

Conflict and Security Dynamics in Lire Payam, South Sudan: Land Disputes and Institutional Response Mechanisms

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Abstract: *This study explores the impact of conflicts on security management strategies in Lire Payam, KajoKeji County, South Sudan. By examining various types of conflicts, including land disputes, tribal conflicts, and resource allocation issues, the research highlights the challenges faced by security agencies in managing these conflicts. The study employed a survey research design, utilizing questionnaires and key informant interviews to gather data from security officers and residents. Findings indicate that land related conflicts are the most prevalent, significantly affecting the socioeconomic welfare of the population. The paper concludes with recommendations for enhancing security strategies and conflict mitigation in the region.*

Keywords: Conflict management, South Sudan, security strategies, land disputes, Lire Payam

1. Introduction

Conflict is pervasive in all societies (Degefe, 2023). It is a phenomenon that is inevitable in all human society due to differences in interests, goals, values and aims among people. Conflict is experienced in various parts of the world (Wendy, 2019). Available statistics shows that 2 billion people currently live in conflict-affected areas across the world (Wendy, 2019; Lowery, 2022). Among the regions affected by conflicts in the world include Northern Ireland, Serbia, Bosnia in the European continent while in Latin America, countries like Guatemala, and Peru have some time in history affected by conflict. In addition, in the Asian Continent, the middle East is in constant conflict with Iraq, Israel Cambodia etc involved (Degefe, 2023; Afriyie, Jisong, and Yaw Appiah, 2020). In the African continent, conflict has been experienced in various countries. : Conflicts in Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Rwanda, etc., are notable examples of conflicts that have been experienced on the continent (Degefe, 2023; African Union, 2014). In most cases Africa experience ethnic conflict and violent resource competition involving ethnic militias (Lowery, 2022).

The causes of conflict differ from one region to the other. In most instances, conflict occur as a result of competition for power, resources and social status (Le, Bui and Uddin, 2022). According to UN, more than 180 nations are heterogenous and this is likely to cause conflicts especially when political interference and incitement occur on the issues of resource allocation and power struggle (Lowery, 2022). The issue of politics of division, in most cases, has contributed to conflicts in Africa. In addition, harsh environmental conditions, corruption and huge foreign debt that exacerbate the conditions of poverty in Africa has contributed to hunger that is strongly linked to resource competition and conflict (Le, Bui and Uddin, 2022).

According to the UN, 84 million people were forcibly displaced in 2022 because of conflict, violence, and human

rights violations (Lowery, 2022). By the end of 2022, it was estimated that 339 million people would need humanitarian assistance this year. In Africa, there are over 40.4 million forcibly displaced Africans who are internally displaced persons, refugees, and asylum seekers (Le, Bui and Uddin, 2022). Conflict has resulted in loss of life. For instance conflict in Rwanda led to loss of 800000 people, conflict in Burundi contributed to death of more than 200000 lives while in Liberia more than 250000 people died (Afriyie, Jisong,, and Yaw Appiah, 2020).

Conflict in South Sudan, has been contributed by ethnic militia groups and civil unrest became ethnically charged between the two dominant ethnic groups. The conflict and subsequent armed struggle put the country into fragility, economic stagnation, famine, poverty and instability (Owiso, 2018). They disproportionately affected the socio-economic and cultural aspects of the country. The civil war severely affected crops and agriculture production which contributed to famine and poverty (Jok, 2015).

The conflict in South Sudan is one of the most serious humanitarian crises at present, causing enormous suffering and destruction to innocent citizens. The war has badly affected the entire country which has resulted in rampant disease outbreaks as well as causing the country's social fabric fragmented (Awolich, 2019). Additionally, to make matters worse, the conflict has damaged the country's economy, contributing to soaring inflation (Owiso, 2018). Moreover, the conflict has resulted in displacement of people by the millions, conflicts disrupt access to basic services like food and water, and force people into extreme poverty, with the poorest and the most vulnerable paying the highest price (Le, Bui and Uddin, 2022).

Based on the severe effect of the conflict on the population and South Sudan as a country, there is need for security interventions to manage the security of the South Sudan conflicts for purposes of upholding human rights, access to essential life commodities. Therefore, this study aims to

investigate the nature of conflicts in Lire Payam, South Sudan, and assess how these conflicts have impacted the security management strategies employed by local agencies. The significance of this study lies in its potential to provide insights into the specific challenges faced by security agencies in conflict zones like Lire Payam, contributing to the development of more effective security management strategies that can be applied in similar contexts across Africa.

