

# **COVID-19 Preparedness & Response:** Mobility Update Week 10 (25-31 May 2020)

#### **Background and Methodology**

DTM relies on its network of key informants and on secondary sources to provide a weekly (Monday to Sunday) assessment of mobility and COVID-19 preparedness at priority locations in South Sudan. Table 2 on page 2 represents only points recommended by the Points of Entry Technical Working Group (PoE TWG). A more exhaustive list of entry points can be found here.

If you wish to share any updates or flag any errors, please do not hesitate to contact IOM DTM at southsudanDTM@iom.int.

#### Overview

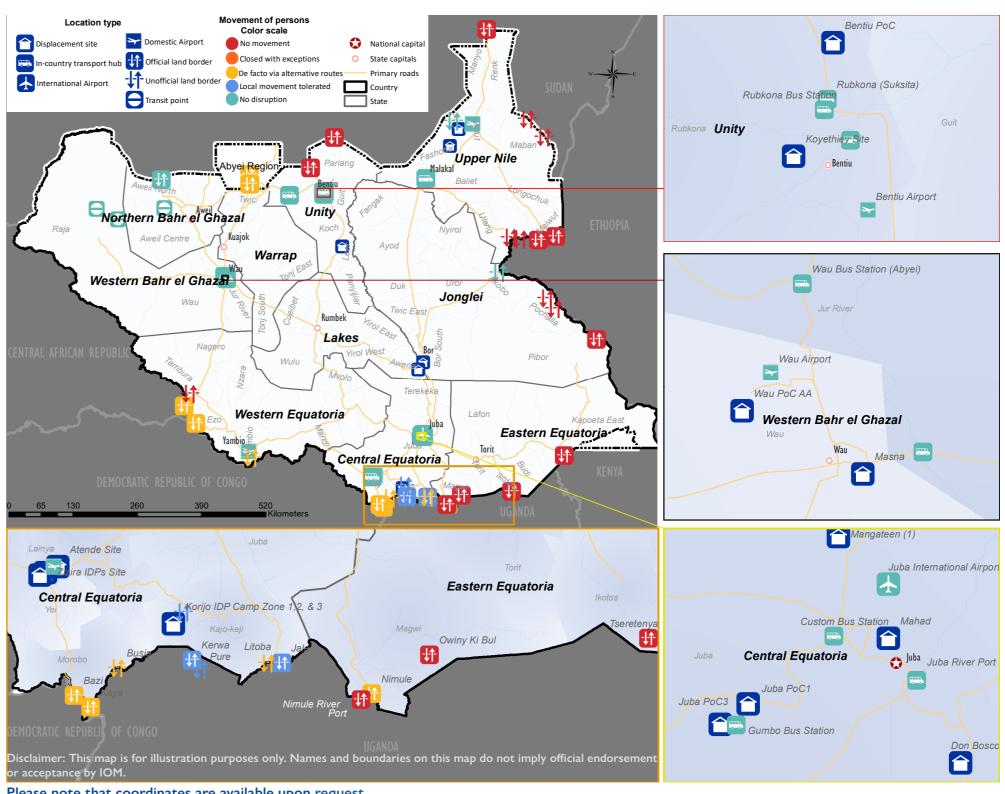
The Ministry of Health (MoH) announced 188 new cases on 27 May 2020, 17 of which were imported with a total of 994 positive cases, 6 recoveries, and 10 deaths. According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), COVID-19 related movement restrictions' impacts on household income and food prices have contributed to driving Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes in May 2020.

South Sudan has recorded the first frontline health-care worker who died of COVID-19 on 29 May 2020, the undersecretary at the MoH has disclosed. According to Dr. Makur Koriom, four frontline workers contracted the novel coronavirus saying one of them succumbed to the virus. The country continues to experience difficulties in setting up sustainable quarantine facilities as cases of patients (repeatedly) escaping forced quarantine continue to be reported. As the number of cases rises, the newly appointed chairman of the South Sudan's reconstituted National Committee on COVID-19, Fifth Vice President Hussein Abdelbagi and Dr James Wani Igga, Second Vice President, tested positive for COVID-19.

