Cross-Border Population Movement Factsheet
Akobo Port and Road Monitoring
Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan

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, Tundot 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 household (HH) level. 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 (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 The following findings are based on primary data collected between the 1st and 29th of February 2020.

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 TFP survey which captures larger movements between Akobo and Ethiopia.3

**Type of movement**

Total number of HHs and individuals recorded in February 2020:

- **Inbound to South Sudan from Ethiopia**
  - HHs: 105
  - Individuals: 568
  - Men: 31
  - Women: 27
  - Children: 42%
  - Men: 31%
  - Women: 27%

- **Outbound to Ethiopia from South Sudan**
  - HHs: 209
  - Individuals: 1218
  - Men: 44
  - Women: 121
  - Children: 49%
  - Men: 21%
  - Women: 30%

Internal movement within South Sudan:

- HHs: 44
- Individuals: 312
- Men: 12%
- Women: 32%
- Children: 30%
- Men: 31%
- Women: 24%

During the data collection period, in addition to interviewing 265 HHs coming by foot or in small vehicles and boats, REACH also used the TFP tool to estimate the number of HH travelling on larger boats. In February, one larger inbound boat was recorded carrying an estimated 113 HHs, three medium-sized inbound boats carrying an estimated 114, 168, and 114 HHs respectively. In contrast, during the data collection period, the TFP tool also asked 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 5 or if a household and then HHs cannot be interviewed. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, in the data section, under Additional Resources. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, in the data section, under Additional Resources. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, in the data section, under Additional Resources. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, in the data section, under Additional Resources. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, in the data section, under Additional Resources.

**Security concerns during travel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Movement Type</th>
<th>Inbound transport</th>
<th>Outbound transport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HHs</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat overloaded</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Push factors**

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

- Lack of food: 75%
- Lack of educational services: 12%
- Rejoining family/home: 6%

**Pull factors**

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

- Presence of food distributions: 48%
- Presence of educational services: 24%
- Rejoining family/home: 15%

**Reasons for coming to South Sudan**

Primary reported push factors for inbound HHs, November 2019 to February 2020:

- Rejoining family/home: 57%
- Presence of food distributions: 15%
- Perceived security: 15%

**Reasons for leaving South Sudan**

Primary reported push factors for outbound HHs, November 2019 to February 2020:

- Lack of food: 24%
- Lack of educational services: 26%
- Distance from family/home: 15%

**Vulnerabilities**

- Breastfeeding: 49%
- Separated child: 30%
- Pregnancy: 26%
- Separated woman: 82%

**INBOUND TO SOUTH SUDAN**

46% 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:

- Men: 31%
- Women: 27%
- Children: 42%

Previous location in Ethiopia

Primary reported locations from which inbound HHs were leaving:

- Jewi Camp: 26%
- Nguenyiell Camp: 25%
- Kule Camp: 24%

Intended destination in South Sudan

Primary reported intended destinations for inbound HHs:

- Akobo County: 85%
- Nguenyiell Camp: 8%
- Uror County: 5%

**OUTBOUND FROM SOUTH SUDAN**

67% 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:

- Men: 21%
- Women: 30%
- Children: 49%

Previous location in South Sudan

Primary reported locations from which outbound HHs were leaving:

- Akobo County: 86%
- Nguenyiell Camp: 8%
- Uror County: 5%

Intended destination in Ethiopia

Primary reported intended destinations for outbound HHs:

- Jewi Camp: 25%
- Nguenyiell Camp: 24%
- Kule Camp: 24%

Pull factors

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

- Presence of food distributions: 48%
- Presence of educational services: 24%
- Rejoining family/home: 15%

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 5 or if a household and then HHs cannot be interviewed. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, in the data section, under Additional Resources.
2. While internal movement within South Sudan was also recorded in Akobo over the data collection period, this factsheet covers cross-border movement between South Sudan and Ethiopia, and vice versa, only.
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 HH identified family unit were reportedly travelling. Please note, family units in South Sudan often extend beyond the nuclear family.