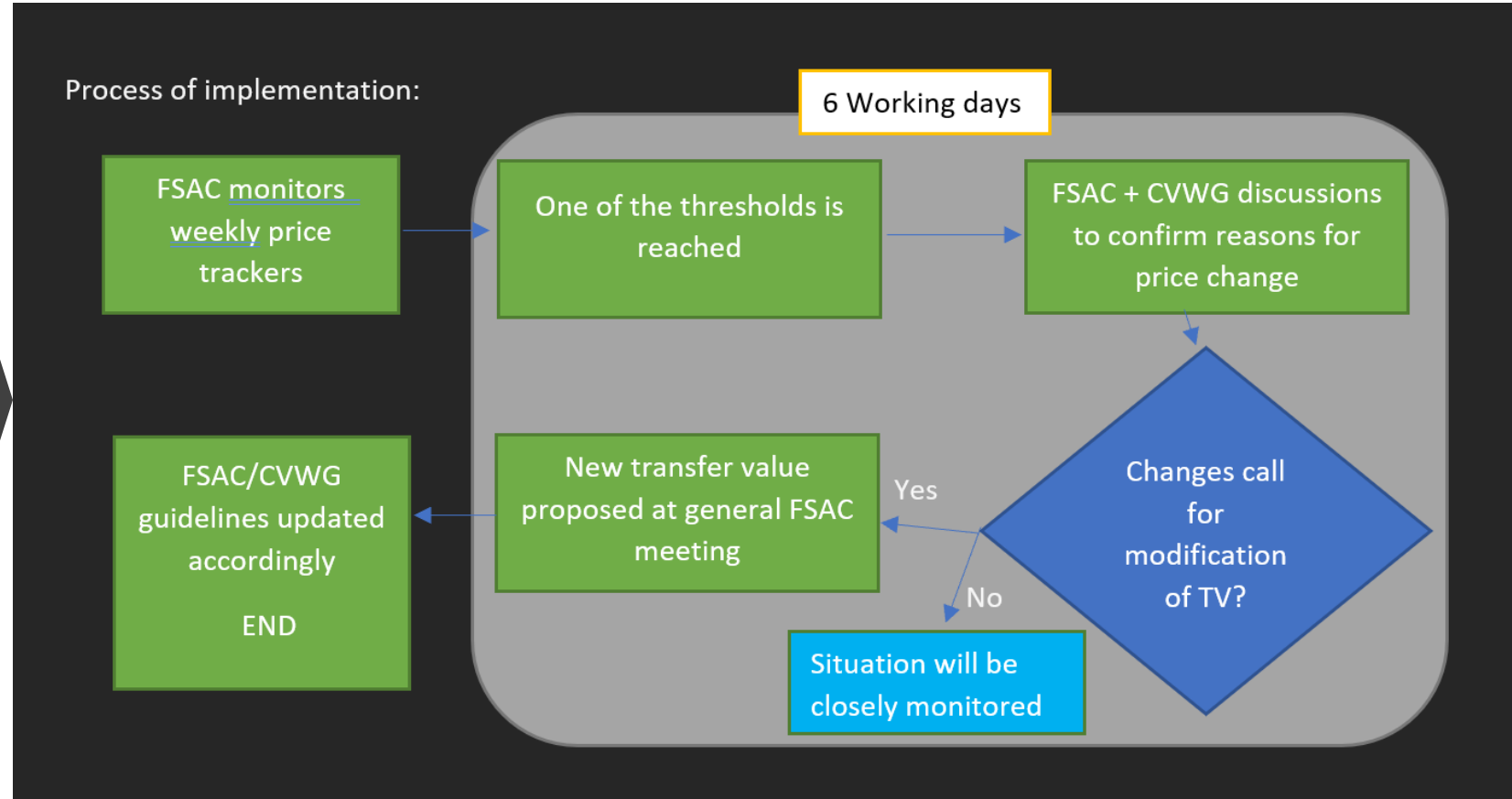
Yes

No

Changes call
for
modification
of TV?

