

The Economics of Forced Migration



Darfur Livelihoods and Libya: Trade, Migration and Remittance Flows In Times of Conflict and Crisis

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Overview

- Methodology & approach
- Background and context
- Migration & trade routes
- Darfurians in Kufra
- Remittance mechanisms & flows
- Impact of conflict on Darfurians



LIVELIHOODS FRAMEWORK



Qualitative methods

- Key informant semi-structured interviews
 - government - customs, immigration, veterinary services
 - Academics – University of El Kufra
 - Sudan embassy
 - Formal Sudanese Groups e.g. Sudanese Popular Committee
- Semi-structured individual interviews
- Focus group interviews
 - PRA techniques:
 - Mapping
 - Ranking
 - Timelines
 - Proportional piling
 - Direct observation



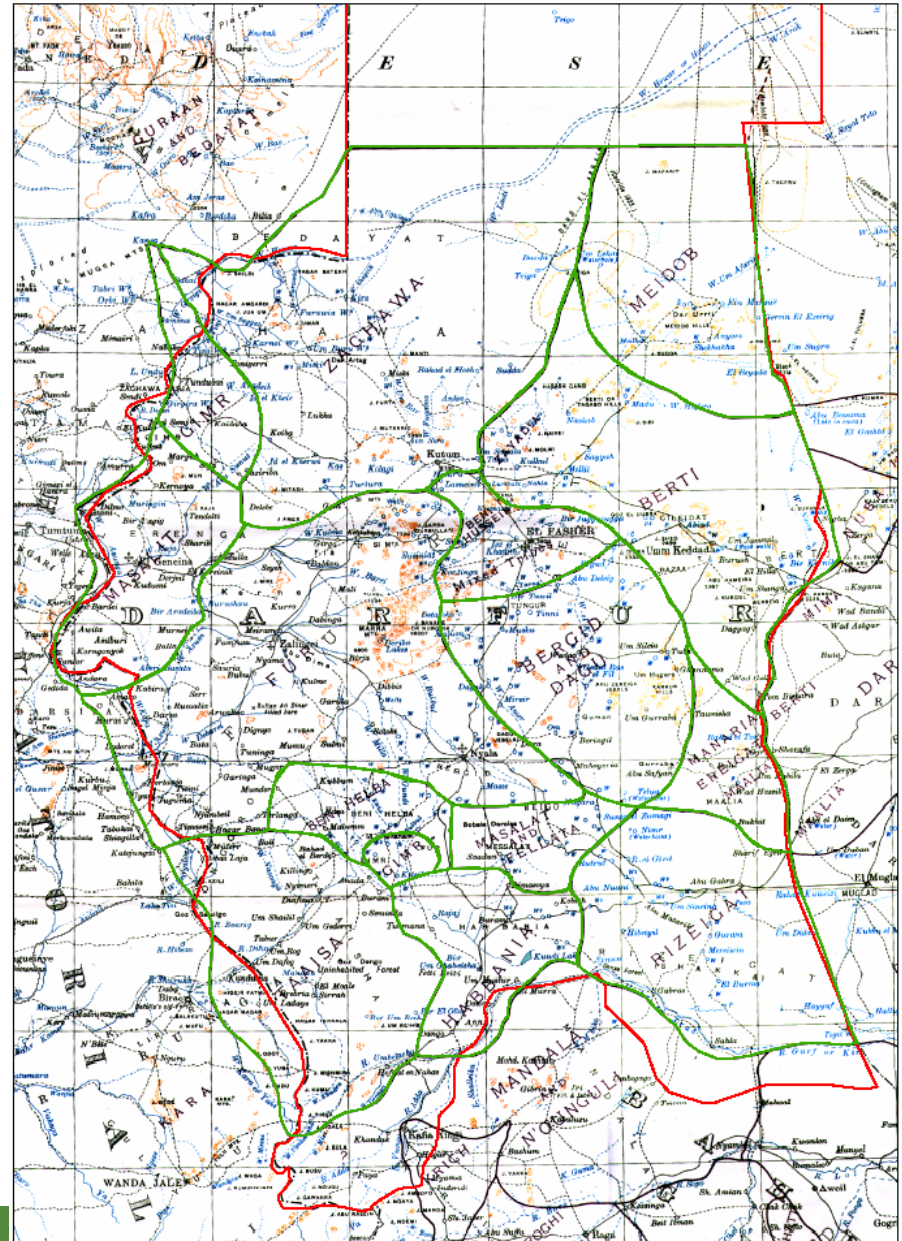
Background and context

- Historic links – trade, migration, religion
- Oil & the economy
- Economic sanctions & links with terrorism
- Libya & its foreign workforce
 - Open door policy followed by crackdowns
 - Further restrictions in early 2004
- 150,000 to 250,000 Darfurians in Libya
 - 4% of Darfur's population
 - 25% of households with a family member in Libya

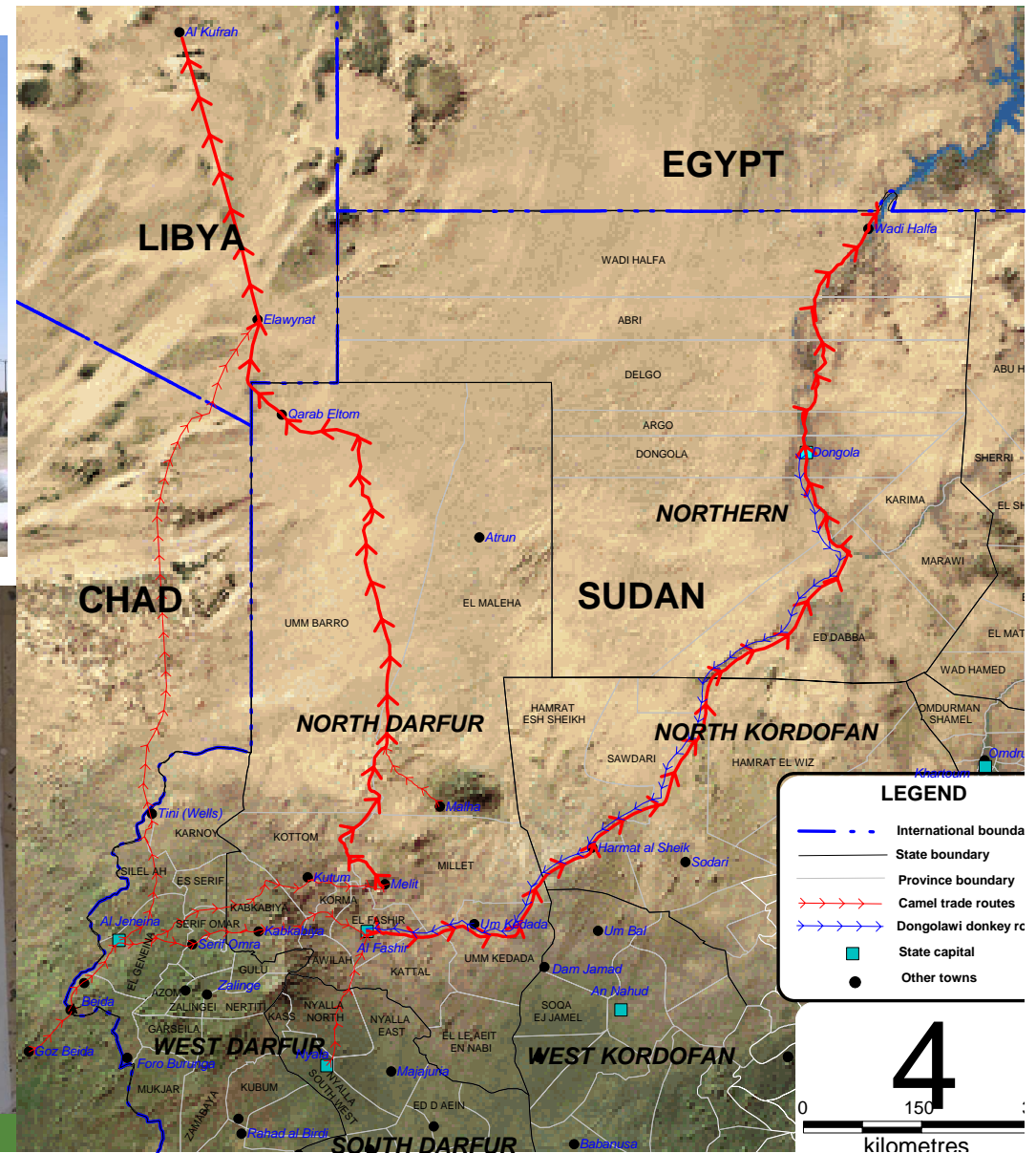
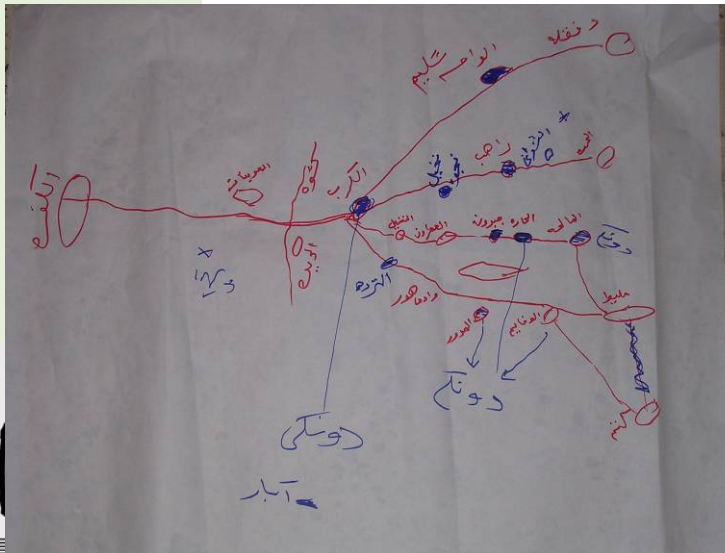


