



Cross-Border Population Movement Factsheet

Akobo Port and Road Monitoring

Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

August 2019

CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

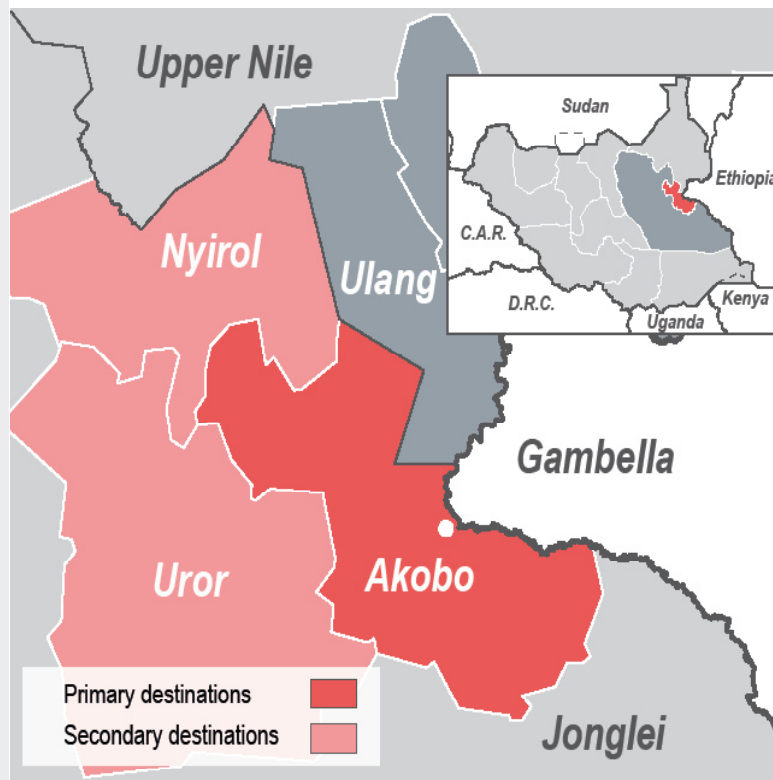
Akobo town is located in the eastern side of Akobo County, Jonglei State, close to the land and river border crossings with Ethiopia. Akobo is a key point of trade and transit between South Sudan and Ethiopia.

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. In four locations, Gadrang Road, Koatkoangthor Road, Tundol Port and Market Port, REACH has recorded arrivals and departures of South Sudanese households (HHs) 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. 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, such as the driver or transport authority¹. 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 population².**

The following findings are based on primary data collected between 1 and 31 August 2019. REACH teams interviewed arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level.

MAIN DESTINATIONS OF INBOUND HHs



INBOUND TO SOUTH SUDAN

37% 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:



68% of inbound HHs were partial HHs.⁴

Previous location in Ethiopia

Primary reported locations from which inbound HHs were leaving:

Jewi Camp	32%
Kule Camp	25%
Nguenyiel Camp	22%

Intended destination in South Sudan

Primary reported intended destinations for inbound HHs:

Akobo County	87%
Uror County	8%
Nyirol County	5%

Push factors

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

Distance from family/ home	58%
Tensions with host community	21%
Lack of education	8%

Reasons for coming to South Sudan

Primary reported reasons for inbound HHs, May 2019 to August 2019:

	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019	August 2019
Rejoining family/ home	56%	67%	74%	67%
Perceived security	19%	10%	16%	21%
Availability of local food	0%	0%	1%	5%

OUTBOUND FROM SOUTH SUDAN

66% 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:



86% of outbound HHs were partial HHs.

Previous location in South Sudan

Primary reported locations from which outbound HHs were leaving:

Akobo County	87%
Uror County	6%
Nyirol County	3%

Intended destination in Ethiopia

Primary reported intended destinations for outbound HHs:

Nguenyiel Camp	27%
Kule Camp	24%
Jewi Camp	22%

Pull factors

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

Presence of food distributions	30%
Presence of educational services	25%
Presence of family	22%

Reasons for leaving South Sudan

Primary reported reasons for outbound HHs, May 2019 to August 2019:

	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019	August 2019
Lack of food	29%	37%	40%	30%
Lack of education	19%	14%	13%	25%
Distance from family/ home	16%	24%	25%	22%

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 Transport Focal Point (TFP) survey which captures larger movements between Akobo and Ethiopia¹.

Type of movement

Total monthly number of HHs and individuals recorded in August 2019:

	HHs	Individuals	HHs %
Inbound to South Sudan from Ethiopia	294	1187	50%
Outbound to Ethiopia from South Sudan	253	1088	43%
Internal movement within South Sudan	39	203	7%

Security concerns during travel

	Inbound transport	Outbound transport ³
Looting	67%	71%
Boat breaking down	17%	14%
Low water level	17%	14%

During the reporting period, in addition to interviewing 291 HHs through the PRM survey, coming on foot or in small vehicles and boats, REACH also used the TFP tool to estimate the number of households travelling on larger boats for which the enumerator team is not able to interview individually. In August, 1 larger inbound boat was recorded with an estimated 202 people, and two larger outbound boats carrying an estimated 89 people across the two boats.

Vulnerabilities

82% of total **inbound HHs** reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability, including:

- 86%** Pregnant or breastfeeding.
- 22%** Elderly

70% of total **outbound HHs** reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability, including:

- 60%** Pregnant or breastfeeding.
- 22%** Separated child

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-reference-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. Throughout August a PRM survey was conducted with 1 HH travelling from South Sudan to Uganda.

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..