END

Situation will be
closely monitored



Challenges

Its clear that market adaptive basket cost revisions enable agile programming that preserves beneficiary purchasing power and overall beneficiary reach as market prices fluctuate however this presents some challenges:

1. More complex programming
2. MEB cluster baskets reviewed at different times and have different review cycles to the overall MEB
3. The need to set which price monitoring data sets is are used as reference: WFP VAM or REACH JMMI or Partner market monitoring

Cash Working Group South Sudan Presentation to Global CWG

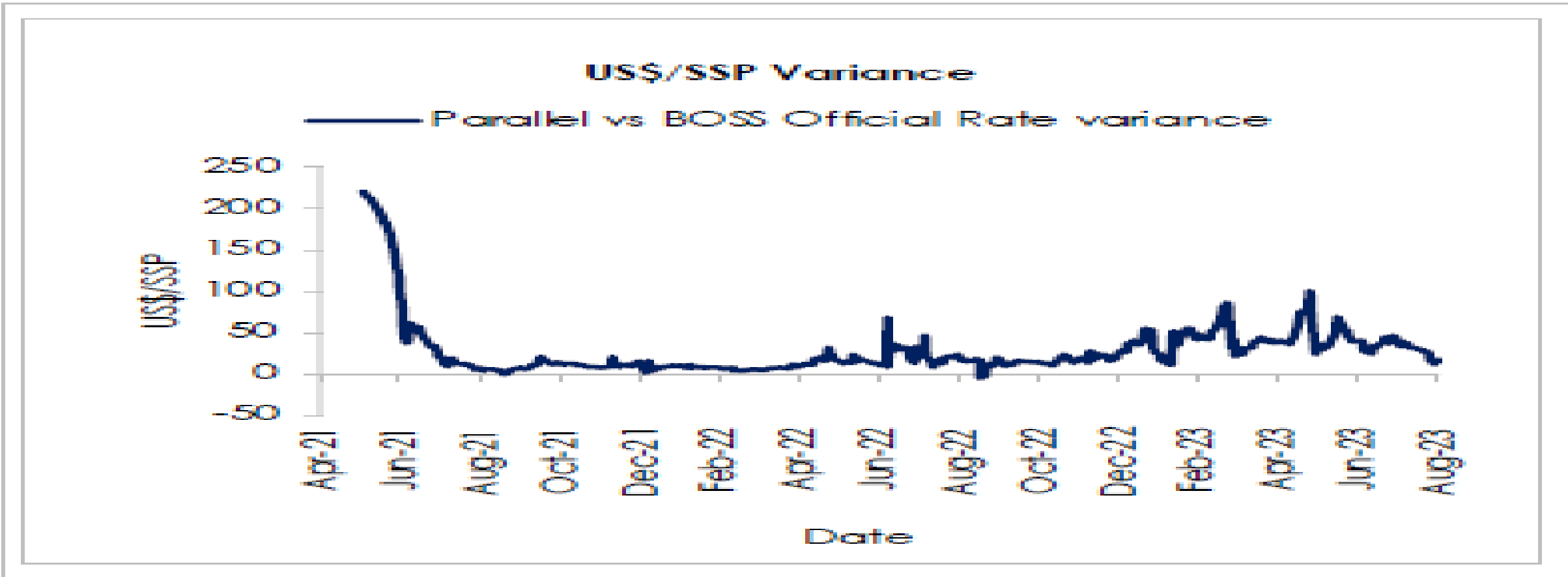
Presented By Muhammad Usman CWG Coordinator
Waleed Rashwan FSP Task Team Lead

CWG Strategy

CWG is actively involved in advocating for policy reforms that promote economic stability. They are working towards enhancing transparency and accountability in government expenditure, thereby curbing inflationary tendencies stemming from the mismanagement of public funds.

1. By law, the use of foreign currency is prohibited in South Sudan
2. The Ukraine crises, Drought, Sudan crisis puts a huge burden on the economy of South Sudan.
3. Black sea grain deal was terminated by Russia from which 17 million metric ton exports affect Africa and significantly south Sudan.
4. The government managed to bridge the gap between the official exchange rate and the parallel system exchange rate. Reforms implemented in mid-2021 aimed at unifying the two exchange rates resulted in a sharp decline in the parallel exchange rate.

Bank of South Sudan Exchange Rate



Inflation easing

- Prices of most food items have more than doubled over the last year.
- We however note that the prices of a few food items have declined or
- remained stable in July and August.
- The prices of non-food items have been less steep than food items over the last
- year and over the last month, several items have actually reported a decline in price.
- This explains the recent downward trend in inflation.