As cases of the virus are reported at larger displacement sites, humanitarian partners and UNMISS/UNPOL are downscaling / prioritizing programming and physical presence within the sites.

#### Key insights on countries bordering South Sudan

- · SUDAN: While movement through Abyei Amiet remains restricted, travellers are finding alternative routes to travel and bribes have rendered checkpoints less effective. Travel through the western routes crossing the northern border remains less restricted as in previous reporting periods. On 28 May 2020, a team from UNISFA, IOM Sudan, WHO, Save the Children, and Global Hand Aid visited Abyei to hand over a health facility which shall be used as a screening point.
- ETHIOPIA: Movement of cargo and persons to and from Ethiopia through Akobo remains uninterrupted with other points of entries remaining closed for the movement of persons and open for cargo. Following a protest at the South Sudanese embassy in Addis Ababa regarding the lack of coronavirus living allowance paid out to South Sudanese students by the South Sudan Ministry of Education, seven individuals were allegedly attacked by Ethiopian
- · UGANDA: Movement through the key border points, Nimule and Kaya remains on halt except for cargo. However, many travellers still find their way through the porous border at alternative crossing points. The region continues to experience difficulties screening truck <u>drivers</u> crossing borders with long queues delaying the import of goods into South Sudan.
- · DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: Movement of persons through Bazi and Gangura is still officially halted. However, the border remains porous and cross border communities continue to travel. UNHCR reports that as of 29 May 2020, cases of COVID-19 have not been registered among persons of concern.
- CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: Source Yubu and Nabia Pai are closed for movement of persons with alternative routes remaining commonly used. Cargo movement through these points of entry continues uninterrupted.
- KENYA: The Nadapal border point remains open for the movement of cargo and closed for movement of persons.



Please note that coordinates are available upon request.

DTM tracked 74 locations including 19 displacement sites and 55 transportation hubs within the country and along international borders to report on COVID-19 related measures such as temperature screening and the availability of handwashing stations.

Of 19 displacement sites all were subjected to some form of risk communications, 17 (89%) made additional handwashing stations available and 3 (16%) screened temperatures at the gates. The movement of persons was stopped at a third of tracked in-country and border transit locations (18 locations of 33%). However, movement continued unhindered at nearly half (25 locations or 45%) with reports of alternative nearby routes being used at 6 (11%) and local movement by cross-border communities being tolerated at a further 6 locations (11%). Temperature screening was practiced at 7 locations (13%) while risk communication was made available at over half of tracked transit areas (33 locations or 60%). While handwashing stations had been constructed at over a third of these locations (19 locations or 35%), these were not put to use by travellers in all hubs.

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

County	Location	Туре	Population <sup>1</sup>	Movement Restrictions within and in/ out of the site	Average daily flow in / out (latest available data)	Approx. % overnight travel	Approx. % of out of county travel for overnight travel	Congregation restrictions	Temper- ature Screening	Hand- washing stations	Risk com- munication	Comment
Rubkona	Bentiu PoC	PoC	111,766	None	12,569/13,858	44%	52%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	There is one confirmed COVID-19 case so far in Bentiu PoC site. Movement of IDPs in & out the PoC continues as usual.
Malakal	Malakal PoC	PoC	27,930	Yes	3,978/3,879	17%	95%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Temperature screening has not been set up. Handwashing stations are available at all entrances. Risk communication being done through community meetings, posters/banners and radio. Previous movements restrictions have been lifted.
Wau	Wau PoC AA	PoC AA	9,956	None	3,338/3,628	2%	0%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Wau	Masna	Collective centre	6,127	None	Unknown	2%	80%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Bor South	Bor PoC	PoC	1,921	Yes	190/127	Unkn.	Unkn.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Juba	Juba PoC1	PoC	6,880	None	6,461/2,797	Unkn.	Unkn.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Two confirmed cases as of 5 June 2020.
Juba	Juba PoC3	PoC	22,778	None	9,213/9,226	Unkn.	Unkn.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Five confirmed cases as of 5 June 2020.

