

# ↕ Sudan Crisis: Cross-Border Assessment

Returnee / Refugee Household Survey

14 June 2023

South Sudan - Round 2

## KEY MESSAGES

- The majority of households surveyed in South Sudan were **South Sudanese**. They reported having fled **active conflict** in areas of **Khartoum** state and **South Darfur** state. Over two third of respondents said they had been separated from one or more members of their household.
- Findings indicate households faced dangerous journeys to reach/cross the border, with most households reporting having endured difficulties such as **property looting, transport difficulties and violence**. The majority of households intend to stay in their current location for the next month, or move to another location in South Sudan.
- Most households reported an **urgent need for food, water and shelter**. The most preferred form of assistance reported was **in-kind assistance**.

# 37%

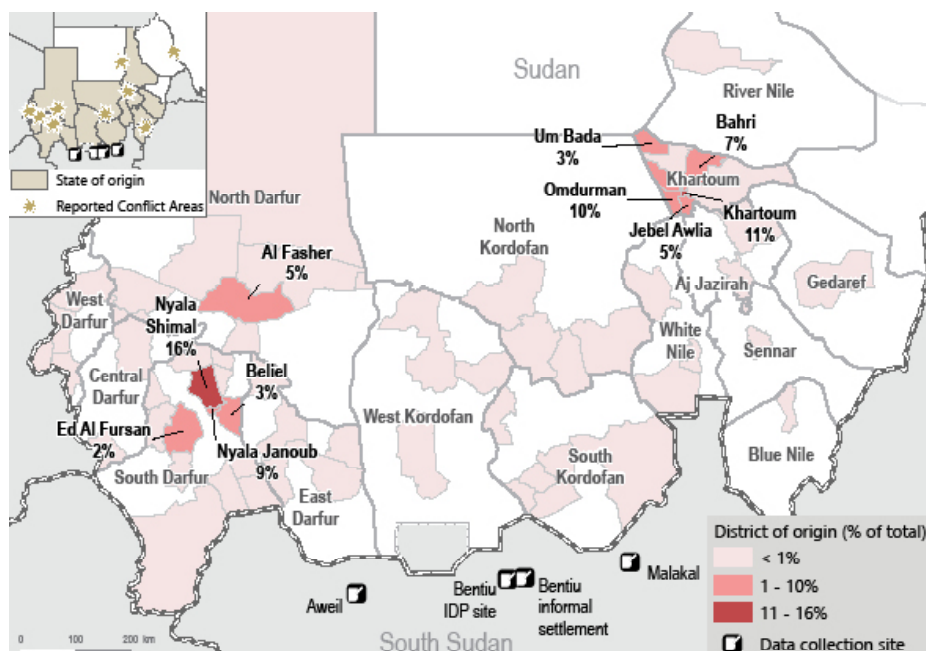
37% of households reported traveling with at least one **pregnant or nursing woman** in their household.

# 84%

84% of households said that in the last 30 days, there had already been **nothing to eat in their home**, due to a lack of food resources.

**Map 1: Reported regions of origin in Sudan**

(conflict data source: [ACLED](#))



## CONTEXT & RATIONALE

Conflict erupted in Sudan on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2023, leading to displacement of hundreds of thousands of Sudanese nationals into neighbouring countries. The conflict, subsequent displacement, and anticipated macroeconomic consequences are likely to exacerbate the already severe humanitarian situation in Sudan and its neighbouring countries.

Given the rapidly changing humanitarian context, REACH conducted a cross-border assessment to provide humanitarian actors with up-to-date information on the extent of humanitarian needs in shock-affected parts of Sudan and among recent arrivals in neighbouring countries.

This factsheet presents findings on the demographics, immediate needs and displacement of households that have crossed the border into South Sudan. Additional data and analysis from the cross-border assessment and other assessments of the crisis in Sudan can be accessed via *the Sudan Crisis Thread* on the [REACH website](#).

See also: [Results of the first round of data collection in South Sudan](#).

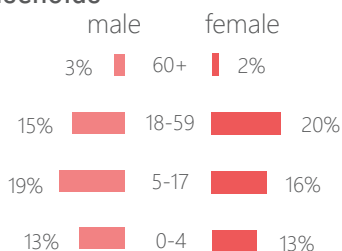
## ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

For this second round of data collection, REACH interviewers conducted structured interviews with **438 returnee and refugee households** entering **South Sudan** at relevant border crossing points between **June 6 and 8, 2023**. Respondents were asked about the current situation of their household in their area of displacement, their intentions to move, as well as the situation in their locality of origin.

**The results are indicative and cannot be generalized to any known level of accuracy.** For more information on the methodology, please refer to the dedicated section on page 3.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

% of individuals in interviewed households



Median household size: 6<sup>1</sup>

**37%** of households reported travelling with a pregnant or nursing woman

**68%**

of respondents reported having been separated from one or more household members.