Latest Round

Month	August 2023
Participating Agencies	27
Assessed Locations	56
Assessed Marketplaces	84
Key Informants	1,157
Assessed Commodities	31

Introduction

The Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) is a monthly data collection exercise launched by the South Sudan Inter Agency Cash Working Group (IACWG) in August 2019. The initiative aims to inform cash-based interventions in South Sudan by providing indicative information on key commodities sold in local marketplaces, along with other key market indicators. The initiative is guided by the CWG, led by REACH and funded by Complementary Action for Resilience Building (CARB).

This website can be used to explore the data collected through the JMMI, such as the prices of key food and non-food items (NFIs), as well as the cost of the Multi Sectoral Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB) in different locations in South Sudan.

The available tools are displayed in the panel above. Display price data over time with the Price Plot, do spatial analysis with the Maps, or discover the data with the Data Explorer. Please see Info for more on the JMMI.

Click the information button at the bottom left of the screen to learn more about the contents of the South Sudan MSSMEB.

Nationwide Median Item Prices (Aug 2023)

Item	Price (in SSP)	Monthly change	Yearly change
Food Items			
Sorghum Grain (1 kg)	900	-1% ▼	+65% ▲
Maize Grain (1 kg)	972	-11% ▼	+67% ▲
Wheat Flour (1 kg)	1,791	+15% ▲	+79% ▲
Rice (1 kg)	1,500	0% ►	+50% ▲
Groundnuts (shelled) (1 kg)	1,126	-7% ▼	+54% ▲
Beans (1 kg)	2,217	+11% ▲	+122% ▲
Sugar (1 kg)	1,500	0% ►	+58% ▲
Salt (1 kg)	742	+22% ▲	+49% ▲
Cooking Oil (1L)	2,350	+18% ▲	+18% ▲
Water (1L)	NA	NA	NA
Non-Food Items (NFIs)			
Soap (200 g)	500	+50% ▲	+67% ▲
Jerrycan (1 pc)	3,000	+20% ▲	+71% ▲
Mosquito Net (1 pc)	2,675	-3% ▼	+7% ▲
Exercise Book (1 pc)	575	+15% ▲	+92% ▲
Blanket (1 pc)	5,050	-28% ▼	-16% ▼
Cooking Pot (1 pc)	7,625	+5% ▲	+52% ▲
Plastic Sheet (1 pc)	15,250	+2% ▲	+91% ▲
Pole (1 pc)	1,500	-25% ▼	+50% ▲
Firewood (1 bundle)	1,000	0% ►	+90% ▲
Charcoal (1 kg)	174	+5% ▲	+47% ▲
Livestock			
Goat (1 unit)	30,000	+33% ▲	+82% ▲

MSSMEB Prices per Location (Aug 2023)

