

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 in the beginning of each week based on information collected Monday–Sunday of the previous week. 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

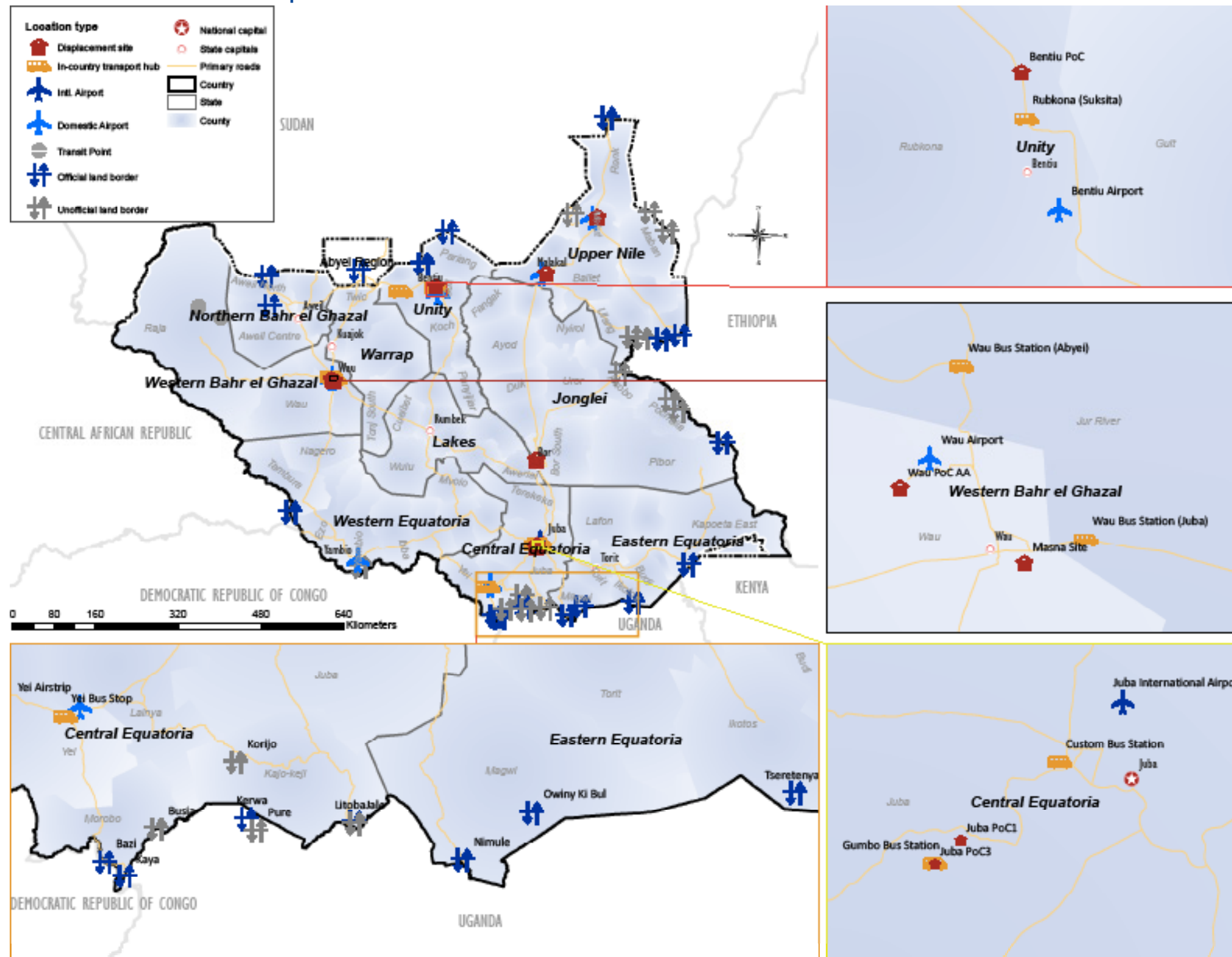
As of 3 May 2020, the number of confirmed cases in South Sudan saw a **drastic increase to 49 from six cases** in the [previous week](#). The highest increase took place on 28 April 2020 with 28 new cases resulting from a release of 139 test results of persons who had been in contact with the [fifth](#) case. The incident led to an announcement of more stringent measures including an earlier curfew, closure of tea stalls, forced quarantine and punitive measures for those who breach COVID-19 related restrictions. On 29 April 10 pastors were briefly [detained](#) for breaching the ban on large gatherings.

