

# **Livelihood Strategies and Challenges of Rural to Urban Migrants in Addis Ababa**

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## ***Abstract***

*The motivation for this study was the existing problem in Ethiopia associated with the accelerated movement of population towards Addis Ababa. Accordingly, this study has tried to narrow the knowledge gap in relation to migrants' livelihood strategy by concentrating on Street Vendors, Shoe Shiners, Daily Laborers and housemaids in Addis Ababa.*

*Hence the main objective of this study is to uncover the livelihood strategies of migrants of Amhara, SNNP, Oromia and Tigray regional states in Addis Ababa particularly in KolfaKeraniyo and Yeka sub cities. The study has purposely addressed migrants from the 4 regional states considered as highly populated than others as well as it has targeted the two sub cities as representatives of the other sub cities considering their geographical position and expected number of migrants as cited in Agrinet (2001). In order to achieve its objectives, the study employed a cross sectional study design. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches as well as primary and secondary sources of data were employed by the study. The number of samples was 348 addressed through the self-administered questionnaire and FGD methods.*

*The study has made sex and place of origin of the respondents' as the major cross cutting variables. Most of the respondents are working in one of the 4 mentioned informal sector jobs but very few of them are satisfied with the income generated to support their livelihoods. As indicated by the findings, there is a statistically significant relationship between the respondents' place of origin and their employment type as well as with their level of income. Migrants within the age group of 21 to 23 accounts for majority (95.5%) of the total samples. On the other hand no formal education is attained by most of the respondents. Migrants to Addis Ababa also have more chances to be exposed to different challenges and in most cases the migrants prefer to get advice from their friends and relatives. The respondents of the study have used different strategies to tackle the challenges of the city life while only few of them are successful. Female migrants are more exposed to different challenges than male, while there are also very few cases that female migrants have better chances to get not to be exposed to serious challenges unlike male migrants. Accordingly, migration from the four regional states to Addis Ababa has its own patterns and strategies which are developed by the migrants through time. Different socio economic statuses play significant roles in shaping the migrants preferences in an effort to cope up with the city environment.*

**Key words:** *Migration. Livelihood strategy, street vendors,*

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## **Introduction**

Migration is the movement of people from one geographical location to another, involving permanent or temporary settlement. The region where people are leaving is referred to as the source region whereas the region to which people are entering is known as destination region. As one feature of the issue of migration, rural-urban migration is the movement of people from rural areas (villages) to urban centers (cities). One noticeable aspect in the society today is the rate at which people migrate from the rural to the urban centers. While the urban centers are increasing in population, the rural areas are decreasing in population (Zainab and Mustapha, 2011).

Migration can be considered as a significant feature of livelihoods in developing countries to pursuit better living standards. Central to the understanding of rural- urban migration flow is the traditional push-pull factors. “Push factor” refers to circumstances at home that repel; examples include famine, drought, low agricultural productivity, unemployment etc. while “pull factor refers to those conditions found elsewhere (abroad) that attract migrants. There are many factors that cause voluntary rural-urban migration, such as urban job opportunities, housing conditions, better income opportunities etc. There is no doubt that, apart from these factors, urban areas also offer a chance to enjoy a better lifestyle.

Ethiopia is one of the countries in the world where most of the population lives in rural setting and where both internal and external migration of citizens is widely witnessed. Migration is a strategy for moving out of poverty that is accessible to the poor in rural Ethiopia. It is often a risky investment, it has low short term returns, has the potential to end in disaster, exposes migrants to exploitation, hard work and abuse. However, in many

cases it is the only investment opportunity available, and the only opportunity some of the rural poor have to change their lives (Adamneshet.al, 2014). In Ethiopia rural-urban migration is one of the major apparent causes of the growing urban unemployment. Rural – urban income differences, concentration of social services and other governmental and non-governmental institutions in urban areas have attracted the rural population to urban centers. Erratic climatic conditions as well as devastating civil wars have also caused migration to urban areas (Mieraf, 2004). Migration is best understood as one of the strategies adopted by individuals, households or communities to enhance their livelihoods and /or to accumulate their wealth. It is a central livelihood strategy for many poor households where social networks play a key role in facilitating transactions in sharing information (Gebrehiwot, 2012). However, in this regard a study conducted by Adamnesh has tried to uncover the fact that migrants from the rural Ethiopia to the main city have faced difficulties to familiarize themselves with the new environment. As the study has mentioned, due to that migrants from rural Ethiopia mainly to Bahirdar and Addis Ababa have faced difficulties to secure jobs and to adjust themselves with the new environment.

