Republic of Sudan
Ministry of the Cabinet
Central Bureau of Sudan

MIGRATION IN SUDAN
About Sudan

- Location North East Africa.
- Seven neighboring countries, Egypt, Libya, Chad, Central Africa, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and the Red Sea.
- Total area is about 1,882,000 sq. km and the third in Africa and in Arab region. Number 36 Worldwise.
- 18 states.
- 189 localities.
- Total population 41 millions, Number 35 Worldwise.
- Capital Khartoum (about 7 millions).
- GDP (services (51%), Agriculture (25%), industry (24%).
- Manpower (agriculture (80%)—unemployment 18%).
Migration is not an alternating relation. It is usually a one way, from poor to rich countries. The migrant does not choose his destination. The recipient countries chooses the migrants according to their own criteria. So they choose the best. This leads to a great loss of human capital and brain drain in sending countries.
Immigrants to Sudan flows mostly from neighboring countries and represent atypical case of South-South migration. The informal nature of human mobility from neighboring and existence of an irregular migration phenomenon in the country mean that the total number of foreign nationals in Sudan could be much higher.
However the total number is estimated to be about 5 millions. Ethiopians are about 2 millions. South Sudan about the same number. Then comes the Eritreans and lately Syrians. all are considered as a group of refugees.
A number of asylum seekers and an unspecified number of irregular migrants from the same neighboring countries are resident/ and or transiting through Sudan (after spending long periods in the cities working in informal sectors) then along the migration routes towards Libya, Egypt and Red Sea.
An other group of foreigners is represented by economic migrants coming mainly from Egypt, Turkey and China.
Although there is a considerable percent of females and women, the young males compose the majority of immigrants population.
The total number of Sudanese migrants was estimated to be (4.5) millions, with an average age of 29 years. Most of them are labors but many specialized physicians, engineers, university professors are there. More than half of them migrated towards the gulf countries and most of them in Saudi Arabia, Libya, Egypt, and UK. But lately towards USA.
The main pushing factor is the economic factor. This is because Sudan was under sanctions for more than 20 years.
Most of Sudanese are moving for employment because there are about 35 universities and colleges in Sudan with about more than 200000 graduates per year. So many of them migrates as (safety Valve) with a survival strategy. Most of others have low skills.
No specific data is available because money is transferred through irregular channels due to sanctions and lack of incentives. However, the use of financial remittances received by Sudanese households from abroad have a significant effect on daily consumption and housing, education, and health services.
Thank you