Government security forces imposed a further **lockdown at Malakal PoC site** on 27 April 2020 immobilising residents and service providers for two days. As of 30 April, movements picked up again albeit at a reduced rate as before the lockdown since restrictions imposed on 6 April 2020. It should be noted that WHO tested 20 samples from the PoC site, which were negative.

Risk communication **efforts are increasing on a sub-national level** where partners are conducting sensitization and awareness campaigns as well as trainings for medical staff. Partners are also doubling food distributions in many locations to reduce the frequency of congregations. COVID-19 related supplies including viral transport media and PPE have been prepositioned in 20 locations across South Sudan to enable testing in Juba for these areas.

DTM gathered data on **seven displacement sites and 47 transport points** including airports, border crossing points and internal transportation hubs. Temperature screening¹ was conducted at 7 assessed transport points (15%) while additional hand-washing stations were installed at 17 (36%). At a quarter of assessed points movement of persons continued without disruptions (26%) and at a third, most movement has diverted to nearby alternative routes (34%). The movement of cargo continued uninterrupted at three-quarters of assessed points (74%). For more information on the status of transport points, please consult page 3 for a summary or access the [dataset](#).

Selected IDP sites and transportation hubs



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

Key insights on countries bordering South Sudan

- **SUDAN:** Population movements continue through Timsah / Ere (Raja). DTM confirmed the arrival of South Sudan nationals returning from camps in Darfur to Raja before seasonal rainfall renders these roads impassable. Arrivals from Sudan were also observed in Delieba (Raja), a major transportation hub for persons arriving through eastern routes. Travel and congregation restrictions are not enforced at these points of entry although risk communication efforts are underway. A steep increase in cases prompted the Government of Sudan to impose a [nationwide lockdown](#).
- **ETHIOPIA:** Cross-border movement to and from Ethiopia at most entry points remain on halt with an exception to cargo. Travel via alternative local roads is still ongoing.
- **UGANDA:** Truck drivers were on strike at Elegu / Nimule border crossing point as of 30 April 2020 to protest long waiting times and fees demanded by South Sudanese officials to conduct mandatory COVID-19 testing.
- **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO:** Only cargo is allowed to cross the border. Temperature screening at Bazi point of entry came to a halt due to the downscaling of Ebola preparedness activities.
- **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:** The border point at Source Yubu remains closed for entry of persons except cargo. However, COVID-19 related preventive measures are not being taken into consideration.
- **KENYA:** Movement through Nadapal point of entry is limited to cargo with a little small-scale movements through alternative routes.

1. Temperature screening also includes visually checking for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 such as coughing or someone visibly looking unwell.



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

County	Location	Type	Population ²	Movement Restrictions within and in/ out of the site	Average daily flow in / out during rep. period	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	118,385	None	10,279/11,683	38%	57%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Malakal	Malakal PoC	PoC	27,928	Yes	783/670	10%	56%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	National Security forces have restricted access to the PoC site gates as well as the gate used by UNMISS and humanitarian service providers as of Monday 6 April 2020.
Wau	Wau PoC AA	PoC AA	10,755	None	3,789/3,778	2%	18%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Cross-country congregation restrictions are valid within Wau PoC AA, limiting the gathering of more than 10 people, 2 m distance rule, no faith congregations and limit of humanitarian group activities to no more than 10 people per group. 265 HH / 992 ind. registered for voluntary return from Wau PoC AA and collected their return package - it is unclear how many of these returned.
Wau	Masna	Collective centre	3,746	None	Unknown	8%	100%	Yes	No	Yes	No	Masna remains populated without movement / congregation restrictions or handwashing.
Bor South	Bor PoC	PoC	1,921	Yes	190/127	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Limit of public gatherings to no more than 10 people respecting the 2m distance rule, no faith congregations, humanitarian partners to limit group activities to no more than 10 people.
Juba	Juba PoC1	PoC	6,880	None	2,847/2,818	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limit of public gatherings to no more than 10 people respecting the 2m distance rule, no faith congregations, humanitarian partners to limit group activities to no more than 10 people.
Juba	Juba PoC3	PoC	22,779	None	9,1703/9,678	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

