



Cross-Border Population Movement Factsheet

Akobo Port and Road Monitoring

Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

January 2020

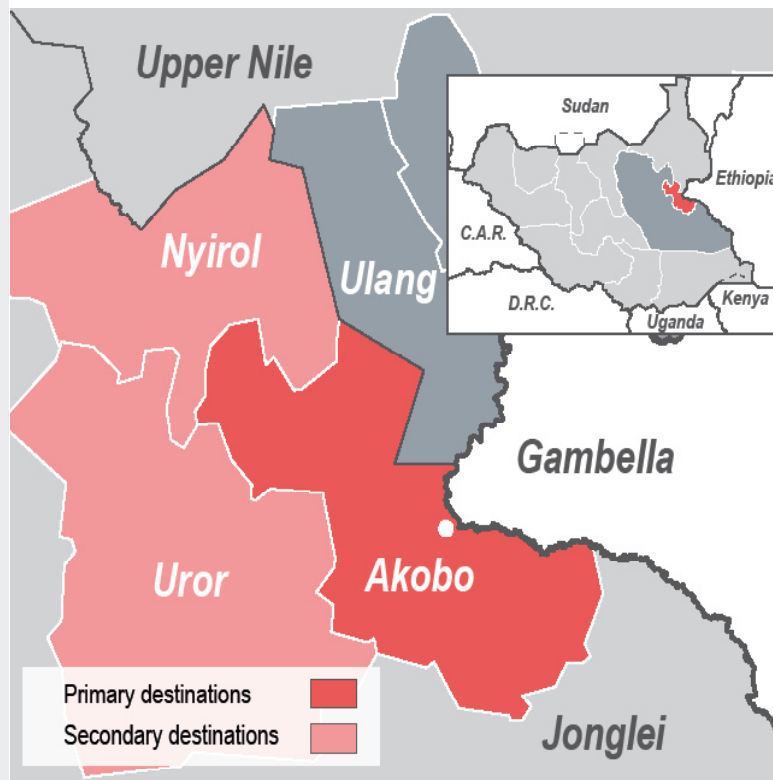
CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

Akobo town is located in the eastern side of Akobo County, Jonglei State, close to the land and river border crossings with Ethiopia. Akobo is a key point of trade and transit between South Sudan and Ethiopia. Since the beginning of the crisis in 2013, this route has been used by South Sudanese heading to or coming back from refugee camps in Ethiopia. Since May 2015, REACH has been recording arrivals and departures of South Sudanese households (HHs) in four locations, Gadrang Road, Koatkoangthor Road, Tundol Port and Market Port, on a daily basis.

In order to provide an indication of wider trends, data is collected on the volume of movement, as well as the motivations and intentions of those travelling. REACH teams interviewed arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level. For movements larger than three households, a short alternative survey is used to assess HH and individual numbers by speaking to the Transport Focal Point (TFP), such as the driver or transport authority.¹ Due to insecurity and other issues, data is not always collected on a daily basis. To correct for this inconsistency, data presented for general movement trends across months represents an average based on the number of days of data collection each month. **The data presented here is not representative, nor does it capture all movements in and out of Akobo. Rather, it is indicative of movement trends for the assessed population.**²

The following findings are based on primary data collected between the 1st and 31st of January 2020.

MAIN DESTINATIONS OF INBOUND HHs



INBOUND TO SOUTH SUDAN

49% of inbound HHs reported intending to **stay more than six months** in their final destination in South Sudan.

