

CAUSES OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT CHALLENGES IN URBAN ETHIOPIAN:

(A Case Study of South Wollo Administrative Zone)

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Abstract

The internal migration has become a major issue of influencing government policies and program efforts. Thus, the main objective of the study is to analyze the socio-economic factors associated with the movement of rural-urban migration and employment challenges in urban Ethiopia. A total of 400 both rural-urban and urban-urban migrants were covered in the three purposively selected urban areas. Of all migrated population, 72% of them migrated from rural areas while 28 percent was within-urban migration. The Binary logistic model was chosen as an appropriate model and the dependent variable (y_i^*) is binary which takes 1 for migrants mainly who migrated from rural to urban area, 0 otherwise. The coefficient of distance from birth area is negatively related with the dependent variable (rural-urban migration) and as distance from place of origin decreases, migrants are more likely to be expected to be pulled towards urban areas compared to migrants from remote rural areas. Conversely, the coefficients of illiterate, adult and religious, primary, high school and preparatory education levels, reasons for migration; (to seek employment, advancing in education, shortage of agricultural land, job transfer) and source of information are positively associated with rural migration and the likelihood of moving out from rural areas increases by 24.57%, 26.68%, 27.24%, 27.05%, 27.54%, 24.43%, 23.91%, and 23.73%, 9.77% respectively. This implies that not only more educated, but also illiterate and less educated migrants are more likely to be pulled toward urban areas and the main causes for rural-urban migration in the study are found to be economic factors, which is in line with the Harris Todaro model of rural-urban migration.

Subsequently, the study proposes generating more employment opportunities through self-employment and wage employment opportunities to be created simultaneously both in rural and urban areas. Moreover, the rural development policies should pave the opportunities to enable youth migrants to involve in farm and nonfarm investments. The poor should participate in the new productive safety- **net program similar to urban areas**, or expanding the food-for-program apart from creating permanent job opportunities in labor-intensive public works so as to reduce the role of push factors. Education is one of the significant characteristics inducing rural-urban migration. Besides, technical and Vocational Educational Training (TEVT) should be given for rural migrants to equip them with the necessary skills and make them competitive in the non-farm labor market.

KEYWORDS: Rural-Urban Migration, South Wollo, Ethiopia, Employment Challenges

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1. Introduction

Migration is a basic major component of population dynamics which is characterized by the deliberate rational decision of the migrant, whereas international migration exacts some forms of checks and limit on intending migrants, internal migration on the other hand is easily more achievable. As the most developing countries of the world, internal migration has become a major issue of influencing government policies and program efforts. Crucial among these issues are problems of unplanned urbanization, growing urban crimes, rural poverty, neglect of agriculture and unbalanced population concentration. These suggest the effect of the dominant pattern of rural-urban migration and its effect on national life.

However, Ethiopia is urbanizing very fast, but it started from a low base compared to other developing countries. While it has a high rate of urbanization (estimated at 4.4% per year), the level of urbanization is still very low, even, considering Africa standards, (2014). Only 19% of the population resided in urban areas of at least 2,000 people. For the whole Africa, Sub-Saharan and East African Countries, however, the percentage was 40%, 37% and 25%, in their order.. The urban population is expected to reach 22 million people by 2020, based on the 4.4% estimated annual growth rate (PASDEP 2006 cited in Muzzi 2008).

However, until recently, researchers have not paid much attention to the rural –urban drift and employment challenges in urban centres in Africa in general and in Ethiopia in particular, except very few researches conducted on the causes of internal migration in Ethiopian and Africa. The essence of this research work is, therefore, to identify the causes of rural migration and whether the newly arrived rural-urban migrant is left out in the bitter in terms of employment opportunities. Analysis involves estimation of a binary logistic model to examine socioeconomic factors associated with rural-urban migration to identify whether or not the migrant is more likely to have adverse employment prospects in urban Ethiopia.

Objective

The objective of the study is to analyze the socio-economic factors associated with the movement of rural-urban migration and employment challenges in urban Ethiopia: A case study of South Wollo Administrative Zone, Amhara National Regional State.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 describes the theoretical and empirical review, in the existing literature, *vis-à-vis* the situation and factors associated with the causes of rural-urban migration. Section 3 highlights the nature of data and methodological issues. Results and discussions are present in section 4 which shows the detailed analysis of factors associated with the causes of rural migration and employment challenges. Finally, Section 5 summarizes the findings of and policy recommendations of the study.

densest populated districts of the country such as in all rural areas of the country, in general, and in the study areas, in particular. The growth of labor force in rural areas is too high as compared to the growth of available resources and employment opportunities. Thus, land distribution policies should be revised again to incorporate the new demand of youth population in rural areas.