2. Methodology

The study employed a survey research design. The design was relevant in this study based on its ability to guide research seeking to investigate the attitudes and opinions of a population. The survey research design is also important for social sciences research since it allows for the use of multiple methods of data collection.

The study area was Lire Payam is located in Kajo Keji County in the Republic of South Sudan. The Payam is heterogeneous in terms of ethnicity where the inhabitants are mainly the Kuku tribe which falls under the larger Bari ethnic tribe who are the inhabitants of Juba County (the capital of South Sudan) and most of the organized forces are from almost 64 tribes of South Sudan. The basis for choosing Lire Payam is that available reports show that it is among the highly ranked Payams in South Sudan affected by conflicts.

The target population of this study was approximately 1,200 security officers involved in providing security within Lire Payam. The security officers are involved in protecting the residents due to conflicts because are deemed to have insightful information on how conflict has affected the security management of the residents in Lire Payam. The study utilized a stratified sampling procedure to draw a sample of 120 from the target population of 1200. According to Mugenda and Mugenda, 10% of the target population is appropriate in a study.

The data collection methods were questionnaire and key informant interview. A questionnaire was used to collect information from the 120 respondents. The instrument was given to respondents to fill out and returned to the researcher after a week. This gave respondents adequate time to appropriately and thoughtfully answer questions in the questionnaire.

On the other hand key informant interview method was utilized to obtain expert information on the phenomenon under investigation to corroborate with the information given by respondents. In this study, twenty key informants were interviewed. The key informants interviewed in this study were top security officers in security operation in the Lire Payam. An interview guide was utilized in interviewing key informants. Interviews of key informants took place at the convenient place and time of the key informants. Descriptive statistics and thematic analysis were used to analyze quantitative and qualitative data respectively.

Respondents and informants were notified, and appointments were made to meet with them. They were fully briefed on the reasons for the study and their right to withdraw at any time.. All appointments were kept and arrival prior to the

appointment time with a suitable dress code. Respondents were greeted and briefed about the study and they were all requested to sign an informed consent before the commencement of the research exercise and they were assured of confidentiality that, the completed documents are stored securely and will ultimately be destroyed in accordance with the Egerton university rules.

3. Findings

3.1 Nature of Conflict in Lire Payam

The study sought to establish the nature of the conflict and how the conflict has affected the security management of residents of Lire Payam. The study began by investigating the nature of conflict in the study area. The findings are given in Table 1.

Table 1: Nature of Conflict in Lire Payam

Nature of Conflict	Frequency	Percentage
Land	62	52
Power struggle	11	09
Tribal conflict	23	19
Resource allocation Conflict	18	15
Others: cattle raiding, presence of NAS rebels	6	5
Total	120	100

Source: Field Data, 2024

As indicated in Table 1, there exists a range of conflicts in the study area. The data shows that 52% of respondents argued that land-related conflicts are prevalent in the area, 9% of the respondents believed that power struggles characterize conflict situation in Lire Payam, 19% asserted that tribal conflicts exist in the study area, 15% were said that resource allocation conflicts exist while 5% argued that "other" conflicts exist in Lire Payam.

From the data above, the most prevalent type of conflict is the land-related conflict (62%). The study established that communities in Lire Payam are struggling to control land which is a source that guarantees the livelihood of households in the study area. This has resulted in perennial conflicts among communities in Lire Payam. This finding featured during a key informant interview in which the key informants agreed that land-related conflict is the most common type of conflict in Lire Payam. During a key informant interview, an informant averred that:

"The conflict and insecurity in Lire Payam is predominantly caused by land. Communities struggle to control land which is a significant resource in enhancing livelihoods. Therefore, conflicts in those Payam can be greatly attributed to land control struggle by communities residing here" (Male, 48 years).

The argument by the key informant is a clear demonstration that the major type of conflict in Lire Payam is land-related. The communities residing in the Payam are involved in perennial conflicts with the ultimate goal of controlling the arable land that ensures their livelihoods. This finding confirms Austin (2010) that land-related conflicts are

common in Africa because land holds a pivotal role in the lives of the rural people.

