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 (PoETWG). A more exhaustive list of entry points can be found here.

If you wish to share any updates or flag any errors, please contact DTM at southsudan@dtm.int

Overview

On 25 April 2020, South Sudan registered its sixth COVID-19 case just two days after the fifth. On confirmation of the sixth case, the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on 26 April 2020 issued a suspension of all public transportation from and to Juba as well as Fort, where cases of the virus were found. These road movement restrictions follow interstate flight limitations from 13 April 2020. As of 21 April, the HLTF further extended all movement restrictions introduced in March 2020 until further notice.

Humanitarian access was limited by newly imposed flight clearance taxations and mandatory “COVID-19 free” certificates prior to travel. This impacted food air drops as well as trucking for pre-positioning of humanitarian goods during these final weeks of the dry season. As of 35 April 2020, humanitarian workers can return to their home-country without such a certificate. Further COVID-19 related population movements included increased permanent exits from Wau PoC AA (observed by IOM DTM) and reportedly return movements from Uganda and in-country locations to Juba according to the RRC.

Although cargo is mostly allowed to enter the country, movement restrictions have caused market prices like those of wheat, sorghum and maize to increase. Further arrests were made of persons breaking congregations or travel restrictions.

Key insights on countries bordering South Sudan

- **SUDAN**: DTM observed travel of cargo between South Sudan and Sudan through Abyei as well as sporadic cases of movements through alternative routes near the border point, which is otherwise closed. Movement through Kiir Adem (Aweil North) continues uninterrupted. Markets in Rink Town are reported to have undergone rapid price increases due to travel restrictions with a rise in smuggling. Movements into Raja of persons from camps in Darfur as well as cargo continues uninterrupted.

- **ETHIOPIA**: Cross-border movements to and from Ethiopia at most points of entries remain on halt or is carried out via alternative local roads. However, movement of cargo through Akobo continues with a lower volume of flows through Boyi / Dima. Ethiopia is to embark on door to door testing of COVID-19 cases in the country in a quest to test at least 4,000 people on a daily basis.

- **UGANDA**: On 21 April 2020, a traveler who tested positive for coronavirus was held while on his way to Uganda. The traveler, believed to be a truck driver, was held at Nimule border after he delivered goods to Juba. Uganda has increased testing truck drivers after 11 drivers on route from Tanzania and Kenya had tested positive on 24 April 2020. “Relay tracking” is supposed to ensure that drivers to not cross international borders. The RRC has reported that since the confirmation of COVID-19 cases in Uganda and South Sudan, over 700 families have arrived in Wonduruba Payam of Juba County from Uganda and from other states of South Sudan.

- **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**: While cargo is allowed to enter through Gangura, none has been observed during the reporting period. This is reportedly due to security concerns related to the suspected presence of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) along the way. Movement of persons continues to take place via smaller roads.

- **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**: The border point at Source Yubu remains shut by authorities on ground but movements continue through smaller alternative crossings.

- **KENYA**: Movement through Nadapal has been limited to incoming cargo.

Selected IDP sites and transportation hubs

Please note that coordinates are available upon request.

