

EXPLORING THE IMPACTS OF INTERNAL DISPLACED PEOPLE (IDPS) CAMP ON LIVELIHOOD OF HOST COMMUNITIES

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ABSTRACT

The paper explores how the establishment of a IDPs camp has impacted the hosting community of Nyla city and its inhabitants. By interviewing respondents from the host community, the paper addresses the above objectives. The findings are further analyzed in light of a theoretical framework. The complication of camp impacts on the host community has resulted in both positive and negative experiences. Socio-economic impacts have been positive such as new livelihood opportunities in the camp in addition to improvements in social services such as health and education. Negative impacts experiences by hosts have mostly been in term of their relationship with the IDPs populations which has resulted in more insecurity and conflicts in the hosting community.

Keywords: IDP, host community, livelihood

INTRODUCTION

Sudan has a long history of internal displacement. Conflict and violence have plagued. The country since the year before its independence in 1956, driven by the economic, Political and socio-cultural marginalization of rural areas of the country e.g. Darfur region. Sudan's successive conflicts gave rise to one of the world's largest displacement crises, which peaked in 2005 at 6.1 million IDPs, including people displaced in areas that are now part of South Sudan.

The number of people living in displacement has decreased considerably in recent years, but the country was still home to at least 2.3 million IDPs as of the end of 2020. This reflects the continued conflict in some parts of the country and the many obstacles people face in their pursuit of durable solutions. The figure is also likely to be an underestimate, given the many challenges in obtaining data. Communal violence has been on the rise since 2019 and triggered most of the 79,000 new displacements recorded in 2020.

Sudan is very arid and large parts of the country are considered drought prone. This has had devastating humanitarian consequences because more than 54% of people live in rural areas and are largely dependent on rain-fed subsistence agriculture and animal husbandry for their livelihoods. These climatic conditions

have overlapped with conflict and economic and political instability to create extremely high levels of food insecurity. Displacement associated with slow-onset phenomena such as drought is likely to have occurred, but its scale has yet to be determined.[<https://www.internaldisplacement.org/countries/sudan>]

The paper aims to explore the effects of IDPs on host community's livelihood.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Definition of IDP

The term IDP is a descriptive, not a legal definition, since the legal rights of IDPs are upheld by their local government. As such, a difficulty arises in categorizing children born to IDPs, as the child has never actually been displaced from their habitual residence. This is another problem with the UNHCR definition of IDPs, and represents a significant protection gap for children of concern. Moreover, there is no agreement on when internal displacement ends. Confounding the problem of definition further is the fact that the internally displaced are often lazily referred to as “refugees”, despite remaining within their national borders. For the purposes of this paper, urban IDPs will thus be defined more broadly, in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. That is, an urban IDP lives outside of a rural setting, and fulfils the following criteria:

“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.” UNHCR, (2007)

The majority of people displaced by conflict live in South, North and Central Darfur states, which were hosting about 1.9 million IDPs as of the end of 2020. There were also 218,000 IDPs in South Kordofan state and 47,000 in Blue Nile state. Sennar state is likely hosting IDPs too, but no organization nor the government assess the situation there. Displacement in areas outside government control is not recorded at all. Most of the new conflict displacement recorded in recent years has taken place in Darfur, particularly in the Jebel Marra mountains at the intersection of Central, South and North Darfur. While IDPs and other civilians used to be attacked by militias associated with the former regime, new conflict displacement has been mostly triggered by intercommunal violence, including violence between herders and farmers.

Host Community

Host community refers to the country of asylum and the local, regional and national governmental, social and economic structures within which refugees live. Urban refugees live within host communities with or without legal status and recognition by the host community. In the context of refugee camps, the host community may encompass the camp, or may simply neighbour the camp but have interaction with, or otherwise be impacted by, the refugees residing in the camp. (UNCHR, 211).

