



Vulnerability assessment of Chadian population in the Darfur crisis context

T. De Filippis, A. Di Vecchia, F. Incerti, P. Vignaroli.

Institute of Biometeorology, National Research Council, Florence, IT
(T.De.Filippis@ibimet.cnr.it)

The conflict in Darfur caused the displacement of 200,000 Sudanese refugees in Chad. After a crisis of eighteen months in October 2004 humanitarian agencies estimated the total population touched by the Sudanese crisis is about 2 million of people. One third of them are located in Western region closer to the Chadian border with an average of 200 people weekly crossing the border in search of safer life conditions.

Due to the competition for natural resources exploitation, tension between local population and refugees have been rising during the last months. This situation and the growing degree of economic destabilisation are supposed to strongly influence the food vulnerability of this border area.

In this extremely difficult framework, the pressure of the Darfur refugees risks to have an impact on the already weak economic situation of the Chad people living along the Darfur border.

The present work shows a methodological approach based on geographical analysis for the estimation of vulnerability in the two Prefectures more affected by the Darfur crisis: Biltine and Ouaddai.

The vulnerability assessment is composed by two analysis, the first of which is a structural analysis to identify all the area's constraints, mainly related to natural resources scarcity and meteorological factors, and the population coping capacities.

The second one is a current analysis for the evaluation of the impacts of the 2004 meteorological season on the agricultural productivity. Main objective of the analysis is the estimation of the capability of regional productive system to sustain the resident population's food needs. These results constitute an useful information for an early

warning in food security system and for the monitoring of emergency situations.

The information published on Internet is available for the Organizations and the Institutions operating in the crisis management.