

Assessment of the African great lakes refugee's rights'

To the city of Addis Ababa

MSW Dissertation research project (MWP- 001)

Prepared by KWIHANGANA JOHN CHRISTIAN

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Name of advisor: .Mr.MOSSISSA KEJELA

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Approved /not approved

Signature

Name and Address of the student: KWIHANGANA JOHN CHRISTIAN

E-mail: kachrisj@yahoo.fr

Name and Address of Advisor (guide):

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Acronyms

- AIDS: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
- ARRA: Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs.
- JRS: Jesuit Refugees' Service
- FDRE: Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.
- HIV: Human Immune Virus.
- IMF: International Monetary Fund.
- IOM: International Organization for Migration.
- NGOs: Non Governmental Organization.
- OAU: Organization for African Unity.
- RRAD Refugees and Returnees Affairs Department.
- UN: United Nations.
- UNHCR: United Nations High Commission for Refugees.
- US: United States
- WB: World Bank.

1. Background of the Study

In current days of globalization, cities have become places where many people need to spend their time, doing their daily activities and even live there. According to Henry Lefebvre everyone has right to live in the city .However, most people in Africa have no right to live there and are facing multiple problems such as cultural problems, economic problems, political problems etc .This is the case of refugees where many governments are putting many restrictions to allow refugees live in urban areas and do little for them while living there.

Exploring these challenges will contribute to the ongoing discussion and scholarship about urban refugees with its policy relevance.

This dissertation is a case study of African great lakes refugees who are living in Addis Ababa (the capital city of Ethiopia) my research will address the following questions.

- How do great lakes refugees are included in urban program?
- What are socio political challenges that there facing while living in Addis Ababa?
- How adequate is the right to the city approach to explain the everyday struggle of great lake refugees for the rights and resources in the city of Addis Ababa.?
- And finally what kind of urban policy measures can Ethiopian government and other stake holders take to manage conflict driven urbanization and use it as a positive force for social change?

Accordingly a total of twenty eight (28) in depth interviews with African great lakes refugees (great lake refugees are there coming from Burundi, Congo Democratic Republic and Rwanda) and Twelve (12) key informant interview will be conducted with Ethiopia officials in charges of re refugees, the international organizations such as JRS (Jesuit Refugee Service) the UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugee) and one local nongovernmental organization called RRAD (Refugees and Refugee Affairs under Ethiopian Orthodox Church).

The study also will review the relevant national policy documents and Legislations of Ethiopia in relation to urban and refugee's matters.

In short the main objective of this study is to shed light on the challenges that great lakes refugees are facing economically, culturally socially and political.

2. Statement of the problem

Most refugee leave the camps as to migrate in to the cities in search of better living conditions such as education, health facilities, access to potable water, better sheltered

As of December, 2015 there were only four thousand two hundred (4,200) refugees who were living in Addis Ababa as urban refugees.

However this number is less than the exact number as many refugees decide to live Addis Ababa illegally this is because the government of Ethiopia set the difficult rules for any refugee to be included under the urban program.

According to the statistic, as of December 2016 there were more than half million (around 700,000) refugees who were living in Ethiopia and less than one percent (1%) were under urban program. For the great lakes refugees who were living in Ethiopia their number varies between 800-1,000 refugees of whom one hundred fifty (150) were under the urban program. Yet at about three hundred (300) were living in Addis Ababa illegally. These great lake refugees who were living in Addis Ababa either legally or illegally were facing multiple problems, such as the educational opportunities, health facilities, etc. I have got an opportunity to meet and discuss with the refugee committees and individuals as well as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs and the Refugee and Returnee Department, Ethiopian Orthodox Church Department Of Refugee And Return Affairs As Well As Jesuit Refugee Service.

This paper, therefore, mainly focuses on identifying the challenges of great lakes refugees to get an urban status in order to live in Addis Ababa, the challenges which they are facing while living in Addis Ababa as well as the government policy concerning the urban status and their right to the city of Addis Ababa for these refugees .

3. Significance of the study

As the figure shows there are only 150 refugees from great lake who are under the program. This shows that most of these refugees are living in Addis Ababa, illegally and others have no right to move from the camp. According to Lefebvre's right to the city book points.

That any person has a right to live in city, play in, work, represent, characterize and occupy urban space.

Discussing about the challenges that refugees from great lakes are facing to get urban status and these who are under the problem are not left without the economic challenges as well as the cultural challenges.

