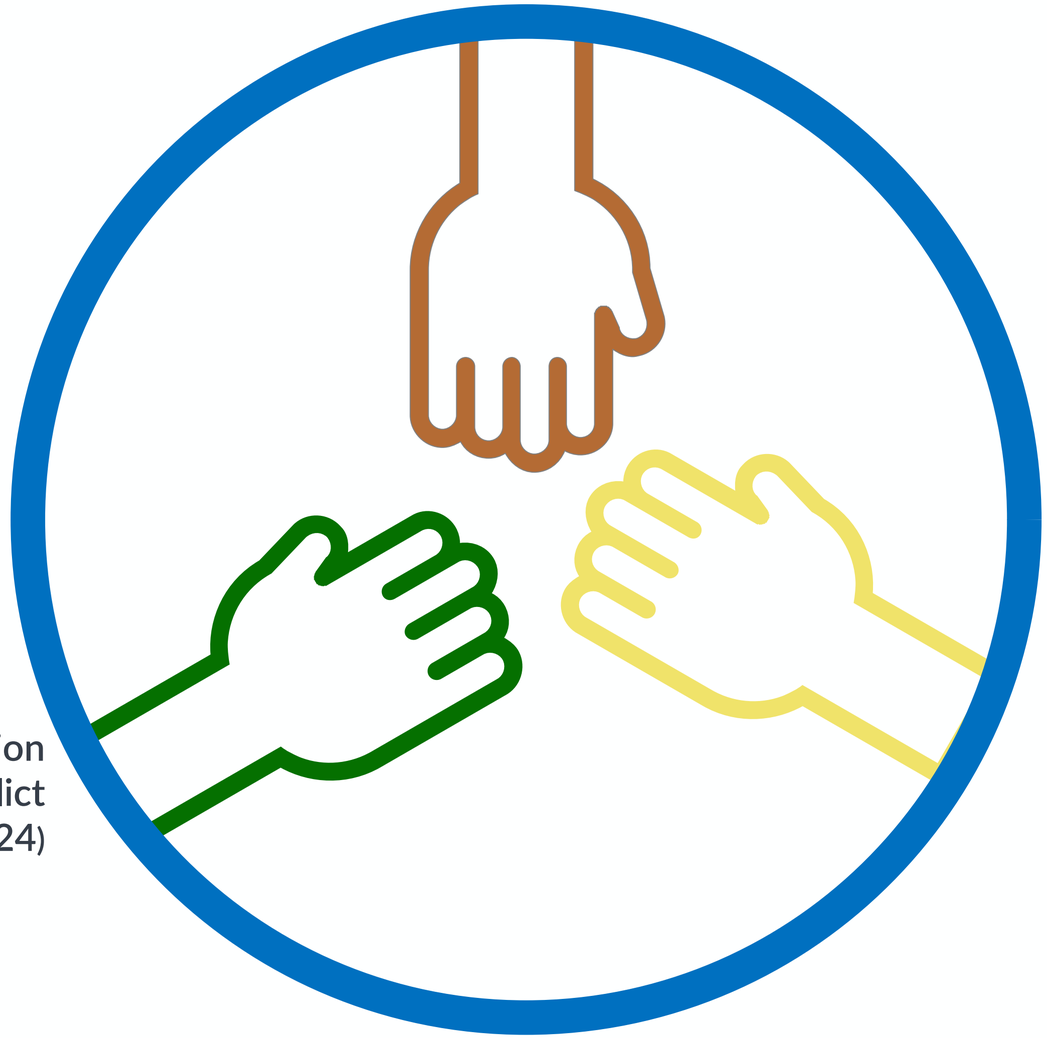
UNDP'S LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS AMID SUDAN'S ARMED CONFLICT

06.06.2024

Outline of Presentation

Summary of the Survey on Livelihoods in Sudan Amid Armed Conflict



Livelihoods intervention during armed conflict (April 2023 – May 2024)

Key Findings on the multi-state rapid joint assessment on the impact of the conflict-induced displacement on IDPs and host communities: focus on livelihoods

