

Globalization and International Migration: Implications for Irregular Migration in Eastern Zone of Tigray Regional State

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Abstract

The issue of irregular migration these days is becoming a topical and pressing issue with both short and long term multifaceted consequences. However, studies so far in the study area get short of integrated approach in dealing the issue and its actors and factors dynamism along line with waves of globalization. This research project is therefore, intended to investigate the dynamics of actors and contextual factors interplay in a way that can gave a full picture of irregular migration. The study employed qualitative research approach with purposive and snow ball sample selection technique. The study revealed that, with the adverse expansion of globalization and borderless mobility of goods, services, finance and information, the actors and factors interplay in facilitating irregular migration is drastically changing. As such the application of static and one-fits all policy approach to mitigate and reduce migration flow is proved to be less effective in the study area. Moreover, poverty, livelihood survival difficulty, ecological factors of the study area, Social network of pioneer migrant back and forth, systematization of traffickers and smugglers, the issue of psycho-social construction are most pressing issues that all combined together exacerbating and shaping the nature and magnitude of irregular migration in the study area. To this end, Sharpening and widening anti human trafficking laws and policies, designing feasible poverty and unemployment reducing strategies accompanied by modest labor wage with framed short and long term effects are the core insights that can have significant return in reversing irregular migration in the study area.

Key Words: Globalization, Migration, Irregular Migration, Human trafficking

1. Back ground and Justification of the Study

International migration has accelerated in the past half century proving that migrants travel over increasingly large distances. The intensity, diversity, distance and overall complexity of

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international migration is also basically linked to globalization and associated processes such as rapid advances in transport and communication technology. Moreover, technological progress has facilitated migration not only by lowering resource constraints on mobility but also because it has become easier for migrants to stay in touch with family and community members, to remit money and to travel back and forth between host and origin countries (Czaika & Haas, 2014).

Increasing transnational ties and transnational identities are also thought to have fortified migrant networks. Improved access to global information through satellite television, mobile phones and internet along with improved education has increased the awareness of people around the world about new opportunities (Czaika & Haas, 2014). Such awareness has increased people's life aspirations and feelings of relative deprivation, independent from absolute incomes and living standards. To this end, the number of international migrants has been growing dramatically over the past decade and half. The number of international migrants worldwide was, 173 million in 2000; 222 million in 2010; and 244 million in 2015 (Landau & Achiume, 2017). Ethiopia is amongst the leading states both as contributor of irregular out migrants basically to the Middle East and Europe and as a receiver of mass migrants from neighboring states which can be treated as refugees (ILO & UNIDO, 2017, RMMS, 2014).

With a view to address intense increment of irregular migration challenges, the Government of Ethiopia has adopted a series of development policy and program frameworks, particularly since the beginning of the millennium. The Governments' five-year Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP 2011–2015) had the aim to accelerate sustainable development that focuses on job-creating economic activities, which speed up economic growth as a means of reducing poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) backed up with the GTP II (2016–2020). However, there are increasing challenges in absorbing the huge number of youths joining to the job demanding category. With approximately three million young Ethiopians entering the labor force every year, ensuring productive employment opportunities for them is one of the challenges posed in both rural and urban areas. As a result, growing numbers of Ethiopians have been looking for job opportunities either in other regions within the country or abroad, through regular and irregular channels. Merely from 2009 to 2014 G.C, 459,810 legal migrants have left

Ethiopia, of whom 94.3% were women domestic workers⁶. Tigray region is among the most vulnerable irregular out migrant sending region of Ethiopia in which Eastern Tigray zone takes the lead with in the region (Girmay, 2015, Sara, 2010).

Migration has been investigated by number of individuals and institutions in the study area in different woredas. Yet, most of them rarely discussed the actors and contextual factors interaction along line with the causes and consequences in the age of globalization in integrated and holistic approach. For instance, Bisrat (2014) has studied general picture of migration and its effects on socio economic wellbeing of migrant sending households in Irob woreda eastern tigray region. However, he discussed little about the dynamics of stakeholders and contextual factors that shape and determine migration to happen in the study area.

