

## SOUTH SUDAN

## Mobility Tracking Round 6

## **BACKGROUND**

Whilst national-level conflict has continued in certain areas of South Sudan, notably in the Equatoria Region, other parts of the country have faced rising instances of intercommunal and localized conflict, oftentimes related to livestock which are distinguished from conflict including national actors for the purposes of the DTM data collection exercise. However, the lines between livestock-related conflict, other forms of communal tensions and politically motivated violence are frequently blurred. Furthermore, the rainy season had been underway as of June 2016 causing not only further flood induced displacement but also hindering data collection efforts.

Data collection for Round 6 took place in June 2019 following round 5 for which data collection was conducted in March 2019. IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix implements mobility tracking throughout South Sudan in order to establish a baseline for the number of IDPs and returnees present in the country at the time of assessment. The baselines are designed to support government, humanitarian and development actors in their responses. As of Mobility Tracking round six, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) IDP baseline is consolidated with DTM findings. Moving forward, the two agencies will continue working together to maintain a unified baseline on IDP populations updated in regular intervals.

Mobility Tracking is implemented on a quarterly basis in order to keep track on South Sudan's rapidly evolving displacement and return trends. Repeated instances of conflict and natural disasters have led to protracted as well as more recent displacement. Returnee and IDP figures are disaggregated by period of arrival and whether they have arrived from abroad or not. For IDPs, figures are available for those currently displaced having arrived in 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018 pre Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan or R-ARCSS henceforth (January – September 2018), 2018 post R-ARCSS (October – December 2018) and January – June 2019.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The methodology comprises two interrelated tools: baseline area assessments at various administrative levels allowing for triangulation, and multi-sectoral location assessments conducted at the villages, neighbourhoods or displacement sites.

- 1. Baseline area assessments provide information on the presence of targeted populations in defined administrative sub-areas (following the 10-state payam system), and capture information at the group level on population categories (IDPs, returnees, relocated) and attributes such as time of arrival of the target population in the assessed location, return from abroad or South Sudan, displacement previous abroad or not, reasons for displacement and former home areas for IDPs (both captured on majority basis for a given payam), presence of and dates of displacement / return, and shelter conditions. The baseline area assessment form also comprises a list of locations (defined as villages / neighbourhoods / displacement sites) hosting displaced and/or returned populations.
- 2. Multi-sectoral location assessments at village / neighbourhood or site level are conducted to gather data on a more granular level, comprising sectors such as Health, WASH, S/NFI, Protection, FSL and Education. The objective of the location level assessments is to collect some key multisectoral indicators on the living conditions and needs of affected populations which can enable partners to prioritize locations for more in-depth sector-specific assessments.

#### IDPs:

- Numbers (individuals and households)
- IDPs from within South Sudan or abroad
  - Time of displacement (2014-2015; 2016-2017; 2018 pre R-ARCSS (January – September 2018); 2018 post R-ARCSS (October – December 2018) and January – June 2019
  - · Reason for displacement
- Type of settlement (displacement site or host community setting)
- Multiple displacement

## Returnees:

- Numbers (individuals and households)
- Returnees from within South Sudan or abroad
  - Time of return (2016-2017; 2018 pre R-ARCSS (January September 2018); 2018 post R-ARCSS (October – December 2018) and January – June 2019
  - Displacement area for majority of returnees per period of arrival
  - Reason for displacement for the majority of returnees at assessed locations per period of arrival
- Status of returnee housing (no damage, partial damage, server damage [makeshift shelter])
- + number of relocated (see page 9 for definition), estimates of host community population size, occupation of shelters by non-owners, number of non-returned individuals / households by payam.



