

# The Shadows of Forced Displacement and Rays of Hopes: Livelihood Practices of Households at Koye Feche Resettlement Site, Oromiya Regional State, Ethiopia

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## Abstract

Forced displacement is one of the most devastating anxiety-causing social, economic, and political problems that needs more intervention based on rigorous investigations. Accordingly, this study was planned to describe the livelihood practice of households in post-forced displaced resettlement in Koye Feche resettlement site, Ethiopia. The study used mixed research design in which qualitative data supplemented to quantitative data. Accordingly, findings of the study revealed that even though the host community residence area, the Koye Feche, is located near the periphery of the capital city of Ethiopia, the Finfinnee, at Oromiya Regional State, their level of education and awareness about the opportunity around them and making better livelihood practices is very low as compared to forced displaced households. The majority of host community livelihood practices depend on farming activities, while all of the relocated households' livelihood practices depend on non-farming, different types of petty trade's activities. The resettlement area, which was agricultural land before 2018, now became a village having accessibility to electricity, the main road, and better houses. Despite the settlers' households' current level of income being low as compared to the previous status, they have strong morale in getting two-bedroom houses at a good location near Finfinnee/Addis Ababa. The houses given to relocated households were not only used for a place to live, but also utilizing parts of their homes or surrounding spaces for business activities such as small-scale trade.

**Keywords:** *Livelihood practices, forced displacement, resettlement, households, Koye Feche.*

## 1. Introduction

Recently, our world has been facing various manmade challenges that are more severe than before. Among other issues, forcible displacement- which entails evicting people from their residential homes -has continued to be a global issue and has garnered media attention worldwide, particularly in East Africa. Forcible displacement is the term used to describe a person or people leaving their home area under pressure. The situation of forced displacement is different from other types of voluntary dislocation, like that of government and other non-governmental organizations-sponsored resettlement programs, which allow the resident to make

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a free choice to leave or stay to live in their original area. Thus, issues of forced displacement crises emerge not only from a spectrum of security implications but also become elements of development challenges (UNHCR, 2019). According to Yigzaw, Abitew, and Endalsasa (2019), extreme poverty is now more prevalent among vulnerable groups in forced displacement, such as those who had to flee conflict and violence. Their presence causes harm to human livelihoods, such as food insecurity and undernourishment, infectious diseases, and the deterioration of social infrastructures. Since early 2017, the humanitarian situation in Ethiopia has further deteriorated as the result of increased conflict around border areas of Oromia and the Somali regional state. Throughout this conflict, around 857,000 people had been displaced (NDRMC, 2018). Furthermore, sources displayed that resettlement has multifaceted influences on the socio-economic situation of relocated people as well as on environmental resources of receipt areas (Tan and Yao 2006; Wilson 2019). Terminiski (2013) further noted that during the initial stages of the resettlement process, which involves the actual physical removal of individuals from their houses, persons may be evacuated from their normal residence without providing enough decompensating promises of social assistance. Forced displacement is therefore a rather diverse phenomenon from economic relocation, calling for different types of theoretic and empirical tools (Verme, 2016). Therefore, this article is intended to explore the households' livelihood practices at the resettlement site. Hence, studying this topic primarily denotes studying vulnerable groups of societies. On the other hand, the problems of livelihood practice of forcibly displaced resettled households' are one of the problematic areas of the manmade issue concerned with profession and ethics in sustainable developmental studies. In addition, even though the existence of devastating consequences of forced displacement is apparent, there is no well-organized study conducted with special reference to the livelihood practices of households forcibly displaced in the resettlement area. In the study area, this is an untouched area of the research topic. If there are any, there are few studies conducted on government and NGO-sponsored resettlement programs. To this end, the study focused on filling information gaps on livelihoods practices of households forcibly displaced by resettlement in the Koye Feche Site.

## 2. Statement of the problem

Livelihood practice is defined as a multitude of collections of activities essential to everyday life that communities/households perform to support their livelihoods. A sustainable way of life enables people to deal with a variety of stressors and effects, recover on their own, and even advance households' current and future assets and capacities without causing destruction to the environment or the planet (DFID, 2000). The impact of livelihood assets on livelihood practice techniques might vary across different districts and socioeconomic groups. Scholarly debates have been captivated by the question of what kinds of livelihood assets might generate what kinds of impacts to switch to another livelihood (Milad et al., 2018; Fang et al., 2014). A key component of the sustainable livelihood framework (SLF) are the various types of livelihood assets—physical, social, human, financial, and natural—that are taken into account, along with the circumstances of households, their ability to respond to different shocks in dynamic and exposed situations, and their potential to actively choose a livelihood strategy (DFID, 2000). According to the majority of the literature, private sector development and income-generating activities should be promoted in fragile and conflict-affected situations in a stepwise manner. Emergency job creation should be the primary focus at first, but interventions aimed at longer-term income generation should gradually take its place (Mallet and Slater, 2012).

