Overview of Mogadishu and IDP assessment

The FSNAU Mogadishu household food security survey has quantified more gender dynamics than earlier assessments of urban and IDP populations.

Analysis Methodology and Sample

The gender analysis tool employed was social resource mapping which delved into the socio-economic characteristics/variables of household heads supplemented by limited insight into intra-household activity. Urban respondents were 36.3% female (234) and 63.7% male (411). There was closer to a gender balance of respondents living in IDP settlements: 52.4% females (312) and 47.6% (283) males. Using the definition of household head as the person who is the household decision-maker¹, respondents identified women as heads of nearly two out of three households (urban: 68.8% / IDP: 63.1%), suggesting women's increased economic role is recognized as bringing increased decision-making power. Data analysis has determined percentages specific to FHHs or to MHHs, male respondents or female respondents.

Key findings

- Casual workers, salaried workers and the self-employed in both male and female headed urban households are predominantly male. These income avenues are sharply reduced for IDPs, although men still have more opportunities than women, forcing both IDP men and women into a precarious dependence on unprotected and irregular casual work and petty trading.
- Women predominate in petty trade in both urban and rural households and are more heavily dependent on informal foraging and crop resale (i.e. vegetables).
- Both men and women have more diversity in their income mix in urban areas.
- More urban households headed by women than men go into debt to buy food staples in contrast to more IDP male-headed households. This may co-relate to gifts/zakat flows being reported by more IDP women than men, with IDP female headed households being the biggest number or recipients. This contrasts to urban respondents reporting that most gifts/zakat recipients are women in male-headed households.

Urban Sources of Income

Male and female headed urban households rely on a much more dynamic mix of casual labour, petty trade, salaried employment, self employment and remittances. Between 13% and 30% of sampled households, both those headed by males and by females, reported income from each of these sources. Consistently, 2%-5% more male headed households were able to tap these income sources than female headed households. The exception is in petty trade where more female headed households are active (MHHs 19.6% / FHHs 22.7%). Nearly twice as many male headed households receive humanitarian assistance (MHHs 16.7% / FHHs 8.7%). The sale of livestock, poultry and poultry products, crop sale, fixed asset sale and gifts/zakat were secondary income sources but demonstrated two clear gender gaps. Female headed households had nearly triple dependency on crop sale, which is largely buying and re-selling vegetables (MHH 2.5 / FHH 7.3). Half as many female headed households have access to income from livestock (MHH 4.4% / 2.0%).

IDP Sources of Income

IDP households have bleak income options. Both male and female headed households are precariously dependent on casual labour (MHHs 60.7% / FHHs 57.0%). This is double the reliance of urban households on casual labour (MHHs 30.4% / 25.3%). The second IDP income source is humanitarian assistance (MHHs 26.0% /FHHs 20.6%) followed by petty trade (MHHs 18.3% / FHHs 15.8%). In sharp contrast with the urbanites surveyed, IDP households are nearly excluded from salaried employment (MHHs 4.1% / FHHs 2.1) and remittances (MHHs 5.9% / FHHs 4.8%). The gender gap in education which disadvantages women and the lack of formal employment opportunities in rural areas partially explains the very low IDP access to salaried employment, with greater challenges facing rural female IDPs.

A higher percentage of male headed IDP households was able to access income from all sources surveyed except zakat/gifts in which more female headed households benefitted (MHHs 11.9% / FHHs 15.9%).

Intra-household income dynamics - urban

Casual labourers, salaried workers and the self employed in both male and female headed households are predominantly male. Casual workers are 24.0% men compared to 3.9% women in MHHs and 15.3% men compared to 7.8% women in FHHs. Salaried jobs were held by 26.0% men compared to 2.5% women in MHHs

 $^{^{11}}$ In earlier IDP and urban assessments, FSNAU defined household head as the primary household income provider.

