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# ECONOMIC SITUATION OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS AT SOUTH DARFUR STATE

# Abdalrahman Abdalaziz Salih Mohammed <sup>1\*</sup>, Galaleldin Yassin Seafeldin <sup>2</sup>, Nasreldin Gadalla Hassan <sup>3</sup>

- F. A. is with the Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zalingei, Central Darfur State, Sudan (corresponding author).
  - S. B. Author, was with University of Zalingei, Zalingei Sudan. He is now with the Faculty of Agriculture,
  - T. C. Author is with the Department Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zalingei, Central Darfur State

**ABSTRACT:** This article was conducted at South Darfur State, Sudan, to evaluate the internally displaced persons (IDP's) economic condition in displacement camps. It was aimed to illustrate how IDP's economic condition was positively or negatively affected by recent Darfur conflict, through determining the economic activities that adopted by IDPs. A random sample consisted of 384 individuals was performed to collect the primary data through questionnaire, as the main data collection tool. The collected data were analyzed by frequency distribution and Chi-square test, using SPSS program. The study raised numbers of results such as; the majority (71.4%) of respondents have access to work, but most (63.4%) of them had impermanent jobs. Agriculture was the public economic activity for 56.2% of respondents. Most (70.7%) of respondents depend on private work for earning income, and 15.4% have official governmental jobs. Private work includes; agriculture, trade, Craft work and domestic work, respectively. Most (85.2%) of respondents lived under 1000 SDG income. There were significant relationships between joining to economic activities and personal characteristics, including; sex, age, education and marital status. To reduce the IDP's economic vulnerability, it recommended that the implementation of educational and training activities is necessary for improving IDP's capacity building to ensure economic diversification, and improving agricultural development by Performing effective agricultural development programs including; agricultural inputs, finance, extension work, to enhance effective joining to market production

**KEYWORDS:** displacement, economic activities, personal characteristics, income generating activities

#### INTRODUCTION

As the number of people displaced by conflict and violence increases worldwide so the debate about how to assist them in the most effective way has also gained momentum. 33.3 million People were internally displaced by the end of 2013, the highest number on record [1].<sup>a</sup>. According to IDMC record, 18.8 million new displacements associated with disasters and 11.8 million associated

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with conflict and violence in 2017. Nearly 40 million people in more than 50 countries were living in internal displacement caused by conflict or violence [1].<sup>b</sup>. The root causes of conflict in Darfur are complex and attributed to several elements such as: inequitable distribution of economic and political powers; absence of good governance; ethnic divisions; economic influences; climatic and environmental factors; deficiencies in land tenure rights; historical feuds; and more recently, militarization and proliferation of small arms.[2] The discourse on economic activities in the humanitarian sector has grown in recent years out of efforts to combine disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and poverty reduction [3]. The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions [4]. The key outcome of being economically resilient is that people are able to recover quickly from a shock or a stress. Either they return to their previous living standards, if they were acceptable, or they recover to a position which puts them in a better place for the future. Most definitions emphasize that recovery should not compromise future wellbeing [5]; [6]; [7]. As [8] point out, resilience is not just about how much people lose, but how much they suffer. People are resilient when they can avoid falling into unacceptable living conditions.

One of the key challenges for IDP's to cope with economic activities are knowing how households or communities have a chance to build their economic capacities and how to maintain income opportunities as well as effectively joined to business market in displaced place. Often aid programmes focus on raising the income generation activities. Economic activities can be understood as an outcome and certain characteristics measured well-being situation of IDP's and its state of living has been achieved [8]. Notes that when economic efficiency is seen as an outcome of humanitarian activity, there often a tendency to focus on controlling hazards and impacts with technological solutions in order to maintain the quo status of IDP's. However, some literature suggests that it is more useful to understand economic resilience as a process or ability ([9]; [10]; [11]). Considering resilience as a process puts the emphasis on actions which will increase the capacity of the affected population to cope and recover. Often this can only be assessed in hindsight once a new shock or stress has taken place [12].

### **Objectives**

The main objective of this article is to illustrate how IDP's life economically, affected, with recent Darfur conflict through determining the economic activities which occupied by IDPs as well as how IDP's economic condition is positively or negatively affected by protracted displacement; through studying:

- IDP's personal characteristics,
- Access, types and permanence of economic activities, available to IDPs.