In terms of livelihood assets, case studies conducted in Kenya, Uganda, Somalia, Niger, and Indonesia demonstrated that financial infusions facilitate crisis management and can then be used for recovery initiatives like home reconstruction, the purchase of productive assets, and educational expenses (Carpenter et al. 2012). The majority of the literature recommends a step-by-step strategy for fostering private sector growth and income-generating activities in fragile and conflict-affected areas, with an initial emphasis on emergency job creation that will eventually be replaced by an increasing emphasis on interventions meant to generate income

over the long term (Mallet and Slater, 2012). The forcibly displaced resettled households were subjected to many ups and downs in their destitute lives, and interventions were made by a different section of society at the early forced displacement. However, currently, the circumstances of the livelihood practices of households relocated were not well known as to whether they are earning support or the settlers are held responsible and capable of making means of their livelihood practices. Part of the problem is people tend to underestimate livelihood practices such as homeownership, resettlement sites, financial aid, market accessibility, infrastructure, income stability, and level of education, and previous personal experience of forced displaced households. Even though the existence of devastating consequences of forced displacement is apparent, there is no well-organized study conducted with special reference to the livelihood practices of households forcibly displaced. This article, however, comes up with another dimension, where multiple livelihood practices of households forced displaced in resettlement areas were systematically explored for the overall transformation of forced displaced households. The general objectives of this article were to investigate livelihood practices of households forcibly displaced from the Ethiopia Somali Regional State and resettled at the Koye Feche site.

### **3. Literature Reviews**

#### **3.1. Theoretical Foundation of the Study**

This study's foundation is the Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF), which offers a prism through which to view research methodologies, pinpoint research gaps, and formulate research questions. The SLF, which was influenced by Amartya Sen and Robert Chambers, places a strong emphasis on sustainable development as a means of lowering vulnerability and poverty. It combines the three fundamental ideas of sustainability, equity, and competence to make sure that individuals can access opportunities, manage shocks, and preserve resources for coming generations. By putting people at the heart of development, SLF connects the implementation of macro-policy with micro-level livelihood measures. It is made up of various elements, such as the context of vulnerability, livelihood assets, transforming structures, livelihood methods, and livelihood results. This study particularly focuses on livelihood assets (physical, social, human, financial, and natural) and livelihood strategies (income-generating programs, training, and infrastructure development) to understand how people adapt to displacement. Livelihood strategies help affected populations rebuild through income support, skill development, and market integration. The framework is widely used in poverty alleviation, natural resource management, and community development.

#### **3.2. Empirical Literature**

According to UNHCR (2019), 79.5 million internally displaced people (IDPs), including refugees, have escaped violence and war worldwide. Internal displacement affects both the host and displaced communities by causing shocks to the population and public spending. Research shows that internal relocation causes environmental damage, livelihood vulnerability, and challenges with future planning. Due to the large-scale displacement in Ethiopia, immediate assistance is needed to restore livelihoods (Mehari, 2017).

#### **3.3. Livelihood Assets and Coping Strategies**

Sustainable livelihoods depend on financial stability, access to infrastructure, governance policies, and social capital (Ahmed, 2001; Jha & Duyne, 2010). Informal microcredit, community leadership, and social networks play key roles in post-displacement recovery. The impact of displacement on livelihood assets varies by region, and research debates which assets best support livelihood transitions (Milad et al., 2018).

While previous studies have focused on disaster-induced displacement, involuntary internal displacement presents unique challenges. Unlike economic migration, which involves planned relocation with financial preparation, internally displaced persons (IDPs) are often forced to move suddenly, leaving behind most of their assets and savings. This increases their vulnerability to poverty, and livelihood insecurity in new resettlement areas. This study focuses on the

livelihood activities of internally displaced resettled of the Koye Feche resettlement site. By examining how livelihood assets and strategies influence adaptation and recovery, this research aims to provide insights into how displaced populations can rebuild their lives and sustain livelihoods in the face of displacement-related challenges.

