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## **COLLEGE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

### **Center for Regional and Local Development Studies (RLDS)**

Expectations and Challenges of Ethiopian Migrants: The Case of  
Selected Returnees in Addis Ababa

By

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A Thesis submitted to the Center for Regional and Local Development Studies,  
College of Development Studies, Addis Ababa University in Partial Fulfillment of  
the Requirements for Degree of Master of Arts in Regional and Local Development  
Studies

Advisor: Teshome Tafesse (Ph.D.)

June, 2021

Addis Ababa

## **Declaration**

I, Yohannes Shode Didawa, registration (ID) No. DSE/2760/11, do hereby declare that this Thesis of Title: The Expectations and Challenges of Migration in Ethiopia: The case of selected returnees in Addis Ababa has not been submitted partially or in full, by any other person for an award of Master's Degree, Diploma, and Certificate in any other University or College. This thesis has been submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts (MA) in Regional and Local Development Study in Addis Ababa University College of Development studies.

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## **Abstract**

*The study aimed to explore the major challenges and expectations of return migrants in Ethiopia with emphasis on returnees in the case of Addis Ababa City Administration. Period wise, the scope of the study covers four years (2017 – 2020). The study also assessed the causes of migration and the reasons why migrants returned back to their home country. As an approach, the study used a mixed methods approach. A survey questionnaire was distributed to a total of 372 respondents and all of them were returned. For the qualitative data, an in depth interview with returnee migrants and key informants interview with selected officials in relevant public institutions and international organization working on migration was used. The study covered all the ten sub-cities of the Addis Ababa City Administration. Experts at Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs (BoLSA), Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and Ethiopia Diaspora Agency participated as samples in the qualitative data collection. Furthermore, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) also participated in the interview sessions. A total of 12 persons participated in the qualitative aspect of the data collection.*

*Results and findings indicate that the major causes of migration in the City is lack of job opportunity due to high rate of unemployment, lack of food security which relates to extreme poverty and housing problem in Addis Ababa City Administration. Returnee migrants have been facing the same challenges they were facing prior to their migration and they stated that there is no more improvement from the time they left their home country in search of better life and opportunities for themselves and their family back home. The housing, food and lack of job opportunity, and transportation problem in the city are also the major findings of the research. The study found out that political unrest in the host country, lack of job opportunity and under payment or low salary, unfavorable environment or hot climate in the host country, and the COVID -19 pandemic are the main reasons why migrants returned back to their home county. It is recommended that The City Administration officials and other stakeholders should pay attention to the issue and address causes of migration by creating more opportunities and a fair, accessible system. Returnee migrants continue to experience challenges of unemployment and poverty. To tackle these problems, the City Administration should facilitate and support the reintegration program in coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders and the community.*

*Key words: Reasons Migration, Returnee migrants, Challenges, Expectations*

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## **Acronyms**

AGS -	Arab Gulf States
ARRA -	Agency for Refugee and Returnee Affairs
AU –	Africa Union
BC -	Before Christ
BCE -	Before Common Era
BoLSA –	Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs
CSA –	Central Statistics Agency
DIIS -	Danish Institute for International Studies
EPRDF -	Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front
GMDAC –	Global Migration Data Analysis Center
IDP -	Internally Displaced Persons
ILO –	International Labor Organization
IOM –	International Organizational for Migration
KSA –	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
MGSOG -	Maastricht Graduate School of Governance
MoFA –	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoLSA -	Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
SPSS –	Statistical Package for Social science

SD – Standard Deviation

UAE – United Arab Emirates

UN – United Nations

UNCTAD– United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNDESA – United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

# Chapter One

## Introduction

### 1.1 Back ground of the Study

Migration, as one of the top global issues, is dynamic and complex by nature. According to Maloney and Korinek (2010) international migration has been attracting attention from governmental and non- governmental actors and scholars throughout the world. It also has become a sensitive internal political matters for many countries across the globe((Korinek, 2010). Ullah and Haque (2020) stated that the pattern of human mobility has largely been disrupted by colonialism, which brought economic exploitation, political hegemonies, and cultural change. They argue that the driving forces of the movement of humans from place to place or migration are looking for better job or resources, running away from war or politics, religious and ideological persecutions(Ullah and Haque, 2020)(Ullah & Haque, 2020)(Ullah & Haque, 2020). In the history of migration, according to Fisher (2014), European colonialism is one of the destructive causes of migration and it was the brutal exportation of approximately twelve million Africans as slaves across the Atlantic. Furthermore, after both World wars, around 170 million men and women from most of the world’s countries and colonies left their homes by force; and six million African Americans migrated from the South to northern industrializing cities((Fisher, 2014).

According to Jan, Leo and Patrick (2010) at the beginning of the 1990s, 25 million Russians left the Soviet Union and of a massive stream of labor migrants from other Eastern European countries after the fall of the Iron Curtain<sup>1</sup>(Jan, Leo, 2010). Moreover, according to World Migration report, migration touches all States and people in an era of deepening globalization and it is intertwined with geopolitics, trade and cultural exchange, and provides opportunities for states, businesses and communities to benefit enormously(International Organisation for Migration, 2018). The projection of on migration indicates that international migration is rapidly increasing the number of migrants due to global shocks. According to World Migration report, the 2003 projection for 2050,

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<sup>1</sup>From 1946-1989, the Iron Curtain was the name of the border between Western Europe and the communist countries of Eastern Europe. The Iron Curtain made it very difficult to travel into or out of Eastern Europe source: Cambridge English Dictionary.

international migrants would account for 2.6 per cent of the global population or 230 million and in contrast, the same report showed that in 2010, a revised projection for 2050 was 405 million international migrants globally (International Organisation for Migration, 2018). According to UN-Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA, 2019) the total numbers of international migrants in 2019 are 271.6 Million or 3.5% of the total population of the world. Moreover, the report showed that the share of female migrants in the international migrants stock is 130.1 million or 47.9% and the rest 141.4 million or 52.1% are male migrants ((UN DESA, 2019). Based on the above data, the trend of international migration dynamism is increasing from day to day.

Migration in Africa is one of the core focal agenda. According to Africa Migration report (2020) Africa accounts for 14 per cent of the global migrant population, compared to 41 and 24 per cent from Asia and Europe, respectively. In addition, the report depicted that 41 million international migrants move to or from Africa. The same report showed that 17 million Emigrants" reside outside the continent, 19 million were found to be residing within the continent and the rest 5 million were immigrants from the rest of the world. The report adds the rationale behind increasing human mobility in the continent is population growth (IOM & AU, 2020). The other report, Economic Development in Africa (2018), stated that the population of Africa in 2017 was 1.2 billion and is forecast to rise to 2.5 billion by 2050. Moreover, the report critically argued that Africa has a relatively young population, and the age group of 15–24 years is projected from 231 million in 2015 to almost double in size to 461 million in 2050 and higher than the increase in both China and India(Belaid, Geneva & Slany, 2018). March *et al.*, (2016) stated that the factors of migration in the continent are violent conflicts and political shocks and persecution are main migration drivers. Moreover, Environmental factors and poverty also increasing as pushing factor people to leave their place of origin (March *et al.*, 2016).

Ethiopian migration has the same trends and experiences to global and other continents. According to Danish Institute for International studies report (DIIS 2020), Ethiopia is a large source of migration flows to all parts of the world particularly Middle East or Arab Gulf States and other African countries. The report adds more than 1.5 million Ethiopian migrants live abroad ((Fejerskov & Zeleke, 2020).

The Ethiopia migration profile (2017) showed that Ethiopian migrants influenced economic migrants rather forced migrants. The main drivers of migration in Ethiopia are economic factors (basic needs, inflation or high taxation, unemployment or lack of job opportunities), population density, political insecurity, internal conflicts or ethnic tension, and environmental factors including droughts and famine(Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, 2017).

The country is the second most populous nation on the continent. According to Meaza, Geremew, & Laiboni (2019) the number of population in the country is estimated at 120million, and 39% of the total population is below the age of 35. As per reports in mid-2019, there were approximately 11 million youth job-seekers, and every year two million more youth join the labor force. The same authors indicated the reason is school enrolment rates increase and the demand for jobs will continue to rise in the coming years but the government can only create one million jobs per year. Additionally, the country's economy is therefore not generating enough and adequate jobs to address increasing demand of unemployment, which means the country has high unemployment rates (Meaza,*et.al*, 2019). Therefore, Ethiopian youth continue to migrate abroad looking for job opportunity.

According to Fee, Hosoda, & Ishii (2019) the destination of most Ethiopian migrants is Middle East Countries or the Arab Gulf States (AGS) and neighboring countries (Sudan, Djibouti, Kenya and Somalia) through different routes, regularly and irregularly. The AGS comprise Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). They have common characteristics like all are oil-rich countries, they are ethnically Arab, with monarchical political regimes, are located on the Arabian Peninsula, and similar policies in relation to accepting migrant workers (Fee & Hosoda, 2019).

The returnee migrants have no enough facility or reintegration program both in Government and non-Governmental actors in the home country. According to Ethiopia Migration profile, Ethiopian returnees face many challenges and also the local government and society face great difficulty in assisting the large number of returnees to Ethiopia, especially with matters such as finances, housing, employment and health (MGSOG, 2017).

Therefore, it is important that there is more research and evidence looking into migration and migrant experience and returnee situation from the Middle Eastern countries. So, this research aims at exploring and documenting the trends of migration particularly the selected returnee migrants with focus on assessing challenges encountered and the pushing factors in the host country to return back to their home country.

The study more specifically focuses on identifying the major/core challenges and expectations of migrants and the intentions of returnee migrants.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The dynamism of human migration is inevitable phenomena at the global, regional and country level. The factors that contribute to migration are different from region to region and country-to-country. Kallio (2016) summarizes the main drivers of human migration in five as political, economic, social, environmental and demographic drivers. Others argue that poverty is one of the biggest challenges and driving force of human migration both in rural and urban areas in countries including Ethiopia; where people are faced with hardships in multiple ways and pushed to consider many options of surviving, including migration (Flahaux & Haas, 2016). While still others, like Hear, Bakewell & Long (2012), frame their understanding of the migration dynamics in terms of push-and-pull factors where low incomes in home countries push migrants and better prospects in more wealthy areas act as pull factors. But, the phenomena of migration are complex and evolving, therefore begs for an ongoing effort at understanding than mere articulation in terms unfavorable condition in home countries against attractive environment in the host countries. We know well that situations in host countries are just as mired by complex challenges including political instability and discrimination against migrants. Thus, it is important to underline that migrants also encounter challenges and their attempt into settlement into their host country or „new home“ is never an easy process. These challenges in host countries result in a reverse process and a tide of return migration is an integral part of the migration dynamics. Moreover, it is true that migrants, after they return to their home country, either forcefully or voluntarily, faced array of challenges and problems.

Return migrants face difficulties in the form of lack of economic support, infrastructure, and social services like quality school, and health center(Appleby, *et.al.* ,2018). In addition, high expectations of family members and community are major problems that returnees face(Temesgen, 2014).

There are studies that looked into challenges of reintegration of returnee migrants. Hilawit (2017) conducted a study entitled “Reintegration of Ethiopian Migrant Returnees: The case of forced migrant returnees from Saudi Arabia”. Another researcher, Dawit(2015), conducted research on “Business engagement of return migrants from the Republic of South Africa: Challenges, opportunities and prospects: The case of Hosanna Town”. Still another researcher, Dessalegn (2017), conducted research on “Challenges of social reintegration of the 2013 Saudi Arabian returnees in Ethiopia”. However, none of these studies explored the expectations of returnee migrants. They also failed to enquire the reasons why migrants returned back to their home country. Moreover, they failed to document the main challenges of returnee migrants in light of their expectations and therefore it is not easy to get a comprehensive picture of the story of return migrants.

Based on the above background and limitations in past works, this research, using both qualitative and quantitative methods, exploring causes of migration, expectation of migrants and the challenges they encounter as they live as returnee migrants in Addis Ababa City Administration.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The major objective of this study is to explore the major expectations and challenges of return migrants in Ethiopia with the city of Addis Ababa City Administration as a case.

### **1.4 Specific Objectives**

1. To assess the root causes of migration of Ethiopians to abroad.
2. To assess major Expectations of returnee migrants in Addis Ababa.
3. To explore challenges of returnee migrants.
4. To identify reasons for return of migrants to their home country.

## **1.5 Research Questions**

1. What are the root causes of migration of Ethiopians abroad?
2. What is returnee migrants expected from society or government?
3. What are major challenges of returnee migrants in the study area?
4. Why do migrants returned back to their home country?

## **1.6 Significance of the Study**

This study examined the challenges of both voluntarily and forced return migrants and what the government and other stakeholders „response to help with the problems. The findings and recommendation of this study contributes new insights and directions to governmental institutions and non-governmental organization to pay attention to the matter and to solve the challenges of return migrants in Addis Ababa. Additionally, it provides impetus for researchers interested in the area migration and migrant returnees.

## **1.7 Scope of the Study**

There are many return migrants in the country especially in Addis Ababa who were returned either voluntarily or forced. Therefore, the researcher will focus on returnees in Addis Ababa and those who returned into their home country in the past four years (2017 to 2020). Thematically, the study covers major challenges and expectations of returnees, the root cause of migration, and their expectations from community and government.

## **1.8. Limitations of the study**

The study was conducted under restrictions of CoViD-19 pandemic. Therefore, arranging for survey and interview was a challenge. The researcher observed all protocols and overcome the challenge by repeated attempts and explanations to meet with study participants. The student researcher also has faced time and budget constraints as the study was rather ambitious at aiming to cover return migrants in all the ten sub-cities the Addis Ababa City Administration. The budget constraint was even more pronounced as the student researcher is a self-sponsored student. First and foremost, it was not easy to get addresses of the return migrants. The researcher hired

coordinators from each sub-city offices to help him locate, coordinate and collected data from the return migrants. Furthermore, given the sensitive and personal nature of their stories, some of the returnee migrants were not willing to consent to participate in the study. Some joined after the student researcher ensured them that their personal and all identifying information will be kept confidential, while others maintained their decision not to participate. All those who participated did so up on their consent and information on those who declined was not included.

## **1.9. Organization of the Study**

The study is organized in to five chapters. Chapter one introduces the study including background, problem statement, general and specific objectives and relevant research questions. Chapter two deals with the conceptual framework of the study and the literature review. Chapter three presents the research design adopted. Chapter four focuses on the analysis of the data from various sources and findings. Finally, the fifth chapter presents summary, conclusions of findings and policy recommendations.

## Chapter Two

### Review of Related Literature

#### 2.1 Empirical Literature – Migration and Return Migration

Africa is the origin of humankind and is of migration in the world. According to Koser (2007), the history of the origin of human migration begins in Africa Rift Valley before 1.5 million and 5000BC. The same author adds these were followed with migration in mass at times of the Greek colonization, Roman expansion and the peoples' movements in Europe. Moreover, the same author stated that forced transportation of slaves in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries from Africa to other countries across the Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean and Mediterranean Sea are some of the biggest waves of mankind migration (Koser, 2007).

According to Fisher (2014), migration started from Homo sapiens about 200,000 BCE until today and the reason behind is social and Environmental degradation. He adds migration is has been an integral part of human history throughout the years in Africa, Eurasia, and America in early time (Fisher, 2014). The global overview of migration trend has shown that it is increasing throughout the years. According to world migration report (IOM, 2020) migration is changing the world's present and the future and the report identifies economic and social factors as key drivers (Foad, Katz & Migration, 2015).

Moreover, the history of African migration is related to slave trade and colonization. According to Bilger & Kraler, (2005) the great migration of African started or is marked by the trans-Atlantic slave trade. They added the main factors for contemporary migration in Africa are Africa's dependence on the colonial economy and other social and human security factors (Bilger & Kraler, 2005). Beauchemin (2018) stated that since 2000 around 3 million of sub-Saharan Africa migrants are living in European countries.

The other reasons of African Migration are political unrest and self-determination. According to Moyo (2017), liberation struggle and after independence conflicts contributed to forced migration in the region (Moyo, 2017). Due to these reasons, many Africans leave their countries and cross

the border of other countries. Some scholars (Marchand *et al.*, 2016) agreed that the main challenges for the region are poor economic development and political conflicts like violent, political unrest and persecutions (Marchand *et al.*, 2016). Therefore, there seems to be consensus among the authors that a combination of social, economic, political, security related and environmental factors contribute to the exodus of African migration.

### **2.1.1 Conceptualizing of Migration and Return Migration**

According to International Organization for Migration (IOM), migration is the movement of people from origin of country to other countries across international border or within country (IOM, 2019). Migration is defined as leaving one's home country and living abroad either legally or illegally (Endale, 2019).

Regarding return migration the word return is defined as "the act or process of going back or being taken back to the point of departure". This could be within the territorial boundaries of a country, as in the case of returning internally displaced persons (IDPs) and demobilized combatants or between a country of destination or transit and a country of origin, as in the case of migrant workers, refugees or asylum seekers (IOM, 2019)."In addition, Segal (2016) views return migration as "the movement of persons returning to their country of origin after having moved away from their place of habitual residence and crossed an international border." Finally, Endale (2019,) argued that there is no common consensus for return migration definition. However, return migration as a generic term refers to people who stayed abroad for some period of time and returned back to their land of origin are considered as returnee migrants.

### **2.1.2 Types of Migration**

According to Endale (2019) and Thet(2014), migration is divided in to two categories as internal and international. The internal migration is the mobility or movements of people within country from region to region or state-to-state or rural to urban due to internal political conflict, environmental degradation, or other reasons. Whereas international migration is defined as citizens leaving their home country due to push and pull factors and living in another sovereign country temporarily or permanently (Thet, 2014).

### **2.1.3 Types of International Migration**

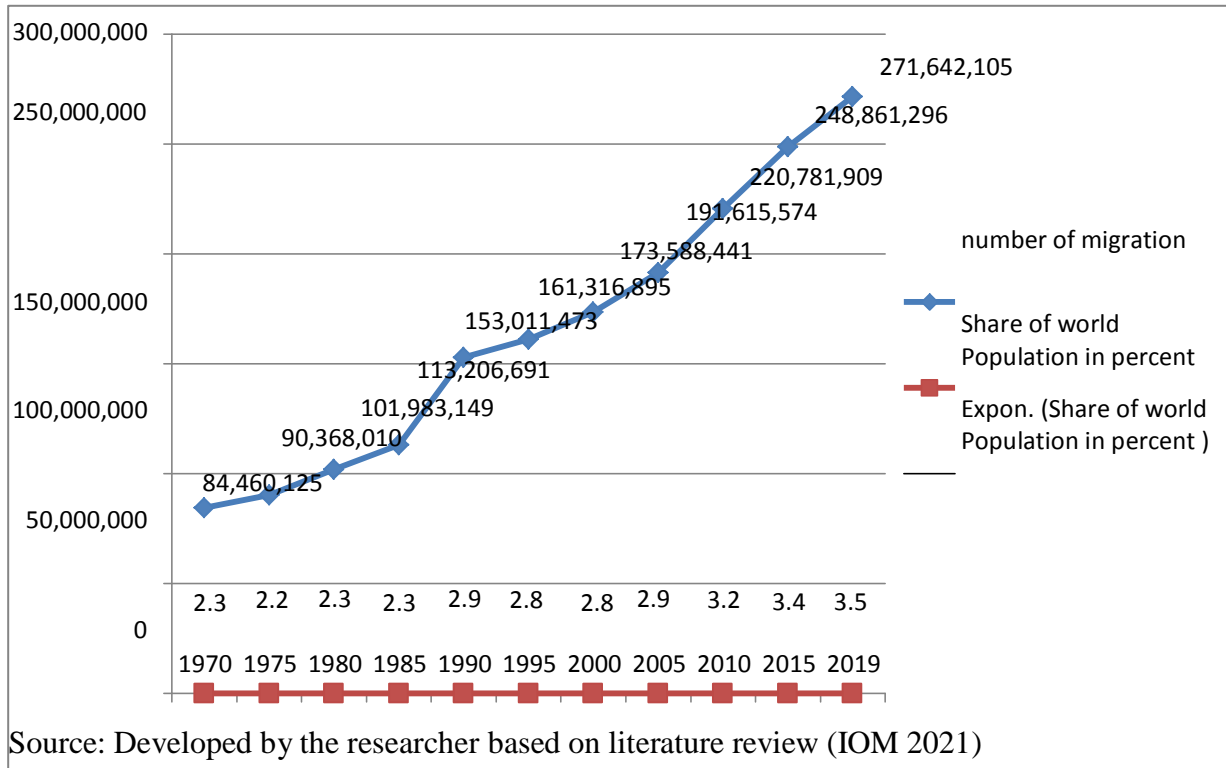
According to Wickramasinghe, (2016) international migration is divided in two different types depending on the cause and/or motive of movement. The first type is labor migration, and it refers to the movements of people across sovereign country borders. Included in this group are skilled, non-skilled and semi-skilled migrants who are looking for job opportunity. In the second category are asylum migration and it refers to migrants' visits to other countries for asylum seeking or for refugee status claim abroad. In the third category or type we find what Wickremasinghe calls chain migration. This occurs when people move from a country to another country for family reunification or formation. And, in the fourth type we find return migration and it refers to migrants who returned back to their home country after living in other countries at least for one year as international migrants. The author adds forced migration and it includes refugees and asylum seekers who cross the border of other countries due to displacement on account of political crises and environmental degradation in home country.