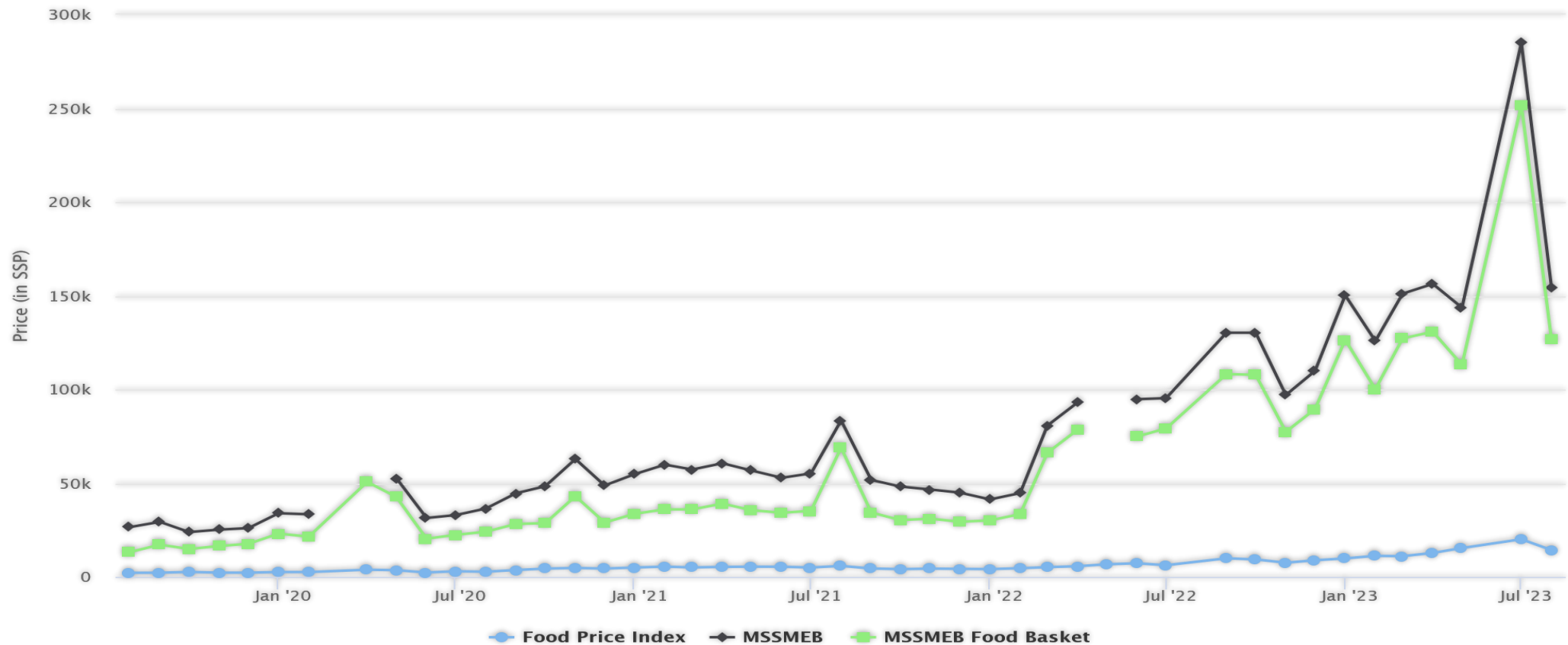
County	Location	MSSMEB (in SSP)	Monthly change	Yearly change	MFS Score
Central Equatoria		154,253			
Juba	Juba Town	154,253	-46% ▼	NA	85.79
Eastern Equatoria		113,917			
Magwi	Nimule	99,999	-17% ▼	+16% ▲	60.56
Torit	Torit Town	127,835	-10% ▼	+59% ▲	73.71
Jonglei		192,816			
Akobo	Walgak	297,089	+45% ▲	NA	68.01
Fangak	Fagwir	146,344	-4% ▼	NA	41.81
Fangak	Old Fangak	135,014	+13% ▲	NA	45.79
Pibor	Pibor Town	NA	NA	NA	50.10
Lakes		185,974			
Rumbek Centre	Rumbek Town	185,974	0% ►	+93% ▲	57.19
Rumbek East	Aduel	NA	NA	NA	77.25
Yirol East	Nyang	NA	NA	NA	47.00
Yirol West	Yirol Town	NA	NA	NA	45.10
Northern Bahr el Ghazal		133,712			
Aweil East	Wanyjok	NA	NA	NA	70.96
Aweil East	Warawar	122,964	NA	+44% ▲	70.15
Aweil North	Ariath	130,271	+7% ▲	NA	54.02
Aweil South	Malek Alel	136,944	+10% ▲	+54% ▲	66.20
Aweil South	Watmuok	144,670	+12% ▲	+62% ▲	69.97
Unity		130,587			
Koch	Koch Town	171,612	+34% ▲	NA	59.79
Leer	Leer Town	141,824	-6% ▼	NA	64.76

The MSSMEB represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of items required to support a six-person South Sudanese household for one month, as defined by the CWG.