In addition to this, Girmay (2015) has also studied migration from the perspective of violations of rights of girls during irregular migration in Saesie Tsaeda Emba. He has focused of the atrocities that girls face, the violations and consequences on their lives and lives of their parents. In his study, he scantily discussed about the actors and contextual factors accelerating irregular migration in the study woreda. Moreover, a study by Gebrehiwot and Fekadu (2012) investigated causes and consequences of irregular migration in Eastern Zone of Tigray Region Gulomekeda district. However, this research works also overlooked the dynamics of stakeholders and contextual factors fueling migration to happen.

Thus, research works so far in the study area in general scantily discussed about the actors and factors dynamics, nature and character of migrants in a holistic approach to capture the full picture of irregular migration and its general implication in the study areas. As impressively explained by Van Meeteren and Pereira (2013), trying to understand migration as the sole result of individual decisions made by individual actors, or as the sole result of economic or political parameters is rarely applicable and hence migration is rather an outcome of all these factors and actors in interaction which are in a continual dynamics across time. Moreover, the ease of global communication and information access in the age of globalization is affecting migration state of affairs and hence static way of looking into the matter is assumed to suffer from failure to integrate factors and actors interaction in a dynamic way. However, the research works undertaken in the study areas failed to capture the actors and factor interaction in accelerating

⁶ Action document for “Support to the reintegration of returnees and to the management of labor migration in Ethiopia”, 2014. Commission Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2014 in favor of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

irregular migration and their dynamics in holistic approach. It is therefore against this research work gaps so far this study was undertaken.

2. Research Methodology

This research undertaking employed qualitative research methodology. The data type for this research was therefore qualitative type which was gathered via key informant interviews (a total of 21 key informants 7 from each woreda); focus group discussion (3 Focus groups 1 from each woreda two of them with 7 participants and one 5 participants) and document analysis. Regarding the sample size and sampling technique, purposive sampling to select three sample woredas (based on number of irregular migrant size) and office holder key informants from each woreda was used while snowball sampling was applied for meeting returnee key informant respondents and local elders. The sample woredas were Irob, Saesie Tsaeda emba and Atsbi wenberta woredas from where one tabia (Endalgeda, Edaga Hamus and Atsbi Town respectively) from each woreda was purposively selected based on the number of irregular migrants they have.

After organizing and interpreting of the responses in a way convenient for analysis use, the data gathered via qualitative data collection instruments were involved two levels of analysis. The first one was basic level of analysis which was a descriptive account of the data: this was what is actually said, documented or observed with nothing read into it and nothing assumed about it. Some texts refer it as the manifest level of analysis. The second one is higher level of analysis which is interpretative analysis: it is concerned with what was meant by the response, what was inferred or implied. It is sometimes named as the latent level of analysis. Therefore, descriptive and interpretative qualitative data analysis was employed to arrive at analytical generalizations.

3. Theoretical and Conceptual Literature

3.1 Some Theoretical Insights in Migration Studies

Migration is theorized using a host of perspectives and concept. However, it is too diverse and multifaceted to be explained in a single theory implying that migration is only weakly theorized so far as many scholars argue. While certain theories seem to function more effectively in certain systems and contexts, but in some others not; and hence a synthesis of theoretical approaches can provide an integrated theoretical approach to the study of international

migration as a whole. Therefore, for an integrated conceptualization and better insight for this study, Neoclassical Economic Theories of Migration, Mobility Transition Theory of Migration and Social Network Theory of Migration are briefly discussed hereunder.

Neoclassical Economic Theories of Migration: For Neoclassical Economic theorists, cost benefit approach underlies the decision-making process of migration. In this context, migration is regarded as a rational action, maximizing the individual's net benefits. Therefore, migration is a costly move from worse economic circumstances to better ones and tends to assume that rising average incomes at the origin will strictly reduce migration (King, 2012). For these theorists, non-monetary determinants have little effect in migration and hence they are not regarded as key factors.