#### **4. Study methods**

##### **4.1. Depiction of the area**

The study area is located in Oromiya Regional State near the capital city, Finfinnee/Addis Ababa. It is about 20 km east-south of the capital city, which is located between the right sides of the Goro to Tulu Dimtu toll road. The total target populations of the area, from which data collection was made, are 1154 host community households and 2000 households that were evicted and resettled at the Koye Feche Site. The study area is located at an elevation of 2,200 meters, located at the GPS coordinates of lat. 08 0 53' 36" N, long. 03 80 49' 17" E. (Source: ESRI world imagery, 2021)

##### **4.2. Research design**

The design and approach of the study was a descriptive tactic to summarize a large amount of data about the livelihood practice of households in post-resettlement in a sensible way. The core drive of using a descriptive examination plan is to accurately enlighten the characteristics of specific groups (Inama, 2006). In terms of methodology, research designs used mixed research methods as it allowed the investigator to combine or associate together qualitative and quantitative methods of facts (Creswell, 2009, and Dunn, 1999). According to Baker (2010), a mixed study design combines two approaches to better understand a social phenomenon. Additionally, Baker (2010) asserted that the mixed-method approach yields higher-quality and more comprehensive information than either method alone. To this effect, a mixed study strategy was engaged to study the livelihood practices of forcibly displaced households. Samples were selected through stratified sampling techniques using Korbetta's (2003) and Kothari's (2004) sample size determination formulation. In this paper, primary and secondary data were used as source data pools. The main methods for gathering data were key informant interviews, focus groups, household surveys, and observation. A expressive research approach was followed to summarize a large amount of data about the livelihood practice of households in post-resettlement in a sensible way. Livelihood practice cannot be measured by single indicators, as its constituent issues, like people's capability, resources, and sets of actions, which determine the association among persons and the physical environs (Liu, 2020; Scoones, 2009). In order to examine household livelihood practices, statistical software (SPSS) was used to assess quantitative data, while themes were established to analyze qualitative data before merging as a supplement to quantitative data.

#### **5. Result**

Socio-demographic characteristics of respondents indicated settlers and host communities contain different backgrounds in terms of age, religion, ethnicity, gender, and marital status. Regarding age, the majorities of respondents were young, energetic working groups between the ages of 26-35, covering 121 (68%), whereas 26 (14.6%) of the total defendants remained in age cluster of 36-45 categories. At the same time, between the ages of 18-25, there were 19 (10.7%) of respondents, while small numbers, 8 persons (6.7%), were above the age of 46 years. In terms of ethnicity, almost all of the respondents were from the Oromo ethnic group, which holds 169 (94.9%), while very few respondents, 4 (2.2%), were from the Amhara ethnic group. The other ethnic group counts about 5 (2.8%) of the participants. In addition to the survey, data from focus group discussions and interviews indicated that forced displacement from Ethiopia's Somali Regional State, Jijiga city, was focused on one ethnic group. An attempt to understand the reason behind the case showed that the issues of forced displacement from Jijiga did not relate to conflict between the Oromo and Somali communities. It was the Somali Regional Special Force and government officials of the period who orchestrated and executed those horrible actions against the civilians to leave Jijiga city. Concerning gender, the number of female respondents (43.3%) was very low as compared to male participants, who made up 56.7% of total respondents. In

terms of educational background, more than half of the respondents have an education level of elementary school (1-8), which covers 64 (34.8%) of the participants, although 48 (27%) of the respondents are between grades (9-12), although 39 (21.9%) of the respondents are fixed to read and write level of education. In addition, respondents who have diploma counts are about 12 (6.7%) of the total respondents, while respondents who have an education level of above degree count 7 (3.9%). A small number of the respondents, 10 (5.6%), have no formal education.

The income level of respondents depends on the number of assets owned by respondents and the types of activities engaged in by residents. Accordingly, 36 (31.3%) of forced displaced respondents stated they had an income of less than 1000 birr per month, while 46 (40%) of the total forced displaced respondents' monthly income indicated between 1000-3000 birr per month. The remaining others, 22 (19.1%) and 11 (9.6%), of the total forced displaced respondents earned 3000-5000 and 5000-8000 birr per month, respectively. On the other hand, 62 (98.4%) of host community respondents earn 8000-10000 birr per month, while only 1 (1.6%) of the host community stated to earn an income of 3000-5000 birr per month. From this, one can clearly understand that host communities whose means of livelihood depend on farming activities have a higher income as compared to forcedly displaced households. Furthermore, even if the settlers are currently becoming psychologically spirited and starting some small businesses to change their livelihoods, the current income levels of settlers are low as compared to previous residence areas.