Summary of Survey on Livelihoods in Sudan Amid Armed Conflict

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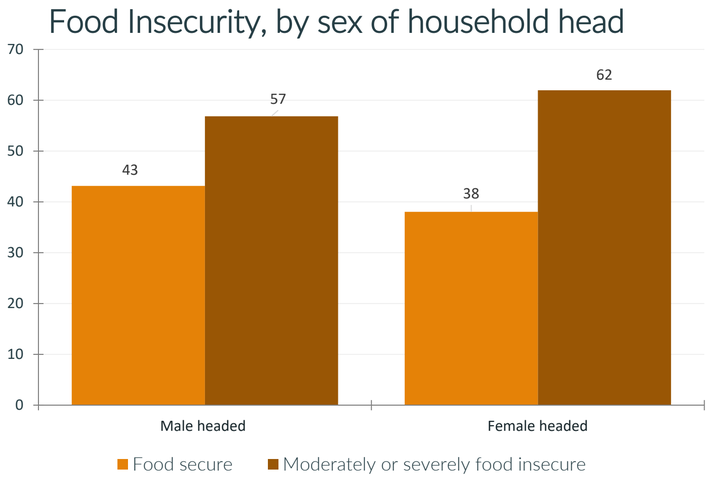
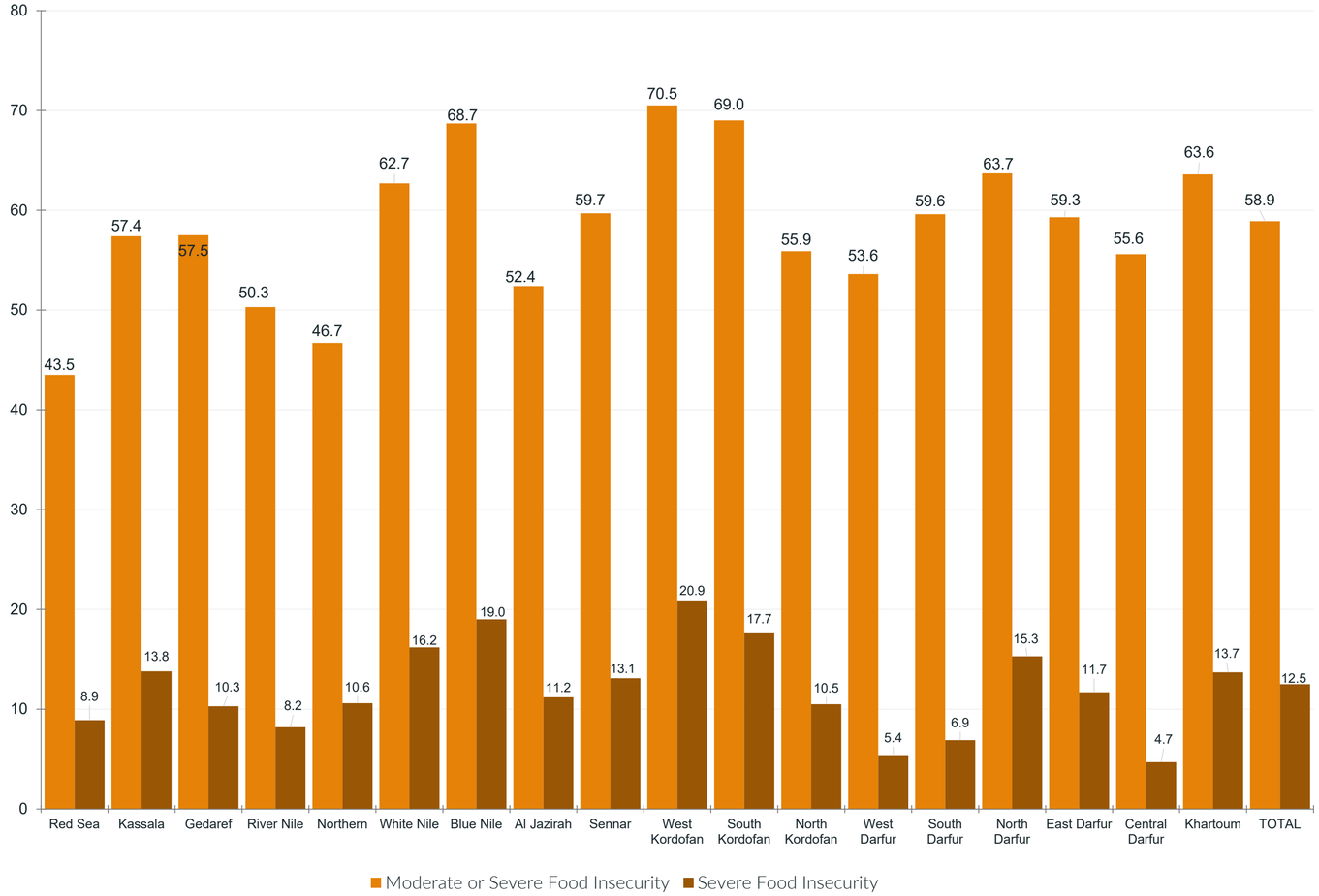
Food Security

