

Bentiu and Rubkona: Arrivals from Khartoum

February - July 2020

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Arrivals from Khartoum, February to July 20201:

2,092 individuals (551 households)



Traveller profiles²

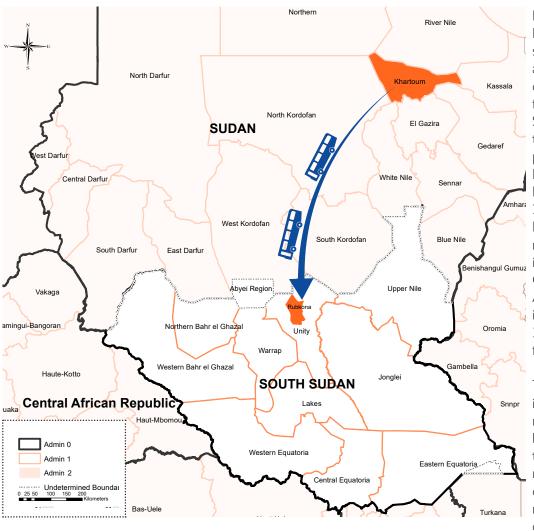


Return to habitual residence: 77%

Move to Bentiu PoC site:

21%

Relocation to Unity State: 2%



Period ³	Households	Individuals	Average HH size
February 2020	196	759	2.0
March 2020	146	585	1.5
April 2020	109	354	1.1
July 2020	100	394	1.0
TOTAL	349	2,092	1.6

Key Findings

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) monitors the spontaneous and voluntary arrival of individuals previously displaced in Sudan. Headcount findings from Rubkona Bus Stop confirm that families travel from Pantou border point and transit through Panakuach (Pariang County). Between February and July 2020, monitoring teams at Rubkona Bus Station have reported the arrival of 2,092 individuals (551 households). Cumulative reports between April 2019 and July 2020 indicate that as many as 34,730 individuals have arrived from Khartoum.

The headcount overview is supplemented by flow monitoring data to give a broader picture of Sudan to South Sudan (SDN-SSD) migration. Flow monitoring data suggests that whilst many have returned from displacement on buses from Khartoum reaching Bentiu and Rubkona, not all are returning to their habitual residences with many heading to Bentiu Protection of Civilian (PoC) site.

^{1.} Exact headcount data-collection period was 31 January – 31 July 2020.

^{2.} For more detail see "migration through Rubkona and Bentiu" on p3.

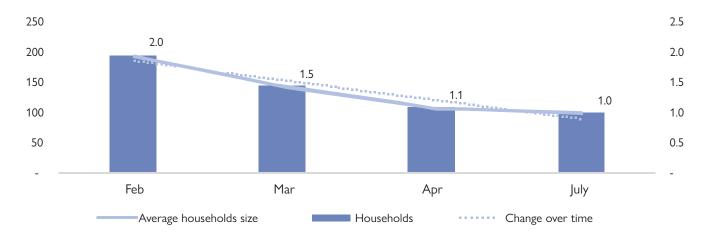
Bus headcount

Number of arrivals

Following the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS), in September 2018 as well as the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in February 2020, national conflict in Unity State has declined. Still, localized and sub-national violence has remained a reality throughout the state, particularly between May and June 2020. Nevertheless, populations continue to rely on mobility as a coping mechanism, exploring opportunities for return and relocation outside of areas of displacement both within South Sudan and abroad respectfully. This noted trend is further facilitated by the expansion of services as well as greater availability of commercial transport options for people from Rubkona to surrounding counties.

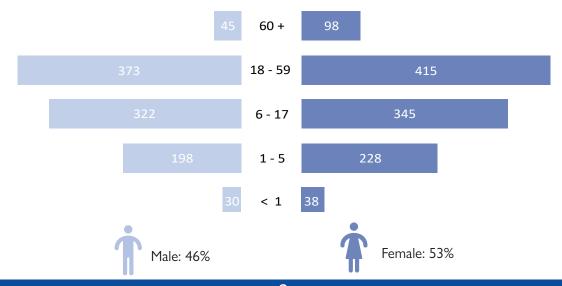
Despite these changes, findings within the current reporting period have noted decrease in monthly arrivals. DTM equally observed a decrease of average household size amongst travelers from 7 individuals per household (highest HHs size reported between April 2019 and January 2020) to 2 individuals per household. Mobility of Khartuom arrivals has been significantly impacted by cross-border movement restrictions imposed through COVID-19 national directives. With stricter enforcement of border closure protocols, monitoring teams recorded no bus arrivals from Khartoum between 28 April and June 2020.

