

WOMEN IN THE INFORMAL BUSINESS SECTORS: THE ROLE OF STREET VENDING BUSINESS FOR WOMEN'S LIVELIHOODS ON AZEZO SUB CITY, GONDAR, ETHIOPIA

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ABSTRACTS

Women's economic empowerment is a pre request for pro poor growth and sustainable developments. In Ethiopia the economic dilemma facing the country has various effects on the society at large. Given the situation, the high rate of urbanization and unemployment has resulted in that more and more people especially women's are engaged in the informal business. Thus the objective of this study was to investigate the role of street vending business on women's livelihood. To achieve the objectives, the study used mixed research design and the most common and widely used approach: sustainable livelihood framework with three variables human, social and economic capital which are considered to measure the women's livelihood. From 150 accessible populations 109 were considered as a sample size. And questionnaires were used to collect primary data from purposefully selected respondent who are running street vending business. The finding showed that street vending is a crucial way of reducing women's poverty and unemployment in general. Besides, the women's social, human, financial and economical capital called livelihood assets are improved. Finally, the study suggests to strengthening the role of street vending business for improving the socio-economic wellbeing's of vulnerable people, and the government should develop supportive policies and regulation that address the informality and illegality of street vending business.

Key words: Livelihood, Informal Business, Street Vendors, Women's

Introduction

Gender equality is both a moral and economic imperative. Closing the gender gap should be a central part of any country strategy to create more sustainable and inclusive economies and societies. Why should we be concerned about women who work in the informal sector? The contribution of the informal sector on its size is quite large, but not recognized. Before we discussed its contribution, we highlight the definition and forms of informal sectors in the following paragraph. According to Getahun et,al (2015), the informal sector defined as a marginal economy providing income for he poor and characterized by easy entry in terms of skill, capital, and organization, family ownership of enterprises, small-scale of operation, labor-intensive production and unregulated markets.

As stated by ILO (2002) there are different forms of informal sectors such as; street vendors, domestic workers, home-based workers, construction workers, transport workers, and waste pickers. Among them Street vendors and home based workers makeup the largest group of informal sector operators.

Street vending is an informal type of business, which offers goods for sale to the public, without having a permanent built-up structure (Bhowmik, 2005). In addition Lyons and Msoka (2010) define street vending as all non-criminal commercial activity dependent on access to public space, including market trade, trade from fixed locations and hawking (mobile vending).

As stated by Charmes (2000) the contribution of informal sector income to total household income is significant in several African countries, as he stated the contribution of informal sector income accounts for nearly 30 percent of total income and over 40 percent of total urban income.

Likewise even if it is difficult to state the exact numbers of women engaged in the informal sector in Ethiopia, research report shows that large numbers of women are engage in informal sectors, according to central statistics agency (2011) reports 61% of women were engaged in the informal sectors. As the report stated the alarming rates of rural-urban migration will increase the involvements of women in informal sectors.

Although the informal sector has become increasingly noticeable in developing countries in general, Ethio

pia in particular, it is however commonly neglected and separated from the formal economy. Thus this study investigated the role of informal sectors for livelihoods, with particular reference of women, operated in street vending.

Statements of the Problem

Women's economic empowerment is a prerequisite for pro poor growth and sustainable development. To realize economic empowerment of women, it requires sound public policies, a holistic approach and long-term commitment. Besides, gender-specific perspectives must be integrated at the design stage of policy and programming.

In Ethiopia, the economic dilemmas facing the country have had various effects on the society at large. Given this situation, the high rates of urbanization and unemployment has resulted in that more and more people mainly women's are engaged in the informal business. Women dominate the informal sector in most Sub-Saharan African countries, where they are found in the fields of trading, and food processing (UNECA, 2008).

Since urban poverty and unemployment in many urban centers of Ethiopia has been growing, many people particularly the urban poor and other impoverished groups of the society to various income generating activities in the informal sector like street vending. While, in Ethiopia, Street vending have contribution for livelihoods and employments for women's in particular, it has received little attention; much has been focused on its negative impacts like, use of public space, congestion, health and safety risks, tax evasion and the sale of shoddy merchandise. In Gondar particularly Street traders are usually concerned with confrontation with local authorities, and at the end they lose their products and money.