- 59% of households experience moderate to severe food insecurity.
- Highest prevalence in West Kordofan, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile
- A famine is expected in the country in 2024, particularly in Khartoum, Aj Jazirah, and the states in the Darfur and Kordofan regions.
- Male-headed households report slightly better food security levels than their female counterparts.



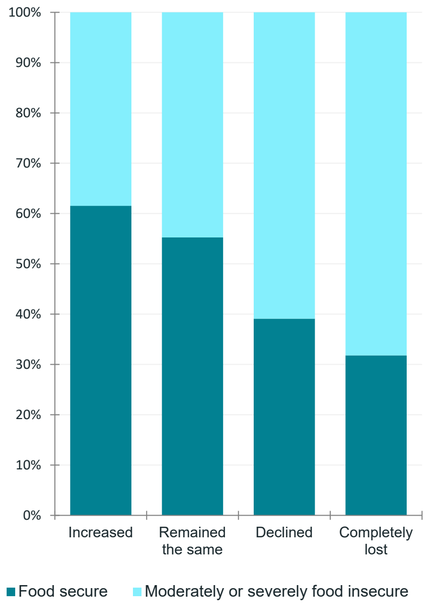


Summary of Survey on Livelihoods in Sudan Amid Armed Conflict

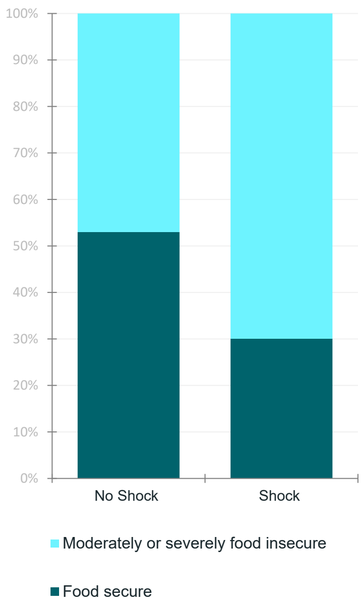
Food security and resilience to shocks

- Households experiencing a decrease in income are particularly vulnerable to high food insecurity. The situation is most critical for households that have completely lost their income.
- Households encountering shocks, such as illness, death, or climatic events, typically face heightened food insecurity.
- The incidence of going to bed hungry is equal to 9% for adult male and female members but extends to 35% across all household members. The most extreme cases of food deprivation—going a whole day and night without eating—disproportionately affect children and are more common among females than males.
- Half of the rural Sudanese households have adopted one or two coping strategies. However, a notable 35% have not employed any. 15% report having resorted to three or more coping strategies.
- A higher percentage of female-headed households not employing any strategies suggests that female-headed households may have fewer assets to utilize during economic hardships.

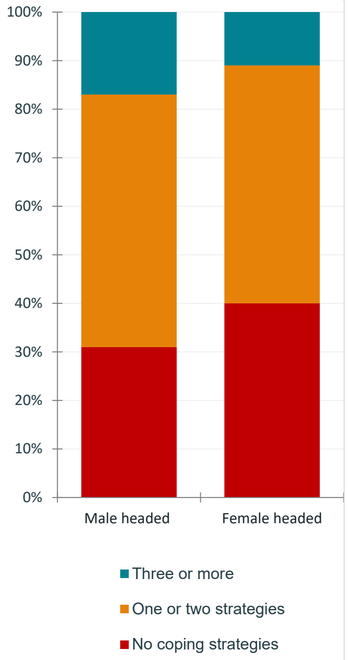
Food Insecurity by changes in income from before to during the conflict