Moreover, 19% of respondents argued that tribal conflict characterizes the conflict situation in Lire Payam. The finding was based on the idea that the geographic residence of communities with diverse cultural orientations is more likely to experience conflicts. This is evident in Lire Payam where communities living in the Payam are constantly involved in disagreements that result in conflicts. This finding was supported by some key informants who asserted that having different communities within one geographical boundary has fueled unending conflicts among communities. During a key Informant interview, it was reported that:

“Conflicts in Lire Payam are influenced by residing of communities with diverse cultures in the same administrative boundary. This causes disagreements and grudges that erupt into conflicts” (Female, 42 Years).

The finding shows that the demarcation of boundaries influences the stability of the area. This is based on how communities observing almost similar beliefs and practices are located in similar geographical places. Having communities practicing different cultures in the same geographical or administrative boundaries is mostly a recipe for unending conflicts in some regions.

Furthermore, resource allocation-related conflicts (15%) are evident in Lire Payam. The study established that different communities residing in the Payam need to obtain an equal share of national resources. However, political orientations and political favoritism, have in most cases seen unequal resource allocation among communities residing in the Payam. The perception of unfair treatment or injustice by some communities that are left out in the resource-sharing matrix fuels conflicts. The finding agrees with Urdal (2008) that the scarcity of resources and their allocation results in conflicts, especially in developing countries.

In addition, the study revealed that the power struggle (9%) is behind the perennial conflicts in the Lire Payam. The study found out that political competition in the Payam has in some cases resulted in conflicts through tribal incitement and the use of orthodox political means to ascend to power. The finding featured in the key informant interviews undertaken. In the key informant interviews, it emerged that some politicians incite communities against others to get political seats, a phenomenon that has in most situations resulted in intense conflicts and displacement of communities in the Payam during an electioneering period.

Based on analyzed data, there exist different types of conflicts in Lire Payam. However, the most pronounced type of conflict is the land-related conflicts which stood at 62%. The other types of conflicts according to the data analyzed are tribal conflict (19%), resource allocation-related conflicts (15%), power struggle conflicts (9%), and “other” conflicts (5%).

Regarding how the nature of conflict has affected the security management of residents of Lire Payam, the study established

that the conflict has had implications on the socio-economic welfare of people since their lives have been disrupted. This is in connection with the 100% of respondents’ assertions.

3.2 Effect of Conflict on the Security Agencies’ Strategies in Managing the Security of Residents of Lire Payam

This section gives data on the effect of security agencies’ strategies in managing the security of residents of Lire Payam. The section will begin by interrogating the security agencies’ strategies to address the conflict in Lire Payam and then interrogate how the strategies have affected the security of residents of Lire Payam.

The study sought to investigate the strategies put in place by security agencies to tackle conflict in Lire Payam. Responses are given in Table 2.

Table 2: Security Agencies’ Strategies to Address the Conflict in Lire Payam

Security Agencies’ Strategies to Address the Conflict in Lire Payam	Frequency	Percentage
Return of armed cattle headmen to their homeland in Bor	26	22
Peaceful negotiation between the government and the rebel leaders of the National Salvation Front	13	11
Demarcation of internal boundaries to resolve a land dispute between Lire and its neighboring Payams	30	25
Provision of police stations in hot spot areas of Lire Payam	21	18
Resettlement of the displaced residents of Lire Payam by the Department of Housing	16	13
Empowering community leaders on how to report security information to the organized forces	10	8
Others	4	3
Total	120	100

Source: Field Data, 2024

As shown in Table 2, 22% of respondents maintained that the strategy security agencies to address conflict in Lire Payam is the return of armed cattle headmen to their homeland in Bor, 11% of respondents reported that security agencies have resorted to the peaceful negotiation between the government and the rebel leaders of National Salvation Front, and that 25% argued that security agencies have resorted to the demarcation of internal boundaries to resolve land dispute between Lire and its neighboring Payams. In addition, Table 2 shows that security agencies have established police stations in hot spot areas of Lire Payam to help address conflict and that there has been an effort by security agencies to undertake resettlement of the displaced residents of Lire Payam by the Department of Housing. The data also shows that 8% of respondents believed that security agencies have resorted to empowering community leaders on how to report security information to the organized forces while 3% of respondents argued that security agencies have come up with “other” strategies” to address conflict in Lire Payam.