Although researches are conducted in some Ethiopian city like Addis abebe (Getahun, 2015), Jimma (Tamerat and Nega, 2015) and Mekele (Fillmon, 2011), in informal business and women livelihood, while they are not clearly addressed the change of women's livelihood before and after they engaged in informal business and to the best of the researcher's knowledge no research has been conducted in Gondar city particularly Azezo sub city regarding the street vendors. As a result, investigating the role of informal sector particularly street vending activities on the livelihood of women is quite fundamental. This study there for, fill this gap, through analyzing the role of women street vending activate to enhancing household livelihoods and food security in Gondar city. Finally the study tries to answer the following questions;

What are the reasons women engaged in street vending business?

What are the changes of women's livelihood after engaging in street vending business?

What are the major problems of women street vendors?

Objectives

The main objective of the study was to assess the role of street vendors for women's livelihood

Specific Objectives

This study addressed the following specific objectives.

To investigate the reason why women engaged street vending in Gondar, Azezo sub city.

To analyze the contributions of street vending business to women's livelihood, in Gondar, Azezo sub city.

To identify a major factors affecting women's in street vending operations in Gondar Azezo sub city.

Literature Review

The Concept and Definition of Informal Sector

The informal sector makes very useful contribution to economic and social life through provision of employment, generation of income, development of skills and other social services to those neglected and marginalized groups (Yitbarek, 2001).

As described by ILO and different researchers informal sector characterized with; consisting largely of independent, self-employed micro-entrepreneurs or home-workers in urban areas, the dominance of unincorporated small-scale units which produce and distribute goods and services, and operating as opposed to the administrative barriers of entering the official economy with regard to the formal processes of registration, licensing and inspection of enterprises (Sebsib, 2015).

In Ethiopia, the Central Statistical Authority and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) defined urban informal sector as “home based or individual establishment activity operated by the owners with no or few employees....., these establishment or activities include those engaged in market production which are not registered as companies or cooperatives which have no written book accounts and license, and have less than ten person engaged in the activity” (CSA, 2003:1).

The Concepts of Street Vending Business

The informal sector encompasses itself with a numbers of activities from these activities street vending is more visible and important due to its entrepreneurial character and its relation with urbane space.

A study by (Bhowmik, 2005) has defined street vending as an informal type of business, which offers goods for sale to the public, without having a permanent built-up structure. In addition Lyons and Msoka (2010) define street vending as all non-criminal commercial activity dependent on access to public space, including market trade, trade from fixed locations and mobile vending. The researcher was used this definition to addressed street vending business operators.

Whether legitimately or not, street vendors are practicing their trade under inhospitable conditions, Since street vending directly related to the urban space or illegal access to public place eviction order issued arbitral in the causing of congestion, health reason and public inconveniences over the street vendor (Kumar and Singh 2009). However, research result depicted that as a share of total informal employment, street traders generally accounted for 15-25 percent in African cities, 10-15 per cent in Asian cities, and 5-10per cent in Latin American cities for the year 2003 (Esquivel, 2010).

The increasing population in the urban centers of developing nation puts a tremendous pressure on the physical, social, economic environment of towns as well as on the Infrastructural service of urban centers. As urban population grows due to escalating rural-urban migration, the government and municipal authorities will face challenges in their efforts to ensure the economic and social well-being of people residing in the urban areas. That is way most urban poor particularly women's, are engaged informal activities like street vending to enhancing household livelihoods and food security. A study conducted by Kyoko Kusakabe (2006) revealed that street vending is crucial livelihood option for the urban poor, even in times when other employment options are increasing. Furthermore, it underlined that most of the street vendors are major breadwinners in poor households.

Women in the Informal Business

Women constitute more than half of the world's population and are expected to share and control the wealth of the world equally, however, studies pointed out that, women perform two-third of working hours and receives

one tenth of the world income and own less than one hundred of the world property (Tassew, 2001).