Table 2. Mobility and preparedness assessment at urban transport hubs and points of entry in South Sudan recommended by the Points of Entry Technical Working Group (PoETWG)

County	Location	Туре	Border to	Mvmnt of cargo as of 31 May	Mvmnt of persons as of 31 May	Into / out of point 2019 daily average <sup>2</sup>	Into / out of point during reporting period daily average <sup>2</sup>	Temper- ature Screening	Hand- washing stations	Risk communication	Isolation / quarantine area	Increased security forces	Comment
Abyei	Abyei (Amiet)	Official land border	SDN	No disruption	De facto via alternative routes	20/32	2/6	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Akobo	Akobo	Unofficial land border	ETH	No disruption	No disruption	Unknown	11/17	No	No	No	No	No	
Aweil East	Majokyinthiou	Unofficial land border	SDN	No disruption	No disruption	6/24	15/0	No	No	No	No	No	Police in Aweil are searching for a <u>COVID-19 patient who escaped quarantine</u> for the second time on 28 May 2020.
Aweil North	Kiir Adem	Official land border	SDN	No disruption	No disruption	13/26	78/64	No	No	No	No	No	
Juba	Juba Intl. Airport	Intl. Airport	Inland	No disruption	No disruption	Unknown	177/96	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	The airport is operational both domestically and internationally, there is observe incoming cargo internationally in the course of the week.
Kapoeta East	Nadapal	Official land border	KEN	Incoming only	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	No	No	Unknown	
Maban	Yabous	Unofficial land border	SDN	No disruption	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	No	No	No	
Maban	Elfoj	Unofficial land border	SDN	No disruption	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	No	No	No	
Magwi	Nimule	Official land border	UGA	No disruption	No movement	124/156	33/38	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Over 1,500 trucks stranded within Nimule town heading to Uganda with about 31 positives COVID-19 drivers who entered into south Sudan (Nimule) reported from Elegu-Uganda (about 2 weeks within town).
Maiwut	Pagak	Official land border	ETH	No disruption	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	No	No	Unknown	
Maiwut	Jekow	Official land border	ETH	No disruption	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	No	No	Unknown	
Morobo	Kaya	Official land border	UGA	Incoming only	De facto via alternative routes	249/198	2/3	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Holding unit available but no isolation unit.
Pariang	Pantou	Official land border	SDN	No movement	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	Yes	Yes	Unknown	
Pariang	Jau	Official land border	SDN	No movement	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	Yes	No	Unknown	
Renk	Wunthaw	Official land border	SDN	No disruption	No movement	Unknown	0/0	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Rubkona	Rubkona Suksita	In-country transport hub	Inland	No disruption	No disruption	9/28	670/500	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	This hub is also used by IDPs from Bentiu PoC site and is a bus terminal for different internal locations within Rubkona and beyond Rubkona.

<sup>1.</sup> Latest population counts or biometric registration data when population counts aren't available. 2 Averages from IOM DTM Flow Monitoring or KI information. Into and out of SSD for border points.

# South Sudan

# COVID-19 Timeline (main events)



#### High Level Task Force

The Government of South Sudan establishes the High Level Task Force on COVID-19 led by The First Vice President Dr. Riak Machar.

#### Border Closure

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

Over 500 South Sudan nationals described The Diocesan Major quarantine in Renk, COVID-19 from Sudan.

#### Quarantine Escape Closing of Wau Collective Centres

as returnees <u>escape</u> Response Team on transportation system of COVID-10 patients set up at a secondary to close several Wau other towns and villages stay-at-home orders. school after arriving collective centres. As of in Central Equatoria, and 12 April 2020, Nazareth, between Torit and all Cathedral, St. Joseph and other towns and villages Lokoloko (3,743 ind. in Eastern Equatoria. March 2020 according to

#### Internal movement restrictions

## Forced Quarantine

The Government begins Suspension of all public the forceful quarantine decides between Juba and all who did not adhere to

#### First Bentiu PoC site case confirmed

first

COVID-19

The

case (IDP) is confirmed at Bentiu PoC site. Partners begin contact tracing and continue in the construction of a Bentiu

#### First Juba PoC site cases confirmed

The first COVID-19 cases are confirmed at luba PoC 3 site. The patients are humanitarian service

providers.

