

# The economic impact of refugees

Two cases from Africa

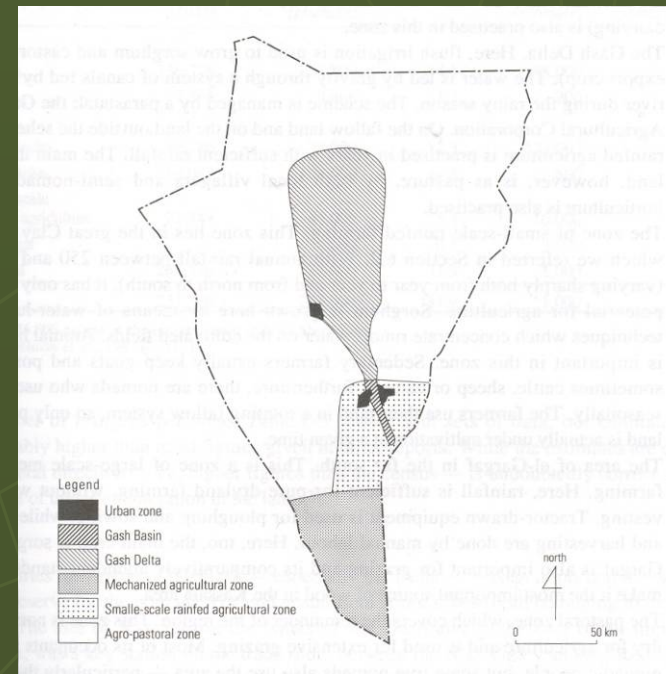
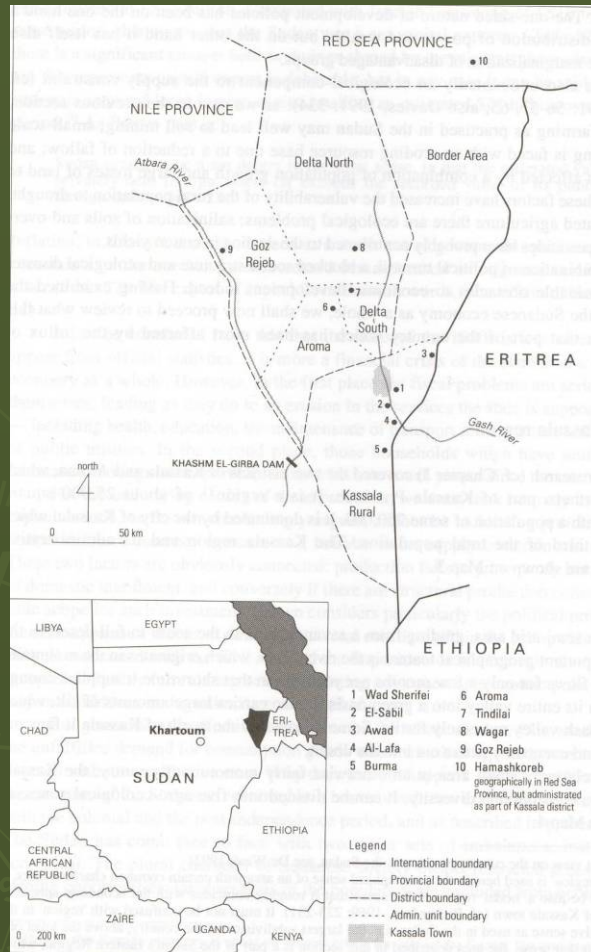
# Contents

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Eritreans in the Sudan
- ▶ Liberians in Ivory Coast
- ▶ Conclusions