Demographics

Proportion of recorded travellers by demographic group:



91% of inbound HHs were partial HHs.⁴

Previous location in Ethiopia

Primary reported locations from which inbound HHs were leaving:

Nguenyiel Camp	26%
Jewi Camp	23%
Kule Camp	18%

Intended destination in South Sudan

Primary reported intended destinations for inbound HHs:

Akobo County	98%
Uror County	1%
Nyirol County	1%

Push factors

Primary reported push factors for inbound HHs to leave their last location:

Distance from family/ home	71%
Lack of work opportunities	15%
Tensions with host community	9%

Reasons for coming to South Sudan

Primary reported pull factors for inbound HHs, October 2019 to January 2020:

	October 2019	November 2019	December 2019	January 2020
Rejoining family/ home	67%	57%	68%	63%
Presence of work opportunities	11%	15%	11%	15%
Perceived security	16%	15%	8%	10%

OUTBOUND FROM SOUTH SUDAN

64% of outbound HHs reported intending to **stay more than six months** in their final destination outside of South Sudan.

Demographics

Proportion of recorded travellers by demographic group:



79% of outbound HHs were partial HHs.⁴

Previous location in South Sudan

Primary reported locations from which outbound HHs were leaving:

Akobo County	83%
Nyirol County	9%
Uror County	8%

Intended destination in Ethiopia

Primary reported intended destinations for outbound HHs:

Nguenyiel Camp	30%
Jewi Camp	24%
Kule Camp	22%

Pull factors

Primary reported pull factors for outbound HHs to go to another country:

Presence of food distributions	42%
Presence of educational services	21%
Rejoining family/home	17%

Reasons for leaving South Sudan

Primary reported push factors for outbound HHs, October 2019 to January 2020:

	October 2019	November 2019	December 2019	January 2020
Lack of food	26%	24%	28%	42%
Lack of educational services	27%	26%	27%	21%
Distance from family/home	12%	15%	19%	18%

GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS

Data provided below has been taken from REACH Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, as well as data provided using the TFP survey which captures larger movements between Akobo and Ethiopia.¹

Type of movement

Total monthly number of HHs and individuals recorded in January 2020:

	HHs	Individuals	HHs %
Inbound to South Sudan from Ethiopia	367	949	47%
Outbound to Ethiopia from South Sudan	384	1451	49%
Internal movement within South Sudan	34	117	4%

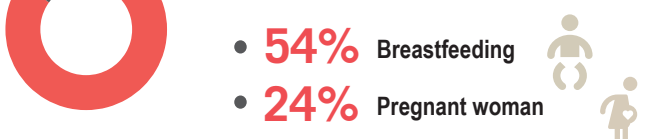
Security concerns during travel

	Inbound transport	Outbound transport ³
Checkpoints	24%	60%
Boat conditions	24%	20%
Boat overturning	24%	20%
Overloading of boat	24%	0%

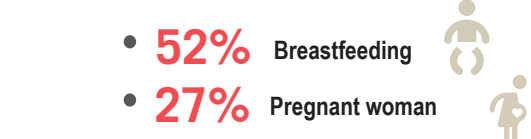
During the data collection period, in addition to interviewing 296 HHs coming by foot or in small vehicles and boats, REACH also used the TFP tool to estimate the number of HH travelling on larger boats. In January, one larger inbound boat was recorded carrying an estimated 210 individuals, and two larger outbound boats carrying an estimated 98 and 96 individuals, respectively.

Vulnerabilities

85% of total **inbound HHs** reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability, including:



79% of total **outbound HHs** reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability, including:



Notes:

1. The TFP tool asks the driver (or another focal point) of the transportation to give details of the number of individuals and number of households travelling. This methodology is used if the number of households travelling exceeds 3 or 4 households and therefore cannot all be interviewed. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring Terms of Reference here: <https://www.impact-repository.org/document/reach/830456c9/reach-ssd-terms-of-references-port-monitoring-october-2019-for-public-use.pdf>

2. While internal movement within South Sudan was also recorded in Akobo over the data collection period, this factsheet covers crossborder movement between South Sudan and Ethiopia, and vice versa, only.

3. Outbound transport focal points were asked what security concerns they anticipated on their onward journey based on historical trips.

4. Partial HHs are those where not all members of the self-identified family unit were reportedly travelling. Please note, family units in South Sudan often extend beyond the nuclear family.