Forced migration- environmental and socioeconomic dimensions-case study of “Refugees” Food supply in Kenya

Joseph W. Matofari
Egerton University, Kenya
jmatofari@gmail.com

Fleeing from South Sudan- Across Boarder to Kakuma

Fleeing from conflict areas in Somalia

Refugees await registration in Dadaab

Refugee camp in Kenya

Dadaab camp- New site
Refugee

- According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), Refugees are persons, who are displaced from home for more than five years.
- Many of them have no documents, so they belong to no state.
- Each year, countless children are born and grow up in refugee camps.

Causes of displacement

- Conflicts
- Terrorism
- War
- Weather
- Environmental degradation
- Overpopulation
- Faulty Policies
- Corruption

About 40,409 are waiting for their status to be determined.
Internally Displaced People (IDPs)

- These are persons or a group of persons who have been forced to flee their homes of habitual residence
- To avoid:
  - effects of armed conflict,
  - situation of generalized violence,
  - violations of human rights or
  - natural or human-made disasters,
- They have not crossed an internationally recognized State border (UN-GPID, 1996)

Kenyan IDPs

- Disputed presidential elections in December 2007
- Over 664,000 Kenyans fled their homes
- Other causes include:
  - communal and land-related violence
  - disasters and development projects

- Displaced people in Kenya due to tribal clashes 2007/2008 at an agricultural show ground in Eldoret town
- As of 24 April 2015, 309,200 IDPs were still displaced (IDMC, 2016).
IDPs transferred to a new settlement

In the new settlement, residents welcome them - integration

Food security for Kenyan refugees & IDPs

- What is food security? Exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (FAO, 2009)

- Food Insecurity Exists when people do not have adequate physical, social or economic access to food that is sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (FAO, 2009)

The causes of food Insecurity in Kenya

- Poverty
- High Demographic Growth
- Arid and Semi-Arid Lands in the North and East
- Droughts
- Diseases e.g. HIV/AIDS
- Kenya hosts about 600,000 refugees and 400,000 IDPs
Kenya’s Food Security Situation

- Kenya has the largest and most diversified economy in East Africa
- 40% of Kenyans live; 
  - below the poverty line and 
  - >1.5 million require immediate food assistance
- About 80% of food is produced by smallholders 
  - have limited access to farm inputs, 
  - with unpredictable rains.
- The food insecure increase yearly (USAID, UNHCR, 2014).

Food Assistance Programmes

- Many organizations are registered at the Office of Food for Peace (FFP) in Kenya.
  - FFP partners with the U.N-UNHCR and WFP to provide relief and build resilience among the most vulnerable populations in Kenya.
- Kenya helps in infrastructure for food delivery

Food supply in refugee camps

Store in a camp  Transporting to their camp houses

Major Food Rations are: Cereals, Beans, Lentils, oil & occasionally Sugar

Actual food supply system at the camps

- Availability: 
  - 10,000MT supplied per month to both Dadaab & Kakuma
- Access: 
  1. Refugees get the food through a mechanism called general food distribution (GFD)
  2. Actual collection is at final distribution point (FDP)
- Quantity: Depend on family size; but calculated based on adult consumption. E.g.
  - Cereals 400-500g
  - Lentils 30-40g
  - oil 10-20g etc
Quality

- To curb malnutrition in Dadaab and Kakuma camps, WFP is providing Super Cereal plus to some 85,000 children.
- Children who are moderately malnourished are receiving Plumpy’Sup (a nutrient-fortified, ready-to-eat food supplement).
- Pregnant and nursing mothers also receive Super Cereal, a highly nutritious blended food that is fortified with extra protein and essential micro-nutrients.

Frequency of food supply to the camps

- Food supply is done after every 15 days.
- Before 15 days are over;
  - Sale of portions to buy non-food items
  - Sale of portions to pay for transportation and milling costs
  - Sharing food with unregistered members
- In 7 days, about 70-80% of the refugees face run-out of food & resort to negative coping mechanisms (WFP-FSOM, 2015)

Challenges in fulfilling the food security deficit in the refugee camps in Kenya

Individual Households

- Dadaab, 23% - either severely or moderately food insecure
- Kakuma, 53% - food insecure in December 2015, (WFP, 2015).

Household Food Consumption and Dietary Diversity

- Dadaab daily average dietary diversity at 5.6 (best-6).
- Kakuma has 3.5 (poorest-4.5).
- Dadaab consume on average milk 6 times a week, vegetables 5 times and other animal protein and fruits 3 times a week.
- Kakuma consume milk and meat only once a week, fruits not at all and pulses and vegetables 4 times a week (WFP, 2015).
Nutrition Situation

- All camps in Kenya are far from achieving the acceptable nutrition by WHO stds
- Nutrition indicators for children 6-59 months in Kakuma and Dadaab is below emergency threshold of 15% (WHO stds)

Magnitude of malnutrition

- Prevalence of Global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate is at 7.9% which is above the acceptable levels of GAM at < 5%
- WHO threshold is 10-14% as a signal for serious malnutrition
- Anaemia prevalence among children 6-59 months is above 40%
- Main cause of anaemia is lack of iron due to poor diet diversification (WFP-UNHCR-JAM, 2014)

