Multidimensional Poverty, Gender, and Forced Displacement:

A Multi-Country, Intrahousehold Analysis in Sub-Saharan Africa

Y. Admasu[a], S. Alkire[b], U.E. Ekhator-Mobayode[a], F. Kovesdi[b], J. Santamaria[c], and S. Scharlin-Pettee[b]

[a]World Bank, Washington, D.C, USA

[b]Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

[c]Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, D.C, USA

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GENDER DIMENSIONS OF
FORCED DISPLACEMENT

Understanding Inequality Through Data & Analysis

Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement

ROADMAP FOR THIS SESSION

1. **Background and Motivation**

2. **The MPI Methodology**

3. **Data and MPI Structure**

4. **Results**

- **Household**

- **Individual**

- **Intrahousehold**

BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

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THE STATE OF PLAY FOR DISPLACEMENT WORLDWIDE

In 2020, 30.7 million people across the world were newly displaced due to natural disasters, with another 9.8 million people forcibly displaced due to conflict and violence (IDMC 2021).

While the displaced population only amounts for 1% of the global population, they are disproportionately affected by deprivation, often chronic.

For instance, many displaced people reside in countries and areas affected by acute food security and malnutrition (UNHCR 2020), and many of the internally displaced and refugee families live in temporary housing or camps with basic living conditions and have limited access to services and employment.

BY THE END OF 2020...

ETHIOPIA had around 2.7 million IDPs (about 75% due to conflict and violence).

NIGERIA had around 2.9 million displaced people.

SOMALIA had just under 3 million IDPs (the majority due to natural disasters).

SOUTH SUDAN had about 1.5 million displaced people.

SUDAN had around 2.7 million IDPs (over 80% due to conflict and violence).

WHAT DOES THIS ANALYSIS BRING?

- A **multi-country descriptive analysis** of forced displacement and multidimensional poverty

- Analyze **differences in levels and composition** based on displacement status and gender of the household head

- Compare MPI and income poverty in these contexts

- Implications for **policy and institutional setting**

THE MPI METHODOLOGY

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FIRST, WHAT IS MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY?

Increasing recognition that poverty consists of more than simply lack of income – it can also be defined as the situation of suffering from multiple overlapping deprivations, such as lack of education, inadequate housing, poor health, no access to clean water, etc.

The SDGs call for "eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions" .

Multidimensional poverty is a complement to (not replacement of) monetary poverty. Studies consistently find differences in both the populations identified and the patterns of poverty reduction for the two measures.

OKAY, SO WHAT IS AN MPI?

1. Counting-based multidimensional poverty measure

2. Adaptable to various contexts and priorities

3. Based on Alkire-Foster (2011) method
- Selection of dimensions, indicators, cut offs and weights
- Individual deprivation profiles
- Dual cutoff identification
- Headline measure: MPI = Incidence (H) x Intensity (A)

4. Policy relevant
- Subgroup disaggregation
- Composition by indicator
- Shows overlapping deprivations

$$MPI = H \times A$$

DATA AND MPI STRUCTURE

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DATA

COUNTRY	SURVEY	GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE	POPULATION COVERAGE	RETAINED SAMPLE
Ethiopia	Skills Profile Survey (2017)	Refugee camps and proximity in Tigray Afar, Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz, and Somali regions	Refugees of four main nationalities (Eritrean, South Sudanese, Sudanese, and Somali) and hosts	26,517 (96.5%)
Nigeria	IDP Survey (2018)	Six Northeastern states (Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, and Yobe)	IDPs and host communities	17,543 (97.7%)
Somalia	High Frequency Survey (2017)	Somalia (within secure areas)	IDPs and host communities	27,287 (82.3%)
Sudan	IDP Profiling Survey (2018)	Abu Shouk and El Salam camps, and neighboring and non-neighboring Al-Fashir	IDPs and host communities	17,645 (95.2%)
South Sudan	High Frequency Survey Wave 4 (2017)	Urban areas of seven of the ten pre-war states (Western Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr-El-Ghazl, Western Bahr-El-Ghazal, Warrap, and Lakes state)	IDPs and host communities	4,554 (92.8%)

DIMENSION	INDICATOR	CUT-OFF (DEPRIVED IF...)	WEIGHT
Education	School attendance	Any child in primary age is not attending school up to class 8	1/8
	Years of schooling	Any household member 12+ has not completed 6 years of school	1/8
Health	Physical safety	Member reports feeling unsafe walking alone	1/16
	Pregnancy care	Woman did not visit clinic while pregnant or have trained assistant during delivery	1/16
	Food security	Household did not have enough food or money for food in past 7 days	1/16
	Early marriage	Any member was married before age 19	1/16
Living Standards	Garbage disposal	Main method of disposal is dumping, burying in own land, burning, or other	1/24
	Drinking water	Main source of drinking water is unclean or more than 20 minutes away (roundtrip)	1/24
	Sanitation	Main toilet facility is inadequate (incl. sharing)	1/24
	Electricity	Household does not have electricity	1/24
	Cooking fuel	Main energy source for cooking is solid fuel	1/24
	Housing	House type is tent, squatting, or other inadequate type	1/24
Financial Security	Unemployment	Any member aged 15 or over is not working and looking for work	1/12
	Legal identification	No member in the household has legal ID	1/12
	Bank account	Does not have bank or mobile money account	1/12

Note: Poverty cutoff (k) is 50%.

