

## **Introduction:**

Burkina Faso has been battling with an unprecedented number of terrorist attacks since 2015. This insecurity, fuelled by long-term conflicts such as succession, land, or farmer-herder conflicts, led to a skyrocketing 2 million Internally Displaced People in March 2023, according to the National Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation of the Country.

In the state of emergency that most of the IDPs are in, the Government and NGOs holistically assist in order to help them cope with their new situation. After this emergency assistance, one of the Government's goals is to make IDPs self-sufficient by helping them find work and loosen their dependence on humanitarian assistance. In order to formulate recommendations for this matter, the present paper seeks to identify the determinants of IDPs' labour integration in their host communities.

## **A brief review of the literature:**

Forced migrants, such as Internally Displaced Persons and refugees, have lower employment rates and lower wages compared to their hosts. In the case of Ethiopia and Lebanon, Pape et al. (2018) and Kabir and Klugman (2019) found that a small number of working-age refugees were employed. In the case of Colombia, Gimenez-Nadal et al. (2019), using propensity score matching, found a significant wage difference between IDPs and economic migrants.

Internally displaced persons face numerous challenges integrating the labour market into their host communities. These challenges are linked to their often traumatic displacement history, sociodemographic and cultural characteristics, and host communities' characteristics. Violence is critical in their decision to flee their origin location, so they are less economically selected than economic migrants (Schuettler & Caron, 2020).

Regarding demographics, gender plays a key role. In fact, with the forced displacement, a considerable number of households become female-headed. In Africa, where males are often breadwinners, women might have to switch places and become breadwinners. Another challenge linked to gender is the narrative that females cannot own land or a farm in a context where most of the population lives in subsistence agriculture.

Regarding their displacement history, the number of displacements and the trauma associated with the loss of assets and the loss of household members will negatively affect the probability of IDPs integrating into the labour market (Schuettler & Caron, 2020). Moreover, social cohesion in host communities can help raise IDPs' confidence in finding their way into the job markets.

IDPs also have an uncertain time horizon, contemplating between investing in the host community or waiting until they can return to their localities of origin. In the case of Uganda, forced migrants planning to move back to their origin region were less interested in finding jobs (Loiacono & Vargas, 2019).

## **Data and descriptive statistics and results**

We use a High-Frequency Phone Survey by the World Bank and the National Institute of Statistics and Demography on IDPs. Three rounds have been observed between May and July 2021. The sampling frame is the one of the CONASUR, the government entity in charge of

recording all IDPs in the country. One thousand five hundred eighty-one households were drawn. However, only 1156 were reached, with a response rate of 73.1%.

Our variable of interest is the IDP's status of employment, defined by the National Institute of Statistics and Demography as: "any person of working age<sup>1</sup> who, during a reference week or over the last seven days, has carried out an activity lasting at least one hour, to produce goods or provide services in exchange for remuneration or profit" (ERI-ESI, INSD, 2018).

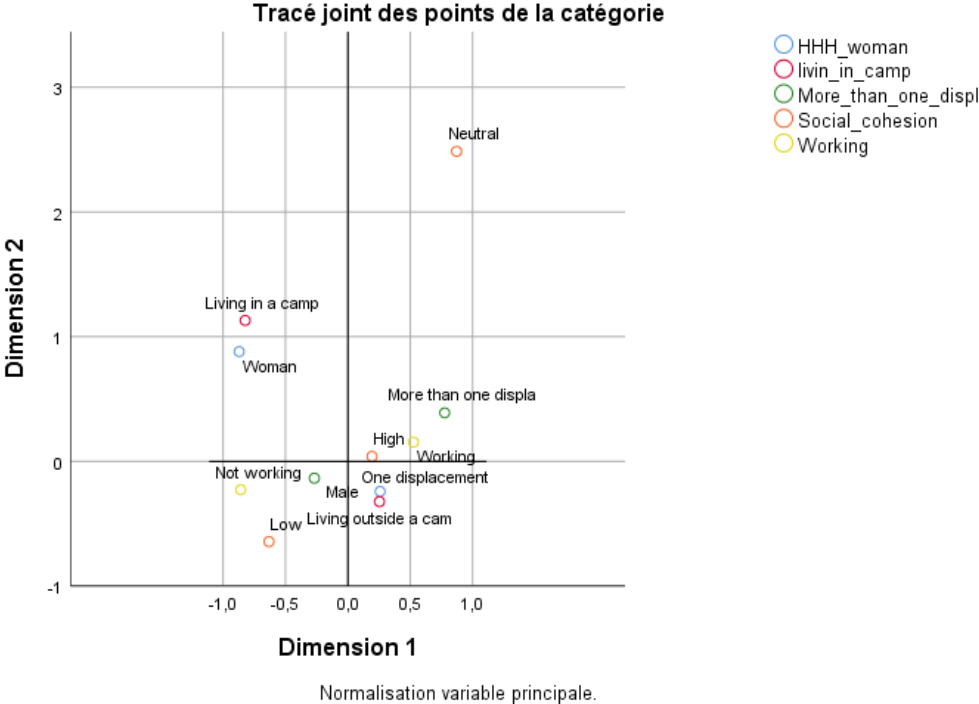
**Table 1:** Descriptive statistics.