# 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

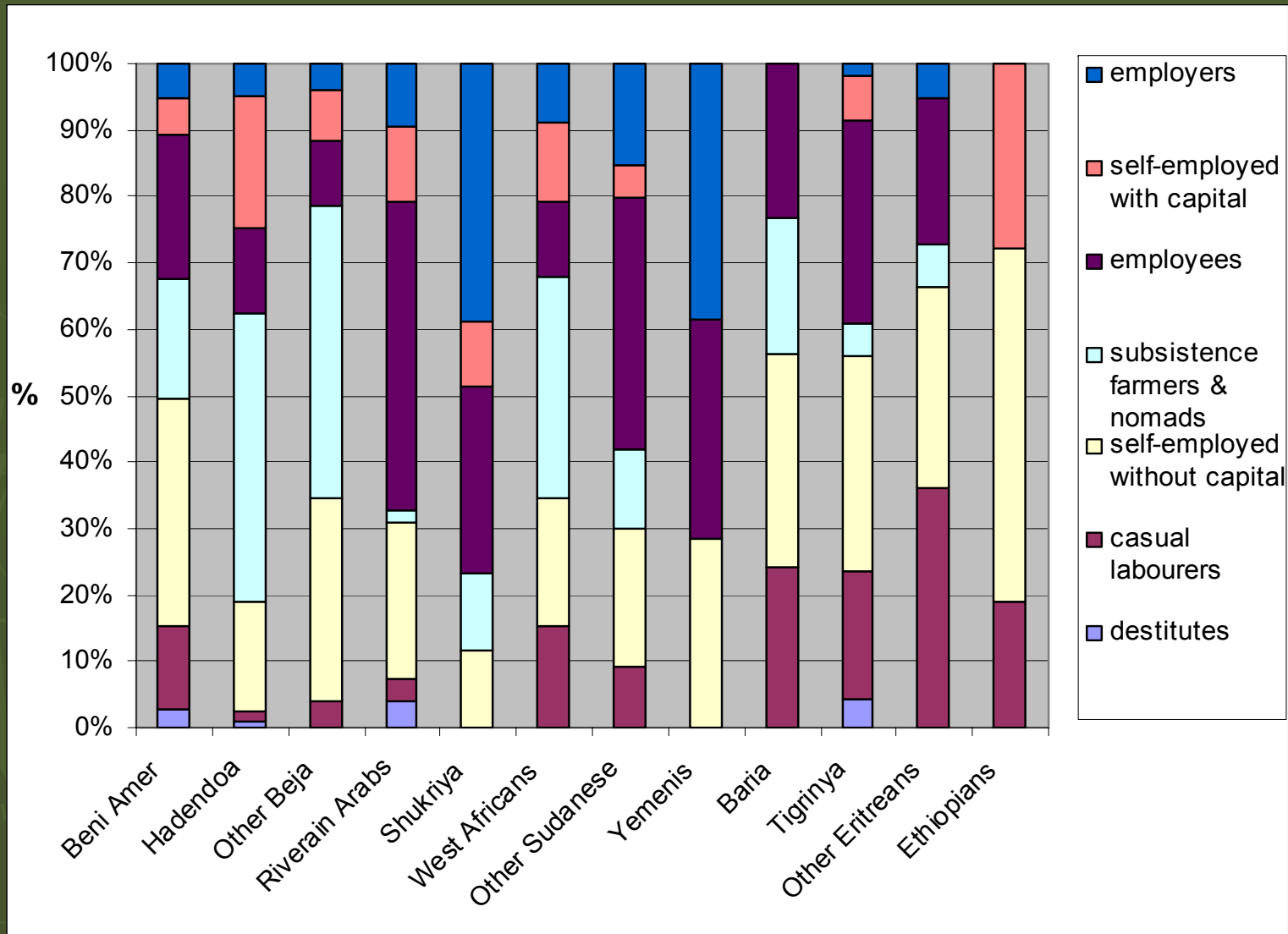
### ▶ Highland Eritreans

- Tigrinya Christians
- Other Christian groups
- Jabarta

### ▶ Ethiopians

- Tigray

# Step 2: household survey (refugees and Sudanese)



# 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

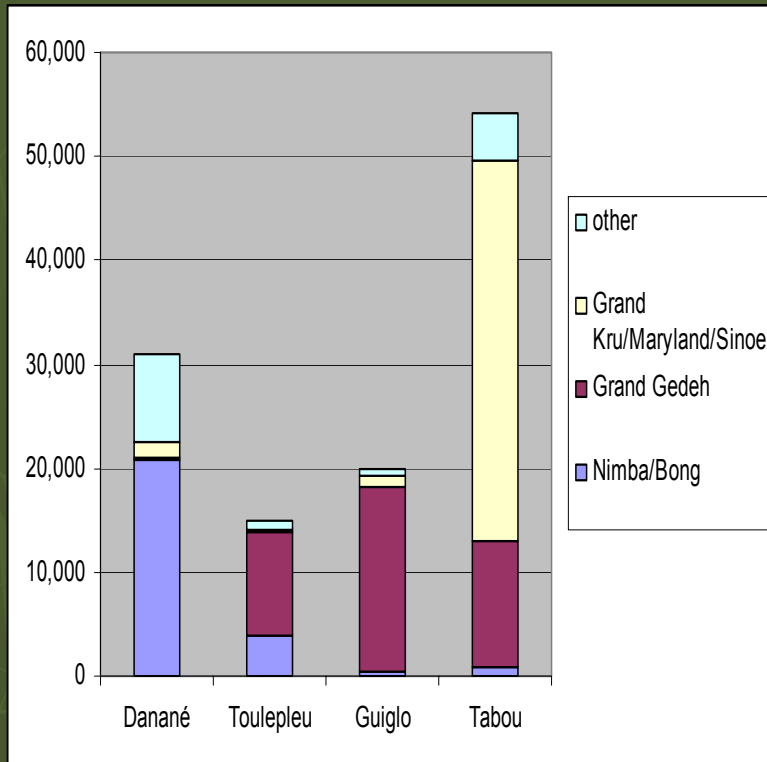




# The Zône d'Accueil des Réfugiés

- ▶ 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