One of the key informant's interviewees from the settler (male) supported the statistical figure stated above as follows:

"I come to Koye Feche resettlement site as the result of forced eviction from Ijiga. In Jijiga I had been in a big cloth store and worked as a tailor. By that work, I was simple to earn money there. During the eviction, wealth that I accumulated over years was destroyed and thieved within an hour. Currently, I earn an income of hand to mouth as the market of the area is not as hot as that of Jijiga to make more money. Nevertheless, since the resettlement site is near the capital city, Finfinnee/Addis Ababa, it has a huge opportunity to exploit its markets and make more income". In addition, an attempt was made to compare the households' income status before and after forced relocation using a paired sample t-test (presented in table 4.5).

**Table 4.5.** Paired Samples Test of income of a household before and after resettlement

Paired Sample Test										
	Differences paired							T	df	Sig-(2-tailed)
			Mean	Std.Dev.	Std. Error mean	93% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
	Mean	Std. deviation				lower	upper			
total income before resettlement	4.8539	1.22175	2.224	1.36339	0.10219	2.03843	2.41101	21.8	177	.000
Total current monthly income	2.63	1.252								

(Source: household Survey 2024)

From the result, we can easily conclude that the forced displacement significantly changed households' income. However, the result does not provide information concerning the magnitude of the forced displacement effect. One way to do this is to calculate an effect size statistic. The procedure for calculating and interpreting Eta squared is one of the most commonly used effect size statistics desired here.

$$\text{Thus, Eta squared} = \frac{t^2}{t^2 + (N-1)}$$

When interpreting this value of eta square, Cohen (1988) prepared the following guidelines: 0.01 = small effect, 0.06 = moderate effect, and 0.7 = large effects. In this case, t stands for the t-

statistics displayed in the table labeled paired samples test, and N is the number of responses provided in the table paired samples statistics.

$$\text{Eta squared} = \frac{(21.770)^2}{(21.770)^2 + (178-1)}$$

$$\text{Eta squared} = 0.7280825719517327 \approx 0.728 \approx \mathbf{0.7}$$

Given our eta squared value of (0.728), we can conclude that there were large effects, with a substantial difference in the level of income earned before and after forced displaced resettlement. Accordingly, a paired sample t-test was concluded to evaluate the resettlement impact on the income of households. The result showed a significant decrease in the income of the households before resettlement (mean = 4.8539, SD = 1.222) to after (M = 2.63, SD = 1.240),  $t(177) = 21.77$ ,  $P > 0.001$  (two-tailed). The mean decrease in income earned was 2.22472, with a 93% confidence interval ranging from 2.03843 to 2.41101. The eta square statistics (0.73) indicated a large effect size.

### 5.1. Households' livelihood practice as compared to the previous status

Household livelihood practices at the resettlement area depend on the amount of assets owned by the households and the kinds of activities they engaged in. Thus, livelihood practices in the resettlement area are divided into two main categories. These include non-farming livelihood practices and farming livelihood practices. The entire forcibly displaced, resettled household's livelihood depends on different non-farming trade activities. Accordingly, 34 (19.1%) of respondents' livelihood practices depend on shopping activities, while 14 (7.9%) of respondents' livelihood practices depend on petty trades like roadside coffee services, restaurants, clothes, construction materials trades, daily laborers, Bajaj and tax driving, cloth tailoring, barbers and beauty salons, chat trades, parking services, pool houses, bread houses, and metal and welding work were the livelihoods practiced in the resettlement area as means of livelihood income-generating activities. On the other side, solid waste collection, regular employment, and plant seedlings were other sources of their livelihood income.

Data from qualitative study also showed households at the Koye Feche resettlement site have had various types of trade skills, knowledge, and experiences. Even though their current level of income is very low as compared to previous residence areas, settlers have pleasure and still great morale to change their livelihood by engaging themselves in different trade activities either within the resettlement area or using the market opportunity of the capital city, Finfinnee/Addis Ababa, to exert their cumulative previous trade experience. On the other hand, almost all of the host community's household's livelihood depends on agricultural practices producing "teff," "shimbura," "misir," "wheat," and rearing animals like cattle, goats, sheep, and hens, covering about 48 (27.0%) of the total respondents.