Indifferent to the above assertion, King (2012) argued that the major causes of migration are economic and hence most migration is from agricultural to industrial areas in search of better wage and economic wellbeing. These theoretical perspectives are often based on wider social theories that assume individuals simplistically act on conscious and rational choices (O'Reilly, 2012). This explanation of neoclassical theory therefore gives migrants too much agency or free will in the decision making process.

As argued by scholars like Guilmoto & Sandron (2001), this levels of analysis do not permit one to grasp the role of intermediate entities in the decision-making process of migrants. It therefore overlooks the dynamics of the networks, overlapping nature of different scales and phenomena which characterize migration mechanisms in developing countries.

Mobility Transition Theory of Migration: The notion that attributes economic reason as sole determinate factor for migration is being challenged by different scholars. They argue an increase in income does not necessarily reduce the stock and magnitude of migration. Since the 1970s, a series of researchers began to sketch a different class of theories about the relationship between rising average incomes and emigration. These theories predict an initial period, starting from low levels of income, during which rising incomes are accompanied by rising rates of emigration. Only after some turning point are further increases in income accompanied by falling rates of emigration (Clemens, 2014).

Poverty and wealth are relative concepts which lead to both migration and trafficking patterns. However, recent research findings indicate that poverty reduction and development in less developed countries in the short term increase the stock of migration. It is to this fact that

Carling and Talleraa (2016) explained that poverty eradication policy has had little success in decreasing either rural-urban migration or international migration. Instead, poverty reduction and economic growth can fuel migration aspirations. Therefore, Mobility Transition Theory/ Migration Hump Theory posits that other forces and intermediate variables, accompanying economic growth, exert a separate, upward pressure on emigration.

Social Networks and Migration Theory: Very recently several writers in the study of international migration have recognized the role of social networks, or ‘migrant networks’, as an important force in explaining the perpetuity of international migration (Michael Spittel, 1998). There are more international migrants today than ever before, and their number is certain to increase for the foreseeable future (Koser, 2007). Here, the idea migration causes migration appears to give sound justification as more migrants causes more links to create with relatives and friends making them candidates for migration thereby increasing the stock of migrants.

Consistent the idea migration causes migration assertion, Haug (2008) confirmed that social networks or migration network as a composite of interpersonal relations provide a foundation for the dissemination of information as well as for patronage or assistance. He further argued interactions within social networks make migration easier by reducing the costs and risks of moving. This in turn gives multiplier effect of social networks as it creates a migration chain.

Therefore, unlike the neoclassical theorists, social network theory argues that migration is a dynamic phenomenon that cannot simplistically attributed to economic factor alone as decided by the free will of the migrant. Therefore, migration systems and networks theory tends to consider sociological and other intermediate entities as important determinants in migration studies indicating that the decision to migrate does not basically rely on the free will of individual migrants alone (O'Reilly, 2012).

Therefore, as Kahanec and Zimmermann (2008) argued, migration as a dynamic phenomenon involves many twists and turns driven by a multitude of possible reasons. As such, all migration needs to be understood within the wider context of the system and other intervening variables primarily related with social contacts play in assisting or resisting migration to happen.

3.2 Linking Globalization and Migration

Increased migration is one of the most visible and significant aspects of globalization (Tacoli & Okali, 2001). There is an increasing scholarly consensus that globalization disrupts income

equality of individuals while there is a general increment in gross national product of states in the past decades (Hoeller, Joumard & Koske, 2014). Even though international migration has been a fact of life throughout the ages, it is mass migrations that have changed the course of history and that hold a special fascination for social scientists and historians in the growing globalization of the world economy (Hatton, 2001). Migration had never been static in all aspects historically. In terms of migrant characteristics, interests, contextual factors and actors that make migration to happen. It is to this reason that Hatton (2001) argued that migrants in 1900 were certainly different from those in 1800 in terms of aspiration, nature, composition and characters of migrants.