**48%**

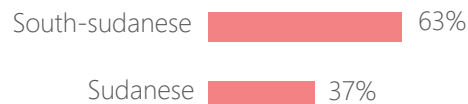
of respondents reported children in their household had been separated from both parents.\*

\*Field observations suggest that the majority of these children are with other relatives.

% of respondents by gender



% of respondents per nationality\*



**48%** of households stated that at least one member of their household did not have any identity documents at all.

## DISPLACEMENT & INTENTIONS

Top 3 most reported regions of origin

1. Nyala Shimal, South Darfur State (16%)
2. Khartoum, Khartoum State (11%)
3. Um Durman, Khartoum State (10%)

Top 3 most reported push factors<sup>2</sup>

1. Active conflict in the locality of origin (85%)
2. Loss of livelihood (33%)
3. Desire to reunite with family who have already been displaced (9%)

Top 3 most reported intentions for the month following data collection

- Remain in current location **74%**
- Move to another location in South Sudan **12%**
- Do not know, waiting to make a decision **7%**

Among households who reported intending to stay in South Sudan, main intended destinations

1. Northern Bahr el Ghazal (65%)
2. Do not know, waiting to make a decision (9%)
3. Jonglei (7%)

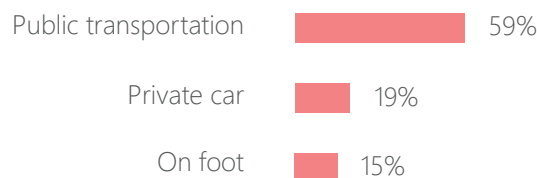
The majority of households intending to stay in their current locality or move to another locality in the country said they intended to stay in planned camp (34%) or with relatives/friends (34%).

## REMAINING POPULATION<sup>4</sup>

**96 key informants (KIs) (n=127) reported that people in their settlement of origin had been wanting to leave but had been unable to.** Fear for safety and/or security, road closures and being unable to afford fees at checkpoints, were the main reasons reported as barriers to travel, according to KIs.

## DISPLACEMENT JOURNEYS & PROTECTION

Most reported modes of transport used to travel to border crossing point



**34%** of households report that transport was one of three principle difficulties encountered when travelling<sup>3</sup>.

The difficulties related to transport included: transport being too expensive, lack of available places and lack of space on available transport.

**18% households** reported having had to pay informal road or checkpoint taxation in Sudan while travelling.

**54%** of households reported having faced difficulties travelling to and/or entering South Sudan.

Among those respondents, most reported difficulties faced travelling to and/or entering South Sudan<sup>2</sup>

Difficulty (% of households reporting difficulties, n=235)	Female respondents (n=174)	Male respondents (n=61)
Looting of property (61%)	64%	51%
Transport difficulty (34%)	33%	36%
Victim of violence (25%)	24%	27%
Corruption (20%)	21%	18%

<sup>1</sup> Includes only household members who were currently traveling together

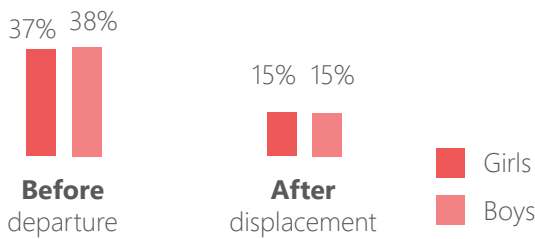
<sup>2</sup> Multiple-choice question, up to 3 possible answers.

<sup>3</sup> Among households who report difficulties during their trip.

<sup>4</sup> The situation in settlements in Sudan was assessed through the Area of Knowledge method (see Methodology Overview). Findings from this part of the cross-border assessment can be found [in a dedicated factsheet](#).

## EDUCATION

% of **girls** and **boys** (aged 5-17) attending school before and after displacement



## FOOD SECURITY

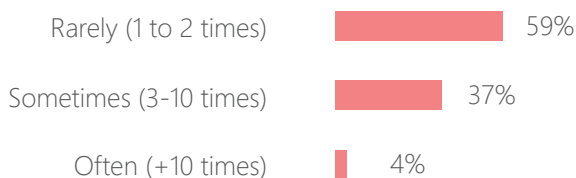
Household hunger score (HHS)

Household hunger score categories	% of households surveyed by category
0-1 Low or no household hunger	4,31%
2-3 Moderate household hunger	82,65%
4-6 Severe household hunger	13,4%

**78%** of households reported that in the last 30 days, at least one member of their household **had gone a whole day and a whole night without eating at all**, because there was not enough food.

**84%** of households declared that in the last 30 days, their household had **already had nothing to eat, because of lack of resources to get food**.