Concerning the gender of the respondents as indicated in Table 4.6, about 77(43.3%) of the respondents demonstrated female participants while male participants counted 101(56.7%) of the total respondents. More than half of the respondents have an education level of elementary school (1-8) covering 64(34.8%) of the total participants. On the second level, about 48(27%) of respondents have an education level between grade (9-12) even though 39(21.9%) of respondents are fixed to read and write level of education. Similarly, respondents having a diploma count 12(6.7%) of the total respondents whereas degrees and the above level of education contain 7(3.9%), of the total respondents. In addition, 10(5.6%) of the respondents have no formal education. On the other hand, the majority of respondents were married which holds 172(96.6%) of total respondents while only 5(2.8%) of the total survey participants were unmarried and 1(0.6%) were divorced respondents.

**Table 4.6:** Households' livelihood practices

			Residence type		Total
			forced displaced	host community	
livelihood practices	regular employment	Count	5	0	5
		% of Total	2.8%	0.0%	2.8%
	wood trade	Count	4	0	4
		% of Total	2.2%	0.0%	2.2%
	construction input trade (sand, cement, crushed stone)	Count	3	0	3
		% of Total	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%
	coffee trade	Count	14	0	14
		% of Total	7.9%	0.0%	7.9%
	restaurant service	Count	11	1	12
		% of Total	6.2%	0.6%	6.7%
	chat trade	Count	1	0	1
		% of Total	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%
	parking service	Count	3	0	3
		% of Total	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%
	daily laborer	Count	7	0	7
		% of Total	3.9%	0.0%	3.9%
	plant seedling	Count	3	0	3
		% of Total	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%
	cloth and shoe trade	Count	8	0	8
		% of Total	4.5%	0.0%	4.5%
	construction work	Count	2	0	2
		% of Total	1.1%	0.0%	1.1%
	Shopping	Count	27	7	34
		% of Total	15.2%	3.9%	19.1%
	waste collection	Count	4	1	5
		% of Total	2.2%	0.6%	2.8%
	tax and Bajaj driving	Count	4	3	7
		% of Total	2.2%	1.7%	3.9%
	Metal work and welding	Count	2	0	2
		% of Total	1.1%	0.0%	1.1%
	Tailor	Count	3	0	3
		% of Total	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%
	Berbers and beauty salon	Count	1	0	1
		% of Total	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%
	pool house	Count	4	0	4
		% of Total	2.2%	0.0%	2.2%
	road cleaning	Count	3	2	5
		% of Total	1.7%	1.1%	2.8%
	bread house service	Count	5	0	5
		% of Total	2.8%	0.0%	2.8%
	house rent	Count	1	1	2
		% of Total	0.6%	0.6%	1.1%
	farming(teff, shimbura, wheat, vegetable, and rearing animals)	Count	0	48	48
		% of Total	0.0%	27.0%	27.0%
Total		Count	115	63	178
		% of Total	64.6%	35.4%	100.0%

(Source: survey data 2024)

## 5.2. Households Physical Assets Characteristics

Access to physical assets is crucial in resettlement regions because it may affect the economic interactions between households. Accordingly, the data result displayed that 144 (80.9%) of the respondents have a high level of water scarcity and sanitation problems. On the contrary, 2 (1.1%) of the respondents confirmed there is better water accessibility. In addition, there is only one person (1.0%) who explained there is better water accessibility.

One of the key informant interviews stated that the problem of water shortage and related sanitation.

"We have a very critical problem of water shortage. Currently, we get 60 liters (3 jerika) of water every three days supplied by cargo. It is impossible to imagine that that amount of water is sufficient for cooking, washing clothes, and keeping personal hygiene. I used to take my children to the clinic repeatedly as they were caught by bacteria. Unless the problem of water shortage is solved within a short period, we fear for our health problem and other bacterial transmitted problems."

