

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

**THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF  
MIGRATION IN TIGRAY REGION: -  
THE CASE OF HINTALO-WEJERAT WEREDA**

**THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF  
GRADUATE STUDIES, IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT  
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# 1. THE STUDY AND ITS APPROACH

## 1.1. Introduction

Migration is caused by different factors and motivations, which should not be seen as a one-off event but rather a dynamic process whose size and direction are mainly influenced by the dual forces of state regulation and industrial development. It entails economic and psychological risks. Migration has a direct effect on geographic distribution of population. Furthermore, it interacts with demographic and political changes.

Migration in its endless motion surrounds and pervades almost all aspects of contemporary society and has contributed to the present situation of instability through out the world. It is a system in which the circulation of people, resources and information flows in many ways. The instability caused by migration has destabilized the routes of mobility and can create doubt about the possibilities of settlement. In relation to this, Nikos (2000:2) wrote the following.

“Migration must be seen in a broad sense referring to the plight of the destitute and others who have been displaced from their home lands and also a metaphor of the ‘burnt ones’, for the complex forces which are integral to the radical transformations of modernity”.

On the other hand, migration is inevitable and brings significant benefits. The move takes experience when the expected return is greater to possible alternative activities. Migrants learn by experience when there is substantial seasonal variation in the demand for farm labor in rural households that can boost income by helping less productive family members. However, there is a continuous debate on whether migration is advantageous or disadvantageous for the places of origin and destination. The answer to this question may depend on who are the migrants? Why are they migrating? From were they are migrating? And to where they are migrating?

One of the most significant of all post-war demographic phenomena and the

one that A promise to loom ever larger in the future is the rapid growth of population in developing countries. This growth has out paced the development of human and physical infrastructure needed for even moderately efficient economic life and orderly political and social relationship. Since the industrial revolution, rural-urban migration has become one of the most important demographic issues of nations. The rates and ways of rural migration may change overtime in response to changing national income circumstances, or to the improvement or deterioration of economic opportunities and living conditions in both urban and rural areas. The rates of rural urban migration create imbalance in the supply side and demand side. Together rapidly increasing supply and lagging demand growth tend to convert a short run problem of skilled manpower in to a long run situation and may create chronic and rising urban surplus labor (Todaro, 1969).

Ethiopia is not different from this situation and it is one of the poorest countries in the world with a highest population growth. Poverty is severe in both rural and urban areas. In the urban areas poverty becomes serious, resulting in many problems viz, unemployment, poor working conditions, less productivity, low incentives etc. The manifestations of poverty could be taken as defining factors for migration in general. It is characteristic for people in need to search for better real economic opportunities and many of the young are eager to leave their origin mainly for economic reasons.

Accordingly rural-urban migration increases internally for example, in the period between 1984 and 1994 about 66% of Addis Ababa population growth was due to migration and the remaining 34% was from natural increase (Mujereb, 1997).

Tigray as a region has more than 4 million people about 85% of whom live in rural areas and are mostly dependent on rain feed agriculture and animal husbandry. Due to recurrent drought and poverty; migration became intensified and frequent in Hintalo-Wejerat and it's surrounding. Hence, the present study has set out to look into the causes and consequences of migration in Hintalo-Wejerat.

## **1.2. Statement of the Problem**

Migration occurs through out the world. The reasons may vary from country to country, from region to region within a country and even from locality to locality within a region. In Tigray there has always been some migration out of the region and within the region. It mostly used to be seasonal migration of adults to areas of large-scale cotton and coffee farming such as Humara and Jimma. To some extent a few also migrate to major towns like Mekelle, Addis Ababa and others.

Furthermore, Hintalo-Wejerat is currently one of the most affected by migration. Migration of this wereda becomes serious and increases from time to time since the establishment of the government of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Many migrants with their children flow to different urban areas especially to Addis Ababa and some live in miserable life that requires closer investigation. The present research sets out to do inquiries on why migration rate has increased and what mechanism would be suggested to mitigate the problem.

The thesis will concentrate on the causes and consequences of migration in Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda. It will endeavor to answer the following basic questions.

1. What is the demographic profile of the migrants?
2. What are the main causes that force people to migrate from their home area?

3. What are the main problems that are encountered in migrants or by migrants on arrival at destination?
4. What are some of the socio economic impacts of migration in Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda?
5. What are the implications of the finding in the over all development of the concerned wereda?

Currently rapid population growth has reached a level where it poses serious challenges to national development and the promotion of social services and opportunities.

People migrate in search for means to satisfy their needs and mostly the flow is to urban areas in the expectation of better quality of life. A study of causes and consequences of migration would assist the local government to assess and to plan for mitigating the problem.

### **1.3. Significance of the Study**

Even though migration is a universal phenomenon, there are development efforts that made mainly on a few urban areas. This can create imbalance in economics, politics, social and cultural opportunities between rural and urban areas. The gap creates skew ness in public investment, and can foster more urban-ward migration. The migration process will have direct or indirect impact on the socioeconomic conditions of policy. Therefore, attention should be given to planning and managing in the development process and in formulating development to influence this process in socially desirable ways. Such knowledge can deliver a rational design of public policies to stabilize proper rural-urban development plan. The study can contribute to the region as well as the country how to handle and mitigate migration of population. Local governments need to understand not only why people come to urban areas and what prominent factors underlie their decision making process but also the consequences of migration on the economic development of rural and urban areas.

## **1.4. Objective of the Study**

The general objective of this study is to survey, assess and identify the main causes and consequences of migration in Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda. The specific objectives of the study include.

1. To identify and investigate the types of migrants.
2. To identify and analyze the main causes of migration in the wereda
3. To assess the physical and economic problems faced by migrants.
4. To identify and analyses demographic, social, economic and environmental consequences of migration in the wereda.
5. To look into possible ways and means to solve the problems of rural-urban migration.

## **1.5. The Study Area**

Hintalo-Wejerat is located in the Southern part of Tigray about 35 km from Mekelle to the South. The area is characterized by repeated drought with high rural-urban migration within in the wereda and from the wereda to other urban areas. This seems to be disproportionate to the rest of rural areas in the region. According to a CSA 1994 report, the total population was estimated to be 101,023 both in towns and rural areas. Out of this, 9,903 resided in towns. The present study includes two small urban settlements that came into existence since 1991 and two peasant associations (PAs), which show high rates of out migration to urban areas.

## **1.6. Limitation of the Study**

Causes and consequences of migration can be best understood at grass root level by investigating relevant local data. However, there does not exist a vital registration in the studied area. Self reported demographic and other socio-economic indicators are not always reliable. This study relied mainly in all cases the in and out-migrants were interviewed while most of them were under

the situation of working. This may have negative effects on their responses as they may not be serious. There also exist limitations relating to the source areas under consideration. These include rough estimates of average size of holding based on small sample in an absence of any refined prior estimates and lack of sufficient, direct and quantitative measures of factors of migration. These limitations need to be taken into account in reading the study and it is far from being definitive on the issue in the particular study area.

## **1.7. Research Methodology and Sampling Technique**

### ***1.7.1. Research Methodology***

In this study, both primary and secondary sources were used as the basic sources of data. The methods mainly used to gather information included interviews with members of wereda council, the agriculture office, the education office; peasant association leaders; the municipality and migrants from that wereda.

Two types of questionnaires were distributed among selected residents of two urban kebeles and two peasant Associations (PAs), one questionnaire for out-migrants and one questionnaire for community leaders.

On the other hand, written documents considered to be relevant to the objective of the study were also referred to as supplementary materials.

### ***1.7.2 Survey Design and Sampling Technique***

The wereda has nineteen Tabias (PAs), a one-town kebele and within the Tabias six small towns are under them namely Hiwane, Hintalo, Mai-Nebri, Dehub, Dongolt and Addikeyh. The sampling technique used for the study was simple random sampling technique in the selection of the two PAs (Dejen and Amidiweyane) and purposive sampling technique to in-migrant households of Adigudem and Hiwane towns, and out-migrants of the wereda in Addis Ababa.

**Table 1: Coverage of Sample Households by Kebele and Tabia  
(Peasant Association)**

<b>No</b>	<b>Name of survey area</b>	<b>No of households</b>	<b>Sample</b>	<b>% of total</b>
1	Adigudem town	2082	50	22
2	Hiwane town	2310	50	24
3	Dejen tabia	2766	50	29
4	Amidiweyane	2120	50	22
5	Out-migrants of the wereda in Addis Ababa	≈ 320	100	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>9598</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100</b>

In order to manage the household survey 4 enumerators who had experiences in collecting data were selected from the town Adigudem .All of them had participated in 1994 population and censuses as the same time they were oriented on the nature of the study and the details of the questionnaires. Furthermore, the researcher and one enumerator interviewed 100 out–migrants in Addis Ababa who are the origin of Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda.

The researcher selected 100 households (HHs) of Tabias (PAs) using simple random sampling while 100 households of the kebeles, were selected purposely for having lived there since 1991and 100 out-migrants of that wereda interviewed in Addis Ababa and group discussion was carried out in three site as well as six community leaders gave responses on the questionnaire.

## **1.8. Organization of the Study**

The research paper consists of five chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction, statement of the problem, its significance, objective of the study, the study area, limitation of the study, and research methodology and sampling technique. Chapter two focuses on review of related literature. The third chapter deals with descriptive explanation of historical background and socio

economic of the wereda. Explanation of the causes and consequences of migrants in the wereda using presentation and analysis of the findings are dealt in chapter four. Finally, the last chapter presents the summary of major findings and conclusions on practical measures to be taken, and indicate possible areas to be focused in the future study.

## **2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

### **2.1. Concepts and Definition of Migration**

Migration is a multidimensional phenomenon and deals with economic, social and political factors. Basically, it involves localities, which are areas of origin and destination involving either change in residence for short or long periods of time. It is very difficult to define in comprehensive explanatory and analytical framework with regard to migratory processes.

Aina (1987) elaborates that migration could literally be taken as the physical movement of people from one geographical area to another by changing residence usually not for less than a year

Migration is difficult to define and measure which involves in a physical transaction within special form of spatial or geographic mobility of human population dealing in movement, a change of residence, a change in the physical and social environment, distance and time. There is no definite criterion or definition as to what constitutes any one of the above elements, especially time and distance. Regardless of the difficulties involved, however, the term migration connotes a form of population movement that takes place when a person changes his/her place of residence either temporarily or permanent basis, though the length of time and distance to be covered is determined rather arbitrarily, and depends on the purpose of the classification and set of criteria used (Kebede, 1994). The main characteristics of migration are a change of usual residence based on whether the movement is across administrative boundary (internal) or crossing a national boundary in which case it is identified as international migration. While internal migration refers to population movements within the boundaries of political administration of a country. There are four types of internal population movements occurring in a country in terms of place of origin and destination of migration pattern, which are rural to, rural, rural to urban, urban to urban and urban to rural.

Migration is a geographical or spatial movement involving a change of usual residence between two clearly separate geographical units and has been restricted to apply to relatively permanent changes in residence between specifically designated political or statistical areas or between types of residence (Shryok, et al 1973)

In many cases, migration is not just a once or all move. Rather there are series of moves over a lifetime. The movement of people can be broadly defined as temporary, semi-permanent or permanent change of location. From the definition, no restriction is made on the distance to move or its duration and no distinction is made between movements within a country and among countries. Therefore, it is not justifiable to include the variety of human movements under one notion of migration and nor is it fair to label all moves as migration. Mobility is broad term covering all kinds of territorial movements while migration is specific and indicates permanents with the intention of short term or permanent relocation (Zelinsky, 1971)

## **2.2. Causes of Migration**

The causes of migration differ from individual to individual and from community to community. If some one asks, why people migrate out of their origin in favor of places that are not familiar? The reasons will vary with causes found in such diverse factors as ecological pressure, economic incentives, psychological motivation, politics situations etc. From these factors, Garbett (1975) who noted that main variables, which operate to influence migration at macro-level, are ecological, economic and political conditions and both economic and politics have considerable attention to population pressure.