In the age of globalization whether or not certain conditions and prospects create a desire for change depends on peoples' life aspirations and their exposure to outside world. In simple terms, if people are poor, and believe they are likely to remain poor, it is less doubtful that they will actively seek, a better life. In this case, Carling and Talleraas, (2016) argued that if a country experiences rapid but uneven growth, which our global society is commonly experiencing in the age of globalization, conditions might change little for the majority of poor people, and the prospects for improvement might be dim. However, life aspirations could rise in response to other people's visible wealth and a greater awareness of socio-economic differentials increased global interconnectedness that eventually results migration inevitable reality.

It is also argued that international migration has accelerated in the past half century (De Haas, 2014). This increase in of international migration is commonly linked to globalization and associated processes such as rapid advances in transport and communication technology reduction in the cost of human mobility.

In sum, globalization is highly shaping the nature, composition and magnitude of migration in general and irregular migration in particular for many reasons. First globalization increased global interconnectedness via information communication technology and rapid transportation systems that helped people to easily access what is going on around the world. Second, globalization exacerbated income disparity and survival difficulty among individuals which in turn let people to actively engage in exit strategies among which migration is one.

4. Findings and Analysis

4.1 The Dynamics in the Conception of Poverty and Definition of the Good Life

In migration studies, there is emerging literature that poverty reduction and development in less developed countries in the short term increase the stock of migration. In line this; returnee FGD discussants in Atsibi Woreda pointed out that “Indifferent to the income level of households, irregular migration is a fashion among the adolescents of our locality. Leaving their high school and university studies, migration is becoming the preferences of the youth in our woreda.”

This idea can complement with assumption of *Migration Hump Theory*⁷. Migration Hump theory affirms that development will encourage migration in the short run. because people that previously could not afford to emigrate can get the means to do migration possible. Moreover, globalization with interconnected and information access further promotes and gave space people to aspire migration calculating the potential differentials. In similar vein, Clemens (2014) his scholarly contribution affirmed that, over the course of a “mobility transition”, emigration generally rises with economic development until countries reach upper-middle income, and only thereafter falls. He further argued that rising incomes can help potential migrants finance the costs of international mobility and hence increasing migration stock. An informant from Sa’esie Tsaeda Emba woreda confirmed that:

These days it is difficult to believe that the major root cause for irregular migration in our woreda is poverty stricken caused phenomena and economic impoverishment. It is rather becoming matter of competition and attitudinal enslavement. The spillover effect that the returnees and those irregularly migrated in abroad is also significant role models to exacerbate irregular migration and the move to rich what the peers, neighbors, relatives did is a significant pressurizing factor to the matter. The ratio of irregular migrant is also increasing as a spillover effect by those who are already irregularly migrated as many can communicate many from abroad to home youth to be a candidate for irregular migration.

Not a single factor but many factors contribute for irregular migration to happen. However, all the factors cannot have same power in making people to migrate. Moreover, the factors and actors that make irregular migration to happen are changing their forms and context across time.

⁷ This is a theory in migration studies that basically explains migration development nexus. It tries to show how development/economic growth affect migration both in the short and long term basis.

In a more contextual way, scholars like Carling 2002 cited in Carling and Talleraas (2016) argue that in lower income developing countries, while people have an option that can let them to lead life of normal livelihood in relative contexts even with increasing income, they tend to migrate because as income grows, people have greater capacity to plan for the future and are exposed to a greater range of choices in life.

As indicated by key informants and zonal government reports, livelihood of the local people and income level is being in improvement compared to times before. However, this improvement in livelihood is much below the aspirations and demands of the local community in general and the youth in particular. Even some times, those who are employed and who were running their business are leaving for irregular migration This definitely confirms what Carling and Talleraas (2016) have presented, with increase income of a given society at the initial level exacerbates the tendency to migrate for extended ambition to be rich in shorter time to meet the widening choices that they assume they cannot assure it at home in a condensed time span.

Indifferent to the above proposition, Clemens (2014) argued that economic development cannot always prove every house hold earning is increasing because rising incomes are never uniformly distributed even if it is increasing, it commonly results wide range of income disparity. Therefore, for him, economic development can be associated with changes in the distribution of income and its variation that shape the demand for migration. Consistent to this concerns, key informants and FGD participant's in the study areas anonymously affirmed that there is an increasing live income disparity among the local residents which in turn is causing relative deprivation and unnecessary competition among the local community.