There are different reasons why women's are engaged in the informal business, according to Zelalem, (2000). Ethiopian poor women are prime victims of poverty due to little access to productive resources, labour market, and education as a result most of urban poor women in the country are engaged in informal sector of the economy in order to sustain their life. Furthermore, Lack of skill, lack of working capital, and lack of working premises force urban women's and rural urban, migrants to join the informal and low-earning economic activities such as street vending, domestic work, home-based work, and others (CSA, 2003). While, the informal sector play important role for urban women's to earn a living and to building their livelihood, there are different challenges that hamper women's in doing their business in the informal business particularly in street vendors. As ILO (2002) stated that the majority of informal sector operators in Mongolia constrained by lack of financial capital. Likewise, informal sector operators in Ethiopia have faced several challenges. According to, CSA (2003) report identified the major starting and operational difficulties of women informal sector operators as lack of convenient working place, shortage of working capital and government bodies influence.

Livelihood Strategy

A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets, and activities required for a means of living. It is deemed sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities, assets, and activities both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base (Serrat, 2008).

Researchers stated that livelihood strategies of the poor mostly influenced by the range of assets available to them to pursue different activities that would enable them to secure a sustainable livelihood. However, there are also different factors which determine options for choice of livelihood strategies. Those factors are their vulnerability, shocks, and seasonal variations. Besides government and the private sector structures and processes such as institutional, policy and cultural factors (Scoones 1998, Farrington et al. 1999 and De Satgé 2002).

In addition Khan (2003) added that formal and informal institutions have influence on livelihood strategies of the poor. He argues that both informal and formal institutions affect the poor negatively. As he explained the poor are usually unaware of their rights to benefit from formal institutions and as such largely depend on informal institutions for their livelihoods. Besides government and nongovernment institution neglects them.

Study Framework

Although there are many approaches that relate to the raised issue, but the most common and widely used approach is the Sustainable Livelihood Framework. According to Serrat (2008), Sustainable livelihoods framework helps to systematize the factors that are constrain (threat) and in favors of (opportunity) livelihood opportunities and shows how they relate to one another.

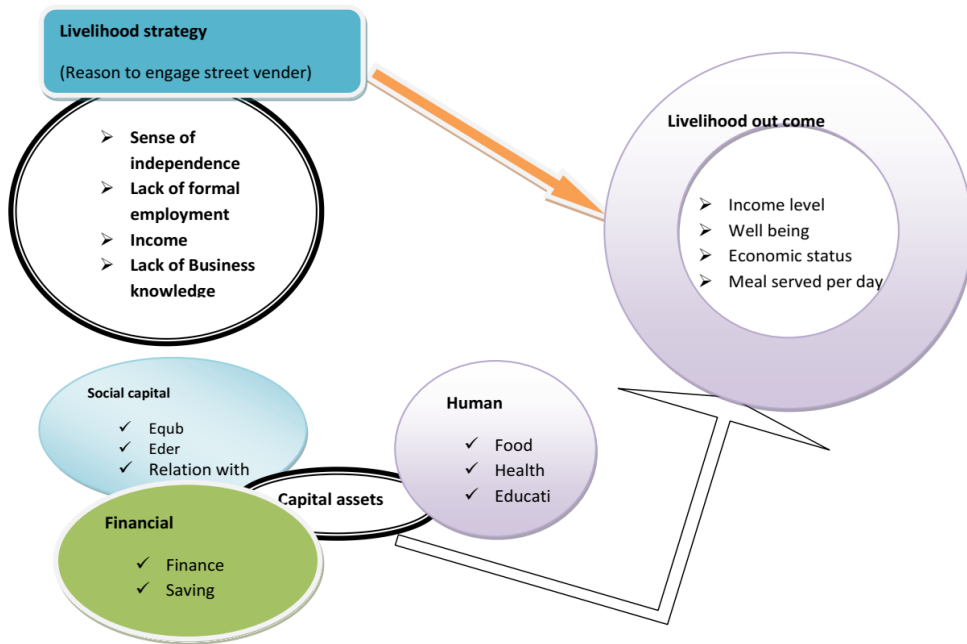
The livelihood assets, which the poor must often make trade-offs and choices about. The elements of strategic livelihoods framework consists human capital, social capital, financial capital, physical capital and natural capital. However this study considers the three capital assets such as human, social and financial capitals to design study framework.