## Significance of Study

This study was influential to help us understand to what extend IDP's were affected economically by recent displacement situation, and how they are effectively acted to cope with the needs of

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displacement situation at camps level, trying to explain how displacement has impact on IDP's choices for economic activities.

## **Study Questions**

This research paper tries to answer the following questions:

- What are the personal characteristics of IDPs?
- What are the types of IDP's economic activities?
- How are the access and permanence of economic activities adopted by IDP's?

## **Hypotheses:-**

- There is no significant relationship between personal characteristics (age, sex, education and marital status) and joining to economic activities.

## **Study Structure**

The study structured in the following sections: section one is an introductory section represent objectives, study importance, questions, and hypotheses. Section two reviews related to study topics. Section three represents the methodology which specifically describes area of study, sampling techniques, data collection, and data analysis methods. Section four; include data analysis results and discussion. The conclusion and recommendations are devoted to section five.

### **METHODOLOGY**

## Area of the study

The study area consists of five IDP's camps, of the nine IDP's camps, scattered in different localities of South Darfur State. These five camps (Utash, Draiej, Kalma, El-Salam, and El-Siraif) considered as the biggest IDP's camps in Darfur Region. It surrounding Nyala city, According to HAC (2014) as follow:-

- **Kalma**; located at Eastern part of Nyala City, about 10km, in Bliel Locality. It was established in 2003 since the beginning of Darfur conflict. It consists about; 126,172 IDP.
- **Utash;** located at the Northern part of Nyala City, about 2km, it's the nearest one closed to the city. The total population is about 90,443 IDP.
- **El-Siraif:** located at the western part of Nyala city, about 12km from Nyala city centre, it consists about 32,370 IDP.
- **Deriej;** located in North-east part of Nyala, 2.5km from the city centre, and populated with 36,611 IDP.
- **El-Salam**; located in southern part of Nyala, 15km from the city centre, the total population was 57,806 IDP.

### **Sampling Techniques: -**

The representative sample was selected randomly from these camps due to population homogeneity. The sample frame was covered all community's categories depending on their: age, sex, social, and

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displacement conditions. The sample size for the study were (384) respondents. The stratified sampling technique was conducted to select the sample size for each camp to represent in the total study sample by using *Eshbigal* equation (1) as statistical rule for selecting samples, to determine the sample size, which determined by following:

$$n = \frac{PQ(Z)^2}{E^2} \tag{1}$$

## Where: -

n: sample size

P: The Population percentage which we want to study.

Q: complimentary percentage of (P) value.

Z: standard Degree. if it was (0.05 = 1.96) or (0.01 = 2.58).

E: sample error, if in (0.01 or 0.05).

In this study, the sample size was determined by using above rule, through assuming the value of: P = (50%) Q = (50%), Z = (1.96), and E = (0.05)

According to this technique the study sample size, which was calculated from five IDP's camps were: Kalma: 141, Utash: 101, El-Siraif: 36, Deriaj: 41, and El-Salam: 65, with total size (384) respondents.

## Data collection and analysis techniques: -

Data from various sources has been collected for the study purpose. Observation and structured Interview; using questionnaire were used to collect the primary data. Supplementary data (secondary data) has been gathered from the relevant State Ministries and Humanitarian Aid Commission reports, the UN agencies and organizations Documents, as well as books, and information published on the internet and previous studies. The data were analyzed by frequency distribution and percentage as well as Chi Square to testing the hypotheses, using (SPSS) program.

### **RESULTS**

This section represents the findings of the study that describing the personal characteristics, economic activities of IDPs inside displacement camps by using Frequency distribution and Chisquare test.

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#### **Personal characteristics:**

Table (1): Respondents' Personal Characteristics:

Title	Options	Frequency	Percent
Sex	Male	222	57.8
	Female	162	42.2
	Total	384	100.0
Age	less than 18 years	10	2.6
	18 - 25	82	21.3
	26 – 30	104	27.1
	31 – 40	97	25.3
	more than 40 years	91	23.7
	Total	384	100.0
Joined Educational	Joined	347	90.4
Institution	Not Joined	37	9.6
	Total	384	100.0
Marital Status	Single	100	26.0
	Married	100	26.0
	Married with Children	138	35.9
	Divorced	16	4.2
	Widow	24	6.2
	Desertion	6	1.6
	Total	384	100.0
Family Size	less than 5 members	87	22.7
	5 – 10	203	52.9
	11 – 15	52	13.5
	more than 15 members	42	10.9
	Total	384	100.0

