Bentiu and Rubkona: Arrivals from Khartoum
April - September 2019

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Arrivals from Khartoum, April to September 2019:

27,102 individuals
(5,001 households)

Key Findings

IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has been monitoring arrivals from Khartoum to Rubkona bus station since April 2019 through headcounts of new arrivals. In the last report covering April to June 2019 DTM reported the arrival of 13,820 individuals from Khartoum at Rubkona bus station. Since then (up to 5 September 2019), an additional 13,282 were accounted for bringing the total number of arrivals from Sudan to 27,102 since 15 April 2019. Please note that a minority of travellers arrived through other means such as cars or on foot.

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 to their habitual residences with many heading to Bentiu Protection of Civilian (PoC) site. Furthermore, a large proportion reported leaving Sudan due to various effects of the tensions there affecting livelihoods and food security, notably in East Darfur (see p4-5 for more details).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Households</th>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Average HH size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April (second half) 2019</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>805</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2019</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>2,077</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>1,578</td>
<td>10,938</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2019</td>
<td>1,183</td>
<td>10,387</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2019</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2019</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>1,595</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>5,001</td>
<td>27,102</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Exact headcount data-collection period was 15 April – 2 October 2019.
2. For more detail see “migration through Rubkona and Bentiu” on p3
3. Exact data collection periods are: April (15-28 April 2019), May (29 April – 2 June 2019), June (3 - 30 June 2019); July (1 July - 31 July 2019), August (1 - 28 August 2019), September (29 August - 2 October 2019)
Number of arrivals

Findings indicate a spike in arrivals in June and July accounting for 79 per cent of all tracked individuals during this period. During June and July, DTM equally observed the largest average household size amongst travellers which was 7.7 individuals per household as opposed to an average of 2.6 during the other months.

# of arrivals and average HH size per month

Demographics

DTM gathered sex and age disaggregated data for Khartoum bus arrivals in Rubkona between 2 August and 25 September representing a sample of 2,730 individuals (10% of the total). These findings suggest that travellers were mostly represented by women and children. The majority of individuals were female (60%) with nearly twice as many adult women than men (30% vs 16%) and more than half being under the age of 18 (54%).

Population pyramid estimate of arrivals August - September 2019

Flow Monitoring

IOM DTM monitors mixed migration flows at key transit hubs within the country and border crossings. Out of 49 flow monitoring points (FMPs) SDN-SSD migration was mainly recorded at 16 northern FMPs across Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Abyei, Unity and Upper Nile State. DTM tracked a total of 20,281 individual movements through 4,709 household / group level interviews. Flow monitoring interviews with persons travelling through Rubkona and Bentiu migration hubs includes some of those covered by headcounts of arriving buses but only started in July in response to increased arrivals from Sudan and does not cover 100 per cent of the arriving population. Flow Monitoring points are strategically located at the busiest transportation nodes and findings provide an overview of most common routes while painting a more detailed traveller 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 19 July and 21 September 2019 (N= 3,998 )

Return to habitual residence: 72.6% of Sudan arrivals were directly returning to their habitual residence

- **Destinations** - over 99% in Unity State: Rubkona (38.0%), Leer (22.1%), Koch (16.2%), Guit (9.1%), Mayiendit (7.7%), Mayom (4.3%), Panyijar (2.5%), Akobo- Jonglei (0.1%).
- **Reasons** – the majority reported they were returning to their habitual residence after forced displacement (66.4%) but 11.9% returned due to tensions in Sudan. These tensions most commonly resulted in an interruption of livelihood activities in Sudan.
- **Intended duration of stay at destination** - indefinite (42.4%), over a year (15.8%), less than a year (18.3%) and unknown (23.5%).

Move to Bentiu PoC site: 20.8% of Sudan arrivals migrated to Bentiu PoC site

- **Reasons** – whilst travelers in this group less frequently cited “return after forced displacement” as reason for travel, return to South Sudan generally remained the main reason for 42.3 per cent who now find themselves in renewed displacement, this time within the country. A higher percentage cited the tensions in Sudan (17.9%) as reason for arrival of whom most reported these to interrupt livelihoods with some also speaking of generalized violence. For 15.0 per cent, the main reason to enter the PoC site was to rejoin their families at a location that was not their habitual residence.

Relocation5 to Unity State: 6.6% of Sudan arrivals intended to relocate their habitual residence (99% Unity State)

- **Destinations** - 100% Unity State: Rubkona (48.1%), Leer (22.9%), Mayiendit (18.7%), Koch (6.1%), Mayom (4.2%).
- **Reasons** – nearly half of those relocated to new locations cited as reason to simply wanting to return to South Sudan but to a new location than where they lived before (46.6%) whilst 16.4% cited food insecurity caused by tensions in Khartoum. Some 13.0% intended to rejoin family at the destinations as main reason for movement and 9.5% moved due to the interruption of livelihood activities that the tensions in Sudan had induced.
- **Intended duration of stay at destination** - indefinite (43.8%), over a year (14.2%), less than a year (13.6%) and unknown (18.4%).