### **2.1.4 Trends of Migration**

#### **2.1.4.1 World Migration Trend**

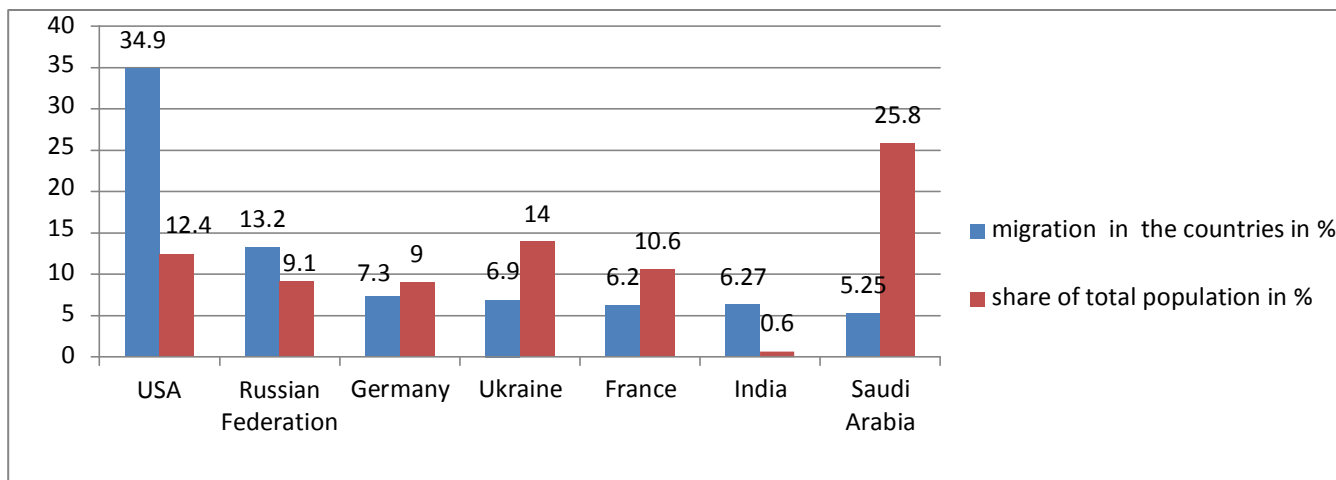
The projection of international migration is rapidly increasing due to global shocks. According to World Migration report (IOM, 2018), the 2003 projection was that by 2050 international migrants would account for 2.6 per cent of the global population or 230 million and in contrast, in 2010, a revised projection for 2050 was 405 million international migrants globally (IOM, 2018). According to UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2019), the total number of international migration in 2019 was 271.6 Million. It is 3.5% of the world total population. Thus, the trend of international migration shows that the migration dynamism is increasing day to day (UN, 2019).

Figure 1- world migration trend 1970 -2019



Therefore, the top migration destination countries and the share of their total population are United States of America 34.9 or 12.4 % of total population, Russian Federation 13.2 or 9.1% of total population, Germany 7.3 or 9% of total population, Ukraine 6.9 or 14% of total population, France 6.2 or 10.6% of total population, India 6.27 or 0.6% of total population and finally Saudi Arabia 5.25 or 25.8% of total population (Ullah & Haque, 2020).

Figure 2 - The 7 Top countries of world migration

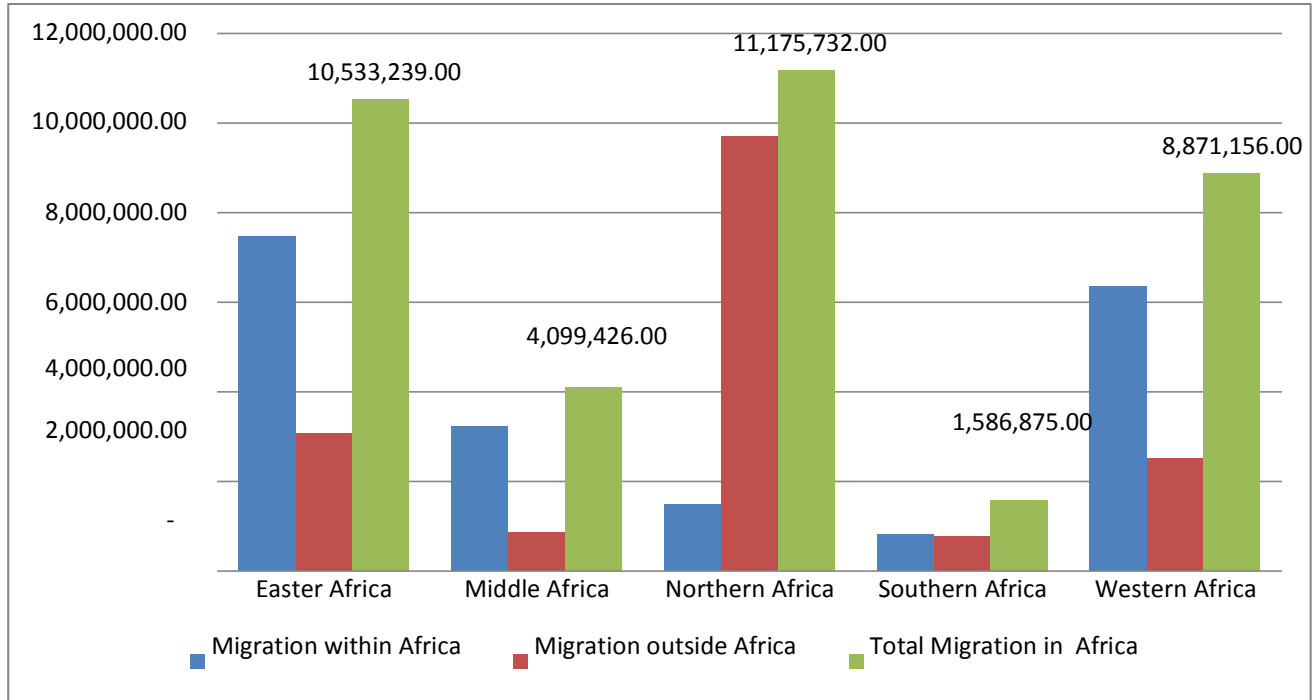


Source: Developed by the researcher based on literature review (Ullah and Haque, 2021)

### 2.1.4.2 Africa Migration Trend

International migration in Africa is also rising throughout the years. According to Economic development in Africa report- migration for structural transformation (2018) showed that the number of international migrants increased from 15 to 25 million in 2000 – 2017(Litchfield, 2018). The Economic development in Africa report (2018) adds the migration flow in Africa is increasing year by year within or outside the continent (Belaid, Geneva & Slany, 2018).

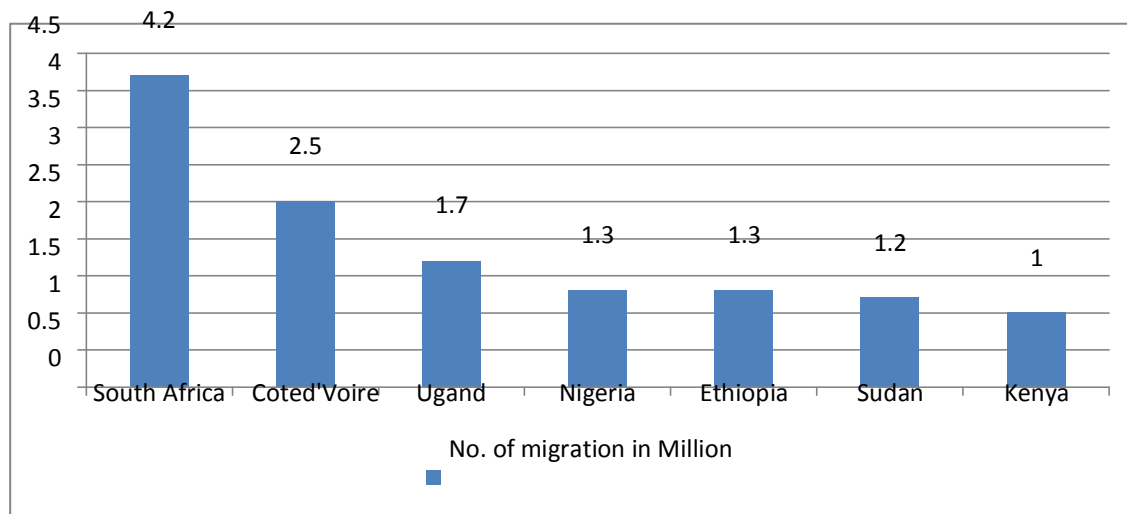
Figure 3 - Migration Trend in Africa



Source: Developed by the researcher based on data in the literature (2021)

On the other hand, Africa has also hosted international migrants. According to Africa migration report (2020), Africa has hosted 7.3 million asylum seekers and refugees and that accounts for 25% of global refugee population. In addition the report mentioned that the top seven African countries that hosted international migrants are South Africa, Coted'ivoire, Uganda, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya (IOM & AU, 2020).

**Figure 4 - The Top7 Africa countries hosting migration**



Source: Developed by the researcher based on literature review (2021)

### **2.1.4.3 Ethiopia Migration Trend**

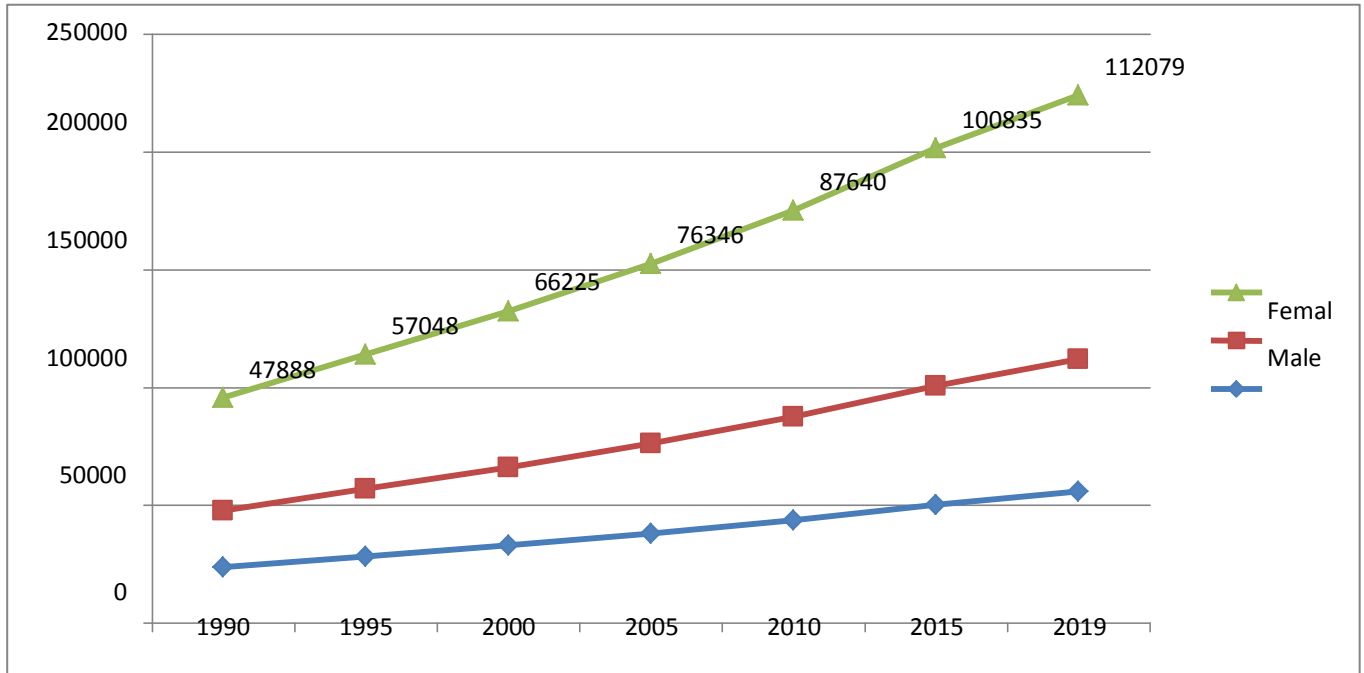
Migration began in Ethiopia since 1930 during the Italian aggression against Ethiopia. Watkins, Valley and Alley, (1990) stated that from a time of Emperor Haileselassie, Ethiopians migrated to Europe. Van der Wolf, (2020) also argued that Italian invasion of Ethiopia in 1935 for Emperor Haileselassie to migrate to Britain and stay there from 1936 to 1940 with his family and then, after defeat of the Italian troops, returned back to his home country (Wolf, 2020).

After return of Emperor Haileselassie, migration continued. According to International organization for migration report (2017) migration movement from Ethiopia to other countries including to Europe comes in different categories i.e. regular, irregular and forced. The report adds the destination was Sudan, South Africa, and Middle Eastern countries. Moreover, the same report stated that Ethiopian migrants often shift from refugee to labor migration (IOM, 2017). The same report showed that migration experience and history in Ethiopia could categorize by the following four main phases. The first phase is when Emperor Haileselassie regime was in power, before 1974 and this time the powerful group or elite in society leaving their country of origin for educational purpose. The second phase is the Dreg regime (1974 – 1982) and during this time people migrate to the new world because of the internal political unrest and internal conflicts between people and

Derg government in the country. In addition war in the horn of Africa like Ethiopia and Somalia, Eritrean's self-determination movements have contributed to influx of migration. The third phase is when network of migration of Haileselassie regime, which means based on social network the pre-migrant's family members in Ethiopia opted to migrate to neighboring countries and Europe and United States of America to join their family. In this phase, from 1984 and 1985, Ethiopia was facing the challenges of environmental degradation, which means drought or famine in some parts of the country is one of the driving forces people leaving the country. The fourth phase of migration in Ethiopia is the fall of the Derg regime and coming to power by the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) in 1991. In this phase conflicts between political parties caused migration and also the Ethio –Eritrea war between 1998 and 2000 was the other driving forces of Ethiopians migration abroad(IOM, 2017).

Based on the above trends, the country is one of the sources of migrants and also has hosted refugee migrants and asylum seekers from neighboring countries (Ogahara &Kuschminder, 2020). Furthermore, UNDESA (2019) argued that the trends of international Ethiopian migrants flow are less in number when we compare it to the other African countries but the trend of Ethiopian migration is continuously increasing (UN DESA, 2019). Additionally, the reason for increasing migration from Ethiopia is political, economic and environmental degradations (Dessalegn, Nicol and Debevec, 2019).

Figure 5 – Ethiopia migration flow in thousands



Source: Developed by the researcher based on literature review (2021)

## 2.1.5 Factors of Migration

Any country citizens are satisfied or fulfilled their needs and wants such as their own standard of living in their home country don't want to migrate abroad. However, lack of living standard in the country they are encouraged to leaving their home country and living another country (Helms *et al.*, 2019). According to Segal (2017) the reason why people migrated are looking better life conditions abroad, to look for safe-haven from political conflict or persecution, to invest or looking opportunities of free trade (Segal, 2017). Various scholars (Castelli, 2018; Simpson, 2017, & European Asylum Support Office, 2015) categorized migration causes Political, economic, social, environmental and demographic factors (Simpson, 2017).

### 2.1.5.1 Political Factors

According to Dessalegn, Nicol, and Debevec (2020), political factors encouraging citizens to migrate abroad or internally based on internal political conflict and instability (Dessalegn, Nicol

and Debevec, 2019). For example during the Derg regime (1974 – 1982) many Ethiopians migrated to Europe, USA, Middle East and Africa due to political instability in the country. According to Helms, *et al.*, (2019) political situations in the origin of migrants “countries encourage or force individuals to decide to migrate abroad due to political challenges and influence in the country and people fear and get frustrated by political conditions. The same author argued that Political corruption influences the country’s economic power and leads to citizens living low standard of life and dissatisfied by political elites and the consequence is promoting migration (Helms *et al.*, 2019). Castelli (2018) views political conflicts in the countries as the main reason that is encouraging migration. He adds in both developed and developing countries internal political unrest and dictatorship governance promoted migration. For instance Syria, Afghanistan, Eretria, Somali are few examples of political crises migration (Castelli, 2018).

### **2.1.5.2 Economic Factors**

According to Helms (2019), & Castelli (2018) resource constraints and lack of fair resource distribution in the countries is affecting migration. The same authors pointed out that the variation of wages in the country of origin and destination, unfair distribution of education, poor performance of health and low performance of those institutions in the country encourages migration. Additionally, poverty is one of the key economic factors for migration (Helms *et al.*, 2019) & (Castelli, 2018). On the other hand Africa has tremendous resources but is the least poor region in the world (Castelli, 2018). Simpson, (2017) stated that the pulling factors of economic migrants are low income in origin country and high-income wage in the destination country. So, migrants have preferred to move to the country for better income and high standard of life.

Simpson, (2017) also pointed out that the other economic factors of migration are micro economic factors such as exchange rates, inflation and hard currency in the country is directly affecting the prices abroad because of purchasing power problem. A strong foreign currency (comparing with the currency of country of origin) is better income earned abroad to buy more and increasing the net benefit to migration. On the other hand a home currency will reduce the value of earnings abroad. So the currency exchange rates influence both wages and remittances and promote migrants to decide living abroad Simpson (2017).

According to European Asylum support office (2015) migrants pursued that the economic situation in the country of origin, and individual's poverty challenges and hardship life in the country are pushing factors of migrants. Moreover, the same report mentioned that job opportunity, better life style and quality education and health access as the pulling or driving factors that influenced migrants to decide to leave their home country (European Asylum Support Office, 2015).

### **2.1.5.3 Social Factors**

Social factors of migration are mainly the same character to other factors. Helms, (2019) and Castelli, (2018) stated that better education or scholarship abroad and safe medical treatment are the pulling factor of migration. Moreover, the author argued a social network, which is people who have previously migrated providing destination country information like job opportunity, social safety net, and others to family or co-ethnics is promoting individuals to decide to migrate.

According to European Asylum support office (2015) adds migration network links between friends, family and through return migrants or technology communication are forcing people to leave their home country. (Dawit, 2015) mentioned in his study that the family tie is one of the social factors and the migration trend to South Africa is a good example of social network factor (Dawit, 2015).

### **2.1.5.4 Environmental Factors**

Environmental degradation is one of the natural phenomena in the world. It caused as a factor for forced human mobility or movements from place to place. Castelli (2018) stated that environmental degradation is hazards of drought or famine, flooding, and damaging infrastructures and it leads to food scarcity and creates living challenges in the society. He added environmental factors are affected both developed and developing countries through climate change and carbon emission. The result is leaving home country and migrate to other place or abroad as (Castelli, 2018).

According to European Asylum support office (2015) climate change and environmental degradation contributes to migration. The report showed that many people are displaced from their home and migrated to other country or within country. The same report mentioned that Haitian<sup>2</sup> exodus in U.S.A because of droughts, and soil degradation and deforestation in Niger is one of good examples of environmental factors for people mobility (European Asylum Support Office, 2015)

### **2.1.5.5 Demographic Factors**

According to the World Bank, (2020), the number of world population in 2020 reached 7.8 billion and the growth rate is increasing by 1.05 per year. Moreover, by the projection of world population in 2050, the world population reaches 9.9 billion and migrants' share will be more than 25% of 2020. Simpson (2017) argued that based on the above population trend, demography has played vital role in migration and each migrant has the demographic characteristics like age gender and marital status. The European Asylum support office (2015) showed that demographic change is one of the major drivers of human migration. The report adds demographic pressure affected migration patterns such as economic growth and employment opportunity. Moreover the report confirmed that demographic pressure has significant impact on human mobility indicators like population growth, fertility rate and population density in the country. The report concluded that the demographic imbalance in the world played the significant role in the world migration and contributed to human mobility. Regarding African migration, the report showed that the population density and the share of youth population influenced migration indirectly associated with conflict, political unrest and poverty hardship in home country(European Asylum Support Office, 2015).

### **2.1.6 Return Migration**

According to Elijah (2013) return migrants refer to returning to their home country after having been as an international migrant in another country. According to Coniglio & Brzozowski (2018) return migrant is who are international migrants and at least stayed three months in the host country before returns back home country. The authors adds returnees are important sources and

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<sup>2</sup>a mass departure of people

provides different benefits like modernization, political (transfer of democratic values) economical (remittance, transfer of technology, savings), social (transfer of social norms, Networks of two countries, education, skills and professional experience (acquired abroad) to the country (Coniglio & Brzozowski, 2018).

According to Tsuda (2003);Gunde (2004), & Nina (1978) return migration trend is not new phenomena in the world, for example Japanese migrants from Brazil and the Jews return to Israel is some recent historic examples of trends of return migration (Gunde, 2004).

The Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA, 2019) report indicates that returnees return back to their countries for various reasons and these includes reasons such as improving their life condition, restoration of peace and order, challenges and problems in the host community, forced deportation by host governments, retirement or cultural reasons (MoFA, 2019).

### **2.1.6.1 Voluntarily Return Migrants**

Return migrants are divided in to voluntarily or forced. According to Endale, (2019) voluntarily returning migrants return back to their home country based on their own willingness having achieved their own mission abroad and to work and invest in their land of origin. Elijah (2013) & Hernández (2017) stated that voluntarily return migrants has two forms. The first types of migrants are those who failed to accomplish their goals abroad and did not accomplish the desired outcome and their ambition for different reasons(Elijah, 2013). Brzozowski (2018) views return migrants as those who failed to realize their ambition in the host countries and thus, have not achieved economically or socially in the host countries. The second type of migrants are those who have successfully accomplished their mission or achieved their goal abroad and returned back to their home country to work and invest in their country of origin (Coniglio and Brzozowski, 2018).