Africa has extremely accelerating population growth which influences both rural and urban due to the population pressure in connection to this William (1970) identified areas suffering from population pressure and some indicators

are as follows:

1. Soil deterioration, degradation or outright destruction. Fertility of soil depends on understanding of human activities. When the population pressure is high soil deterioration increases consequently components of soil (parent materials) are also damaged.
2. Use of excessively steep slopes and other marginal lands. In Africa, the population growth is high and the demand for natural resources (land) also increases while land is definite. Its quality is compromised due to excessive cultivation, expansion of people agriculture in steep slopes and marginal lands. Bleaching of soil occurs and the steep slopes will be highly eroded within a short period of time.
3. Declining crop yields. In many African agricultural areas little is invested and the production of crop will decline. There is a direct correlation between components (fertility of soil) with crop yields.
4. Changing crop emphases, especially to soil-tolerant crops like manioc. Most of the rural people need immediate outcome for their survival because of economic problem. They are forced to change their emphasis on soil toleration of crops.
5. Reduction in the fallow period and lengthening of the cropping period without measures to retain soil fertility. African farmers do not follow the cropping period to sustain the soil fertility. The income of the rural people mainly depends on production of land. Consequently the land declines in quality and output. Most of the farmers do not have the capacity to retain soil fertility.
6. Breakdown of the indigenous farming system. No technology can be completely free of environmental impact. Some indigenous farming systems should synchronize with modern agricultural technology inputs in order to boost the farming activities.

7. Food shortages, hunger, and malnutrition. Inefficient agricultural production leads to economic problems and contributes deficiency. Rain fed agriculture cannot be free of drought; consequently farmers are exposed to food shortages, hunger and malnutrition.
8. Land fragmentation, disputes over land, landlessness. High population growth creates land fragmentation or disputes over land. In the pastoral areas there is continuous dispute among natives for the purpose of grazing and water.
9. Rural indebtedness. Some farmers received debt from different organizations for agricultural inputs but when the climate becomes bad they cannot afford to return their credits with the interests.
10. Unemployment and under employment in rural and or urban areas. Unemployment and underemployment is caused by population pressure. Employment is high in urban areas and underemployment (disguised) in rural areas.
11. Certain type of out-migration. In rain fed agriculture as drought occurs most people migrate. Temporary (seasonal) migration or labor migration is common in developing countries. The problem of rural pressure can absorb in non-agricultural communities and pursuits may be revealed in different way by looking briefly at certain aspects of urbanization in the continent.

Sluggish agricultural out put and continuing rural under development pushes rural labor to urban areas (Rondinelli, 1994). Frequent droughts, deforestation, overgrazing, soil erosion, shortage of cultivated land and lack of peace and security among ethnics affect the agricultural production both crops and livestock and because of these millions of rural migrants leave their areas of origin. Obviously circulatory movements are timed with the agricultural season. Individuals remain in the birthplace from planting through tending to harvest and depart for urban during the off-season. The ability to store earnings and move funds geographically is contributing to migration.

Migration in Africa has a long history of population movement aimed at different purposes and it is not a homogeneous phenomenon. Consequently, the pressure of poverty and unemployment increase in many cities of the world especially in developing countries as Miller and Singh (1988) also subscribe that urbanization is mainly increased in Africa by the migration of many people from the severely deteriorating agricultural sector where most migrants lived in the rural areas. Many people of these countries are in absolute poverty and the prime cause of migration becomes difficult life in the rural areas. Individuals flee from their previous residences for survival and they decide to migrate in order to live or improve their living standards whether to urban or rural areas (Beaujeu, 1966).

The decision making entity expects to progress in economic and social benefits. Household decision-making is mostly common for predicting migration in less developed societies because they expect short-term migration, circulation and the common practice of remitting income home. Awareness of different ways in which migration and the flow of remittances bring or fail to achieve benefits of development programs and can provide a new perspective on development difficulties and lead to new direction options. Rural urban migration is not necessarily an area, from the more traditional to the less traditional, and from the largely subsistence to the largely cash economy. The interrelationship has been closer even than this, for migrants have often stopped and sometimes worked in the towns in the course of a rural migration, either on the way from home or back to it or on both occasions and seasonal migrants still play a significant role in a society especially in linking largely subsistence agricultural areas with the town in transferring cash and new experiences and knowledge that can promote development by influencing to communities of the country side (Caldwell, 1969). A lot of people migrate out of rural areas to urban places, others move from rural to rural or from urban to other urban areas based on the decision of individuals and their families in response to social and economic opportunities (Woods, 1982).

Social and economic causes are many and varied within countries that include defeat in war, a desire for material gain or food, the search for political or religious freedom etc. Migration takes place when the benefits of migration are assessed by the migrants' interims of comparative advantages. Departure by itself is not sufficient, there must also be something to attract the migrants in the destination like attraction of wages conducive environment, agreeable job etc are more satisfactory way of life.

The other basic reason for rural-urban migration is that urban areas are relatively confers of power and privilege. The high estimates include subsidy that go largely to urban sector in various measurements; whether that of relative income status, mobility in education, pure water availability and health opportunity. Migrants frequently experience severe discrimination in access these urban amenities (Gilbert and Gugler, 1992). Hence, people migrate from rural to urban areas for the demand of better necessities and due to the attractiveness of facilities and concentration of resources in the cities. These facilities and resources pull the migrants to abandon the countryside for the towns (Lindsay, 1985).

The main notion of pull and push factor studies refer the causes of migration in relation to economic imbalance. One a bit most subtle, one that took into account the inefficiencies of markets in many developing settings, eventually placed the push-pull factor. Rather than producing adjustment and equilibrium, migration spurred the growth of the informal sector as rural origin persons settled, at least temporarily, for wages and employment chances below the hoped for formal sector offering (Michael, 1999).

Basically when the information from the departed family or neighbor is relatively better, the migratory movement spreads and many more individuals follow for no other reason than the fellow feelings which unite families or friends to leave the original area and there may be an enthusiasm for

something new for new tasks to undertake as sentiment which animates many of those who venture to migrate. There is a pioneer spirit which seeks not only a higher living standards but also difficulties to conquer, natural obstacles to overcome the situation of the new environments (Beaujeu, 1966).

Thus, rural-urban and urban-urban migration of a country is closely related with the degree of economic, social, political and cultural development. When a country passes through different stages of development, the dominance of the rural-rural type will gradually give way to rural-urban and finally to urban-urban (Zachariah, 1964).

### **2.3. Consequences of Migration**

The consequences of Migration are possibly diverse. They include impact on population composition or size, economic productivity income inequality, access to social services, family and kinship structure, social roles as well as values.

Migrations of whatever cause have impacts (consequences) in the place of origin and destination on the type of migration in receiving or losing while little is known about the potentially important impacts. Beyene (1985) quoted from Essang and Maba Wonku studies on merit and demerit of migration to origin and destinations in Nigeria conclude the following notions regarding land/man ratio as migrant families out of agriculture are relatively more beneficiaries than families of none migrant members because their children have not migrated to urban.

Migration may have direct impact on saving and wealth receiving and sending areas while it is a complex task because migrants return home after a period with certain savings and material possessions difficult to measure the overall outcomes. A part from the impact of migration on increased wealth, it also has impacts on productivity of a given area. Migrants take with them labor force

and can learn technical knowledge. In cases when migrants return they may bring with better technical knowledge than they had when they departed.

The changes in the technology of communication and transportation have made it easier for migrants to communicate and stay in touch with their origin communities. This is more than maintaining simple social ties. The tightness and stability of these connection, can reinforce the implicit contracts that generate sharing of resources a cross locations and most notably these are remittances. Despite the high level of interest in remittances, it remains to be clearly documented that these technological developments help maintain a continuous flow.

Migration has also an impact on demographic process which links rural to urban areas generating or spurring the growth of cities. It can generate a series of concerns, including worries about environmental stress and social adaptation of the migrants themselves. Since migration feeds urbanization and urban growth is associated with industrial development and land consumption migration is often held culpable in environmental degradation.

Urbanization is connected with a variety of policies, spanning demographic economic and environmental concerns. Growing of cities is often seen as the agents of environmental pollution and urbanization can place stress on the land through sprawl; coincident industrial development may threaten air and water quality (Micheal, 1999).

As researchers observe rapid urbanization is also linked to problems of un employment and the social adaptation of migrants in their new urban setting cities advertise society's inequalities in income, housing and other social resources, whether these problems are new or common manifest in most urban areas. Most of the migration conventionally linked to these urban issues was seen, as a conventional pattern migration does not always lead to increase

incomes and impacts of migration perhaps, the migrant may face obstacles in availability of job and loss of much human labor and social capital. Jones (1999) stresses that migrants can have difficulties adjusting to being a way from home and those moving for employment tended to miss family and relatives (friends), while those migrating to set up home for themselves were mostly experience financial problems and homelessness is a major problem faced by those migrants.

Many in migrants are not in a position to find space and/or materials to accumulate the necessary resources and materials to build a permanent house and they are forced to erect and live in temporary dwellings on the streets. Cities of developing countries, over one-third of their populations have the possibility of living in squatter and slum settlements (David, 1996 and Todaro, 1989).

Basically, migration does not necessarily resolve individual problems of unemployment or poverty within the context of this idea, it is useful to understand that migrants undergo social changes, a self-transformation, and life styles and develop individual independence.

### **3. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF HINTALO-EJERAT WEREDA /THE STUDY AREA/**

#### **3.1. Location and Topography of the Wereda**

Hintalo- Wejerat Wereda is located in the southern part of Tigray. Adigudem is the head town of the wereda. Before the establishment of federal democratic republic of Ethiopian constitution the wereda was separated in three weredas namely Hintalo, Adigudem and Wejerat while now it consists them calling as Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda.

The wereda is bounded with Enderta Wereda in the North, Samre-Seharti in the west, Emba Alaje south, Raya Azebo and Afar region in the East. The total area of the wereda is about 91, 209 hectares and the average altitude of the wereda is about 14000-2500 meters. The western, north western and eastern parts of the wereda are having a chainlike hills and mountains such as Ayni Azoin in Muja peasant association /PA/, Emba Aradom in Hintalo PA and Feleg Abi in Adimesno within altitude of 1698 m.a.s.l. to 2570 m.a.s.l. are very rugged with relief and gorges of the mountains while the central and north part of the wereda is relatively plain. Enderta Wereda is located in the capital of Adigudem north part of the wereda, some houses of Enderta are situated within Adigudem town.

Soils of the wereda are mainly combisols, vertisols and fluvisols. Cambisols soil types are dominantly occurred on valley floors and hill terraces with 0.5 to 5% slope. These soils are found almost on flat to gently undulating topography being formed of alluvial colluvial deposits and weathered in situ parent material. The second soil type is vertisoil found on valley floors and plains with 1 to 15% slopes with almost flat topography formed by alluvial /colluvial deposits having few common stones. The fluvisols are the third types occurring on valley floors of 0.5 to 2% slopes on almost flat terrain, and being formed from alluvial /colluvial deposits. This soil type is somewhat excessively drained

to well drained with PH of 6 to 7. The other soil types of the area generally vary with response to slope. The dominant parent materials on the hilly portion of the catchments are shells. Sand stone and lime stone. On steep slopes above the hard rock, the dominate soil type is lithosols and such soils are less than 10 cm deep and do not have agricultural potentials. With slope of 15-25% and a soil depth of 25-50cm regosols are dominant. This type of soil has limited agricultural value; especially where soil depth is limited and has low water renovation capacity. In the central part of the wereda mainly black soil with cracking behavior dominated by clay particles is a major typical soil (REST, 2000). The soil of the wereda is over exploited and the land productivity decreases from year to year. When land production is reduced ultimately poverty and out-migration increase.