of arrivals and average HH size per month



Demographics

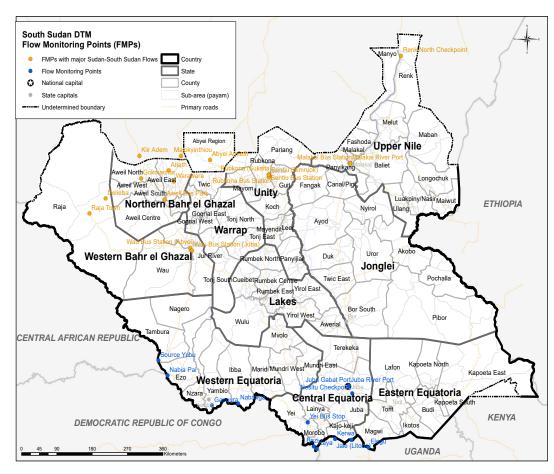
DTM gathered sex and age disaggregated data from all Khartuom bus arrivals at Rubkona Bus Stop. A cross-sectional analysis of arrivals received prior to restrictions of cross border movements on 24 March 2020 represents a sample of 1,698 individuals (81% of 2,092 individuals). The majority of individuals were female (54%) compared to men (46%) and more than more than half being under the age of 18 (55%)



Flow Monitoring

IOM DTM monitors mixed migration flows at key transit hubs within the country and border crossings. Out of 31 flow monitoring points (FMPs) SDNSSD (not only from Khartoum) migration was mainly recorded at 16 northern FMPs across Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile State and Abyei Administrative Area. DTM tracked a total of 15,299 individual movements through 4,181 household / group level interviews between 31 January and 31 July. Flow monitoring interviews with persons travelling through Rubkona and Bentiu migration hubs include some of those covered

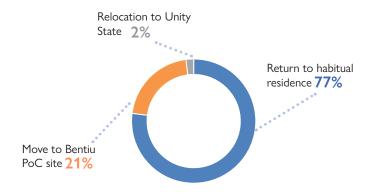
by headcounts. The data



is used to supplement headcount figures by providing an indicative profile of the arriving population. Please note that FMPs are strategically located at the busiest transportation nodes and findings provide an overview of most common routes while painting a more detailed traveler profile but are not being representative of all SDN-SSD flows.

Flow Monitoring: Migration through Rubkona and Bentiu

Individuals included in interviews in Rubkona and Bentiu FMPs who arrived in buses from Khartoum between February and July 2020 (N= 1,482)



Looking at the subset of South Sudanese traveling through Bentiu (2 FMPs) and Rubkona (2 FMPs) that fit the profile of those covered in the headcount, namely arrivals in buses from Khartuom, makes it possible to create an indicative migrant profile of this population. DTM gathered data on 1,428 Individuals travelling from Khartoum, through Rubkona, between 31 January and 31 July representing 68 per cent of all individuals tracked in headcounts during the same period.

Available flow monitoring data suggests that over three quarters (1,106 ind.) of Khartoum arrivals were on their way to their habitual residence mostly with an intention of remaining there over a year (34%), an unknown length of time (24%), permanently (23%), indefinitely (14%), or less than a year (5%). Close to a quarter of the total 1,428 individuals travelling through major transport hubs in Bentiu and Rubkona Town intended to travel to Bentiu PoC Site, and approximately two per cent intended to reach new destinations in Unity State different to their habitual residences.

Return to habitual residence: 77.0% of Sudan arrivals were directly returning to their habitual residence

Destinations - all in Unity State, where Rubkona (38%), Leer (19%), Mayom (16%), Koch (12%), Mayendit (10%), Guit (4%), Panyijar (<1%).

Reasons – over three quarters (77%) of the respondents intended to return after forced displacement abroad and 19 per cent arrived after voluntary travel to Sudan. In comparison to findings from the previous reporting period (April 2019 to January 2020), DTM enumeration teams did not encounter a significant number of persons fleeing to (the effects of) tensions in Sudan.

Intended duration of stay at destination - over a year (34%), unknown (24%), permanently (23%), indefinite (14%), less than a year (5%) and

Move to Bentiu PoC site: 21% of Sudan arrivals migrated to Bentiu PoC site

Through Displacement Site Flow Monitoring (DSFM) at the gates of Bentiu PoC site, DTM conducted 2,352 interviews tracking 7,233 individual movements between February-July 2020. Following interviews with 231 individuals previously displaced in Sudan, monitoring teams identified 183 returning residents and 48 new arrivals. At the same time these represent by no means the total number of arrivals from Sudan, conducted interviews can provide an indicative overview of entries from Khartoum. All of those who returned from educational stays in Khartoum had been away for over six months. Those that newly arrived across the entire reporting period mostly arrived to join their families at the site (67%). Nearly all newcomers from Khartoum already had family residing at the site at the time of entry (98%) and intended to stay for more than six months (88%).