Human Capital: is one of the capital assets which include health, nutrition, education, knowledge and skills, capacity to work, capacity to adapt.

Social Capital: is other crucial capital asset which focuses on social interaction of households with in a given community. Which includes networks and connections (patronage, neighborhoods, and kinship), relations

of trust and mutual understanding and support, formal and informal groups, shared values and behaviors, common rules and sanctions, collective representation, mechanisms for participation in decision making, leadership etc?

Financial Capital: includes savings, credit and debt (formal, informal), remittances, pensions, wages.



Conceptual framework: Adopted from Filimon (2011)

Research Methodology

Research Design and Data Sources

The research used mixed research design to examine women street vendors' livelihood. Human, social and economical capitals are used the main variables in the stud. Both primary and secondary data were used to undertake the study. Primary data collected from women's engaged in street vendors, using questionnaire and observation. Secondary data generated in the study came from Gondar town trade and transport report, CSA and other published and unpublished sources and Medias were being consulted.

Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

From the total of 850 vendors (theoretical population) 150 women vendors (accessible population which includes Sunday market vendors, fruit and vegetable and other vendors) were used for the study. The researcher will be used the sample size determination formula, which is developed by Yamane (1967), $n = N \sqrt{\frac{Z^2 pq}{e^2}}$ Where n is the sample size, N is the total women vendors from accessible population. The unit of analysis of the study is the individual i.e. street vendors. The investigator decided the confidence level of the study to be at 95% con

sequently the level of precision (e) is +5. Accordingly, 109 vendors are selected from the total of 150 accessible populations.

Since the classification of the vendors is based on the items they sell the study employees used disproportional quota sampling to sufficiently include small groups. From the sample size, 70 from Saturday market vendors, 30 from the fruit and vegetable vendors and the remaining 9 from different item (other) street vendors were selected.

Methods of Data Collection

The data (both primary and secondary) were collected during the study. Questionnaire was used to collect primary data from 109 purposively selected respondents who are running street vending business. The questionnaire was designed for collecting primary data from the sample or selected vendors. Information was also gathered through direct observation of those engaged in the sector.

Method of Data Analysis

Since the aim of the study is to describe the street vendors' livelihood situations as it takes place during the time of the study and to explore the cause or causes of a particular condition. The study used descriptive analysis: Averages, mean, percentages, tables and figure for the analysis of the collected data, by using SPSS 16.00 version. Plus to see significance of the relationship before and after street vending T test statistical tool was employed.

Data Analysis And Discussion

Analysis and Discussion

Under this section, data collected from the respondents are presented and the analysis is made based on the information obtained from those respondents. In this manner, questionnaires were distributed to a total of 109 respondents and 90(82.56%) respondents questionnaire were returned back. Out of 90 respondents, 85 were found usable for the study which was 77.98% from the total respondents. Thus the study analyzed and revealed the following results

Question 1: What are the reasons for women to engage in street vending business?

This section of the paper explains about the reasons why women are joining street vending business,

Table 1 women's Reason to engage business in street vending		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	lack of formal employment	18	21.2	21.2	21.2
	it gives me better income	11	12.9	12.9	34.1
	to get additional income	3	3.5	3.5	37.6
	Independence	16	18.8	18.8	56.5
	no other choice other than this to surviving other	37	43.5	43.5	100.0
	Total	85	100.0	100.0	

Source survey result 2016

As depicted from table1 the reason for women's engaged in street vending were, 43.5% are due to no other choice other than this business for survivalist sectors, 21.2% because of lack of formal employment, 18.8% for the sake of independence, 12.9% to get better income and 3.5% are to get additional income. From this we can concluded majority of street vendors are start business in the street since there is no other choice to start easily other than street vending. Here street vending business is an informal business no criteria to start and enter in this business. Thus most of the time peoples easily start business in the street to cover their living expanse.

In addition lack of formal employment opportunity leads them to engage in informal business. Beside to be independently run their own business and generating better income than low pay employments. Different research finding support this results; as Tamerat and Nega(2015) research findings conducted in Jimma town street vendors showed that peoples engaged street bending business due to different factors, like poverty, better alternative than low wage employment, to fulfill personal need and want. Another study conducted by Lyons (2013) shows, that street vending is imperative for surviving and poverty reduction in the developing world. In general street vending business became a means to survive for marginalized peoples.