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 3 May	Mvmnt of persons as of 3 May	Into SSD / out of SSD 2019 daily average ³	Into SSD / out of SSD 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	2/0	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Akobo	Akobo	Unofficial land border	ETH	No disruption	No disruption	Unknown	17/27	No	No	No	No	No	REACH conducts road monitoring in Akobo Town . Persons and cargo are still crossing the border. Cargo is transported by river here, not trucks.
Aweil East	Majokynthiou	Official land border	SDN	No disruption	No disruption	6/24	42/35	No	Yes	No	No	No	
Aweil North	Kiir Adem	Official land border	SDN	No disruption	No disruption	13/26	31/12	No	No	No	No	No	
Juba	Juba Intl. Airport	Intl. Airport	Inland	Closed with exceptions	Closed with exceptions	Unknown	20/17	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Travelers are required to undergo COVID-19 testing and obtain a COVID-19 free certificate in order to travel.
Kapoeta East	Nadapal	Official land border	KEN	Incoming only	De facto via alternative routes	Unknown	3/6	No	No	Yes	No	Unknown	REACH conducting road monitoring in Kapoeta Town .
Maban	Yabous	Unofficial land border	SDN	No movement	De facto via alternative routes	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	No	No	No	
Maban	Elfoj	Unofficial land border	SDN	No disruption	De facto via alternative routes	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	No	No	No	
Magwi	Nimule	Official land border	UGA	No disruption	De facto via alternative routes	124/156	70/46	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Truck drivers went on strike at Elegu/Nimule border crossing point due to long waiting on entry to South Sudan, SSD officials requesting money on entry for testing and when leaving the country. Social distancing was not respected during the protest.
Maiwut	Pagak	Official land border	ETH	No disruption	No movement	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	No	No	Unknown	
Maiwut	Jekow	Official land border	ETH	No disruption	No movement	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	No	No	Unknown	
Morobo	Kaya	Official land border	UGA	Incoming only	De facto via alternative routes	249/198	5/1	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Holding unit available but no isolation unit.
Pariang	Pantou	Official land border	SDN	No movement	De facto via alternative routes	Unknown	70/23	No	No	No	No	Unknown	Movements through smaller nearby border points is still prevailing, especially at night.
Pariang	Jau	Official land border	SDN	No movement	De facto via alternative routes	Unknown	35/13	No	No	Yes	No	Unknown	Despite official closure of this point of entry, movements through alternative routes from Sudan to South Sudan continue, especially at night.
Renk	Wunthaw	Official land border	SDN	No disruption	De facto via alternative routes	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Rubkona	Rubkona Suksita	In-country transport hub	Inland	No disruption	No disruption	9/28	Unknown	No	No	Yes	No	No	Most of the travelers are daily commuters.

2. Latest population counts or biometric registration data when population counts aren't available. 3. Averages from IOM DTM Flow Monitoring or KI information.

Summary of tracked border crossing points and transportation hubs week 6 (27 April - 3 May 2020)

Type	#
In-country transport hub	7
Intl. airport	2
Official land-border	18
Unofficial land-border	15
Domestic airport	5
Total	47

Movement of cargo	#
Incoming only (trucks)	2
Incoming only (small scale)	2
No disruption	35
No movement	8
Total	47

Movement of people	#
Closed with exceptions	6
De facto via alternative routes	16
Local movement tolerated	5
No disruption	12
No movement	8
Total	47

C-19 measures	Yes	No	Unknown
Temperature screening	7	40	0
Hand-washing stations	17	30	0
Isolation / quarantine area	5	41	1
Increased security forces	7	10	28

[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.

1st COVID-19 Case in SSD

The South Sudan Government confirmed its [first case of COVID-19](#).

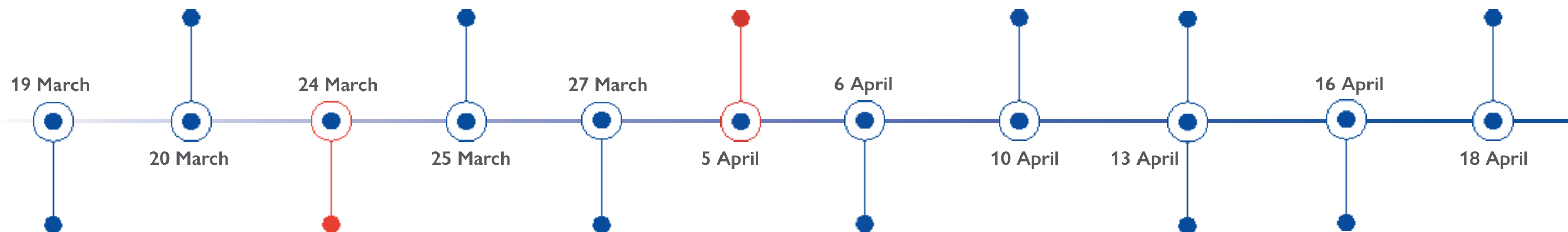
4th COVID-19 Case

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.