Food Insecurity by whether the household reported experiencing a shock



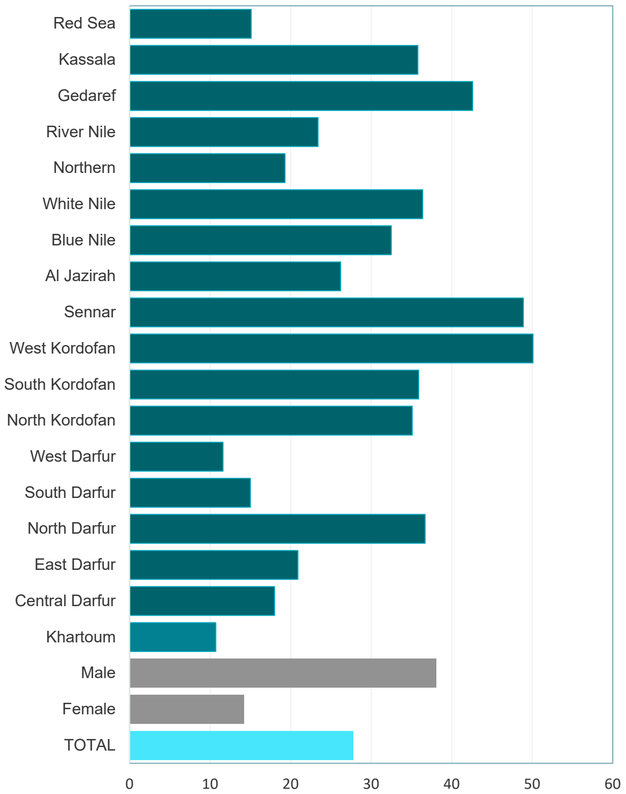
Number of livelihood coping strategies reported by households, by sex of household head



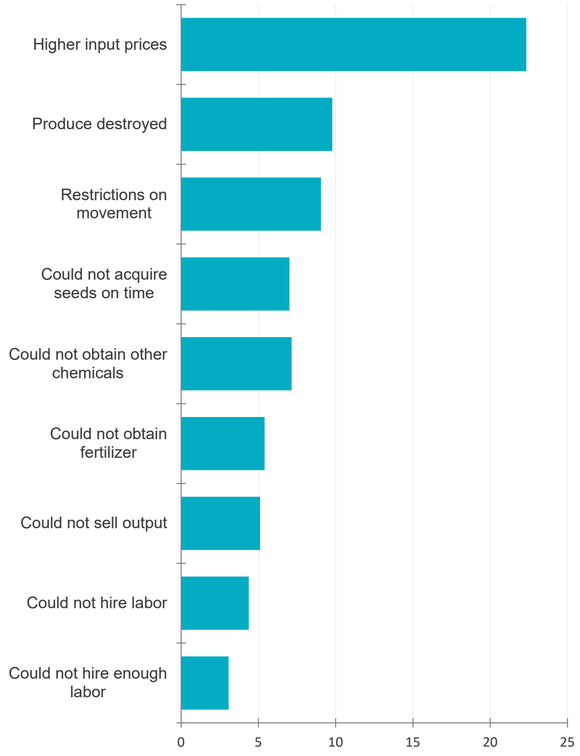
Summary of Survey on Livelihoods in Sudan Amid Armed Conflict

Ownership of Agricultural Land

- Over 71% of households do not own agricultural.
- About two-fifths of male-headed households own agricultural land, but only 14% of female-headed households do so.
- Just under half of the households that reported owning agricultural land own less than 5 feddans.
- Over 70% of respondents indicated that they did not cultivate any land during the 2023 summer season. Maize was the main crop planted, followed by millet.
- Half of the households that reported cultivating land indicated that their farming was disrupted by the conflict.
- As to perceptions of the immediate challenges that farming households are facing, the top five challenges reported in order of priority include i) irrigation water supply problems, ii) high prices for inputs, iii) weather problems, iv) pest and disease problems, v) high input prices.