## Re-opening of airspace South Sudan Civil Aviation

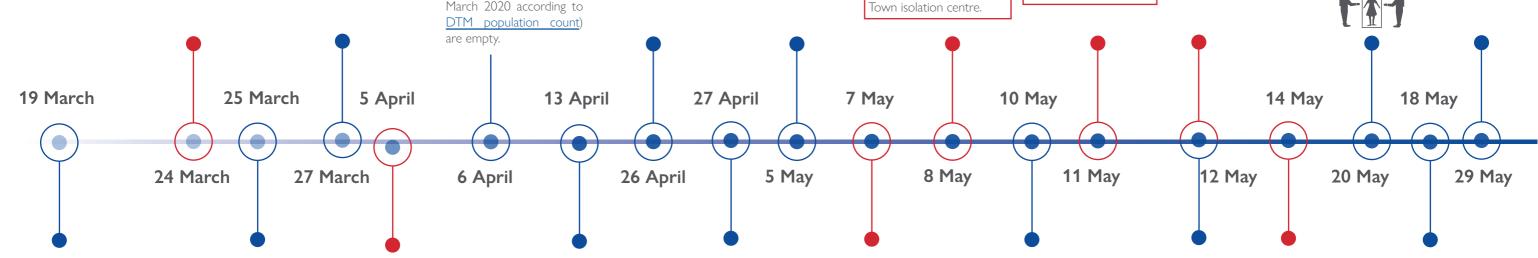
Authority has officially announced the reopening of all airports to domestic and international flights.

#### Ouarantine Front line death escpape

people escaped quarantie Kapoeta South County due to first front-line limited

One health-care worker of COVID-19 representing the

food fatality in South Sudan.



## Preparedness & Response Plan

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

#### Uganda suspends refugee policy

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

#### COVID-19 Case in SSD

The South Sudan Government confirmed its first case of COVID-19.



#### Suspension of inter-state travel

The Government has suspended passenger flights as well as public and private iner-state

transport for up to two weeks effective from midnight Wednesday 15 COVID-19 April 2020 (Communication from the in presidency 25, HLTF 13 April 2020). County.

#### Malakal PoC site lockdown start

Security forces put the UNMISS base and Malakal PoC site under lockdown Malakal

#### Relaxation of measures

The Presidency announces a relaxation of COVID-19 measures as of 8 May 2020 including a curefew from 10pm-6am and the loosening of other congregation restrictions without their complete repeal.

#### Trucks stranded

"Hundreds of" trucks are reported to be Elegu stranded in (UGA), bordering Nimule. The drivers are said to be awaiting clearance from South Sudanese authorities.

#### Malakal PoC site lockdown end

Government security forces have lifted the lockdown at Malakal PoC site.

#### First death

The HLTF confirmes28 new cases bringing the total number of cases to 231 with 🗶 🗶 three 🔻 recoveries and one death.

#### Taskforce change

The High Level Task Force on COVID-19 is replaced with the National Taskforce Committee Coronavirus Disease.

# Summary of tracked border crossing points and transportation hubs Week 10 (25-31 May 2020)



Туре	#
Domestic Airport	6
In-country transport hub	12
Intl. Airport	1
Official land border	19
Transit point	2
Unofficial land border	15
Total	55

Movement of cargo	#
Incoming only (trucks)	2
Incoming only (small scale)	2
No disruption	44
No movement	7
Total	55

Movement of people	#
De facto via alternative routes	6
Local movement tolerated	6
No disruption	25
No movement	18
Total	55

C-19 measures	Yes	No	Unknown
Temperature screening	7	48	0
Handwashing stations	19	36	0
Isolation / quarantine area	9	46	0
Increased security forces	7	13	35
Risk Communication	33	22	0



For an excel version of the above summary as well as table 1 & 2 (p2) including more transport hubs and points of entry, please click here.

## COVID-19 Cases and Deaths



#### Worldwide:

- 5,934,936 confirmed cases
- 367,166 deaths



# Number of cases/deaths in neighboring countries:

- Sudan: 4,800/262
- Central African Republic: 874/1
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: 2,965/68 Uganda: 446/0
- Ethiopia: 1,063/8
- Kenya: 1,888/63



#### South Sudan

- 994 confirmed cases\*
- 10 deaths
- 6 recoveries

\*Source: HLTF South Sudan Source: WHO, update as of 31 May 2020

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