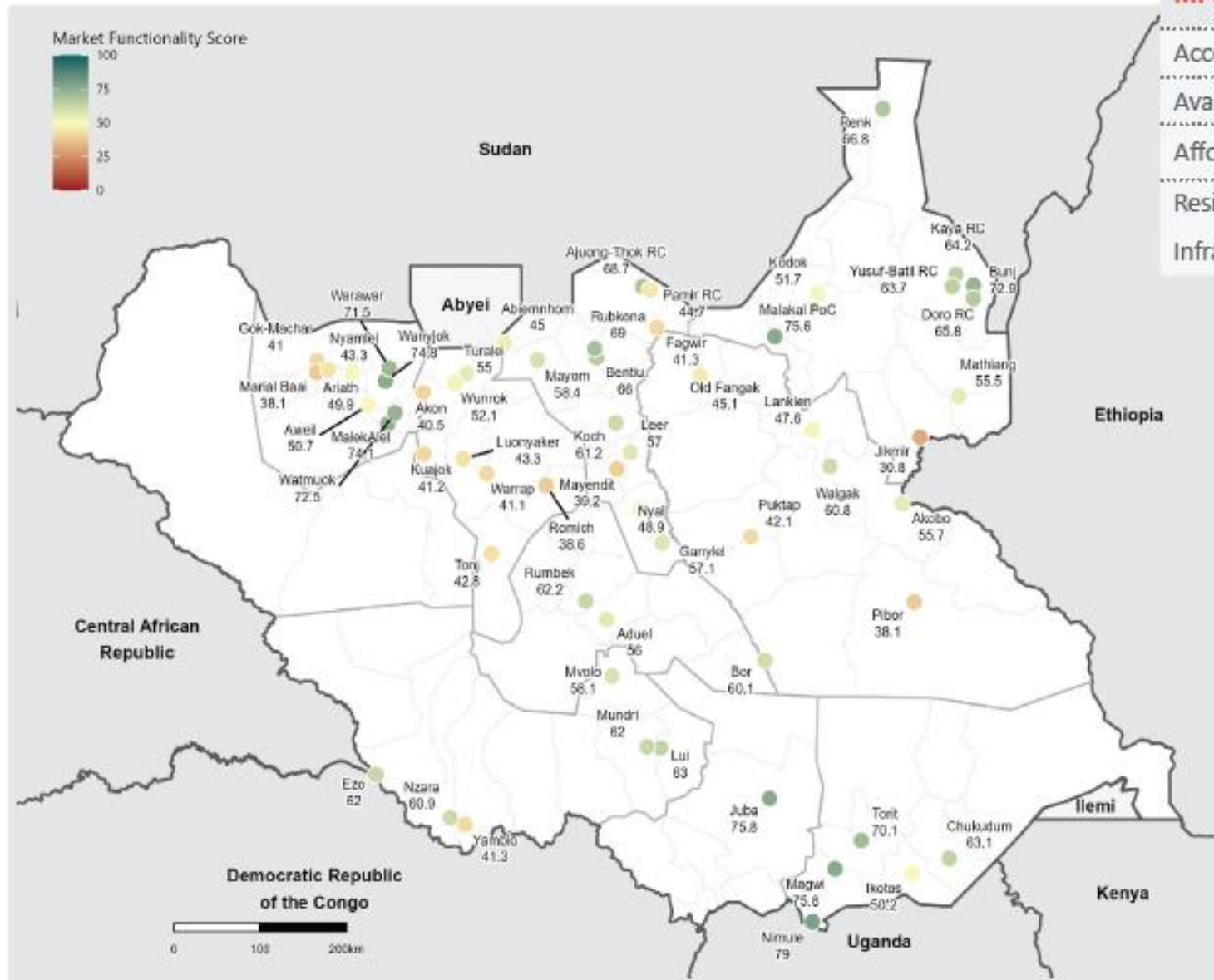
Only the MSSMEB's key elements (food and monthly non-food items, excluding bleach, pencils, pens, rubbers and sharpeners) were incorporated into the calculations in this dashboard

JMMI MEB Price trend

JMMI graph showing: Food Price Index, MSSMEB Food Basket, MSSMEB in Juba Town (2019-08-01-2023-08-01)



Market Functionality Score – new approach



MFS Dimension Weights

Accessibility	25 / 100
Availability	30 / 100
Affordability	15 / 100
Resilience	20 / 100
Infrastructure	10 / 100

Adaptive Programming

Recognizing the dynamic nature of inflation, the CWG has adopted an adaptive programming approach. This includes:

- **Flexible Transfer Amounts:** The CWG adjusts cash transfer amounts based on inflation rates and market fluctuations to ensure that beneficiaries can meet their basic needs.
- **Seasonal Planning:** The CWG plans for inflation spikes during certain seasons and makes necessary preparations to address the increased cost of living.