RESULTS: HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

GENDER DIMENSIONS OF FORCED DISPLACEMENT

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RESULTS

Note: These results are statistically significant for all countries except Nigeria. This holds even though the displaced populations vary tremendously in the different country contexts, from internally displaced people in Sudan or Somalia to refugees living in camps in Ethiopia.

COUNTRY	DISPLACEMENT STATUS	MPI	INCIDENCE (H)	INTENSITY (A)	POPULATION SHARE
Ethiopia	Host Community	0.073	12.8%	57.3%	12.0%
	Refugee	0.270	45.5%	59.4%	88.0%
Nigeria	Host Community	0.107	17.0%	62.7%	71.5%
	IDP	0.139	23.3%	59.8%	28.5%
Somalia	Host Community	0.286	44.8%	63.8%	64.3%
	IDP	0.396	63.3%	62.5%	35.7%
South Sudan	Host Community	0.119	19.5%	60.9%	86.7%
	IDP	0.203	34.1%	59.5%	13.3%
Sudan	Host Community	0.054	9.4%	57.0%	67.5%
	IDP	0.255	43.6%	58.5%	32.5%

INTENSITY OF DEPRIVATION AMONG THE POOR

Note: These results show the distribution of the average share of weighted deprivations (intensity) among the multidimensionally poor population.

INTENSITY	ETHIOPIA		NIGERIA		SOMALIA		SOUTH SUDAN		SUDAN	
	Host	Refugee	Non-IDP	IDP	Non-IDP	IDP	Non-IDP	IDP	Non-IDP	IDP
50-59%	65.5	57.3	59.2	49.1	45.8	34.0	54.8	57.0	71.6	61.8
60-69%	31.0	34.2	35.0	35.7	33.6	42.4	21.4	36.7	21.6	29.7
70-79%	3.0	7.4	5.9	13.6	17.1	17.6	21.3	6.3	6.8	7.8
80-89%	0.5	1.1		1.7	3.1	5.6	2.6			0.8
90-100%					0.3	0.4				

MPI FOR MALE- AND FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS BY COUNTRY

Source: Authors' calculations based on data from the High Frequency Surveys of Ethiopia (2017), Nigeria (2018), Somalia (2017), South Sudan (2017) and Sudan (2017). **Note:** Population shares of headship included above each bar.
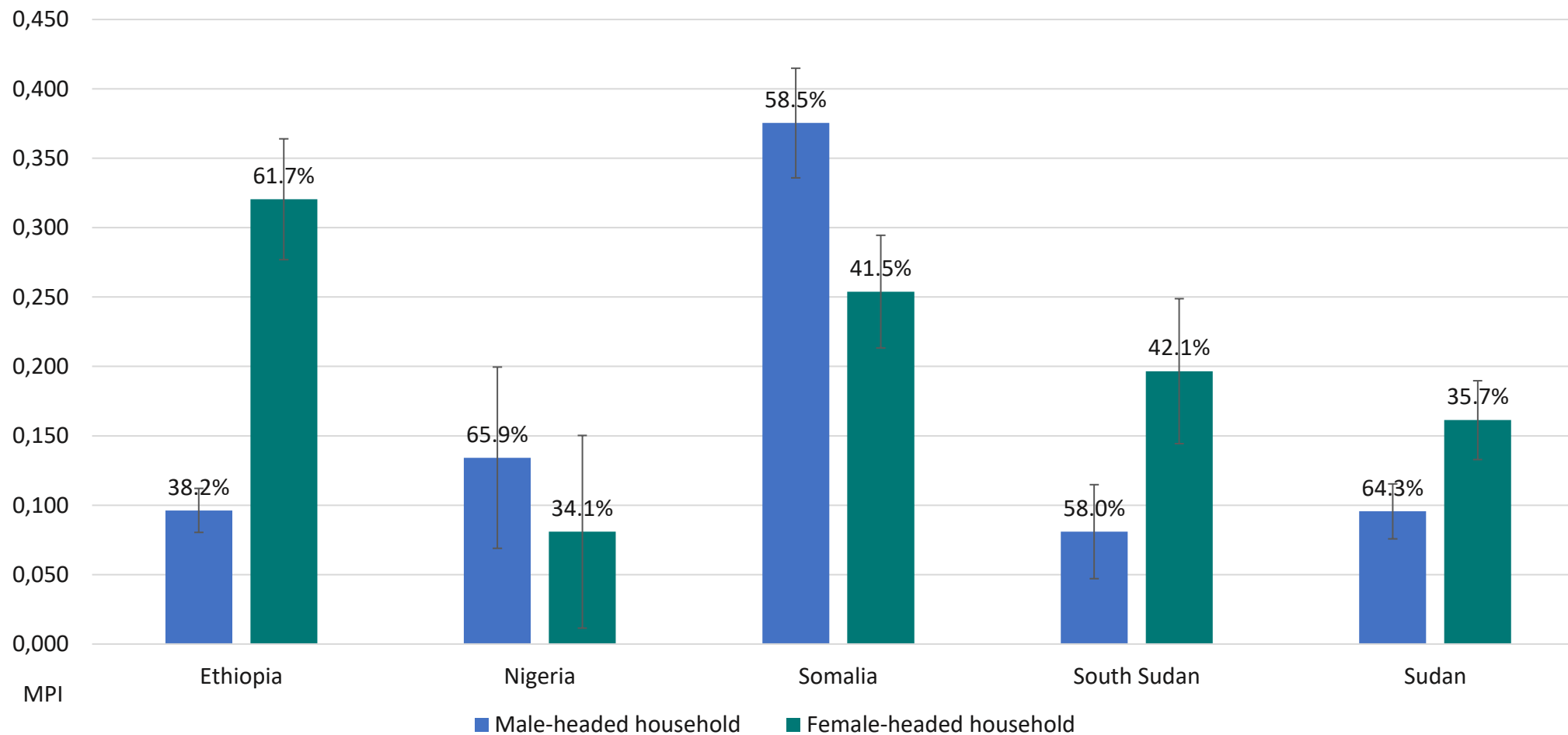
DIFFERENCES BY DISPLACEMENT STATUS