% of households for which **at least one household member went to sleep hungry at night**, because of lack of resources to get food (within the last 30 days prior to data collection)



Household dietary diversity Score (HDDS)

Household Dietary Diversity and categories	% of households surveyed by category
Low dietary diversity (0-2 food groups)	83%
Medium dietary diversity (3-4 food groups)	16%
High dietary diversity (5-12 food groups)	1%

## ACCES TO WATER

**53%** of households **have already worried about not having enough water to cover all their needs** within the last four weeks.

**54%** of households **reported that they had experienced a lack of drinkable water** in their household at least once in the last four weeks.

**54%** More than half of households reported that they **already had to modify their schedules or plans** due to water-related problems.

**51%** Half of the households reported that, in the last four weeks, they had at least once **been unable to wash their hands after dirty activities**, due to water-related problems.

Water Insecurity Experiences (WISE) Scales<sup>5</sup>

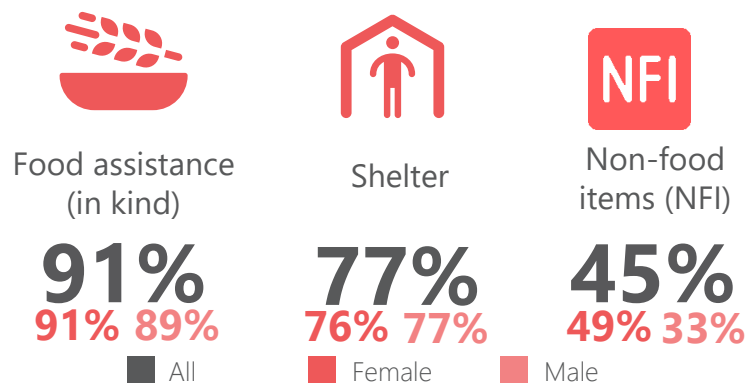
	Score	% of household
Water insecure	0 to 3	55%
	4 to 6	27%
	7 to 9	12%
	10 to 12	5%

The results of the interviewed households' insecurity experiences indicate that **nearly half of households (45%) are water insecure** (score above 3).

<sup>5</sup> More information on the WISE scales methodology can be found at the following link: [The Water Insecurity Experiences \(WISE\) Scales](#)

## PRIORITY NEEDS & ASSISTANCE PREFERENCES

Top 3 most reported main priority needs, by % of interviewed households



Among households that declared non-food items (NFIs) to be one of their most urgent needs (22%), the most cited types of NFI were **sleeping mats/mattresses, cooking utensils, and jerrycans/water containers.**

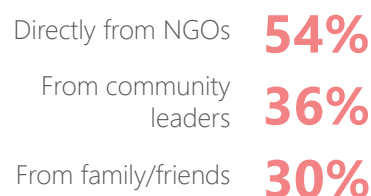
Top 3 most preferred modalities of assistance<sup>6</sup>

1. In-kind assistance (68%)
2. Service delivery (50%)
3. Multi-purpose cash (35%)

Most reported main information needs, by % of interviewed households (Top 4)



Most reported preferred ways of receiving information, by % of interviewed households



## METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

**Time of data collection:** 6-8 June 2023

In the absence of a comprehensive needs assessment on the situation in Sudan and neighbouring countries, the assessment consisted of two components to cover, as best as possible, the situation in areas of origin in Sudan as well as the situation of **recent arrivals in South Sudan.**

The first component involved a structured household survey primarily centred on **returnees**, with limited inclusion of **refugees, crossing the Sudan-South Sudan border.** In total, **438 households** were interviewed about their current situation and movement intentions, most of whom (189) were from Khartoum state and the Darfur region (217).

For the second component, household survey interviewees were asked to act as key informants (KI) and report on behalf of their community in their settlement of origin about the situation. Respondents were selected for the KI component if they 1) reported that there were still people living in their settlement of origin and 2) confirmed that they felt knowledgeable about the situation in their settlement of origin since the 15th of April. In total, enumerators interviewed **127 KIs** among the 438 households. All interviews were conducted at border crossing points and in reception centres by trained enumerators. Findings for this component are presented separately and can be accessed [here](#).

Due to the purposive sampling, for both components, findings are not generalisable with a known level of precision and should be considered indicative only. As more information becomes available, it is recommended to triangulate findings with updated information where possible.

For more information on the sampling tools and methods used, please refer to the Research Terms of Reference (ToR) and the Detailed Analysis Plan (DAP), which will be made available [here](#).

New data, analysis, and outputs from other assessments on the Sudan conflict will be made available on the [Sudan Crisis Thread](#) on the REACH website.

### ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

<sup>6</sup> Multiple-choice question, up to 3 possible answers.