

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 (reporting period Monday to Sunday). 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

As of 24 May 2020 the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Sudan stands at [655](#) of which 95 per cent were recorded in Juba. As per a presidential communication on 18 May 2020, a new National Taskforce Committee on Coronavirus Disease is to continue activities previously carried out by the High-Level Taskforce Committee on COVID-19.

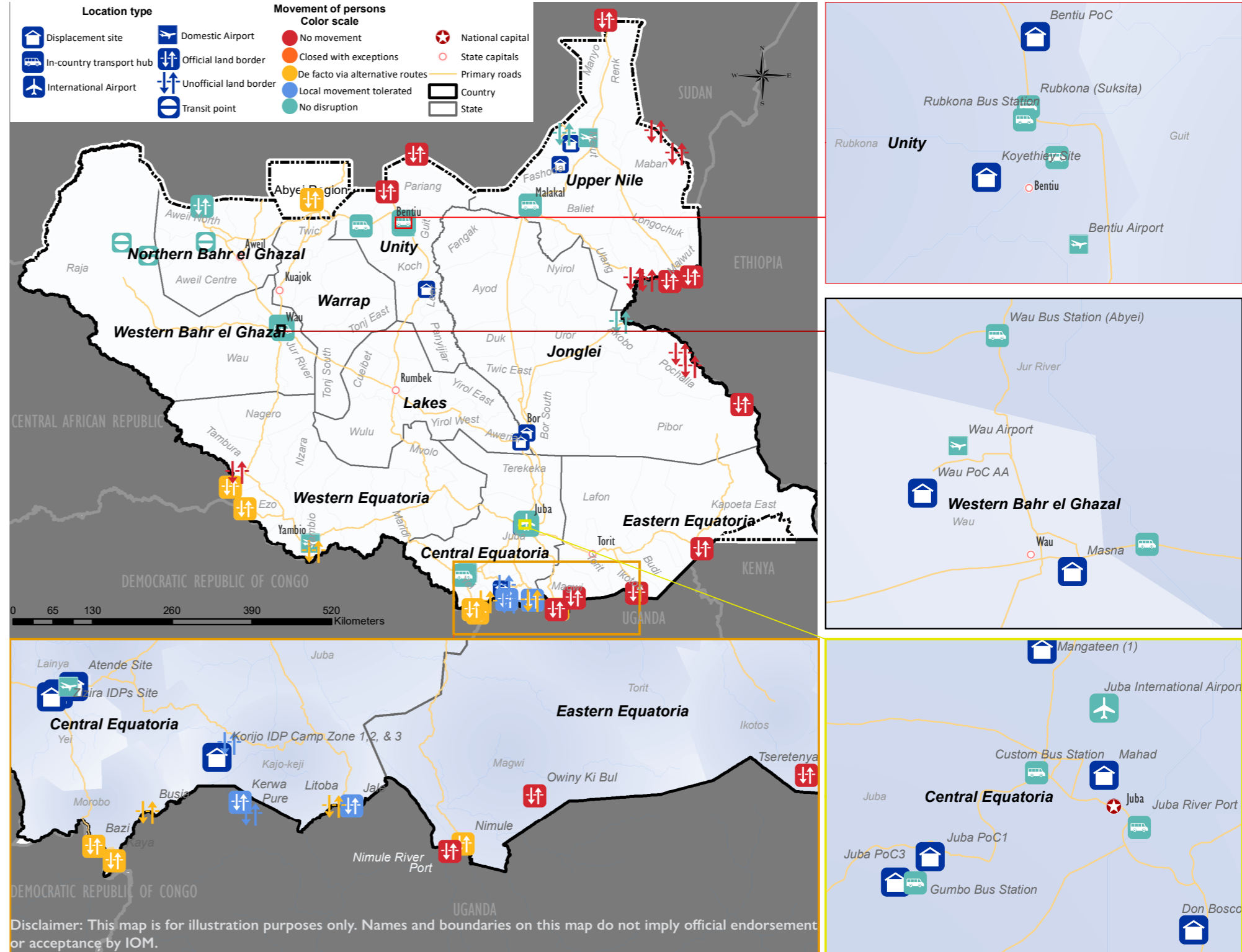
According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) the relaxation of restrictive congregation and travel measures announced on 8 May 2020 have caused market and [trade activities to rebound](#) but that concerns for the “direct impacts of COVID-19 on the food security of at-risk households” remain.