Table (1) stated the personal characteristics of respondents; where male respondents represent 57.8%, and females represent 42.2%. This result indicate that female have more willingness to share their information in data collection as male. The result also, shows that the majority of respondents (73.8%) were in the middle age; ranging between 18 – 40 years, while the respondents their age more than 40 years were 23.7%. This result illustrates that most of respondents in economic age, and they have ability to get job. The Majority (90.4%) of respondents joined educational institutions, whereas 9.6% of them they didn't joined any educational institutions; although education is considered as essential factor for vulnerable people to get good opportunities for jobs. The table also, Illustrates that 61.9% of respondents are married, of whom 35.9% with children respectively, followed by widow, divorced and desertion respectively. This result explains that most of respondents are household headed and have social responsibilities that foster them to move towards securing livelihood means for their families' members. For 22.7% of respondents the family number was less than 5 members, but for more than half (52.9%) of respondents, the family size was ranged between 5 –10 persons. Moreover, 13.5% and 10.9% of respondents their families

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sizes showed big numbers of members between 11 - 15 and more than 15 members respectively. This big family size indicates highly population density in IDP's camps which may result in bad living condition. The big family members will drive IDPs to join any work even it generate low income. On other hand, the low per capita earned income will let all / more family members go out to work for getting additional income to insure better living condition. This why less than 18 years old children (illegal age for work) are go to work instead of school, as seen in table (7).

### 3.2 Access to work:-

Table (2): Access, permanence and source of work

	Option	Frequency	Percent
Access to Work	Accessed	274	71.4
	Rather accessed	70	18.2
	Not accessed	40	10.4
	Total	384	100.0
Permanence of Work	Permanent	126	36.6
	Impermanent	218	63.4
	Total	344	100.0
Types of work	Private work	243	70.7
	Partnership	25	7.3
	Government job	53	15.4
	Organization	23	6.6
	Total	344	100.0
Kinds of Work	Domestic work	42	17.2
	Trade	58	23.8
	Craft work	49	20.2
	Agriculture	94	38.8
	Total	243	72.4

Table (2) illustrates that 71.4% of respondents have access to job or income earning source, while 18.2% of them, they rather accessed to job or income generating activity. But the work source was impermanent work for most (63.4%) of respondents, and those who have permanent jobs represent 36.6%. most (70.7%) of respondents depend on private work for earning income, and 15.4% have official governmental jobs. Private work includes; agriculture, trade, Craft work and domestic works, respectively. That means IDP's have different opportunities of work on their camps.

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**IDP's Economic Activities:** 

Table (3): IDP's economic activities

Economic activity	Frequency	Percent
Agriculture	216	56.2
Trading	64	16.7
Animal husbandry	2	.5
Technical works	33	8.6
Labour	20	5.2
Employment	23	6.0
More than one work	26	6.8
Total	384	100.0

As shown in table (3), that more than half (56.2%) of respondents, depend on agricultural production as a principal economic activity. and 16.7% of them joined trading as economic activity. while 8.6% of respondents were joining technical works. The official employment was income and economic activity for 6% of IDP's. Some respondents (6.8%) joined more than one economic activity to ensure and secure income to fulfill their economic needs.

Table (4): Respondents income per month

Income category	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1000 SDG	293	85.2
1000 – 2000 SDG	39	11.3
2001 – 3000 SDG	2	0.6
More than 3000 SDG	10	2.9
Total	344	100.0

For the majority of respondents (85.2%) the earned income from their economic activity/ activities was less than 1000 Sudanese Pounds monthly, while 11.3% of them earned about 1000 – 2000 Sudanese Pounds per month. Instead, for little number (2.9%) of respondents, the earned income from their economic activities was more than 3000 Sudanese Pounds per month (table.4).

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## **Testing Hypotheses:-**

Table (5): Relationship between economic activities and sex

						Total	Sig				
			Agric	Trading	Animal	Techl	Labour	Employ	More		0.022
					Husbandry	works		ment	than one		
Sex	male	Count	140	34	0	16	12	9	11	222	
		% of Total	36.5%	8.9%	.0%	4.2%	3.1%	2.3%	2.9%	57.8%	
	female	Count	76	30	2	17	8	14	15	162	
		% of Total	19.8%	7.8%	.5%	4.4%	2.1%	3.6%	3.9%	42.2%	
Total		Count	216	64	2	33	20	23	26	384	
		% of Total	56.2%	16.7%	.5%	8.6%	5.2%	6.0%	6.8%	100.0%	