### **3.2. Demographic Condition of the Wereda**

The wereda comprises of 20 Tabias out of which 19 are rural Tabias /peasant associations/ while one Tabia is town/ Urban-administered by municipality. There are small towns govern within the rural areas viz, Dongolat, Hintalo, Mai-nebri, Debub, Hiwane and Adikeyh.

The community leaders of the small towns in the wereda indicate that many dwellers of the towns do not get appropriate place for construction of houses and plot of land becomes scarce in the surrounding while the capital town of the wereda Adigudem is in a better way because it has a municipality with a muster plan that can serve for about 20-30 years.

It is difficult to estimate the total population of the wereda before the 1994 census because some PAs included to the wereda while others excluded from the wereda to neighboring weredas.

According to CSA (1994) census report the total population was 110,926 in both rural and towns. The population size of Hintalo Wejerat Wereda by Age and sex in 1994 listed in table one.

**Table 2: Distribution of the Population in Hintalo- Wejerat's by Age and Sex in 1994**

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Dependency</b>
0-14	25,381	23,203	48,584	
15-59	25,267	29,564	45,831	
60+	3,953	3,558	7,511	
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,601</b>	<b>56,325</b>	<b>110,926</b>	<b>50.6%</b>

*Source: Central Statistics Authority (1995)*

The dependent population is 0-14 years and above 59 years old. The dependency ratio is the sum of the population ratio aged below 15 and above 59 years. The population in the intermediate age group (15-59) was estimated to be close to 49.4%. This implies that 100 individuals in the working age group (15-59) on the average support about 51 individuals in the non-working age group 0-14 and above 59.

### **3.3. Agro Climatic and Ecological Condition of the Wereda**

Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda lies within a semi-arid zone/dry Weynadega agro climatic zone). As the wereda five year plan report (2001) indicated, Dega is 12%, Woinadega 68% and Kolla is 20%. The wereda is mainly characterized by high evaporation rate combined with low unpredictable and erratic rainfall. Repeated rain failure is a common feature in the wereda and this makes farming in the wereda quite uncertain. The unreliability of rainfall nature forces farmers to grow different draught tolerable and early maturing crops for achieving their needs.

August is mostly the highest rainfall month and commonly rainfall occurs higher from first week of June to beginning of September. Some time little rainfall occurs in between March to April. Rainfall pattern is also can be very peachy-heavy in one area and completely dry just 1 km away.

Prolonged dry seasons occur mostly from mid of September up to first week of June. The wereda has an annual average rainfall of 590 mm, maximum and minimum annual rainfall of 735 and 445mm respectively. There are opportunities and potentials, with respect to water resources spring; small rivers and ground water resources are the major resources. Sustainable Agricultural and Environmental Rehabilitation in Tigray (SAERT) and the community together upgrade 29 schemes of traditional irrigation into 329.5 hectares consequently 1,115 households are direct beneficiaries under the irrigation (REST, 2000). In addition to this, the communities and REST to reduce poverty in the wereda have constructed seventeen dam projects, which are listed in the table below.

**Table 3: Irrigation Dam Schemes of Hintalo-Wejerat**

No	Name of Dam	Location of the dam	Constructed in	Water catchments area in cm3	Cultivated area in hectare
1	Shilana	Hiwane	1999	1,609,000	108
2	Shilanat	Hiwane	1999	150,223	7
3	Adikenafiz	Hintalo	2000	2,860,000	181
4	Fliglg	Hintalo	1999	670,480	60
5	Maihaydi	Araasegeda	1999	245,000	12
6	Grashitu	Fikre-alem	2000	150,000	9
7	Maiagam	Hintalo	2000	170,000	12
8	Mejae	Fikre-alem	1999	169,733	10
9	Gumselasa	Ara-asegeda	1996	166,436	14
10	Adigela	Mai-nebri	1997	1,902,000	110
11	Gerebmihiz	Haghereselam	2000	125,000	100
12	Maigassa	Haghereselam	1997	130,000 1,300,000	80 100
13	Maidille	Ara asegeda	1998	1,570,000	90
14	Meala	Andiweyane	1998	1,400,000	100
15	Betquae	Metkel	1998	606,337	70
16	Gerseghen	Adigudem	2001	340,000	24
<b>Total</b>				<b>13,564,209</b>	<b>1,087</b>

Source: Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda in Avenue of Development in 2001 Tigrigna Megazen.

As indicated in the above table during the construction of the dams, community contribution was valuable which was estimated more than 15,778,410 Birr in the activities of digging, building and collecting of local materials like sand, stone and soil.

Accordingly Sustainable Agricultural and Environmental Rehabilitation in Tigray (SAERT) financed dozers, fuel, spare parts, expense of allowance for drivers and engineers. Beside the artificial dams, there are about 20 traditional irrigation schemes and these can cultivate more than 500 hectares in the wereda. The regional government and SAERT as well as the community together upgrade the irrigation system by introducing water diversion methods such as concrete canals when there is enough amount of rainfall the dams and small rivers satisfy the agricultural production. Since 2004/5 some modern irrigational instruments such as 131 triddle pumps, 48 motor pumps and 4 drip irrigation have been introduced by individuals and groups in the wereda. This is a starting point in improving the agricultural activities to ensure the food security program of the wereda. However since the introduction of these positive agricultural activities is recent, they could not have a noticeable impact on the flow of migration.

### **3.4. Socio-Economic Environment of the Wereda**

#### ***3.4.1. Land Use and Production System***

The total arable land of the Wereda is estimated to be 38335 hectares in 1998. The Wereda has about 2746 hectares for grazing, 8643 hectares natural forest /wood land/, 6556 hectares area closure and about 11191 hectares are non-cultivable land. The distribution of vegetation types in Hintalo-Wejrat is affected by natural and human factors. From the natural factors, climate, altitude and soils are important controls. The common types of natural vegetations are woodland savanna grasslands and halophytic vegetation. Due to intervention of human activities the condition in the pattern of natural vegetation has

drastically changed. The increasing demand for cultivable lands and cutting of trees for construction and fuel wood consumption devastated forest cover area of the wereda. Relatively the eastern part of the wereda is covered with natural forest like Acacia and grassland while the rest of is severely deteriorated. However in some parts of the wereda recovering and tracing is exercised in area of closure. From the arable land 619.5 hectares are under irrigation in 2004/5 and about 4221 households /hhs/ benefited from it. Since last five years, irrigation for crop production and vegetables has increased and become part of the agricultural activities (ANRO, 2004).

Both crop and livestock productions are the basic economic activity of the people. The major production activity in the study area is rain fed agriculture. The Wereda has an annual average rainfall of 590mm, maximum and minimum of 735mm and 445mm respectively and wide varieties of crops grow in the area. The main crops are cereals such as Barely, Wheat, Teff, Maize, Sorghum and pulses like Bean, Vetch, chickpea, lentils etc. Using micro dams and traditional irrigation beside crops some horticulture/vegetables/ tomato, onion, potato, cabbage and paper are the dominant.

In the year 2004/5 about 122.05 hectares from micro dams 412.95, from ground water as well as 21.47 hectares from wells were cultivated while there was scarcity of rain during that year. Cash crops like Geasho, Banana Lemon to some extent coffee and orange grow in some irrigation areas.

In the Wereda there is a food security strategy program with the objective of achieving household food self-sufficiency and raising the living standard of the hhs. The major interventions in the agricultural sector are increasing irrigated land through developments of micro dams, river diversion, spring and well up grading.

- 1 Provision of inputs and credit services to the farmers.
- 2 Soil and water conservation
- 3 Environmental rehabilitation through reforestation
- 4 Provision of agricultural extension and livestock development program.

Apart from the crop production farmers also breed livestock such as cattle, goats, sheep, mules etc. Traditional poultry is common in most area of the wereda and beehive breeding is known in some of the PAs to produce honey.

**Table 4: Livestock of the Wereda in 2003/4**

No	Type of animals	No of animals
1	Cattle	17309
2	Goats	30,550
3	Camels	1198
4	Assess	13567
5	Horses	364
6	Mules	2094
7	Hens	45,584

*Source: ANRO of Wereda Hintalo Wejerat 2003.*

Some animals are kept as a means of saving capital investment and prestige. The live stock development of the Wereda is in a beginning form while poultry program is relatively effective.

As registered in ownership of oxen, the Wereda was lowest about 45% of households have at least one or more oxen while the rest do not have. This indicates that about 54% the total households may rent oxen to plough their plot of lands or they may rent their plot of lands to, farmers that have oxen (BOANRDA, 1999).

To improve the living standard of the people micro finance organization /Dedebit/ provides credit and saving services in four sites to each PAs of the Wereda and these are Dongolat, Adiqudem, Hiwane and Wejerat /Dehub/ to supply inputs for agricultural extension programs like fertilizer, improved seeds and to buy Oxen as well as for other animal including beehive breeding. Dwellers of towns of the Wereda also benefit from Dedebit by involving in formal activities to boost their outputs and civil servants are one of the beneficiaries from the micro finance institution to build houses or for other profitable activities. Since 1994-2004/5 the number of members and amount of Birr have been circulating and repeating for both beneficiary sexes in four sites by Dedebit micro- finance branch of Quiha while the data of beneficiaries and amount of money were not easily available during the study.

Many customers of the micro finance have a good attitude towards it and improved to some extent their living standards.

There are also cooperatives that deliver credit for multipurpose within 15 organizations, for saving and credit 5, for irrigation and dams 4 institutions, for construction 1 and 1 union. Most of the institutions have got their legality based on the federal proclamation No of 85/94 and 147/99 and only 4 of them are on process to get their legalities.

In 2004/5 the asset was 419050.02 Birr, fixed capital 2340912.97 and liability was 1964469.67 Birr. Every cooperative has its own objective, rule and regulation based on the federal proclamation by adjusting the objective reality of every community and gives services for members in providing credit, delivery of fabricated goods for construction irrigation and agricultural inputs with less interest and fair cost.

### **3.4.2. Education Service**

Formal education was started in 1953 E.C at Mai-nebri, followed both to Adigudem E.C, both Dehub in and Hintalo in 1955 E.C Coverage of education in the Wereda is about 75.7% in 2004/5. Before 1991 there were only twenty three elementary schools while in the year 2004/5 the number of schools increase to forty three elementary and one additional of senior high school.

Except three Tabias ( PAs) (Adikeyh, Mainebri, Gonka), every PA has got more than one elementary school. Drop out is common in the wereda due to various reasons for instance in the year 2004 about 549 males and 568 females 1117 of total students were dropout and failed from total 17434 registered learners.

Metkel, Dejen and Andiweyane PAs (Tabias) have more than one elementary school while the drop out is high in these PAs as indicated by the Wereda education office. Seasonal migration is common in these Tabias (peasant associations).

The non-formal and basic education goes parallel with the formal education children and adults who have not accessibility to the formal education will have a chance to learn in this section. Basic Education System Objective (BESO) project provides non formal and basic education in 14 Tabias (PAs) and 25 spots with in 2 groups; group one 7-14 years old and second group 15-49 years by assigning 50 teachers. The teaching learning process is five days in a week with two hours per day and use problem solving method the subjects are environmental science, mathematics, language and in second grade English is added as a subject when the learners pass the regional examination they are directly admitted to the formal school grade four. This helps the learners to develop their attitude in management of their social and natural resources in proper manner as well as keeping personal hygiene and environmental sanitation. There is a trend in increasing the number of students in the 2004/5

there are 3454 learners. For every school the contribution of the communities is high specially in providing local materials and free services for construction of plants, fences and additional classes. Almost in all schools there is a feeling or sense of ownership. As a result of formal and non-formal education some harmful traditional practices were minimized like early marriage, female genital mutilation and others.