Efforts to prevent further spread of the virus remain by implementing policies such as forced quarantine and movement restrictions remained curtailed during this reporting period by limited resources as highlighted by the [escape of 24 persons](#) who were to remain in quarantine in Kapoeta South County due to insufficient food supplies.

DTM gathered data on 19 displacement sites, 33 land borders, 14 in-country transit hubs and 7 airports. Among monitored non-displacement site locations (54), DTM found that the movement of persons had halted at 17 (31%) but that travel continued without interruption at 23 (43%) or through alternative nearby points (9 or 17%). Temperature screening was conducted at six locations (11%), handwashing stations were available at 21 (39%) and risk communication was carried out at nearly half of locations (26 or 48%).

Temperature screening was recorded as being available at 3 out of 19 tracked displacement sites (16%) but nearly all made handwashing stations available (17 sites or 89%). Some form of risk communication was carried out at all tracked displacement sites.

Selected IDP sites and transportation hubs



Key insights on countries bordering South Sudan

- SUDAN:** Movement of persons has continued through most points of entries along the Sudan border. A joint team from WHO, Save the Children & MOH visited Abyei and trained eight volunteers who will be conducting temperature screening. Following a PoE TWG assessment in Renk (14-20 May 2020), DTM established a Flow Monitoring Point in Wunthou to better capture the movement of persons and cargo due to the point's geographical location as a convergence point for cross-border routes between Sudan and South Sudan.
- ETHIOPIA:** Akobo remains the only active point of entry for movement of persons and cargo while seven others are open only for movement of cargo.
- UGANDA:** While the movement of cargo is permitted, delayed bureaucratic processes linked to COVID-19 restrictions have caused long queues of trucks at the Elegu / Nimule border. The issue of stranded truck drivers is a [regional](#) one fuelling fears the crowded border areas might become the next hot spots of the disease.
- DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO:** Gangura and Bazi remain open for movement of cargo with continued movement of persons across alternative nearby routes.
- CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:** Movements of persons via alternative routes through Source Yubu and Ezo Centre points of entries have continued via alternative routes.
- KENYA:** The Nadapal border point remains open for the movement of cargo and closed for the movement of persons.

Please note that coordinates are available upon [request](#).

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

County	Location	Type	Population ¹	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	Temperature Screening	Hand-washing stations	Risk communication	Comment
Rubkona	Bentiu PoC	PoC	111,766	None	12,688/13,375	47%	73%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	There is one confirmed COVID-19 case as of May 24th in Bentiu PoC site. UNMISS/UNPOL reduced its presence in the PoC to critical issues only. Movement of IDPs in & out the PoC continues as usual.
Malakal	Malakal PoC	PoC	27,928	Yes	4,208/4,226	36%	96%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Temperature screening has not been set up. Hand washing at all entrances. Risk communication being done through community meetings, posters/banners and radio. The previous movement restriction are lifted.
Wau	Wau PoC AA	PoC AA	9,956	None	3,559/4,187	3%	100%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Wau	Masna	Collective centre	6,172	None	Unkn.	8%	0%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Bor South	Bor PoC	PoC	1,921	Yes	289/344	Unkn.	Unkn.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Juba	Juba PoC1	PoC	6,880	None	283/315	Unkn.	Unkn.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Juba	Juba PoC3	PoC	22,779	None	2,407/2,380	Unkn.	Unkn.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 COVID-19 positive cases in PoC 3 Site under case management.