Even though there is an observation that shows Addis Ababa city administration is working to solve water shortage by constructing water pipeline structures in the resettlement area, both host community and resettled households have extreme water shortages, which in turn lead to other sanitation and health-related problems within the society. Given the existence of water shortages in resettlement areas is high, forcibly displaced households are reported to have a better-constructed quality of toilet. On the contrary, only very few forcibly displaced households described the toilet as no better quality. Besides, data showed forcibly displaced households in resettlement areas have their separate toilets, while almost all of the host community's households have no fixed place for toilets. This indicates there is a better quality of toilet accessibility among settlers than host communities. Health post accessibility plays a major role in making it conducive for forcibly displaced households to enable better livelihood practices through creating healthy and economically active citizens. Data outcome exhibited 144 (80.9%) of the respondents explained that they have no health post nearby, which created health-related challenges, while 28 (15.7%) of the participants have health center problems. In addition to the survey, data were triangulated through focus group discussion, Interviews, and observation of the resettlement area, which has no health center and currently uses other adjacent administrative health centers that are located at a very far distance from the resettlement area. In terms of transportation and road infrastructure, the majority of participants described having better accessibility of the main road, which comprises 72 (40.4%) of respondents, even though 63 (35.4%) of the respondents moderately explained main road accessibility. In opposing the statement, 11 (6.2%) of the respondents confirmed the existence of road problems. Qualitative data results also showed the existence of better main road accessibility in front of the residence house. Even though some minor problems can be solved by transportation authorities, like assigning taxes and buses that start from the Koye Feche resettlement area with an appropriate tariff system. In addition, the majority of respondents explained that they have block road problems, with 110 (61.8%) of total respondents and 52 (29.2%) of the respondents explaining that they have a high level of block road problems. The remaining 9 (5.1%), 6 (3.4%), and 1 (0.6%) of the respondents reported neutral, agree, and strongly disagreed with the statement about better block road accessibility.

Regarding school accessibility and quality of education, data showed 91 (51.1%) of the respondents stated they have better school accessibility and quality education, while 70 (39.3%) of total respondents defined they have moderate school accessibility and quality of education. The remaining others, 8 (4.5%), 5 (2.8%), and 4 (2.2%) of the total respondents, stated disagree, neutral, and strongly disagree with the statement of there being school accessibility and better quality of education in the resettlement area, respectively. An effort was also made to understand respondents' house ownership, and the result illustrated that 178 (100%) of the respondents



described both forced displaced and settlers as having their own houses. However, the data indicated much difference in standards of their houses, as settlers' houses were constructed from bricks and stone while all houses of the host community's households were made up of wood and mud. This shows that settler's houses have a better standard of quality than that of host community households. Regarding the creation of job opportunities, more than half of the respondents reported they are highly dissatisfied with job creation opportunities in the area, while 20 (11.2%) of the respondents retained to explain either negative or positive suggestions for job opportunity creation. The remaining 17 (9.6%) and 1 (0.6%) of the respondents explained that they agree and strongly agree with the existence of job opportunities in the resettlement area.

### **5.3. Financial situation of households**

Financial status household survey exhibited 121 (68%) of respondents reported they have no savings, while 57 (32%) of the respondents explained they have savings. On the other hand, about 174 (97.8%) of the total respondents described that they have not accessed credit facilities, whereas only 4 (2.2%) of the participants explained that they have accessibility to credit facilities. Furthermore, regarding the "lkub" situation of the households, about 153 (86%) of the respondents explained they have no lkub, while only 25 (14%) of the respondents explained they have lkub in the resettlement areas. The empirical data also showed that the host community, covering 63 (35.4%) of total households, has a more stable source of income than the settlers, containing 58 (32.6%) of all. The difference has come to exist because the host community' has some amount of agricultural land that is left on hand, enabling farmers to earn a relatively stable source of income, while almost all of the settler's household's livelihood practice depends on different kinds of trade activities as the main source of income. Qualitative data results also specified, in addition to the house given, the government transferred 101,000 (one hundred one thousand) birrs to each resettled household from money collected for rehabilitation of forced displacement households. The money transferred for the expenditure of finishing houses helped them much more in changing their livelihood practice as it enabled the household to make the houses readily available and finally use the houses partly for living and open up their own business in parts or in front of their houses.

### **5.4. Social capital of households in livelihood practices**

Regarding social capital, data results revealed that about 173 (97.2%) of the total respondents reported the existence of strong social connection among the settlers and the host community, whereas only a very minor number of respondents, covering 5 (2.8%) of total participants, described no relationship between the settlers and the host communal. At the same time, about 172 (96.6%) of total participants stated the existence of a strong relationship among each settler and host community group separately. Furthermore, the self-helping "Idir" finding indicated almost all covering 169 (94.9%) of the total respondents described they have "Idir" that enabled them to support each other during difficulties or happy times. On the contrary, only very few 9 (5.1%) of the respondents explained they have not engaged in self-helping associations.

One of the key informants (male) elaborated on the social capital of resettlement areas as follows. "Households who were evicted from Jijiga have been through a lot of dark and bright times together from the early beginning of displacement. Because of this we humbly share any difficulties/problems of each member of settlers, whether it's food, health problems, or other social issues. Within the resettlement area, every person is voluntarily contributing something to pull out from bad situations. At the beginning of the resettlement, host communities perceived the newly relocated people badly. However, once a leader of the area created a discussion meeting to know each other, everything became smooth, and now we have created a very strong relationship that enabled us to share everything, bad or good, live events" among settlers and the host community.