Livelihoods

A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stress and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base. (Chambers & Conway, 1991)

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in south Darfur State (Nyla locality). The main target group of this study hosting communities near of Otach camp, Alread 1& 3 camps. The researcher purposively selected 100household from all as a sample size. Primary data was collected by using quantitative tool (questionnaire).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic Characteristics:

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents by Demographic Characteristics

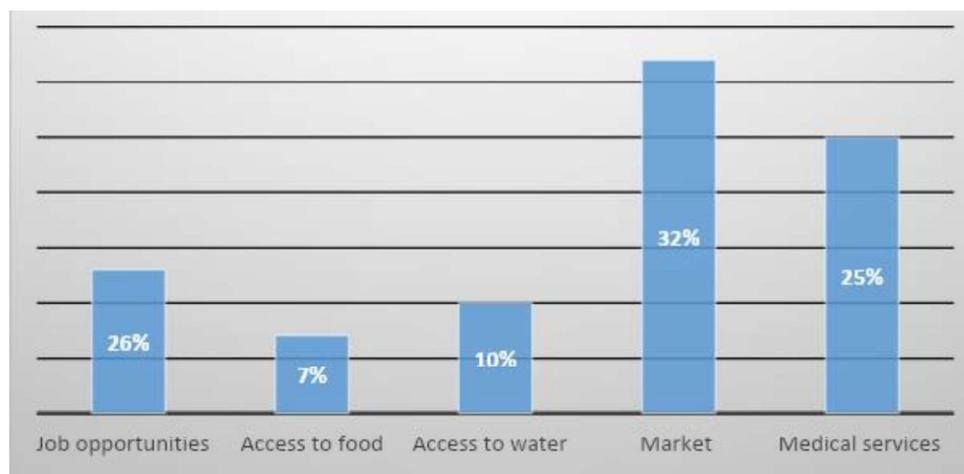
Age	Frequency	%
Less than 20	5	5%
20-40	60	60%
41-60	30	30%
61 and above	5	5%
Total	100	100%
Gender	Frequency	%
Female	56	56%
Meal	44	44%
Total	100	100%
Social status	Frequency	%
Single	23	23%
Married	70	70%
Divorced	6	6%
Widower	1	1%
Total	100	100%
Educational level	Frequency	%
Illiterate	17	17%
Khalwa	5	5%
Basic school	8	8
Secondary School	10	10%
University	60	60%
Total	100	100%

Source: filed survey 2020

In term of age of respondents 90% of them their age ranged between less than 20-60. More than half of the participants were female (56%) while 44% of them were male. The study shows that the majority of the respondents their age lay in the active age group. The individual in this age is an important part of the workforce. Thus this result indicted that the majority of the target groups are the youth, which aspires to bring about a process of change in society and is the most capable of the awareness of society. Age of a person determines the experience on has, the productive assets accumulated, social networks established for survival, energy etc.; all being important in livelihood security. Regarding marital status of the respondent, 70% of them were married, while 23% of them were single. This results that means large number of the respondents were have a family (husband wife and children). In term of education, (60%) of the respondents were university level, compared of 22% were illiterate. This result indicates that, most of the respondent their educational level is high. That referred to, all respondents are live in the area near to Nyala town.

Impact of IDPs on host community livelihood

Fig. 1. Positive Impact in host community livelihood due to IDPs camp



As Fig 1. shows, 32% of the respondents have reported that the new market opportunities have had a positive impact on their lives. These markets are according to the respondents established and located near the camp where IDPs can go and sell or trade collected firewood, charcoal and food. Most of the respondents explain this as the biggest change in terms of their livelihood approach as they now have a larger market to sell and trade different items. Job and business opportunities were also mentioned by 26% as a positive change. Business opportunities are described as closely linked to the new markets in the camp. Working small jobs for IDPs have become a main source of income for many people in the host community according to the respondents. The medical services in the camp are also available for the host community and have been reported to be used by several of the respondents. The medical clinics in the camp are free of charge also for the host community

Negative Impact

Table 2. Distribution of Respondents by Availability of Negative impact

Availability of Negative impact	Frequency	100%
Yes	67	67%
No	33	33%
Total	100	100%

Source : filed survey 2020

Regarding negative impact, more than half reported that there are several things consider as negative impact.