Causes of conflict in Darfur

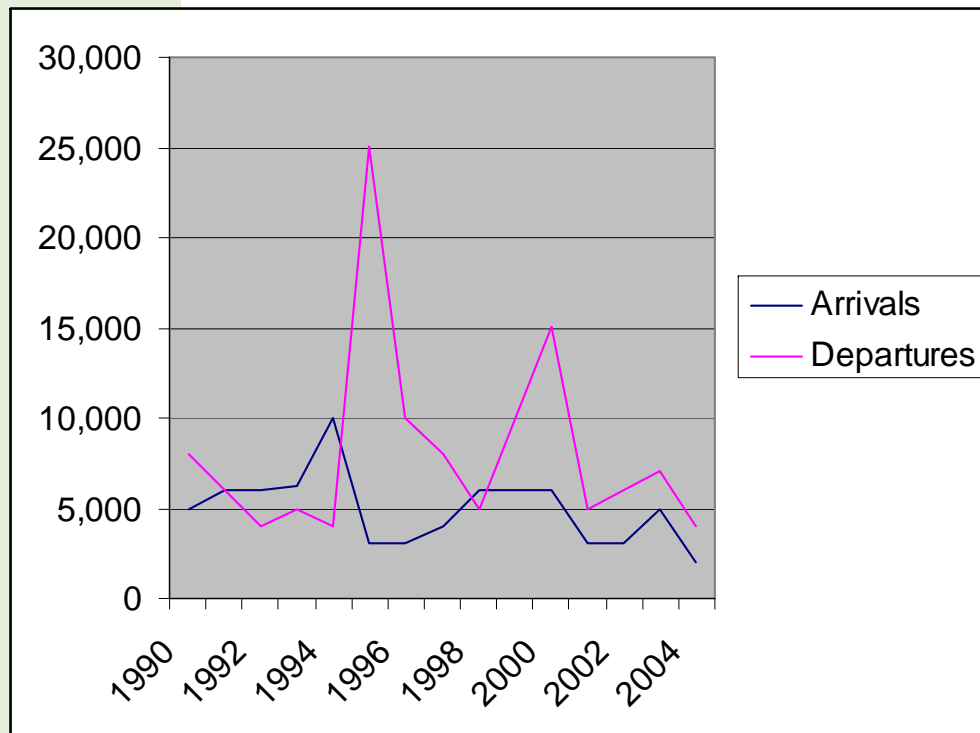
- National level processes
 - Economic & political marginalization of Darfur
 - Wider regional conflicts
 - Tactical manipulation of ethnic identities by central authorities
- Local level processes
 - Failing institutions – NA, judiciary, policing
 - Failing development – services
 - Pressure on & competition for natural resources
 - Political polarization between tribal groups