Censored Headcount Ratios - Sudan

Legend: ■ Non-IDP ■ IDP

X-axis categories: Years of schooling, School attendance, Food security, Pregnancy care, Physical safety, Early marriage, Waste disposal, Drinking water, Electricity, Cooking fuel, Housing, Sanitation, Unemployment, Legal id, Bank account

Censored Headcount Ratios: percentage of the population who are multidimensionally poor and simultaneously deprived in that indicator.

DIFFERENCES BY GENDER OF THE HOUSEHOLD HEAD (REFUGEES)

Censored Headcount Ratios of Refugee Households in Ethiopia

Censored Headcount Ratios: percentage of the population who are multidimensionally poor and simultaneously deprived in that indicator.
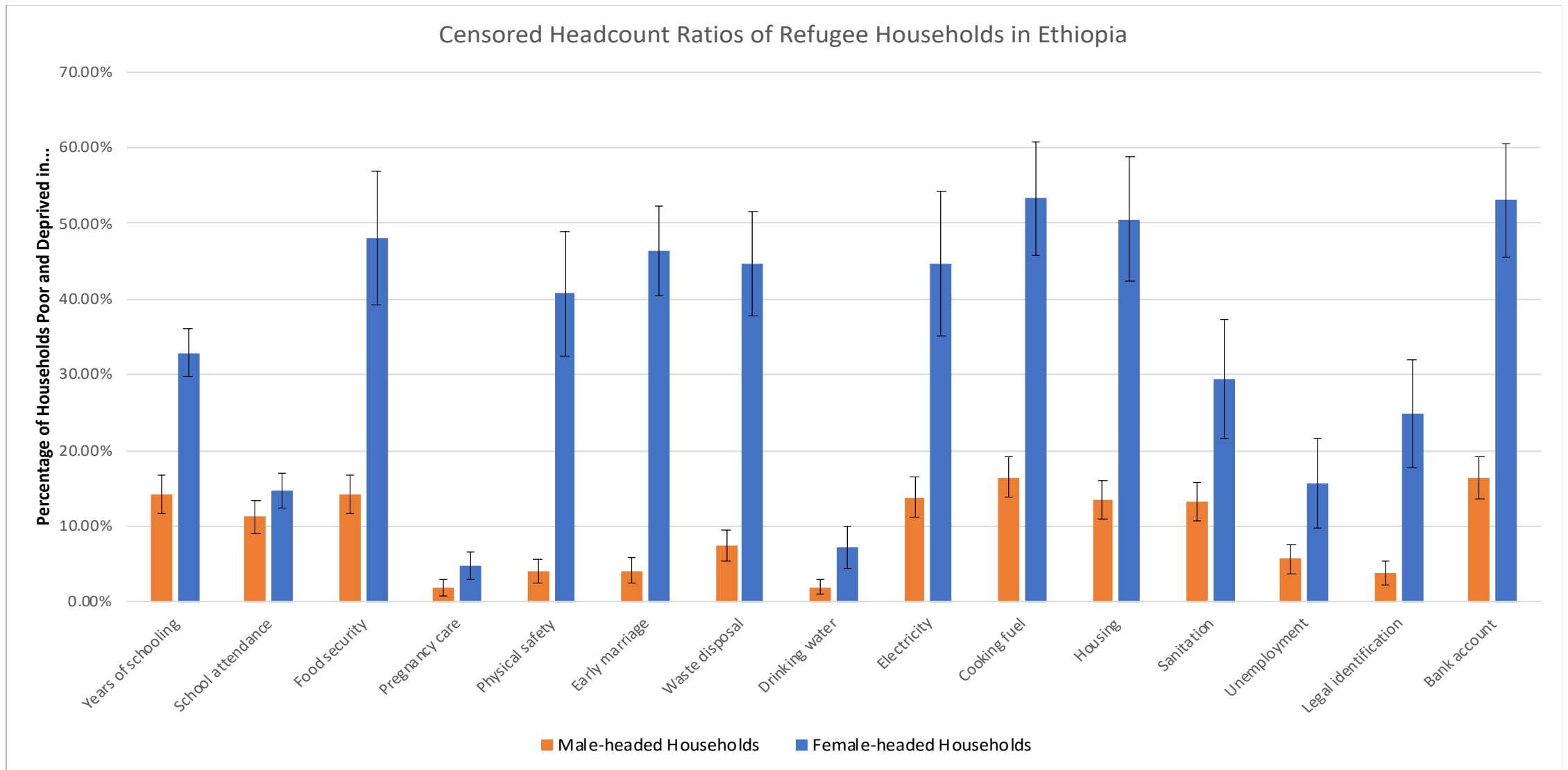
POVERTY MEASURES IDENTIFY DIFFERENT POPULATIONS
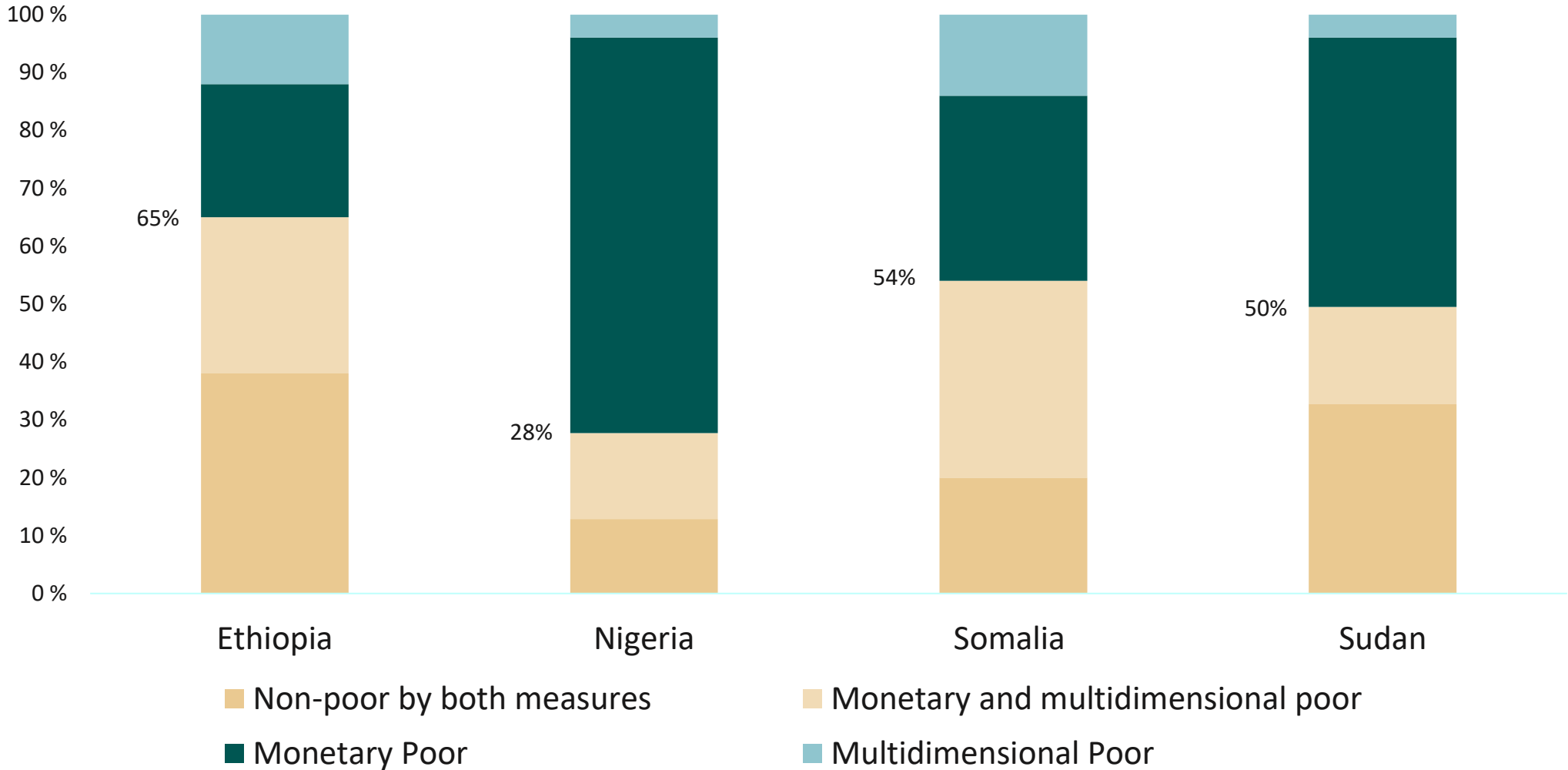
NOTE: We use the international poverty line of $1.90 PPP (2011) per day to compute poverty rates. Notice that the levels of monetary and multidimensional poverty are not directly comparable – so, we make comparable categories **within** each measure.