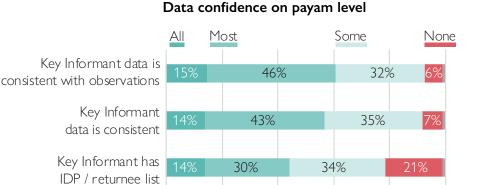
## KEY INFORMANTS: 5,642 individuals

Information is obtained and triangulated through consultation with key informants, commonly comprised of local authorities, community leaders, religious leaders and humanitarian partners. In round 6, DTM consulted 5,642 key informants: 1,649 at the payam (i.e. sub-area) level, 4,138 at the village or neighbourhood level and 196 at displacement sites. Please note that these figures do not add up exactly when summed due to some key informants being interviewed at more than one administrative level. Direct observation at each location in addition to the triangulation and the subsequent verification process (data received through partners and other DTM tools such as biometric registration) at various administrative levels serves to further ensure maximum accuracy of findings.

### **LIMITATIONS**

DTM teams access over 2,300 locations on quarterly intervals facing several logistical and access related challenges. Access challenges range from bureaucratic and security related impediments to physical constraints in hard-to reach areas. In order to obtain best results, DTM triangulates data from as many key informants as possible. In 14 per cent of payams (470 payams, i.e. sub-areas) all and in 43 per cent most key informant data was consistent. Whilst in only six per cent of cases no key informant data was consistent with observations, enumerators reported that at a fifth of payams, no IDP or returnee logs were kept by local officials. For more information, please consult the graph to the right.

Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only.



40%

Uganda

20%

0%

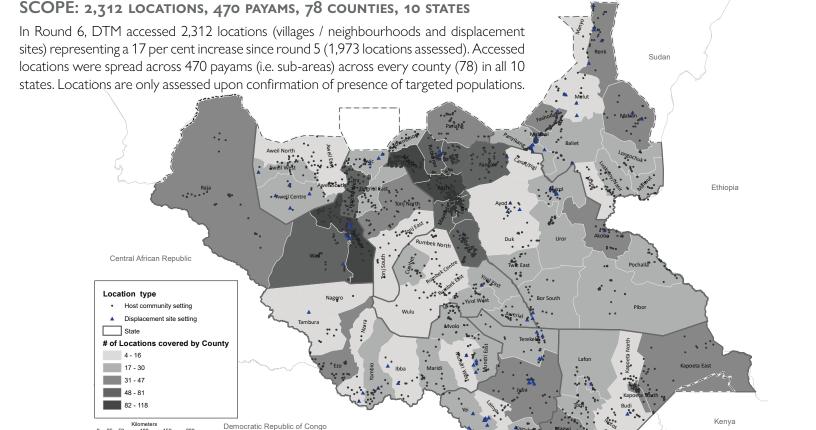
Unknown (1% each)

80%

100%

3

60%





1,465,542 IDPs

currently displaced of whom... **246,826** IDPs

arrived at their current location since R-ARCSS

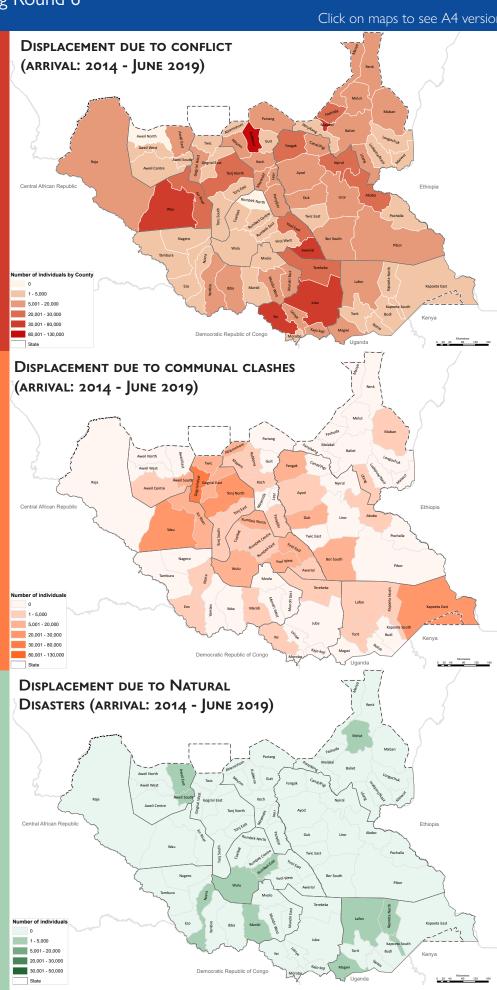
#### INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Amongst the currently displaced population (2014 to June 2019), more had been displaced due to conflict (67%, involving national actors) than communal clashes which encompass other forms of violence that do not directly involve the state (18%). Natural disasters represented less than one per cent but are likely to have caused more short-term displacement in the past meaning that these would not be reflected in the current snapshot. For 15 per cent either the reason or period of arrival were unknown.

