

# COVID-19 Preparedness: Mobility Update Week I (23–29 March 2020)

## Background and Methodology

DTM relies on its network of key informants and on secondary sources to provide a weekly assessment of mobility and COVID-19 preparedness at priority locations in South Sudan. The updates are released each Monday morning based on information collected Monday–Saturday of the previous week.

If you wish to share any updates or flag any errors, please contact DTM at [southsudanDTM@iom.int](mailto:southsudanDTM@iom.int).

## Overview

On 24 March 2020, movement restrictions have been put in place by

## Key insights on countries bordering South Sudan

- SUDAN:** Both Governments have closed borders with few exceptions. Migration through Renk has come to a near complete halt while South Sudan (SSD) nationals were still able to travel back into the country through Abyei. This is not expected to last. Authorities on both sides seem to have difficulties enforcing movement restrictions through this porous border with many cross-border communities.
- ETHIOPIA:** On 20 March 2020, the government of Ethiopia suspended international flights to 30 countries. Regulations seem to be effective at official border crossing points where only SSD refugees in ETH are allowed to return. However, some movement is still ongoing along the green border/unofficial border crossing points.
- UGANDA:** Authorities closed the border on 22 March 2020, allowing only for the continuation of cargo traffic to SSD. Cargo planes will be exempted. Uganda has announced a total ban on new asylum seekers and refugees entering the country, which will be in place for at least 30 days as of 25 March 2020. The last reported

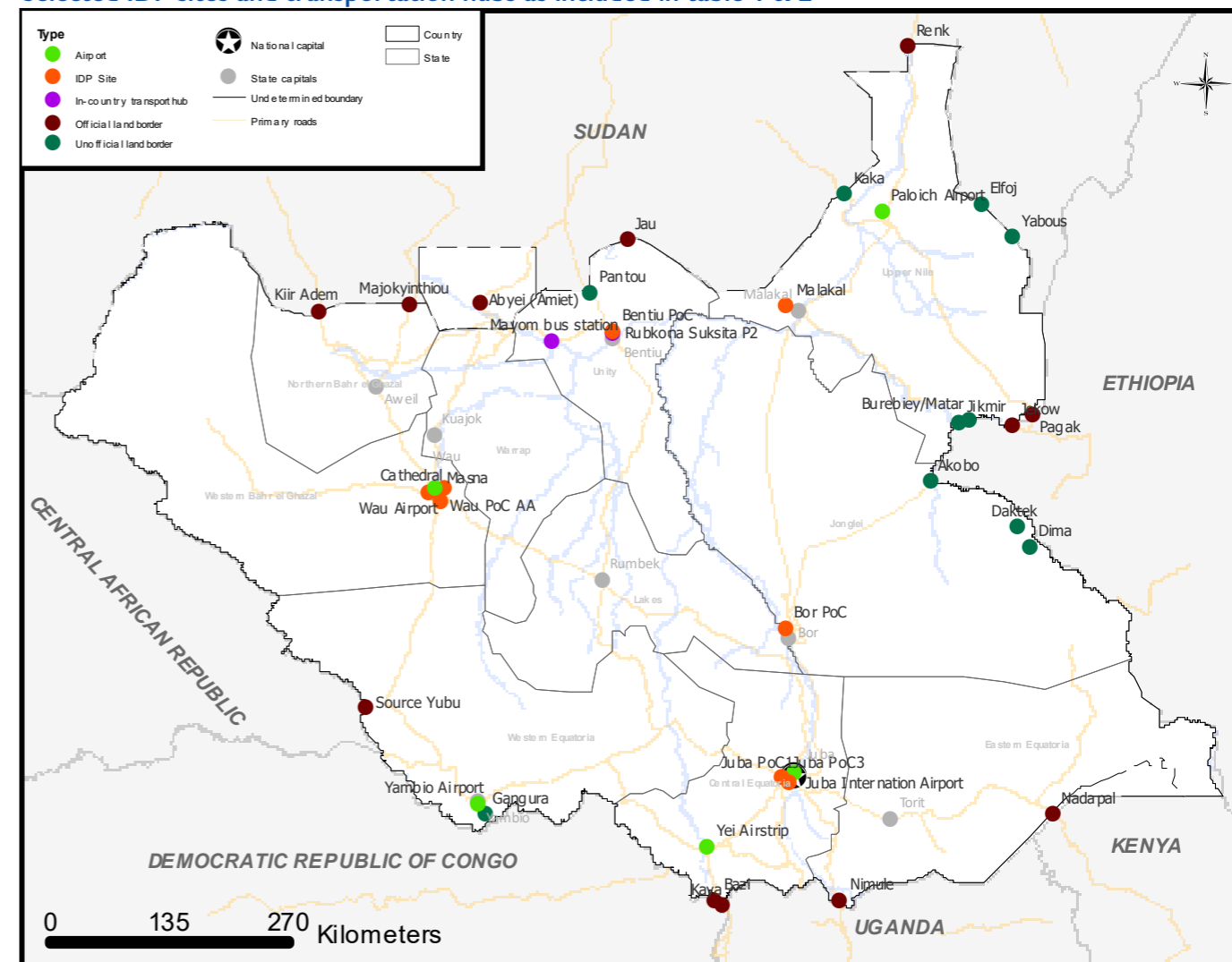
South Sudanese (SSD) Government and its neighbours. Some border points like Renk and Kaya are reported to be near completely blocked, whilst refugees have been allowed back into SSD through places like Nimule (neighbouring Uganda [UGA]), Pagak (Ethiopia [ETH]) and Jekow (ETH). Cargo has also been largely allowed to enter South Sudan with a maximum of three passengers in trucks.