4.2 Income Inequality, Unemployment and Social Pressures

Migration itself causes migration is a new insight in the study area. This is consistent with what key informants have confirmed.

Whatever the source behind, income inequality between households in our woreda is widening from time to time. Migrant sending household for instance are showing a difference in the income level and consumption pattern at least in the short run regardless of the social, cultural and moral costs that they are incurring compared to the non sending counter parts. This in turn is creating a sense of relative deprivation among individual residents which can have an implication for migration.

From this we can say migration cause migration for two important reasons. First, it can create income disparity between migrant sending and non sending households which is complimentary with Migration Hump Theory. Second, earlier migrants increase for late coming migrants by feeding information and subsidizing cost of travel and transit to the destination state which is consistent with Social Network Theory of migration.

Moreover, absence of employment opportunity is also aggravating migration in the study area. According to, Labour and Social Affairs Bureau of Eastern Tigray Zone report of 2015/6 among the total youth population registered in eastern Tigray region, around 24% (37832) are unemployed in the reported year 2016. The employment in the context includes all types even those engaged in small income earning activities. This by itself has a share in accelerating irregular migration. Informants also affirmed that how the wage of employees are being challenged by survival difficulties. Even some employees of governmental offices are migrating either irregularly or regularly to search better job opportunity. This complement with what Lucas (2005) has stated that migration rises with the gap earning opportunities between home and abroad. Therefore, tighter labor markets, with higher wages and more employment creation at origin can better contribute for the reduction of migration.

Key informants from the study area have unanimously noticed that with increasing stock of irregular migration, there is an increasing loss of life and injuries from year to year. Inline this, the report from the Eastern Zone Tigray Region (2015/16), a total of 4342 youths from the Zone were found left for irregular migration September to march 2015/6 within 7 months. Out of this number with in the given months, 77 deaths and 28 serious injuries are found registered. However, this statistics recognizes those who are official registered ones and hence the number is believed to be higher because there are also lost irregular migrants who are yet not identified where they are that might bring change in the data.

Despite the sustainability and endurance of their economy in the long run and its implication in their socio-psychological consequence to them, irregular migration creates income inequality in the short run. A key informant from Atsbi woreda presented his idea as follows:

In our woreda, it is too hard to compete with the “Diaspora” and their relatives in the market place and other social activity. We like or not many of the building investments in the town belong to the “Diaspora” or their relatives. No youth in this town has a house otherwise he/she is among the “Diaspora” one and hence the lesson to the non migrant youth is that unless they are migrated in any way, it is less probable to own even a simple residence house let alone a

huge building or smart villa. This is creating unintended hopelessness and competition which end up with irregular migration.

At its best, migration can be a rewarding experience that is made in the interest of the household welfare, but in most cases moving to another country and being separated from one's immediate family takes place at considerable emotional cost. Especially temporary circular migration increases the risk for family breakdown, fragmentation of social networks and psychosocial stress (Mohapatra et.al, 2011). However, these psycho-social costs of migrants are rarely visible for the none migrants. What boldly affects the none migrants is the economic returns in the form of remittance either in the form of extended consumptions or some kind of capital asset formation as consequence of their migration. Consistent to this contextual reality, an informant from Irob Woreda affirmed that:

These days, the local residents start to believe if someone from the "Diaspora" is competing for lease bidding, it is better to withdraw from the bidding at least to save the none refundable payment for the bidding. Therefore, Income inequality spillover effect these days is becoming a very sensitive pushing factor issue that needs a critical public attention. Otherwise, those with hope to some extent believe the importance of working at mother land is destroying their hope while this in return is accelerating irregular migration.