From the above data, this study argues that security agencies have put in place various strategies to mitigate the conflict in Lire Payam but the most profound strategy is the demarcation

of internal boundaries to resolve land disputes between Lire and its neighboring Payams (25%). The study established that land disputes greatly contribute to conflict in Lire Payam and therefore the only way to curb the conflict is to demarcate boundaries between Lire Payam and other neighboring Payams. The government and security agencies have taken steps to mitigate land conflict between Lire Payam and other Payams. The finding featured in the key informant interviews held where it was argued that the government and security agencies have taken an initiative to demarcate boundaries between Lire Payam and other Payams to mark land ownership and avert conflict. During a key informant interview, an informant noted that:

“Land boundary disputes have been a major cause of conflicts in Lire Payam. The government and security agencies have put effort into ending the conflicts by demarcating boundaries between Lire Payam and other neighboring Payams. This step is likely to reduce confrontations in this area” (Male, 49 years).

The narration by the key informant adds to the information by respondents that the government is committed to ending the conflicts in Lire Payam by demarcating boundaries between the Payam and neighboring Payams so that the issue of land ownership is known.

Furthermore, the study revealed that the security agencies have facilitated the return of armed cattle headmen to their homeland in Bor (22%). The study established that the government and security agencies realized that insecurity issues and confrontations in Lire Payam are caused by armed herders from Bor community who invade Lire Payam for pasture and water and in the process, they steal livestock from residents. This has been a concern to security agencies and by addressing this, according to the study, peace might prevail in Lire Payam. In a key informant interview, it was reported that:

“The security agencies have resorted to returning herds from Bor community to their land in Bor. The herdsmen have been accused of cattle rustling and instigating bloody conflicts in the Payam as they look for water and pasture for their animals” (Female, 39 years).

The assertion by the key informant shows that the security agencies have resorted to driving away herders from Bor Community to their land. This strategy is likely to reduce cattle rustling and violent competition for pasture and water in the Lire Payam.

Additionally, the study revealed that the security agencies in Lire Payam have established police stations in hot spot areas (18%) to mitigate conflict in the area. The security agencies have utilized resources at their disposal to construct police stations in areas mostly affected by conflict to help quell the conflict wherever it occurs. This finding was confirmed by key informant interviews in which informants argued that a number of police stations have been constructed in hot spot areas to contain the situation wherever conflict occurs.

The study findings also revealed that the security agencies in Lire Payam have utilized a resettlement strategy where the displaced residents are given alternative living places or land in other Payams by the Department of Housing (13%).

According to the study findings, this strategy was informed by perennial conflicts in the study area due to frequent displacement of residents occasioned by the conflicts. Therefore, the Department of Housing has resorted to providing the displaced individuals with alternative land to settle. The finding was confirmed by key informants whereby in one interview an informant reported that:

“The Housing Department in collaboration with the security agencies in Lire Payam in the recent past initiated a program to settle displaced people in other Payams or areas within Lire Payam that are regarded as peaceful. This is a good strategy to curb the perennial displacement of people due to conflicts” (Female, 45 years).

The key informant supports the information from respondents that the Department of Housing in conjunction with security agencies has resolved to settle displaced people in other palaces to avoid disruptions in their lives caused by conflicts in Lire Payam.

The study established that the security agencies have initiated a peace negotiation with the National Salvation Front (11%). The government and security agencies are involved in Peaceful negotiations with rebel leaders of the National Salvation Front to cease instigating conflict in Lire Payam. The government and security agencies are utilizing a variety of approaches to enter into a peace agreement with the rebel group for peace and tranquility in Lire Payam. The finding was confirmed in the key informant interview where it emerged that, although this strategy is in place, it has not had a meaningful impact in restoring peace in Lire Payam.

The findings of the study also revealed that the security agencies have resorted to empowering community leaders on how to report security information to the organized forces (8%). The study established that the strategy was informed by the communication challenges experienced by leaders to report the attacks to security agencies for timely response. Through empowerment, security agencies hope to mitigate conflict in Lire Payam since security forces can acquire timely communication on the impending conflict and intelligence information on the perpetrators of the conflicts. During a key informant interview, an informant averred that:

“The conflict in Lire Payam is influenced by a communication breakdown between local administration and security forces. The security agencies fail to get timely information from the local leaders on the impending conflict or the organizers of the conflict. The local leaders are being trained on how to share information on conflict with security forces. They are given contacts to communicate to the security agencies” (Male, 36 years).

The narration of the key informant is a clear demonstration that the conflict in Lire Payam has previously been partially caused by a communication breakdown between the local administration and the security forces. The locals have been unable to report to the security forces on the conflict through sharing intelligence information. This finding confirms Ubana and Asor's (2022) assertion that community

participation and involvement play pivotal roles in countering and preventing activities of violent extremism and other forms of insecurity in society. It also concurs with Maduka (2012) that communication is a challenge in the management of security issues for people affected by conflicts.