Question2: What are changes are there in women's livelihood after engaging in street vending business?

In this part the study presented livelihood situations of women's before and after street vending business which includes economic status, financial capital, human capital, social capital of the vendors and over all attitudes of vendors about their livelihood.

Economic status

Table 2: Economic status of vendors before and after

	Description	Before joining		After joining	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
1.1	Low income/poor	70	82.4	51	60
1.2	Better of poor	15	17.6	34	40
1.3	Middle income	0	0	0	0
1.4	High income/ rich	0	0	0	0
	Total	85	100		

Source survey result 2016

From the above table2 economic status of vendor before joining the business showed that 82.4% are low income or poor while 17.6% are better of poor. From this we can concluded that majority of the respondent from the sample survey economic status of vendors are low level income or they are poor. They are engaged street vending to survive and cover their living expenses. Also from the result we can understand most of street vendors are marginalized women's

In addition as depicted in the table economic statuses of women's after joining the business were 60% are low income/ poor and 40% are better of poor. From the result women's economic status showed an improvement in income level better of poor after joining the business from 17.6% before to 40% after. More over using t-test the change on economic status after joining the business found to be statistically significant with p value of $p < 0.001$.

This research finding is supported by other researches, according to Felimon (2015) research conducted in Mekeli city, the result of the survey point out that majority of respondents economic status before or after are low income/poor 71% before 46.6% after. And he concluded low income statuses, unskilled and marginalized peoples engaged street vending business as a source of livelihood.

Financial Capital

Financial capitals consists, average monthly income and saving of street vendors before and after engaging the business.

Table3. Average monthly income before and after

	Description	Before	After		
	Average monthly income	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
	Below 350 birr	61	71.8	1	1.2
	351-700 birr	24	28.2	57	67.0
	701-1050	0	0	27	31.8
	1051-1400	0	0	0	0
	Above 1400	0	0	0	0
	Total	85	100	85	100

Source survey result 2016

According to the survey result 61(71.8%) of respondents average monthly income before joining the business was below 350 birr, 24(28.2%) of respondents has 351-700. On average the monthly incomes of respondents before joining the business is birr 273.8. When we see after joining the business 57(67.0%) of respondents average monthly income is 351-701 birr, 27(31.8%) has 701-1050 birr while 1(1.2%) of respondents average income is below 350 birr respectively. On average the monthly income of respondent after joining the business is 632.05 birr. From this we can concluded that women's average monthly income increases by 130.84 % or 358.25 birr after joining the business.

Table 4: average month saving before and after

	Description	Before	After		
	Average monthly saving	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
	No saving	45	52.9	0	
	Below 100 birr	40	47.1	10	11.8
	101-200 birr	0		39	45.9
	201-300	0		32	37.6
	301-400	0		4	4.7
	Above 400				
	Total	85	100	85	100

Source survey result 2016

As table 4 the survey result depicted 45(52.9%) of respondents has no saving before joining the business 40(47.1%) of respondents has below 100 birr. On average the monthly saving of respondents before joining the business is birr 23.53. This means from the average income of birr 273.8 they were able to save 23.53 birr before joining the business. When we see after joining the business 39(45.9%) of respondents average monthly saving is 101-200 birr, 32(37.6%) save 201-300 birr, 10 (11.8%) save below 100birr while 4(4.7%) of respondents average monthly saving is 301-400 birr respectively. On average the monthly saving of respondent after joining the business is 185.30 birr. This means from the average income of birr 632.05 they were able to save 185.30 birr after joining the business

From this we can concluded that women's average monthly saving increase by 687.50 % or 161.77 birr after joining the business. Thus street vending business help women's to generate income for their livelihood as well as it improves their saving for future expansions. Besides it is a catalyst for socio economic developments of the poor or marginalized peoples. This finding is confirmed by other researchers; As, Adenutsi (2009), argues that

street vending business is the vehicle for economic growth and development through job creation, income, empowerment and poverty reduction in an economy.