The value in table (5) showed a significant relationship between respondents' sex and the economic

					Econ	omic Activit	ties			Total	Sig
			Agric	Trading	Animal Husbandry	Technical works	Labour	Employ ment	More than one		
Age	less than	Count	5	0	1	1	1	0	2	10	0.029
	18 years	% Total	1.3%	.0%	.3%	.3%	.3%	.0%	.5%	2.6%	
	18 - 25	Count	51	13	0	4	6	2	6	82	
		% Total	13.3%	3.4%	.0%	1.0%	1.6%	.5%	1.6%	21.4%	
	26 - 30	Count	63	12	1	10	3	7	8	104	
		%Total	16.4%	3.1%	.3%	2.6%	.8%	1.8%	2.1%	27.1%	
	31 - 40	Count	53	20	0	10	4	7	3	97	
		% Total	13.8%	5.2%	.0%	2.6%	1.0%	1.8%	.8%	25.3%	
	more	Count	44	19	0	8	6	7	7	91	
	than 40 years	%Total	11.5%	4.9%	.0%	2.1%	1.6%	1.8%	1.8%	23.7%	
Total	Jeans	Count	216	64	2	33	20	23	26	384	
		%Total	56.2%	16.7%	.5%	8.6%	5.2%	6.0%	6.8%	100.0%	

activities which have practiced in the displaced camps, at (0.022) degree of significance. This result indicates that IDP's economic activity was affected by gender issues. In table (5) also' it's obviously seen that 36.5% out of 57.8 of male respondents depend on agriculture economic activities, and 19.8% out of 42.2% of female respondents did the same. This means that agriculture is the main income generating activity for both male and female IDPs.

Table (6): Relationship between economic activities and age:

Chi-Square Test data in table (6) showed significant relationship between respondents' age and the economic activities adopted by IDPs in displacement camps, at calculated value of significance degree (0.029). The result expressed that the economic activities which have occupied by IDPs was affected by aging issues than means. IDPs tend to choose their income source in terms of age, or the respondents age have significant effect on joining economic activities.

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Table (7): Relationship between economic activities and education:

						Total	Sig				
			Agricult ure	Trading	Animal husba ndry	Technical works	Labour	Employ ment	More than one job		
Joining	Joined	Count	200	52	2	29	19	19	26	347	0.049
Educational		%Total	52.1%	13.5%	.5%	7.6%	4.9%	4.9%	6.8%	90.4%	
institutions	Not	Count	16	12	0	4	1	4	0	37	
	joined	%Total	4.2%	3.1%	.0%	1.0%	.3%	1.0%	.0%	9.6%	
Total		Count	216	64	2	33	20	23	26	384	
		%Total	56.2%	16.7%	.5%	8.6%	5.2%	6.0%	6.8%	100.0 %	

According to the data in table (7), economic activities in displaced camps were significantly associated to respondents' joining to educational institutions, at calculated value of significance degree (0.049). The result expressed that the type economic activities which have occupied by IDPs was affected by literacy issues, than means IDPs tend to joined to their income source in terms of the education level, or the respondents literacy have significant effect to joining to economic activities. The data in table (8) also found that, in such fields of economic activities, the number of respondents who joined the educational institutions was higher than the number of those who didn't joined.

Table (8): Relationship between economic activities and marital status:

						Total	Sig				
			Agricult	Trading	Animal	Tech	Labour	Employ	More than		
			ure		breeder	works		ment	one job		
Marital	Single	Count	60	14	1	5	5	3	12	100	0.002
Status		%Total	15.6%	3.6%	.3%	1.3%	1.3%	.8%	3.1%	26.0%	
	married	Count	63	18	1	4	6	2	6	100	
		%Total	16.4%	4.7%	.3%	1.0%	1.6%	.5%	1.6%	26.0%	
	Married with	Count	74	22	0	20	7	10	5	138	
	Children	%Total	19.3%	5.7%	.0%	5.2%	1.8%	2.6%	1.3%	35.9%	
	Divorced	Count	4	6	0	2	0	3	1	16	
		%Total	1.0%	1.6%	.0%	.5%	.0%	.8%	.3%	4.2%	
	Widow	Count	13	2	0	2	2	5	0	24	
		% Total	3.4%	.5%	.0%	.5%	.5%	1.3%	.0%	6.2%	
	Desertion	Count	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	6	
		% Total	.5%	.5%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.5%	1.6%	
Total		Count	216	64	2	33	20	23	26	384	
		%Total	56.2%	16.7%	.5%	8.6%	5.2%	6.0%	6.8%	100.0%	