Reported ownership of agricultural land

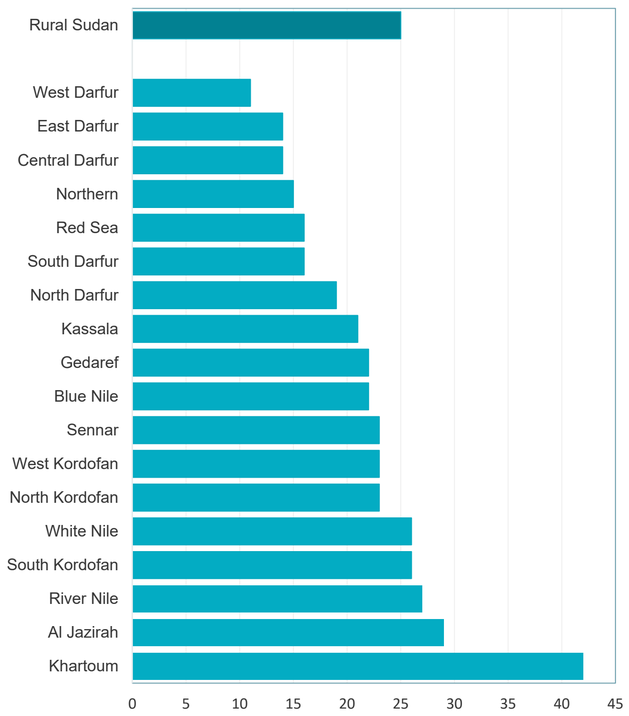


Reason for the disruption to farming work, percentage of all households

Summary of Survey on Livelihoods in Sudan Amid Armed Conflict

Market Access

- Only 25% of rural households reported that they were not able to visit markets. This lack of market access indicates obstacles like physical barriers, economic limitations, or safety issues.
- A higher percentage of female-headed households reported that no one in the household was able to visit the market. And a larger proportion of female-headed households than male-headed households find it difficult to buy goods in the current period of conflict.
- When asked about the reasons that prevented them from selling, households working as sellers gave 'prices were too low' as the most common reason, accounting for nearly half. 'Not enough demand' is the second most common issue and represents a significant barrier to selling. This indicates that consumer purchasing power may be diminished due to widespread economic hardship or displacement.
- 43% reported being unable to make essential purchases. High prices are the primary barrier, cited by 64% of those unable to purchase.