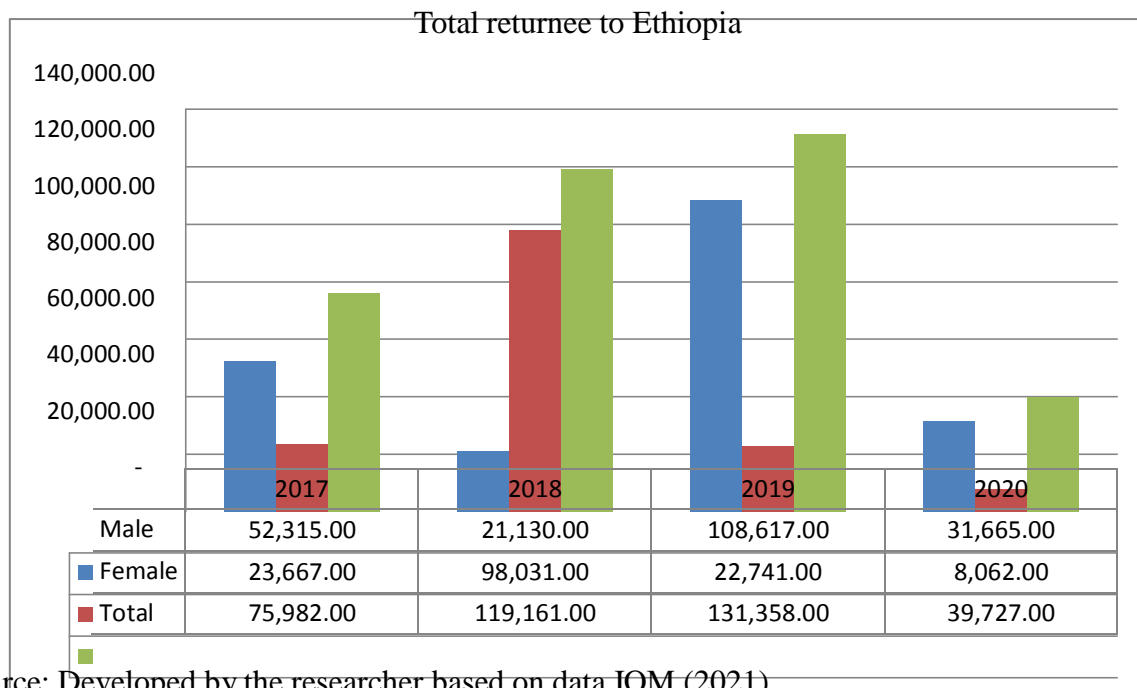
### **2.1.6.2 Forced Return Migrants**

Endale, (2019) argued that forced return migrants are those who have no legal status or travel documents and facing difficulties like discrimination, lack of job opportunity and failed of asylum-seeking process. Due to the above reasons the host country deports them back to their home country.

According to the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2019 & 2020) report, the last two years many Ethiopians are deported from the Middle East and African countries. The report mentioned that the reason is most of them are illegal migrants and failed of asylum process in the host country. The data showed that in 2019 more than 113,000 immigrants and in 2020 more than 97,000 immigrants returned back to their home country without consent of returnees (MoFA, 2020). The following graph shows the number of returnees from different Regions (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2020).

As empirical evidence shows, undocumented migrants suffer in the journey and are deported after arrival in the host country due to denial of entry visas and residence permission (Golash-Boza and Menjivar, 2012). For example, in Ethiopia 2018 and 2019 more than 200,000 returnees were deported forcibly from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia due to the Kingdom’s migration policy and regulation (MoFA, 2018) Furthermore, 7500 Ethiopian migrants from the Republic of Yemen returned back to their home country due to political crises in the host country and the others were stranded migrants in Yemen (MoFA, 2018). Finally, for the last four years (2017 – 2020) total numbers of returnee migrants are 366,228.

Figure 6: Total returnee migrants to Ethiopia by sex



Source: Developed by the researcher based on data IOM (2021)

**Table 1: Returnee Migrants by Host Country**

Total Returnee Migrants By Host Country					
Name of host country	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	73,677.00	114,608.00	121,207.00	36,778.00	346,270.00
Yemen	631.00	1,053.00	3,747.00	247.00	5,678.00
Djibouti	1,204.00	2,515.00	4,213.00	532.00	8,464.00
Tanzania	80.00	6.00	288.00	1,370.00	1,744.00
Iraq	1.00	-	6.00	-	7.00
Zambia	179.00	161.00	37.00	86.00	463.00
Libya	6.00	153.00	155.00	2.00	316.00
Mozambique	1.00	230.00	8.00	11.00	250.00
Malawi	203.00	-	34.00	-	237.00
Somalia land	-	156.00	345.00	37.00	538.00
Chad	-	-	-	-	-
Sudan	-	101.00	484.00	154.00	739.00
Zimbabwe	-	14.00	-	70.00	84.00
South Africa	-	6.00	-	-	6.00
Egypt	-	33.00	282.00	150.00	465.00
Indonesia	-	21.00	7.00	4.00	32.00
Kenya	-	-	7.00	3.00	10.00
Punt land	-	-	392.00	111.00	503.00
Algeria	-	-	1.00	1.00	2.00
Lebanon	-	-	6.00	108.00	114.00
Tunisia	-	-	6.00	-	6.00
Niger	-	-	1.00	-	1.00
Thailand	-	-	2.00	-	2.00
Europe	-	104.00	130.00	54.00	288.00
Somalia	-	-	-	9.00	9.00
Total	75,982.00	119,161.00	131,358.00	39,727.00	366,228.00

Source: Developed by the researcher based on data IOM (2021)

### 2.1.7 Reasons of Return Migrants

Return migrants have different reasons to return back to their home country. According to Elijah (2013) the reason is either socio economic development in the country or challenges of host country like political or economic crisis in the host country or new migration policy. Segal (2017)

argued that migrants choices to return their home country for range of reasons including the following reasons: sharing their country's culture and values to their children, homeland economic development and political stability, having accomplished their mission in the host country, and lack of job opportunity in the host country(Segal, 2017)

In the case of irregular migration, Coniglio & Brzozowski (2018) argued that migrants are pushed forcefully by governments of host countries. The same authors argued that the decisions of returnee migrants are depending on their preparedness. The high-level preparation is success or gained economic benefit or opportunity upon return and contributes for home country. On the other hand returnees have low level preparation or to pay low attention to return tend to face difficulty in the home country or they are likely to re-emigrate (Coniglio & Brzozowski, 2018).Moreover, Segal (2016) argued that involuntary returnees are deported without their consent because of no residence permit to stay in host country or are repatriated refugees because there is no more risk to their life or dangerous situation in their country of origin (Segal, 2017). Additionally, Segal (2016) and Cassarino (2004) pointed out that return migrants could be categorized in four types: 1) failure of returnee migrants: those who are unable to integrate. 2) Conservatism by returnees: those migrants who want to invest and work or maintain the culture of home country. 3) Retirement of returnees: those migrants who are already retired and they want to spend the remaining time in their home land. 4) Finally Innovative returnees : those migrants who are working in their home country using all resources to enhancing individuals, social and community experiences in the country (Cassarino, 2004).

### **2.1.8 Challenges of Return Migrants**

Migrants stayed long time abroad and nurtured social norms or familiars with the host country culture and are disappointed upon return to home to setup or settle in the home country (Schayk,2014).According to Piracha (2015) one of the challenges of return migrants may be loss of their social networks in the home country, since they stayed long time abroad and away (Piracha, 2015). The other authors argued that the challenges of return migrants in their home country are bad government bureaucracy to process their movements to settle and invest in their home country

and government or other institutions do not accept their new ideas and knowledge acquired abroad and occupational challenges in the home country (Wahba, 2014; Segal,2016).

According to Ethiopia Migration profile, (2017) Ethiopian returnees face many challenges and the local government and society as well face great difficulty to assisting the large number of returnees to Ethiopia, especially with needs such as finances, housing, employment and health. The report adds, however, some of them are managing to succeed and are reintegrated sufficiently by their own efforts and even created job opportunities for others and are contributing to unemployment reduction and poverty alleviation (Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSoG), 2017).

According to Dündar and Kenyon(2020) some of the challenges migrants face include economic, cultural, social, and access to education related challenges. The authors add language differences and education system and lack of appropriate education access for children and family as the big challenges for migrants in the host country

The other challenges of migrants especially of those irregular migrants include problems during their journey, upon arrival at the destination and while living in the host country as migrants. According to authors Eni-Olotu, Kwiatkowski, & Tolfree (2016) the poor sanitation and overcrowded environment, lack of food and water, imprisonment, and socioeconomic hardships are challenges during their journey. The same authors stated that after arrival in the host country migrants may face language barriers, lack of knowledge about health services, loss of social status, imprisonment, long-lasting asylum seeking processes, discrimination and marginalization (Eni-Olotu & Rachel Kwiatkowska, 2016).

Furthermore, according to McAuliffe & Ruhs1,( 2018)migrants in their journey en-route to the host country may be abused, exploited and even some die on the road during the journey.

Health problem is also the other challenge for migrants during their journey and upon arrival in the destination. According to Rutledge Handbook of Migration and Development (2020), lack of availability of medication and treatment in transit could be leading to psychological stress and it affects their health condition. After arrival in their home country as well, returnees face lack of quality medical treatments (Bastia and Skeldon, 2020). Schayk (2014) confirmed that the lack of

availability and accessibility of quality medication and treatment, health-care facilities and reliability are some challenges for returnees, especially permanent migrants. Furthermore, according to Danish international institute study (DIIS 2020) reintegration processes may be long and difficult especially for Ethiopian male returnees from the Middle East countries (Fejerskov & Zeleke, 2020).

The other challenges of return migrants are basic needs in the home country. Dessalegn (2017) stated that return migrants face difficulty in terms of lack of job opportunity and housing constraints in their home country especially city areas.

## **2.2 Theoretical Framework**

There are different scholars who forwarded different theories regarding migration and return migration challenges and expectations. Dustman & Weiss (2007) argued that Return migration is the type of migration and it refers to temporary or permanent returns to their country of origin by their own choices or forced after they stayed for some period of time abroad. In addition, Wickramasinghe & Wimalaratana (2016) argued that return migration theories are based on international migration theories and it refers to the mobility of people from place to place for living and looking better work abroad. The authors add it is caused by different factors such as political (internal and external conflict), economic (poverty and lack of decent job) social (family reunification), environmental (natural disaster) and demographic (rising of world population). The same author stated that migration theories are divided into three categories: Macro (Neoclassical macro migration, Migration and Political Theory and world system theory), Micro (push and pull factors, Neoclassical micro migration, theory of social system), and Meso (network theory, and new economics of labor migration). Some of them and related theories are discussed below.

### **2.2.1 Neo - Classical Migration Theory**

According to Lee (1966), it refers to economic comparison of benefits and costs of both sending and receiving country based on pushing and pulling factors. Moreover, the theory's assumption is that migration is the function of geographic differences in relative labor scarcity in the countries. It refers to wage differentiation of region to region and country to country and it depends on labor

market conditions. Based on this assumption, high wage areas attracted more workers than the low wage areas (Lee, 1966).

According to empirical evidence of the neoclassical assumptions Luzuriaga (2020) the reason why people migrate is to maximize their income and considering socio-demographic characteristics like age, gender, educational skills, marital states, occupation and expectations (Ramírez-Luzuriaga, *et al.*, 2020). On the other hand, according to international organization for migration, (IOM, 2002) argument return migrants decide to return to their home country based on their cost benefit analysis. If migrants in the host country are earning better life style, wages and maximizing their achievements than the country of origin, then they do not decide to return their country of origin. In contrast, however, if they face difficulty in the host country like unemployment, low wage, or fail to realize their expectations then they are likely to decide to return to their home country (Constant, & Massey, 2002). Additionally, Cassarino (2004) argued that failure in the host country, miscalculation of cost and benefit, and inability to achieve their expectations in the host country causes migrants to return to their home country either voluntarily or forced.

The reason migrants returned to their home country is lack of poor selectivity of wage, employment, and occupational achievements in the host country (Constant & Massey, 2002). The Neoclassical economic theory at macro level describes the development of labor migration based on economic development while the cost benefit calculation of individuals characteristics whether to migrate or not decision are micro level elements. Based on this assumption, the theory focuses on labor markets and, wage differences in both sending and host country are the main driving force variables of migration (European Communities, 2000).

### **2.2.2 Social network Migration Theory**

The theory maintains that migrants networked in interpersonal ties which means they create connection with former migrants and non-migrants in the origin country or destination through network connection, friendship and shared community origin. The result is increasing international movements, minimized risks and costs of movement and increase in the expected net return to migration (Constant, and Massey, 2002).

According to European Union (2016) report, social network contributes to increase and facilitation to continued migration flows. It builds personal relationships with both migrants and return migrants by supporting and sharing information of job opportunity and the host countries experiences (Migali, *et al*, 2018).

According to Cassarino (2004) the theory's assumption is returnees are the bearers of tangible and intangible resources. The theory shows that returnee migrants should maintain or create the strong networks with their home country places of settlement. Moreover, the network provides significant connection at home country and social structure increases the availability of resources and information and strengthening the personal relationships in the country. Furthermore, the theory mentions that social network members are not organized for granted, however networks are selectively organized based on their voluntarily or consent to guaranteeing resource flow and maintenance of cross border linkages (Cassarino, 2004).

### **2.2.3 Push and Pull Factors of Migration Theory**

In this theory, Lees (1966) argued that migration is a highly complicated phenomenon affected by different factors and influencing the process. The theory states that both pushing and pulling factors of migration are the main driving forces and the pushing factors (political, economic, cultural, environmental and demographic) forced people to migrate to a new location or leave their home country (Wickramasinghe, 2016).

The pushing factors force people to leave their place of origin of country and they includes poverty, demography (rise population growth), poor living condition, and political persecution, environmental degradation like famine, drought, and natural disasters (Lee, 1966). The pulling factors attract people to leave their home country. These include job opportunity, better life style, political and religious freedom and democracy, quality education, welfare system, better transportation and communication facilities, quality health care system, and overall free environment of movements (Lees 1966).

Furthermore, according European Union report (2000), the theory's assumption describes the push factors of migration as economic, social and political hardships in the developing countries while the pull factors are the comparative advantageous of industrial or developed countries. The theory

does not mention why some people migrate and others stayed at home and it explains variation in the flow of direction.

#### **2.2.4 Migration and Political Theory**

This theory focuses on the state's mandate of its right to control human movements across the borders and the settlements of people in its territories. Moreover, the theory showed that the state does not recognize internationally recognized law of the freedom of people's movements within state border and leaves any country and living other countries right. The theory assumes that the state should be permitted or selects immigrants (refugee or other migrants) for their interest and occupational skills. Additionally, lack of equal treatments of migration in the territories is also another assumption of state's political power exercise. In this regard the state uses coercive powers to prevent migrants from its pursued opportunities and exercised inequality amongst human beings. Furthermore, the theory assumes opening of borders for migration poses challenges for domestic poor citizens of wealthy states (Fine & Lea Ypi, 2016).

#### **2.2.5 Policy implication on Migration process in Ethiopia and the role of Government**

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Constitution prohibited human trafficking in the country (Ethiopia Federal Constitution No. 1995). Furthermore, according to United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime report, Ethiopia has signed and ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime *and its supplementary* Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children *and* Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (UNODC 2018). Moreover, the country has approved and implemented proclamation of Prevention and suppression of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrant in the country (Proclamation No. 909/2015). And the country has also recognized the international regulations to govern migration issues. However, the country has not recognized or ratified International Labor Organization's convention No. 97, (1949) and International Labor Organization Convention No.143 on migrant workers (1975). Moreover, the country has also not ratified the United Nations international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their family members (1990).

The government of Ethiopia has been supporting and facilitating migration and returnee migration process in the country. One form of the government's support is searching appropriate job opportunities abroad for their citizens and negotiated and signed bilateral agreements with foreign countries. In this regard according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ( MoFA 2020), the government of Ethiopia has signed labor agreements with several African countries: these includes with the Republic of Sudan in 2009, Memorandum of Understanding on exchange of manpower (Equatorial Guinea 2018), Agreement on recruitment of workers and from the Middle East countries (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 2017), Agreement on the employment of domestic workers (Qatar in 2012), agreement on the employment of Ethiopian manpower with United Arab Emirates in 2018, memorandum of Understanding on the employment of Ethiopian workers in the UAE, and Kuwait in 2009, agreement on the field of exchange of manpower. Labor migrants' mobility is based on the above labor agreements framework. According to IOM (2017) migrants only deployed to other countries based on signed bilateral agreements.

The other role of the government on migration is the government officials have negotiated with the African and Middle Eastern countries to release prisoners and the other illegally stranded migrants to return their home country. Based on the government effort, in the last four years (2017 – 2020) more than 366,000 Stranded migrants returned to their home country either voluntary or forced (IOM 2020, MoFA, 2019 and 2020). The other form of government support is that for return migrants' budget was allocated for transport cost Birr 89,000,000.00 to those returnees who are stranded citizens in Africa and Middle East countries in 2019 (MoFA, 2019).

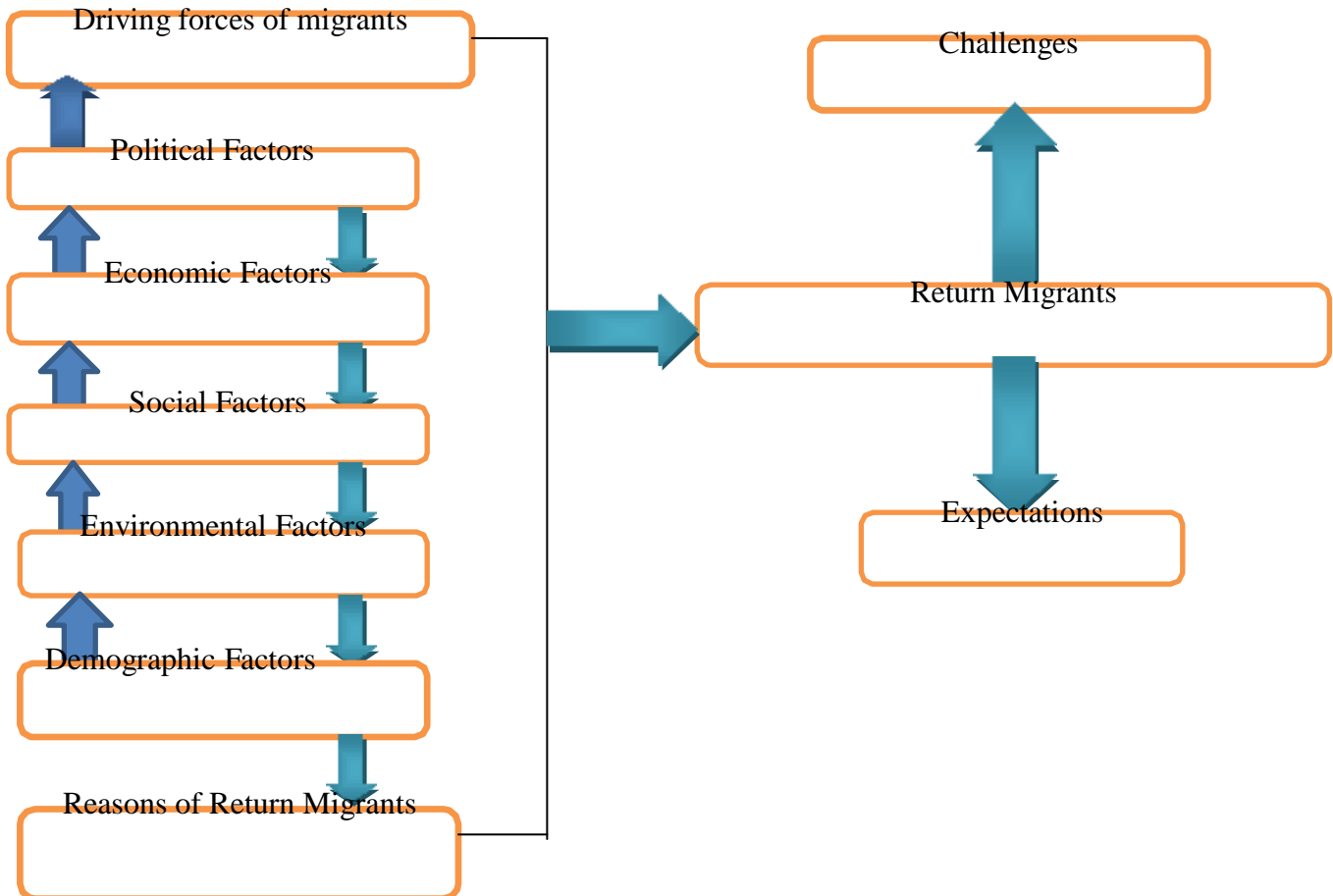
Regarding the returnee migrant's reintegration program, it is not full package and not enough both in government and non-government actors in the home country. According to Ethiopia Migration profile report (2017), Ethiopian returnees face many challenges in the country and also the local government and society face great difficulty integrating them because they are unable to assisting the large number of Ethiopian returnees especially in terms of finances, housing, employment and health needs.

According to migration governance in Ethiopia (2019) report stated that the country is source of emigration refugee, return migrants, and internal displacement. Thus, the government of Ethiopia is working with international organizations and non-governmental organization to improve the

governance and management of migration to and from Ethiopia. However, the country has no migration policy yet, and there is need to explore and come with one.

Figure 7: conceptual framework

### 2.1.9 Conceptual Framework of Return Migrants



**Source:** Developed by the researcher based on literature review (2021)

## Chapter Three

### Research Methodology

#### 3.1. The Study Area

Addis Ababa, also spelled Addis Abeba, meaning new flower in a country language. It is capital city of Ethiopia and Africa as well. The city is located on Center of Ethiopia in Oromia regional state and surrounded by Entoto and Yekahills and mountains, in the geographic centre of the country. The city was founded in 1887 Ethiopian Calendar (1879 GC), and the City Municipality was established in 1915 in order to collect taxes from its residents, and in order to accommodate and provide proper services to guests from abroad and has had 28 mayors. It is believed that, among the earliest causes attracting visitors to the city was its unique standing as the capital of an African nation and other international organization (Millennium report, 2008).