Migration and trade routes



Migration flows



Surge in 1993

Decline in 2004:

- Border closure May 2004
- Insecurity north Darfur
- Absorption into tribal militias and warring factions



Source: Focus group exercises



Darfur Livelihood Strategies



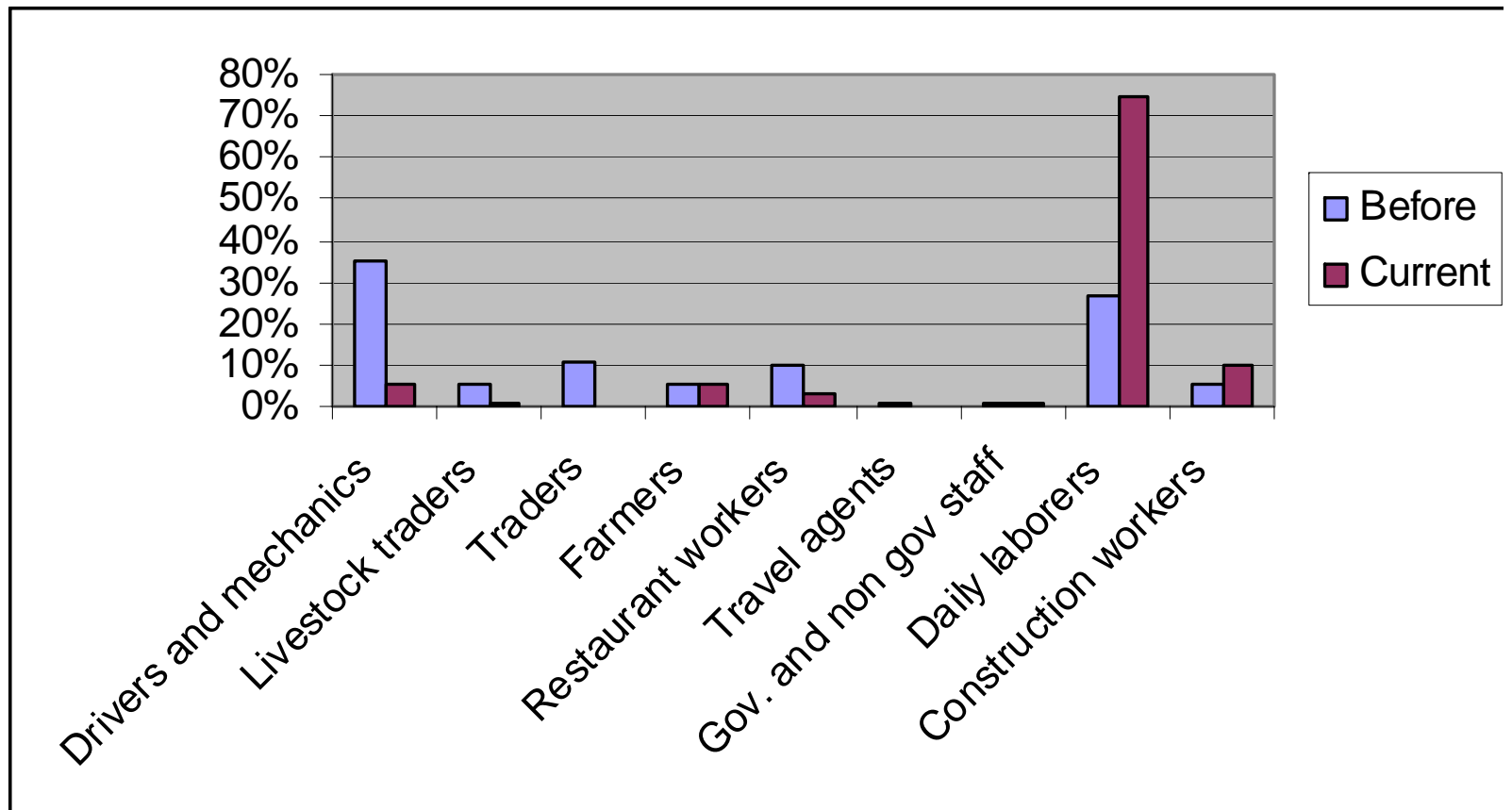
- Cultivation**
- Livestock**
- Trade**
- Labour migration**
- Natural resources**