1. The Diocesan Major Response Team on COVID-19 decided to close several Wau collective centres on 9 April 2020. As of 12 April 2020, Nazareth, Cathedral, St. Joseph and Lukoria (1,743 ind. in March 2020 according to DTM population count) are empty.
Table 1. Mobility and preparedness assessment at selected IDP sites within South Sudan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Movement Restrictions within and in/out of the site</th>
<th>Average daily flow in/out during rep. period</th>
<th>Approx. % overnight travel</th>
<th>Approx. % of out of county travel</th>
<th>Congregation restrictions</th>
<th>Fever Screening</th>
<th>Hand-washing stations</th>
<th>Risk communication</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rubkona</td>
<td>Baintu PoC</td>
<td>PoC</td>
<td>118,385</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>8,622 / 8,098</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malakal</td>
<td>Malakal PoC</td>
<td>PoC</td>
<td>27,928</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1,328 / 1,348</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Cross-country restrictions are valid within the 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/992Ind. registered for voluntary return from Wau PoC AA and collected their return package.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wau</td>
<td>Wau PoC AA</td>
<td>PoC AA</td>
<td>10,755</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3676 / 3726</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Malwaa remains populated without movement / congregation restrictions or handwashing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wau</td>
<td>Masna Collective centre</td>
<td>3,746</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bor South</td>
<td>Bor PoC</td>
<td>PoC</td>
<td>1,921</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juba</td>
<td>Juba PoC1</td>
<td>PoC</td>
<td>6,880</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>2,847 / 2,818</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juba</td>
<td>Juba PoC3</td>
<td>PoC</td>
<td>22,779</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>9,1703 / 9,678</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Border to</th>
<th>Movement of cargo as of 26 April</th>
<th>Movement of persons as of 26 April</th>
<th>Into SSD / out of SSD 2019 daily average</th>
<th>Into SSD / out of SSD reporting period daily average</th>
<th>Fever screening</th>
<th>Hand-washing stations</th>
<th>Risk communication</th>
<th>Isolation / quarantine area</th>
<th>Increased security forces</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abaye (Nimiet)</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>20/32</td>
<td>7/11</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>REACH conducting road monitoring in Akobo Town. Persons and cargo are still crossing the border. Cargo is transported by river here, not trucks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akobo</td>
<td>Unofficial land border</td>
<td>ETH</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>10 / 16</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>RRC reported that a partner from the Aweil task force visited Kit Adem to assess border movement patterns and confirmed that there are no movement restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aweil East</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>6 / 24</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Inter-state movement from / to Juba Airport was halted on 15 April 2020 with exceptions for emergencies and life saving activities with approval from the High Level Task Force.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aweil North</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>13 / 26</td>
<td>14 / 8</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Inter-state movement from / to Juba Airport was halted on 15 April 2020 with exceptions for emergencies and life saving activities with approval from the High Level Task Force.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juba</td>
<td>Intl Airport</td>
<td>Inland</td>
<td>Incoming only</td>
<td>Closed with exceptions</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>30 / 15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>REACH conducting road monitoring in Kapoeta Town.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapoeta East</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>KEN</td>
<td>Incoming only</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>10 / 6</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Small border crossing used as usual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malab</td>
<td>Unofficial land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Small border crossing used as usual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malab</td>
<td>Unofficial land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Authorities arrested a truck driver who tested positive to COVID-19 in Kenya. The truck driver passed from Kenya to Uganda and reached Juba where he delivered his goods, and was apprehended on his way back to Uganda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magwi</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>UGA</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>124 / 156</td>
<td>70 / 48</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Holding unit available but no isolation unit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mawut</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>ETH</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Panakua road through Karsana and Heglig (all names with alternative spellings).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mawut</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>ETH</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Panakua road through Karsana and Heglig (all names with alternative spellings).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morobo</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>UGA</td>
<td>Inland only</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>249 / 198</td>
<td>5 / 4</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Holding unit available but no isolation unit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paring</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>70 / 23</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Arrivals from Sudan and internal movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paring</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>De facto via alternative routes</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>35 / 13</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Arrivals from Sudan and internal movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renk</td>
<td>Official land border</td>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Arrivals from Sudan and internal movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubkona</td>
<td>In-county transport hub</td>
<td>Inland</td>
<td>No disruption</td>
<td>9 / 28</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Arrivals from Sudan and internal movement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For an excel version including more transport hubs and points of entry, please click here.  
1. Latest population counts or biometric registration data when population counts aren’t available.  2. Based on DTM Displacement Site Flow Monitoring as of 20 Dec 2019.  3. Averages from IOM DTM Flow Monitoring or key informant information.
South Sudan
COVID-19 Timeline (part 1/2: 19 March - 18 April 2020)

19 March
Preparedness & Response Plan

20 March
South Sudan closes borders
South Sudan closes all airports and 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.

24 March
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. Riek Machar.

25 March
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.

27 March
Uganda suspends refugee policy
Uganda suspends refugee policy for refugees and asylum seekers is suspended for 30 days. Refugees who are already in the country will continue to receive support.

29 March
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.

30 March
Curfew across country
Curfew across country from 8.00PM to 6.00AM. Public institutions working half-time. First suspected case of COVID-19 tested negative.

1 April
Quarantine Escape
Over 500 South Sudan nationals described as returnees escape quarantine in Renk, set up at a secondary school after arriving from Sudan.

5 April
1st COVID-19 Case in SSD
The South Sudan Government confirmed its first case of COVID-19 tested negative.

6 April
Quarantine Escape
Quarantine escape

6 April
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.

7 April
1st COVID-19 Case in SSD
1st COVID-19 Case in SSD

8 April
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 28, HLTF 16 April 2020).

10 April
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.

13 April
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).

16 April
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.

18 April
4th COVID-19 Case
4th COVID-19 Case

South Sudan
COVID-19 Timeline (part 1/2: 19 March - 18 April 2020)
South Sudan
COVID-19 Timeline (part 2/2: 21 - 26 April 2020)

**Extensions of restrictions**
The Government’s High-level Taskforce on combating the COVID-19 pandemic extended all restrictions introduced in March 2020 until further notice as a precautionary measure.

**Renk: rise in prices of goods**
As many households in Renk are dependent on trading with Sudan the closure of the border has seen increased cases of smuggling of goods and supplies between Sudan and South Sudan.

**Internal movement restrictions**
Suspension of all public transportation system between Juba and all other towns and villages in Central Equatoria, and between Torit and all other towns and villages in Eastern Equatoria.

**Arrest at Nimule border**
A suspected truck driver who was tested at Kenyan-Ugandan border and tested positive is arrested in Nimule border crossing point when returning from Juba to Uganda.

**IDPs leave Wau PoC AA**
265 households (992 IDPs) registered and picked up a return package, although not all have left. IOM DTM confirms an increase in intended permanent exits from Wau PoC AA peaking between 7 and 12 April.

**5th COVID-19 Case**

**6th COVID-19 Case**

**COVID-19 Cases and Deaths**

**Worldwide:**
- 2,804,796 confirmed cases
- 193,710 deaths

**Number of cases/deaths in neighboring countries:**
- Sudan: 213/2
- Central African Republic: 19/0
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: 442/28
- Uganda: 75/0
- Ethiopia: 122/3
- Kenya: 343/14

**South Sudan**
- 6 confirmed cases*
- 0 deaths

*Source: HLTF South Sudan

For more information, please contact DTM South Sudan at southsudandtm@iom.int or visit displacement.iom.int/south-sudan