Fig. 2. *Negative Impact in host community livelihood due to IDPs camp*

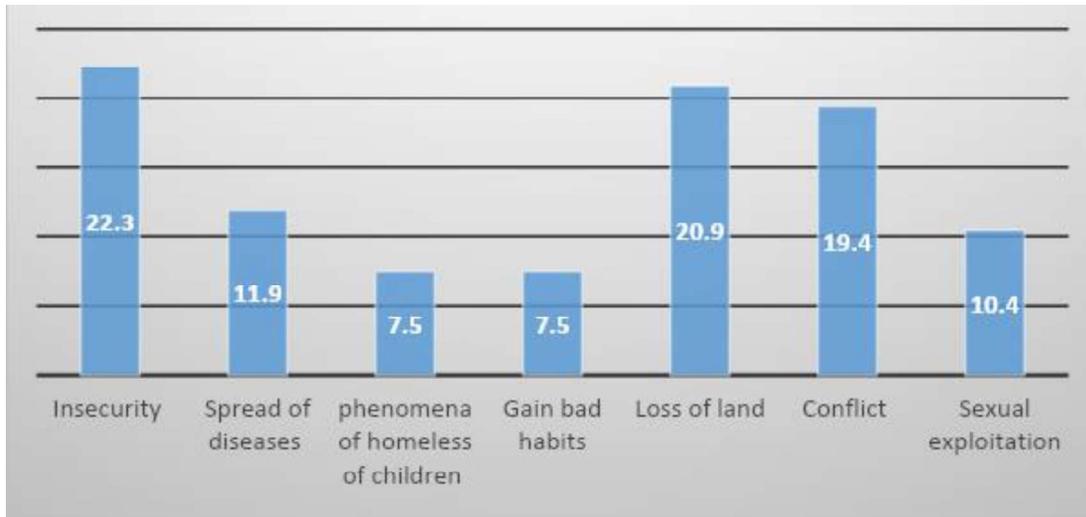
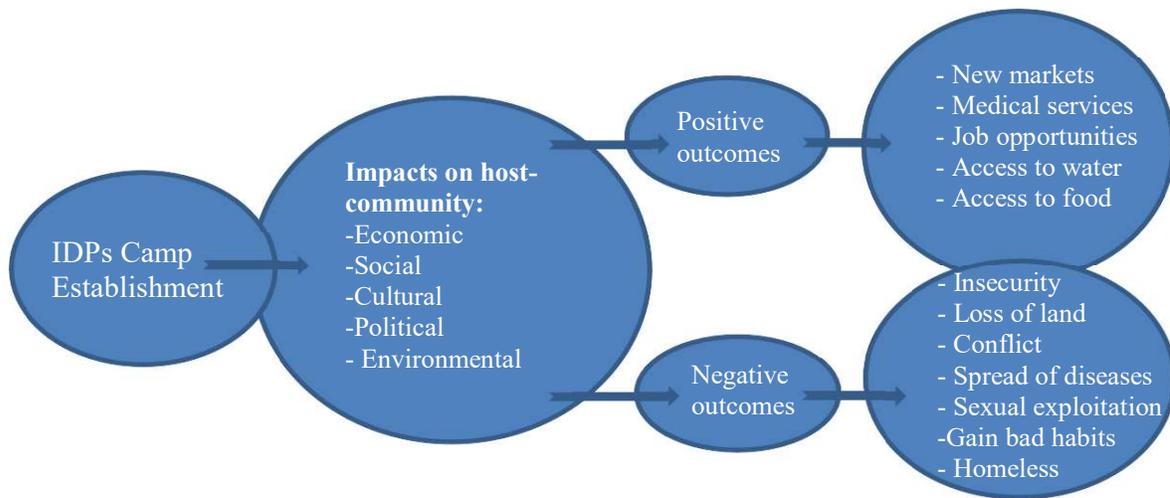


Fig. 2 shows that the 22.3% respondents reported negative impacts relate to insecurity and conflicts between IDPs and the host community. Insecurity issues mentioned by the respondents include fearing to be assaulted, harassed or subjected to other incidents of violence with IDPs when located in the camp and in their area. The term conflict used by the respondents includes various actions of violence such as aggressive, killings and shortage in resources between IDPs and the host community. Loss of land is also a negative impact by the IDPs, they explain that many from their village lost valuable grazing land used by their animals due to population growth and more specifically due to the construction of IDPs camp.

At the end the relationship between the host community and displaced people had negative and positive impacts, the negative ones new habits like traditional kahool drinks, kills people they can't go outside without their white weapons and the risk circle them under conflict region, and bad words, The positive impacts Nyala is border state and availability of camp that required a many humans needed like amore foods, clothes that makes what I mention above why the trader is more than employed and employed take off their jobs and transfer into traders, and also the availability of camps that means originations worked with them credit careers to unworked people such as a teacher work in schools in side camps and doctors work in camp's clinic , and opening large and new markets to satisfy their need.

Fig. 3. *Impact of IDPs on Livelihood of host community*

CONCLUSION

It is found that, after the IDPs established, big changes happened in the host community livelihood. It can be said that, the IDPs has had positive and negative effects. Positive effects for example, the economic situation of the people strongly improved due to new jobs or change their job. Moreover, most people became have an access to, market water and health services.

Negative effects such insecurity and loss of their land.

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