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.

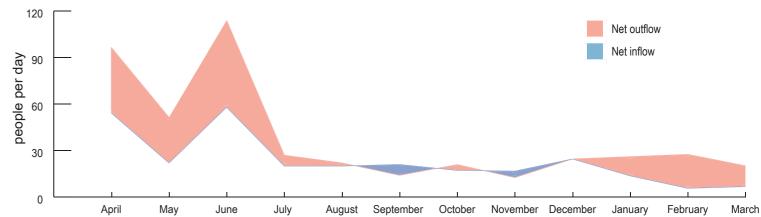
Since the beginning of the crisis in 2013, this route has been used by South Sudanese heading to or coming back from refugee camps in Ethiopia. In two locations, Tirgol Port and Market Port, REACH has recorded arrivals and departures of South Sudanese on a daily basis since May 2015. In order to provide 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. Please note that the data presented here is indicative, not representative.

The following findings are based on primary data collected between 1 and 31 March 2018, with the exception of 30 March. REACH teams interview arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level. During March, REACH interviewed 72 HHs who were arriving in and 135 HHs who were departing from Akobo town. These HHs interviewed were selected amongst those arriving to or leaving from Akobo town by boat.

Greater Akobo Returnee Destinations Nyirol Akobo Town Secondary returnee destination Primary returnee destination

GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS^{1,2}

Average monthly movement trends of people leaving for more than four months (red) and people returning for more than four months (blue) per day from April 2017 to March 2018:



DEPARTURES Demographic³

74% of the those leaving South Sudan reported intending to stay in Ethiopia for more than four months.



Desired destination locations

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

Nguenyyiel Camp	24 %
Jewi Camp	15 %
Pamdong Transit Site	14 %
Pugnido II Camp	8 % ■
Kule Camp	8 % ■
Pugnido Camp	6 % ■
Other	25 %

Push factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for leaving South Sudan.

Insecurity	33 %	
Lack of food	30 %	
Lack of education	18 %	
Lack of healthcare	9 %	
Far from family	8 %	
Other	2 %	I

Reasons for leaving South Sudan

Reasons for leaving South Sudan, December 2017 to March 2018:

	December 2017	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018
Insecurity ⁴	46 %	26 %	51 %	33 %
Lack of food	19 %	30 %	28 %	30 %
Lack of education	12 %	16 %	7 %	18 %
Lack of healthcare	3 %	4 %	4 %	9 %

Pull factors³

Most commonly reported primary reason for travelling to Ethiopia:

Security	37 %
Presence of food distribution	24 %
Presence of education services	24 %
Presence of health services	9 %
Other	7 %

Note:

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

ARRIVALS Demographic

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



Desired return locations

Push factors

Far from family

Lack of healthcare

Lack of shelter

Other

Tensions with host community

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

Akobo County	91 %
Nyirol County	9 %

Most commonly reported primary reason for leaving Ethiopia:

55 %

24 %

9 %

6 % I

6 % **I**

Reasons for leaving Ethiopia

Reasons for leaving Ethiopia, December 2017 to March 2018:

	December 2017	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018
Family members left / rejoining family ⁵	22 %	22 %	55 %	55 %
Lack of healthcare	3 %	6 %	0 %	9 %
Lack of shelter/ Uncomfortable conditions ⁶	7 %	2 %	15 %	6 %
Insecurity / tensions with host community ⁷	7 %	5 %	9 %	24 %

Pull factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for returning to South Sudan:

Rejoining family	67 %
Going to plant crops	12 %
Presence of health services	12 %
Presence of jobs	3 %
Other	6 % •

Note:

- Figures given prior to February 2018 are comprised of indicators previously reported as 'ongoing conflict' and 'personal insecurity' combined.
- 5. Figures given prior to February 2018 represent the indicator 'Returning home/ rejoining family'
- 6. Figures given for February 2018 represent the indicator 'Uncomfortable living conditions'
- 7. Figures given represent a combination of indicators previously reported as 'Insecurity' and 'Tensions with host community'