A livelihood is the material means where by one lives. Livelihood generation refers to the bundle of activities that people undertake to provide for their basic needs (or surpass them). Researchers conducted so far (Agrinet (2001), Akokpari (2000), Birhan (2011), Dennis (2007), D.R. Vernezza (2012), Machel (2014), S.Fransen & K.Kuschminder (2009), Sonja & Katie (2009), T.R.Gautam (1999) have given greatest weight either to the cause of migration or pattern with less attention been given to what has happened to migrants' after they arrive and how they adapt themselves

with different livelihood strategies and the hardship they experience. On the other hand, even studies conducted particularly on consequences of migration like (Beneberu (2012), Dawit (2013), Fework (2007), M.R. Rosenzweig (2005), S.Hak, Il Oeur & Jhon McAndrew (2011)) didn't give serious attention to the different livelihood strategies of rural to urban migrants. However, certain studies like (ILO & FAO (2009), IOM, Singh. M.L (1998), Endeshaw *et.al.* (2006) are mainly concerned in the challenges and livelihood strategies of external migrants than internal migrants. To this end, the researcher found that the challenges and livelihood strategies of internal migrants' especially street vendors, shoe shiners, daily laborers and housemaids in Addis Ababa (in Kolfe Keranio and Yeka sub cities) has been less explored. Accordingly, this study contributes to fill the gap concerning migrants' livelihood strategy and their challenges by studying the cases of migrants who are working on the informal sector. Considering the significance of conducting a study on the different activities that go with the lives of migrants, this research paper examines the livelihood strategies and challenges of rural urban migrant in Addis Ababa.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The general objective of the study is to uncover the livelihood strategies of migrants from Amhara, SNNP, Oromia and Tigray regional states in Addis Ababa particularly in KolfaKeraniyo and Yeka sub city.

### **Specific objectives**

- To identify the livelihood strategy difference among migrants
- To Investigate the challenges migrants face to adjust themselves with the city environment

- To find out ways how do they learn to cope up with the new environment
- To disclose the livelihood strategies based on gender specification

## **Methodological Approach/ Methodology**

### **Description of the study area**

Addis Ababa's population grew by 30 percent from 2,112,737 in 1994 to 2,738,248 in 2007 (G.C) with an average annual rate of 2.1 percent (World Bank: 2010, p48). The rapidity of population growth and land consumption, coupled with inconsistent or unavailable data, makes planning and management of growth quite difficult. For example, it was mentioned that the official population growth rate of 3.8% per annum from the CSA underestimated reality; World Bank estimates that population growth will exceed 5% per annum. A variation this large could impact the quality and utility of planning efforts (World Bank: 2015, p.40).

The ever escalating population growth rate in Ethiopian cities particularly in Addis Ababa is primarily explained by the influx of rural immigrants to the city and slightly by the Total Fertility Rate. According to Guarcello et al: 2009 G.C, 8 percent of Addis population migrated less than 4 years ago and 35 percent migrated 5 or more years ago cited in (World Bank: 2010, p14). Despite the strong economic growth trends, Addis Ababa faces significant development challenges. For example, unemployment and poverty levels in Addis Ababa remain high, estimated at 23.5% and 22% respectively, and the informal sector employs about 30% of the economically active labor force in the city. At the same time, the city center has extremely high density (up to 30,000 people per km), concentrating around 30% of the population on 8% of the land, generally with poor living

conditions. The unprecedented rapidity of population growth that Addis Ababa is experiencing is putting a stress on the delivery of services and quality of life in the city. Bundled within this stress are several challenges related to housing supply, mobility and traffic congestion, sanitation services, and dependable energy distribution. Addis Ababa is already suffering from water scarcity, which is expected to become even more significant due to rapid urbanization, increased individual water demand. There are high levels of poverty, unemployment and social vulnerability in Addis, higher than the national urban average of 15% (World Bank: 2015, p.25).

In addition the researcher has the chance to observe the rural to urban migrants particularly in two sub cities of Addis Ababa (Kofe Keranio and Yeka sub cities). Accordingly, the study was conducted in Addis Ababa by focusing mainly on two sub cities, namely Kofe Keranio and Yeka sub cities. Among other sub cities in Addis Ababa, Kofe Keranio and Yeka sub cities are the places where migrants to Addis Ababa mainly locating and working. Thus, it is found to be convincing to conduct the study in the two sub cities.

### **Study design**

The study is a cross sectional study, which mainly aims at describing about the livelihood strategies of migrants in Addis Ababa from Amhara, SNNP, Oromia and Tigray regions. As discussed in the studies like (World Bank, 2010 & Habtamu Bimerew, 2015), around 90% of the migrants in Addis Ababa are from these 4 regional states. Thus, the researcher found convincing to give more attention to the migrants from these regional states

among others. The study also lays emphasis on the different challenges migrants face and their coping mechanisms.