and 20.2% men compared to 3.8% women in FHHs. Although numbers are small, more women in FHHs are securing salaried positions. There were about equal numbers of self employed males in male and female headed households (9.8% in MHH / 9.1% in FHH) but fewer self-employed women in FHHs (4.9% in MHH / 3.3% in FHH). A more accurate picture may be gained by adding the percentage of women active in crop sale, an important element of female self employment that has been separately coded: 2.5%F in MHH and 5.6%F in FHH (.0%M in MHH / 1.1%M in FHH). When looking into the income dynamics within urban households, two further gender dynamics surface. A significantly larger percentage of women in male-headed houses are accessing humanitarian assistance than women or men in female-headed households or men in male-headed households. (3.9%M and 12.3%F in MHHs compared to 3.3%M and 4.9%F in FHHs). Likewise, more women in male headed households are reported receiving gifts/zakat than women in female headed households or men in either male or female headed households. (2.0%M / 5.4%F in MHHs and 2.4%F / 3.1%M in FHHs). Remittances are spread more evenly among males and females in a larger percentage of households. (12.7%M / 11.8%F in MHHs compared to 10.4% M / 10.9% F in FHHs). Although small numbers, some urban men earn income from livestock (4.4%M in MHH and 1.6%M in FHH) while women's access to livestock income is viewed as negligible. Poultry and poultry product income is minor but has a gender dynamic: more a source of income for men in male headed households and women in female headed households. (5.9%M / 2.0%F in MHH compared to 2.0%M / 4.4%F in FHH).

Intra-household income dynamics - rural

As in urban households, IDP women dominate in petty trade (3.7%M / 12.3%F in MHH and 4.0%M / 10.2%F in FHH). About twice as many IDP households, both male and female headed, have men working as casual labourers than in the surveyed urban households. Three times as many IDP women as urban women are active in casual work regardless of the sex of the household head.(46.1% / 13.2%F in IDP MHH and 32.6%M / 22.5%F in IDP FHH compared with urban results: 24.0%M / 3.9%F in MHH and 15.3%M / 7.8%F in FHH). What meager opening in salaried employment exists is available to men, primarily in male-headed IDP households (4.1%M / 0.0%F in MHH and 1.6%M / .3%F in FHH). IDP men have significantly reduced levels of self employment compared to urban men yet more IDP women are self employed than urban women. Factors must exist to affect men and women so differently within the survey area. Urban: 9.8%M / 4.9%F in MHH and 9.1M / 3.5%F in FHH compared to IDP: 6.8%M / 5.0%F in MHH and 3.5%M / 3.7%F in FHH. Gifts/zakat flows significantly more to IDP women than men, but with women in FHHs being the biggest number of recipients. This is in contrast to the urban results where more women in male headed households were gift/zakat recipients. Urban: 2.0M / 5.4F in MHH and 2.4%M / 3.1%F in FHH compared to IDP: 4.1%M / 6.4%F in MHH and 3.5%M / 8.8%F in FHH).

Child labour

The post-Deyr 2011/12 assessment noted that among the IDP population 18% of the income providers were children (no sex disaggregated data available). In this Mogadishu assessment, analysis reveal boys and girls are involved in income generation through different forms of child labor, namely, farming/crop sales, casual labor, salaried and self employment. Generally a large proportion of boys from(19) FHH and (12) MHHs in urban and (8 -MHH)(16- FHH)IDPs are involved child labor(income generation) compared to girls. Out of the total number of children(31 boys & 15 girls in urban)(24 boys,4 girls in IDPs) involved in child labor, boys from FHHs in Urban and IDP comprise the majority of children generating income at a % of 41 and 57. Most of the boys(58%,75%) from MHH and FHH in urban and(75%MHH,88% FHH) IDP are involved in casual employment. A significant number of girls from MHH(20%) and (20%) FHH in urban are in salaried work, although the percentage of girls(20%) from FHH in salaried work is less compared to the one of boys (53%)from FHH in salaried work.(see the table below).

Urba n		Farmi ng/ crop sales	Casua I labor	Salaried work	Self employe d	Total	%
	boys	0	7	1	4	12	26
мнн	girls	0	1	3	1	5	11
	boys	0	9	8	2	19	41
FHH	girls	4	1	3	2	10	22
IDP							
	boys	1	6	0	1	8	28
МНН	girls	0	1	0	0	1	4
	boys	1	14	1	0	16	57
FHH	girls	0	0	0	3	3	11