Migration has always been considered as an important part of livelihoods and hence the young are subject to social pressure to look after their relatives (Tacoli & Okali, 2001). Indifferent to this, an informant Returnee from Saisie tsaeda emba Stated that:

Nowadays in our community, your social acceptance is highly dependent up on the wealth that you have (the house you built, cars you bought, the business and so on). Even the justice that you receive and the social status that you will possess is the product of the asset that you really own. Therefore, I do not want see my parents dressing less than their neighbors who were lower or equivalent with my parents before they send their household member via irregular migration. For What reason should I fear? If I am economically marginalized, socially undermined and psychologically degraded, it is what death is to me.

Therefore, irregular migration is becoming among the common practices of the community to discharge a responsibility to rescue one's own relatives from psycho-social marginalization as consequence to income disparity. It is a competition among youths of respective household with the motto "I am as fit as the other to migrate". Death for them is therefore a matter of chance.

4.3 Drought vulnerability and Land Degradation

Eastern zone of tigray region is among the drought prone part of the region among the study sample woredas (Saesie Tsaeda Emba, Irob Atsbi womberta) are chronically vulnerable districts. These woredas are not only victims of recurrent drought vulnerability but also they are constrained by farm land size per house hold problem which goes below the average zonal land holding. As revealed from the respective wordas agriculture office, farm land size of the sample study woredas is 0.51, 0.46 and 0.19 hectare per house hold in Saesie Tsaeda Emba, Atsbi womberta and Irob respectively. This fixed land holding that lived around two decades since its official land redistribution become serious problem for the newly joining house hold members to the rural community for the last two decades.

In their study Gebrehiwot and Fekadu (2012) confirmed that , drought, landlessness and unemployment are the key factors for out-migration in Eastern Tigray underlining the zones vulnerability for recurrent drought. Key informants in the study woredas also recognized that migration has been a long lived means of livelihood in their community due to recurrent droughts and land scarcity. They added there are clear differences in the consumption patterns between migrant sending and non sending households in the study woredas. Earlier study by Maxwell, et.al, (2010) also revealed that labor migration plays a significant part of livelihoods in Tsaeda Amba due to the recurrent drought.

This problem accompanied by small farm land size per house hold make livelihood survival difficult which in turn aggravated irregular migration to become the mode of life in these three study wordas. In these wordas, it is highly challenging to lead life being dependent up on agriculture alone. An informant from Irob woreda indicated that given the mutinous topography that make land cultivation difficult, Irob community was basically dependent not on crop production rather on animal and animal products, bee keeping, goats and sheep breeding were the dominant practice. However, since two decades before, beginning from the Ethio-eritrean war, drought has been recurrent manifestation. This make life survival very difficult in the worda triggering the youth and elders to experience irregular migration.

Moreover, Tsaesie Tsaeda Emba woreda is one of the chronically food insecure woredas identified by the Government of Ethiopia. In 2009, over 73,000 of the roughly 150,000 residents are included in the Productive Safety Net Program. Moreover, it was also reported that in 2009, nearly two thirds of the people living in the woreda needed food assistance to

survive without serious asset depletion at the outset of the study. Even well-off households are only able to produce about 60 percent of their food needs from farming, so have to rely on food purchase for the remainder; poor households rely on the market for up to 60 percent of their food needs, with 20 percent coming from food aid (mostly through the Productive Safety Net Program) (Maxwell, et.al, 2010:6).

In different to the other sample woredas of this study, Atsbi womberta is among the recurrent drought cycle affected woredas found in tigray region. Recurrent drought accompanied by small farm land size per house hold further aggravated livelihood survival very challenging that make it the woreda among the top three migrant sending woredas found in eastern tigray region together with Irob, and Saesie Tsaeda Emba (Sara, 2010).

In sum, Eastern tigray region is reported to be drought prone area affected by recurrent droughts and farm land constraints. The static situation of land redistribution and lack of access to land for more than two decades and limited access for alternative livelihood mechanisms make it the the zone one of the most migrant sending zones in the region. Among the top contributors of migrants of zone are Atsibi Womberta, Saesie Tsaeda Emba and Irob respectively (Eastern Tigray Region Social Affairs Office, 2016). Here, drought and land degradation accompanied by limited farm land size is worsening the intensity of irregular migration in the study areas.

