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REFUGEE
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***Critical Evaluation of Methodological and Analytical Tools to Assess
the Costs and Impacts of Forced Displacement***

***KNOMAD Conference and Policy Forum: Impacts of Refugees and IDPs on
Host Countries and Host Communities***

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KNOMAD

Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development



Refugee Studies Centre
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1. Context

1. Objectives

- explore methodological and analytical challenges in econometric evaluations
- comprehensive evaluations, not specific sectoral or spatial analysis
- enhance the quality of the econometric tools

2. Impacts of forced displacement on refugees and host countries and communities

3. Paradigm shift - development-led and resilience-based



2. Purpose and Scope – what is being measured and how?

1. Quantify and model macro- and micro- economic shocks
2. Quantify and model socio-economic impacts on affected populations - profile poverty, vulnerability and welfare (PVW)



2.1 Quantifying and modelling *economic impacts*: approach and methodologies

Partial equilibrium modelling (PEM) methodology

- economic, human development, (infrastructure) impacts, and key sectors

Challenges

- availability of data and counter-factuals
- metrics and factor in insecurity and uncertainty spill overs
- factoring in effects of economic shocks
- estimate the growth impacts of forced displacement

2.2 Quantifying and modelling impacts on *affected populations: poverty, vulnerability and welfare*

Methodologies less systematic, instruments more diverse

Challenges

- aligning different actors' variables, definitions and metrics
- access relevant and robust data sources
- develop econometric model with key predictors of target population's welfare
- distinction between welfare and poverty modelling
- distinguishing between monetary and non-monetary vulnerability



2.2 Quantifying and modelling impacts on *affected populations: poverty, vulnerability and welfare*

- narrow range of welfare and poverty predictors
- expenditure aggregates more reliable than income data as poverty line indicator
- case (ie household) size most important variable, 18% of welfare variability; 22% of poverty variability
- housing conditions second most important factor explaining welfare and poverty

3.1 Dealing with Counterfactuals

Counterfactual rather than difference-in-difference

- **three stage method: i) baseline prior to shock; ii) performance of each sector; iii) difference between actual performance and estimate performance without displacement**

Issues

- **availability of baseline and time series data**
- **selection of variables to measure counterfactuals**
- **exogeneity**

3.2 Dealing with Data Availability

Nature, adequacy and accuracy of data problematic, main limitation to analysing impacts

- **macro-economic rely on secondary data**
- **micro-economic, human development and social impacts**
secondary data and primary data

Innovations data collection

- **clustered, multi-level and stratified methodology**
- **‘stress level’ calculation: higher prices, food production deficits and IDP inflows.**

None of case studies used Needs Assessment Surveys



4. Conclusions

- PEM more or less standardised tool
- socio-economic impact methodologies – diffuse, problems of alignment
- cross-cutting problems of counter factuials, exogeneity, data availability and analysis
- lack of data to capture speed of socio-economic change
- lack of multidimensional instruments to measure and monitor fragility
- political economy questions
- measuring peace- and state-building
- multiplicity of actors



Thank you

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