Coordination and Advocacy

The CWG collaborates with government agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders to advocate for policies that can help curb inflation. This includes:

- **Engaging with Authorities:** The CWG works closely with government agencies to address the root causes of inflation and seeks their support in implementing policies that can stabilize prices.
- **Advocating for Price Controls:** In cases of severe inflation, the CWG may advocate for temporary price controls on essential goods to protect the vulnerable population.

CWG Future Plan

Looking ahead, the South Sudan Cash Working Group plans to:

- **Enhance Data Collection:** Invest in advanced data collection and analysis tools to improve the accuracy of market assessments.
- **Strengthen Coordination:** Continue to strengthen coordination with government agencies and other humanitarian actors to ensure a unified response to inflation.
- **Capacity Building:** Invest in the capacity building of local communities to help them cope with the effects of inflation and build resilience.
- **Advocacy for Economic Stability:** Continue advocating for broader economic stability measures, including addressing the root causes of inflation at a systemic level.
- **Working with the private sector:** CWG aim to work with the private sector, financial service providers traders, chamber of commerce to advocate for financial inclusion and price stability in market.

**Any Questions
Please 😊**



Questions?



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**CALP Global Working Group Meeting
London, October 2023**

Global Shelter Cluster: Cash and Shelter Research

AleeOfficial



Global Shelter Cluster
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter

GSC Cash and Shelter Research

Global Shelter Cluster Research Function

Evidence makes humanitarian action more effective, ethical, and accountable.

- **GSC Research Agenda**
- **Humanitarian Fellowships**
- **Evidence Based Response**
- **Evidence Dissemination**



GSC Cash and Shelter Research



Global Priority Studies:

**Informing Decisions
on Cash Programming**

HFHI with the GSC Cash and Markets CoP

- **Final draft report completed.** This research asked shelter practitioners, program managers and donors what criteria they use for making the decision to use cash assistance. It analyses what influences their consideration of these criteria and what are the constraints on deciding to use cash in support of shelter and settlements.
- **Early findings shared at the HNPW and UKSF and published in Shelter Projects.**

GSC Cash and Shelter Research

Why?

- Evidence on Cash Assistance is a key priority for shelter practitioners
([GSC Research Baseline Report FINAL | Shelter Cluster](#))
- Cash assistance is more and more often used and encouraged as a modality.
- Practitioners may have growing confidence in how to use cash once a decision has been made, but less confidence in the initial decision-making process.

GSC Cash and Shelter Research

The central research question is:

What are the criteria for deciding when and where cash assistance is appropriate in support of those who have lost their shelter and settlements in humanitarian crises?

GSC Cash and Shelter Research

Methodology

- **Documentary data review of 63 documents.**
- **Online short-form questionnaire.**
- **Online interviews with 21 practitioners:**
balance of gender, location, crises type,
international and national.

GSC Cash and Shelter Research

Cash Decision-making Criteria

- ❖ **Markets and Mechanisms can Work.**
- ❖ **Implementers are Accountable to Communities.**
- ❖ **Quality and Resources are Balanced.**
- ❖ **Power Systems are Compatible.**
- ❖ **Decisions can be Sustainable.**



GSC Cash and Shelter Research

Cash Decision-making Criteria

1. Functional and accessible markets.
2. Functional and accessible cash transfer and distribution mechanisms.
3. Safe for communities and humanitarian staff.
4. Organisational capacity.
5. Feasible political and legal context.
6. Complemented by appropriate shelter technical frameworks.
7. Compatibility with or flexibility within humanitarian systems and policies.
8. Most cost-efficient and cost-effective option.
9. Aligns with community needs, preferences, and capacity.
10. Clear communication channels with communities.
11. Compatibility with the longer-term needs of recovering communities.
12. Protection for the local environment and natural resources

GSC Cash and Shelter Research

Constraints on Decision-making

1. Inflexibility of donor policies and processes.
2. Insufficient sectoral reflection on lessons learned.
3. Few technical specialists hired at the right time.
4. Insufficient data to make a modality decision.
5. Little collaboration between cash and shelter actors.
6. Sectors not integrated at the decision-making stage.
7. A lack of available and up-to-date training on cash and shelter.



GSC Cash and Shelter Research



Global Priority Studies:

**Informing Decisions
on Cash Programming**

HFI with the GSC Cash and Markets CoP

GSC Cash and Shelter Research

Thank you

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Lizzie Babister, Global Focal Point for Research



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