Available data suggests that the total number and share of those displaced by communal clashes increased and replaced conflict as most dominant reason for displacement in 2019 (162,979 IDP arrivals since the start of 2019). Whilst this does reflect the gradual decline in conflict involving national actors and the increase in violence in the form of communal clashes, especially involving livestock, one should not dismiss the possibility of communal clashes causing more short-term displacement leading to a potential underrepresentation of past instances of communal conflict as reason for displacement amongst currently displaced populations.

Half of all IDPs who arrived at their current locations in 2019 had been displaced due to communal clashes (49%) with 30 per cent citing conflict (unknown for the remaining). During this period communal clashes induced displacement was mainly recorded in Warrap State (27,682 IDPs), Western Bahr el Ghazal (22,112 IDPs) and Eastern Equatoria (17,388 IDPs).

When considering payams in which IDPs arrived for a given time-period, displacements from within the same county and same state seem to be reported by an increasing number of payams over time making up 65 per cent of the 146 payams that reported new IDP arrivals in 2019. A smaller proportion of more long-term localized displacement could in part be due to quicker returns for those who were displaced close to their habitual residences.





## 5 counties accounting for most IDP arrivals

## R-ARCSS (October 2018 - June 2019)

Wau: 36,487 Yei: 23,213 Jur River: 21,054 Kapoeta East: 16.455 Gogrial West: 14,560

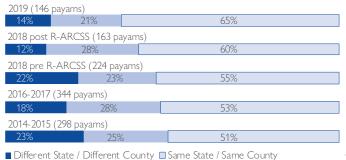
accounting for 45% of the caseload displaced in this period

DTM mapped a total of 1,465,542 IDPs who have arrived at current locations between 2014 and June 2019. Please note that displaced individuals that arrived at assessed locations during this period but that have since returned or moved won't be considered in this snapshot. This figure also includes individuals displaced at a point in time further in the past that have moved to a new host area since the signing of R-ARCSS.

Overall five per cent of all IDPs (68,102) had arrived at current locations from abroad but were unable to reach their habitual residences or other destinations finding themselves in renewed displacement. States with the highest populations of these were Unity (18,338 individuals representing 7% of the state's IDPs), Upper Nile (15,777 individuals representing 9% of the state's IDPs) and Central Equatoria (10,586 individuals representing 5% of the state's IDPs). The state with the highest proportion of IDPs previously displaced abroad was Eastern Equatoria with 10 per cent (6,900 individuals) of the state's overall IDP population.

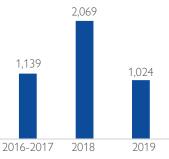
Overall, a 29 per cent of of all IDPs were reported to live across the 100 displacement sites identified by DTM in Round 6. Some 71 per cent were recorded as living in host community settings. The proportion of IDPs living in displacement sites was especially high in Unity State (46%) and Central Equatoria (57%) which both host large PoC sites.