### **Data Source and Type**

Questionnaire had been employed as methods of primary data collection. To meet the research objectives and question, the researcher used a questionnaire which included fixed-alternative question or closed question. Hence, it was helpful to acquire primary data from individual migrants'. Questionnaire is selected by considering the benefits that the method has compared to other methods of primary data collection tools in terms of time and cost. Primary data was mainly collected from the selected sample migrants in Kolfe Keranio and Yeka sub cities.

In this study, the information derived from the secondary sources were collected from different published and unpublished materials which include research works, books, websites, journal articles written by different scholars on the issues of migration, and so on, which were helpful to the completion of the study. In addition to the primary data, secondary data are used for successful attainment of the research objectives. In this regard, different demographic data and archives at different level and forms had been assessed. Different scholarly works in the rural urban migration in the internet and university library were used for the further and detail investigation of the topic.

### **Method of data collection**

The selection of research approach is mainly determined by the suitability of the method to the task in hand. As stated in (Sabina Y K and Ferdousour .R, 2012), qualitative research methods have the advantage of explaining meanings from words, and they are approximate to examine how individuals see and experience the world, including advocacy studies. Accordingly, this

study used FGD method to benefit from the qualitative methods along with the quantitative ones. The FGD method was administered to gather data from the 4 categories of regional states of the respondents (Amhara, Oromia, Tigray and SNNP).

On the other hand, the study has applied quantitative study approach by implementing survey method by employing the questionnaire developed. Using quantitative and qualitative methods together has improved the reliability and meaningfulness of the data. Methodological triangulation both during the data collection and data analysis stages has helped the study to improve the reliability of the findings. Accordingly, the study has applied both approaches during the data collection and analysis stages.

### **Sampling Procedure and Sample Size**

Using a correct sample size is crucial especially for conducting a survey research method. After all, a sample that is too big leads to waste of precious resources such as time and money, while a sample that is too small will not allow gaining reliable insights.

The first step is to calculate the sample size for estimated number of population.

As per the information provided by the sub cities labor and social affairs offices the estimated number of total target population in the two sub cities is around 40,000. The sample size is calculated by using Yamane's simplified formula to calculate sample size (Yamane, 1967).



$$\text{Yamane's formula } n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{40000}{1+40000(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{40000}{101}$$

101

$$n = 396.03 = \underline{\underline{396}}$$

Accordingly, the total sample size of this study is 396. The study has addressed 348 sample respondents through the self-administered questionnaire and the other 48 sample respondents have been addressed through the FGD method. 4 focus groups having 12 members have been organized for the FGDs and one group from each employment category (domestic workers, shoe shiners, daily laborers and street vendors) have been identified. Selecting the sample was normally conducted purposively due to a reason that it was difficult to find an organized list or sample frame. Accordingly, the samples are randomly selected by the enumerators from their working places, living places, through the brokers and from their schools and usually from the night shift classes.

### **Method of Data analysis**

The analysis for the data gathered by using qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques was conducted separately. However, the separately analyzed data was brought together and is presented by examining and validating each other. The quantitative data gathered by questionnaires is analyzed and presented quantitatively by using SPSS software. Descriptive statistics such as mean, percentage, standard deviation and frequency distributions are used to explain demographic and socio-economic

characteristics, to identify the livelihood strategy difference among migrants, to find out coping up strategies with the new environment across place of origin and livelihood strategies based on gender specification of the sample migrants. On the other hand, content analysis technique was utilized to analyze the qualitative data gathered through the FGD method. In order to make the analysis the data gathered through the FGD method are categorized in to different themes (sub titles used as themes). And finally the thematically categorized data analyzed using one of the content analysis methods known as relational analysis. Data triangulation also has been conducted to make comparative analysis of the findings through the two different contexts (FGD and Survey methods).

### **Ethical Considerations**

As the study was conducted on human subjects, it is very important to take ethical principles into account. The main ethical principles taken in to account in the study are obligation to respect freedom and self-determination, obligation to prevent the respondents from frustration and strain and obligation to gain consent of the participants. Accordingly, subjects who were participating in this study are based on informed consent. The right of the individual respondent to give information that he/she only wants to tell about are respected. So, there is no any influence on the respondents. Personal information obtained from the respondents is kept secret. Generally necessary precautions were taken to eliminate or to minimize any possible harm to the respondents and to the study community.