Furthermore, the city is the educational and administrative centre of Ethiopia. It is the site of Addis Ababa University (1950) and contains several university, teacher-training colleges and technical schools. Furthermore, the Museum of the Institute of Ethiopian Studies (operated by the university), the National School of Music, the National Library and Archives, palaces of former emperors, and governmental ministries are located in the city. Additionally, there are several international organizations headquarters is also in the city (Britannica, 2020).

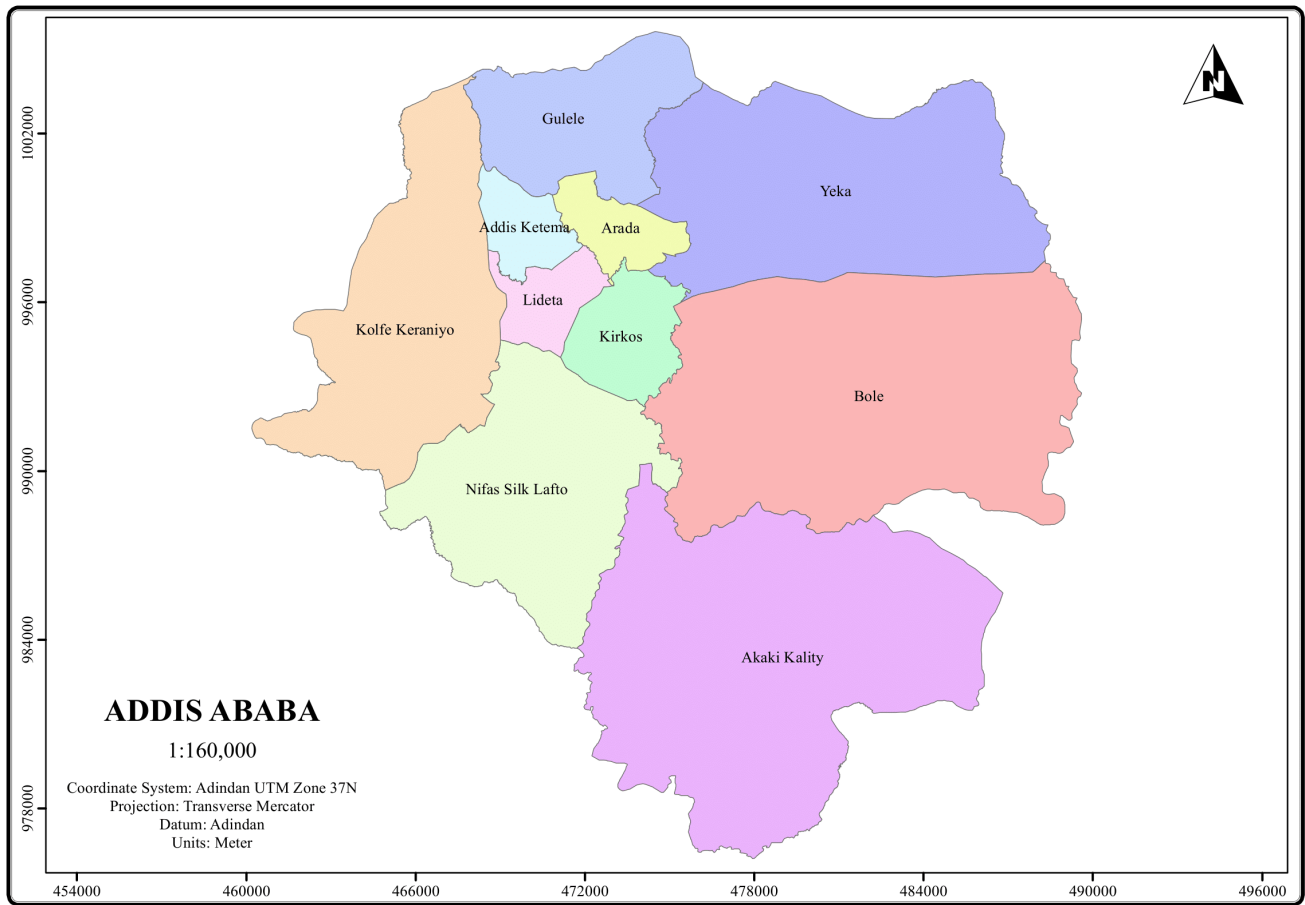
Currently the city has eleven sub cities and the number of population is more than 3.6 Million (CSA, 2020). The following table indicated that the number of population in the city for the last four years.

Table 2: Addis Ababa City Administration Number of Population by Sex

Years	Male	Female	Total
2017	1,624,999.00	1,810,000.00	3,434,999.00
2018	1,664,000.00	1,854,999.00	3,518,999.00
2019	1,703,000.00	1,900,000.00	3,603,000.00
2020	1,743,000.00	1,946,001.00	3,689,001.00

Source: Central Statistics Agency (2021)

Figure 8 Addis Ababa City Administration Map



Source: Geo-partial Institute, 2021

### 3.2. Research Design

A research design is the overall plan or blue print of a study for connecting the research problems with the practically achievable research objective. Moreover According to Creswell *et al.*, (2007) it is a strategy or procedures for collecting, analyzing, interpreting and reporting data in research activities.

Descriptive research design is adopted for this study because it is useful to accurately and systematically describe a population, situation or phenomenon (Kothari, 2004).As the nature of this study requires description of the prevalent challenges and expectation of returnee migrants, this research design is the appropriate one to undertake the study. Moreover, the research methodology is mixed. It is believed that a single research method does not provide complete picture of the study

and adopting a mixed research method helps to strengthen the validity of the findings, reduce biases and make use of the benefits of either qualitative or quantitative methods(Tucker-Brown, 2012).

### 3.3. Sampling Technique

Survey questionnaire respondents for the study were selected from a list of returnees that also served as a total population obtained from International Organization for Migration (IOM). A sample was using snowball approach technique and purposive sampling method was used for interview participants.

### 3.4. Sampling Size

In determining sample size of returnee migrants in this study, nature of the size of the population (i.e. large and heterogeneous), and time and budget availability to complete the study were the key considerations (Kothari, 2004). Based on the information obtained from the IOM offices, the total number of returnee migrants for the last four years (2017-2020) in Addis Ababa is 5397. Among this 64% are female. By using the sample size determination formula of Yamane, 1967 Sarmah and Hazarika, (2012).

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where : n= sample size

N = number of population

e = acceptable error (5%) with 95% confidence level

1 = unit or a constant

$$n = \frac{5397}{1+5397(5\%)^2}$$

$$n = \underline{\underline{372}}$$

Therefore, the sample size for this study is 372 and among this, to make the sample proportional with the population frame, the number of female respondent is 238. For interview purpose twelve key informants were selected purposely from returnee migrants, relevant government sector institutions i.e. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Addis Ababa Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs (BoLSA), and the Ethiopian Diaspora Agency and also from IOM. In selection of returnee migrants for interview, consideration was given to gender, religion, experience and exposure to collect the required qualitative data.

### **3.5. Data Collection Method and Process**

Both primary and secondary data was collected from sample population of the study by using self-administered questionnaire. Before commencing fieldwork, I approached the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs for advice on how to find information on returnees in Addis Ababa, and the Ministry referred me to meet and discuss the matter with the Addis Ababa Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs. After I discussed the issue with Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs officials, the Bureau wrote me a letter of cooperation to all sub-cities level Labor and Social Affairs offices. The heads of all sub-city level offices provided me with information about returnees. Finally, I met individuals through network of friends mainly using telephone conversations. Additionally, I met some of the returnees in the technical and vocational training centers in all sub-cities where they were being sheltered. On the other hand, qualitative primary data was collected from key informant interviewees from government officials and IoM. Secondary data was collected mainly from published books, research articles official government records. Finally, the data collection has been conducted sequentially. The quantitative data was collected first and it was followed by the qualitative data collection.

### **3.6. Sources of Data**

Source of primary data for this study were returnee migrants in Addis Ababa City Administration's 10 sub-cities (Addis ketema, Akakikality, Arada, Bole, Gulele, Kirkos, Kolfekeranio, Lideta, Nifas silk Lafto, and Yeka) and relevant offices from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Addis Ababa Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs (BoLSA),

Addis Ababa job creation enterprise, food security and safety net agency, and the Ethiopian Diaspora Agency. Furthermore, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is also one of the sources of data. Additionally, other data sources used include Central Statistical Agency, Addis Ababa transportation authority, Addis Ababa housing development Agency, and Geospatial Information Institute. The official documents collected from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), and IOM offices were consulted. Other sources for secondary data are scholarly published articles, e-books, official reports and documents (proclamations, regulations and directives)(Kabir, 2016).

### **3.7. Data collection Tools**

The data collection tools for this study are questionnaire with open and close-ended and semi – structured interview. Self-administered questionnaire were distributed to sample respondents and an interview conducted with key informants to collect the required quantitative and qualitative data. The modality of data collection tools is questionnaires in printed form and combination of face-to-face and telephone conversation.

### **3.8. Data Analysis Method**

The quantitative data analysis was done with the help of statistical data analysis techniques of SPSS software. Descriptive statistics, measures of central tendency mean, median and mode and measures of variability (standard deviation, variance). Among these central tendencies the researcher was used only mean value in the analysis. Moreover nominal scales approach was also used to categorize different demographic characteristics of the sample population (Pandey and Pandey, 2015).

The qualitative data is analyzed using narrative analysis. For good use of narrative approach the researcher analyzed the stories the interview respondents created, engaging in an inquiry of asking a given question of the narrative 'texts' for the study purpose.

The researcher used triangulation approach to analyze and interpret both findings of qualitative and quantitative data. This helps to have a better picture and understanding in the findings and reduces bias(Tucker-Brown, 2012).

Finally the researcher assessed and analyzed separately both quantitative and qualitative data by comparing them side by side and the data was integrated at data interpretation point based on concurrent triangulation strategy (Terrell & Ph, 2012). Furthermore, to realize the study the researcher used semi-structured interview questions for all selected respondents and open-ended questions were asked to all the interviewees.

Figure 9 Triangulation Design



Source: Brown 2012

### 3.9. Ethical Consideration

The researcher respected and protected the participants" (interviewee, questionnaires" respondents and all peoples who are cooperating in this study) rights and their consent. Moreover, the researcher acknowledged all sources of works consulted and the others works or articles in view of avoiding plagiarism.

### 3.10. Validity and Reliability

To ensure validity and reliability of the study mixed research method with descriptive survey/ quantitative dominated approach was employed with a sequential data collection, because such an approach is useful to accurately and systematically describe a population, situation or phenomenon. Exploratory research approach helps more to investigate and capture problems and to ensure the validity and reliability of the research. Furthermore, to enhance the reliability of this research, identical semi-structured interview questions were used for all selected respondents and similar set of open-ended questions were asked to all the interviewees.

### **3.11. Operational Definition of Variables**

According to International organization for migration glossary (2019) and European network migration (2007) the following terminology defined as follow:

- 3.10.1. Driving forces of migration – Complex set of interlinking factors that influence an individual, family or population group’s decisions relating to migration, including displacement (IOM, 2019).
- 3.10.2. Push factors: those factors which drive migrants to leave their country or to return back to home country(IOM, 2019).
- 3.10.3. Pull factors: those factors attracting migrants to move into the country of destination or returned back to home country (IOM, 2019).
- 3.10.4. Challenges –the situations in which return migrants facing difficulty in their home country(Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSoG), 2017).
- 3.10.5. Emigrants –a person who moves from his or her country of nationality or usual residence to another country(IOM, 2019).
- 3.10.6. Returnee or Return Migrants: people who are returning to their origin of country voluntarily or forced (IOM, 2019, European Commision, 2007).
- 3.10.7. Forced return – the compulsory return of an individual to the country of origin, transit or third country on the basis of the host country administrative or juridical act (European Commision, 2007).
- 3.10.8. Voluntary return –refers to the assisted or independent return to the country of origin, transit, or third country based on freewill of the returnee (European Commision, 2007).
- 3.10.9. Expectation of Returnee Migrants: strong belief of returnees future perception in their country of origin (Croitoru, 2020).

## Chapter Four

### Results and Discussion

This chapter comprises both the results and discussions of the findings obtained through the instruments which were utilized to achieve the objectives of the research. Thus, the chapter is divided into two sections. The first section deals with the results of the study and encompasses the general characteristics of respondents; results regarding respondents rate and individuals biography information including host country and returned years.

On the other hand the second section presents the discussion of the results in each topic obtained in this study. The discussion is done along with previous researches undertaken in line with the causes, challenges, reasons and expectations of returnee migrants both at the national and international levels.

#### 4.1 Data presentations and Results

##### 4.1.1 Respondents Rate

According to sample size result the total number of sample population are 372 (male 134, and female 238). Therefore, 400 questionnaires distributed and 372 responses collected from ten sub-cities. The following Table 3 is depicts that the number of respondents by sub city.

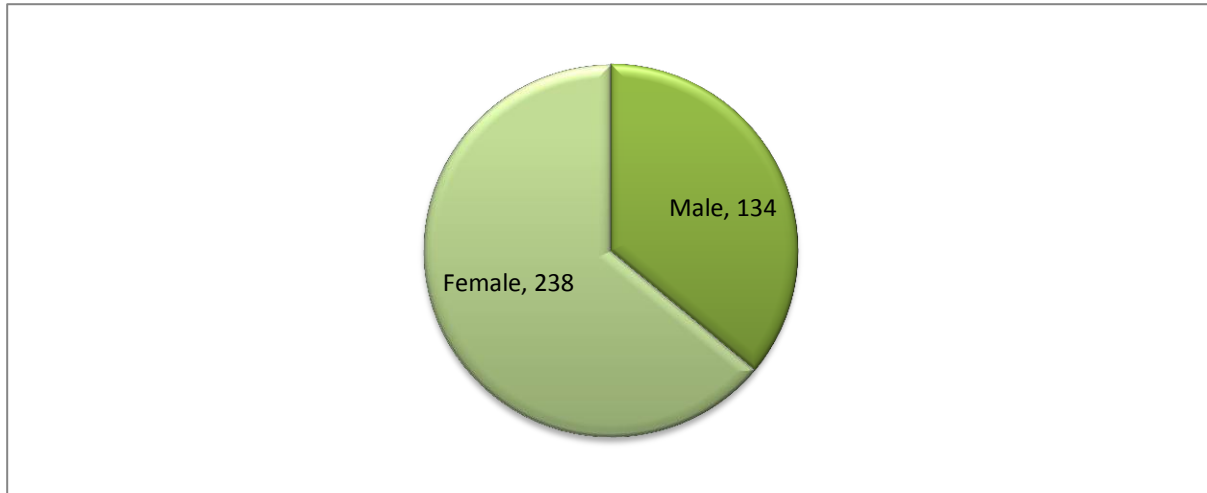
Table 3: Number of respondents by sub city

No.	Name of sub-city	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Akaki-Kality	28	7.53
2	Nefassilk-Lafto	17	4.57
3	Kolfekeranio	70	18.82
4	Gulele	50	13.44
5	Lideta	25	6.72
6	Kirkos	34	9.14
7	Arada	9	2.4
8	Addis Ketema	65	17.5
9	Yeka	33	8.87
10	Bole	28	7.52
	Unspecified	13	3.5
	Total	372	100.00

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

## 4.1.2 General Information of Respondents

Figure 10: Returnee migrants by Sex



Source: Developed by the researcher based on available data 2021

The above Figure 10 presents that the demographic characteristics of 372 respondents of returnee migrants of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) from different host countries. In terms of sex, female respondents are 238 (64%) and Male 134 (36%) This implies that most of returnees are female. This finding commensurate with the data of IOM (2020) which states as the total number of returnee migrants to Addis Ababa for the last four years (2017 -2020) is 5397 (male 1991 and female 3406).

Table 4: Returnee Migrants by Age

	Age	N	%
	16-25	44	11.83
	26-35	211	56.72
	36-45	99	26.61
	46-55	18	4.84
	Total	372	100

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

Regarding the ages of respondents of returnee migrants of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Table 4 shows that 16-25 years (11.83%), 26-35 (56.72%), 36-45 (26.61%), and the least age group is 46-55 (4.84%). The highest age range is 26-35 (56.72%) followed by the age group between 36-45 (26.61%) and the least age group 46-55 (4.9%). We can see from the summary data that all age group i.e. 16-55 (100 %) returnees are within the working age group limit, which shows all returnees are able to participate in the economic and development process of the country.

According to UN Minimum Age Convention (1973, No. 138) Article 3 sub article 1 Stated that “The minimum age for admission to any type of employment or work which by its nature or the circumstances is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young person’s shall not be less than 18 years”. Additionally, the minimum age for hazardous work is at 18 age and 16 under certain strict conditions (Standards of Age, 2014).

The Ethiopian policy also supported that the above international labor age standards. Therefore, Article 89, Sub Article 1 of the Proclamation No.1156/2019 of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia confirmed that the “young worker” means a natural person who has attained the age of 15 but below the age of 18 years is not allowed for employment (Labour Proclamation, 2019) Thus, all returnee migrants are resources for Addis Ababa and the country as well.

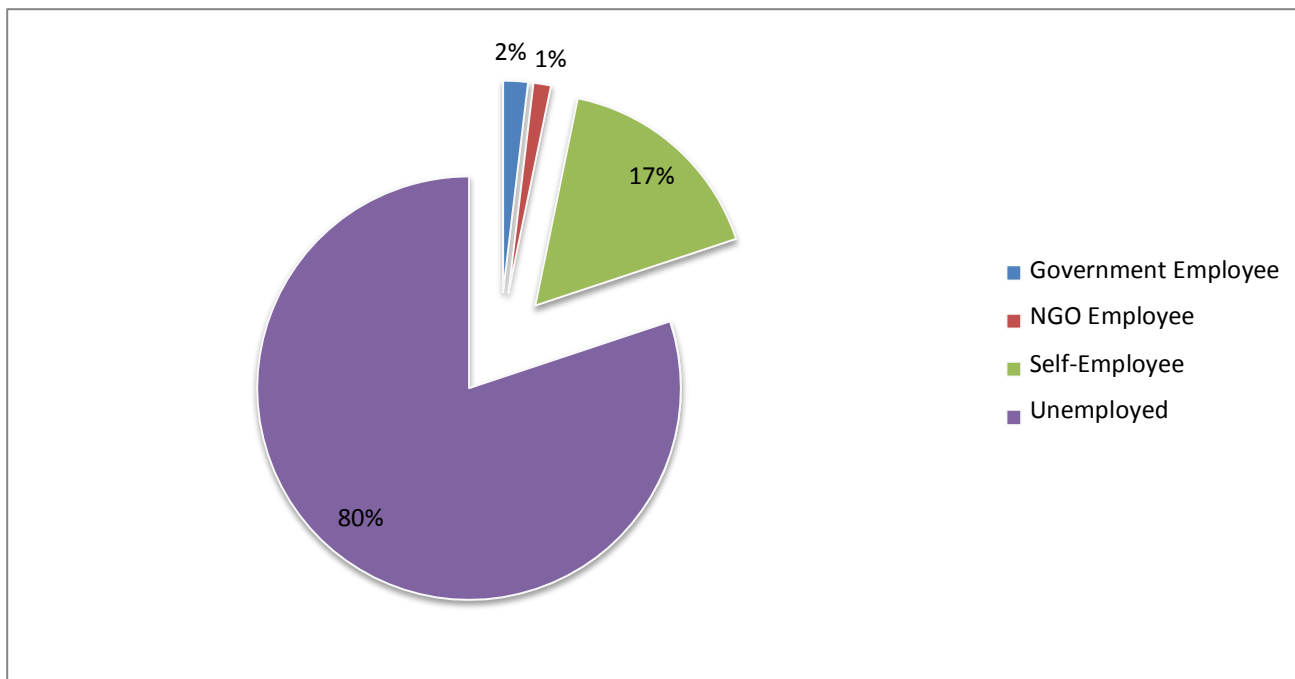
Table 5: Returnee Migrants by Educational status

	Educational status	N	%
	Secondary School and Below	294	79.03
	TVET	34	9.14
	College Diploma	25	6.72
	BA Degree	12	3.23
	Master’s Degree	7	1.88
	Total	372	100

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

In terms of educational status, Table 5 depicts that among returnee migrants of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) majority of the respondents were Secondary School and below (79.03%). Besides, 9.14% of respondents were found to be TVET, 6.72% had hold College Diploma, 3.23% were graduated with BA Degree and the least 1.88% of respondents have hold their Master’s Degree. Furthermore, the Interview result showed that all returnee (N=7) educational status is secondary school and below, TVET, college diploma, and BA degree, 2, 1, 2, and 2 respectively and all key informants (N=5) from public organization and International organization their educational status is MA degree (Interview May, 2021, Addis Ababa).

Figure 11: Returnee Migrants by Occupational status



Source: Developed by the researcher based on available data 2021

The data in figure 11 showed that the occupational status of respondents of returnee migrants (80.1%) were unemployed followed by Self-Employee (16.7%) and only 2%, and 1 of the respondents were engaged as Government and NGO Employee respectively. The above data showed that high unemployment rate in the city administration and in the country as well.