Variable	Frequency /mean	Std. Dev.
Working Status (equals 1 if IDP is working)	61.06%	
Type of work	Agriculture: 25.60% Mining: 7.83% Trade: 19.03% Personal services: 11.21% Other: 36.33%	
Female headed households	21.73%	
Age	46.47	13.94
Household size	13.70	7.43
Household living in a camp	22.36%	
HH living in a rural area	46.62%	
Number of displacements	1.85	0.63
Reason of displacement	Armed conflict:26.15% Generalized conflict: 73.85%	
Place of displacement	Same locality=21.82% Other locality=58.43% Other region= 19.75%	
HH consideration of social cohesion	Low (29.54%) Neutral (6.41%) High (64.05%)	
HH willingness to leave the host community	39.56%	
HH consideration of the level of security in the community	Low (29.39%) Neutral (7.59%) High (63.02)	

<sup>1</sup> This is the potentially active fringe of the population. Each country's legislation does not necessarily impose the definition adopted but focuses on what is happening in economic life and its active people. For reasons of data comparability, the classic labour market indicators will be calculated for the 15+ age group (ERI-ESI, INSD, 2018).

**Source:** INSD/WBG and authors calculations.

**Figure 1:** Multiple correspondence analysis. Dependant variable: IDP’s working status.



**Source:** INSD/WBG and authors calculations.

Table 1 presents descriptive statistics of our dependent variable and explanatory variables. The majority of IDPs are employed in the agriculture or trade sector. They are, on average, 46 years old, living in large households with an average of 13 people. They made, on average, more than one displacement before arriving in the host community and lived in camps at a percentage of 22.36% and in rural areas at 46.62%. Regarding their host community, the majority of IDPs, 64.05%, consider that social cohesion and security levels are high. That may be why only a third of them are willing to leave the host region in the upcoming months.

We continue the analysis with a multiple correspondence analysis in Figure 1. The modalities associations show, on the one hand, that female household heads, those living in camps and considering that social cohesion is low, are associated with non-working IDPs. On the other hand, IDPs who work are associated with male IDPs, those living outside a camp with only one displacement and those who consider the social cohesion high.

Given the nature of our dependent variable, we run a logistic regression and present the results in Table 2.

**Table 2:** Logistic regression results.

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VARIABLES	Odds ratio	Odds ratio	Odds ratio
Working			
HHH Woman	0.693** (0.109)		
Age	0.990** (0.00497)		
Hhsize	0.993 (0.00923)		
Living in a camp	1.200 (0.186)		
Reason of displacement: generalized violence		1.890*** (0.291)	
Nb of displacement		0.815* (0.0878)	
Displacement in the same locality		2.431*** (0.404)	
Displacement in another region		2.251*** (0.461)	
Neutral security level			0.698 (0.209)
High security level			0.798 (0.142)
Neutral social cohesion			2.542*** (0.893)
High social cohesion			1.764*** (0.314)
Not leaving			0.863 (0.125)
Don't know if leaving			0.644 (0.204)
Observations	998	998	1,033

Standard errors in parentheses

\*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

**Source:** INSD/WBG and authors calculations.

Results of the logistic regression show that female household heads and old IDPs are less likely to be employed. Those who left for generalized violence reasons are more likely to be employed compared to those who left for armed conflict reasons. Also, being displaced further from the origin area significantly affects employment chances. Lastly, regarding the host community, IDPs who believe that the social cohesion in the host community is high are more likely to be employed, showing that when they are well integrated, this will lead to positive outcomes.