Coping mechanisms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stressed livelihood coping strategies</th>
<th>Crisis</th>
<th>Emergency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased food on credit or borrowed food</td>
<td>Reduced expenses on health (including medicine) and education</td>
<td>Begged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrow money</td>
<td>Sold productive assets or means of transport</td>
<td>Sold last female animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing amount of food cooked</td>
<td>Sold ration to pay for transportation/milling</td>
<td>Food for work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipping meals &amp; giving children porridge</td>
<td>Running out of ration</td>
<td>Take on credit/borrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spent savings</td>
<td>Withdrew children from school</td>
<td>Engaged in illegal income activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Household Coping Strategies

- Index increased for both Camp populations reaching 18 by end of 2015
- Means severe coping strategies are frequently used to cover for food shortages

The Coping Strategy Index is the covering consumption related coping strategies that households used in the past 7 days
Household Coping Strategies

Livelihood coping strategies
- In Dadaab
  - 53% used stress
  - 26% used emergency
- In Kakuma,
  the proportion was equal at 34/36%.

Constraints of UNHCR-WFP
- Poor infrastructure increases air surge capacity
- Ongoing violence/ influxes of refugees
- Food security interventions-back gardening in camps
- Malnutrition- critical levels in camps

Difficult to maintain full implementation of BSFP
- infant & young child feeding runs out
- nutrition products run out
- capacity of staff is low or high turn over

Outbreaks- due to congestion in combination with poor WASH -diarrhoea, cholera, hepatitis E, malaria etc

Food for Peace Contributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>U.S. Dollars</th>
<th>Metric Tons</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$42.5 million</td>
<td>42,210 MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$83.0 million</td>
<td>74,331 MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$111.4 million</td>
<td>74,780 MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$106.7 million</td>
<td>86,480 MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$113.7 million</td>
<td>91,272 MT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Contributions:

(FEWs NET, UNHCR, 2016)
### Plan for coping by UNHCR-WFP

- To promote livelihoods
- To support context-specific livelihood activities such as agriculture
- This is the emergency agriculture to ensure food security and nutrition well-being

### What is “Emergency Agriculture”

- Refugees and IDPs starting back gardens to cultivate crops, especially horticultural crops like vegetables.
- The emergency is due to:
  - The type and availability of the food aid
  - The continued reduction in supply and amount of the food aid

### Agricultural activities at the camps

- UNHCR-WFP has initiated multi-story gardens (MSG) in refugee camps
- The MSG target arid areas where water is scarce and agriculture is not possible
- Purpose is to support dietary diversity & own food consumption
- Training in water harvesting, pest control, nutrition & meal planning

- The increase in malnourished people, especially women and children
- The need to promote self-reliance and change of mind-set among refugees
- Creating opportunities to avoid sexual and gender based violence at the camp
Multi-story Gardens

Photo credit: * Barrel

Modifications

An example of the larger growing bags

Photo credit: * Barrel

Suitable vegetables

- Coriander - *Dania*
- Collards (Kale) - *Sukuma wiki*
- Capsicum - *Pilipili (pepe)*
- Egg plant - Black beauty (*Birganya*)
- Spinach - Spinach
- Tomatoes - *Nyanya*
- Okra - *Pusa sawani (Bamia)*
- Amaranthus - *Terere*

Amaranthus

Challenges in sustaining sack gardens

- Water availability
- Spillage of water
- Dry season, people need water
- Lack of variety of seeds
- Inappropriate seeds
- Pest control
Research Questions

- Very little is known (Scientific & Social) about the effectiveness of such basic agricultural survival strategies & their impact on reduction on food insecurity in refugee camps
- What is the role of;
  - Individuals
  - Groups
  - Institutions in shaping and overcoming food insecurities in emergencies?

Host benefits

- All local children < 5 and pregnant and lactating mothers in northern Kenya are supplied with rations
- WFP is providing school meals for 670,500
  - pre-primary and primary school children in ASAL
  - in the slums of Nairobi
- The host communities, who are mainly pastoralists, also realize an estimated Ksh300 million ($3 million) in annual income from sale of livestock and milk (World bank, 2015)
- Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps inject Sh1.4 billion ($14 million) into the Kenyan economy yearly (World Bank, 2015, DN, 22nd June 2016.)

Working with host and refugee traders

- WFP works with more than 300 traders (Host & Refugee);
- women & children selling fish and traditional vegetables on camp streets

Choice for the refugees

- The market offers a big variety
- “It is a great idea to go to the market and choose your preferred food”
- WFP is giving Ksh100 (US$1) per person every month;
  - to replace 10% of the monthly ration of cereal, maize, wheat flour, or sorghum.
Business activities in camps

Refugee camps host shopping centres, taxi and matatu services and lodges.

Learning activities in camps

- Children going to schools in refugee camps

Largest urbanized refugee estate in Kenya

Nairobi Eastleigh Market & Estate