Some of the weaknesses in the formal education are

1. High dropout in some Tabias (PAs) due to draught and migration.
2. Lack of skilled /qualified/ human resource at office and schools
3. Insufficient teaching materials due to scarcity of financial resource.
4. The supervision mechanism of teaching learning process is weak consequently the quality of education is not satisfactory.

In the informal and basic education there are some shortcomings.

1. follow up mechanism is weak
2. shortage of teaching materials
3. dropout is high
4. interest of community leaders is poor towards this sector
5. insufficient budget

### **3.4.3. Health Service**

The coverage of health service in Hintalo Wejerat Wereda is 85% in 2004/5. Total health institutions are 21 out of these 2 of them are health centers in Dehub and Adigudem towns as the same time 3 of nucleus health centers are on processes to up grade for health centers. There are also 4 clinics and 12 health posts.

Contribution of communities in collecting stones sand and other local materials is satisfactory in construction of classes and fences. In the Wereda the main diseases are intestinal parasites malaria, dysentery, eye and skin diseases, respiratory truck infection, malnutrition are common even tuberculoses and leprosy are also occasional diseases in the Wereda.

Medicine/drugs are sufficient in comparing with the previous years while professionals and medical equipments are insufficient in the Wereda. Department, PCG campaign vitamin A are carried out satisfactorily but TT2 for pregnant mothers, delivery services and family planning performances are under the plan 29%, 46% and 48% respectively. A great effort is needed for improving the performance in changing the attitude of people towards treatment of pregnant mothers and family planning.

#### ***3.4.4. Water and Other Infrastructure Services of the Wereda***

Since 1991, there was no hand pump water in rural areas and the coverage of pure water for drinking in Hintalo Wejerat was 28% in 2000 while in 2004/5 is about 63.3%. Some small towns of the Wereda do not satisfy with the hand pump water services and their demand become high. On the other side, if there is no stream or river a hand pump is constructed in most of the peasant associations (Tabias) of the wereda.

In most of villages of the Wereda animals /cattle/ have accessibility to water. Telecommunication service begins in all small towns of the Wereda such as in Hintalo, Dongolat, Dehub, Mai-nebri and Hiwane achieve semi automatic service within the capital town of the Wreda. This service helps the communities to communicate for market price of their production.

The Wereda is center for transportation that avails industrial and agricultural out puts. There is also all weathered transportation from the capital town of the Wereda to the rest of small towns and accessible for every peasant association with in dry season. Transportation from PA to small towns has basically the standard of RRIO except Adigudem to Dengolat and Debub as indicated below in table 5.

**Table 5: Description of Road from Towns to Tabias( PAs) of Hintalo-Wejerat**

<b>No</b>	<b>Name of Site</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Type of road</b>	<b>Standard of the road</b>
1.	Adigudem - Hintalo and Dongolat	32 km	For all weathers	RR 30
2.	Adigudem - Debub	28 km	For all weathers	RR 30
3.	Adigudem - Hareko	30 km	For dry weather	RR 10
4.	Adigudem - Fikralem	10 km	For dry weather	RR 10
5.	Debab - Adikeyh	12.5 km	For dry weather	RR 10
6.	Debab – Asbbera	15 km	For dry weather	RR 10
7.	Debab – Adimesno	12.5 km	For dry weather	RR 10
8.	Debab - Senaele	10 km	For dry weather	RR 10
9.	Mai – nebri – Muja	20 km	For dry weather	RR 10
10.	Dengolat – Metkel	18.5 km	For dry weather	RR 10

*Source: Wereda Public Relation and Information office 2004/5*

Beside this, there is an asphalt about 15km from Adigudem to Hiwane in the main road of Mekelle to Addis Ababa which was constructed by the federal government and more than 125 km have been constructed by the communities from center of Tabias to different villages which can serve in dry season.

## **4. PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND NTERPRETATION OF DATA FINDING**

This chapter contains the presentation, analysis and interpretation of the finding focusing on characteristics of the migrant population, the main causes of migration, and socioeconomic impacts of migration in the home wereda and basic problems of migrants on arrival at destination.

### **4.1. Characteristics of the Sample Population**

Most of the data were obtained through questionnaire, discussion groups, and interviews and Survey during fieldtrip. The respondents comprise non-migrant farmers, in-migrants, out migrants, community leaders, municipality and different sectors of wereda offices.

For the purpose of the study, 300 respondents were involved in the questionnaires and interviews. The respondents were classified based on their background and characteristics that is 100 individuals in each category of non-migrants, in -migrants and out- migrant as shown in table 6.

**Table 6: Gender Structure of the Respondents**

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Type of Respondents</b>				
	<b>Non-migrants</b>	<b>In-migrants</b>	<b>Out migrants</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	72	61	52	185	61.7
Female	28	39	48	115	38.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100</b>

From the respondents 185 (61.7%) were male and 115(38.3%) female. The non-migrants were selected from the two Tabias of Amidiweyane and Dejen 50 persons for each. The in-migrants were from the towns of Hiwane, 50 and Adigudem 50 persons. They have been living in the towns since 1991. 100 out-migrants, who migrated to Addis Ababa from Hintalo-Wejerat Wereda, were interviewed.

With regard to age composition the minimum and maximum ages of the respondents were 18 and 74, respectively. The age structure of the respondents is indicated below

**Table 7: Age Structure of the Respondent**

No	Age	Type of respondents									
		Non-migrants		In-migrants		Out-migrants		Total			
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	M &F	%
1	<20	4	-	5	1	5	6	14	7	21	7
2	20-30	13	9	24	15	16	10	53	34	87	29
3	31-40	6	10	14	7	10	13	30	30	60	20
4	41 -50	13	6	9	7	8	12	30	25	55	18.3
5	51-60	11	3	6	5	3	2	20	10	30	10
6	>60	25	-	3	4	10	5	38	9	47	15.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100</b>

In relation to age structure, 87 (29%) of the respondents were in the age group of 20-30, followed by 60 (20%) in the 31-40 group. Among the non-migrants greater than 60 age group men made up a high proportion while the in-migrants and out-migrants men indicated the larger numbers in the age of 20-30 .The migration flow was highly recorded in adult age.

The educational level of the respondents was not satisfactory. The majority consisting of 161 (53.7%) respondents, was illiterate; 72 (24%) 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade, 56 (17.3%) 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> and 11(3.7%) were 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. For detail see table 8.

**Table 8: Educational Level of Respondents**

Grade	Non-migrants		In-migrants		Out-migrants		Total		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	%
Illiterate	47	28	18	30	15	23	80	81	53.7
1 <sup>st</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup>	18	-	14	2	18	20	50	22	24
5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	7	-	20	5	19	5	46	10	18.6
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	9	2	-	-	9	2	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100</b>

The in-migrants are relatively better in their educational achievement 11 % of them, 9 men and 2 women, have attained high school (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>). On the other hand, 25% of the in-migrants were in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of primary education, (5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>); 24% of the out migrants were also in this category.

Thus, the study shows that in-migrants and out-migrants were more educated than the non-migrants. In general however, the number of illiterate women is still high.

**Table 9: Marital Status of the Respondents**

Item	Non-migrants		In-migrants		Out-migrants		Total			
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	M&F	%
Single	1	-	19	3	18	10	28	13	41	14
Married	65	18	48	14	22	19	135	51	186	62
Divorced	3	6	4	15	6	9	13	30	43	14.3
Widow	3	4	-	7	6	10	9	21	30	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100</b>

On the study period, more than half of the respondents 186 (62%) were married while 51(44.3%) of the women were either widow or divorced.

As the study indicates family dissolution seems to be higher in the in-migrants and out-migrants than the non-migrants. Widowhood is to be higher in women than men.

Information about husbands, wives, children and other dependants was collected from each respondent in order to examine the family size of each households of the sample population in the studied area.

**Table 10: Description of Families of Respondents**

<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Gender</b>		
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
Non- Migrants	182	181	363
In-migrants	256	245	501
Out-migrants	277	264	541
<b>Total</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>1405</b>

The family size of the respondents in the study area was 715 male and 690 female making up a total of 1405 persons. The out-migrants and in-migrants have on the average, higher family size than the non-migrants.

In addition to the age structure, the family size is a significant indicator of the socio economic and quality of life differentials. The family size varies from 1 to 10. The average family size was about 6. This shows that the large family size of households is due to the lack of awareness in family planning. As such to assure the food security program of the country, family planning should be given greater attention, since over population influences the natural resources of the environment.

## 4.2. Response of Non-Migrant Group

Non- migrants from Amidiweyane and Dejen, 50 persons from each Tabia (PA), were asked. Although the respondents were non-migrants, these areas generate differential migration.

**Table 11: Incidence of Migrants in Non-migrant Households**

	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
<b>No</b>	Is there any migrant from your family?				
1	Yes	18	8	26	26
2	No	54	20	74	74
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

A question was asked, “Is there any migrant from your family?” and over one – fourth of the respondents 26 (26%) said that yes who were 18 male and 8 female, the total migrants were about 30 individuals and their age was in between 15-26 while 74 (74%) persons replied that there were no migrants in their family.

**Table 12: Response of Non-Migrants Towards Migration**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	Why do you not migrate?				
1	Satisfactory work in the family	49	5	54	74.0
2	Prefer to keep land	3	2	5	6.8
3	Family & village ties	–	6	6	8.2
4	Others	3	5	8	11.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100</b>

For the question "why they do not migrate ", almost three-fourth 54 (74%) of the respondents replied that their families have satisfactory work at their place of origin and 8 (11%) of the respondents replied that it is better to tolerate when problem faces at their birthplaces. While 6 (8%) respondents don't want to migrate due to family and village ties and 5 (7%) respondents will not migrate because they prefer to keep their plots of land.

The main reason for migration as explained by the non-migrants and a question was asked to them that "What is the main reason for migration?" and respondents gave different responses as follows in table 4.2.3

**Table 13: Main Reason for Migration as Explained by Non-Migrants**

No	Item	Gender of Respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	What is the main reason for migration?				
1	Lack of land	12	5	17	19.8
2	To seek better job	14	6	20	23.3
3	Income is not enough	5	10	15	17.4
4	Resettlement	6	—	6	7.0
5	Want better life	6	—	6	7.0
6	Unsatisfactory work here	5	3	8	9.3
7	Other	10	4	14	16.2
<b>Total</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100</b>

The major reasons for migration as explained by non-migrants in over all terms are explained above which is economic problem beside this, due to political change of the country and marriage were also some of the causes for migration in the area.

**Table 14: Information Received by Non-migrants from Migrants**

No	Item	Gender of Respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	What kind of information do you mainly obtain from the migrants?				
1	Availability of jobs	6	2	8	30.8
2	High cost of living	10	6	16	61.5
3	Others	2	–	2	7.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>100</b>

Information about the migrants was explained by the non -migrants.

- Cost of living is high at the destination. Life of the migrants is not suitable as they expect, housing and consumption items are not easily available and 2males reported that difficult to adapt the cultural condition of the city while 8persons replied that there is availability of jobs at their destination.
- Information about the migrant was through telephone, letter and individual returnees.