## Sub-areas with majority of IDPs having come from same / other state and county (100% = number of payams where IDPs arrived for given time period)

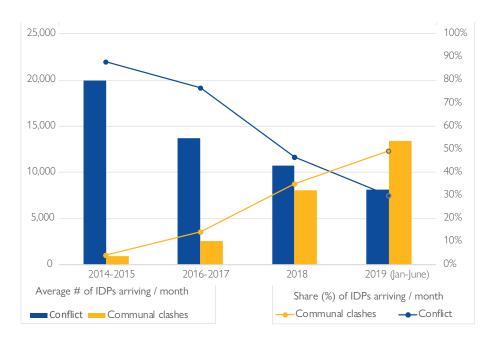


Same State / Different County

## Average Number of IDP arrivals previously displaced abroad per month



## Monthly average of IDP arrivals for given period of analysis comparing conflict / communal clashes\*



#### To consider when reading findings related to IDPs

Figures only concern individuals remaining in a situation of displacement at the time of assessment.

Consequently, the real number of people who were displaced during a given period will be higher than what is captured in the current figures - i.e. excluding those who since returned / relocated or were displaced elsewhere.

If displacement due to communal clashes results in shorter periods of displacement, i.e. quicker return or relocation, then the level of displacement due to communal clashes could be understated for a past period of time when comparing it to conflict, which might cause longer-term displacement, and is therefore more likely to make it into the current analysis.

Some IDPs having arrived at their current (June 2019) destination within the post R-ARCSS period have been multiply displaced meaning that the recorded (initial) cause for displacement was an event further in the past.

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that this graph does not represent the number of individuals displaced during a given period. Figures are limited to those who remain currently displaced persons, i.e. excluding anyone who was displaced but has since returned. Not represented: overall, time of displacement is unknown for 53,308 (4%) IDPs; for 159,860 the reason is unknown; 4,320 were displaced due to natural disasters (0.3%).



## Counties with the highest number of IDP arrivals since the signing of R-ARCSS, October 2018

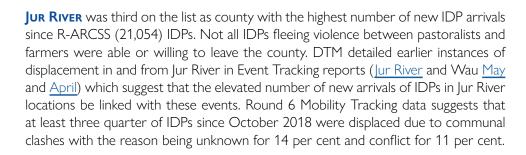
The county with the highest number of IDP arrivals after October 2018 was **Wau** (Western Bahr el Ghazal) with a total of 36,487 individuals present in June 2019 and who were reported to have arrived after R-ARCSS (mainly Wau North and South but also Besilia). Mobility Tracking data suggests that most of these have arrived from Wau and the adjacent Jur River County. Displacement Site Flow Monitoring and a specially designed Jur River Influx Survey are in line with these findings suggesting increased arrivals from Jur River between (mainly) March and May 2019 as detailed in <a href="this report">this report</a>. Increased returns to Wau Town from PoC AA and collective centres, especially in the <a href="beginning of the year">beginning of the year</a> (as suggested by DTM's Displacement Site Flow Monitoring) indicate the area to be considered relatively safe by surrounding populations which could explain why it became the destination of choice for some of these newcomers (in combination with other factors just as geographical proximity).



Yei (Central Equatoria)

Wau (Western Bahr el Ghazal)

Key informants in **YEI** County reported the presence of 23,213 newly arrived IDPs since R-ARCSS. Of these, 95 per cent cited conflict as reason for displacement as opposed to communal clashed or natural disasters. Yei is indeed located in and close to areas of conflict between government and rebel forces. Twelve per cent of IDPs were said to have arrived from displacement abroad unable to reach their former homes or other intended destinations. This figure is higher than the overall 5 per cent for the entire country. Tensions have been increasing in areas south of Yei around the time of data collection and clashes between parties have resulted in violations.





Jur River (Western Bahr el Ghazal)

Kapoeta East (Eastern Bahr el Ghazal)

**KAPOETA EAST** saw the arrival of 16,455 new IDPs since R-ARCSS present in June 2019 of whom all were reported to have been displaced due to communal clashes. The vast majority were observed in Mogos Payam (96%).



Gogrial West (Warrap)

Some 14,560 IDPs arrived in locations of **GOGRIAL WEST** County between October 2018 and June 2019. The vast majority were reported to have been displaced due to communal clashes (93.6%). Most IDP within this group were observed in Kuac North-Kuajok (47%) and Kuac South (42%).