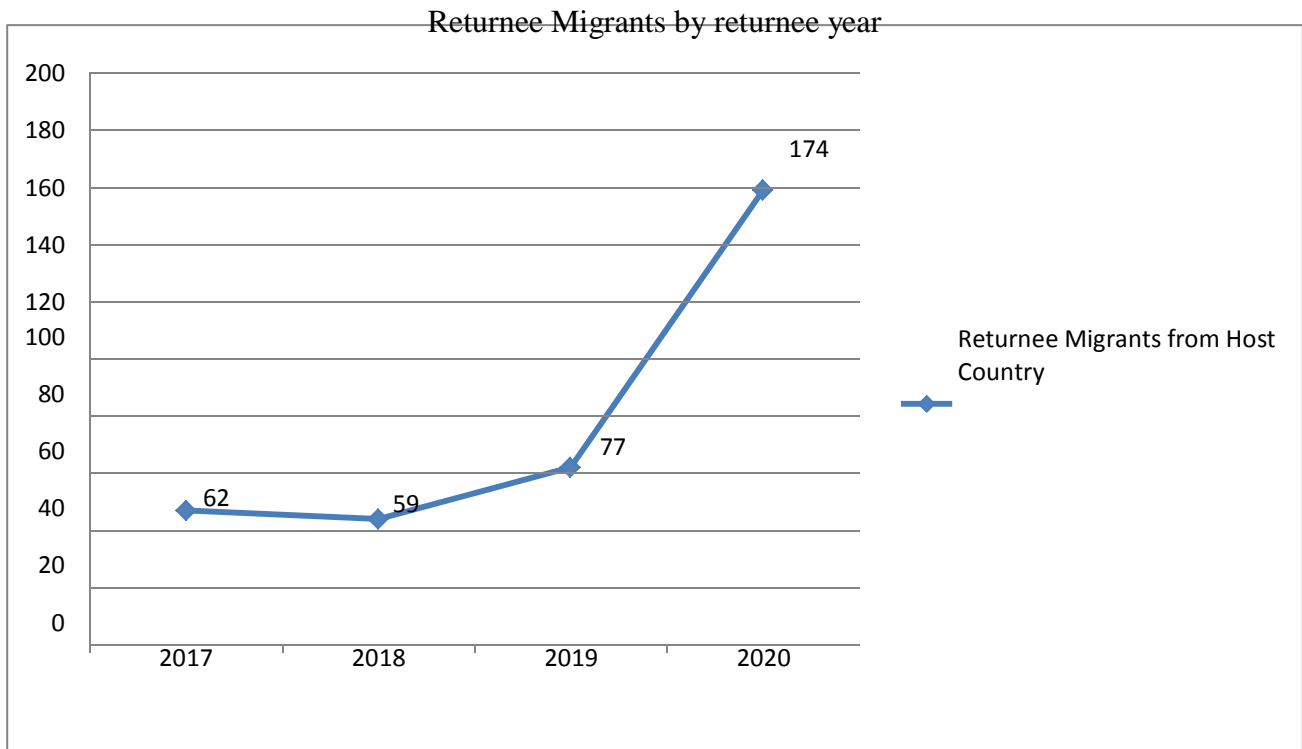
Table 6: Returnee Migrants by Marital status

	Marital status	N	%
	Married	172	46.24
	Single	153	41.13
	Divorced	41	11.02
	Widowed	6	1.61
	Total	372	100

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

In terms of marital status wise, the Table 6 illustrates that 46.2% of returnee migrants of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) were married, whereas, 41.1%, 11% and 1.6% found to be either Single, Divorced and Widowed respectively.

Figure 12: Line graph on the years and number returnee migrants from host countries to Ethiopia across the four consecutive Years (2017 up to 2020)



Source: Developed by the researcher based on field data (2021)

In terms of returnee migrants about years of return from their respective host country to Ethiopia, the Figure 12 indicates that 46.77% of the respondents from their host countries have returned to Ethiopia in the year 2020. Those respondents who returned in the years 2017, 2018, and 2019 were 16.67%, 15.86% and 20.70% respectively.

The line graph figure 13 below shows that the Years and the number of returnee migrants who have returned from their respective host countries to Ethiopia.

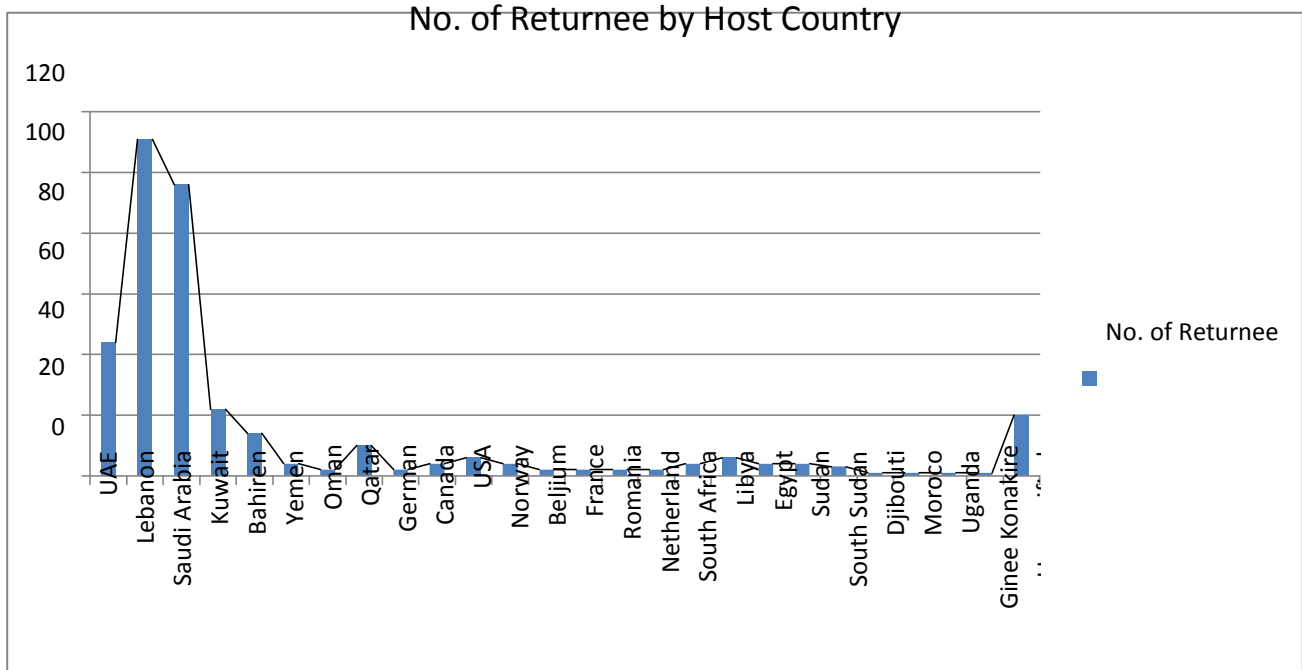
Table 7: Returnee Migrants by Continent

Host Country's Continent	N	%
Africa	25	6.72
Middle East	303	81.45
European and other western countries	24	6.45
Unspecified	20	5.38
Total	372	100

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

In terms of host Country's Continent, Table 7 depicts that majority (81.45%) of the respondents were returned from Middle East countries. Besides, 6.72% of respondents were found to be returned from African countries, and 6.45% and 5.38% of respondents were returned from European and other western countries and unspecified respectively. The figure below depicts that the number of return migrants across their respective host countries of the world.

Figure 13: Host Countries and Number of Return Migrants



Source: Developed by the researcher based on field data (2021)

The figure 13above demonstrated that the highest number of return migrants are from the host country Lebanon N=111 followed by Saudi Arabia N=96, UAE N=44, Kuwait N=22, Bahrain N=14, QatarN=10, Libya and USA (N=12) and South Africa (N=5). The figure further depicts that the rest countries have hosted number of returnee migrants of Ethiopia ranged from 1 up to 4 and unspecified number is 20.

## 4.2 Discussions

### 4.2.1 Causes of Migration

Results regarding the specific objectives one that aimed to assess the challenges that causes to migration.

Table 8: Results Regarding Causes of Migration

Statement of causes for migration	SD		DA		NE		AG		SA		Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Fear of conviction for opposing political position	85	22.85	249	66.9	26	7.0	6	1.6	6	1.6	1.92
Rampant food insecurity in the community	9	2.4	25	6.7	15	4.0	169	45.4	154	41.4	4.17
Drought due to lack of rainfall	62	16.7	209	56.2	95	25.5	5	1.3	1	0.3	2.12
Separated family member ( need to rejoin loved ones)	41	11.0	225	60.5	95	25.5	8	2.2	3	0.8	2.21
Recurrence of ethnic conflict	48	12.9	219	58.9	72	19.4	22	5.9	11	3.0	2.27
lack of Job opportunity	1	0.3	13	3.5	14	3.8	106	28.5	238	64.0	4.52
Soil degradation	70	18.8	197	53.0	90	24.2	12	3.2	3	0.8	2.14
Lack of better health facilities and services	53	14.2	224	60.2	67	18.0	23	6.2	5	1.3	2.20
Lack of democracy	49	13.2	258	69.4	36	9.7	20	5.4	9	2.4	2.15
Lack of market for production	51	13.7	274	73.7	31	8.3	14	3.8	2	0.5	2.04
Natural calamity or disaster – floods, earthquakes etc.	57	15.3	275	73.9	34	9.1	6	1.6	0	0	1.97
Lack of access to education and training	50	13.4	276	74.2	20	5.4	23	6.2	3	0.8	2.07
Security threat due to political instability	50	13.4	270	72.6	15	4.0	29	7.8	8	2.2	2.13
Housing problem	2	0.5	5	1.3	6	1.6	111	29.8	248	66.7	4.61
Lack of loan facility from bank to start business	41	11.0	259	69.6	29	7.8	28	7.5	15	4.0	2.24
Lack of justice	47	12.6	254	68.3	19	5.1	37	9.9	15	4.0	2.24
Lack of land supply to invest	40	10.8	262	70.4	28	7.5	23	6.2	19	5.1	2.24

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

As it can be seen from Table 8 above, seventeen statements of causes for migration encounters are listed to assess whether they were encountered on respondents of the male and female groups. Based on their responses 3 statements (Rampant food insecurity in the community, lack of Job opportunity, and Housing problem; overall Mean value 4.17, 4.52, and 4.61 respectively) has been identified as causes for migration in the city administration. However, the respondents confirmed that the rest 14 statements have no implication as causes for migration.

The results depicted that 359(96.5%) of respondents agree that housing problem and high cost rent in the city is the major challenges that cause migration. Among these 248 (66.7%) of reported that they strongly believe that housing problem is one of the major challenges for migration. Among returnee migrant respondents, three interviewees noted that housing problem and hardship of life in the city are the main reasons for migration.(Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).Another one returnee migrant noted that “homelessness is not a new phenomenon, before I didn’t have home, even tried to get condominium house, but I didn’t get the chance to win the condominium house lottery that was announced in 3 rounds” (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

According to European Asylum Support Office (2015) report poverty and hardship in life including lack of housing access, and limited opportunities for a better life style in the country are reasons for people leaving their country of origin. Furthermore, Castelli, (2018) said poverty and lack of houses are triggering compared to those in developed countries.

On the other hand, the push-pull migration theory indicated that the pulling factors are also one of the causes for migration attracting people to leave their home country. These includes job opportunity, better life style, quality house access, political and religious freedom and democracy, quality education, welfare system, better transportation and communication facilities, quality health care system, and overall free environment of movements (Lees 1966).

The other cause for migration, next to poverty and housing problem, is lack of job opportunity in the city. In this regard 344 (92.5%) of respondents agreed that unemployment problem in the city is the second most significant causes for migration. Among these 220 (64%) are strongly agree

that unemployment is the pushing factor for migration. Interviewee from returnee migrants confirmed that main reason for migration is looking for better job opportunity abroad. The other returnee interviewee shared her experience that “the cause for my migration was unemployment, because there is discrimination in the country, work is obtained through bribery, there is no fairness in the government offices. Moreover, “competition is not based on knowledge but on bribery” (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Additionally, the other one of the returnee migrants share his experience as follows:

“I used to work in WabiShebele hotel, and I was not paid enough salary and had to look for a better job”. In addition, the political situation at the time was not good and there was ethnic based discrimination in the office”. (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

All the above interviewee responses confirmed that unemployment is the other main cause for migration. Thet (2014) argued that the main causes of migration are economic factors, which means unemployment or looking better job opportunity abroad, poor economy in home country and low salary are all considered as basic causes for migration. Global Migration Data Analysis Centre of the International Organization for Migration (GMDAC, 2016), unemployment is one of the causes for people who have migrated abroad. The report adds that the main causes of migration includes looking for better job opportunities in the destination country especially developed counties because high rate of unemployment in the country of origin. Furthermore, the same report indicated that demographic pressures or human mobility are also a key determinant for migration, and it is only relevant when combined with other factors, such as economic growth and availability of employment opportunities in origin countries (GMDAC, 2016).

Among the key informants three of interviewees, indicated that the main reason for citizens to go abroad is poverty, and looking better job opportunity abroad (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).According to Chakraborty, (2019), the lack of job opportunity is the major pushing factor for migration and the way getting information for looking job in the host country (Chakraborty, 2019). The European Communities, report (2000) argues that those migrants who have friends at destination country are using peer-to-peer relations as information. However, the other migrants

who have no network at destination use media like television, radio, newspaper and agencies at origin country for migration.

Furthermore, from returnee migrants two of the interview respondents, argued that poverty and hardship in life in the country of origin is a push factor for migration (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). The authors stated that migrants pursued different walks of life and means of earning a living in their home country, but they faced poverty and hardship in life in the home country led them to migrate abroad. The final resort of those individuals is migration abroad (European Asylum support office (2015).

The third cause for migration in Addis Ababa is food insecurity. Accordingly, 323 (86.8%) of the respondents reported that they agree food insecurity in the community causes for people leaving their home country for other part of the world. Among these 154 (41.4%) of respondents strongly agree that food insecurity is one of the most important cause pushed them to migrate. Among the returnee migrants four respondents indicated that there is financial problem to survive, and also lack of basic needs, in the city. which means there is lack of basic needs, in the city, where as no food shortage when they live as a migrant abroad, but in our country even food is a problem or highly expensive(Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Castelli (2018) notes the inadequate economic development of the origin country is one of the major driving forces for migration. Additionally, (Helms *et al.*, 2019) argued that poverty is one of the key economic factors for migration. Therefore, food insecurity in the community is one of the causes for migration abroad in search of better income and high standard of life. According to European Asylum support office (2015), poverty challenges and hardship of life in the country of origin are the causes for migration. The other authors, Eigayehu, &Abdi-Khalil (2012) argued that increasing urban population is affected food insecurity in the community.

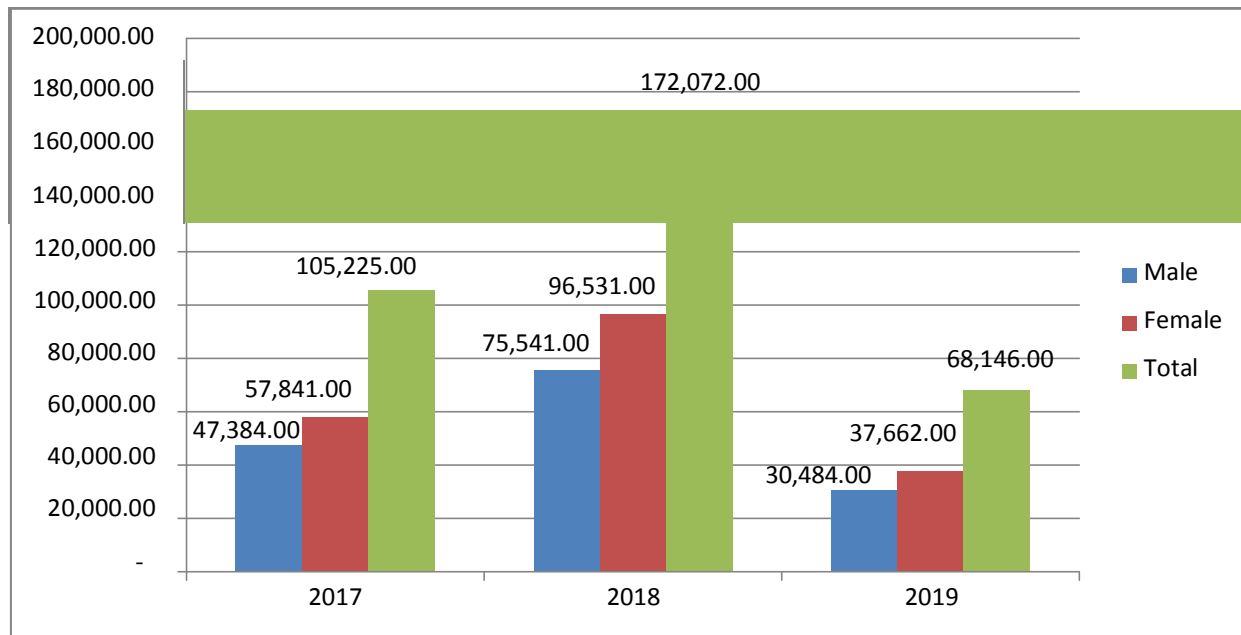
Moreover, the trend showed that increasing unemployment with high rate of inflation has contributed for food in-secured, because number of family households has increasing probability to be food insecure. The other authors, Tesfaye, *et al.* (2014), maintain that the problem of food in Addis Ababa is not only seasonal issue, instead urban food insecurity is a growing concern due to the mix of problems including high rates of urban poverty, unregulated market and expensive

market prices for food items are causes for food insecurity in Addis Ababa. Therefore, food insecurity and poverty in Addis Ababa are the major causes for migration.

The Food Security and Productive Safety Net Agency in Addis Ababa City administration has acknowledges that there is the challenge of food problem in the city, and that the agency has be supporting vulnerable peoples through a combination of programs where 84% of which is public works beneficiaries work to get paid as way of conditional transfer, and 16% is direct support. Therefore, the Agency report indicated that for the last three years (2017-2019), the City Administration has supported more than 345,000 households who are citizens living below the poverty line and challenged status of food security. Furthermore, the Agency, according to the report, subsidizes 66,546 households by way of direct support by cash transfer. Thus, the inhabitants of Addis Ababa experience a wide spread challenge of food insecurity and this in turn pushes them to migrate abroad (Bureau of Addis Ababa Food Security 2020).

Additionally, the World Bank Group Report (2015) also confirms that the poverty rate in Addis Ababa is extremely high and it should be recorded higher poverty rate.

Figure 14: Food Vulnerable people in Addis Ababa



Sources: Developed by the researcher based on data from the Addis Ababa Food Security and Safety Net Agency (2021)

## **4.2.2 Challenges of Returnee Migrants**

Results regarding the specific objectives two that aimed to assess the challenges of the returnee migrants encounters.

Table 9: Results of the Challenges of Returnee Migrants

Statement of challenges for returnee migrants	SD		DA		NE		AG		SA		Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Loss of social network	85	22.85	249	66.94	26	6.99	6	1.61	6	1.61	1.92
Lack of job opportunity	2	0.5	8	2.2	6	1.6	80	21.5	276	74.2	4.67
Poor customer handling in the city administration	13	0.3	45	3.5	56	15.1	133	35.8	124	33.3	3.83
Lack of government willing to support returnee migrants	41	11.02	225	60.48	95	25.54	8	2.15	3	0.81	2.20
Lack of quality health service	48	12.90	219	58.87	72	19.35	22	5.91	11	2.96	2.27
Housing problem both for residence and business	3	0.8	9	2.4	11	3.3	78	21.0	270	72.6	4.61
Rampant bribery/corruption for public service delivery	70	18.82	197	52.96	90	24.19	12	3.23	3	0.81	2.13
Lack of government provides seed money as grant for returnee migrant to start business	53	14.25	224	60.22	67	18.01	23	6.18	5	1.34	2.21
Lack of quality education access to children	49	13.17	258	69.35	36	9.68	20	5.38	9	2.42	2.15
Lack of loan facility from bank to start business	51	13.71	274	73.66	31	8.33	14	3.76	2	0.54	2.04
Bad bureaucracy	13	3.5	34	9.1	51	13.7	203	56.6	71	19.1	3.77
Insufficient utility (water, electricity internet) access	7	1.9	14	3.8	11	3.0	167	44.9	171	46.0	4.28
Lack of skill development training from government to help them to start business	9	2.4	17	4.6	7	1.9	191	51.3	148	39.8	4.22
Poor Transportation facility	6	1.6	6	1.6	7	1.9	164	44.1	189	50.8	4.41

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

As it can be seen from Table 9 above, fourteen challenges returnee migrant encounters are listed to assess whether they were encountered on respondents of the both male and female groups. Based on their responses 7 statements (Lack of job opportunity, poor customer handling in the city administration, housing problem both for residence and business, bad bureaucracy, insufficient utility (water, electricity internet) access, lack of skill development training from government to help them to start business, and poor transportation facility; overall Mean 4.67, 3.83, 4.61, 3.77, 4.28, 4.22, and 4.41 respectively) are identified as challenges for returnee migrants in the city administration. However, the respondents confirmed that the rest 7 statements have no implication as a challenge for returnee migrants.

According to the above results most of respondents 356 (95.70%) agree that lack of job opportunity in the city is the challenges for returnee migrants. Among these 275 (74.2%) of respondents reported that they strongly believe lack of job is the major challenges. Among the returnee migrants, three of interview respondents strongly argued that unemployment in Addis Ababa is the major challenges for migration (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). Furthermore, one of the interview respondents noted that lack of job opportunity in the city is one of the big problem; similarly, other interviewee from key informants, said lack of adequate funding for job creation in the city is the main challenges for returnee migrants (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

According to Abebe, (2020) the major challenge of youth in Ethiopia is unemployment and inadequate job opportunity. He adds, of the country's population those within the age range between 0-29 years will reach about 73% of the total population. Additionally, the same author confirms that while the national unemployment rate is more than 6%, the urban unemployment is above 6.5%.