Also Filemon(2015) research result revealed that the respondents income and saving increase highly after they engaged in street vending business by 166% and 202% respectively. Moreover there is increasing recognition that street vending business plays an important socio-economic role in terms of employment potential, providing special income particularly for women (Chukuezi, 2010).

Human Capitals

Human capital consists of average expenditures of women's for food, education and health before and after.

Table 5: average expenditures of women's for food, education and health before and after

Description	Before		After			
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%		
Average expenditures for food						
1.1	Below 100	0	0	0	0	0
1.2	100-200	40	47.1	16	18.8	
1.3	201-300	41	48.2	53	62.4	
1.4	301-400	4	4.7	15	17.6	
1.5	401-500	0	0	1	1.2	
1.6	Above 500			0	0	
	Total	85	100	85	100	
Average expenditure for health						
2.1	Below 50	67	78.8	49	57.6	
2.2	51-100	17	20.0	33	38.8	
2.3	101-150	1	1.2	2	2.4	
2.4	151-200	0	0	1	1.2	
	Total	85	100	85	100	
Average expenditure for education						
3.1	Below 50	70	82.4	60	70.6	
3.2	51-100	13	15.3	20	23.5	
3.3	101-150	2	2.4	3	3.5	
3.4	151-200	0	0	2	2.4	
	Total					

Source survey result 2016

As depicted in the above table 5 before joining the business 41(48.2%) average monthly food expenditure is 201-300, and 40 (47.1%) are 100-200 birr while the remaining 4(4.7%) monthly food expenditures are 301-400. Also when we see the average monthly expenditures after joining the business 53(62.4%) are 201-300 birr ,16(18.8%) are 100-200 birr and 15(17.6%) are 301-400, while the remaining 1(1.2%) are 401-500 birr. From the above analysis we can concluded that most of respondents' average monthly food expenditures are 201-300 birr before as well as after joining the business. But when we see the mean values of monthly food expenditure 207.65 birr before joining the business while 251.18 birr after joining the business. Thus women's monthly food expenditure is increased by 20.96% or 43.53 birr after joining the business.

Also when we see average monthly health expenditure of women's before joining the business 67 (78.8%)

are incur below 50 birr for health expenditure while 17 (20.0%) and 1(1.2%) are incurring 51-100birr and 101-150birr respectively. And average health expenditure of women's after joining the business were 49(57.6%) are paying below 50 birr while 33(38.8%), and 2(2.4%) are paying 51-100 birr and 101-150 birr respectively. In addition from the result when we calculate the mean (average) health expenditures of the respondents, 36.18 birr are paying before joining the business, while 48.53 birr after joining the business. From this we can concluded women's health expenditures for their family are increase by 34.13 % or 12.35 birr after joining the business.

Moreover when we see the average monthly education expenditure before joining the business 70 (82.4%) are incur below 50 birr for education expenditure while 13 (15.3%) and 2(2.4%) are incurring 51-100birr and 101-150birr respectively. And the average education expenditure of women's after joining the business were 60(70.6%) are paying below 50 birr while 20(23.5%), and 3(3.5%) are paying 51-100 birr and 101-150 birr respectively. In addition from the result when we calculate the mean (average) education expenditures of the respondents, 35.00 birr are paying before joining the business, while 39.70 birr after joining the business. From this we can concluded women's education expenditures for their family are increase by 13.43 % or 4.70 birr after joining the business.

Social Capital

Social capita consisted of the following participation on Eder, Equb and relation with neighbor.

Table 6: Participation of Eder, Equb and relation with neighbor before and after joining

Description	Before joining		After joining	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Do you have relationship with your neighbor				
Yes	85	100	85	100
No	0	0	0	0
total	85	100	85	100
Did you participate in Edir				
Yes	40	47	50	58.8
No	45	53	35	41.2
Total	85	100	85	100
Did you participate in Equb				
Yes	5	4.9	65	76.5
No	80	94.1	20	23.5
Total	85	100	85	100

Source survey result 2016

As depicted in the above table6 for the question 1. Do you have relationship with neighborhood all respondents 85 (100%) are answer "yes " before as well as after they joining the business. For question 2 did you participate in Edir? 40 (45%) of respondents are answer yes and 45(53%) of respondents are answer No for before joining the business. While for the same question but after joining the business 50 (58.8%) of respondents are answer yes and 35(41.2%) of respondents are answer No. And for question 3 did you participate in Equeb? 5(4.9%) of respondents answer yes but 80(94.1%) of respondents are answer No for before joining the business. While for the same question but after joining the business 65(76.5%) are answer yes and 20(23.5%) are answer no.