RESULTS: INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

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WHAT DOES THIS ANALYSIS BRING?

As the MPI is a household-level measure of multidimensional poverty, strictly reporting the MPI headline results obscures the divergent experience of individuals within the household.

Percentage of the Population who are Multidimensionally Poor, by Gender and Displacement Status
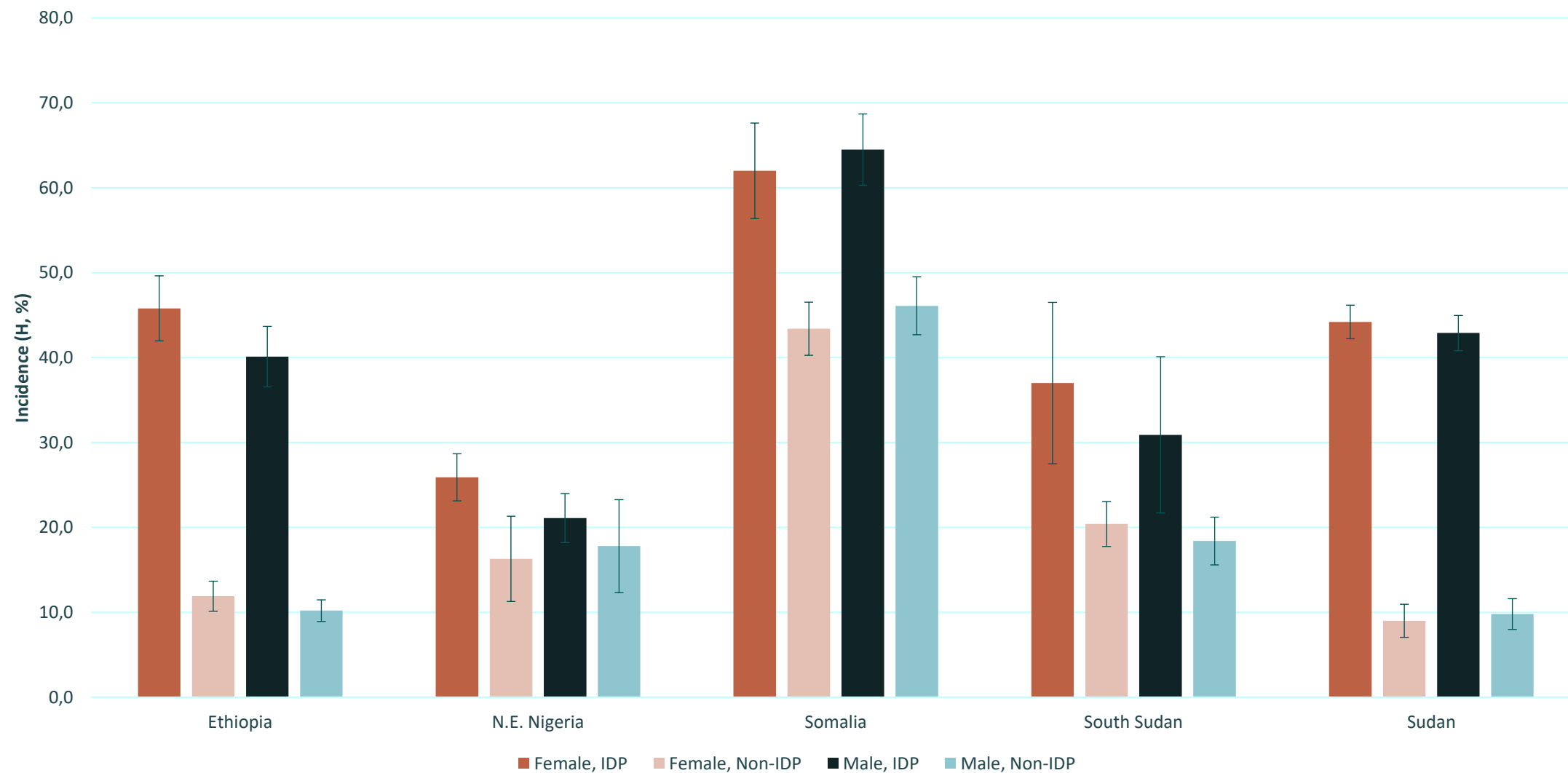
Percentage of the Under-18 Population who are Multidimensionally Poor, by Gender and Displacement Status
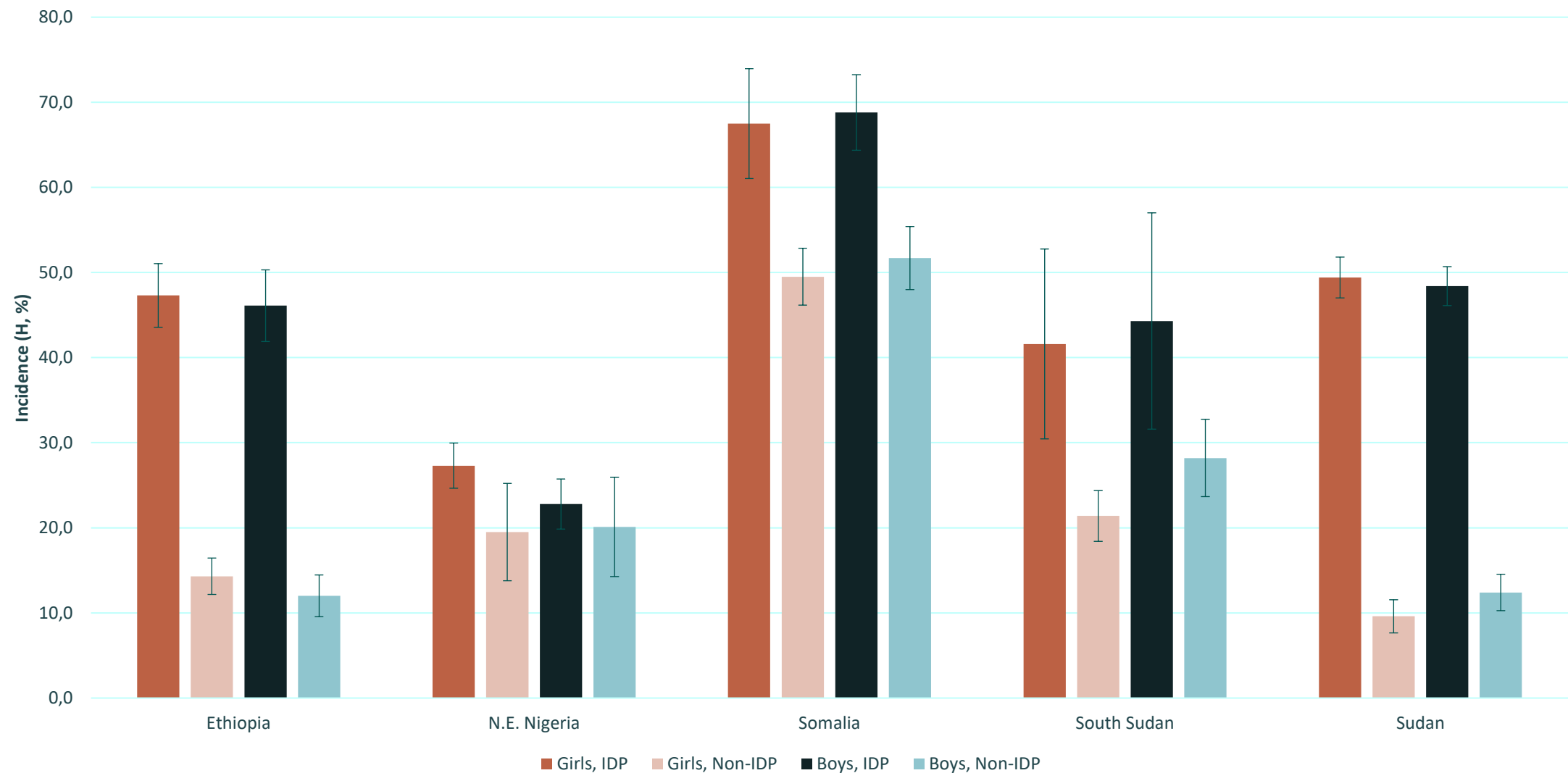
INDIVIDUAL-LEVEL DEPRIVATIONS

We now turn to compare gendered differences in deprivations, as well as multidimensional poverty, by displacement status, to assess gender gaps.

These indicators span three of the four dimensions: **education**, **health**, and **financial security**.