4.3 Perceptions of Residents in Lire Payam on the Security Agencies' Management of Security in the Payam

In section 3.2, the study established that security agencies in Lire Payam have put in place various strategies to mitigate conflict. The strategies include demarcation of internal boundaries to resolve land disputes between Lire and its neighboring Payams (25%), facilitation of the return of armed cattle headmen to their homeland in Bor (22%), establishment of police stations in hot spot areas (18%), resettlement of the displaced residents by the Department of Housing (13%), initiation of a peace negotiation with the leaders of National Salvation Front (11%), and empowering community leaders on how to report security information to the organized forces (8%). The study sought to find out the perception of residents in Lire Payam regarding the effectiveness of strategies in the management of security in Lire Payam. Responses are given in Table 3.

Table 3: Effectiveness of Strategies in the Management of Security in Lire Payam

Are Strategies by Security Agencies Effective in the Security Management of Residents of Lire Payam?	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	48	40
No	72	60
Total	120	100

Source: Field Data, 2024

As shown in Table 3, 40% of respondents averred that the strategies by security agencies to manage the security of residents of Lire Payam while 60% of respondents felt that the strategies are not effective in managing the security of residents in Lire Payam. The findings show that the majority of respondents (40%) had a low opinion on the effectiveness of strategies in the management of security in the Payam indicating that despite the formulation of strategies to tackle the conflict in the study area, residents feel that the strategies have not helped to contain the conflict situation in Lire Payam. The finding was echoed by the majority of key informants who thought that despite the initiation of measures to avert conflict in Lire Payam still the strategies have not been effective in stabilizing the Payam in the context of security. During a key informant interview, an informant revealed that:

“Security agencies working to restore peace in Lire Payam have initiated several strategies to foster peace and harmony in this Payam. Although the strategies have been enacted still conflict exists. It erupts every time. It is time for the security forces to rethink the effective strategy to contain the situation in Lire Payam” (Female, 46 years).

The sentiments of the key informant are a clear indication that the measures put in place by security agencies to contain conflict in Lire Payam have not yielded much. This is because

conflict has persisted despite the enactment of the strategies shown in section 4.3.

The study sought to find out why 60% (72) of respondents had reservations about the strategies formulated and enacted by security agencies to manage the security of residents in Lire Payam. The findings are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Why Strategies by Security Agencies are ineffective in managing the Security of Residents of Lire Payam

Why Strategies by Security Agencies are ineffective in managing the Security of Residents of Lire Payam	Frequency	Percentage
Delays in the delivery of intelligent information from the residents to the organized forces	12	16
Poor transport mobility by security forces	14	19
Poor communication between the organized forces and the residents due to fear of being targeted	23	33
Insufficient manpower especially the organized forces	11	15
Insufficient ammunition experiences by the organized forces	9	13
Others	3	4
Total	72	100

Source: Field Data, 2024

As depicted in Table 4, 16% of respondents argued that delays in the delivery of intelligent information from the residents to the organized forces (16%) have contributed to the effectiveness of strategies by security agencies to manage the security of residents in Lire Payam and 19% of respondents believed that poor transport mobility by security forces is the cause of the ineffectiveness of strategies by security agencies to manage the security of residents in Lire Payam.

In addition, 33% of respondents averred that poor communication between the organized forces and the residents due to fear of being targeted is the cause of the ineffectiveness of strategies by security agencies to manage the security of residents in Lire Payam while 15% of respondents opined that Insufficient manpower especially the organized forces is the cause of the ineffectiveness of strategies by security agencies to manage security of residents in the study area. 13% of respondents argued that insufficient ammunition experienced by the organized forces is the cause of the ineffectiveness of strategies and 4% of respondents attributed the ineffectiveness of strategies by security agencies to manage the security of residents in Lire Payam to “other” reasons.

Based on the findings above, it is evident that poor communication between the organized forces and the residents due to fear of being targeted (33%) is the common reason why strategies by security forces have not been effective in managing the security of residents in Lire Payam. The finding was confirmed by key informants who argued that residents fear victimization from the perpetrators of the violence if it emerges that they have shared information with the security agencies on planning and executing conflict plans. In a key informant interview, it was revealed that:

“Despite the security agencies empowering local communities to share information on conflict to them, still the communication is poor due to fear of victimization of residents by the perpetrators of the conflicts”. (Female, 49 years).