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	Type	Border to	Mvmnt of cargo as of 17 May	Mvmnt of persons as of 17 May	Into / out of point 2019 daily average ²	Into / out of point during reporting period daily average ²	Temperature 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	2/2	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	On 21 May 2020 a joint team from WHO, Save the Children and the Ministry of Health in Abyei Administrative Area visited Amiet PoE and trained 8 volunteers who will begin temperature screening .
Akobo	Akobo	Unofficial land border	ETH	No disruption	No disruption	Unknown	11/17	No	No	No	No	No	
Aweil East	Majokynthiou	Transit point	SDN	No disruption	No disruption	6/24	81/68	No	No	No	No	No	
Aweil North	Kiir Adem	Official land border	SDN	No disruption	No disruption	13/26	23/28	No	No	No	No	No	
Juba	Juba Intl. Airport	Intl. Airport	Inland	No disruption	No disruption	Unknown	148/79	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unknown	While the airport is open for all movements of cargo and passengers, international flights have not resumed to pre-COVID-19 schedules. Most flights operated within South Sudan only during the reporting period.
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	De facto via alternative routes	124/156	64/13	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Large number of trucks stranded on Nimule / Elegu border.
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	3/1	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	Yes	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	617/420	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	This internal hub is also used by IDPs from UNMISS Bentiu PoC site and is a bus terminal for different internal connections within Rubkona.

1. 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.

Summary of tracked border crossing points and transportation hubs Week 9 (18-24 May 2020)

Type	#
Domestic Airport	6
In-country transport hub	11
Intl. Airport	1
Official land border	19
Transit point	3
Unofficial land border	14
Total	54

Movement of cargo	#
Incoming only	2
Incoming only (small scale)	2
No disruption	42
No movement	8
Total	54

Movement of people	#
De facto via alternative routes	9
Local movement tolerated	5
No disruption	23
No movement	17
Total	54

C-19 measures	Yes	No	Unknown
Temperature screening	6	48	0
Handwashing stations	21	33	0
Isolation / quarantine area	9	45	0
Risk Communication	26	28	0
Increased security forces	7	10	37

01/10 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.

South Sudan COVID-19 Timeline (part 1/2: 19 March - 18 April 2020)

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.

Closure of edu. facilities

South Sudan Vice President for Service Cluster Hussein Abdelbagi Akol has decided to close all the schools, teachers training institutes and the universities across the country.

Uganda suspends refugee policy

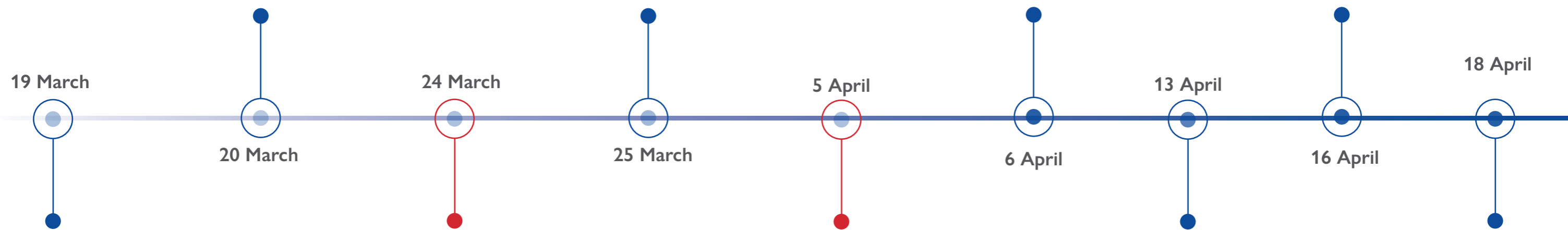
Uganda's open-door policy for refugees and asylum seekers is suspended for 30 days. Refugees who are already in the country will continue to receive support.

Closing of Wau Collective Centres

The Diocesan Major Response Team on COVID-19 decides to close several Wau collective centres. As of 12 April 2020, Nazareth, Cathedral, St. Joseph and Lokoloko (3,743 ind. in March 2020 according to DTM population count) are empty apart from a few stranded households.

Increased testing in Juba

The HLTf directs the Ministry of Health to divide Juba into five zones and to collect over 100 samples per week per zone to enable a minimum testing capacity of 500 samples a week (Communication from the presidency 28, HLTf 16 April 2020).



Preparedness & Response Plan

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

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. First suspected case of COVID-19 tested negative.