## **RETURNEES**

Overall, DTM mapped the presence of 1,271,487 returnees who have returned between 2016 and June 2019, notably in Jonglei (191,052 returnees), Upper Nile (164,068 returnees) and Western Bahr el Ghazal (162,770 returnees).

Returns from abroad were especially common in Northern Bahr el Ghazal (102,271 returnees from abroad or 87% of the state's returnees) and Eastern Equatoria (76,268 returnees, 78% of the state's returnees). Similar to trends with IDP departure locations, the more recent the arrivals were, the higher the proportion of payams where returnees arrived from the from a location within the same county. This is potentially due to the possibility that localised displacement in the past saw populations returning quicker than displacement across further distances.

## **1,271,487** returnees: 30% from abroad

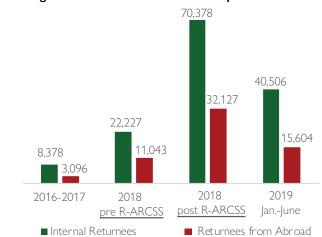
at the time of assessment of whom...

**644,174** returnees

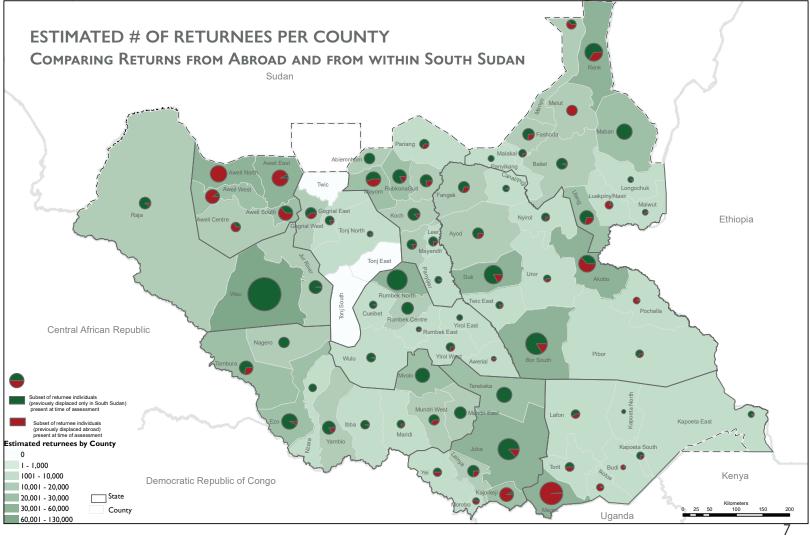
arrived since R-ARCSS



## Average Number of returnee arrivals per month within given period



Click on map to see A4 version.





### Recent returns:

DTM recorded the presence of 1,271,487 returnees who were at covered locations at the time of assessment and who had arrived between 2016 and June 2019. Amongst these, just under a third arrived from abroad (384,672 returnees, i.e. 30%). Half of all currently returned individuals had arrived at assessed locations after the signing of R-ARCSS (644,174 returnees, i.e. 51%). For a further breakdown of arrivals since R-ARCSS, please note that 307,516 of these arrived between October and December 2018 (24%) and that 336,658 arrived between January and June 2019 (27%). This indicates a spike in arrivals in the three months following the signing of R-ARCSS when the monthly average number of returnees (currently still returned) reached 102,505 individuals compared to the monthly average of 33,271 individuals for January – September 2018 or the following period January to June 2019 when the average reduced to 56,110 individuals per month.

The states with the most returnees since R-ARCSS were found to be Western Bahr el Ghazal (106,093 returnees), Western Equatoria (83,535 returnees) and Upper Nile State (82,941 returnees). The returnee population of Lakes State has the largest proportion of new arrivals as 65 per cent (62,857 returnees) of its overall returnee population (97,227 returnees) arrived at current locations after R-ARCSS. Lakes is followed by Western Bahr el Ghazal in this regard where

65 per cent (106,093 returnees) of the state's overall returnee population arrived at current locations after October 2018 (162,770).