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.

Quarantine Escape

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

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.

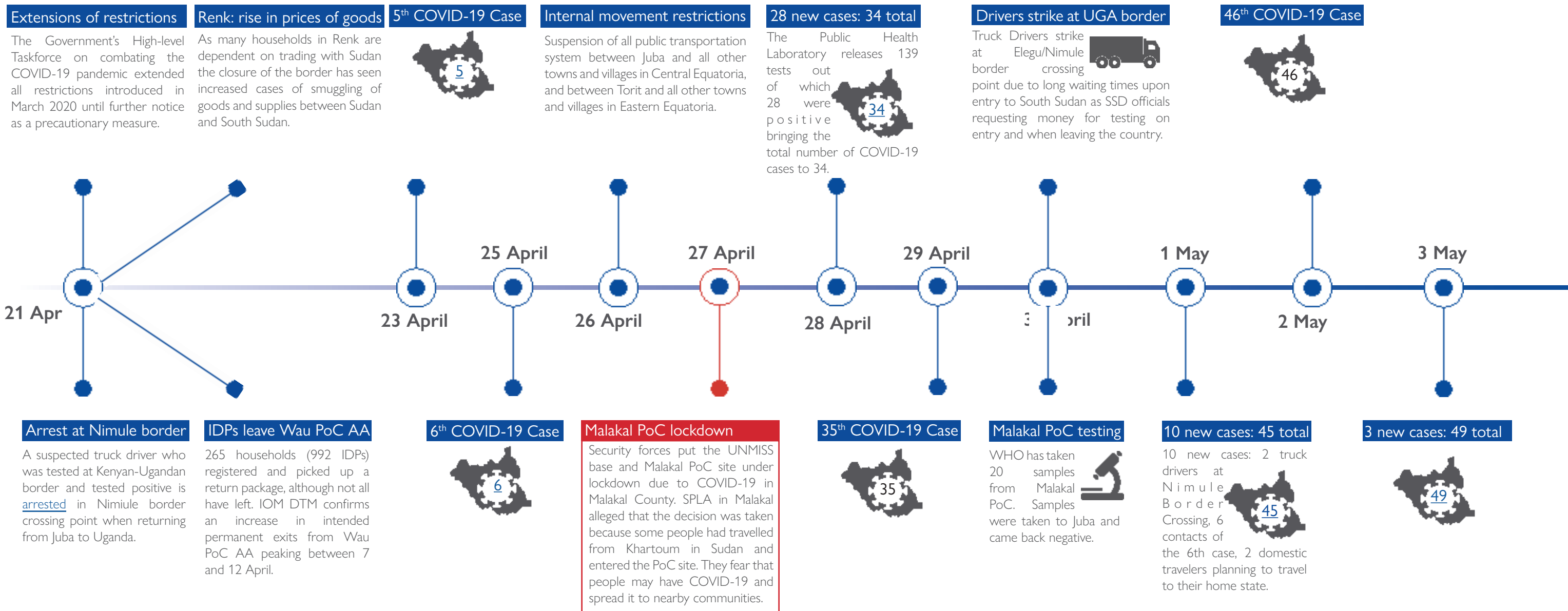
Suspension of inter-state travel

The Government has suspended passenger flights as well as public and private inter-state transport for up to two weeks effective from midnight Wednesday 15 April 2020 (Communication from the presidency 25, HLTf 13 April 2020).

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).

South Sudan COVID-19 Timeline (part 2/2: 21 April - 3 May 2020)



COVID-19 Cases and Deaths



Worldwide:

- 3,349,786 confirmed cases
- 238,628 deaths



Number of cases/deaths in neighboring countries:

- Sudan: 592/41
- Central African Republic: 72/0
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: 674/33
- Uganda: 85/0
- Ethiopia: 133/3
- Kenya: 435/22



South Sudan

- 49 confirmed cases*
- 0 deaths

Source: WHO, update as of 3 May 2020
*Source: HLTF South Sudan