4.4 Systematization of Networks of Traffickers to Win the Hearts and Minds of the Youth

These days the migrants and potential migrants are becoming major actors in intensively involving in irregular migration as lines of the brokers having the incentive of negotiating with brokers for cash payment exemption for bringing five or more potential migrants to the hands of the brokers. A key informant from Saesie Tsaeda Emaba woreda Edaga Hamus town confirms similar idea in this respect:

It is not simple to trace their location, to identify their identity and activity. This so because of fear of social network cracks and the possibility of wining over the traffickers and smugglers as they highly networked. Here comes the paradox of human trafficking and smuggling that the actors within the community and the victim is also the community but there is no visible reaction to face the problem.

Moreover, as pointed out from the key informants, people are fearful to engage in facing the problem because there is less confidence on the justice organs that they will seriously handle such cases in a way that assure justice. There is established suspicion that the justices officials

are collaborators and communicators of the traffickers. An informant from Irob woreda affirmed from his own experience as follows:

As trafficking is highly corruption prone, traffickers communicate and negotiate financial share with police and security officers who are expected otherwise. I believe that this is not far from government sight unless lack of commitment to take appropriate measure. I am telling you this reality not from vacuum it is from my own, my relatives and friends experience in person. Therefore, irregular migration involves multiple stakeholders and facilitators including high rank public officials who are connected with financial and other vested interests.

Consistent to the above informants stand point, Macy & Johns (2011) confirmed that border immigration and customs authorities are indeed vulnerable to corruption in cases of trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling. So, there are relevant investigative research findings that security officials in the exit and entry transits have intimate connectivity with high rank brokers and smugglers (Kyle & Koslowski, 2011). Key Informant from Sae Sie Tsaeda Emba woreda also complement with this idea.

In our woreda there are individuals that we commonly suspect that they are brokers and they are highly confident as no one can touch them because they control and put the security wing at their hand and no one has tangible evidence that can win over them in front of the court. No one is also ready to give what he/she knows as they are powerful individuals as suspicion indicates they are trafficking in collaboration with the key security and justice actors. They are capable of doing so because traffickers and smugglers have the financial capacity to bribe officials and other group of people to hide their identity.

There is sophistications up on the secrete handling of the traffickers from time to time with advancement of technology. This becomes so, as it can be noticed from informants' point of view, these days there is a fear of insecurity with mass campaign and condemnation on its illegality. However, the network of traffickers and brokers is deep in the community that extends from the house hold and individual level to the global networking. An informant from Atsibi Womberta, pointed out:

In our locality, it is too hard to single out brokers and smugglers because migrant mentality is getting a space in every one's mind. Therefore, it is a matter of degree otherwise many of our local residents contribute their share for exacerbating irregular migration. Leave alone the ordinary people we have suspicions that security and other government officials are also part of this human trafficking in our community.

In sum, the issue of human trafficking is mentioned to be among the most secrete illegal profitable businesses. Its high profit is also attracting many individuals and groups to engage into it thereby widening the actors' scope, outreach and systematization to do human trafficking.

4.5 General Implication of Irregular Migration in the Eastern Zone of Tigray

Irregular migration is creating new socio-cultural cracks in the society and politico-Legal bankruptcy to the government. Socio-culturally-it is deteriorating the established values of spirituality, valuing education, working at home country, social security and cohesion. Psychological emotionality and mental instability are common manifestations of returnee migrants' behavior in the study woredas. Politically, nation defaming out flow of irregular migrants is a sign of policy and political failure indicator. This in turn undermines state legitimacy within and outside the border for failing to retain and attract the youth via smart and functioning and enforceable youth centered policies.

Moreover, there is an increasing habit of lack public legitimacy and distrust among returnees. The returnees aspire what they have seen in the destination state and what the government of those countries made to their people to be applied here too. For instance, they want to call free of charge/with little cost, cheap goods and service and the like. They did not consider the contextual reality of the states. Up until they are not convinced what the reality is, they tend to delegitimize the system for they lost what they have tested and experienced in abroad. As revealed from the field survey and practical observation there around, the returnees are less communicable with local government officials and they are hopeless that local government can serve them in particular and the state at large. This is therefore, a threat for policy enforcement and mitigating the consequences of irregular migration in the study areas. Therefore, Irregular migration in the case study woredas shows that, the returnees are highly deviant to be abided by the laws normsof the local community and life aspiration that they want to live.