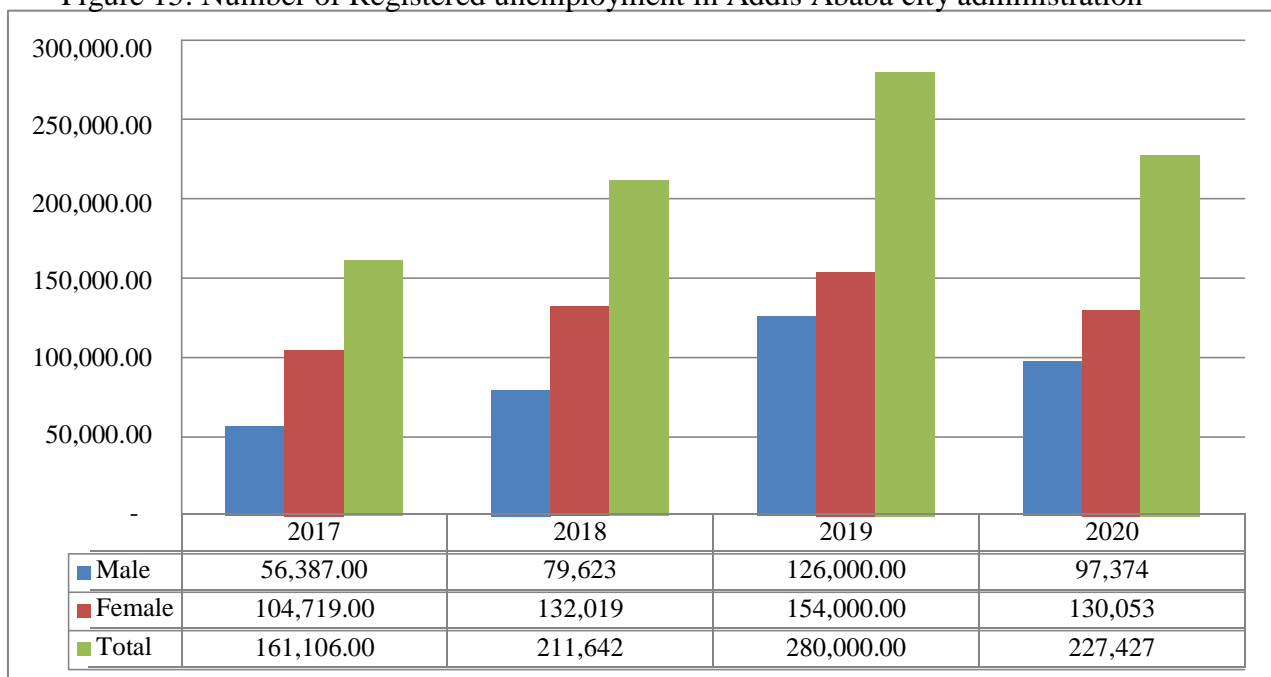
On the other hand, the urban youth unemployment among groups aged 20–24 and 25–29 is significantly high at 30.2% and 24.2%, respectively. This shows that most of the people in Ethiopia especially in urban area are working age groups. Furthermore, the results of the above table 9 confirmed that all returnee migrants (100%) are in the working age groups. The other researcher Nigusse, (2020), stated that unemployment other problems are some of the challenges of returnee migrants in the home country, especially on those who returned from Middle East

Countries. In this regard, the research results confirmed that 81.5% of returnee migrants who participated in the study are from Middle East Countries.

The World Bank Group report(2015) indicated that unemployment rate is high in larger urban cities in Ethiopia. Furthermore, the report also maintains that unemployment in Ethiopia is an urban phenomenon and there is high number of unemployment rate in the capital city Addis Ababa. For example, when we compare Addis Ababa and other cities in Ethiopia, more than one in four households in Addis Ababa is unemployed adult or (28.7%), while in other urban cities it is one in ten households or (10.8%).

According to Central Statistics Agency, and the Addis Ababa Job Creation Enterprise (2020), unemployment in the city is increasing from year to year. Therefore, there are many challenges for city residents; especially returnee migrants are likely to experience them gravely.

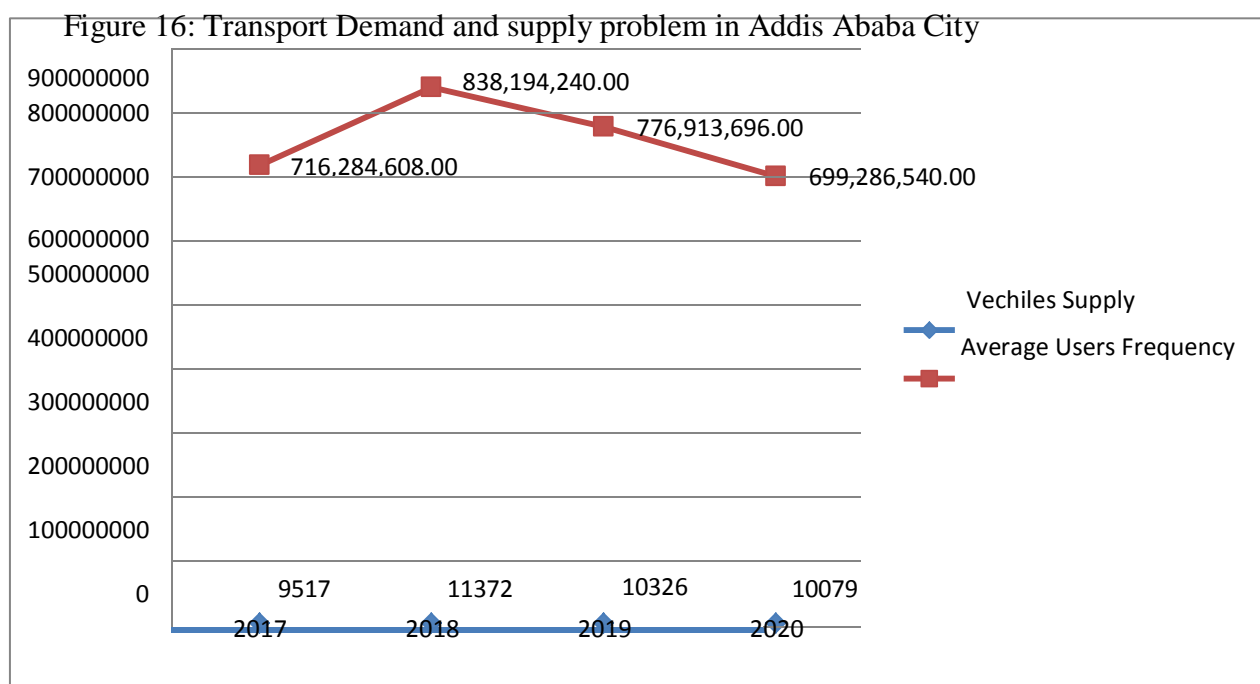
Figure 15: Number of Registered unemployment in Addis Ababa city administration



Sources: Developed by the researcher based on Data from the Central Statistics Agency, and the Addis Ababa Job Creation Enterprise (2021)

The other major challenge of returnee migrants in the city are poor transportation. The above table 9 indicated that 353 (94.90%)of the respondents reported that they agree poor transport supply is one of the challenges for returnee migrants. Among these 189 (50.8%) of respondents strongly agree that transportation problem in the city is one of the major challenges.

From returnee migrants two of interviewee indicated that transportation in Addis Ababa is a critical problem. Even for traveling place to place for looking job and for other issues, poses a critical challenge (Interview, May, 2021, Addis Ababa). According to Schayk, (2014) transportation problem is one of the challenges for returnee migrants to traveling place to place in the city (Schayk, 2014). Furthermore, the other authors, Hagere, (2014) & Mulu, (2015), traffic congestion, inadequate transportation supply, or inadequate public transportation services are the main challenges in Addis Ababa. Moreover, the author adds, the causes are high population density, road incidents, and broken vehicles on the road are restricting road capacity and causing traffic jam (Yilma, 2014)and (Eshete, 2015).



Source: Developed based on data from the Addis Ababa Transport Authority (2021)

The above figure 16 showed that transport demand and supply in the city is a pole apart and there is a big difference.

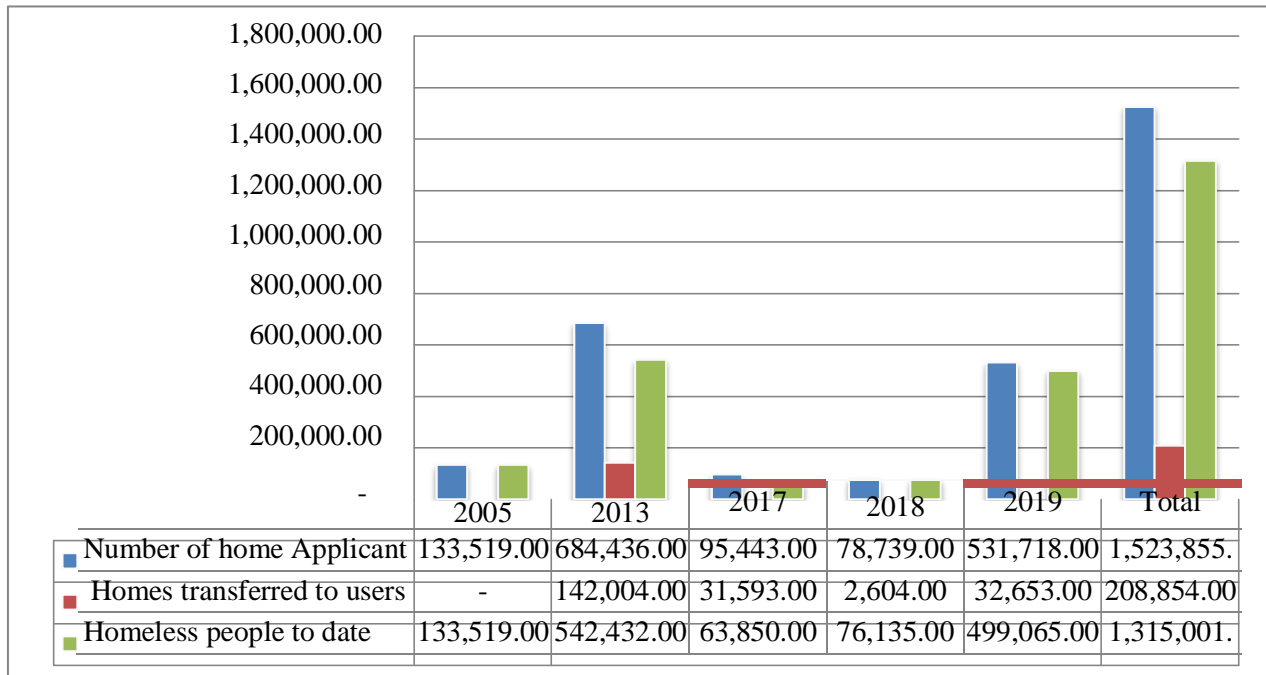
Another author Elias, (2014), argued that there is a big gap between demand and supply of public transport in Addis Ababa. He adds, the causes are shortage of transportation supply, poor access network, lack of adequate transport service, lack of smooth traffic flow, and poor infrastructure for pedestrian in the city. Furthermore, the same author notes that the officials of the Addis

Ababa administration also accepted that there is an inadequate transport services in the city (Meseret, 2014).

The other big problem for returnee migrants in the city is unavailability of house both for residences and businesses. The above table 9 indicated that 348 (93.6%) respondents reported that housing problem in the city is critical issues. Among these 270 (72.6%) of respondents are strongly agree that the challenges of housing problem in Addis Ababa is critical issue. Among three of the interview respondents from returnee migrants argued that housing problem in Addis Ababa is one of the main challenges for returnee migrants. Furthermore, from the key informants, the interviewee noted that lack of basic needs, (food, cloth, and shelter) in Addis Ababa is the main challenges not only for returnee migrants, but also for others homeless citizens in the city (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

According to Birara, (2017) the challenges of returnee migrants are lack of housing and job opportunity. He adds that the problem rising especially, in the Cities area. According to Ethiopia Migration profile, (2017) Ethiopian returnees faces many challenges, and similarly, the local government and societies face great difficulty to assisting the large number of returnees to Ethiopia, such as finances, housing, employment and health. Schayk, (2014) noted that many returnee migrants do not work, due to different reasons based on their country's situation like the high unemployment rate in their country of origin, inability to work due to health problem, and retirements. Furthermore, the author indicated that housing problem and lack of money are some critical challenges for returnee migrants in their country of origin.

Figure 17: Housing demand and Supply in Addis Ababa



Source: Developed by the researcher based on data from the Addis Ababa Housing Cooperation Agency (2021)

As the graph above indicates, there is severe shortage of meeting house demand in the city and that it is increasing. Therefore, the housing problem in the city is critical challenge.

The fourth challenge of returnee migrants in the city is lack of skill development training from government. The above Table 9 depicts that 339 (91.10%) of respondents are agreed that lack of skill development training is challenge for returnee migrants. Among these 148 (40%) of respondents are strongly agreed that it is one of the main challenges to reintegration program for returnee migrants. From the returnee migrants interviewee opinion indicated that all respondents are agreed that there is no support from the government side. Moreover, among returnee migrant interviewee three of them have stated that the skill training support from government is insufficient or nothing for all returnee migrants (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Furthermore, two of the interview respondents, indicated that government has done nothing regarding providing skill development training, even when we applied for land to make investment there is no response from government side. Additionally, one of the interviewee sharing experience as follow:

“I have returned with the media calling of government to return to our country, however, after I arrived no one turned around, and I did not see any support from the government, nothing”

(Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

In contrast, From the key informants two of them, have argued that the government should provide policy direction regarding migration and return migrants and working to facilitate different training center in different sub-city on technical and vocational college collaborating with non-governmental organizations (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). Furthermore, they argued that the role of the government is to provide awareness training on the severity of migration, and provide pre-employment training to those who travel legally (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). Additionally, one of the key informants” argued as follow:

*“The government should provide seed money for some returnee migrant after they have completed their training. The other support from the government is in kind support for hair and dressers, road paving and food preparation trainees. The financial support is also one of the government commitments to avoid transportation problems during training and finally employment”*(Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

The other interviewee from the key informants, the international organization for migration is working with government organization on reintegration program including economic, social, and psycho-social assistance (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

The above responses from both returnee and key informants in public and international organization are different ideas. The returnee migrants agreed that there is no support from the government side for re-integration except training opportunity for a few returnee migrants. However, from public and international organizations interviewee”s argued that the government should support reintegration program providing by short term training in different professions like beauty salon or barber, cooking, garment maker, and others based on returnee choices, and the government should also cover the transportation cost during training (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Among one of the returnee migrants claim that government should provide training, for a few returnee migrants and there is no work, no more job opportunity after training (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

The majority of interviewee 8 (67%) of respondents have agreed that the government support regarding skill development training is not sufficient for reintegration program (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). Chobanyan, (2013), noted that the main problem of returnee migrants is lack of job and other problems (seed money, bad bureaucracy, job place) to start their business. Additionally, the author add, there is no government attention for reintegration to returnee migrants (Chobanyan, 2013). The other author, (Wickramasekara, 2019), argued that the returnee migrants needs special assistance for reintegration from government, because they faced multifaceted problems like unemployment, basic needs and social issues up on arrival. Therefore, they need government support to reintegration (Wickramasekara, 2019).

Regarding the utility services challenges, Table 9 depicts that 338 (90.90%) of respondents have agree that lack of utility (water, electricity, and internet access) in the city is the other challenges for returnee migrants. Among these 171 (46%) of respondents reported that strongly believe that lack of water, electricity, and internet access in the city is a major problems.

Among one of the interview respondents argued that the basic needs including water in the city is critical problem (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). Dechassa, (2015) argued that there is inadequate water, electricity, and internet access in the city, especially water shortage is the major challenges for people who live in Addis Ababa. Furthermore, the same author indicated that in 2009 the water demand in Addis Ababa is only 61%. In addition, that the level of drinking water coverage in the country is only 24% and which is less than sub-Saharan Africa countries (Dechassa, 2015).

Regarding Electricity supply in the city, the World Bank Group (2015), indicated that electric service disruption is one of the challenges in the city. The report adds, the electricity access in Addis Ababa closed to 100%, however the frequent interruption and outages are the problem for community in the city (World Bank Group, 2015). Furthermore, Workneh &Getachewu, (2015), argued that there is energy poverty in the city, because of many people suffer from lack of electricity shortage, which means some households have little or no access to use energy for cooking, clean, and access to use electric appliance (Bekele, Negatu &Eshete, 2015).

The other researcher Getachew, (2018), indicated that, the lack of access to use electricity as a vicious cycle with developing country like Ethiopia. He continues to argue that in the country

people do not have enough energy power to invest and work, because of low limits of power (Beyene, 2018).

The other challenge in Addis Ababa is poor internet access. The internet disconnection and lack of access to all community in the city is one of a main challenge. Setrana & Tona (2014), argued that the returnee migrants are facing poor infrastructure of the country. Some of them are erratic supply of water, frequent disruption of electric power supply. Therefore, the returnee migrants has highly frustrated by poor infrastructure in the city.

The last challenge for returnee migrants from the topic is bad bureaucracy and poor customer handling. The above Table 9 depicts 274(75.7%), and 257 (69.10%). of respondents agree that both bad bureaucracy and poor customer handling are big problem for returnee migrants respectively. Among these 71 (19.10%), and 124 (33.30%) of respondents reported that strongly agree that both are the main challenges for returnee migrants respectively. Among one of the returnee migrant sharing his experiences as follow:

*“There is discrimination in the city administration; work is obtained through bribery, there is no fairness in government offices, and competition is not based on knowledge but on bribery” (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).*

Furthermore, the other interviewee respondents noted that there is no support from the government and no well customer handling and good bureaucracy (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). According to Stocchiero, (2017), bad governance in the government side is one of the critical challenges to support and re-integrate returnee migrants (Andrea Stocchiero, 2017). The other researcher Endale, (2019), noted that bad governance and social exclusion in the society are some of government related problems. The author adds, overall the government functions like bad bureaucracy in the public office and lack of genuine service for re-integration, are the major challenges for returnee migrants in the city. Moreover, the same author indicated that some bureaucratic problems in public offices including, corruption, unfair treatment of returnee migrants, unorganized reintegration support are another bad governance activity which are affecting returnee migrants. Finally, the researcher concluded that due to unfair treatment returnee migrants were discouraged and hopeless by bribery, corruption which are characterized by public services (Nigussie, 2019).

The Setrana,& Tona (2014), noted that delay services in public offices including applied to land or house for work or business, obtaining water and electricity service, to obtain ID card and other services from public offices are impossible or it takes a long time, Thus many returnee migrants frustrated about the poor service delivery and poor ethics and behavior in most public servants in the city (Setrana and Tonah, 2014).

To sum up the topic, the respondents reported that lack of job opportunity and housing problem is one of the major challenges they encounter after return. Most of respondents believed that lack of job opportunity and housing problem in the city is one of the most important challenges they face after getting back to their respective home. This finding is congruence with the above Table 8 mentioned findings on the cause of migration i.e., lack of job opportunity, and house problem which had pushed migrants out of their home country. This indicates that the employment situation (i.e. lack of job opportunity), and housing problem are caused them to go out their home country never been improved, even after returned back to home country.

### **4.2.3 Expectations of Returnee Migrants**

Table 10 Results Regarding Expectation of Returnee Migrants

Items	SD		DA		NE		AG		SA		Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Government should be willing and committed to support returnee migrants	1	0.3	3	0.8	8	2.2	209	56.2	151	40.60	4.36
The community should provide shelter (housing)	4	1.1	4	1.1	20	5.4	129	34.7	215	57.80	4.47
Government should provide seed money for returnee migrant to start business	2	0.5	10	2.7	11	3	164	44	185	49.70	4.40
The society need to boost morale of returnee migrants to feel at home psychologically to thrive	4	1.1	2	0.5	5	1.3	206	55.4	153	41.1	4.33
Government should provide skill development training for returnee migrants to help them start business	1	0.3	6	1.6	3	0.8	180	48.4	182	48.9	4.44
There must be a kind of coordinating structure or task group to facilitate societies support to returnee migrants	0	0	7	1.9	4	1.1	209	56.2	152	40.9	4.36
Government should facilitate basic needs for returnee migrants including house	0	0	7	1.9	4	1.1	98	26.3	263	70.7	4.66

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

We have seen from Table 10 above, there are listed seven statements expectations of returnee migrant and both male and female respondents agreed that expectations from government and community.

Thus, 360 (96.8%) of respondents have agree that their expectations is government should be willing and committed to support returnee migrants. Among these 151 (40.6%) of respondents reported that strongly agreed that the commitment of government support is one of the basic expectations. Furthermore, 344(92.50%), 349(937%), 359 (96.5%), 362 (97.3%),361 (97.1%), and 361 (97%), respondents have agreed and strongly believe that their expectations such as the community should provide shelter (housing), government should provide seed money for returnee migrant to start business, the society need to boost morale of returnee migrants to feel at home psychologically to thrive, government should provide skill development training for returnee migrants to help them to start business, there must be a kind of coordinating structure or task group to facilitate societies support to returnee migrants, and government should facilitate basic needs for returnee migrants including house respectively.