Besides, resettlement on voluntary basis from highly degraded areas to where there are vacant and potentially productive irrigable lands can reduce the flow of people towards urban areas

4. The life in the rural area is seen to be hard and difficult and many of the empirical literature believed that this is due to the lack of schools, electricity, running water, health services, communication, paid employment and material things. Accordingly, rural migrants took the chance to change their lives to something better by moving to urban areas. Thus;

- 4.1. Urbanization and rural-urban linkages should be supported by the development of infrastructure such as road and transportation facilities both in urban and rural areas.

- 4.2. As many empirical literatures and this study indicated that migrants prefer to move to a town or city that is close to their origin areas and families, many end up migrating to regional capitals, big and medium cities, where economic opportunities and services are better. Investments in smaller cities and towns can avoid an overconcentration of people in large cities. In addition, research has shown that development of towns and secondary cities has a bigger poverty-reduction effect than concentration in mega, big and medium cities

- 4.3. During the survey, it was observed and discussed with respondents that internal migrants got information regarding the opportunities in urban regions from friends or relatives informally. In such cases, information is often biased and exaggerated leading to excess migration to urban centers, increasing the unemployment level, exploitation of labor and human trafficking. Thus, access to information should be improved for potential rural migrants. Providing **job search assistance**, such as the provision of easily accessible information on jobs available (or where and how to seek jobs) and related support services

(accommodation, training opportunities, one-stop shops, credit facilities, housing, working conditions, etc.)

Thus, well established institutional framework and localized migrant youth consultation may provide important information about the challenges, constraints and priorities of youth and may allow the youth to engage in the process of seeking solutions.

- 4.4. Designing an **internal labor mobility strategy and policy** that acknowledges labor mobility as a positive livelihood option and that aims to maximize the benefits of internal migration while mitigating the risks. This strategy would also need to include sensitization of local authorities and law enforcement to better understand the concept of mobility and migration and the reasons behind it.
5. The life in the rural area is seen to be hard and difficult and many of the empirical literature believed that this is due to the lack of schools, electricity, running water, health services, communication, paid employment and material things. Accordingly;
 - 5.1. Urbanization and rural-urban linkages should be supported by the development of infrastructure such as road and transportation facilities both in urban and rural areas.
 - 5.2. As in this study indicated that migrants prefer to move to a town or city that is close to their origin areas and families, many end up migrating to regional capitals, big and medium cities, where economic opportunities and services are better. Investments in smaller cities and towns can avoid an overconcentration of people in large cities. In addition, research has shown that development of towns and secondary cities has a bigger poverty-reduction effect than concentration in mega, big and medium cities
6. Finally, the development of Agro-allied industries and small scale farming system must be set-up in the rural areas to reduce rural-urban migration in order to provide job opportunities for the people of the rural area. The agricultural inputs and farming technologies should be introduced to the rural people to improve the production level. Good road should be constructed for the rural area and credit facilities should be provided for the rural people to improve their production level, which will lead to improvement in their standard of living.

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Annex Tables

Annex Table 1: Validity and Reliability of the Instruments

Compute interitem correlations (covariances) and Cronbach's alpha

Average interitem correlation: 0.0812
 Number of items in the scale: 28
 Scale reliability coefficient: 0.7121

Annex Table 2: Post Estimation Test After Binary Logistic Regression Analysis

Annex Table 2.1: Breusch-Pagan / Cook-Weisberg test for heteroskedasticity

Ho: Constant variance

Variables: fitted values of dummyAbirth2

chi2(1) = 7.17

Prob > chi2 = 0.0074

Annex Table 2.2: Skweness ?kurtosis for Normality test

Cameron & Trivedi's decomposition of IM-test

Source	chi2	df	p
Heteroskedasticity	218.35	192	0.0932
Skewness	188.86	23	0.0000
Kurtosis	17.09	1	0.0000
Total	424.30	216	0.0000

Annex Table 2.3: Specification error tests for omitted variable

Ramsey RESET test using powers of the fitted values of dummyAbirth2

Ho: model has no omitted variables

F(3, 373) = 1.70

Prob > F = 0.1676

Annex Table 2.4: Variation Inflation Factor (VIF) for Multicollinearit test
For Continuous Explanatory Variables

