



Cross-Border Population Movement Factsheet

Akobo Port and Road Monitoring

Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

September 2020

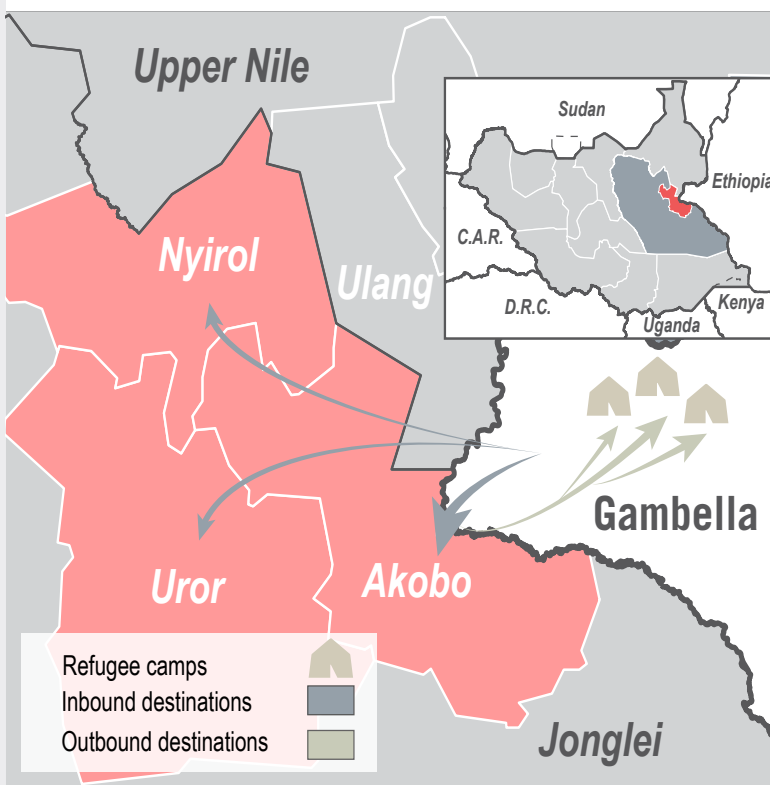
CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

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 30th of September 2020.

MAIN DESTINATIONS OF INBOUND AND OUTBOUND HHs

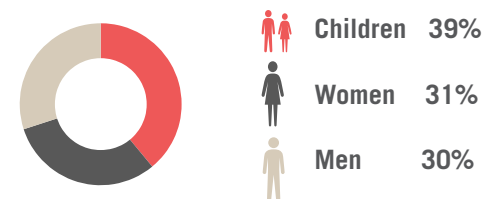


INBOUND TO SOUTH SUDAN

28% 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:



89% of inbound HHs were partial HHs.⁶

Previous location in Ethiopia

Primary reported locations from which inbound HHs were leaving:

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

Intended destination in South Sudan

Primary reported intended destinations for inbound HHs:

Akobo County	89%
Uror County	7%
Nyirol County	4%

Push factors

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

Distance from family/home	82%
Lack of work opportunities	11%
Tensions with host community	4%

Reasons for coming to South Sudan

Primary reported pull factors for inbound HHs, June 2020 to September 2020:

	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020	September 2020
Rejoining family/ home	74%	60%	51%	61%
Attending a ceremony	3%	4%	3%	21%
Presence of work opportunities	3%	7%	10%	11%

OUTBOUND FROM SOUTH SUDAN

63% 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:



90% of outbound HHs were partial HHs.⁶

Previous location in South Sudan

Primary reported locations from which outbound HHs were leaving:

Akobo County	86%
Uror County	8%
Nyirol County	5%

Intended destination in Ethiopia

Primary reported intended destinations for outbound HHs:

Jewi Camp	29%
Nguenyiel Camp	23%
Kule Camp	22%

Pull factors

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

Presence of education services	52%
Presence of shelter	19%
Presence of health services	15%

Reasons for leaving South Sudan

Primary reported push factors for outbound HHs, June 2020 to September 2020:

	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020	September 2020
Lack of education	12%	16%	24%	52%
Lack of shelter	0%	0%	0%	18%
Lack of health services	13%	18%	11%	15%

GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS

The findings in this factsheet are based on data from the REACH Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection and the TFP survey, the latter of which captures larger movements between Akobo and Ethiopia.¹

Type of movement

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

	HHs	Individuals	HHs %
Inbound to South Sudan from Ethiopia	78	350	19%
Outbound to Ethiopia from South Sudan	279	2006	70%
Internal movement within South Sudan	44	549	11%

Security concerns during travel

Inbound transport	Outbound transport ³
1 Checkpoints	7
1 Boat is overloaded	1
0 Boat breaking down	1
1 Boat overturning	1
1 Boat conditions	1

During the data collection period, in addition to interviewing 266 HHs travelling by foot or in small vehicles and boats (PRM data collection), REACH also used the TFP tool to estimate the number of HHs travelling on larger boats. In September, one larger inbound boat was recorded carrying an estimated 88 individuals, and two larger outbound boats were recorded carrying an estimated 431 and 291 individuals respectively.

Vulnerabilities

68% of total inbound HHs reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability⁴, including:

- 36%** Breastfeeding
- 23%** Pregnant women

77% of total outbound HHs reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability⁴, including:

- 52%** Breastfeeding
- 42%** Separated/unaccompanied child⁵

Notes:

1. The TFP tool asks the driver (or another focal point) 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 households and therefore cannot all be interviewed. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring Terms of Reference [here](#).

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. Respondents may select multiple vulnerabilities.

5. This option combines separate answer options: "Unaccompanied minor" and "Separated child".

6. 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.