Among four of the interview respondents from returnee migrant, the government should create and facilitate favorable working environment. The other returnees also sharing the above interviewee responses of government support (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Additionally, from the key informants two of interviewee indicated, returnee migrant needs government and community support for their reintegration program. Furthermore, the two of interview respondents noted that those returnees are in high demand from both the government and the community, and they expected ambitious demand for their reintegration. (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). Additionally, one of the returnee migrants said, the returnee perception is not only financial support, but also social support from government and society (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). The ILO, (2018), assessment report indicated that the aim of returnee migrant expectation is income generating, for home country reintegration and to live better life in the country. Additionally, the report noted that the main expectations of returnee migrants are basic needs (food, cloth, and house), seed money to running business, job placement, land or place to running business, technical support and access to government services. Furthermore, the

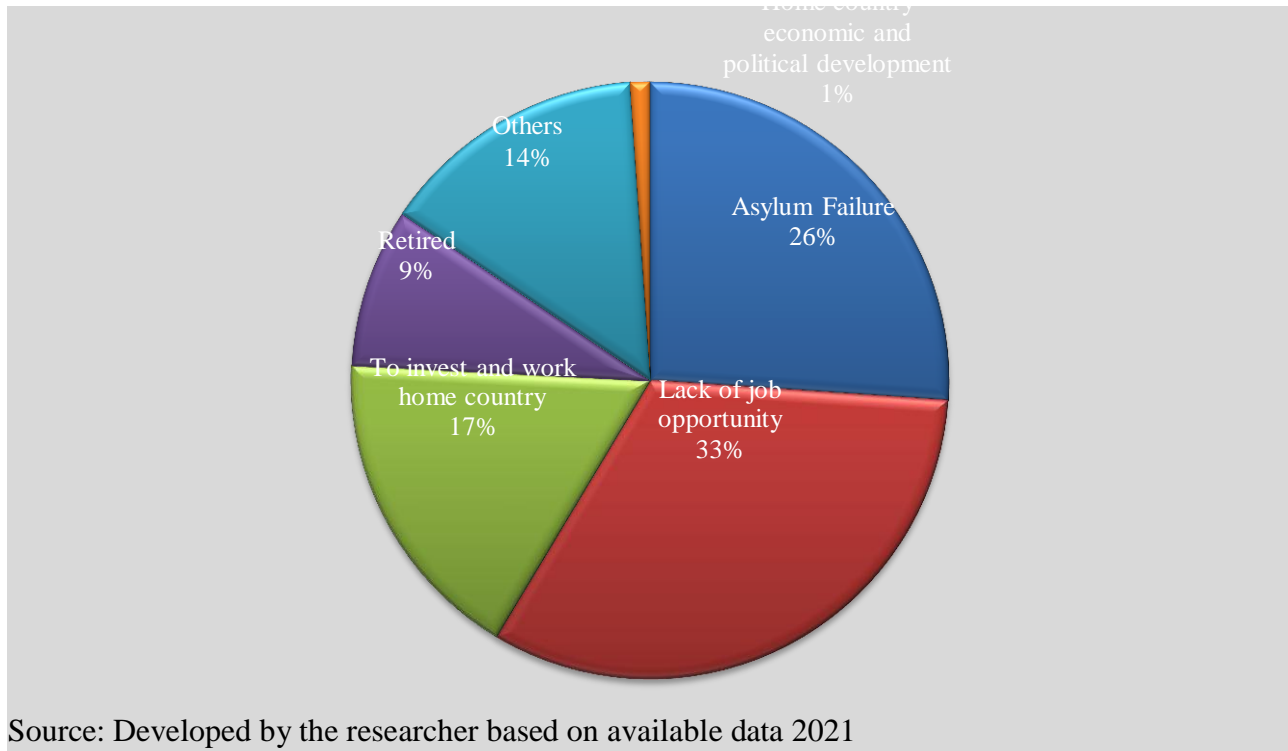
returnee pursued that training opportunity like vocational training; business development service, computer trainings and other supports from the government are the key expectations (Mebratu & Yoseph 2018).

The other researchers (Lang, &Nadler, 2020), indicated that, returnee migrants expected higher wage than the local community, and it is impossible to get such amount of salary on their expectation due to different characteristics (work experience, education level, and preparedness)(Lang *et al.*, 2012)The authors Bilgility, Kuschminderz, & Siegel, (2018) argued that returnee migrants to Ethiopia are facing many challenges up on arrival in their home country, and expected support from society and government for reintegration program (Ozge Bilgili, Katie Kuschminder, 2018) Additionally Selamawit, (2013) noted, that returnees expected financial supports from their family members, and other community, because of re-integration challenges(Selamawit, 2013).According to Akesson, &Eriksson,( 2015) returnee migrants dealing to family and community member to achieve their expectation in the home country(Åkesson & Eriksson, 2015).

#### **4.2.4 Reasons of Returnee Migrants**

Question: Why did you return back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?

Figure 18: The difference Reasons migrants returned back



The above pie graph (figure 18) clearly depicts that there exists different reasons for migrants returned back to home country. The figure 18 illustrates that lack of job opportunity in the host country 121 (32.53%), Asylum Failure 97(26.07%), to Invest and work at home Country 64 (17.20%), and retired 32(8.6%), are the major reasons people returned back to home country. Among the other respondents N=54 (14.52%) of those returned from Libya, Lebanon, and South Sudan describes that war, internal political shocks and conflict with employer are also the other reasons to returned back. Furthermore, overload work and low wage, homesickness, illness, and COVID -19 pandemic is also another reason for returnee migrants backed to home country. Additionally, 4 (1.08%) of respondents indicated that the home country economic development and political stability are the other reason for returned back to home. In this regard, from returnee migrants two of interview respondents noted that illness or health problem in the host country is some reasons for migrants returned back to country of origin. One of returnee migrant has elaborated her experience as follows:

“I couldn’t cope all works due to pain of my eyes, the temperature also was too high” (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

The other three interviewees from returnee migrants, indicated that lack of legal residence permit in the host country is promoted deportation by host country (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa). Similarly, the other two returnee migrants claim that low salary in host Country and retirement are the other reasons migrants return back to home country. Among interview respondents one of the returnee migrant demonstrated her experience as follow:

“I have returned back to my country for to invest in my country, because low salary in the host country” (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Based on the above descriptive analysis results and interviewee responses the major reason for returnee migrants are lack of job opportunity and asylum failure in the host country. According to Segal (2017), the reason of migrants returned back to home country is lack of job opportunity in the host country.

From one of the key informants noted his idea as follow:

*“There are different reasons why people returned back to their home country. The political factor is one of the reasons, for example the case of Lebanon (Beirut) is political crises in the country and the consequence is economic crises. The second reason is natural disaster at worldwide like COVID 19 pandemic. Furthermore, failures of asylum seeking and denied of residence and work permit especially for illegal migrants also other reason for migrants returned back to home country”*  
(Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Additionally, two of interview respondents from the key informants, the reason of returnee is home sickness with the family, stable political situation in the country and the political crisis in the host country (Lebanon, Yemen, and Libya) (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

Retirement or accomplished the contract, and illness, is also the other reasons of returnee migrants backed to home country. According to Elijah (2013) view the reason is either socio economic development in the country or challenges of host country like political and economic

crisis or new migration policy. Furthermore, Segal (2017) argued that migrant choices to return their country by the following reasons: to sharing their country culture and values to their children, homeland economic development and political stability, accomplished their mission and lack of job opportunity in the host country. The same author argued that involuntarily returnees are also deported without their consent because of a resident permit to stay in the host country (Segal, 2017).

The other author Cassarino(2004) pointed out that the reason of returnee migrants are, reintegration failure in the host country, retired i.e. they wants to spend the remaining time in their home land and to invest in the country of origin.

From one of the key informants noted that:

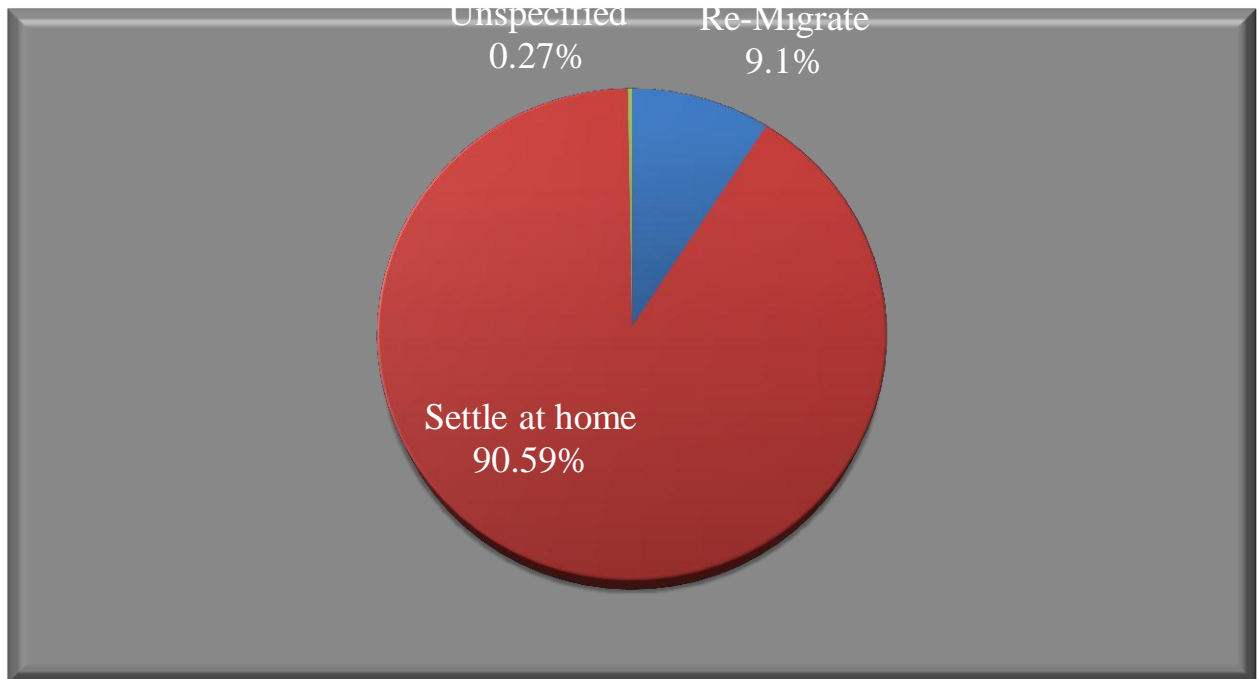
*“Returnees shall be repatriated for various reasons, due to lack of legal residency and work permits, especially those who have left illegally in the host country and will be forced to return or be deported for crimes committed in the host country. Another reason for their return is that they return on their own time in lack of job opportunity in the receiving countries and some returned due to COVID-19.”*  
*(Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).*

According to Coniglio & Brzozowski, (2018) migrants are pushing forcefully by governments of host countries because of illegal migrants. The same author argued that the decisions of returnee migrants to return back their home country is depending on their preparedness, which means the high level preparation is success or gain economic benefit or opportunity upon return and contributes for home country. On the other hand returnees have low level preparation or to pay low attention to return back facing difficulty in the home country and finally re-migrate the same country or other country(Coniglio & Brzozowski, 2018).

#### 4.2.5 Returnee Migrants Intention and Feelings

Question: What is your future plan?

Figure 19: Returnee Migrants Future plan



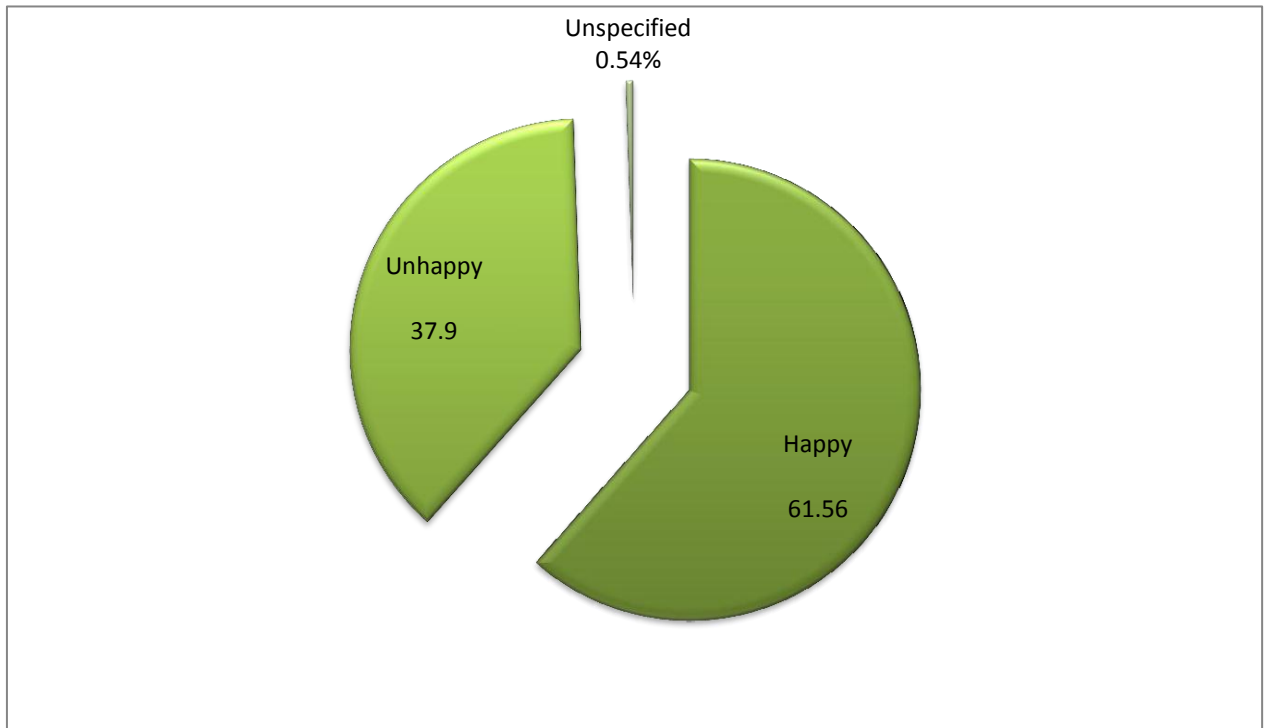
Source: Developed by the researcher based on available data 2021

We have seen from figure 19 above, 337 (91%) of respondents replied that they have no plans to re-migrate abroad and settle at home. However, 34 (9%) replied that they have plans to re-migrate the Same Country or other country and 1 (0.27%) returnee unspecified his intentions.

The reasons of respondents who have plans of re-migrate to the same country or another country describes that lack of job opportunity, housing problem both for residences and business, and hardship living standard in Addis Ababa are some pushing factors returnee migrants decided to re-migrate.

Question: How do you feel after returned back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?

Figure 20: Returnee Migrants Feeling



Source: Developed by the researcher based on available data 2021

As it can be seen from figure19above, 229 (62%) of respondents feels happy in return back to home country, While, 141 (38%) of respondents have demonstrated feelings of unhappiness in return back to home country, and 2 (0.54%) unspecified whether happy or unhappy. Among the respondents who replied as happy in their return have stated, joining with their family, and to be back peacefully in home country are as the major reasons for their happiness. However, those respondents who replied as unhappy have mentioned reasons such as lack of job opportunity, life is very expensive, the government should not assist us to work individually or organized way by partnership and the life is also chaotic are as the major once for their feelings of unhappiness, and two of them has unspecified their feelings (Interview May, 2021 Addis Ababa).

## 4.2.6 Years Stayed abroad and Mechanisms of Returned back

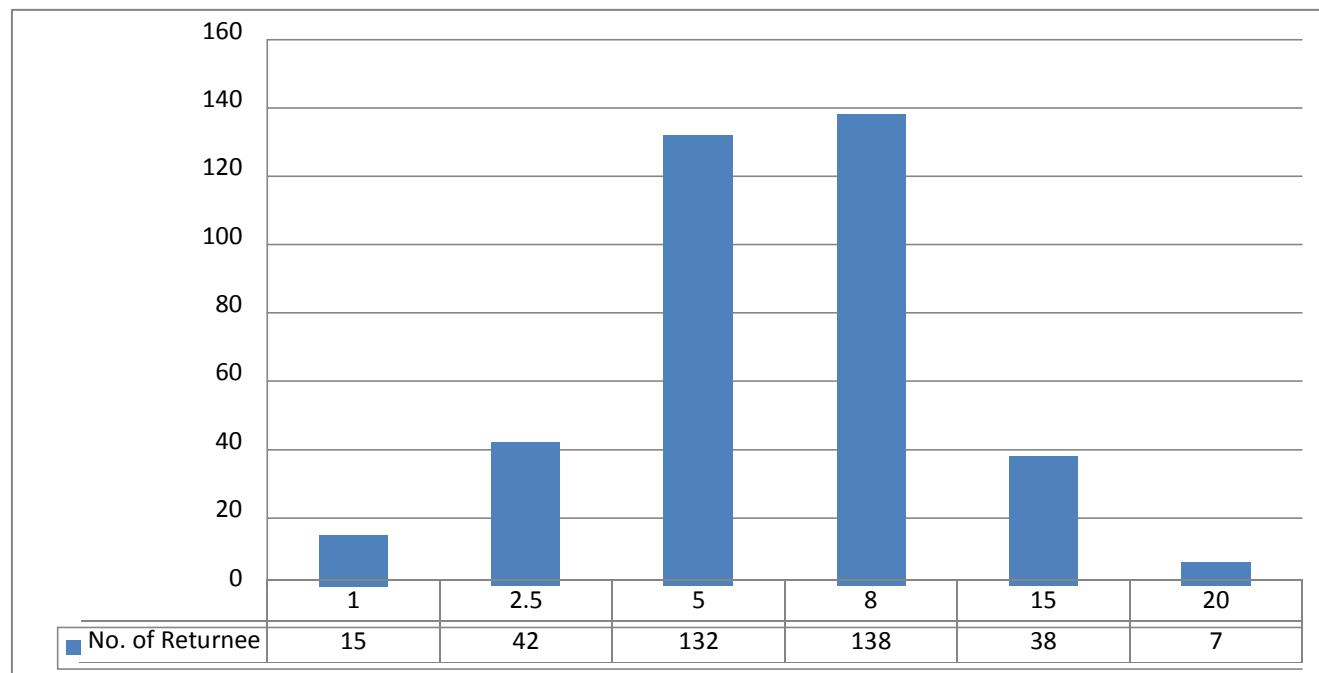
Question: How long stayed abroad?

Table 11: Years of Stayed Abroad

Years Stayed Abroad	No	%
1 year and below	15	4.03
1.6 – 2.6 years	42	11.29
3 – 5.6 years	132	35.48
6 – 10 years	138	37.10
11 – 19 years	38	10.22
20 Years and above	7	1.88
Total	372	100

Source: Field data collected February – April 2021

Figure: 21 based on the above table 11 numbers of returnee migrants and average years stayed in their respective host country



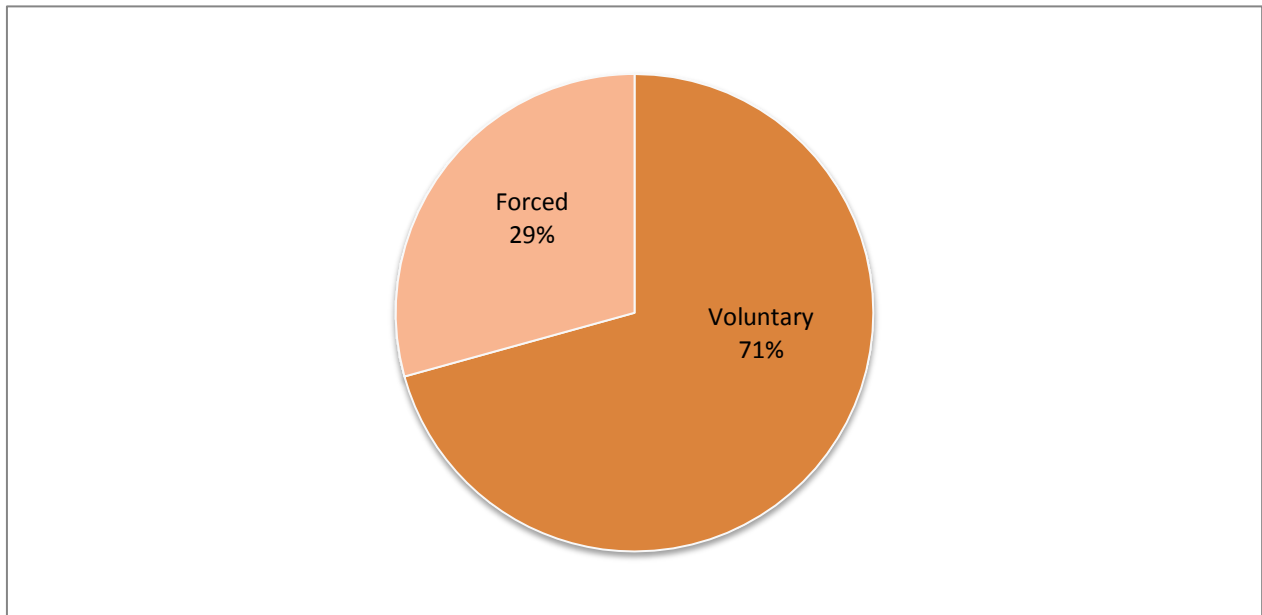
Source: Developed by the researcher based on available data 2021

According to the above table11, depicts that 138 (37.1%) of respondents stayed between sixteen years; 132 (35.48%) of respondents stayed between three up to five years with six months; 38 (10.22%) of respondents stayed 11-19 years and 42 (11.29%) of respondents stayed Between 1 year with six months and 2 years and six months. Whereas, 15 (4.03%), and 7 (1.88%) of respondents stayed only below one year and above 20 years respectively.

#### 4.2.7 Mechanisms and Modalities of Returned back

Question: How do you returned back to Addis Ababa /Ethiopia?