### **Result and discussion**

As presented on the table below, the average age of the respondents ranges from 16 in the case of shoe shiners to around 29 years among the street

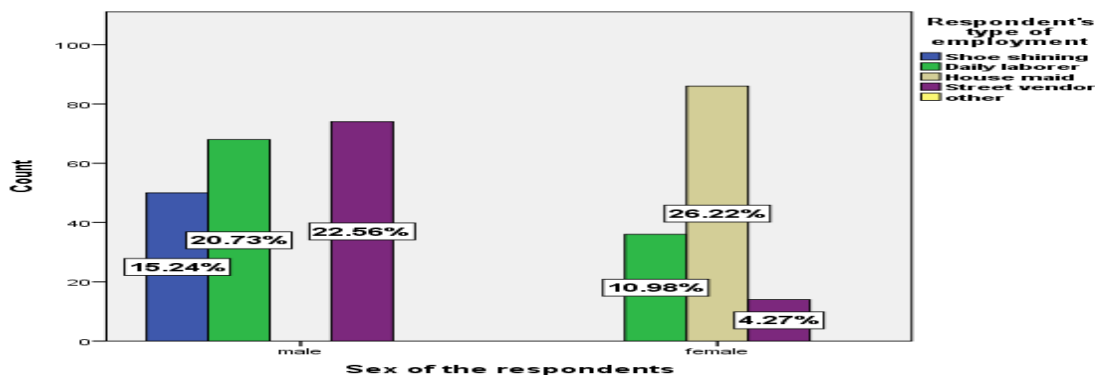
vendors. The average age of respondents who have been working as daily laborers is around 27 years while in the case of house maids it is around 26 years.

Table 1 Migrants' average age under each employment type

	Respondent's type of employment			
	Shoe shining	Daily laborer	House maid	Street vendor
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean
Age of the respondents	16.46	27.39	25.60	28.82

On the other hand, sex of the respondents also has been cross tabbed with their employment type. Accordingly, as implicated on the table male respondents are engaged in all employment types except as a house maid while none of the female respondents engaged in shoe shining. Most of the female respondents are engaged in an employment type as a house maid. Most of the male respondents on the other hand rely on street vending and daily labor activities as main sources of income.

Graph 1 Types of employment segregated by sex of the respondents



The study reveal that from the total of 324 migrants participated in the study 100 (31%), 87 (27), 86 (26%) and 51 (16%), respectively are working as daily laborers, Street vendors, house maids and Shoe shiners respectively.

Based on the result of the analysis, the lion's shares of migrants are employed as daily laborers.

Migration as many studies identified are an alternative means of improving lives mainly in terms of financial capacity. Rural to urban migration especially is mainly targeted better living condition and improved financial capacity. In this regard, the study has tried to identify the major strategies that migrants use to attain the life that they have dreamed while living their homes.

Table 2 Migrant's strategies set to achieve their goals

	<b>Respondent's strategies set to achieve their goals</b>				<b>Total</b>
	Working hard	Sharing living place with friends	Saving money	Getting better education	
<b>Frequency</b>	142	126	57	6	<b>331</b>
<b>%</b>	42.9	38.07	17.23	1.8	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2017

As indicated on the above Table (Table 2), out of 331 migrants responded to the question, 142 (42.9%) and 126 (38.07%) migrants mentioned Working hard and sharing living place with friends are the strategies to achieve their goals. The remaining 63 (19%) of migrants have reported that saving money and getting better education as strategies to achieve their goals. Therefore, working hard and sharing living place with friends' are main strategies to achieve their goals.

### **Migrants' type of employment and ways of getting employment opportunity**

Educational status and employment type are highly related as many studies identify. In this regard the following table (Table 3) has presented the

findings of this study related to educational status and employment type. Accordingly, the highest educational status attained by the respondents is grade 9 to 12 while majority of the respondents among these are working as daily laborers and house maids. However, among all majorities of the respondents from all employment categories have attained primary level of education (grade 1 to 8). All of the respondents addressed are at least able to read and write.

Table 3 Type of employment and level of education

		Respondent's type of employment			
		Shoe shining	Daily laborer	House maid	Street vendor
		Count	Count	Count	Count
Respondents' Level of Education	Can't read and write	0	0	0	0
	Only read and write	15	4	8	4
	Attended primary (grade 1 to 8)	49	51	54	47
	Attended Higher (grade 9 to 12)	1	48	24	35
	Attended higher than grade 12	0	0	0	0

One of the livelihood strategies of migrants is their involvement in income generating activities and in fact it is one of the major driving forces of migration to the urban centers. Accordingly, The table below (Table 4) reveals migrants' type of employment and ways of getting a job.