Looking at the subset of South Sudanese travelling through Bentiu (2 FMPs) and Rubkona (2 FMPs) that fit the profile of those covered in the headcount, namely arrivals in buses from Khartoum, makes it possible to create an indicative migrant profile of this population. Data from these four FMPs is available as of 19 July 2019 and below findings include all available data on this group up to the end of September 2019. DTM gathered data on 3,998 individuals that fit this group representing approximately three quarters of the number of individuals tracked in headcounts during the same period.4 Available flow monitoring data suggests that three quarters of Khartoum arrivals were on their way to their habitual residence with an intention of remaining there long-term, a fifth aimed to reach Bentiu PoC site, and seven per cent intended to reach new destinations in Unity State different to their habitual residences as detailed on the left.

4. Please note that caseloads across the two tools might differ and that 2,998 is not necessarily a common lowest denominator.
5. Relocation refers to individuals who are back in South Sudan but who are choosing to settle at a destination different to their habitual residence.
Khartoum to Rubkona (10.3% of all individual movements SDN-SSD): Over 99 per cent of these were captured at Rubkona and Bentiu FMPs since July 2019. A tenth arrived from refugee camps in Sudan (10.3%). Most travellers were returning from forced displacement (56.6%) and 19.1 per cent were moving because of conflict / tensions in Khartoum. Some 39.8 per cent of movements were in direction of Bentiu PoC site. Among movements to non-displacement site settings, 90.0% were in direction of habitual residences - mostly in Bentiu and Rubkona.

**Long-term migration**: 18%

West Kordofan to Aweil East (9.6% of all individual movements SDN-SSD): Most travellers were passing through Majokynthiou (91.3% - located in Aweil East) or Warawar (8.3% - Aweil East) on this route. None of these movements started or intended to end at displacement sites with 98.8 per cent heading to their habitual residence. Insecurity / tensions (34.5%) and food insecurity (23%) represented the main motives for travel from West Kordofan to Aweil East.

**Long-term migration**: 23%

East Darfur to Aweil North (9.2% of all individual movements SDN-SSD): Most people along this route travelled through Kiir Adem (62.8%) and Gokmachar (30.9%). Some 17.4 per cent arrived to Aweil North after voluntary travel to Sudan (33.8%) or travelled to South Sudan for economic reasons (21.1%) whilst 15.2 per cent travelled due to food insecurity in East Darfur.

**Long-term migration**: 22%

East Darfur to Raja (8.9% of all individual movements SDN-SSD): Most people along this route travelled through Delieba (94.5%) and 28.3 per cent reported departing at refugee camps. Reasons for travel remain unknown for the most part but are often related to food insecurity and other effects of the tensions in Sudan. Over one-third of movements were in direction of habitual residences (39.2%).

**Long-term migration**: 66%

Khartoum to Aweil North (6.4% of all individual movements SDN-SSD): The Khartoum - Aweil North flow was mostly captured in Kiir Adem (38.5%), Gokmachar (29.9%) and Ariath (27.5%). Some 4.4 per cent arrived from refugee camps and none moved to displacement sites in Aweil North. Almost all movements were in direction of habitual residences.

**Long-term migration**: 16%

Main routes representing 44.4% of all 20,281 individual movements tracked between April and September 2019 from Sudan to South Sudan

Food insecurity as driver of migration from East Darfur:

Overall 19 per cent of tracked travellers departing in East Darfur cited food insecurity as reason for movement to South Sudan (96% South Sudan nationals). These were most commonly interviewed in Delieba (Raga County) or Kiir Adem (Aweil North) and destinations were mostly habitual residences (80.3%). Over half were children under 18 (58%).

6. Long-term migration: over six months spent in Sudan and intended duration of stay in South Sudan over six months, too.
Other Major Sudan - South Sudan Routes

From: Sudan

To: South Sudan

Khartoum
North Kordofan
South Darfur
East Darfur
El Gezira
South Kordofan
West Kordofan

Aweil Centre
Fangak
Aweil East
Panyikang
Mayom
Aweil North
Guit
Twic
Mayiendit
Aweil West
Koch
Leer
Wau
Raja
Rubkona

1,307 ind.
1,175 ind.
2,091 ind.

The above represents findings based on the best available data for monitored locations and covered periods between April and September 2019. The graph only includes routes that were travelled by 200 individuals or more. Arrivals to Rubkoba and Bentiu are underrepresented due to a shorted period of coverage.