1st COVID-19 Case in SSD

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

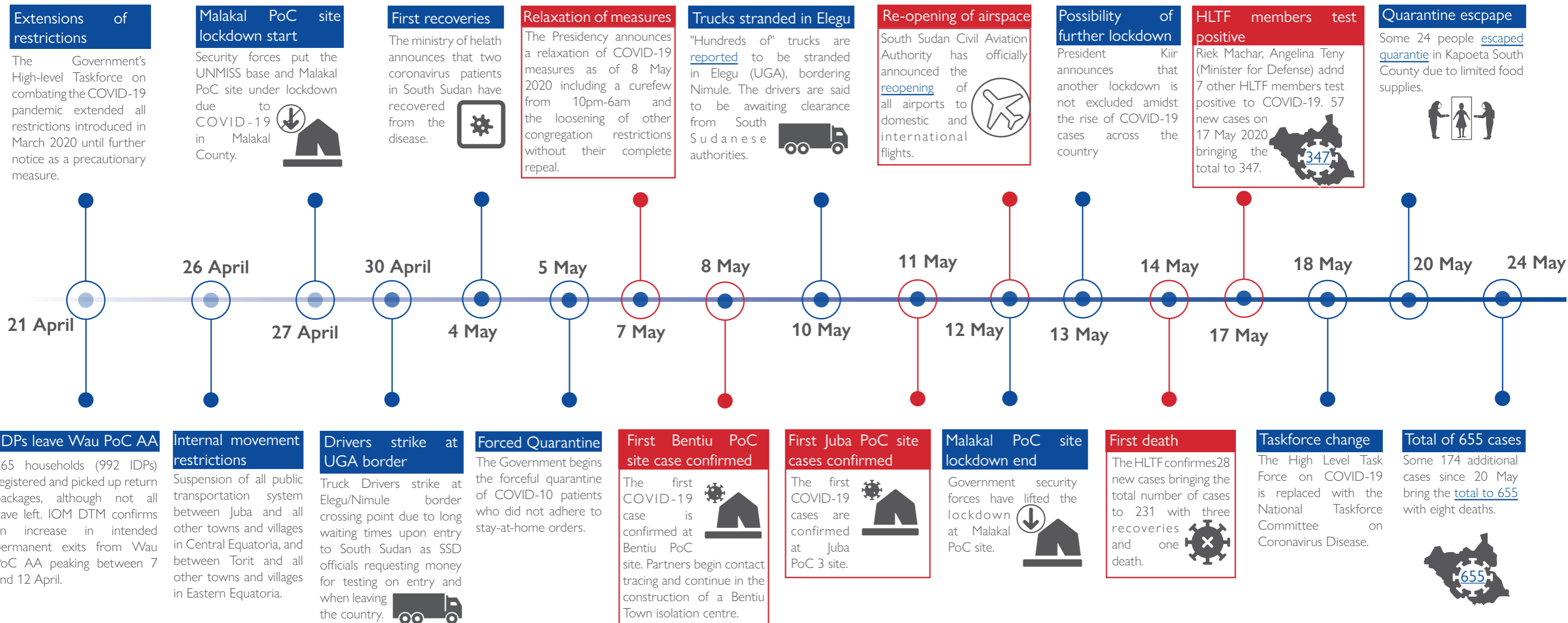
Long distance learning

Education ministry to launch distance learning for students. Lessons for core subjects for primary and secondary school students will be delivered over radio stations and national television.

Release of 143 prisoners

Authorities in South Sudan has released 143 prisoners in an effort to combat the spread of the new coronavirus disease in crowded jails.

South Sudan COVID-19 Timeline (part 2/2: 21 April - 24 May 2020)



COVID-19 Cases and Deaths



Worldwide:

- 5,204,508 confirmed cases
- 337,687 deaths



Number of cases/deaths in neighboring countries:

- Sudan: 3,634/146
- Central African Republic: 552/1
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: 2,140/62
- Uganda: 312/0
- Ethiopia: 494/5
- Kenya: 1,192/50



South Sudan

- 655 confirmed cases*
- 8 deaths

Source: WHO, update as of 24 May 2020
*Source: NTFC South Sudan