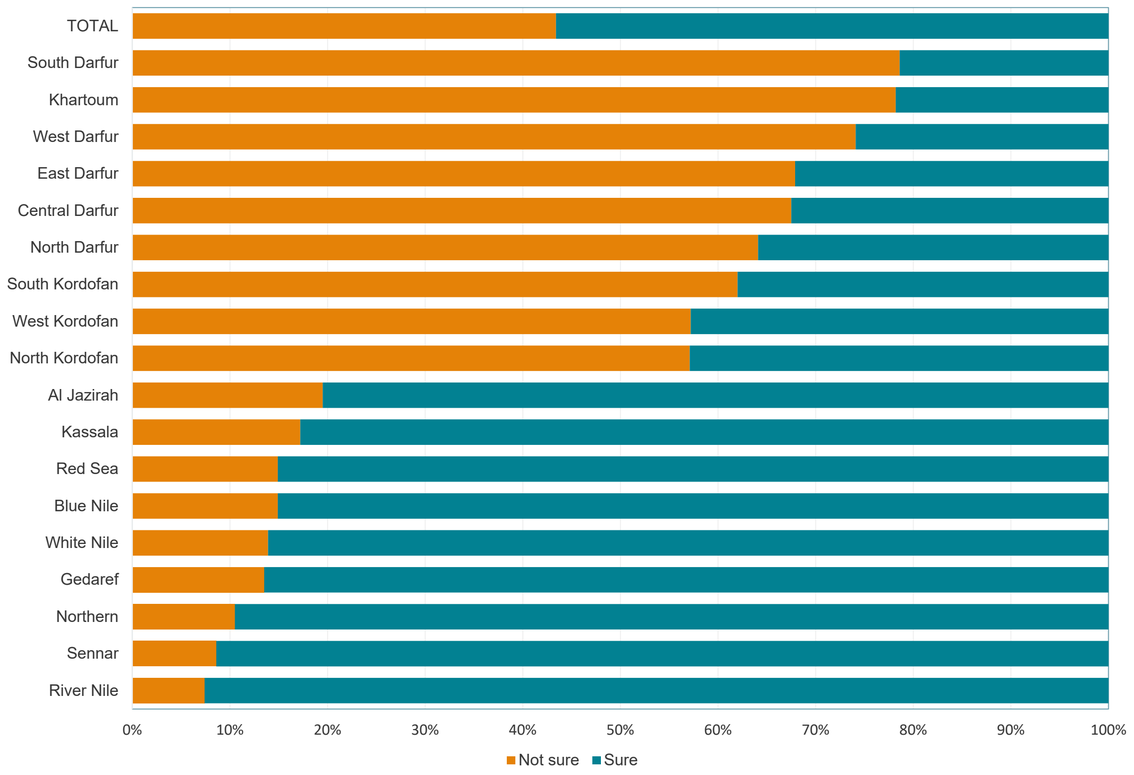
Households not able to visit the market

Reasons given by households for not being able to make sales

Summary of Survey on Livelihoods in Sudan Amid Armed Conflict

Exposure to Shocks

- Households had a range of shock experiences; personal idiosyncratic shocks were the most common.
- Larger households and those led by females are more likely to encounter shocks: 51% of male-headed households vs 60% of female-headed households.
- Out of the households that experienced a shock, 85% reported experiencing only one type of shock.
- The intricate relationship between conflict events and the subjective sense of security underscores the complexity of how conflict intensity influences public perceptions.
- The uniformity in exposure to shocks across educational levels challenges the notion that higher educational attainment could serve as a robust buffer against the adverse impacts of such shocks on a household.
- Shocks—be they climatic, economic, or health-related—cut across the employment status of the head.



Perception of households on current security situation by state

UNDP's Livelihoods Interventions (April 2023 – May 2024)

Livelihood Interventions (April 2023- May 2024)

Seeds and tools distribution in Gedaref.

Sorghum Harvesting in Two Areas

- 11,956 households of small farmers supported with seeds and tools for cultivation
- Over 140mt of seeds distributed.
- Over 31,176 hectares (31,372 feddans) of land brought are under cultivation with this assistance.

Livelihood Interventions (April 2023 - May 2024)

Solar Irrigation

Solar cookstove

195 solar irrigation pumps distributed to smallholder farmers across different States to aid food production

150 households (mostly female headed households support with small ruminant restocking. Four (4) goats per household was issued.

Over 2000 households benefited from solar cookstoves to enhance access to clean energy in household meal preparation.

Livelihood Interventions (April 2023 - May 2024)

Auto-mechanics training in Kassala

Computer training in Kassala

712 youth (female and men) benefited from vocational skills training in various trades.

Cash for work initiatives benefiting 1,300 IDPs and host to enhance access to community services benefiting over 10,000 individuals.
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Livelihood Interventions (April 2023- May 2024)

VSLA Members in Sawakin

Empowering women through the establishment of VSLA and cooperatives

Women Cooperative in Blue Nile

Up to 26 Voluntary Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA), 95% women, were established and trained in the Red Sea and Kassala States. These associations have mobilized over $102,000 in local contributions for revolving loans and joint business ventures.

Six functioning cooperative committees (groups) of 50 women per site were established and are now up and running. These women are now actively engaged in businesses that contribute to their economic empowerment, such as the bakery business in Geissan and the renting of festival equipment.

Livelihood Interventions (April 2023- May2024)

- Five show clubs established and equipped with satellite dish, TV, furniture, etc., up and running as means of livelihood for youth in Bleu Nile

- The show clubs act as an income-generating activity for the youth who earn revenue by charging community members to watch football matches, TV films, and other entertainment.

Additionally, it serves as a valuable space for education and information sharing within the

Show Club in Blue Nile

Show Club

Results from Multi-state Rapid Joint assessment on the Impact of the Conflict-induced Displacement on IDPs and Host communities

Focusing on Livelihoods.