It has proven difficult to enforce quarantine as highlighted by reports of over 500 South Sudan nationals breaking out of quarantine in a Renk secondary school after arriving from Sudan (27 March 2020) or of two South Sudan nationals in Elegu, Uganda who are now being prosecuted for leaving quarantine (21 March 2020) and attempting to re-enter South Sudan through Nimule.

movement of people was a group of up to 1,000 SSD nationals who were granted special permission to cross back to their home country on the evening of 23 March 2020.

- DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO:** After more than 50 positive cases and four confirmed deaths, DRC's government called for a state of emergency, closed all the borders and limited internal travel (in/out of Kinshasa). This did not affect cargo transport, which is still ongoing between the two countries.
- CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:** According to WHO, there are 6 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and one person deceased due to infection as of 28 March 2020. Border points with the Central African Republic have been shut from the SSD side.
- KENYA:** Kenya began curfew on 27 March, 7pm–5am, to contain the spread of the COVID-19. Kenya suspended all international flights from Wednesday 25 March 2020. Land-border access is restricted but not completely locked.

Selected IDP sites and transportation hubs as included in table 1 & 2



Please note that coordinates are available upon request.

Table 1. Mobility and preparedness assessment at selected IDP sites within South Sudan

#	County	Location	Type	Population <sup>1</sup>	Movement Restrictions within and in/out of the site	Average daily flow	Approx. % overnight travel <sup>2</sup>	Approx. % of out of county travel <sup>2</sup>	Congregation restrictions	Compliance with restrictions	Fever Screening	Hand-washing stations	Risk communication	Comment
1	Rubkona	Bentiu PoC	PoC	115,479	None	Unkn.	45%	71%	Unkn.	Unkn.	No	Yes	Yes	
2	Malakal	Malakal PoC	PoC	27,924	None	2,250	30%	63%	Yes	Unkn.	Yes	Yes	Yes	46% leave on daily / weekly basis ( <a href="#">intention survey May 2019</a> )
3	Wau	Wau PoC AA	PoC AA	12,915	None	Unkn.	3%	6%	Unkn.	Unkn.	No	No	Yes	60% leave on daily / weekly basis ( <a href="#">intention survey Jan 2020</a> )
4	Wau	Cathedral	Collective centre	2,919	None	Unkn.	17%	59%	Unkn.	Unkn.	No	No	No	55% leave on daily / weekly basis ( <a href="#">intention survey Jan 2020</a> )
5	Wau	Masna	Collective centre	3,681	None	Unkn.	6%	32%	Unkn.	Unkn.	No	No	No	43% leave on daily / weekly basis ( <a href="#">intention survey Jan 2020</a> )
6	Bor South	Bor PoC	PoC	1,925	None	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	No	Yes	Yes	
7	Central Equatoria	Juba PoC1	PoC	6,892	None	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	No	Yes	Yes	
8	Central Equatoria	Juba PoC3	PoC	22,804	None	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	Unkn.	No	Yes	Yes	

1. Latest population counts or biometric registration data when population counts aren't available.

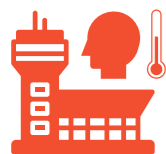
2. Based on DTM Displacement Site Flow Monitoring [Nov-Dec 2019](#).