From the above result we can conclude women's have relationship with neighborhood wither they start business or no. of course it is fact that we Ethiopian have relationship and share with our neighborhood at the

time of sadness as well as joy, in whatever circumstances. That is why all respondents answer yes we have relationship in both cases before as well as after joining the business. In addition when we see the participation of respondents for Edir 45% are participate before joining the business and 58.8% are participate after joining the business. Edir is one way of helping each other for the society during sadness (death, health problem and similar cases) and joy (wedding and other similar ceremony). But to be member it have some criteria's a person should full fill like understanding social value, religion, age, duration of stay in one place and other similar factors. Thus, because significant persons of respondent for this research are youngsters, 48% of respondents are not participating in Edir.

Furthermore, from the analyses outputs, the significant different responses are reviled in participation of Equb. Only 4.9% were participated in Equb before joining the business while 76.5% are participating Equb after joining the business. Equb is a means of getting sum of money on one time (before or after saving) through

saving some amounts of money at serous time interval. It is an important social capital and social saving institution for informal business like street vending. But to be member a person should enable to pay the agreed amounts of money with serous time interval. That is way only 4.9% of respondent are participating in Equb before joining the business. But after joining 76.5% are participating in Equb, which means after they start business they save some amount of money from their average monthly income. Equb helps street vendors to expand their business.

Change in their Livelihood

Table7: responses of street vendors on their livelihood after joining business

No	Description	Frequency	Percent
	Do you think that there is a positive change in your livelihood after joining the business		
	Yes	59	69.4
	No	26	30.6
	Total	85	100

Source survey result 2016

As table 7 survey result depicted, 59(69.4%) of respondents thinking they maintain change in their livelihood after joining street business while 26(30.6%) are believe no change in their livelihood from street vending business. From the result women street business engagement crate change in their livelihood, thus street businesses have important for the livelihoods of women's. In addition the respondents were write some of changing they maintain after joining the business, according to them family support, generating income, having saving and leading independent life are the most mentioned form of change they maintain thanks to street vending.

Generally speaking engaging street vending business better than setting home with nothing for women's to improve their livelihood. A study conducted by Sebseby (2015) reviled that informal business is not only source of income for the traders but also the base for survivable livelihood for family members. In addition Wadzanaï(2011) noticed the contributions of informal business for improvements of socio economic well beings of the traders, here it helps traders to acquire asset and improved food security.

Question 3, what are the major problems of women street vendors?

The study analyzed women's street vending challenges related with their business to know the extent and severity of the problems. Thus the survey was designed in five scale responses ranging from 1=very serious to 5=not serious. The vendors indicated their attitudes and reactions to the problems are presented in the table below.

Table8: Descriptive analysis of women's challenges in street vending business

Items	Levels of seriousness	Frequency	Percent	Mean	Std. Deviation
Lake of supply of raw material	Very serious	12	14.1	3.1647	1.24257
	Serious	11	12.9		

	Average	25	29.4		
	Less serious	25	29.4		
	No problem	12	14.1		
	Total	85	100.00		
Lack of supply of enough quantity materials	Very serious	8	9.4	3.5059	1.09787
	Serious	5	5.9		
	Average	19	22.4		
	Less serious	42	49.4		
	No problem	11	12.9		
	Total	85	100.0		
Lack of customer	Very serious	52	61.2	1.6000	.92839
	Serious	22	25.9		
	Average	5	5.9		
	Less serious	5	5.9		
	No problem	1	1.2		
	Total	85	100.0		
Lack of space	Very serious	53	62.4	1.6235	.99972
	Serious	27	31.8		
	Average	1	1.2		
	Less serious	3	3.5		
	No problem	1	1.2		
	Total	85	100.0		
Lack of credit	Very serious	55	64.7	1.4941	.79617
	Serious	20	23.5		
	Average	3	3.5		
	Less serious	4	4.7		
	No problem	3	3.5		
	Total	85	100.0		
Government regulation	Very serious	53	62.4	1.6235	.99972
	Serious	20	23.5		
	Average	5	5.9		
	Less serious	5	5.9		
	No problem	2	2.4		
	Total	85	100.0		
Lack of managerial skill	Very serious	10	11.8	3.2588	1.18676
	Serious	10	11.8		
	Average	24	28.2		
	Less serious	30	35.3		
	No problem	11	12.9		
	Total	85	100.0		
Lack of formal linkage with other	Very serious	10	11.8	3.1765	1.13574
	Serious	10	11.8		
	Average	28	32.9		
	Less serious	29	34.1		
	No problem	8	9.4		