### 5.5. Human capital in the household

Respondents in resettlement areas have different kinds of knowledge, skills, and expertise in household livelihood practices. Accordingly, about 60 (33.7%) of the total respondents reported having knowledge, skills, and experience of trading, whereas 60 (35.4%) of the total respondents explained that they have farming knowledge and skills. In addition, 15 (8.4%) and 14 (7.9%) of the respondents confirmed that they owned restaurants and other services, skills, and experiences. Besides, 7 (3.9%) of the total respondents confirmed to have professional and construction work services knowledge, skills, and experience, respectively. The remaining small number of respondents explained to have driving, metalwork, and welding; tailoring and barbering; and beauty salon knowledge, skills, and experiences, respectively. In addition, regarding how respondents accumulated that knowledge and skills, the outcome displayed that 136 (76.4%) of the total respondents earned it through lived experiences, whereas 32 (18%) of the total respondents accrued it through formal education. The remaining 8 (4.5%) and 2 (1.1%) participants testified they gained those skills via short training and other forms of gaining knowledge, skills, and expertise. Qualitative data also showed the households newly relocated have multiple skills and higher-level holistic awareness about the way to change their livelihood practice than the host community.

## 6. Discussion

Depend on the major finding from the study of livelihood practices of households of the resettlement site, relevant related literature reviews, and important theoretical perspectives, the study concluded the following core discussion points following specific objectives of the study. Accordingly, livelihood practice is a multitude set of activities essential to everyday life that communities/households perform to support their livelihoods (Liu, 2020; 2011; Scoones, 2009). Similarly, the finding of this study also confirmed the existence of various types of livelihood activities practiced in the resettlement area. Thus, except for very few young individuals, the majority of host community households' livelihood practices depend on farming activities like producing teff, wheat, shimbura, and misir, and rearing animals. On the contrary, the entire relocated household's livelihood practices depend on different kinds of non-farming trade activities. Even though the existence of differences is certain in the proportion of households participating in each type of trade activity, the livelihood practices of settlers in the resettlement area include shopping, construction material trade, small coffee houses, restaurants, plant seedlings, daily laborers, cloth and shoes petty trade, waste collection, Bajaj and tax driving, bread houses, regular employments, metal welding, pool houses, parking service, and tailoring, etc. are some of the major livelihood practices observed in the resettlement area. Furthermore, settler households have a higher level of education and all-around awareness with more diversified sets of livelihood practices as compared to host communities whose means of livelihood practice depend on farming activities.

The foremost reason why almost all settlers' households' sources of income rest on non-farming livelihood practices was attempted to be understood, and the result showed settlers had long experience in different trade activities from their previous work in Jigjiga, which was their previous residence place. Regarding tangible assets, Mahmud and Sawada (2015) contended that a community's capacity to generate income is impacted by its access to essential infrastructural utilities, such as energy, water, telecommunications, transportation, and social infrastructures like schools and hospitals. The significance of critical infrastructure in promoting economic growth and lowering poverty among the displaced people was also brought to light by the research of disaster-related recovery of displaced communities from their former homes (Jha and Duyne, 2010).

The finding of this study showed the provision/accessibility of the main road, energy, school, telecommunication, and transportation in the resettlement area at better quality and

accessibility. However, the shortage of water and lack of health posts in the resettlement area are explained as serious and challenging problems for both the host community and newly relocated households. On the other hand, the finding of this study also clearly illustrated that homeownership and location sites of resettlement were the most substantial elements that created hope and enabled newly relocated households to start early improvement in their livelihood practices. In addition to the survey, data from qualitative proved home ownership played a key role in improving the livelihood practices of displaced resettled households. A common sound heard from each participant during a group discussion and key informant interview was the home given to the relocated households was not the only place to live but also where to do something to improve the livelihoods. The displaced households were able to use their homes as a more reliable source of income once they became homeowners. For instance, portions of their homes served as restaurants, retail stores, production facilities, and other commercial spaces. The trade skill experiences and backgrounds of settlers were combined with a house given from near Finfinnee/Addis Ababa at a fine location, which opened up a positive market opportunity for the relocated households to exert their previous trade skills as well as the trade potentials within Finfinnee/Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia. This situation created strong self-confidence among settlers to change their livelihood practices. The location of the resettlement site also has a crucial role in improving the livelihood practices of forcedly displaced households because almost all of the settlers have trade skills and experience. Consequently, the Koye Feche resettlement area currently became a small village, which in turn established a market opportunity for the surrounding farmers to supply agricultural products nearby and bus industrial products from the resettlement areas. Furthermore, the site opened up for settlers to use the market opportunity of the capital city, Addis Ababa/Finfinnee, since the site of resettlement is very near to the center of the capital city.