Source of food

Most of the food consumed by urbanites and IDPs is purchased. Analysis reveals that 5.5% of urban FHHs compared to 1.6% of urban MHHs incur debt to buy the common staples of locally raised wheat, maize and sorghum. In IDP households surveyed, the reverse was true: more male headed households compared to female headed households incurred debt to buy these staples (5.6% MHH compared to 4.2% FHH). Likewise, 9.1% of urban FHH compared to 2.5% urban MHH buy flour on credit while the reverse is true with IDPs. More male headed IDP households bought on credit (9.6% MHH / 9.1% FHH). This same trend is seen in meat, fresh milk and powered milk purchases. More urban female-headed households and more IDP male-headed households buy on credit. The key source of locally produced protein in both urban and IDP survey areas is egg production. More female headed households produce eggs: 11.6% urban FHH /8.8% MHH. Likewise, 14.3% of IDP female headed households reported producing their own eggs in contrast with no male headed IDP households.

Access to Education: Education data was not collected in this Mogadishu assessment. However, the post-Deyr education findings showed equally poor primary school attendance for girls and boys in IDP settlements and urban areas in South-Central. This was in sharp contrast to urban areas of the North where school attendance in the previous three months was over 80 percent by both boys and girls. There were variances in South Centra. Gedo, Bari, Mudug, Nugaal, W.Galbeed, Bay, Bakool, Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle had more boys than girls attending school, whereas Togdheer and Galgadud had more girls than boys. Poor school attendance in South-Central is attributed to a range of factors, including the absence of schools or, where they exist, their high cost, insecurity, children engaging in income-generating activities including domestic and wage labour, children's lack of interest in attending school and parents opting not to take their children to school as they themselves did not attend school. In some instances, parents preferred koranic schools to formal schools.

Type of housing

There is more gender equity in urban than in IDP housing. The gender differential in urban housing including tarpaulin, corrugated, wood and stone housing ranges from 1.0% to 3.1% between male and female headed households. In IDP housing, female headed households are consistently more disadvantaged and have less access to higher quality housing. More female headed households reside in tarpaulin (96.8%) compared to male-headed households have corrugated sheet and stone housing (Corrugated: 2.3%MHH / 1.3% FHH and Stone: 10.5% MHH and 1.9% FHH) No wooden IDP housing was reported.

Coping mechanisms

More urban and IDP female headed households resorted to mild, moderate, severe and very severe coping strategies than did male headed households. There was only one exception: more male headed IDP households employed very severe coping strategies.

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	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Very Severe		
Urban MHH	36.8%	25.5%	4.4%	2.0%		
Urban FHH	45.6	39.1	8.2	4.9		
IDP MHH	81.7	58.4	20.5	26.0		
IDP FHH	86.9	59.4	30.7	24.6		

Coping Strategies

Female headed urban and IDP households resorted to the key beneficiary-identified coping mechanisms more than male headed households. These include shifting to less preferred foods, limiting the quantity of food consumed in a meal, taking fewer meals in day, borrowing food on credit, getting food donations from relatives.

Less preferred food	Reducing food quantity	Fewer meals	Food on credit	Food donations

Urban MHH	28.0%	29.0%	25.0%	28.0%	26.0%
Urban FHH	72.0	71.0	75.0	72.0	74.0
IDP MHH	30.0	30.5	42.0	44.1	49.5
IDP FHH	69.9	69.5	58.0	55.9	50.5

Challenges in access of income and food: Analysis reveals that the urbanites and IDPs in Mogadishu face similar challenges in accessing food and income. These include: limited job opportunities, high food prices and low purchasing power, insecurity/conflicts and limited assets. The key challenge for all urban and IDP men and women is lack of employment. IDPs have fewer formal sector income earning options restricting them more to irregular casual labour, petty trading etc. Economic urgency is triggering an increasing movement of women into the largely unregulated and erratic informal sector despite the barriers created by lower education levels than men, care-giving demands, and socio-cultural constraints.

Enhancing the Gender Analysis of Food Security in Somalia

In order to enhance an understanding of the distinct needs, priorities and capacities of women, girls, boys and men in the urban and IDP settlement in Mogadishu Somalia, FSNAU is committed to revisiting the quality of the questionnaires and methodologies for data collection. This will involve looking more closely at a number of issues with strong gender dimensions, including;

- Asking separate questions regarding household main sources of income and who in the households brings what income.
- Re-training enumerators and recruiting more women enumerators to ensure open comfortable discussion with both male and female sources as well as the adequate capture and analysis of sex and age disaggregated data.