	REFUGEES			HOSTS		
	MALE	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**	**MALE**	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**
ALL HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.66	0.68	-0.02	0.37	0.33	0.04
School attendance	0.16	0.19	-0.03**	0.11	0.11	0.00
Unemployment	0.20	0.17	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.00
Legal identification	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.54	0.64	-0.11***
Early marriage	0.19	0.72	-0.53***	0.18	0.60	-0.42***
MPI POOR HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.83	0.86	-0.03	0.78	0.77	0.01
School attendance	0.23	0.28	-0.05**	0.36	0.40	-0.04
Unemployment	0.40	0.28	0.12***	0.04	0.04	0.01
Legal identification	0.56	0.56	0.01	0.76	0.81	-0.05*
Early marriage	0.36	0.84	-0.48***	0.41	0.62	-0.21**

ETHIOPIA

	REFUGEES			HOSTS		
	MALE	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**	**MALE**	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**
ALL HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.54	0.56	-0.02	0.39	0.45	-0.06*
School attendance	0.31	0.34	-0.03	0.20	0.21	-0.01
Unemployment	0.05	0.11	-0.06***	0.05	0.11	-0.06***
Legal identification	0.70	0.74	-0.05***	0.54	0.59	-0.05***
Early marriage	0.13	0.59	-0.46***	0.10	0.53	-0.43***
MPI POOR HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.81	0.86	-0.05	0.85	0.88	-0.03
School attendance	0.64	0.71	-0.06*	0.68	0.62	0.06
Unemployment	0.10	0.21	-0.11***	0.14	0.16	-0.02
Legal identification	0.87	0.89	-0.01	0.83	0.86	-0.03
Early marriage	0.21	0.67	-0.46***	0.22	0.64	-0.42***

N I G E R I A

Source: Authors' calculations using the Nigeria IDP Survey (2018). Significance at 1% ***, 5% **, and 10% * levels.

	REFUGEES			HOSTS		
	MALE	FEMALE	DIFFERENCE	MALE	FEMALE	DIFFERENCE
ALL HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.97	0.97	0.00	0.60	0.63	-0.03
School attendance	0.64	0.68	-0.04	0.59	0.63	-0.03*
Unemployment	0.08	0.10	-0.01	0.06	0.11	-0.05***
Legal identification	0.83	0.86	-0.03**	0.83	0.86	-0.03***
Early marriage	0.24	0.55	-0.31***	0.17	0.53	-0.35***
MPI POOR HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	1.00	0.99	0.01	0.83	0.87	-0.04
School attendance	0.72	0.75	-0.03	0.81	0.84	-0.03*
Unemployment	0.11	0.13	-0.01	0.10	0.17	-0.07***
Legal identification	0.90	0.92	-0.02	0.97	0.97	-0.01
Early marriage	0.26	0.59	-0.33***	0.21	0.67	-0.46***

SOMALIA

Source: Authors' calculations using the Somalia HFS (2017). Significance at 1% ***, 5% **, and 10% * levels.

	REFUGEES			HOSTS		
	MALE	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**	**MALE**	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**
ALL HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.43	0.48	-0.05	0.40	0.52	-0.12**
School attendance	0.20	0.25	-0.05	0.25	0.29	-0.03
Unemployment	0.05	0.00	0.05*	0.02	0.03	-0.01
Legal identification	0.48	0.74	-0.26***	0.60	0.74	-0.14***
Early marriage	0.08	0.75	-0.67***	0.10	0.53	-0.43***
MPI POOR HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.71	0.78	-0.06	0.72	0.65	0.07
School attendance	0.39	0.42	-0.03	0.47	0.67	-0.20**
Unemployment	0.07	0.00	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.00
Legal identification	0.75	0.99	-0.24***	0.86	0.91	-0.05**
Early marriage	0.20	0.90	- 0.70***	0.19	0.66	-0.47***

SOUTH SUDAN

Source: Authors' calculations using the South Sudan HFS (2017). Significance at 1% ***, 5% **, and 10% * levels.

	REFUGEES			HOSTS		
	MALE	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**	**MALE**	**FEMALE**	**DIFFERENCE**
ALL HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.28	0.29	-0.01	0.26	0.19	0.07**
School attendance	0.22	0.21	0.00	0.15	0.12	0.02
Unemployment	0.08	0.10	-0.02**	0.07	0.18	-0.11***
Legal identification	0.10	0.10	-0.00	0.07	0.10	-0.02***
Early marriage	0.06	0.50	-0.43***	0.07	0.42	-0.35***
MPI POOR HOUSEHOLDS						
Years of schooling	0.38	0.43	-0.05	0.42	0.26	0.15
School attendance	0.36	0.36	-0.01	0.29	0.39	-0.10
Unemployment	0.14	0.17	-0.03	0.17	0.29	-0.12*
Legal identification	0.13	0.14	-0.01	0.18	0.21	-0.03
Early marriage	0.09	0.64	-0.56***	0.14	0.63	-0.50***

SUDAN

Source: Authors' calculations using the Sudan IDP Profiling Survey (2018). Significance at 1% ***, 5% **, and 10% * levels.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **High levels of variation among deprivation levels, gender gaps, and countries in the five indicators**

- **Even still, gender gaps in early marriage are significant in all countries, across displacement status and poverty status, with women more deprived than men**

RESULTS: INTRAHOUSEHOLD

GENDER DIMENSIONS OF FORCED DISPLACEMENT

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INTRAHOUSEHOLD INEQUALITIES

Displaced people experience multidimensional deprivations that result both from their current circumstances and the disadvantages they may have accumulated in their home country.

