

Migrating Out of Poverty

Ethiopia Household Survey – 2014

User Guide

Acknowledgments

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Data may be used freely. Please acknowledge your use of the MOOP data by including the following phrase:

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The study in Ethiopia is one of a number of comparable studies carried out by Migrating out of Poverty (MOOP) partners in Ghana, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh and Indonesia, and this handbook provides information about the quantitative data resulting from fieldwork conducted in September 2014.

1. Definition of migrants

A current migrant is defined as a former member of the household who within the last 10 years has moved away from the village for at least three months for either work or study reasons and is currently away. Migrants are all who move either to a different location within Ethiopia or abroad.

2. Sampling

The Ethiopia migration Quantitative study was conducted in 4 regions (Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP and Tigray regions), 7 *woredas* and 16 *kebeles*. The study zones and *woredas* are selected based on the 2013 Ethiopian labour force survey data. Households were selected randomly in each kebele using a rapid screening technique to identify households with and without migrants.

In the mainly agricultural *woredas* of the Tigray regions recent and recurrent drought has increased migration especially of young Ethiopians either to urban areas or abroad illegally via Somalia/Djibouti and Yemen to the Arab countries. There is variation in the migration experience between the *woredas*, some with mainly internal, some with mainly international migration and some also with higher return migration due to repatriation by the Saudi government.

In the SNNP regions, recurrent drought, but also a destructive flood in 2013 triggered migration, either international or local. International migrants are mostly women who work as domestic workers in Arab countries. Local migrants move mainly to work in commercial farms.

The Oromiya region is very diverse. Some areas have very little migrant experience and if so only for marriage, others have many international or internal migrants, others both. Also, in some areas, households live off their small lands and fishing, while in others livestock and large farm land areas comprise the household income. Overall, this region experiences higher in- than outmigration and the most common type of migration is seasonal moves.

In the Amhara region the main activity in the selected areas is farming, in one area it is trading. Most migration is internally to Addis Ababa or internationally to the Arabic countries. There is also some local migration to urban areas or to commercial farms.

In all areas, international migrant households were easily identified by their corrugated iron homes and/or new buildings.

Study Region	Internal migrants		International migrants		Both migrants		No migrants		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Tigray	78	17.1	86	37.2	36	30.8	100	24.8	300	24.9
Amhara	144	31.6	33	14.3	25	21.4	100	24.8	302	25
Oromiya	121	26.6	51	22.1	28	23.9	104	25.7	304	25.2
SNNP	112	24.6	61	26.4	28	23.9	100	24.8	301	24.9
Total	455	37.7	231	19.1	117	9.7	404	33.5	1,207	100

There are ca. 300 households in each region. In the full sample 38% of households have internal, 19% international and 10% both migrants. The share of households by migrant status varies across

regions due to the above described differences in migration history and traditions in each region. But in each region the sample comprises each group to a minimum of 14-20%.

3. Questionnaire

Our household survey questionnaire is similar in design to those developed by the consortium for other countries. It consists of nine sections, which are described in more detail below.

Section 1 – Household grid

This section contains the information of migrant status, gender, age, marital status, fertility, ethnicity, education and economic activity of each household member but current migrants.

Section 2 – Current Migrants

This section asks about the current migrants. It includes the demographic information of gender, age, marital status, fertility, ethnicity and education. It then covers questions around the migration history: when they last migrated, and why, where they are currently living and what their activities were before moving, who decided, how the migration was financed, whether they had contacts at the destination and more.

Section 3 – Social Relationships and Remittances from Current Migrants

First, this section covers current employment and salary of the migrant. Then the household is asked how often and how they communicate with the current migrant(s) and also to report on remittances in cash and in goods received from each migrant and its usage.

Section 4 – Household Socioeconomic Wellbeing

The section comprises information on the land ownership and the quality of housing.

Section 5 – Other Sources of Household Income

The household states whether they earn any income from a long list of potential income sources, how much on average in the past year and who decides on the usage of this income.

Section 6a – Perceptions of Quality of Life

Questions are asked about the subjective perception on the overall quality of life of the household compared to 5 years ago, its income situation, its debt and savings, access to health services, relationship with other households in community, and effects of migration as well as the advantages or disadvantages of migration.

Section 6b - Perceptions of Quality of Life (Only Households with Migrants)

In this section only households with current migrants are asked on their subjective perception of the impact of migration on the household's wellbeing in terms of daily life and reasons for changes. They are also asked about their perception on the migrants' daily life and women's quality of life.

Section 7 – Household Expenditure on Food and Non-Food Items

This consumption module captures data on main items of food and non-food consumption, using a module similar in design but narrower in focus to the Living Standards Measurement Surveys consumption modules. Food expenditure in the last seven days on purchased items, own production and gifts is collected along with less frequent monthly and annual expenditure on household items, services and utilities.

Section 8 – Migration Experience of Returned Migrants

This section includes questions directly asked to return migrants about their last destination, duration of migration, employment, salary, contact to family, remittances sent, reason for return and negative experiences inside and outside of workplace as well as overall perception of the migration experience.

4. Data Files

The Ethiopia data set is at the individual level comprising all individuals (7,876) in all households (1,207), with or without migrants. The file is available in Stata (.dta) and SPSS (.sav) format. The details of the files are as follows:

5. Variables

The variable names correspond to the question numbers in the questionnaire, for example, the variable q5 corresponds to question 5 in the questionnaire. The questionnaire contains the codes for each categorical variable. There are 5 additional variables:

HHID - Household Identifier

The household identifier (HHID) in the data set is a unique number from 1 up to 1,207.

IID - Person Identifier

Each individual has a personal identifier (IID) which is a combination of the household ID (HHID) and an individual household member number within the household (hhm).

region zone woreda kebele

These variables identify the region and district in which a household is located.