



CROSS-BORDER POPULATION MOVEMENT FACTSHEET

AKOBO PORT AND ROAD MONITORING

AKOBO COUNTY, JONGLEI STATE, SOUTH SUDAN

SOUTH SUDAN DISPLACEMENT CRISIS

May, 2022

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 HH level. For movements larger than three HHs, 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

During the data collection period, in addition to interviewing 159 HHs (1,026 individuals) 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 in larger boats.¹ In April, a total of 2 outbound transports were recorded carrying an estimated 59 HHs (190 individuals), and 3 inbound transports were recorded carrying an estimated 60 households (181 individuals).

The following findings are based on primary data collected between the 2nd and 30th of May 2022.

GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS

Type of Movement²

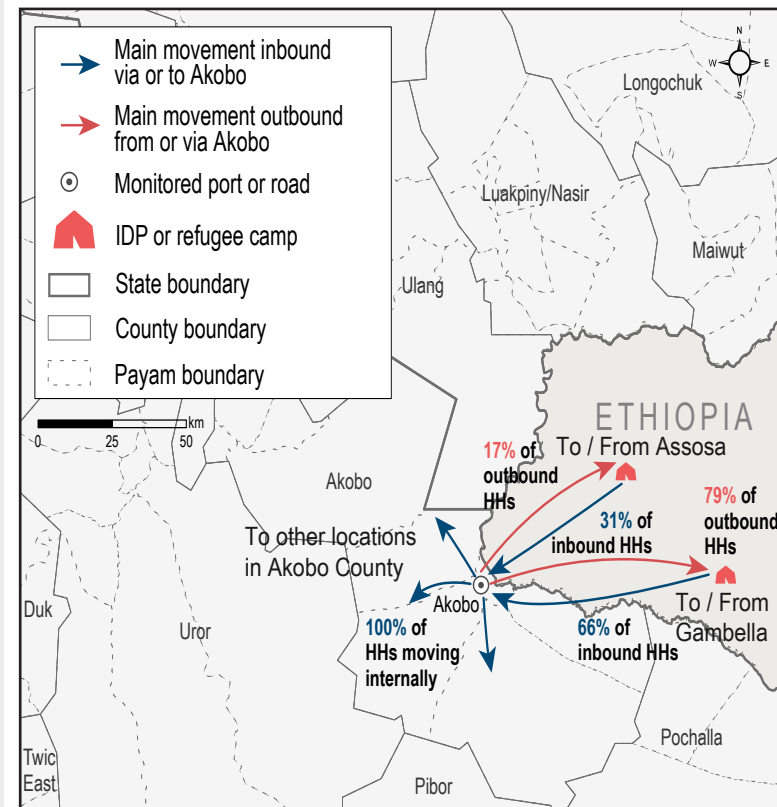
Total monthly number of HHs and individuals recorded in April 2022:

	HHs	Individuals	% of HHs
Inbound to South Sudan from Ethiopia	99	481	34%
Outbound to Ethiopia from South Sudan	129	602	43%
Internal movement within South Sudan	53	314	23%

Self-reported refugees

100% of inbound households and **99%** of outbound households reported having **refugee status in another country**.

MAIN DESTINATIONS OF INBOUND AND OUTBOUND HHs



Number of KIs Reporting Security Concerns During Travel³

	Inbound transport	Outbound transport
Checkpoints	2	3
Poor boat conditions	2	3
Boat overturned		2

Vulnerabilities

94% of total inbound HHs reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability,⁴ including:

- 69%** Pregnant
- 67%** Separated / unaccompanied child
- 64%** Breastfeeding

81% of total outbound HHs reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability,⁴ including:

- 54%** Breastfeeding
- 41%** Separated / unaccompanied child
- 36%** Pregnant

INBOUND TO SOUTH SUDAN

58% 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:



72% of inbound HHs were partial HHs.⁵

PREVIOUS LOCATION IN ETHIOPIA

Primary reported locations from which inbound HHs were leaving:

Gambella Camp	66%
Assosa Camp	31%
Kakuma Camp	3%

INTENDED DESTINATION IN SOUTH SUDAN

Primary reported intended destinations for inbound HHs:

Akobo County	100%
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REASONS FOR MOVEMENT (PUSH FACTORS)

Most commonly reported **primary reason** for movement for inbound HHs:⁷

Distance from family / home	33%
Economic reasons (job, business, etc)	25%
Inadequate access to food	19%

Most commonly reported **secondary reason** for movement for inbound HHs to leave their last location:⁷

Economic reasons (job, business, etc)	28%
Distance from family / home	25%
No second reason	19%

OUTBOUND FROM SOUTH SUDAN

79% 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:



76% of outbound HHs were partial HHs.⁵

PREVIOUS LOCATION IN SOUTH SUDAN

Primary reported locations from which outbound HHs were leaving:

Akobo County	100%
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INTENDED DESTINATION IN ETHIOPIA

Primary reported intended destinations for outbound HHs:

Gambella Camp	79%
Assosa Camp	17%
Gambella (region) ⁶	3%

REASONS FOR MOVEMENT (PUSH FACTORS)

Most commonly reported **primary reason** for movement for outbound HHs:⁷

Access to education	30%
Inadequate access to food	19%
Collect aid	14%

Most commonly reported **secondary reason** for outbound HHs to go to another country:⁷

No second reason	30%
Access to education	27%
Collect aid ⁸ Better access to healthcare	10%

Notes:

- 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](#).
- 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.
- Outbound transport focal points were asked what security concerns they anticipated on their onward journey based on historical trips.
- Respondents may select multiple vulnerabilities. All vulnerabilities were self-reported by respondents.
- Partial HHs are those where not all members of the self-identified family unit were reportedly travelling. Family units in South Sudan often extend beyond the nuclear family.
- One percent of outbound respondents also reported that their intended destination was Bweyale Camp.
- Reported presence of services or opportunities is indicative of respondents' perceptions and does not necessarily reflect availability.
- 10% of outbound respondents also reported access to healthcare as a secondary reason for travel to another country.