According to table (8) there is a strongly significantly relationship between economic activities and respondents' marital status, at calculated value of significant degree (0.002). The result explained that, there is strong significant relationship between respondents' marital status and the choice of economic activities which have occupied by IDPs as income earning source in displacement camps. The result expressed that the economic activities which have occupied by IDPs was affected by marital status, than the means the IDPs tend to joined as their income source in terms of the

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social situation and their families' responsibilities. In the table above, it found that respondents who were married and married with children have tend to joined to such economic activities more than others.

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Conclusion

Male are more representative in sample than female, this result is in line with [12] and [13] by 50.8 and 67% respectively, this indicate that the male has highly willing to participate and raised their response more than female, but [14] results find out the equal representative of both male and female in the sample of study. Whereas, the [15] report shows that the numbers of women in five Nyala adjacent camps (study area) women in numbers are more than men.

Study findings show that the majority of respondents age are mostly targeted among (18 - 40 year) by 73.8%, this is an economic active stage this finding is inline [16], by 69.3% of respondents their age ranged between (16-45y), While the results contradict with [16], by 94.4% of respondents are in economically active and in age group (24-54y). This it may illustrate that the cultural background. The IDP's education status, study figures show that the majority of respondents by (90%) joined to educational institutions, this result was similar with [16] result by (76%), this high percentage of literacy situation was reflects their tendency to education especially religious education.

The study finds out that the majority of respondents are married and married with children by 61%, this result is in line with [16] by 61.7% and [17] by 59.7% conversely. This highest percentage of married status expressed that the majority of respondents are being at stable situation, according to the above results IDP's tend to be married to save their life against survival threats. Study findings show that the majority of respondents age are mostly targeted among (18 – 40 year) by 73.8%, this is an economic active stage this finding is inline [16], by 69.3% of respondents their age ranged between (16-45y), [12] by 67.8%, and similarly in line with [18], by 60% of respondents age ranged between (24-49 year) and [14], by 65.24% of respondents aged rate (19 – 64 y). While the results contradict with [19], by 94.4% of respondents are in economically active and in age group (24-54y). This result may illustrate that socio-cultural norms and traditions of these groups of IDP's may give an advantage for those who have own family. At all IDP's at these camps have a capability to raise their improve their life quality in terms of their age, education and marital status, will give them good opportunity to get good future.

According to study most of respondents have access to work, which may indicate that access to work is not a problem for IDPs. Maybe due to lack of enough skills required for other types of work, most of IDPs joining agricultural work. They benefit from the previous experience that acquired when they settled in their villages in rural areas, when agriculture was the public economic activity, thus after displacement their economic activity didn't change even when they used to live

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in urban area agriculture production still the main economic activity. On other hand although, depending on private work such as agriculture is good for IDP's economic condition to create independent economy, but IDP's private work was mainly rainfed agricultural production which is impermanent work, characterized by seasonality, associated with unfixed low income. Thus, agricultural development programs with income generating component are needed to improve IDP's agricultural production to increase their farm income as a mean for improving their economic condition.

Some of IDPs joined other economic activities after displacement in the new living areas such as technical works, food trading, and domestic work which has been adopted by IDP's women in cities as a new economic activity that has never been occupied in their homes or places of habitat. Maybe, due to insecure access problem or the difficulty to save production or production inputs, some IDPs depending on renting their own farm land seasonally. In terms of marginal, low skilled and impermanent work which IDPs were depending on, economic activities were determined by low income. Most of IDPs are depend on multi-economic and income source to secure their need and asking continuous assistance within their living condition at Displacement camps, Finally, in displacement condition; economic activities were highly affected by IDP's personal characteristics; including: sex, age, education and marital status. The primary predictor was education level which is the precondition for choosing/ occupying appropriate economic activity. Thus, stakeholders, such as Government, donors and NGOs must target their efforts towards education improvement, if they want to transfer IDPs out of vulnerable economic condition in which they lived.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Implementing educational and training activities for improving IDP's capacity building to ensure economic diversification
- Performing effective agricultural development programs including; agricultural inputs, finance, extension work, and such income generation activities to enhance effective joining to market production to reduce the IDP's economic vulnerability at displacement camps.

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