**Table 15: Attitude of Non-migrants Towards Migration**

No	Item	Gender of Respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	Do you expect to migrate				
1	Yes temporarily	10	3	13	20.0
2	Yes, permanently	3	1	4	6.0
3	No,	36	8	44	69.0
4	Do not know	1	3	4	5.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>50</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100</b>

Attitude of non-migrants towards migration was investigated 44 (69%) of the respondents said that they will not migrate because there is satisfaction at their

birth place while 10 males and 3 females 13 (20%) replied that they will migrate temporarily to support their families and 3males and 1female 4 persons will migrate surly due to their economic problems. There was no decision at 4 persons whether to stay or migrate during the study. This implies that there is an attitude that some of the non-migrants want to migrate to other areas temporarily and permanently specially those who have economic problems.

The non-migrants were asked to reply to a question of “How do you expect to migrate?”

**Table 16: Expectation of Non-migrants Towards Migration**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	How do you expect to migrate?				
1	Alone	8	1	9	45.0
2	With family	2	3	5	25.0
3	With friends	3	-	3	15.0
4	Not sure	1	2	3	15.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>

A total of 20 individuals (14 men and 6 women) gave response to migrate. Even though the non-migrants were at their birthplace some of them intend to migrate to urban areas 8 men 4 women to migrate to Mekelle, 4 men and 2 women to Addis Ababa and 2 men to Jimma rural areas. More than half of the men respondents intended to migrate alone. This shows that men have more opportunity to migrate alone than the women.

The rural households were asked a question “how satisfactory is the stock of food items until the next harvest?” the responses were explained in table 17 below.

**Table 17: Food Stock Items in Non-migrants Until the Next Harvest**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	How satisfactory is the stock of food items until the next harvest				
1	More than sufficient	-	-	-	-
2	Sufficient	45	7	52	52
3	Insufficient	27	21	48	48
<b>Total</b>		<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

More than half 52% of the respondents replied that food stock items in their household is sufficient until the next harvest while 48% of the respondents replied that food stock items is insufficient until the next harvest. Three-fourth of the women household respondents indicated that they are not satisfied with their out put to manage their families properly. Therefore, they need additional income to support their families.

**Table 18: Compensation during the Shortfall Until the Next Harvest as Explained by Non-migrants**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	How do you compensate the life of your short fall				
1	Working for other	15	14	29	43
2	Seasonal labor migration	3	7	10	15.0
3	Sell live stock	6	-	6	9.0
4	Pity trade	10	2	12	18.0
5	Aid from government (NGOs)	5	5	10	15.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>39</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100</b>

The non-migrants use different mechanisms to compensate their short fall. Almost half of the men do not give responses but all women give responses to the question raised in table 18 different ways of compensation were applied if short fall of food items occur in households of rural areas such as working for others, involve in petty trade in salt bringing, forecast to engage in seasonal labor migration and aid from government or NGOs while 6men reported that they sell their livestock during shortfall period. Most of the non-migrants prefer to handle and treat their problems at the birthplaces than migration. Hence, positive intervention and supportation is crucial by leaders and experts in order to generate their income wisely.

### 4.3. Response of In-Migrant Group

The in-migrants were asked the previous living areas of before the last destination.

**Table 19: Previous Living Area of the In-Migrants**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
	Where did you live before 1991?	Male	Female	Total	%
1	Rural area in the wereda	34	10	44	44
2	Urban area outside the wereda	22	28	50	50
3	Rural area outside the wereda	5	1	6	6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

The previous living place of the in-migrants indicated that half of them 50% came from urban areas while 44% from rural areas of the wereda and 6% rural area outside the wereda. The type of migration is from rural to town and from town to town.

The main reason for migration as explained by the in-migrants, a question was asked to the in-migrants “What was (were) the main reason (s) for you to come to this town?” They gave responses as follows.

**Table 20: The In-migrants Main Reasons for Migration**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	What was your main reason for you to come to this town?				
1	To seek employment	30	19	49	49
2	Following parents	7	2	9	9
3	To get freedom from harmful traditional	-	4	4	4
4	Drought (famine)	18	12	30	30
5	Change of political (governmental) of the country	6	2	8	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

The reasons for leaving in e their former place are various; 49 individuals (30 male and 19 female) replied “to seek employment,” 30 respondents (18male and 12 female) also to get rid of agricultural constraints in rural areas such as drought, famine, low out put of agriculture while 8 persons (6 male and 2 female) left their former residence due to political and governmental change of the country and 9 (7 male and 2 female) they left the former area to accompany their parents. Some women were forced to leave their former area because of harmful traditional taboos and practices such as early marriage, female genitals, etc.

From the study, one can conclude that unemployment and drought are serious problems of the wereda but harmful traditional taboos and practices decreased from time to time that were problems to women before a decade.

**Table 21: In-migrants Main Source of Income before the Last Destination**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
	What was your main source of income before this destination?	Male	Female	Total	%
1	Agriculture	40	16	56	60
2	Non agriculture	12	10	22	23
3	Salary from private	8	7	15	16
4	Pension	–	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100</b>

56 (60%) of the in-migrants responded that before they come to the town they were involved in agricultural activities, and these were 40 (66.7%) men and 16 (47%) women. On the other hand 22 (23%) of respondents were involved in non-agricultural activities and the rest 15 persons (8 male and 7 female) earned their salary from private sectors.

The in-migrants were asked a question “Did you bring any resource at the destination?” More than three-fourth, 54 male and 26 female gave response while 20 persons (13 female and 7male) did not give response. Out of the 80 respondents 54 (30 male and 24female) brought different resources but 26 (12 male and 14 female) did not bring any resource. As they explained 25 male brought agricultural equipments and 20 female brought household materials, 5 male and 4 female also brought cash to their destination.

The in –migrants were asked a question of “who made the decision to leave the last place of residence?”. For details see table 22 below.

**Table 22: Decision to Leave the Last Place of Residence as Explained by the In-migrants**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	Who made decision to leave the last place of residence?				
1	Self	24	2	26	26
2	Family	12	16	28	28
3	Relatives	9	11	20	20
4	Friends	10	8	18	18
5	Other	6	2	8	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Decision was made to leave the last place of residence as reported by the in-migrants themselves. This was done by family, individual interest, relatives, and friends and because of political change of the country.

**Table 23: Main Difficulties Initially Faced by In-migrants**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	What were the main difficulties that you faced initially?				
1	Economic difficulties	20	12	32	34
2	Lack of housing	14	16	30	32
3	Un appropriate job	13	5	18	19
4	Other	9	5	14	15
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100</b>

Two-third 62 (66%) of the respondents faced difficulties of economic and lack of housing. About 38% male respondents faced economic problem and 42% female also faced lack of housing at the initials .18 persons (13 men and 5 women)

faced an appropriate job at the initial time of destination and 4 persons (2 men and 2 women) faced all difficulties while 10 individuals (7 men and 3 women) did not face any problems.

The in-migrants gave responses to the idea of their expectation with satisfaction at the destination. A question was asked to them "Were your expectations satisfied?" And 62 (41 men and 21 women) said yes, while 38 (20 men and 18 women) replied no which means their expectation with what they gain did not match. More of women were not satisfied with what they expected at the destination. These 38 individuals were asked a question, whether they intend to leave the destination or not. More than half of the respondents 20 (53%) said that they do not want to leave the destination places but 5 persons (2 men and 3 women) thought to leave temporarily and 10 persons (5 men and 5 women) intended to migrate totally from the destination however, 3 individuals (2 female and 1 male) did not decide during the study. All of the 15 in-migrants replied that 10 of them intend to move to Mekelle and the remaining 5 to Addis Ababa.

One-third 33% of the in-migrant respondents have their own small business and agricultural enterprise and majority of these are self-employed while the remaining 67% do not have their own private small enterprises. Currently they explain their major problems such as inadequate supply of consumer goods, UN employment and lack of housing.

#### **4.4. Response of Out-migrant Group**

In this part of the study 100 out-migrants were interviewed in Addis Ababa, some members of households left at their place of origin due to the following reasons to:

1. Keep household properties,
2. Look after domestic animals and
3. To plough plots of land

The respondents were asked a question “Have you ever experienced any migration before this movement?”. More than half 55 (55%) of the respondents replied that Yes, more than twice before this move while 45 (45%) of the respondents replied no, this migration was for the first time as indicated below.

**Table 24: Migration Experience of the Out-migrants**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	Have you ever experienced any migration before this movement?				
1	Yes	40	15	55	55
2	No	12	33	45	45
<b>Total</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

40 men about (77%) of the respondents and 15 female about (31%) have experience of migration based on the responses. From this study one can conclude that men have more experiences for migration than women.

**Table 25: Ownership of Land**

No	Item	Gender of respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	Do you have plot of land?				
1	Yes	43	29	72	72
2	No	9	19	28	28
<b>Total</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

The out-migrants were asked whether they have land or not at their birthplaces. 72 (72%) of the respondents reported that they have plots of land at their birth place while 28 (28%) of them do not have plots of land and their main reason was because of they were at the resettlement program, changing addressed due to marriage, divorced and widow circumstances.

As indicated in the above table, 43 (82.7%) of respondent men have their own land at their birthplace and 29 (60.4%) of the women is also too. Owning land is relatively better in the men even though they have complaints. The plot of land is not enough for each of households as the family size increase the size of land decreases so it is not proportional for each household.

### **Ownership of Oxen**

Owning of oxen helps farmers to have more lands through rents, sharecropping and other possible arrangements. In addition to this, selling the oxen during food shortages in the way of coping strategy that many farmers use. Accordingly, a question on oxen ownership was asked to the out- migrants.

**Table 26: Ownership of Oxen**

<b>No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Gender of respondents</b>			
		<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
1	Do you have oxen?				
1	Yes	13	7	20	20
2	No	39	41	80	80
<b>Total</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

More than three-fourth of the respondents 41 men and 39 women (80%) of them replied that they do not have oxen. Only 20% of them have oxen at their households with a maximum of pair. 41(81.4%) of female migrants do not have oxen at their place of origin. This shows that only fewer women rural of that wereda have oxen and when they do not have oxen they face difficulty to cultivate their plots of land. Therefore, women are easily vulnerable and cannot tolerate the economic problems.

Migrants decided to leave their birthplace due to the following reasons as indicated in table below:

**Table 27: Out-migrants Main Reason to Leave Their Birth Place**

No	Item	Gender of Respondents			
		Male	Female	Total	%
	Why did you decide to leave your birthplace?				
1	Lack of land	13	10	23	23
2	Income is not enough	12	20	32	33
3	Drought or famine	9	17	26	27
4	Want better life	16	1	17	17
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>

About one-third 32 (33%) of the respondents stated that the main reason to leave their birth place was the low income and inability to support their families, 26 (27%) respondents also replied that they leave their birth place to get rid of agricultural constraints in rural areas such as drought or famine and low out put of agriculture, 23 (24%) respondents leave their origin place due to lack of land while 17 (17.3%) respondents migrated to seek better life almost all of them were men except one woman.

The study indicates that main cause to leave birthplace was income is insufficient to support their families. As drought and famine occurs the problem is aggravating.

The migrants accompanied with their families, relatives and friends or neighbors. The returnee migrants initiate them to leave their birthplace for additional income to urban areas as reported by the out- migrant themselves.

The migrants have different responses to migration as an alternate solution of to solve economic problem, From 100 respondents 29 men and 30 women (59%) replied that migration is an alternate solution of solving economic problem while 10men and 6 women (16%) said that it is not a solution and 13 men and 23 women (25%) said that it depends on the situation.

Most of the migrants know information about their current destination through relatives, friends, neighbors and families. From Addis Ababa to Dongolat, Hintalo, Adigudem during the market days they communicate by an appointment at the public telephone center.