Table 4: Migrants type of employment and way of getting employment opportunity

Migrants'		Migrant's place of origin (region)				Total	X <sup>2</sup>	P-Value
		Amhara	SNNP	Oromia	Tigray			
Type of employment	Shoe shining	7	44	0	0	51	168.313	.000*
	Daily laborer	40	10	50	0	100		
	House maid	35	40	12	0	87		
	Street vendor	26	40	5	15	86		
	Total	108	134	67	15	324		
Ways of getting employment opportunity	By myself	19	29	15	0	63	27.641	.006*
	By relatives	39	22	11	7	79		
	By a broker	12	28	13	1	54		
	By friends	36	47	23	5	111		
	Others	2	8	5	2	17		
	Total	108	134	67	15	324		

\* Significant at less than 1%

Source: Survey Result, 2017

The above Table (Table 4) showed that, out of the 324 employed migrants 100 (31%) are daily laborers, 87 (27%) are street vendors, 86 (26%) are house maids and the remaining 51(16%) are shoe shiners. Among the migrants who came from Amhara (37.7% out of 108) and Oromia (75.7% out of 67) are engaged in daily labor. From the total migrants of Tigray region all (100%) are employed in street vending. As per the FGD discussants assertion, new migrants mostly choose employment types that are advisable by those who came earlier from similar origins. Due to that, there are significant associations between employment types and places of origin.

Most of the discussants of FGD agreed that female migrants especially who tend to be housemaids are more advantageous in terms of easily getting a job and securing a living place. Unlike housemaids, those migrants who tend to be daily laborers, street vendors or shoe shiners suffer more in making money and finding living places. Due to that, a housemaids' job is considered as the most comfortable and less tiring job. And it is more likely for housemaids to achieve their perceived lifestyle and income unlike other employment types of migrants. On the other hand, discussants also widely agreed that it is very difficult to be successful in their education unlike their perception of getting better education in Addis Ababa. They even face difficulties to live and work with those friends or relatives who came earlier to Addis Ababa. And when it comes to living place and job opportunity, the city life become more challenging and the migrants tend to be confused with what they have been told about it when they are in their place of origin.

The result in Table 4 also showed that migrants mostly got employment opportunity through their friends and relatives. While friends and relatives are common ways of getting employment for those who came from Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR, brokers are common to Oromia migrants. Out of 324 migrants 111(34%) got employment by friends, 79(24.4%) got by relatives, 63(19.6%) got by self and 54 (16.95%) got by brokers. The chi-square test showed that there is significant relationship between the migrants' ways of getting employment opportunity and their place of origin at 10% significance level.

These economic and educational opportunities are the most valued goals of migrants when they came to Addis Ababa. As the discussants widely mentioned, whenever someone wants to migrate to Addis Ababa he or she has a dream to be like someone that he or she has seen or told about before.

In most cases, the pushing factors (Poverty) is not the sole driving force to migration but also the pulling factors (attractive city features) also play significant role for migration. Accordingly, the migrants tend to escape poverty and to taste the new and attractive life in the city which they have never expected before.

Based on the results in this study, hardworking 42.95% (142) and sharing of living place with friends 38.1 % ( 126) are the dominate strategies to achieve their goals. The contribution of getting better education to achieve their goals, which is practiced only by migrants of Amhara is insignificant (only 1.8% of the total 331). While hard working is mostly practiced by the migrants from SNNPR (55.8% out of 138), sharing living place with friends is found to be common to Tigrrian migrants. The chi-square result indicated that the systematic relationship between the migrants strategy of achieving goals and their place of origin is significant at 1% significance level.

The result also showed that, out of 332 migrants 226(68.1%) of them successfully used their strategies like, hardworking, better education and sharing resources with friends. In terms of place of origin, 86.6% of migrants from Tigray, 84.5% of migrants from Oromia, 62.9 % of migrants from Amhara and 61.6% of migrants from SNNPR are successful in using their strategies to attain better income or education. The data also showed that, migrants from SNNPR and Amhara regional states are the least to use their strategies relative to Tigray and Oromia. The chi-square result showed that there is significant relationship between successfulness in using the strategies and the respondents' place of origin. As the FGD discussants stressed, sharing resources with friends and hardworking are the prominent strategies used by the migrants who can successfully cope up with the city life.



### Migrant's Current Income and its Sufficiency

Beyond the employment type and ways of getting a job, the sufficiency of the income that the migrants earn from their jobs has also got consideration by this study. As previously discussed in this chapter, most of the migrants come to the urban centers in search of better paying jobs which is sufficient for the migrants and to their families . Accordingly, Table 3 depicts empirical finding from the study in this regard.