Relocation⁴ to Unity State: 2% of Sudan arrivals intended to relocate their habitual residence

Destinations -All in Unity State: Rubkona (83%- especially Rubkona Town) and Mayom (17%), Reasons – Findings from interviews conducted within the current reporting period signify a reduction in cited conflict/tensions in Sudan informing intended relocations to Unity State (previously reported at 32% but has since reduced to 17%). A further 26 per cent reported voluntary return as a key driver for their migration. Overall, most travelers intent on relocating where informed by family related reasons. Intended duration of stay at destination – less

than a year (48.%), indefinite (26%) and permanently (26%).

Other Major Sudan - South Sudan Routes

A East Darfur to Aweil North: 3,637 tracked individual journeys, i.e. 22% of tracked Sudan – South Sudan movements (Feb – July 2020).

The majority of travel from East Darfur to Aweil North was captured in Kiir Adem (67%) followed by Gokmachar (30%) with the remaining three per cent passing through Ariath and Majokyinthiou. While some 14 per cent arrived from refugee camps, notably in Ed Daein, nearly all travellers reported returning to South Sudan after voluntary travel (96%). Most arrivals had either spent more than six months in Sudan (44%) or did not know how long they had been there (40%) with three quarters intending to stay in South Sudan indefinitely after arrival (75%). These movements were directed at former habitual residences in 97 per cent of cases. More than half of travellers pertaining to this group aimed to reach Malual North (53%) and Ariath (13%) Payams. Travel along this route remained relatively steady throughout February to May but dropped off in June to half of the former flow and decreased further in July 2020.

Khartoum to Aweil North: 1,263 tracked individual journeys, i.e. 8% of tracked Sudan – South Sudan movements (Feb – July 2020)

The majority of travel from Khartoum to Aweil North was captured in Gokmachar (62%) followed by Kiir Adem (21%) with the remaining 16 per cent passing through Ariath and Majokyinthiou. None of these travellers departed from refugee camps and nearly all cited return to South Sudan after voluntary travel as reason for their movements (91%). Most arrivals had spent more than six months in Sudan (77%) with nearly three quarters intending to stay in South Sudan indefinitely after arrival (73%). These movements were directed at former habitual residences in 98 per cent of cases. More than a third of travellers pertaining to this group aimed to reach Malual North (36%), Ariath (28%) Payams. Travel along this route reduced as of April 2020. By July, the flow had reduced to 10 per cent of the flow measured in April 2020.

Khartoum to Wau: 1,168 tracked individual journeys, i.e. 7% of tracked Sudan – South Sudan movements (Feb – July 2020)

The majority of travel from Khartoum to Wau was captured in Abyei Amiet (50%) followed by a Wau bus stop with the remaining 3 per cent passing through Majokyinthiou, Aweil and Raja. Only one per cent of these travellers departed at refugee camps and most cited return to South Sudan after voluntary travel as reason for their movement (97%), followed by economically motivated travel (11%). Just over half of all arrivals had spent more than six months in Sudan (58%) with only 15 per cent intending to stay in South Sudan indefinitely after arrival. In comparison to route A and B above, data suggests that travel to Wau was more circular. Movements along this route were directed at former habitual residences in 87 per cent of cases. Destinations were mostly in Wau North (June - July 2020 60%) or South (36%) payams. Travel along this route reduced drastically in May 2020 but picked up again thereafter.

West Kordofan to Aweil East: 1,017 tracked individual journeys, i.e. 6% of tracked Sudan – South Sudan movements (Feb – July 2020)

Nearly all travel from West Kordofan to Aweil East was captured in Majokyinthiou (90%) with 10 per cent having passed through Warawar and Abyei Amiet. None of these travellers departed at refugee camps and nearly twothirds cited return to South Sudan after voluntary travel as reason for their movements (65%) with over a quarter moving for economic reasons (27%). Just over half of all arrivals had spent more than six months in Sudan (56%) and a sizable proportion did not intend to spend more than a week in South Sudan (23%). Movements along this route were directed at former habitual residences in 72 per cent of cases. Destinations were mostly in Madhol Payam (38%) followed by Baac (33%) and Malual Bai (10%). During the reporting period, flows were the strongest in February but did not drastically reduce as along more eastern routes.

East Darfur to Raja: 841 tracked individual journeys, i.e. 5% of tracked Sudan – South Sudan movements (Feb – July 2020)

Two thirds of movements along this route were captured in Raja Town (64%) and the remaining third in Delieba (36%). The majority of travellers departed from refugee camps in Sudan (68%), namely Al Nimir (45%), El Ferdous (22%) and Buram (1%). Accordingly, the main reasons for movement were return after forced displacement for half of the measured flow (49%), followed by seasonal migration (18%). Nearly all travellers had spent more than six months in Sudan (95%) and nearly half reported returning to the country for good (47%). Movements along this route were directed at former habitual residences in 60 per cent of cases. Destinations were Raja Town for over half of travellers (56%). During the reporting period, flows reduced as of April with no persons recorded along the route in July 2020.

Main routes representing 48% of all 7,926 individual movements tracked between February and July 2020 from Sudan to South Sudan