5 Conclusion

Irregular migration is a very hot socio-economic and politico-legal issue affecting all states of the world regardless of their level of development. In the study area where this research is undertaken, irregular migration and its consequence is a topical issue. Findings and plan reports from the study area proved that the issue of irregular migration in Eastern Tigray Region is a second priority agenda next to youth unemployment.

Globalization also appeared to prove wide variation in income gap with rapid economic growth of states. Indifferent to this, the study revealed that there is an increasing sense of relative deprivation and livelihood survival difficulty in the study area. As a result of income variation and better exposure and experience of good life definition among the significant youths including the migrants, migration itself has found to be one reason to aggravate irregular migration.

By doing so, globalization brought two important consequences in migration dynamics for which the study area is part to it. First it revealed widening income disparity as an inevitable reality. Second, with intense global interconnectedness, globalization let people to know what is going on around the world and the potential opportunities that can help them to better face, if possible win over life survival challenges. Therefore, with the rapid expansion of globalization & communication technology, the actors and factors interplay in facilitating irregular migration in the study area are drastically changing. However, local government intervention strategies remained slow in pace and static in approach while youth exposure to the conception of poverty, good life definition and better future plan is far exceeded local government policy intervention attempts in the study area.

Moreover, an emerging socio-cultural construction and politico-legal short comings, social networks further evoked by poverty, unemployment and lack of youth oriented interventions are contributing irregular migration to happen in the study area. In different to this, the systematization of traffickers and smugglers to win the hearts and interest of the youth is also significantly changing to reach the victims. This is so because the sophistication of traffickers to capture the attention of potential migrants is far exceeded the actual government intervention schemes in study area.

6 Recommendations

As per the changes in contextual reality in the zone is drastically changing due to different reasons the application of static and one-fits all approach to handle the issue of irregular migration for extended time is less effective. Therefore, paradigm shift in youth policy and investment orientation to cope up the timely demands of the youth is needed to retain youth out migration. In doing so, identifying the actors and factors interplay along line with timely but increasing demand of youth need to get paramount attention. In line this, investment on skill

training and certification program should also get attention because such investments have two important advantages. First, this skill will enable the victims of irregular migration to work at home country either being employed in the public or private institutions and to create their own business of their own. Second, if those who receive such intensive and effective skill trained victims are migrated irregularly or regularly, they will enjoy respected and paid job by selling their skills in the destination countries. Side by side, encouraging regular channels for migration and mobility of citizens to countries open for such a legal immigration should also be taken as an option to reduce the severity of irregular option.

Moreover, even though poverty and livelihood difficulty are not the only ones, they are among the contributing factors for the youth out migration. Therefore, investing in unemployment reducing development projects and poverty reduction activities consistently can have significant role in curtailing irregular migration. More importantly, large scale projects/industrial investments that can absorb large number of the poor, the vulnerable and potential irregular migrants that are with spillover for further local investments are also recommended. This is demanded so, because such employments and investments have better capacity to retain the youth and relatively cope up their aspiration.

Therefore, Sharpening and widening alternative intervening strategies that can fit real situation than business as usual method is more relevant. Moreover, anti-human trafficking laws and policies that can cop up the actors and factors dynamic interaction in line with decentralized anti human trafficking fighting strategies can have significant return in reversing irregular migration in the study area than the business as usual and static approach of handling the matter.

Statement of Disclaimer

The author of this article, declares that this research work titled as: ***Globalization and Migration: An Inquiry into the Dynamics of Actors and Factors Interplay in Eastern Zone of Tigray Regional State*** is original contribution of the author and hence this topic and the content of the article belongs to the author of this article only. Therefore, the author wants to assure that there is no conflict of interest and claim on this research contribution apart from this author himself.

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