Table 5: Migrant's Current Income and its Sufficiency to Subsist Themselves and their Family

Migrants'		Migrant's place of origin (region)				Total	X <sup>2</sup>	P-Value
		Amhara	SNNP	Oromia	Tigray			
Current income is better than where they have been	No	3	0	3	2	8	12.077	.007*
	Yes	105	138	68	13	324		
	Total	108	138	71	15	332		
Current income sufficiency to survive	No	100	126	68	15	309	2.628	.453*
	Yes	8	12	3	0	23		
	Total	108	138	71	15	332		

\* Significant at 5%

Source: Survey Result, 2017

As indicated on Table 5, Out of the total 332 migrants 324 (97.6%) of them reported that their income is better than their pervious income. Accordingly, they think that the city life has created better income generating opportunities than their place of origin. On the other hand 93.1% (309) of them said that their income is not sufficient to subsist themselves and their family. This showed that although the current income of the migrants is better than their previous income, it is not sufficient enough to subsist themselves and their family.

All migrants from SNNP region reported that, their current income is better than the previous, whereas only 8.7 % (12) of them out of 138 of responded that their income is sufficient enough to subsist themselves and their family. The chi-square result showed that, there is a systematic relationship between the current income of the respondents' and their place of origin at 10% level of significance. On the other hand, the result showed that there is no systematic relationship between current income sufficiency and place of origin at 10% significance level.

Table 6: Challenges peculiar to migrants by place of origin and sex

Challenges that are		Migrant's place of origin (region)				Total	X <sup>2</sup>	P-value
		Amhara	SNNP	Oromia	Tigray			
Peculiar to men	Finding job	58	43	19	2	122	56.086	.000*
	Finding a house to live	46	81	28	12	167		
	Unable to save much money	4	14	22	1	41		
	Others	0	0	2	0	2		
	Total	108	138	71	15	332		
Peculiar to female	Difficulty in getting familiar with city environment	11	37	3	1	52	37.472	.000*
	Sexual harassment & abuse	57	59	48	8	172		
	Loneliness	35	28	19	6	88		
	Low wage in some activities	5	14	1	0	20		
	Total	108	138	71	15	332		

\* Significant at less than 1%

Source: Survey Result, 2017

The result in Table 6 revealed that, while finding a house is a major challenge for men migrants, sexual harassment and abuse is the dominant

challenge for women. Out of the total 332 migrants, half of them said that finding a house is a challenge for men and 51.8% of them reported that sexual harassment and abuse is the main problem of women. From 332 migrants, 122(36.75%) of them said that finding job is the challenge of men. Loneliness is also the other main problems of women next to sexual harassment. Similarly, (DePhill, 2000, Birhan, 2011 and Chant & Radcliff, 1992) argued that women and men have different challenges at their place of destination due to socio-cultural factors. The chi square test in this regard indicated that, there is a systematic relationship between peculiar challenges to men and women with their place of origin at 1% significance level.

Table 7: Challenges that are Peculiar Only to Men and Women Migrants Vs Gender of Respondents

Challenges that are peculiar to Male and Female respondents	Sex of the respondents		Total	X <sup>2</sup>	P- Value
	Male	Female			
<b>Level 1 challenges</b>					
Finding job	67	55	122	2.079	.556
Finding a house to live	104	63	167		
Unable to save much money	22	19	41		
Others	1	1	2		
Total	194	138	332		
<b>Level 2 challenges</b>					
Difficulty in getting familiar with city environment	25	27	52	15.968	.001*
Sexual harassment and abuse	92	80	172		
Loneliness	67	21	88		
Low wage in some activities	10	10	20		
Total	194	138	332		

\* Significant at less than 1%

Source: Survey Result, 2017

Table 7, showed that, out of the total 332 respondents 167(50%) of them reported that finding a house is the leading challenge to men relative to other challenges whereas 51.8% of them said that sexual harassment and abuse is the major challenge of women. From 194 male migrants, 104 (53.6%) of them and 63 (45.6%) of female migrants reported that finding a resident house is the main challenge men migrants faced followed by finding job which is identified by 67 (34.5%) of male and 55 (39.9%) of female migrants. The chi-square result showed that, there is a systematic relationship between challenges that are peculiar to female migrants and sex of the migrants at less than 1% level of significance.