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Background, Objective, and Scope

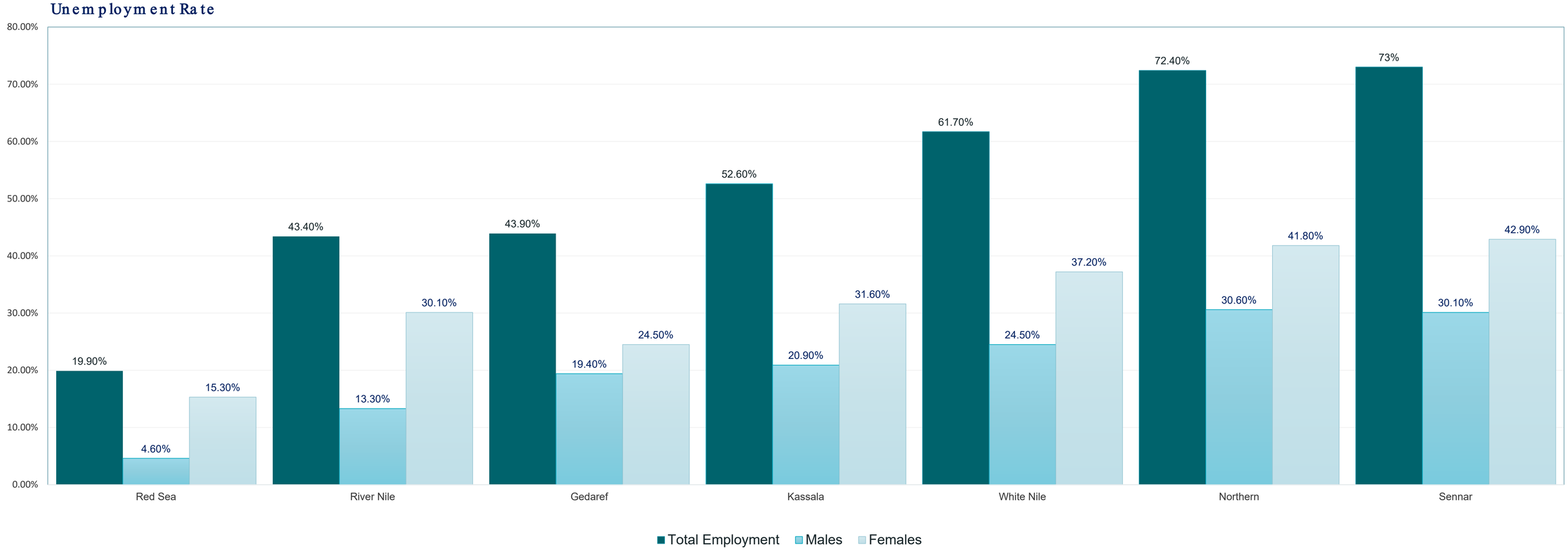
Objectives

- The rapid assessment was conducted between November 2023 and January 2024 in several states in Sudan hosting the highest numbers of IDPs: White-Nile, Northern State, Sennar, Gedaref, River Nile, Gezira, Kassala, and the Red Sea
- Focused on a deeper understanding of the impact of the crisis to inform programmatic interventions within the Durable Solutions Framework and UN response

The assessment took account of:

- Key community vulnerabilities: livelihoods, access to services and infrastructure
- Gender Implications
- Environmental impact
- Effect on/of conflict dynamics
- Analysis and projections based on different conflict scenarios
- Operational environment
- Programmatic recommendations

Unemployment and Food Security



- The study found that host communities in all the targeted states face heightened exposure to pre-existing vulnerabilities from indirect risks emanating from the impact of the conflict on the country as a whole and direct risks emanating from the increased influx of displaced persons
- Unemployment and food security preexisting the conflict among key challenges for host communities in all states

Unemployment and Food Security

- Host community members face evident challenges in labor force participation; the majority (52.41%) of members indicate they are currently unemployed, with the number of unemployed females (31.92%) being higher than their male (20.48%) counterparts.
- Persons with disabilities are particularly more prone to not finding employment; the findings illustrate that only 1.68% are currently employed
- Of those working, only 19.8% do so full-time
- The income levels are generally between 100,000 SDG and 200,000 SDG (Bank rate: $117.6 - $235.2; parallel market: $90.9 - $181.8), which is slightly higher than the World Bank International Poverty Line (IPL) absolute minimum of $2.15 per day but insufficient to meet the needs of host community members.[46 47] The findings suggest no clear policies or initiatives tailored to increasing community employment

Thank You