**Table 2. Mobility and preparedness assessment at selected urban transport hubs and points of entry in South Sudan (not exhaustive)**

#	County	Location	Type	Border to	Mvmnt of cargo as of 30 March	Mvmnt of persons as of 30 March	Into SSD / out of SSD 2019 daily average <sup>3</sup>	Into SSD / out of SSD reporting period daily average <sup>3</sup>	Fever screening	Hand-washing stations	Risk communication	Isolation / quarantine area	Comment
1	Abyei	Abyei (Amiet)	Official land border	SDN	Incoming only	De facto via alternative routes	20/32	33/7	No	Unknown	Unknown	No	Local authorities in Abyei closed check-points but passage remains possible.
2	Akobo	Akobo	Unofficial land border	ETH	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	Unknown	No	Reach conducts road monitoring in Akobo Town. Persons and cargo are still crossing the border. Cargo is transported by river here, not trucks.
3	Aweil East	Majokyinhiou	Official land border	SDN	Incoming only	No disruption	6/24	40/8	No	Unknown	Unknown	No	
4	Aweil North	Kiir Adem	Official land border	SDN	Incoming only	No disruption	13/26	Unknown	No	Unknown	Unknown	No	
5	Juba	Juba Intl. Airport	Intl. Airport	Inland	Incoming only	Closed with exceptions	Unknown		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
6	Kapoeta East	Nadapal	NA	KEN	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	Yes	No	REACH conducting <a href="#">road monitoring in Kapoeta Town</a> (only displacement related).
7	Luakpiniy / Nasir	Burebiey/ Matar	Unofficial land border	ETH	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	One of the main border crossing points used from Gambella.
8	Luakpiniy / Nasir (/Ulang)	Jikmir	Unofficial land border	ETH	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	No network in this area.
9	Maban	Yabous	Unofficial land border	SDN	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	Small border crossing used without change.
10	Maban	Elfoj	Unofficial land border	SDN	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	Small border crossing used without change.
11	Magwi	Nimule	Official land border	UGA	Incoming only	Closed with exceptions	124/156	104/75	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Up to 1,000 South Sudanese from Uganda side were allowed to enter South Sudan at 6:30 pm on 23 March 2020.
12	Maiwut	Pagak	Official land border	ETH	Incoming only	Closed with exceptions	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	Border is closed except for SSD refugees and cargo.
13	Maiwut	Jekow	Official land border	ETH	Incoming only	Closed with exceptions	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	Border is closed except for SSD refugees and cargo.
14	Manyo	Kaka	Unofficial land border	SDN	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	Small border crossing used without change.
15	Mayom	Mayom bus station	In-country transport hub	Inland	Incoming only	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	No	No	Arrivals from Sudan and internal movement
16	Melut	Paloich Airport	National airport	Inland	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	No	
17	Morobo	Kaya	Official land border	UGA	No movement	No movement	249/198	71/38	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
18	Morobo	Bazi	Official land border	DRC	Incoming only	No movement	117/13	89/47	Yes	Yes	Unknown	No	
19	Pariang	Pantou	Official land border	SDN	Unknown	Closed with exceptions	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Panakuac road through Karsana and Heglig (all names with frequently used alternative spellings).
20	Pariang	Jau	Official land border	SDN	Incoming only	Night movement	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	
21	Pochalla	Dima	Unofficial land border	ETH	Unknown	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	Unknown	No	Movements to and from SSD reported as of 24 March 2020 despite restriction imposed on 23 March by Ethiopian Government.
22	Pochalla	Daktek	Unofficial land border	ETH	No movement	No disruption	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	Unknown	No	
23	Renk	Renk	Official land border	SDN	No movement	No movement	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown	No	No	REACH monitors <a href="#">displacement flows in Renk Town</a> .
24	Rubkona	Rubkona Suksita	In-country transport hub	Inland	Incoming only	No disruption	9/28	16/0	No	No	Unknown	No	Arrivals from Sudan and internal movement
25	Tambura	Source Yubu	Official land border	CAR	No movement	No movement	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	
26	Wau	Wau Airport	Intl. Airport	Inland	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
27	Yambio	Gangura	Unofficial land border	DRC	Outgoing only	De facto via alternative routes	11/37	0/0	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	No	Border closed bexcept for incoming cargo.
28	Yambio	Yambio Airport	Intl. Airport	Inland	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	No	
29	Yei	Yei Airstrip	Intl. Airport	Inland	Unknown	Closed with exceptions	8/7	0/0	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	International flights restricted but internal continue.