Likewise, the FGD result supports the above description on the peculiar challenges that male or female migrants could face. The discussants in different groups have agreed that there are peculiar challenges to male migrants and there are similar cases to female migrants too. Male migrants have mentioned that they suffer more in finding job and working place unlike female migrants. They mentioned that female migrants have better opportunities than male migrants in finding a job and a house to live. However, male migrants face serious challenges in finding a job as well as a living place. The house rent fee is also the other challenge in the city life. The discussants agreed that, few female migrants who are working in other employment categories other than as a housemaid faces similar challenges in finding job and living places. Those who are working as a daily laborer and in some other employment categories are also more exposed to work related harms. In addition to that, if once they have faced some serious health problem it would be difficult for them to recover due to the fact that no one will be available to support them. On the other hand, loneliness, depression as well as sexual and emotional abuse are peculiar challenges of

female migrants. Female migrants in many cases are exposed to depression and different kinds of abuses due to their loneliness at their work and in other places of the city life. As the discussants widely mentioned, female migrants tend to stay alone for longer hours in a day than male migrants mostly due to the nature of their jobs and lack of friends. Those females who are housemaids are unable to make friends and they are in most cases locked alone in a single house for long period of hours. Unlike female migrants male migrants are more likely to work and live with their friends. Accordingly, they are less vulnerable to different psychological and physical harms that might occur as a result of loneliness.

Table 8: Migrants' level of exposure to challenge by sex

	<b>Who is more exposed to challenges when coming to Addis Ababa</b>		Total
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	
Frequency	16	316	332
Percentage	5	95	100 %

Source: Survey, 2017

As indicated on Table8, out of the 332 migrants, 316 (95%) of migrants agreed that female migrants are more exposed to challenges than male and only 16 (5%) of the migrants agreed that male migrants are more exposed to challenges when coming to Addis Ababa. Therefore, according to the data female migrants have more chances to be exposed to different challenges than male migrants. This finding has been confirmed by the pervious finding of (C.M DePhill, 2000), which argued that as a result of socially and culturally constructed norms and practices of the society women are highly

affected by migration than their counter part men migrants. Similarly, (Birhan, 2011) found that, labor work, sexual abuse and other circumstances are found to increase the susceptibility of women to different health challenges unlike male migrants.

Table 9: Mechanisms used by Respondents to Tackle the Challenges of City Life

Mechanisms used by Migrant's	Migrant's place of origin (region)				Total	X <sup>2</sup>	P-Value
	Amhara	SNNP	Oromia	Tigray			
Work hard and increase income	20	26	9	0	55	5.898	.750
Looking for assistance from friends and relatives	53	66	34	9	162		
Living in groups with friends	33	45	27	6	111		
Looking for assistance from parents	1	1	0	0	2		
Total	107	138	70	15	330		

	Total	107	138	70	15	330
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\* Is no significant at less than 10%

Source: Survey Result, 2017

According to the data in the Table 9, looking assistance from friends and relatives is found to be the main strategy of tackling the challenges followed by living in groups. In support of this (Gebrehiwot, 2012), argued that social networks play a key role in facilitating transactions in sharing information. According to descriptive result of this study, out of the total 330 migrants 162(49.1%) and 111 (33.6%) of migrants employed looking for assistance from friends and relatives; and living in groups with friends as a strategy respectively. Looking assistance from parents is the least mechanism with

only 2 migrants out of 330 used it. The chi-square result showed that there is no significant relationship between the mechanisms used by migrants to tackle the city environment and their place of origin at 10% significance level.

Table 10: Responds' source of information about the challenges of city life

	<b>Way how respondents learned to cope-up with the city environment</b>				<b>Total</b>
	I already have been told before I came	I learned from friends	I learned by myself through time	I get advice from my relatives	
<b>Frequency</b>	2	93	100	137	<b>332</b>
<b>%</b>	.6	28	30	41	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey result, 2017

As indicated on Table 10, from the total 332 migrants, 0.6% of the respondents used firsthand information before coming to Addis, 28% of them learn from friends, 30% of the respondents learned by themselves through time the rest majority 41% of the migrants, learned from the advise they get from their relatives as to how to cope-up with the city environment, respectively.

On the other hand, among the total 331 migrants participated in the study majority (217 out of 331) said that they got no assistance from relatives, while the remaining 114 respondents have mentioned that they have got assistance from relatives to adjust themselves with the city environment. Among assistance provided by the relatives, 43.7% of the respondents mentioned finding a job, 3% mentioned finding a living place, 37% mentioned getting familiar with the city, 3% mentioned getting education

and the remaining 2% have mentioned finding friends. This showed that, majority of the respondents who get assistance from their relatives have got assistance in finding a job.

On the other hand, 60.2% (200) of the respondents agreed that adult male migrants can easily cope up with the city environment, followed by 31.9% (106) of the respondents who think that young male migrants are better to easily cope up with the city environment. The result indicates that being male have great contribution to cop up with the city environment when compare to female migrants. The chi-square test reveals that the difference between kinds of migrants easily cope up with the city environment and place of origin is found to be statistically insignificant.

The participants of the study were also asked to reflect their feeling about advantages that they get due to coming with someone to Addis Ababa. Out of the total 332 respondents 41.6% (138) migrants mentioned feeling not alone is the most prominent benefit they got from coming to Addis Ababa with someone.