Variable	VIF	1/VIF
-----+-----		
age22	18.46	0.054179
age2	17.93	0.055769
fsize2	1.14	0.873378
distan	1.02	0.976434
-----+-----		
Mean VIF	9.64	

Appendix Table 2.5: Multicollinearity test For Discrete Variables:

Correlation Matrix of independent Variables

	dumm~221	dummyr~1	dummyS~1	dumm~211	dumm~212	dumm~213	dumm~214	dumm~215	du~s_011	du~s_012	du~s_013	du~s_014	du~s_015
dummysmrt221	1.0000												
dummyrel21	0.0246	1.0000											
dummySex1	-0.0945	0.0795	1.0000										
dummyedul211	-0.1650	-0.0534	0.0259	1.0000									
dummyedul212	0.0075	0.0834	0.1241	-0.0991	1.0000								
dummyedul213	0.0684	0.0929	0.0123	-0.3767	-0.1791	1.0000							
dummyedul214	0.0388	-0.1013	-0.0583	-0.2900	-0.1379	-0.5241	1.0000						
dummyedul215	0.0128	-0.0825	-0.0624	-0.1020	-0.0485	-0.1842	-0.1419	1.0000					
dummysmai~011	0.0463	-0.0491	-0.0387	0.0598	-0.1021	0.0939	-0.0797	0.0307	1.0000				
dummysmai~012	0.0979	0.0742	0.0034	-0.1483	0.1875	0.0133	0.0255	0.0435	-0.5180	1.0000			
dummysmai~013	-0.0170	0.0257	0.1244	-0.0149	-0.0413	-0.0463	0.1195	-0.0425	-0.2420	-0.0776	1.0000		
dummysmai~014	-0.0320	0.0676	0.0505	0.1137	0.0325	0.0042	-0.0793	-0.0393	-0.2234	-0.0717	-0.0335	1.0000	
dummysmai~015	-0.0520	-0.0439	-0.0887	0.0293	-0.0018	0.0150	-0.0145	-0.0047	-0.3138	-0.1007	-0.0470	-0.0434	1.0000
dummysmai~016	-0.0606	-0.0654	0.0522	0.0646	-0.0329	0.0122	-0.0219	-0.0339	-0.1928	-0.0618	-0.0289	-0.0267	-0.0375
dummysmai~017	-0.0183	0.0211	0.0288	-0.0459	-0.0218	0.0195	0.0472	-0.0224	-0.1277	-0.0410	-0.0191	-0.0177	-0.0248
dummysmai~018	-0.0406	0.0593	0.0404	-0.0768	-0.0365	-0.1076	-0.0730	-0.0376	-0.2137	-0.0686	-0.0320	-0.0296	-0.0415
dummysmai~019	-0.0170	-0.0314	-0.0151	-0.0509	0.0243	-0.1571	0.2397	-0.0425	-0.2420	-0.0776	-0.0363	-0.0335	-0.0470
sourcei~2_01	0.0515	-0.0205	-0.0065	-0.0075	-0.0057	0.0090	0.0819	-0.0399	-0.0826	-0.0442	0.0982	0.1327	0.0965
dummyspas~011	-0.2394	-0.0571	0.1440	0.1813	-0.0245	-0.0017	-0.1407	-0.0575	0.0658	-0.1852	-0.0249	0.0899	-0.0306

```

      | dummys~6 dumm~017 dumm~018 dumm~019 sou~2_01 du~p_011
-----+-----
dummysai~016 | 1.0000
dummysai~017 | -0.0152 1.0000
dummysai~018 | -0.0255 -0.0169 1.0000
dummysai~019 | -0.0289 -0.0191 -0.0320 1.0000
sourcei~2_01 | -0.0040 0.0590 -0.0931 -0.0111 1.0000
dummysas~011 | -0.0550 -0.0615 0.1031 0.0362 -0.0098 1.0000
  
```

Annex Table 2.6: Akaike's information criterion and Bayesian information criterion

estat ic

```

-----+-----
      Model | Obs ll(null) ll(model) df AIC BIC
-----+-----
      . | 400 -247.2815 -218.8403 24 485.6806 581.4758
-----+-----
  
```

Note: N=Obs used in calculating BIC; see [R] BIC note