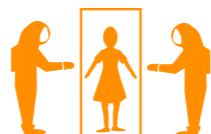
3. Averages for days with migration / when and where DTM flow monitoring data was collected.

# South Sudan COVID-19 Timeline



## Screening at main points of entry:

Juba International Airport, Nimule, Wau and Yambio Airport. Suspension of direct flights from affected countries. Government calls for reduction of travel and restriction on social gatherings.



## Quarantine

The government imposes a mandatory 14-day quarantine for all travellers coming from affected countries. Travellers are obliged to cover the quarantine related costs.



## South Sudan closes borders

South Sudan closes all airports and seals land borders for passengers. Curfew across country from 8.00PM to 6.00AM. Public institutions working half-time (7.30am- 1.00PM). First suspected case of COVID-19 tested negative.



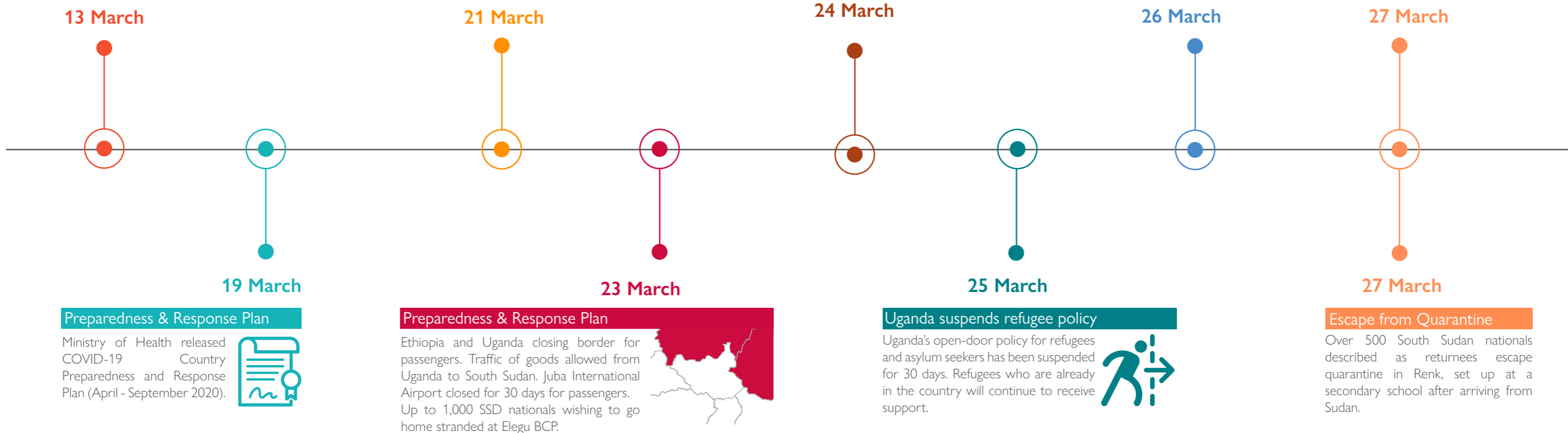
## CERF

UN released Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19.



## Kenya COVID-19 Death

Kenya confirmed the country's first death from COVID-19. Second East African country after Sudan to confirm COVID-19 related death.



## Preparedness & Response Plan

Ministry of Health released COVID-19 Country Preparedness and Response Plan (April - September 2020).



## Preparedness & Response Plan

Ethiopia and Uganda closing border for passengers. Traffic of goods allowed from Uganda to South Sudan. Juba International Airport closed for 30 days for passengers. Up to 1,000 SSD nationals wishing to go home stranded at Elegu BCP.



## Uganda suspends refugee policy

Uganda's open-door policy for refugees and asylum seekers has been suspended for 30 days. Refugees who are already in the country will continue to receive support.



## Escape from Quarantine

Over 500 South Sudan nationals described as returnees escape quarantine in Renk, set up at a secondary school after arriving from Sudan.

# COVID-19 Cases and Deaths



## Worldwide:

- 634,835 confirmed cases
- 29,957 deaths



## Number of cases/deaths in neighboring countries:

- Sudan 5/1
- Central African Republic 6/0
- DRC - 68/6
- Uganda - 14
- Ethiopia - 16
- Kenya - 25/1



## South Sudan

- 0 confirmed cases
- 0 deaths
- 18 tests conducted: 0 positive; 18 negative

Source: WHO, update as of 29 March 2020