Figure 22: Mechanisms of Returnee Migrants to return back

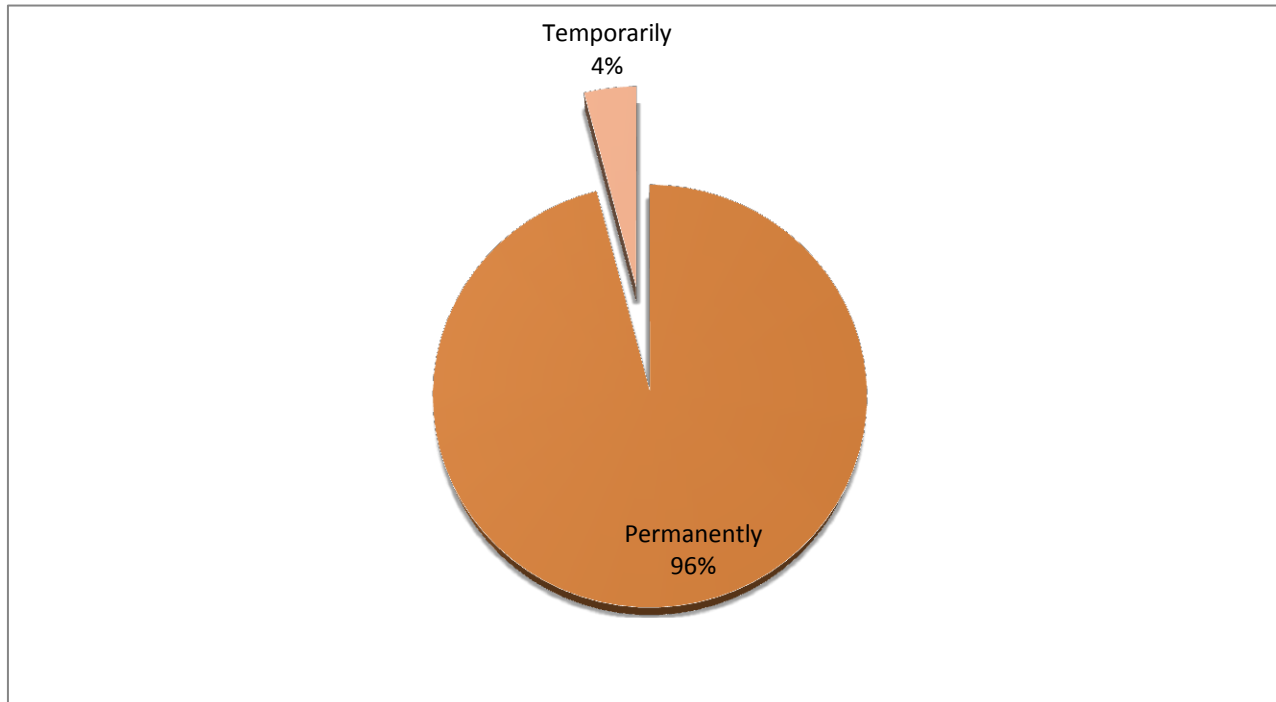


Source: Developed by the researcher based on available data 2021

As it can be seen from Figure 20above, 263 (71%) of respondents replied that they have voluntarily returned and109 (29%) replied that they have forcedly returned back to their home country.

Question: By what modality do you returned back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?

Figure 23: Modality of returned back



Source: Developed by the researcher based on available data 2021

As it can be seen from figure 23 above, 357 (96%) of respondents replied that they have permanently returned and 15 (4.03%) replied that they have temporarily returned back to their home country.

## **Chapter Five**

### **Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations**

This chapter comprises the summary, conclusions and recommendations drawn from the study. The first part of the chapter presents the summary followed by conclusions on the challenges and expectations of returnees from the government and society based. On the last part of the chapter recommendations including suggestions on policy implications are offered.

#### **5.1 Summary**

Based on the research findings, the causes of migration in Addis Ababa, in order of their importance or significance, are housing problem, lack of job opportunity, and food insecurity in the city.

Regarding housing problem in the city, the city administration has been working on the condominium housing program since 2005 to tackle the housing problem in the city. For the last 16 years (2005 - 2020) more than 1.5 million people are registered for condominium house for residential home. However, the City Administration could provide only 13.7% of houses for beneficiaries and the rest 86.3% of registered house seekers are waiting for delivery of the houses and are suffering by high rent of houses. Therefore, the desperate residents especially youth leave their home country and migrate abroad in search of a better life for them and also to be able to support their family back home.

Regarding unemployment challenges, according to the research findings, lack of job opportunity is the major challenges in the city. For the last four years more than 880,000 people are seeking job opportunity in the city. However, the City Administration is unable to provide job opportunity for citizens, because of poor economy in the home country, unfair resource distribution and low salary rates are the causes for unemployment in the city. Thus, lack of job opportunity in the city is the second most important cause for migration.

The other cause of migration in the city administration is food insecurity. The study confirmed that most migrants are suffering by chronic food problem. In the city from 2017 – 2019 more than 345,000 of households are suffering from food shortage. Therefore, the City Administration has been supporting 84% of households through safety Net Program, which is public works beneficiary work to get paid as a way of conditional transfer and 66,546 households (16%) of the food vulnerable received direct supported by cash. All food vulnerable people are living below the poverty line and suffering from food shortage. High rates of urban poverty, unregulated market and expensive market prices for food items are causes for food insecurity in Addis Ababa. Therefore, food insecurity and poverty in Addis Ababa are the other major causes for migration

The research result depicts that returnee migrants have been suffering multifaceted problems after their return. Majority of returnee migrants experience different challenges like unemployment, housing problem, poor transportation and lack of skills training support from government side. Furthermore, inefficient and ineffective bureaucracy, poor customer handling, and insufficient supply of utility (water, electricity and internet access) are also other challenges.

Regarding the unemployment problem in the city for the last four years (2017 – 2020), more than 5000 migrants returned back to home country Addis Ababa. After their return back to Addis Ababa, they expected better life style in the city, but their expectations are unmet since unemployment rate in the city is increasing throughout the years. Therefore, unemployment problem is not only for returnee migrants, but also for overall residents in the city. The research result confirmed that 80% of returnees are unemployed, which means most of them are suffering by lack of job opportunity. Therefore, returnee migrants suffer by lack of job opportunity due to high rate of unemployment, unfair allocation of the available job slots, corruption and related challenges.

Regarding, housing problem in the city is also one of the other problems for returnee migrants, because the demand of house seeker and the city house supply are not balanced. Out of registered of home seekers more than 85% of house seeker suffering by house problem. Furthermore, the study indicated that housing problem in the city is critical challenges for returnee migrants.

Regarding poor public transportation in the city, the high demand of people in the city and inadequate supply is one of the challenges for returnee migrants. The research confirmed that supply shortage, poor access of traffic flow, and poor infrastructure are the causes for adequate transportation supply in the city. Therefore, the transportation shortage in the city is one of the big problems for returnee migrants.

Regarding poor customer handling and bad bureaucracy, the study indicated that the city administration service rendering and customer handling is characterized by poor and bad bureaucracy. Additionally, unfair treatment, corrupted practices, and unorganized reintegration support are some of them. Therefore, the returnee migrants are frustrated and they were discouraged and hopeless by public services in the city. Because their expectations were get services without any difficulty and a good bureaucracy manner.

The poor accesses of utility supply (water, electricity and internet access) are also the other challenges for returnee migrants in the city. The level of water demand in Addis Ababa is high and the city administration has unable to provide the adequate water supply for the city residents. Moreover, overall the country level of water supply is less than sub-Saharan countries.

Regarding the reasons of migrants returned back to home country, lack of job opportunity in the host countries, due to political crisis (Yemen, Lebanon, and Libya), asylum failure due to lack of residence and work permit, and worldwide environmental crises (COVID – 19) pandemic. Furthermore, the study indicated that to invest and work at home country and retirement are also the other main reasons. Illness, homesickness, overloads work and under payment in the host country are also the reasons for migrants returned back to country of origin.

Regarding expectations of returnee migrant, they anticipate high demand and their perceptions are different one to others. However, the research results indicated that the main expectations of all returnee migrants are supports from government and society for reintegration. Therefore, favorable working environment, shelter, and seed money for to start business and training for reintegration are expected from government and similarly, psychological treatment and moral support from community. Finally, the returnee migrant anticipation is not luxuries life but the basic needs for survival in Addis Ababa city administration.

## **5.2 Conclusions**

Based on the findings of the study the following conclusions are drawn.

### **5.2.1 Regarding causes of migration**

Migration is caused by multiple factors but it was learnt that poverty and limited opportunity structures in the home country were found to be the underlying causes. This could, again be, related to the overall poor economic development of the country but also, according to the findings from the study participants, housing problem, food insecurity in the city and lack of job opportunity are the major causes for migration, and the unfair distribution and access to the limited resources and opportunities also causes for migration.

### **5.2.2 Regarding challenges of returnee migrants**

Migrants faced array of challenges after their return back to their home country. Respondents were of the view that there is no improvement to their condition before departure and after they returned backing. Based on this study most of the migrants" returnees are economic or labor migrants. Looking into their experience revealed that all the returnee migrants were not able to achieve their goal to migrate to the host countries. This has created an overall sense of dissatisfaction and resentment in them. Part of their dissatisfaction could be explained in terms of the fact that some of them were forced to return which made their return abrupt and their settlement here back home even more difficult.

The study on employment indicate that for the year 2019 there are approximately 11 million youth job-seekers, and every year two million more youth join the labor force and the demand for jobs is projected to continue to rise in the coming years as well. But the same reports and official statistics indicate that the government can only create one million jobs per year. This means the country"s economy is not generating enough and adequate jobs to address increasing demand of unemployment in the country. Therefore the returnee migrant situation and suffering in lack of job opportunity is in tune with the national level predicament. Finally, the study concluded that

the major challenges are unemployment, basic needs, and transportation problem. Additionally, bad governance in the city is also the other challenges.

### **5.2.3 Regarding Expectations of Returnee Migrants**

The returnee migrants on the other hand have high expectations both from government and society for reintegration. Some of them are reintegration support including seed money, skill training, and shelter from government and social reintegration from community. However, there seems to be little consideration and coordination from government side. It is important to underline the need to do more than responding and containment measures to media pressures on plight of migrants and returnees. There has to be a sustained engagement and attention given to the problem of international migration and challenges of returnees in Ethiopia. Poor reception and treatment of returnees discourages returnees and fuels migrants' decision to re-migrate.

### **5.2.4 Regarding the Reasons of Return by Migrants**

The host country's decision to evict the migrants, which was the case with migrants in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other countries, the study also found out that the major reasons for migrants to return back to their home country are lack of job in the host country due to political crises in the host country. This refers to those returned from Libya, Lebanon, and South Sudan while negative outcome on their application for asylum are also a reason. The COVID 19 crisis has exacerbated their plight both as a push factor from the host country and also as a limiting factor in their efforts to re-integrate into their communities upon return.

## **5.3 Recommendations**

Based on the study findings, the following recommendations are made to concerned government body and other stakeholders to address the challenges and problems of migrant returnees in the City Administration.

The findings of the study show that people migrated abroad in looking of job opportunity and better life. So, the City Administration officials and other stakeholders should pay attention to the issue and support residents by creating more opportunities and a fair,

accessible system. Moreover, the respondent's educational profile indicates that more than 75% of returnee migrants educational levels are secondary school and below. Thus, it can be said that many people from the City emigrate without adequate knowledge, skills, and information about the risks and negative aspects of migration. Therefore, in addition to ensuring access to good and quality education to all, there has to be awareness creation training from the City Administration in collaboration with other stakeholders (IOM, and ILO) about the advantageous and disadvantageous of migration, especially on illegal migration.

In the long run, it is recommended that there is need to include migration as a one subject in the country's education curriculum where it is provided for all citizens to help better understanding of the phenomena with its pros and cons. This is one way to contain migration while also alerting those who might fall victim to dealers and decide to migrate illegally

To tackle illegal migration and human trafficking, the government should improve its border control infrastructures with a view to curb illegal migrants and human smuggling.

More specifically, returnee migrants in the city have multifaceted challenges; unemployment and poverty are the most pressing. To tackle these problems, the City Administration should facilitate and support the reintegration programs in coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders and the community. Furthermore, the government should use different mechanisms like short- and long-term trainings based on their educational status to reintegrate and to curb their challenges.

Moreover, the returnee migrants face basic needs problem and the government should facilitate the safety net program both in the form of conditional support or direct cash support to help them to tackle their food problems, for instance. The other basic need for returnee migrants is housing problem in the city. Therefore, the City Administration officials should pay attention to inspect and evaluate the housing management system, ensure fair distribution of resources, customer handling, and overall bureaucracy in public offices including at kebele and sub-city level.

The returnee migrants have big expectations; while the government's available support schemes and the needs of returnees are not at par. It is important that the necessary support and budget are allocated by the government for reintegration program. Furthermore, the government should coordinate all the relevant offices and stakeholders to allocate budget and

initial capital or seed money to returnee migrants in the form of loans or grant to support their reintegration, because returnee migrants do not have their own funds to work and invest in business.

Finally, at country level there is no migration policy. Therefore, the country needs a holistic migration policy considering returnee migrants. The policy should cover inclusion of migration as a topic or subject of study at schools and forums, provision of grants and subsidies to cover the initial costs of reintegration, working place, skills development training and assistance in the form of tax exemption, and support towards the acquisition of some form of accommodation in the short term. Furthermore, the research result depicts that more than 75% of returnee migrants educational level is secondary school and below. Therefore, the Ethiopian government should pay attention to provide migration education as one subject at country level, because migration is inevitable phenomena at country level and global as well.

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## Appendixes

Addis Ababa University

College of Development Studies

Center for Regional and Local Development studies (RLDS)

### Appendix 1 - Interview guide

The main objective of this interview is to collect the required data for the study in titled as *Challenges and Expectations of Ethiopian Migrants: the case of selected returnees in Addis Ababa*. The data gathered will be used to complete the MA thesis to be done in partial fulfillment of the requirements of Master's Degree in Regional and Local Development Studies (RLDS). The guide contains the following points.

1. Types of interview: The researcher will use semi-structured interview types, which is open-ended question and it gives opportunity for both the interviewer and interviewee for discussion. It helps also for further discussion to interviewee. Furthermore, Responses can either be tape-recorded or written down by the interviewer. When starting discussion the researcher will ask permission to take note or to record.
2. Interview Method: The researcher uses face to face method which means the researcher and respondents will meet and discuss together and it provides detail information and social context events of each participant and it helps independence of respondents. Furthermore, it helps collecting high quality data and if the questions are complex and lengthy clarifies the question and correct misunderstanding. If the respondents refuse to meet face to face interview due to COVID 19 pandemic, the researcher will meet telephone conversation.
3. Select Respondents: the researcher will use purposive sampling method to identify the respondents and uses snowball technique to get the respondents which is use **networks**, either existing ones known to the researcher, or ones known to key informants in the setting. Based on this technique the researcher will select 12 respondent's (7 returnee, 4 government office, and 1 International organization).
4. Confidentiality: The information of all respondents are will be kept confidential and used only for an academic purpose.

## Appendix 2 - Interview Questionnaires for Returnee migrants

### Part I – Basic information

1. Sex:     Male                     Female
2. Age: .....
3. Marital status:   Married      Single      Divorced      Widowed
4. Occupation:    Government employee     NGO employee   
                  Self employee     Unemployed
5. Educational status:   Secondary school and below     TVET      College Diploma   
                          BA Degree     Masters Degree     PhD Degree

### Part II – In-depth interview

1. Why did you migrate to abroad?
2. What challenges did you face before migrate abroad?
3. What challenges do you face after returned back to Addis Ababa/ Ethiopia?
4. How do you feel after returned back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?
5. What is your expectation from Society or government?
6. How do you see the government support or willingness to solve your problems?
7. Why do you returned back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?
8. What is your intention/future plan?

### Appendix 3 - Interview questionnaires for public /International organizations

Dear respondents;

The purpose of this interview is to collect the required data for the study in titled as *Challenges and Expectations of Ethiopian Migrants: the case of selected returnees in Addis Ababa*. The data gathered will be used to complete the MA thesis to be done in partial fulfillment of the requirements of Master’s Degree in Regional and Local Development Studies (RLDS). The researcher assures you that information provided will be kept confidential and used only for an academic purpose. Therefore, you are kindly requested to participate as much as possible to the best of your knowledge and experience.

I thank you in advance

Yohannes Shode

#### Part I – Basic information

1. Name of organization: .....
2. Name of interviewee: .....
3. Position: .....
4. Sex:     Male                       Female
5. Age: .....
6. Marital status:   Married      Single      Divorced      Widowed
7. Educational status:   BA Degree    Masters Degree                       PhD Degree

#### Part II – In-depth interview Guide

1. What is your organization mandate in terms of migration or return migration?
2. What are the main causes or pushing factors of people migrated abroad?

3. For the last four years (2017-2020) many migrants returned back to their home country including Addis Ababa and facing different challenges. Do you have any ideas about the challenges? Please explain it.
4. What kinds of support provided your office to returnees to curb their challenges or problems in Addis Ababa?
5. What is the role of government/ organization in terms of migration in general and return migrants particularly?
6. What is the returnee migrants" expectation from government or society?
7. Do you have the idea why migrants returned back to their home country?
8. Do you have any additional idea or recommendation about returnee migrants" challenges & expectations in Addis Ababa?

## Appendix 4 - Questionnaires for Returnee Migrants

Dear respondents;

The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect the required data for the study in titled as *Challenges and Expectations of Ethiopian Migrants: the case of selected returnees in Addis Ababa*. The data gathered will be used to complete the MA thesis to be done in partial fulfillment of the requirements of Master's Degree in Regional and Local Development Studies (RLDS). The researcher assures you that information provided will be kept confidential and used only for an academic purpose. Therefore, you are kindly requested to respond all questions as much as possible to the best of your knowledge and experience.

I thank you in advance

Yohannes Shode

Direction: please put a tick (✓) mark to the questions as required

### Part I – Background Information (biographic data)

1. Sex: Male  Female
2. Age: .....
3. Marital status: Married  Single  Divorced  Widowed
4. Occupation: Government employee  NGO employee   
Self-employee  Unemployed
5. Educational status: Secondary school and below  TVET  College Diploma   
BA Degree  Master's Degree  PhD

Part II: - Regarding Challenges that causes Migration

Please put a (√) mark for the option of your choice that reflects your level of agreement with the given statement.

S.No	Statement of the causes for migration	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	strongly agree
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Fear of conviction for opposing political position					
2	Rampant food insecurity in the community					
3	Drought due to lack of rainfall					
4	Separated family member ( need to rejoin loved ones)					
5	Recurrence of ethnic conflict					
6	lack of Job opportunity					
7	Soil degradation					
8	Lack of better health facilities and services					
9	Lack of democracy					
10	Lack of market for production					
11	Natural calamity or disaster – floods, earthquakes etc.					
12	Lack of access to education and training					
13	Security threat due to political instability					
14	Housing problem					
15	Lack of loan facility from bank to start business					
16	Lack of justice					
17	Lack of land supply to invest					

### Part III: - Regarding Challenges Returnee Migrants

Please put a (√) mark for the option of your choice that reflects your level of agreement with the given statement.

Statement of the faced Specific challenge		Strongly disagree		Neutral	Agree	strongly agree
		1	2	3	4	5
S.No						
1	Loss of social network					
2	Lack of job opportunity					
3	Poor customer handling in the city administration					
4	Lack of government willing to support returnee migrants					
5	Lack of quality health service					
6	Housing problem both for residence and business					
7	Rampant bribery/corruption for public service delivery					
8	Lack of government provides seed money as grant for returnee migrant to start business					
9	Lack of quality education access to children					
10	Lack of loan facility from bank to start business					
11	Bad bureaucracy					
12	Insufficient utility (water, electricity internet) access					
13	Lack of skill development training for returnee migrants to help them to start business					
14	Poor Transportation facility					

Part IV - Regarding Expectation of Returnee Migrants

Please put a (√) mark for the option of your choice that reflects your level of agreement with the given statement.

S.No	Statement of the expectation	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Government should be willing / committed to support returnee migrants					
2	The community should provide shelter (housing)					
3	Government should provide seed money / grant for returnee migrant to start business					
4	The society need to boost morale of returnee migrants to feel at home psychologically to thrive					
5	Government should provide skill development training for returnee migrants to help them start business					
6	There must be a kind of coordinating structure / task group to facilitate societies support to returnee migrants					
7	Government should facilitate housing / basic needsfor returnee migrants.					

Part V: (A) Regarding Plan of Returnee Migrants

1. What is your future plan? re - migrate the same Country  stay/settle at home

2. Refer to question No.1, if your answer is to re- migrate, what is your reason?

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. How do you feel after returned back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?

Happy  Unhappy

If happy what makes you happy that much please briefly describe.

.....  
.....  
.....

If unhappy why? Please briefly describe

.....  
.....  
.....

Part VI - Regarding the reason of returnee migrants

1. How long stayed abroad? .....years    Host Country.....
  
2. When do you return back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?    Year.....
3. How do you returned back to Addis Ababa /Ethiopia?    Voluntary     Forced   
other specify.....
4. Why did you return back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?    Asylum failure   
Lack of job opportunity     To invest and work at home country     Retired   
Sharing culture and values to their children     Home country economic deve"t   
Home country political stability   
Other .....
5. By what modality do you returned back to Addis Ababa/Ethiopia?  
Permanently     Temporarily   
Other specify.....

## Appendix 5–List of Key informant participants

S.N.	Name	Sex	Organization	position	Education
1	Mesfin G/mariam	M	Ministry of foreign affairs	Director General	MA
2	BrehanuAberra	M	Ministry of labor and social affairs	Director General	MA
3	AwulachewMaskie	M	Ethiopia Diaspora agency	Director	MA
4	TilayeAlemayehu	M	Addis Ababa bureau of labor and social affairs	Director	MA
5	Sara M.Basha	F	International organization for migration	Program coordinator	MA

## Appendix 6 – List of Interview participants

S.N.	Name	Sex	Age	Marital status	Address	Occupation	Education
1	Genet Alemu	F	34	single	Addis Ketema	Self employee	TVET
2	FatumaHassen	F	32	married	Addis Ketema	Unemployed	BA Degree
3	HabtamuNrgash	M	25	single	Arada	Unemployed	BA Degree
4	Ephrem	M	33	single	Yeka	Self employee	Diploma
5	RahelGebre	F	22	single	Gulele	Unemployed	Diploma
6	Temesgen	M	43	Married	K/keranio	Self employee	12
7	HewanTeka	M	42	single	Bole	Unemployed	12