The argument by the key informant depicts that fear of victimization has hindered communication between locals and security agencies. The fear of sharing information is occasioned by an attack of residents suspected to have given the information to the security agencies by perpetrators of the conflict. This hinders security agencies' efforts to contain conflict in Lire Payam. The finding is in line with Guterres (2020) who opined that building on a participatory approach, community engagement through local civil society actors is imperative in peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Moreover, the study established that poor transport mobility by security forces (19%) is a reason why strategies by security agencies to manage the security of residents of Lire Payam have not yielded much. The study established the roads in the Payam are impassable, especially during rain seasons making it difficult for security agencies to access conflict-prone locations. Inaccessibility in some areas in the Payam has made it impossible for the security agencies to manage the security of residents of Lire Payam. The finding emerged during key informant interviews in which some informants noted that the area has poor road networks that make it cumbersome for security agencies to perpetrate the area to tackle the conflict. In a key informant interview, it was reported that:

“Security agencies are determined to end the conflict in Lire Payam. The challenge is poor road network. During rain seasons roads are impassable making, it hard for security agencies to access villages where conflict usually occurs” (Male, 46 years).

The key informant adds voice to the respondent's argument that the poor road network in Lire Payam greatly contributes to the ineffectiveness of strategies by security agencies in Lire Payam to manage the security of residents.

Furthermore, the study revealed that delays in the delivery of intelligent information from the residents to the organized forces (16%) have hampered security agencies in Lire Payam from managing the security of residents. The study established that information about impending conflict fails to reach security agencies due to a lack of communication structures between the communities and security agencies. This happens despite efforts by the security agencies to empower local communities to share information about conflict planning and execution by criminals in Lire Payam. The study singled out Kuku tribe members who don't share information about criminals with the security agencies due to the homogeneity of the community. This information also emerged during key informant interviews where it was reported that tribes especially Kuku tend not to share information to security agencies on the perpetrators of conflict in the area. In a key informant interview, it was reported that:

“Sharing of intelligence information to security agencies about the perpetrators of the conflict has not been easy. This is more common in the homogeneous Kuku tribe where it is difficult for security agencies to get information regarding criminals” (Male, 41 years).

The argument of the key informant shows that in some tribes within Lire Payam, it is not easy for security agencies to get information on the preparators of the conflict. This is associated with the homogeneity of the tribe where it is not easy for tribesmen to betray their fellow tribe person. This makes it difficult for security agencies to the security management of residents in the study area. This finding concurs with Ubana and Ndem (2022) who argue that community engagement is essential in providing information to security agencies on various security challenges is the best approach to address insecurity in society.

The strategies by security agencies to contain insecurity in Lire Payam have been affected by insufficient manpower especially the organized forces (15%). The study established the number of security personnel in the area is small making it hard to contain the insecurity situation in the area. The government has deployed a few security agencies to the area to contain conflict because of the insufficient security force in the country. This is in line with Olagunju (2006) who argues that resources, especially human resources, are essential in carrying out security management mandates.

The study also revealed that ineffective strategies by security agencies to manage the security of residents in Lire Payam have been occasioned by insufficient ammunition experiences by the organized forces (13%). The study revealed that the organized forces lack adequate ammunition to use in combating conflict in Lire Payam. This finding was confirmed during a key informant interview in which it was reported that therefore arms embargo for the South Sudan government has affected the security agencies' effort to combat insecurity in Lire Payam. A key informant noted that:

“The efforts by security forces in Lire Payam to contain conflict has been affected by inadequate ammunition due to sanctions imposed on the government of South Sudan not to buy arms by the United Nations” (Male, 47 years).

The sentiments of the key informant show that the sanction on South Sudan about ammunition import has prevented the security agencies from effectively containing the conflict in Lire Payam.

4. Conclusion

The study demonstrates that land-related conflicts are the primary source of insecurity in Lire Payam, South Sudan, significantly impacting the socioeconomic wellbeing of residents. Despite various strategies employed by security agencies, including boundary demarcation and the establishment of police stations, these measures have not fully resolved the conflict situation. The findings suggest that improving communication between security agencies and local communities, enhancing resource allocation, and

fostering community engagement are crucial steps towards achieving sustainable peace in the region

https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/anrep_e/world_trade_report10_e.pdf

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