The current destination is having difficulties in availability of pure drinking water; housing for sleeping as a result more than 15 persons of the same sexes sleep together in one house by paying 0.50-1Birr per day for each consequently their living condition is at risk. Almost all of the out- migrant respondents do not have the possibility of washing their body and clothes on time. They cannot afford the expense to pay for the services. In most cases they eat such roughage food, which is the ruminants of the dwellers and some also feed in hope enterprise with the handicapped and aged people for lunch. All young out-migrant men under the age of 40 years involve in selling brooms and such household plastic materials and their income is better than before. Maximum income per day is 15 Birr and minimum 5 Birr.

All female out- migrants of the study and above 40 years age male out- migrant respondents engage in begging 20 of them (13 women and 7 men) migrated with their 32 children. This trend is undesirable behavior, which may be immoral and the children were forced to dropout from their schools. Attitude of some individuals' towards begging become a business and profitable while the future life of the children will be dependent. Further more, breaking the value, norm and culture of the society will be a problem as they return to the origin place. Maximum of income per day is about 5 Birr and minimum of 1Birr as the women and old men out -migrants have reported by themselves.

Current major problem of the out- migrants as explained of at their destination was, housing, water and sanitary services because all these services need money while these are more accessible at their place of origin than the destination. Majority of these out- migrants want to return back to their birth

place but most of the young males have an interest to stay in Addis Ababa until they get much money.

#### **4.5. Historical Cause and Situation of Migration in Hintalo - Wejerat Wereda**

The following findings are a result of intensive interviews of people who have detailed and long –term knowledge of the wereda, in that they are natives of the area.

1. Teacher Afera Negash is a 56 years old director of Hawatsu Primary School and was interviewed on 22/3/2005.
2. Ato Asero Tesfay is a former federal parliament member, age 54 years old and is currently in the office of justice and security of the wereda. He was interviewed on 20/3/2005.
3. Ato Mebrahtu Ibrahim is a returnee from Gambella Settelemnt Zone where he was taken among the large group of farmers who were resulted at the time. He is 67 years old and returned to the wereda in 1991. He was interviewed on 25/3/2005.
4. W/ro Desta Hiluf is one of the in-migrants. She is 55 years old and was interviewed on 26/3/2005.

It was learned from Teacher Afera that the erosion of the rural production system simultaneously, associated with growing population-exerting pressure on land and other natural recourses. The technical base system of resource allocation and social structure became imbalance to support large sections of the population and thus gave rise to migrate people in the wereda to different parts of the region as well as to the country and out side the country. The progressive loss of forest cover created not only serious fuel and timber shortages but together with over grazing exposed the soil to serious erosion. Hintalo-Wejerat is one of the places large numbers of rural and town people out-migrate to different directions in search of food, better life and

opportunities to generate income from agriculture and outside of agriculture. The interview that was made with him implies that long term to long distance of migration started at the regime of emperor Haileselassie I. During that time people were migrating to Jimma and Humera rural areas. From Agaro they went to the remote rural areas carrying flour and were exchanging it to the same amount of coffee and repeat the process. When problems faced by migrants on the way some of them engage in begging. After some months or a year they save some money and come back to the place of origin. Those who migrate to Humera also earn money as daily labourers in harvesting agricultural products. Others also migrated to Assab and Addis Ababa to involve in different formal and informal sectors.

Ato Asero Tesfay also explained that during the Derge regime, migration was restrictive in the region. People should get written permission from kebele or peasant association leaders and wereda officials. The leaders were reluctant to decide and to take risk because of the political situation of the region. Rural to rural migration was relatively easier than to migrate to town areas. Due to continuous civil war and natural disasters (drought and famine) many people migrated especially during 1977E.C most of the wereda people moved to Sudan, Mekelle and some went to the resettlement program. The government launched the program with out persuading most of the people.

Ato Mebrahitu explained the situation of drought of 1977 E.C and the resettlement program as follows:

*It is with great sorrow that I recall those days. The drought was very extreme and caused the loss of large numbers of cattle and livestock. The loss of life of our people was also extensive. As a matter of the fact it was at that time I lost my beloved daughter. The situation was so bad and made more unbearable by the political tension and pressures.*

He left the settlement area after 2 years came to Addis Ababa recruited as a guard in private household. He added, in further explanation that his migration resulted in the break-up of his family who remained behind. This resulted in his wife's divorce and difficult times their three daughters had no education and general well being. He remarried second wife and died leaving two children. These developments, he said along with the fact that land was redistributed among the farmers in his absence added to the difficulties, which burdened his life.

Currently, he is occupied as a weaver and he intends to move with his children to an urban area in quest of a bigger and more profitable market for his products. He also hinted that there is a member of returnees in similar situation as himself.

Some of the returnees faced problems on the way to Addis Ababa since a few of them exercise begging after 1991, many of the settlers returned to their origin because they were not voluntarily resettled. Some of them tell to relatives and neighbors that the living condition in Addis is good, there is no expense for food, you get money and clothes by begging for free. Consequently, the people observe clear difference in the living situation of the returnees, such as owning cattle, horses and donkeys that they never had before migration and etc. However, migrating to Jimma decreases from time to time but the way from the area to Addis Ababa increases in the decades and it is only a matter of 2 days and about 100 Birr. Other individuals also motivated to try it and there are many people who out-migrate every year. During this study about 320 households migrate to the city and migration of these people reaches high in the months of December to June.

In discussion with W/ro Desta Hiluf an in-migrant, it was obvious that the migratory mobility has become a way of life in her family. First, she moved from her birthplace Hareko to Borra then to Hiwane and now to Adigudem. Last

year, she sent one of her daughter to Saudi Arabia to work as a housemaid indebted ten thousands from different individuals and her son who had gone to resettlement area. He has returned to Adigudem town and will most likely move on. This is happening due to economic problems.

#### **4.6. Causes of Migration as Described by Different Community Leaders Wereda Officials and Focus Groups**

Interviews made to different head officials of the wereda, community leaders and focus group. Most of them argue the causes of migration in the following.

1. Frequent drought.
2. The plot of land size for each household is very small and cannot feed the family for the whole year.
3. Pre-harvest and post-harvest mismanagement
4. Culture.

Ato Ayalew Hayenta head of agriculture office of the wereda, was interviewed on 19/3/2005 and explained that the drought becomes more and more frequent which causes for the peasants to be poorer and poorer from time to time. Rainfall pattern is very peachy-heavy and inconsistency that occurs every two-three years and above all, natural recourses severely decrease. Migration is common in the former Wejerat Wereda and its surrounding to near by weredas basically this type of migration is associated with agricultural activities. While now People are forced to seek alternate methods of survival, some of the Tabias of Metkel, Andiweyane, Dejen and Hagereselam people are going to Addis Ababa.

Some people are in real problems, they do not take such alternative as solution and many people have no access to land. The plot of land is also very small for each household. When marriage occurs from the family dividing the plot of land is obvious and this creates problem in having enough size of land. Even during

time when there is no drought at all farmers can cover only 50%-60% of their needs for the year as indicated the wereda rural development study. So, the size as well as the quality of the land within the available technological development becomes a cause for people to be in a cautious poverty cycle. Attitude of people towards conservation of soil and water does not encourage people as the response of some out- migrants replied. One young out migrant female W/ro Abriha age of 25 in Addis Ababa expresses her views

I work the whole day for 3 kilos in work for food program and this is exploiting my energy by the local leaders. On top of this, working 20 days every year for free is offending me. People have to pay fairly for they have worked for the soil and water conservation .The payment of food work program is not fair and also given to the people on time.

However, the difficult life she met with in Addis Ababa along with her two children has proved so miserable that she actually regrets her migration and will return to her original area as soon as she manages to save money to repay some debts and to cover their transport needs. Therefore, the main cause for out- migration is economic problem. Ato Ayalew also added that mismanagement of what they got is also a serious problem. In the areas of many people out-migrating there are religious ceremonies like mahber instead of working wastage of time and resource is common. During the months of December, January and February much money is lost for expense by selling the crops in cheap price for unnecessary expense. They do not save their out puts effectively and timely.

Attitude towards work in some areas especially in the out-migrants decrease instead of tolerating problems through hard working migration becomes dominant and this trend is leading to beg. Begging is not allowed to healthy individuals even in religion perspective while some religious leaders of these areas involve in begging and the culture of working hard is breaking down.

Above all, children who engage in begging will be a big burden of the country. Most of them are involuntarily exercising such activity and they cannot exercise

their right of learning in school. The discussion made with the wereda public relations and information office (Ato Amanuel Amare interviewed on 10/3/2005) explained that there are three main causes for the observed out-migration.

1. Nowadays many people develop the dependency behavior and are observed no depending on themselves; instead they expect others to help them. Some individuals are not to work and help themselves and others do not have the effort and trust on working hard. The way to success, they undermine themselves short and just get involved in activities that do not need hard works.
2. People are considering out-migration as an alternate way of solving their problems. With out trying any other effort just they move out for begging. Some of these persons have economic problems but there are individuals who have no immediate problem and migrating for such activities.
3. A lot of people have problems in managing their resources including credit. When they take money from some sources of credit, most of them are spending the money in some unnecessary cultural and religious ceremonies but the money has to be paid back with its interest.

In the wereda government with different NGOs involve to improve the life of people such as BESO, REST, Ethiopian Red Cross, Ethiopian Orthodox church, Irish, Catholic aid and IFAD.

Interviewed was conducted with Ato Hailu Tesfay on 17/3/2005 who is head of the BESO project. BESO / Basic Education System Objectives / project involves in the formal and non formal education to ensure all children in the vulnerable and disadvantage areas of the wereda have access to primary

education of good quality. Under its program, it is fully engaged in strengthening the parental and community involvement in improving the quality and equity of primary education.

Due to economic problem, children decrease in enrolment, increase in dropout and absenteeism are some of the consequences observed. Thus, it becomes very crucial to look in to mechanisms that could appropriately minimize the adverse effects. Some of the remote areas schools lack the necessary facilities and educational materials that are great inputs in improving the school environment and quality of learning. Children lack operational support such as exercise book, ball point pens, pencils, rulers instructional and reference materials, potable water, furniture and the like. Thus, the BESO project minimize the problems that are mentioned above by facilitating and purchasing reference materials, construction of pedagogical center, libraries, fences and other necessary materials for instance Senaele, Adeigudem, Tsehafti, Angha, Ghonka, Waren, Amdiweyane and Michieal Debrehaila primary school are among the benefited school including the high school of Adigudem. Ato Yohans kasa, Head of Educational Supervision of the wereda interviewed on 17/3/2005. He also added that the project facilitates non-formal education in 14 Tabias of the wereda within 25 spots for the teaching learning process and it is carried out through the assistance of the project. However, dropout rates have continued to rise in some schools in Amidiweyane and Dejen Tabias. For instance, in Dongolat primary school 77 male and 51 female a total of 128 students; in Melbe primary school 85 male and 31 female a total of 116 students were dropouts, in the academic year of 1997 E.C. In short, migration has become a typical event in those areas.

Ato Mokenen Haftu group leader of natural resource and management of the worda was interviewed on 20/3/2005. He expressed that REST (Relief society of Tigray) involves in five Tabias or (peasant associations) as a target and work in natural resources, livestock package, irrigation and environmental

protection . The wereda is benefited from such activities and some people really change their life through different incomes by selling spices, honey, hens, high crop value, different vegetables and the like.

The Catholic aid involves in water and soil conservation programs in two Tabias in soil conservation tracing and by upgrading the spring, hand pump water and some in tap water, the Irish aid in two Tabias and IFAD also involves in one Tabias to similar activities.

The Orthodox Church and the Red Cross work in projects related to clean water. The Orthodox aid is working in nine Tabias and the Red Cross in two Tabias. Almost in all villages clean water is available within less than 5 km radius. The community involves in all these projects by contributing local materials.