Employment in Kufra

Livelihoods of Sudanese before the border closure and mid 2004

(excludes those in transit)



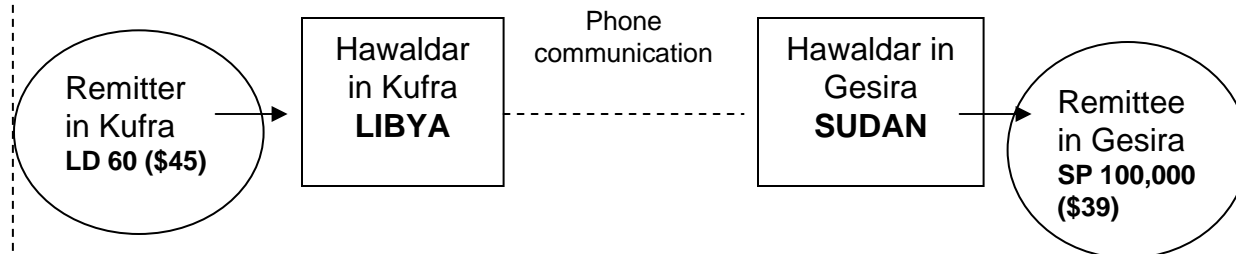
Rates of pay

- Unskilled daily labourer: \$2 per day
- Unskilled agricultural worker: \$90 per month
- Experienced cook: \$450 per month
- Skilled tailor: \$190 to \$380 per month
- Experienced lorry driver: \$450 per journey to Darfur (7 days)
- Caravan herder: \$188 per journey
- Caravan leader/ guide: \$1128 per journey



Remittance Mechanisms & Flows -

- Banks
- Hand-carried by individuals in cash and kind
- Hawala system: cash and trade based linking Libya, Arab States and Sudan
- Per annum
 - Higher paid workers: \$812 - \$958 (up to 40%)
 - Unskilled workers: \$271 - \$319 (20-30%)
- Married men send more
- Goods – clothes, rice, sugar, pasta, infant formula, oil



Impact of conflict

- Insecurity restricts freedom of movement – *'livelihoods under siege'*
- Border closure blocks international migration and remittance flows between Libya and Darfur
- Government closure of banks and customs points in North Darfur
- Blocking transnational trade – especially livestock
- Implications for war economy and taxation?
- Inflation in Darfur of basic commodities (food, household goods)
- Loss of remittances: \$ 15,000,000
(25% of 200,000 migrants remitting \$300 per annum)
- Increase in distress migration to Khartoum
- Breakdown in communications



Conclusions & Recommendations

- Dual pressures on migrants – conflict & conditions in Libya
- Recommendations
 - Improve phone communications (mobile networks and access to landline)
 - Extend family tracing and reunification programmes
 - Open border with Libya – issue for peace talks
 - Improve security of transport routes & public transport
 - Discourage recruitment activity & support local skills development
 - Moves to legalize Sudanese migrants in Libya
 - End discrimination in Libya – health tests, food subsidies, education & healthcare



Thank you



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