DARFUR

Pastoralism, Power and Choice

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Perspectives on livelihoods and conflict from the Darfur region - our work to date

**Action Research**
- “Livelihoods Under Siege”
- “Livelihoods, migration and remittance flows”
- “Adaptation and Devastation: Impact of Conflict on Trade and Markets”
- “Livelihoods, Power and Choice: The Vulnerability of the Northern Rizaygat”
  - Supported by DFID, UNEP, UNRCO

**Institutional Change**
- Impact on livelihoods analysis/programming of WFP, Oxfam, MercyCorps, ACF, Care
- Support of the Peace Process – Wealth Sharing component
- Support of the DJAM
- Support for a Darfur Resource Network *In process of registering*
- UNRCO Livelihood Workshops – participatory analysis – 08 UN workplan
- Working with local NGOs, universities & Nomad Council
Participation as a key to learning and change

- Whose analysis counts?
What do we mean by livelihoods?

1. What do you do?

2. What are your goals?

3. What do you need in order to do this?

4. What influences this?

5. How does this impact on your livelihood

- Livelihood strategies
- Livelihood goals
- Livelihood resources or capitals
- Policies, Institutions and Processes
- The feedback loop and livelihood outcomes
A LIVELIHOODS ANALYTICAL TOOL for understanding the totality of people’s livelihoods

ASSETS

Physical
Financial
Natural
Social
Human
Political

PROCESSES, INSTITUTIONS & POLICIES

INFLUENCE & ACCESS

STRATEGIES

OUTCOMES & GOALS

Feed Back Factor

Lautze & Raven-Roberts, 2006
Livelihood Vulnerability

- What are the historical and prevailing institutional, environmental and policy processes that are shaping and driving livelihood vulnerability, and how does this play out in terms of livelihood adaptations, and (power) relations between groups’?
Exclusion from International Processes

- Politicized image & demonization
- Lack of knowledge and bias
- Broader regional discrimination against pastoralists
- Less vulnerable??
- Access; hard-to-reach, scattered
Northern & Southern Rizaygat

- Abbala (camel herders) & Baqqara (cattle herders)
  - Mahriyya - abbala & baggara,
  - Nu’ayba, - abbala & baggara
  - Mahamid - abbala & baggara
  - Ireyqat - abbala
  - Iteyfat – abbala

- The northern camel herding Rizaygat are found separately under their individual Tribal Administrations
- They were not allocated their own tribal homeland by the colonial administration
The Pastoralist Domain & Importance of Mobility

- Ecological integration rather than ecological competition
- Adaptation to climate variability
- Economic advantages of improved access to local, and transnational markets
- Advantageous to livestock health and reproduction
Historical PIPs that have shaped vulnerability

- Long-standing (and inequitable) systems of land tenure and NRM
- Passive and active neglect by national authorities
- Impact of recurrent droughts – changes in land use patterns & development of new disadvantageous rules
- Local conflict – Fur Arab war, Arab Zaghawa conflict
- National conflict – protracted war in the south
- Regional conflict
Livelihoods in Transition: From Marginalization to “Mal-adaptations”

- Traditional nomadic systems have changed
  - Severe contraction of pastoralist domain & concentration of nomads within ‘safe’ areas
  - Blocked livestock trade
  - Processes of encouraged sedentarization
  - Livelihood diversification

- **Mal-adaptive strategies**
  - Military salaries ($150 pcm)
  - Firewood and grass collection in areas close to towns
Vulnerability of Camel Nomads – a skewed assets portfolio
Ongoing processes shaping vulnerability

- Constriction of the pastoralist domain and processes of encouraged sedentarization
- Militarization of youth
- Social polarization
- Loss of local & transnational markets
- Lack of representation, leadership & voice
- International processes of exclusion and misrepresentation

*Exclusion, Marginalization and Misrepresentation*
Choice, Livelihood Goals & Power

- Camels
- Education
  - If you want a school you don’t get it, instead you get a Kalashnikov.
  - The man in the khalla will never be president
- Militarization
  - Acquiring wealth and status
  - Protecting individual and group interests
  - Subjugating rivals
Conclusions: no ‘quick-fix’

- Vulnerability – embedded in the PIPs – which includes the political economy and ecology of conflict
- “Rights” to the pastoralist domain – importance of the far north (Jizzu) and also the southern grazing areas
- International peace processes risk reinforcing power imbalances and inequalities
- Need to challenge western models of humanitarian, recovery and development
  - Narrow view on vulnerability (based on food security/displacement to camps and towns)
  - Narrow range of interventions dominated by food
  - Short timeframes for analysis & response
- 8 broad areas of recommendations
Livelihoods-Conflict Cycle

- Conflict & polarization
- Pressure on livelihoods
- Environmental Degradation
- Drought (climate change?)
- Weak local governance:
  - Land administration
  - NRM & Livestock migration
  - Conflict resolution

- Livelihood MAL-Adaptations – Competing Claims
Thank you

http://go.tufts.edu/FIC-Darfur