The economic impact of refugees

Two cases from Africa
Introduction

► The impact of refugees: economics vs. public opinion
► Difference between refugees and voluntary migrants
► The two cases
► Emphasis on method
► Step 1: regional study
The Kassala region
A plural society

- **indigenous peoples**
  - Hadendoa
  - Beni Amer
  - Halanga

- **Arabs**
  - Riverain
  - Shukriya
  - Rashaida
  - Yemeni

- **Others**
  - Hausa, Fellata
  - Nubians

And the refugees:

- **Lowland Eritreans**
  - Beni Amer
  - Baria, Baza
  - Asaorta

- **Highland Eritreans**
  - Tigrinya Christians
  - Other Christian groups
  - Jabarta

- **Ethiopians**
  - Tigray
Step 2: household survey (refugees and Sudanese)

The chart represents the distribution of different employment statuses among various groups. The categories include employers, self-employed, employees, subsistence farmers & nomads, self-employed without capital, casual labourers, and destitutes.

The chart includes categories such as Ben’ Amer, Hadendoa, Other Beja, Riverain Arabs, Shukriya, West Africans, Other Sudanese, Yemenis, Baria, Tigrinya, Other Eritreans, and Ethiopians.
Step 3: study problem areas

► Sectors where refugees are active
  - Subsistence agriculture
  - Commercial agriculture
  - Crafts
  - Catering
  - Building

► Environmental issues

► Social services

► Infrastructure

► Housing
And now for something completely different
The Zone d’Accueil des Réfugiés

- Development came late
- Logging, export crops mostly by outsiders
- Rice cultivation by locals
- Shortage of land, degradation of existing land under existing technology
- Economic decline of Ivory Coast
The refugees

- Rice cultivation in wetlands
- Labour on plantations
- Crafts and petty trade
Conclusions: the determinants of economic impact and integration

► Socio-cultural structure: ethnicity and plurality
► Regional economic situation and development prospects: which bottleneck?
► Policy towards refugees: host country and UNHCR
► Prospects of return
► Land degradation