On the other hand, about 27.7% (92) of respondents agreed that feeling protected is the most commonly acquired benefit. In addition sharing resources and working together are other advantages mentioned by the respondents by coming with someone reported as 12.3% and 2.1% of respondents respectively. The rest 16.3% (54) migrants' reported that coming with someone has no any benefit in coping up with the new environment. The chi-square result in this regard shows that, there is no any significant relationship between place of origin and benefit of coming with someone to Addis Ababa



Table 11: Ways Respondents have used to Get House for living

Ways respondents have used to get House	The respondent's place of Origen (region)				Total	X <sup>2</sup>	P-value
	Amhara	SNNPR	Oromia	Tigray			
Through broker	1	2	0	0	3	38.427	.000
By myself	15	7	14	0	36		
Through friends	42	68	22	8	140		
Through relatives	14	31	23	7	75		
Other means	36	30	12	0	78		
Total	108	138	71	15	332		

\* Significant at less than 1%

Source: Survey Result, 2017

As revealed on Table 11, the most frequent ways migrants used to get house are through their friends. More than 42.2% (140) reported that they use their friends to get house for living. About 23.5% (78) migrants' use their relatives house while 10.8% (36) respondents reported that they find a house by themselves. Also 23.5% (78) of migrants' use other means as coping strategies to get a house. On the other hand, only 0.09% (3) of the respondent report using broker as means of getting a house. The respondents in this regard mainly mentioned that they usually prefer to live with friends or they just tell their friends to find a living place for them. The chi-square result shows that, there is a statistically significant difference between place of origin and ways respondents have used to get house at less than 1% level of significance (Table 11).

## Conclusion

The study has tried to assess about the different conditions in relation to livelihood strategies of migrants and the different challenges and coping

mechanisms in city life. While all migrants who came from Amhara and Tigray are employed, there are fewer numbers of migrants from Oromia and SNNP who are unemployed. Although the current income of the migrants is better than their previous income, it is not sufficient to subsist themselves and their family. Migrants come to Addis Ababa to solve their economic problem through getting job. Daily labor, street vending, house maid and shoe shining are the main livelihood strategies of the migrants. Migrants mostly got employment opportunity through their friends and relatives.

While finding a house and finding job are major challenge for men migrants, loneness, sexual harassment and abuse are the dominant challenges for women. Finding a living place and finding a good job are the main challenges for most of the migrants. While loneliness is a big challenge for women compared to men, difficulty to be familiar with new job is a big challenge for men relative to women. Females are more exposed to challenges than their counterpart men when they come to Addis Ababa. Living in groups and looking assistance from friends and relatives is the major challenge tackling mechanism for both men and women. To cope up with the city environment relatives support in finding a living place, to get education access and in finding friends to live or work with. Feeling not alone is the most frequently mentioned benefit because of coming to Addis Ababa with someone. In addition, sharing resources and working together are other advantages are also benefits of coming with someone. Being male have great contribution to cop up with the city environment when compare to female migrants.

## **Recommendations**

Based on the major findings of this study, the following recommendations are forwarded that could be implemented by migrants, policy makers, implementers and practitioners at different level.

- Having a better-managed urbanization and meet the growing demand for jobs, infrastructure, services, and housing, a robust institutional framework is necessary to support efficient and sustainable land management, urban governance, and municipal finance.
- Cities in Ethiopia offer migrants greater employment opportunities than rural economies. But most jobs in the city are in the informal sector and low waged job opportunities in urban centers are not proportionate with migration. Thus, in order to reduce rural urban migration, applying constraints on rural–urban migration—including improvement of the living conditions of rural area community mainly in terms of creating more job opportunities and building infrastructures which can attract investments. Such kinds of efforts in the long run could slow agglomeration in cities and in turn improve productivity and economic growth in rural areas.
- Female migrants are more exposed to sexual harassment. Hence, gender equality and equity assurance programs and projects are required to tackle the gender gap as a result of female exposure to going down.
- The government should create a strong system which can register and legalize the migrants’ temporary or permanent residence. In such efforts the migrants will also get chances to be engaged in a recognized means of income and it will enable the different actors in the sector to make an integrated effort.

- Problem related with rural unemployment and under employment induces rural people to migrate into urban in search of better lives. Therefore, there is a need for appropriate rural development strategy that can increase employment opportunity at migrants' place of origin.
- The government should consider supporting the emerging urban centers at different regions of the country, so that the increase in well-developed urban centers will ease the burden on cities like Addis Ababa.
- Finally, it would be also better if further studies to be conducted on the livelihood alternatives of migrants and on the major challenges they are facing in Addis Ababa.

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