Ato Kelali W/Giorigis Wereda HIV/AIDS secretariat was interviewed on 28/3/2005. He confirmed that above all HIV/AIDS is severe in the Wereda. The VCT/Voluntary Counseling Test 1 equipment starts in November 2004 in Adigudem town with in 4 months 225 individuals were tested their blood voluntary 14 individuals 8 males and 6 females are HIV positive that is 6.2% and all of them live in rural areas. However, dwellers of the town do not want to examine at the center and they prefer to test their blood in other towns because they hide themselves from the community. For example in one family 6 individuals died due to HIV/AIDS and the remaining children live with their grand parents. Most of HIV positive individuals initially were migrants especially those who were migrated from Asseb.

In Tabia Amidiweyane at Dongolat there was a group discussion held on 1/4/2005 with four persons of the Tabia. One of the focus group, Ato Asefa said that before a decade there were no migratory who involved in begging by their nature and people did not usually move out of their birth place unless

they faced critical problems while now as drought occurs in the area many people migrate. It was observed that many have succeeded not only in feeding themselves but profitable after migrating. He said that I wonder not only about the beggars but also the givers because healthy person should work. Some of the Addis Ababa dwellers encourage begging and this creates a bad habit to the society.

As a result of this, many people of Tabia Amidiweyane and its surrounding are out-migrating for begging. Ato Teklehaimanot also in Tabia Dejen on 3/4/2005 in the focus group discussion he stated situation of begging as follows:

Nowadays begging becomes profitable because there is no taxation at begging many people motivate to be professional beggars especially in Addis Ababa. Many rural people encourage migrating to Addis Ababa for begging as a business. In fact there are some poor farmers who had no alternatives. Such farmers first exhaust all means of survival and after finishing all what they had, they out migrate for begging. Some others also out-migrate for such activities only because they need more money.

The Tabias' chair persons Dejen, Metkel and Amdiweyane reported that there are farmers who have no immediate problem of food but migrate to Addis Ababa and create false reasons so that people give them money.

According to, Ato Gurdie Belay (head of the municipality of Adigudem town) interviewed on 18/3/2005. He explained that unemployment is estimated about 46% in the wereda and this is high in both towns and rural areas. In the town there were some individuals their source income was by selling fire- wood and charcoal. While now it is prohibited to sell wood and charcoal from the forest to the town.

There is possibility of providing places for construction of houses and with having a master plan, which can serve for 20 years, but most of the dwellers do not have the capacity to build houses for shelter. Hence, unemployment and lack of housing are the major problems of the town.

## **5. SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

The study indicates that Hintalo-Wejerat has shown progress in every sector since the establishment of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Government. Services in education, health, agricultural inputs, irrigation, conservation of water and soil, access to pure drinking water, infrastructure and the like increased from time to time. However, the deep-rooted causes of the wereda's poverty have been compounded by repeated droughts that hard hit much of the area. These created circulatory migration, among hundreds of people in general, and school dropouts in particular.

The majority of the migrants were concentrated in the young group ages. The migrants were relatively better in their educational background. Both the in-migrants and out-migrants were educated than the non-migrants.

Family dissolution seems higher among the in-migrant and out-migrants than the non-migrants. Regarding family size, the out-migrants have more children and consequently are easily exposed to economic problems. They resort to migrate as a solution and a means of survival. On the other hand, majority of single migrants move out seeking employment.

With regard to non-migrants, almost fifty percent of them informed that food stocks do not last until the next harvest. More than three-fourth of the non-migrant respondents, use different mechanisms to compensate their short fall, like working for others, petty trade and sell livestock. Most of them do not want to migrate and some of them also prefer to cope whenever problems arise at their birthplace; and only a few tend to migrate whether temporarily or permanently to towns.

As far as the in-migrant group is concerned, the main reasons for migration were to seek employment; before the last destination the main source of income for the in- migrants was agriculture. Initially the main difficulties of the in-migrants were economic, lack of housing and in appropriate job. It was found that one-third of the in-migrants have succeeded in improving their living conditions as a result of their move to Adigudem and Hiwane (towns) of the wereda. Further more, they have succeeded in improving their income and have become owners of small business and agricultural enterprises.

In relation to out-migrants, more than fifty percent have the experience of migration before the current movement. More than three-fourth of the male out-migrants have experience for migration. Most of them came to know about their current destination through relatives and friends and majority of them assume that migration as an alternative solution to their economic problem. Majority of the out-migrants want to return to their birthplaces, due to lack of housing and difficulty access to water and in availability of decent food in the city.

The out- migrants can adopt positive and negative habits from the city. In positive terms they can improve themselves in the use of sanitary facilities, and better hygienic and health services negatively, they are exposed to undesirable habits such as alcoholism, prostitution, etc. Although the older ones are likely to protect themselves from these risky behaviors, the young tend to fall victim to such habits.

Most of the young males out – migrants are engaged in selling brooms and household plastic utensils etc, while older ones, in common with the majority of the women, have taken up begging as a major source of income.

As a result of migration dropout rates and HIV/AIDS increase in the studied area. The in-migrants and out-migrant respondents informed that the basic

causes for their migration are economic difficulties, such as lack of land; unemployment, and poor income.

Generally, there is a prevalent view of the growth of begging among out-migrants in Addis Ababa that holds some of the seasonal migrants and returnee settlers from remote areas make a stop-over in the large city to solve some of their urgent needs on their way back to their original place.

From the above-mentioned summary of findings, one concludes that the causes for migration are many and different from individual to individual but the main one was found to be insecurity resulting from the vagaries of erratic rain fed agriculture product. Rain-fed agriculture of the area cannot sustain the development of the studied area even under the best of rain circumstances. Development efforts need to consider other non-agricultural alternatives. Most farmers are idle for more than half a year mostly those who have no irrigation. In order to boost their income, farmers of that area have to be busy the whole year by introducing and training them in business- oriented skills in non-farm and off-farm activities like weaving, petty trade, tailoring, carpentry, pottery etc.

The phenomena of migration is leading to the loss of essentially useful norms and values of hard work and effort. While some migrants improve their life through work, specially migrant children are increasingly becoming dependent on adopting the habit of pauperism. This impact can decay our culture so resettlement program is an option for minimizing the problem. Discussions must be applied with the communities as a whole in the place of origin and destination to change the attitudes of the society about the issue with alternative solutions.

Agricultural Development Lead Industry (ADLI) as a policy should be reviewed in terms of its applicability in a uniform paripassue mode of all rural areas.

Mutual understanding between senior policy makers and those who actually make and implement the real development choices and strategies. Different extension packages and mechanisms should be prepared and delivered based on societal need through research regarding the objective reality obtaining in each community.

The micro finance scheme in the region /Dedebit/ advances money to individuals within a group uniformly without giving sufficient training and orientation and without regard to individual interests. Some of the recipient individuals face difficulties in applying the credit money to profitable tasks and invariably repay the fund with due interest. Therefore, experts who can give advice on the use of all resources cost-effectively are sorely needed to guide and assist both the rural and town households in order to improve the living conditions in all the areas.

Endowment fund for the rehabilitation of Tigray /EFFORT/ should focus and develop grassroots level rural and town households such agro-processing activities that are based on livestock production; processing and preserving meat and meat products; dairy production and processing, processing and preserving fruits and vegetables; poultry raising and processing etc.

The accumulation of a mass of non-productive and unemployable people in towns is a dangerous factor for socio-economic well-being as well as for the progress of sustainable development. Population control is absolutely essential through persuading since the various programs of family planning have not proved to be successful in the studied area due to constraints in scarcity of trained personnel and availability of contraceptive supports.

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# **APPENDICES**



## APPENDIX 2

### Addis Ababa University School of Graduate Studies Department of RLDS

#### A. Questionnaire for Rural Households (non- migrants)

- A. Name of peasant association \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Name of Village \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Name of interviewer \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Date of interviewer \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Educational level of interviewer \_\_\_\_\_
- F. No. of respondent \_\_\_\_\_

#### Response

- 1. Sex \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Age \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Educational level of respondent \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Religion \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Marital Status
  - 1. Single
  - 2. Married
  - 3. Divorced
  - 4. Widow
- 6. Total number of members of the family including head of household \_\_\_\_\_  
males \_\_\_\_\_ females \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Is there any migrant from your family? 1 yes 2, No
- 8. If your answer to Q 7 is yes, indicate the number, age and sex of the  
migrant (s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. If your answer to Q 7 is no,
  - 1. Already the family has a satisfactory work.
  - 2. All properties are here.
  - 3. Prefer to keep land.
  - 4. Family or village ties
  - 5. Other specify \_\_\_\_\_

10. If there is a migrant from these households, what is the main reason?

1. Lack of land
2. To seek for better job
3. Unsatisfactory work here
4. Income not enough to support the family
5. Marriage
6. Want better life (education, health....)
7. Resettlement
8. Other specify\_\_\_\_\_

11. If your answer to Q7 is yes, do you get information about the migrant?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

12. What kind of information do you mainly obtain?

1. Availability of jobs
2. Availability of education and other facilities
3. Cost of living
4. Other (specify)

13. Do yourself expect to migrate?

1. Yes, temporarily
2. Yes, permanently
3. No
4. Don't know

14. How do you expect to migrate?

1. Alone
2. With family
3. With friends
4. With relatives
5. Not sure\_\_\_\_\_
6. Other (specify)

15. If you were to migrate, indicate where to?

1. Urban (name of the town)
2. Rural (name of the wereda)
3. Don't know

16. Please indicate the reasons for you to migrate, if at all
1. Shortage of land
  2. Search for work
  3. Drought /famine
  4. For additional income
  5. Other (specify)\_\_\_\_\_
17. Have you ever been to areas out side your community?
1. Yes
  2. No
18. If yes, please indicate
1. Once
  2. 2-5 times
  3. More than 6 times
  4. Lived there before
  5. Other (specify)
19. If you lived out side your community; specify the duration.
1. 1-6 months
  2. 6-12 months
  3. More than a year
20. How satisfactory is the stock of food items in your household until the next harvest?
1. More than sufficient
  2. Sufficient
  3. Insufficient
21. If the stock is insufficient, how do you compensate the life of your shortfall?
1. Sell (cash crops)
  2. Sell livestock
  3. Seasonal labour migration
  4. Help from children, relatives or friends
  5. Petty trading
  6. Aid from government/NGOs
  7. Working for others
  8. Other (specify)

**Thank you!**

**Appendix 3**  
**Addis Ababa University School of**  
**Graduate Studies Department of RLDS**

**B. Questionnaire for urban households (in-migrants) who have  
been living in the town since 1991**

- A. Name of town\_\_\_\_\_
- B. Name of Kebele\_\_\_\_\_
- C. Name of interviewer\_\_\_\_\_
- D. Date of interview\_\_\_\_\_
- E. Educational level of interviewer\_\_\_\_\_
- F. No. of respondent\_\_\_\_\_

***Part I. Characteristics of Respondents***

- 1. Sex \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Age \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Educational level of respondent \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Religion \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Marital Status
  - 1. Single
  - 2. Married
  - 3. Divorced
  - 4. Widow
- 6. Total number of members of the family including head of household\_\_\_\_\_
- males\_\_\_\_\_ females \_\_\_\_\_

***Part II.***

- 7. Where did you live before 1991?
  - 1. Rural area in the Wereda
  - 2. Urban area outside the Wereda
  - 3. Rural area outside the Wereda