4. Research questions

The researcher will mainly focus on the following research questions:

- ❖ What are the challenges the refugees from the great lakes (of Africa) are facing to get the urban status in Addis Ababa?
- ❖ What are the rights do the refugees have to live in cities?
- ❖ What is The Contribution of Refugees in Development of a given country?
- ❖ The Ethiopia Government Policies Regarding the Refugee's Status in the cities?
- ❖ What is the problem that refugees cause while living in the cities or towns?
- ❖ What re The theories that explain the right to the cities?

5. Objective of the Study

5.1 Main Objective

The main objective of the study is to discover the really causes of obstacles that African great lakes refugees are facing in order to get their rights in the city of Addis Ababa.

5.2 The specific objectives

The specific objectives of the study are the following:

- . To discover the government policies that hinder the refugee rights to the city of Addis Ababa
- . To discuss with the stake holders regarding the way they can improve the refugee rights to the city of Addis Ababa.
- .To collect all relevant information concerning the challenges that the great lakes refugees are facing while staying in the city of Addis Ababa.
- .To examine the way Ethiopian governments and other institutions which are in charge of refugees implement the declarations and conventions regarding refugee rights.

6. Universe of study

Ethiopia is the country that hosts most refugees in African continent (As of December 2014 the country was hosting more than half million refugees) yet only less than one percent of those refugees were under urban program. Among 4200 the African great lakes refugees numbered 150 individuals. I will explain the reason why the city of Addis Ababa is selected to study the case of African great lakes refugees (Burundi, Congo Democratic Republic and Rwanda) if then revises the major research questions of the research followed by the specific research questions posed during the data collection process.

I have taken the case of African great lakes refugees in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) because the Ethiopia government has put more burdens to those section of refugees to live in the cities yet those refugees have travelled many countries to reach Ethiopia and they are far in members in the camp, where the government should not have set their camps because their member was very small .I have also pointed on those group of refugees because of their culturally differences with Ethiopians (not like those who come from Eritrea, Somalia, Djibouti, Yemen where these is a little differences with Ethiopians)

7. Sampling methods

Sampling in qualitative research

Sampling in required in both qualitative and quantitative studies, simply because the “researches cannot observe or record everything that occurs” (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003:77).

we often speak of probability and non probability samples in social science research probability sampling is considered as the most rigorous approach to sampling since every element in the study of population is chosen at random and have a known probability of selection(Ritchie and Lewis,2003 :78)

Therefore the qualitative methods employed will be focused on group discussion and key informant interview through check list, logically coherent questions in response to the research objective drafted and the researcher will pose questions based on the checklists to find as much as information as possible through probing technique until the relevant information acquired.

The other tools; and document review to learn more about the challenge the African great lakes refugees to get urban status in Addis Ababa and the right they have.

8. Data collection

8.1 Semi structured interview

The researcher will conduct interviews with twenty eight (28) African great lakes refugees who are living in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

8.2 Key informant interviews

A part from the refugee's community, the research will conduct interview with twelve informants (12) from the Ethiopia Government, the United Nation High Commission for Refugees. UNHCR, the Jesuit refugees centre (JRS) and Refugees and Returnee Affairs Department (RRAD)

8.3. Tools for data collection

The researcher will use the following techniques to collect data:

- observation
- analysing texts and documents,
- interviews and
- Recording and transcribing
- discussions, etc

The main focus will be focused on group discussion and key informant interview through check list, logically coherent questions in response to the research objective drafted and the researcher will pose questions based on the checklists to find as much as information as possible through probing technique until the relevant information acquired.

The other tools; and document review to learn more about the challenge the African great lakes refugees to get urban status in Addis Ababa and the right they have.

9. Data Analysis

The researcher has attempted to emerge patterns and concepts from the data by analysing interview, discussions and documents into different thematic arrays and the researcher has used structured coding in stead of open coding.

In short, this chapter explains the reason behind choosing the qualitative research instead of quantitative one. Qualitative research helps to ensure that all the key consistencies of relevance to the subject matter are covered and some diversity is included. The chapter also explain the reason why I have chosen the African great lakes refugees who are living in Addis Ababa. The research chose this study because there were no other people before who conducted the research on such vulnerable and marginalised group of people.

10. Chapters plan

The project study will have six chapters which will be the following:

Chapter one will deal with introduction where the issues of the rights to the city will be taken into consideration

Chapter two discuss the literature review about the rights to the city

Chapter three is on methodology

Chapter four sees the compositions of urban refugees and the reason behind their stay in the city of Addis Ababa

Chapter five focuses on declarations and conventions regarding refugees.

Chapter six will provide conclusions and recommendations

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