Different State / Different CountySame State / Different County

☐ Same State / Same County

## 5 counties accounting for most returnee arrivals

R-ARCSS (October 2018 - June 2019)

Wau: 80,561
Rumbek North: 41,804
Maban: 27,923
Magwi: 26,420
Terekeka: 19,609

accounting for 30% of the caseload returned since the agreement

Sub-areas with majority of returnees having come from same / other state and county (100% = number of payams where returnee arrived for given time period)

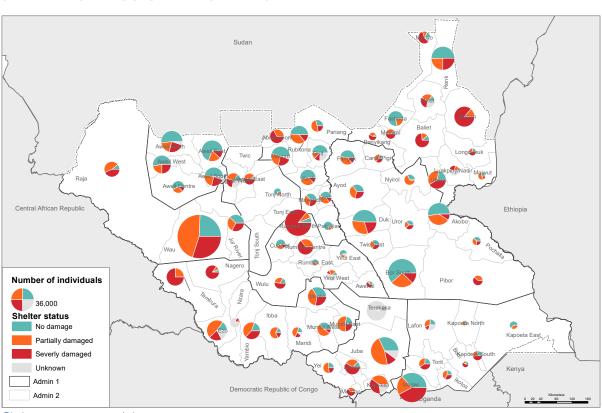
2019 (264 payams)

25%	36%		38%		
2018 post R-ARCSS (278 payams)					
33%		31%		35%	
2018 pre R-ARCSS (284 payams)					
37%		33%		30%	
2016-2017 (241 payams)					
44%		26%	30%		

## Shelter:

## Overall returnees are reported to live in severely damaged, partially damaged and undamaged housing in equal proportions (31% each) with the status of housing remaining unknown for six per cent. The highest total number of returnees living in severely damaged shelters reported was Upper Nile (72,202 returnees) and Lakes (60,230 returnees). In latter state returnees were also the most likely to live in severely damaged shelters as 62 per cent of the state's overall returnee population was reported to live in makeshift shelters.

### SHELTER STATUS OF RETURNEES



Click on map to see A4 version.



## **DEFINITIONS**





Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border.

South Sudan: Time of arrival in assessed area considered: 2014 to June 2019



## Returnees: internal / from abroad

Someone who was displaced from their habitual residence either within South Sudan or abroad, who has since returned to their habitual residence. Please note: the returnee category, for the purpose of DTM data collection, is restricted to individuals who returned to the exact location of their habitual residence, or an adjacent area based on a free decision. South Sudanese displaced persons having crossed the border into South Sudan from neighboring countries without having reached their home are still displaced and as such not counted in the returnee category.

South Sudan: Time of arrival in assessed area considered: 2016 to June 2019



#### Relocated Individuals

Someone who was displaced from their habitual residence either within South Sudan or abroad, who has since relocated voluntarily (independently or with the help of other actors) to another location than their former habitual residence, without an intention to return to their former habitual residence.

### Note on returnee definition

The IOM DTM returnee figure from abroad cannot be compared directly with the spontaneous refugee returnees reported by UNHCR. The latter can have returned home (this would be captured as part of the returnees from abroad category in IOM DTM), but they may also find themselves in a situation of continued displacement or have chosen a new habitual residence (in both cases, they would be considered but not directly visible as part of the IDP and relocated figures reported by IOM). UNHCR and IOM technical teams are exploring how to improve data sharing to enable comparison and integration of numbers published by each agency.

## **CLICK TO ACCESS DATASETS**



Mobility Tracking round 6: Baseline IDPs / Returnees by payam

78 Counties 470 payams

Mobility Tracking round 6: Baseline IDPs / Returnees by location

2,312 locations



Round 6: Village / Neighbourhood

1,776 locations



sites



## CLICK TO ACCESS THEMATIC MAPS







IDP Displacement
Site Vs Host
Community Setting



Returnees by arrival period

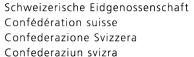
## CLICK TO ACCESS STATE LEVEL MAPS ON RETURNEE AND IDP LOCATIONS



### DTM IS SUPPORTED BY











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