	Total	85	100.0		
Lack of informal linkage with other	Very serious	12	14.1	3.3059	1.25379
	Serious	8	9.4		
	Average	20	23.5		
	Less serious	32	37.6		
	No problem	13	15.3		
	Total	85	100.0		

Source survey result 2016

As we can see from the above table 8, the seriousness of the problem is analyzed based on their frequency and mean value, thus the high frequency and lower mean value the more serious the problem.

As depicted in the above table lack of credit, lack of customer, lack of space and government regulation and influence has very serious problems for street vendors with mean value $m=1.4941, 1.6000, 1.6235$ and 1.6235 respectively. While Lack of supply of raw material, Lack of formal linkage with other, Lack of managerial skill, Lack of informal linkage with other, Lack of supply of enough quantity materials has a mean values of $m= 3.1647, 3.1765, 3.2588, 3.3059$ and 3.5059 respectively, accordingly they are not Sevier problem of street vendors.

From the result we can conclude that street vendors faced challenges to get credit access to operate and expand their business, since most of formal financial institutions are required different criteria to borrow money and the vendors unable to meet their criteria make the problem more Sevier. Also since most of the time street vendors are operating their business in the street they face space problem to operate the business effectively, and municipality related problems are also the other Sevier problems of the vendor. The study finding support by other researchers, a research conducted by Felimon (2015) in Mekeli city street vendors, the survey result revealed that lack of space, lack of access to credit, lack of customer and municipality related problems are Sevier problems of street vendors.

Another study in Tanzania by Lyons (2013) shows, that street vending is imperative for surviving and poverty reduction in the developing world. However, since it considered as informal in terms of business activities stigmatized, impossible to access finance (e.g. capital and credit), as a result their business growth and sustainability is impended.

Furthermore, they are challenged by limited access to capital, unstable security, unplanned policies on urban development, and harassment from the owners of formal business, and low level of business skills (Falla, 2013).

Conclusion And Recommendation

Conclusion

The study examines the practices of women's in the informal sectors and its role for livelihood with the particular reference of street vendors in Gondar, Azezo sub city. As depicted in the study results, most of respondents are low income group in the city, thus they are engaging street vending business for survival livelihoods of themselves as well as their family.

The socio-economic well-being of women in street vending business showed an improvement in their average monthly income after joining the business, as the study result revealed. Also, their average monthly saving has increased more than 100% as oppose to before joining the business. Also, in terms of social capital (Eder, Equb and relationship with neighborhood) as well as human capital (health, education and food expenditure), they

showed progress after joining the business. In general, there is change in livelihoods after they start business in the street. However street vending business contribute a lot for women's in the city, the business face numerous obstacles like lack of financial access to capital, lack of space, lack of customers, unplanned policies on urban development and municipality related problems which make their business activity difficult and hinder their expansions and growth.

Recommendation

In sub Saharan countries like Ethiopia where formal employments are little and women's levels of education minimal, informal business (street vending business) could serve as alternative source of employments as well as income generation. There for to strengthening the role of street vending business for improving the socio economic wellbeing's of vulnerable peoples like women's, as well as to reduce poverty, the governments should develop supportive rule and regulations that address the informality and illegality of street vending business.

In addition harassing and violent confrontation between municipality and vendors, cannot address and solve street vendors challenges, rather there should make careful negotiation, planning for formalizing as well as relocation and order for running street business. Besides, it calls the government to develop policy and regulation for effective street vending operation which contributes for poverty reduction.

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