Social capital availability is a key indicator of livelihood resilience (Masud-All-Kamal, 2013; Sadik and Rahman, 2009). Similarly, the finding of this study showed the existence of strong social cohesion among settlers and host communities that contributed to changing the livelihood of newly relocated households in recovering from stress and shocks of forced displacement within a short time. Especially, the presence of social solidarity among the settlers was surprising in helping each other, whether it be in the case of someone from the settlers facing problems like health, food, and other livelihood challenges. Just to illustrate with an example, if one household member from settlers lacks something to feed his/her family, those individuals or groups who relatively gain more income have the culture of eating together with those who have none. In addition, Joakim and Wismer (2015) also stated that good leadership within a community may play a vital role in promoting job stability and entrepreneurship development, which will eventually reduce economic vulnerability and boost livelihood resilience. In a similar vein, this study discovered that the strong leadership and extensive network of connections of the settlers created numerous opportunities for their households to lobby or bargain with government representatives or other entities on behalf of individual members in the allocation of resources and other social services in the changed area. Even though a better financial situation has an important role in improving the livelihood of settlers, data results indicated saving, credit accessibility," Ikup," and remittance of the household indicated a very low status. However, financial support at the early stages of resettlement has frolicked a vital part in igniting positive hope and improved livelihood practices of households. At the time of this study, the relocated households did not have any financial or in-kind external support from others. Rather, the relocated households by themselves hold all responsibility to lead their livelihood. Even though the settlers have developed a strong sense of hope and started to run some small businesses, their current level of income shows a subsistence way of livelihood practices. More importantly, this study indicated a great difference in the variability of income among the newly relocated households and the host community, where the host community households have relatively more stable sources of income than the newly relocated households. This is because the host community' has some amount of agricultural land that enabled farmers to earn a stable source of

income, while all the newly relocated household livelihood practices depend on different kinds of trade activities as the main source of income.

## 7. Conclusion Remarks

This study investigated the livelihood practices of the Koye Feche forced displaced resettlement site. Thus, households' livelihood practices in the area are divided into two main categories. Hence, nearly all of the host community's livelihood depended on farming activities, while the entire relocated households depended on non-farming different trade activities. Despite the current relocated household's income being low as compared to previous livelihood practices, the settlers have strong morals in getting two-bedroom houses on 75 square meters of land from the resettlement site, near the center of the capital city of Ethiopia. The function home given to settlers was not the only place to live but also enabled the relocated households to start a different business within parts or in front of the houses as they created a market of different types of small businesses. Furthermore, the resettlement site currently became a small village, which in turn established a market opportunity for the surrounding farmers to supply agricultural products nearby and buy industrial products from the resettlement areas. More importantly, the selection of resettlement sites played a major role in changing the livelihood practices and building the recovery capacity of forced displaced households. For example, the newly relocated households have different trade skills, knowledge, and experiences as they were from the business area of the Jijiga. Accordingly, getting a house from the Koye Feche resettlement location created strong self-confidence and positive livelihood practice for settlers since the resettlement site is a good location. To summarize, in case relocation is unavoidable, it is very essential to select an appropriate resettlement place/site for evicted people according to their actual background experience, skills, and knowledge. Together with house provision, it can enable households to put previous experiences into practice and finally pave the way to soon recover from shocks within a short time. Additionally, it was crucial for relocating households to develop a strong sense of solidarity and group spirit. In order to foster harmonious coexistence—which is crucial and should be promoted in similar resettlement areas—these include common relationship-building techniques that focus on bringing newcomers and current members of the host community/residents together. If relocation is inevitable, government institutions and relevant humanitarian organizations should concentrate on homeownership and the location of the resettlement site. By focusing on the sustainable livelihood practices of households that have been forcibly displaced and then adjusting recovery policies and decisions to address the gaps found by long-term analysis, public and aid organizations are more likely to be able to contribute to the development of sustainable livelihood practices for the affected individuals. It would be helpful for government bodies and any concerned body to utilize the Koye Feche forced displaced resettlement responses and recovery experience in a similar vulnerability context.

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