For example, refugees fleeing long-term conflicts may not have completed primary education due to chronic disruptions, reducing years of schooling. Meanwhile, deprivations in the current school attendance indicator reflect the individual's present circumstances.

Both accumulated and contemporaneous disadvantages shape the lived realities of forcibly displaced populations

INTRAHOUSEHOLD INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION

Country	Population Share of School-age Children (n)				School-age children who reside in an MPI poor household where they attend school, and another does not (%)				Chi-squared test for gender	Chi-squared test for IDP status
	IDP		Non-IDP		IDP		Non-IDP			
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		
ETH	3,880	3,311	401	418	54.6	41.76	*	*	***	N/A
NGA	888	649	1,781	2,003	28	[13.56]	27.63	30.81		***
SOM	1,296	1,229	2,481	2,157	39.15	24.33	18.6	17.92	**	***
SSD	70	75	413	387	*	*	[44.75]	*	N/A	[***]
SUD	825	767	1,512	1,533	31.78	32.98	25.8	9.45		

Country	Population Share of Primary School-age Household Members (13+) (n)				Members have completed at least 6 years of schooling, and another has not (%)					
	IDP		Non-IDP		IDP		Non-IDP			
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females		
ETH	5,819	6,409	918	1,035	58.23	40.71	*	*	***	N/A
NGA	1,287	1,231	3,484	3,692	[18.30]	*	63.45	*	[***]	
SOM	2,698	2,761	5,162	5,182	[7.31]	*	48.47	44.09	***	[***]
SSD	198	230	1,368	1,595	*	*	42.78	[34.31]	***	
SUD	1,869	1,837	3,933	4,030	35.41	28.18	18.83	17.58	***	*

Note: Significance at 1% ***, 5% **, and 10% * levels. The [] brackets indicate a sample size that inhibits rigorous statistical testing.

INTRAHOUSEHOLD INEQUALITY IN FINANCIAL SECURITY

Country	Population Share of Working-age Population (n)				Working-age persons who reside in an MPI poor household where they are employed, and at least one other working-age person is unemployed and looking for work (%)				Chi-squared test for gender	Chi-squared test for IDP status
	IDP		Non-IDP		IDP		Non-IDP			
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females		
ETH	4,751	5,687	808	934	46.45	51.52	*	*	*	N/A
NGA	1,068	1,095	2,905	3,166	[16.02]	[12.95]	[13.95]	57.08	***	
SOM	2,371	2,432	4,268	4,535	19.95	17.15	28.86	34.05		
SSD	173	209	1,226	1,475	*	*	45.63	42.56		N/A
SUD	1,598	1,578	3,416	3,537	26.34	24.45	25.44	23.77		**

Note: Significance at 1% ***, 5% **, and 10% * levels. The [] brackets indicate a sample size that inhibits rigorous statistical testing.

INTRAHOUSEHOLD INEQUALITY IN FINANCIAL SECURITY

Country	Population Share of Individuals (n)				Individuals who reside in an MPI poor household and have a form of legal identification, and another does not (%)				Chi-squared test for gender	Chi-squared test for IDP status
	IDP		Non-IDP		IDP		Non-IDP			
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females		
ETH	11,435	11,897	1,538	1,648	48.14	42.33	[4.87]	[4.66]		
NGA	2,673	2,330	5,910	6,630	[9.68]	[7.37]	48.97	33.97	*	**
SOM	4,850	4,880	8,888	8,670	45.66	35.27	10.24	[8.84]	***	***
SSD	286	318	1,840	2,107	[23.52]	*	[42.50]	[31.72]	[***]	[]
SUD	2,911	2,832	5,916	5,986	32.75	33.52	17.02	16.71		

Note: Significance at 1% ***, 5% **, and 10% * levels. The [] brackets indicate a sample size that inhibits rigorous statistical testing.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Our comparisons of the household and individual-level deprivations and intrahousehold analyses suggest displacement status most affects household status, whereas gender drives differences within households.**

- **The individual deprivations reflect aspects of both displacement and gender.**

- **More broadly, the analysis underlines the importance of going beyond household-level outcomes, especially in education.**

FUTURE RESEARCH?

Future research and measurement tools should usefully prioritize intrahousehold breakdowns if they are to serve the most vulnerable.

Further analysis of each MPI by country – their geographic regions, rural/urban divides, and administrative divisions, as the samples allow – would inform policymakers where to deploy those programs.

Further research on the intra-country level would also be valuable.

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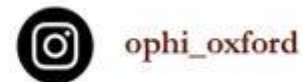
EMAIL sophie.scharlin-pettee@qeh.ox.ac.uk
PHONE (0)1865 271915
WEB https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/gender/brief/gender-dimensions-of-forced-displacement-gdfd-research-program

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