

Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan

#### CONTEXT

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. In two locations, Tirgol Port and Market Port, REACH has recorded arrivals and departures of South Sudanese on a daily basis since May 2015. 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. 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, rather indicative of movement trends for the assessed population<sup>1</sup>

The following findings are based on primary data collected between 2 and 15 May and 17 and 31 May 2018. REACH teams interview arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level. During May, REACH interviewed 67 HHs who were arriving in and 123 HHs who were departing from Akobo town. These HHs interviewed were selected amongst those arriving to or leaving from Akobo town by boat.

#### DEPARTURES Demographic

62% of households leaving South Sudan reported intending to stay in Ethiopia for more than four months.



### Desired destination locations<sup>4</sup>

Reported intended destinations in Ethiopia by households leaving South Sudan intending to stay for more than four months:

25 %
22 %
16 %
11 %
7 %
7 %
13 % 📕

### Push factors<sup>4</sup>

Most commonly reported primary reason for leaving South Sudan

Lack of food	43 %
Lack of education	17 %
Insecurity	16 %
Lack of healthcare	11 %
Other	12 %

# **Greater Akobo Returnee** Destinations Nyrol JONGLEI Akobo Fthin Akobo To Uror

### Reasons for leaving South Sudan

Reasons for leaving South Sudan, February 2018 to May 2018:

	February 2018	March 2018	April 2018	May 2018
Insecurity	51 %	33 %	17 %	16 %
Lack of food	28%	30 %	36 %	43 %
Lack of education	7 %	18 %	25 %	17 %
Lack of healthcare	4 %	9 %	17 %	11 %

#### **Pull factors**

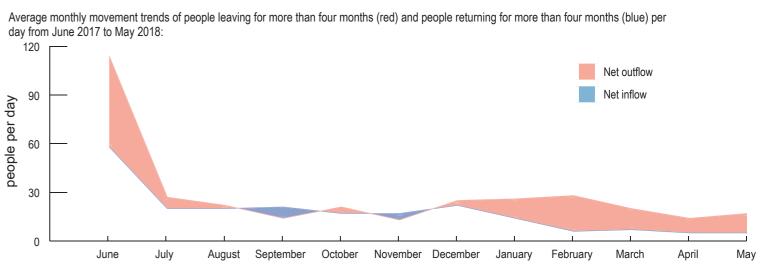
Most commonly reported primary reason for travelling to Ethiopia:

Presence of food distribution	42 %
Presence of education services	18 %
Security	16 %
Rejoining family	9 %
Other	13 %

#### Note

1. These are indicative trends; REACH does not record all arrivals and departures. 2. The decrease in average number of people leaving from July onward may be attributed to partial (not full) HHs leaving and the progression of the rainy season providing some personal security from the ongoing conflict since roads are less accessible for armed actors. 3. Prior to February 2018, data was not disaggregated by intended duration of stay, thus figures given prior to this refer to those permanently leaving and permanently returning.

### **GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS**<sup>2,3</sup>



## ARRIVALS

#### Demographic

of households returning from Ethiopia reported intending to stay in South Sudan for more than four months.



### Desired return locations

Most commonly reported primary reason

Tensions with host community

Push factors

Far from family

Lack of shelter

Other

Lack of healthcare

Reported intended destinations in South Sudan by households returning from Ethiopia intending to stay for more than four months:

Akobo County	97 %
Uror County	3 %

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May 2018

### **Reasons for leaving Ethiopia**

Reasons for leaving Ethiopia, February 2018 to May 2018:

	February 2018	March 2018	April 2018	May 2018
Family members left/ rejoining family	55 %	55 %	53 %	73 %
Lack of healthcare	0 %	9 %	0 %	6 %
Lack of shelter/ uncomfortable conditions <sup>5</sup>	15 %	6 %	12 %	6 %
Insecurity/ tensions with host community <sup>6</sup>	9 %	24 %	30 %	6 %

#### Pull factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for returning to South Sudan:

73 % Rejoining family Presence of healthcare Presence of education services Presence of jobs Other

3	70	
6	%	
6	%	
6	%	
9	%	

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Percentage figures given do not sum to 100% due to rounding error.

Figures given for February 2018 represent the indicator 'Uncomfortable living conditions' Figures given represent a combination of indicators previously reported as 'Insecurity' and insions with host community'

# REACH MPACT Initiatives ACTED and UNOSAT