8. What was /were/ the main reason/s/ for you to come to this town?
1. To seek employment
  2. To seek modern social services
  3. Job transfer
  4. Followed relative, parents or friends
  5. To get freedom from harmful traditional taboos and practices.
  6. To get rid of agricultural constraints in rural areas viz, drought, famine, low out put of agriculture.
  7. Specify (other)\_\_\_\_\_
9. What was your main source of income before you came to live in this town?
1. Agriculture
  2. Non-agricultural activities/self run
  3. Salary from government
  4. Salary from private sector
  5. Pension
  6. Rental income
  7. Other (specify)
10. When you first moved here, did you bring any resources
1. Yes
  2. No
11. If yes what resources did you bring
1. Cash
  2. Live stock
  3. Household goods
  4. Farm tools
  5. Other (specify)\_\_\_\_\_
12. Who made the decision for you to leave the last place of residence?
1. Self
  2. Family
  3. Parents
  4. Relatives
  5. Friends
  6. Other Specify \_\_\_\_\_
13. What were those main difficulties that you faced initially?
1. Economic difficulties
  2. Lack of housing
  3. Could not find appropriate job
  4. Uncomfortable climate.
  5. Other (specify)\_\_\_\_\_
14. Were your expectations satisfied? (Refer to Q 8.)
1. Yes
  2. No

15. If no, do you intend to leave this town?
1. Yes, temporarily
  2. Yes, permanently
  3. No
  4. Don't know
16. If yes permanently, please indicate your next destination?
1. Urban place of origin
  2. Rural place of origin
  3. To live in some other urban areas
  4. To live in some other rural areas
  5. Don't know
17. If yes temporarily, please indicate your next move.
1. Urban place of origin
  2. Rural place of origin
  3. To some other rural areas
  4. To some other urban areas
18. Do you own your household any type of business or agricultural enterprise?
1. Yes
  2. No
19. Currently, what is your major source of income? (You can circle more than One answer)
1. Self employed (indicate the sector)
  2. Un skilled labour
  3. Salary earner (indicate the sector)
  4. Other (specify)
20. What are the main problems you are facing currently?
1. Housing
  2. Employment
  3. Inadequate supply of consumer goods
  4. Lack of social services and amenities
  5. Other (specify)

**Thank you!**

## Appendix 4

### Addis Ababa University School of Graduate Studies Department of RLDS

#### C. Questionnaire for out-migrants origin of Hintalo -Wejerat in Addis Ababa

1. Place of Birth\_\_\_\_\_
2. Age\_\_\_\_\_
3. Sex\_\_\_\_\_
4. Educational Level of Respondent\_\_\_\_\_
5. Marital Status\_\_\_\_\_
6. Total number of household including head\_\_\_\_\_  
Male\_\_\_\_\_ Female\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Are there members of your family who are left at your place of origin?
8. If yes, what is the main reason?
9. Have you ever experienced migration before this movement?
10. If yes, how many times?
11. Do you have land at your place of origin?
12. How many oxen do you have at your place of origin ?
13. Why did you decide to leave your birth place?
14. Who accompanied you to?
15. How did you come to know about your current destination?
16. Is migration as an alternative solution of solving economic problem?
17. Did you find current conditions up to your expectation?
18. If no, what is your recommendation?
19. Currently what is your source of income?
20. Your daily income maximum Birr\_\_\_\_\_ and minimum\_\_\_\_\_
21. Which one is better in availability of water and house at your place of origin or the place of destination?
22. What are the main difficulties you are currently facing?
23. What is your future plan?
  1. To settle at the place of destination.
  2. To move to another town /city or rural.
  3. To return back to birthplace.
  4. Other specifies.

**Thank you!**

**Appendix 5**  
**Addis Ababa University School of**  
**Graduate Studies Department of RLDS**

**D. Questionnaire for Community Leaders**

1. Name of peasant association (PA)\_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of households in the Tabia (PA)\_\_\_\_\_
3. Population distribution \_\_\_\_\_
  1. Dense
  2. Scattered
  3. Uneven
4. Any migrant from the PA?
  1. Yes
  2. No
5. If yes, type of migration
  1. Temporary migration
  2. Long-term-migration
  3. Both
6. Indicate the season/s/
  1. Summer
  2. Winter
  3. Autumn
  4. Spring
  5. In all seasons
7. Flow of migration
  1. Rural-Urban
  2. Rural-Rural
  3. Both
  4. Other specify-----
8. Is there any impact of return migrants and/ or migrants to the PA?
9. What is the reason for those migrants to leave this community?
  1. Lack of land
  2. Lack of agricultural work
  3. For additional income
  4. Poor weather/climate here
  5. Villagization
  6. Lack of school and health care facilities here
  7. Marriage arrangement
  8. Marriage desolation
  9. Other specify

10. How far do people travel to obtain drinking water?
11. What type of source of water you use for drinking in the PA?
12. How far do people travel to obtain market?
13. Please list the main crop products in this PA?

**Staple crops**

**Cash crops**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. What are the main types of animal husbandry in this PA?

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Poultry    | 2. Dairy farm |
| 3. Beekeeping | 4. Fattening  |

15. What are the main non-agricultural activities in this PA?

(Be specific).

16. What positive changes have achieved this PA since 1991 in Agriculture?

1. Increased use of new inputs (fertilizers)
2. Increased use of improved new seeds.
3. Increased in farm area under irrigation
4. Improvement of animal husbandry
5. Increased use of new domestic animals
6. Crop diversification
7. Crop intensification
8. Other positive specify\_\_\_\_\_

17. Has the standard living of the community changed since 1991?

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Great improvement | 2. Improvement             |
| 3. Declined          | 4. The same as before 1991 |

18. What negative changes have occurred in this peasant association (PA) since 1991? Please, rank in order of significance.

1. Shrinking in common grazing land
2. Land fragmentation
3. Food shortage
4. Increase out migration
5. Decrease in area cultivated
6. Rising prices for inputs fertilizer, improved seed
7. Other negative agricultural changes (Specify). \_\_\_\_\_

19. What changes have occurred in the ecology of this PA since 1991?

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Frequent drought             | 2. Reforestation             |
| 3. Deforestation                | 4. Soil depilation / Erosion |
| 5. More floods                  | 6. Wind damage               |
| 7. Changing pattern of rainfall | 8. Other (Specify)           |

**Thank you!**

### ***I. Guide Lines for Interview of Wereda Council***

1. Hintal Wejerat is central for transportation and close to Mekelle Town; do you consider migration as an issue of the wereda?
2. Were there any discussions about migration in and out of the wereda?
3. What are the main non-agricultural activities in this wereda?
4. What is your opinion, about people who migrate out from this wereda?
5. Do you have information about migrants after they leave this wereda?
6. In your opinion what is the direction and level of socio-economic interaction between the rural and urban communities in your wereda.

### ***II. Guidelines for Interview of Wereda Health Office***

1. Please indicate diseases that are prevalent in Hintalo Wejerat Wereda by identifying in towns and rural areas?
2. Has there been improvements in awareness of the community and participation in vaccination, prevention of diseases, and personal as well as environmental hygiene?
3. What are the main harmful traditional practices in the wereda?
4. Contribution of members of your communities in construction of health centers.
5. What is your view about the resource capacity of the health institution? Professional to population see the health institutions in having resources?
6. The coverage of health in the wereda by percentage, and ratio.

### ***III. Guidelines for Interview of the Wereda Education Office***

1. The extent of education coverage in the wereda is \_\_\_\_\_%.
2. Is there any influence in the teaching learning process consequent to migration?
3. Please, explain the level (extent) the communities' contribution in construction of schools?
4. In your opinion, to what extent can the educators influence their communities in derive to eradicate harmful traditional practices in the wereda?

#### ***IV. Guidelines Interview of Wereda Agricultural Office***

1. Please describe the topological characteristics of the wereda.
2. What are the main types of agricultural activities in the wereda?
  - Animal
  - Crop type
  - Forest
  - Irrigation scheme
3. Is there complimentary between indigenous agricultural practices and scientific methods of natural resource management?
4. What are the main problems /obstacles in introducing new agricultural extension programmes?

*N.B. Interviewer will collect written or primary and secondary data available at each center.*

**Thank you!**

**THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF  
MIGRATION IN TIGRAY REGION: -  
THE CASE OF HI NTALO - WEJERAT WEREDA**

**ATHESIS SUBMITTED TO THE  
SCHOOL OF GRADUATES  
ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN REGIONAL  
AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

**BY  
MOHAMMED ABDU**

**JANUARY 2006  
ADDIS ABABA**

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY  
SCOO OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

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THE CASE OF HINTALO-WEJERAT WEREDA**

**By:  
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**Regional and Local Development Studies  
Approved by Board of Examiners**

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4. _____ <b>External examiner</b>	_____

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## **Acronyms**

ANROW-----Agricultural and Natural Resource Office of Wereda.

BESO-----Basic Education Strategy Objective.

HHs----- Households

IFAD----- International Fund for Agricultural Development.

m.a.s.l ---- metere above sea level

PAs-----Peasant-Associations.

REST ----- Relief Society of Tigray.

SAERT ---- Sustainable Agricultural and Environmental Rehabilitation in  
Tigray.

## **OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS**

**Migrant---** a migrant is one whose place of residence at the time of enumeration differs from his /her place of birth or origin.

**Non-migrant**\_\_\_\_\_ a person who was born in a given town or rural and has been continuously residing there is considered as non –migrant.

**Return-migrant** \_\_\_\_a person who was born in a town or rural part of a different wereda or town and has returned to the rural or town part of enumeration is considered as return migrant.

**Temporary/Seasonal migrant** \_\_\_\_a person once or repeatedly migrate for a time being due to such conditions while still he/she is found out side of his/her place of origin during the study is considered as a seasonal or temporary migrant.

**Differential migration** \_\_\_\_\_migration selectivity or the tendency for some parts of the population to be more migratory than the other parts.

**In- migrant**\_\_\_\_\_ an in –migrant is a person who moves in to another area or wereda which is different from his/her place of birth within a country. The individual is in-migrant in reference to his/her place of destination.

**Out- migrant** \_\_\_\_\_an out-migrant is a person who leaves her/his region or wereda of birth to reside permanently or temporarily in the city of Addis Ababa

**Tabia** ----- is the lowest administration of the state similar to peasant association in rural while kebele is to town.

## **ABSTRACT**

This thesis is concerned with the causes and consequences of migration in Hintalo-Mejerat Wereda. The main objective of the study is to survey, assess and identify the main causes and consequences of migration in the wereda.

Sources of data were non-migrants, in-migrants and out-migrants as well as community leaders of the wereda. Simple random sampling and purposive sampling techniques were used for non-migrants and in and out-migrants respectively.

The majority of the in and out-migrants were concentrated in the young age groups. Family dissolution is higher among in-migrants and out-migrants than non-migrants. In relation to the in-migrants, one-third of them have succeeded in improving their living conditions.

With regard to non-migrants, almost fifty percent of them reported that food stocks are not sufficient to last until the next harvest.

As far as the out-migrants are concerned, more than fifty percent of the out-migrants have experienced migration before the current movement. Young male out-migrants are engaged in selling brooms and household plastic utensils while older one's in common with the majority of the women have indulged in begging as a major source of income.

The majority of the out migrants want to return to their original place as a result of the difficulties of access to water and unavailability of decent food in the city.

Moreover, migration has an impact in increasing school dropout rates in some school of the wereda and HIV/AIDS prevalence even in the rural areas. Most of the in and out-migrant respondents believe migration as a solution for their economic problems.

The causes for migration are many and vary from individual to individual in the study area. The main impetus was found to be insecurity resulting from the vagaries of erratic rain-fed agriculture. Beside this, landlessness and absence of oxen aggravate the economic problems of the people. Population pressure is also another cause of rural poverty leading to migration. Agricultural products cannot sustain the people of the study area. Migrant children have been found to lose the positive traditional norms and values of effort and hard work but adopt the habit of pauperism. Therefore other non-agricultural alternatives or resettlement program should be arranged to alleviate the problem.