

Determinants of Poverty Among Internally Displaced People in Puntland

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Abstract- Poverty is a common phenomenon in the developing world. In Somalia, particularly in Puntland, poverty is proliferating in the most vulnerable part of the society, particularly the internally displaced people. The study sought to investigate the determinants of poverty in IDPs in Puntland with evidence from Jowle IDP Camp, the selected variable of the study which is educational level, and how it affects poverty among IDPs in Puntland. Also in the literature review, secondary data of empirical literature was adapted, by reviewing the existing literature of educational level and how it affects poverty among Internally Displaced People. Although most of these researchers are not linked how this affects particularly in the internally displaced peoples in Puntland. Methodologically the study was quantitative in nature; the study population was the entire population living in Jowle IDP which is according to Garowe municipality 2,500 people. The sample technique was adapted by using both stratified and simple random sampling. Stratified sampling technique was used at the first stage where women and men had their sample as per gender. Meanwhile, simple random sampling was used to arrive at the portion of each gender group, a table of random numbers was used. The target population which was 250. In this case the study used Yamén's formula to get the sample size which was 154 respondents. The research instrument was primary data exclusively using only close-ended questionnaire. Pilot testing of the questionnaire was used to know whether the questions in the questionnaire are well framed, some errors in the question were replaced, research assistants were trained. Data was analyzed using SPSS or figures, tables, also Likert scale was used.

Index Terms- Determinants, Poverty, Internally displaced People (IDPs), Educational Level and effects.

I. INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of this paper is to test the effect of educational level on Poverty among the Internally Displaced People in Puntland. Poverty is one of the conspicuous features of the developing countries. Today, almost half of the world's population (about three billion people) lives in poverty, earning less than two US dollars per day, and about 1.2 billion live in extreme poverty, trying to survive on less than one US dollar per day. (UNHCR: 2011).

Illustration from Peterson and Paul (1990), notes, Poverty is the inability of getting choices and opportunities, a violation of

human dignity. It means lack of basic capacity to participate effectively in society. It means not having enough to feed and clothe a family, not having a school or clinic to go to, not having the land on which to grow one's food or a job to earn one's living, not having access to credit. It means insecurity, powerlessness and exclusion of individuals, households and communities. It means susceptibility to violence, and it often implies living in marginal or fragile environments, without access to clean water or sanitation.

Poverty exists unrestrainedly in the war-torn countries, this is due to starvation, insecurity and lack of government services to those people, in these countries poverty and vulnerability are main issues to be mentioned, there are many people who are displaced from their homes and become Internally Displaced people within their own country, they normally move from their home areas to safer areas of the country. According to (UNDP; 2012), Internally displaced people are the most affected population of Poverty in Somalia, this is due to many factors including, Low level of Education and skills, employment opportunities and Social exclusion, since Somalia has witnessed over two decades of conflict, violence, human rights violations and natural disasters, all of which have triggered repeated waves of displacement. There are still an estimated 1.1 million Somalis – approximately a tenth of the population – who are internally displaced. Most internally displaced persons (IDPs) continue to live in dire conditions in protracted displacement and devastating human lives conditions.

II. OBJECTIVE OF THIS STUDY

1. To establish effects of Educational Level on poverty among Internally Displaced Peoples living in Puntland.

2.2 Thesis statement

The exploration of this topic is motivated by several factors. It seeks to examine whether educational level among the Internally displaced people determines the poverty among them, their highest level of education, reasons for low level of education and how their low level of education affects the poverty among the IDPs. According to the (MOPIC: 2010), over 43% of the population living in Somalia are living in poverty, most of these people are the internally displaced peoples living within the country's borders, these people are mostly affected by the civil wars, drought/famine for the last two and half decades when the central government of Somalia collapsed. IDPs had faced severe poverty conditions as they tried to initiate their own

business, also they experience less employment opportunities, so their livelihoods would properly be worse than expected standard and actual residents. In regards to this, Puntland state of Somalia was regarded as the Somalia's most stable regions and it hosted hundreds or thousands of Internally Displaced people from the south-central of the country where wars and other disasters are mostly affected, these people are the poorest and most vulnerable people in the country. Studies made from this camp was done by International organization and UN agencies, there is limited academic research done with evidence from this camp, existing academic researches look at effects of IDPs in the security of Puntland (Ahmed Ali: 2004 and Gomez: 2007). Norwegian Refugee Council studies looks at effects of discrimination on the livelihoods of IDPs in Somalia (NRC:etal, moreover, these researchers' attention was IDP camps in Bosaso district and they were not focusing determinants of poverty which is huge and undeniable socio-economic problem that exists in those IDP camps in Puntland and Somalia in general. This study sought to fill this gap as it provided helpful findings on the determinants of Poverty in Internally Displaced Peoples in Puntland, and it got evidence from Jowle IDP Camp in Garowe District.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

This study is based with the framework of Human capital theory, which help in shedding light in understanding how educational level of human would lead a positive or negative aspect on human wellbeing.

Human Capital Theory (associated with the work of Gary Becker, Mark Blaug: 1987), it asserts that education creates skills which facilitate higher levels of productivity amongst those who possess them in comparison with those who do not. Educational level, then, is costly but it brings associated benefits which can be compared with its costs in much the same way as happens with any investment project.

Human capital theorists use proxy evidence of various kinds to support the above assertions. First, there is a strong, and empirically verifiable, positive relationship across all societies between the Poverty exists and the level of education which they have achieved. Using the 'normal' assumptions of competitive labor and goods markets, it follows that those with higher levels of education seem to have, on average, higher levels of productivity. Employers use educational characteristics as a

proxy for the suitability, and potential productivity, of its employees.

Human Capital Theory draws links between education and poverty in terms of education as a means of poverty reduction; another significant linkage runs the other way - i.e. the effect of macro- and micro-level poverty on levels of education. At the macro-level, it is generally the case that levels of enrolment correlate with GNP. Countries with low per capita incomes tend to have low enrolment ratios. Broadly speaking, the former implies that an effective anti-poverty strategy should incorporate the enhancement of education and skills amongst poor households. Human Capital theory desires that education is one of the main pathways out of poverty. The study thus uses Human Capital theory model to determine how the educational level determine poverty in Internally displaced people in Puntland.

III. METHODOLOGY

This study evolved primary data collection using structured questionnaire. The methods used include Likert scale questions starting from 5 points of Strongly Agree (SA) to Strongly Disagree (SD), and Close ended questionnaire. This help ed in finding out primarily how educational level among the internally displaced people affects the existing poverty among them.

IV. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

4.1 Highest Level of education among the Internally displaced people.

Highest level of education was asked to the respondents, those who had never schooled were (65) 42.2%. About (70) 45.45% possessed Primary education, (19) 12.35 % possessed Secondary education and 0% possessed university education. The findings that majority of the respondents were illiterate comprising of 42.2%, this indicates that about half of the IDPs are illiterate, on the other hand, none of the respondents obtained university level education at any level, this emphasis the low level of education exists in the IDPs. This is consistent with findings of Datt and Ravallion (2012), who established that poor people have no access to attain higher education level and as a result of this they are poor due to lack of decent knowledge to hold high paid jobs (See table 4.1 Below).

Table 4.1. Respondents Highest Level of Education.

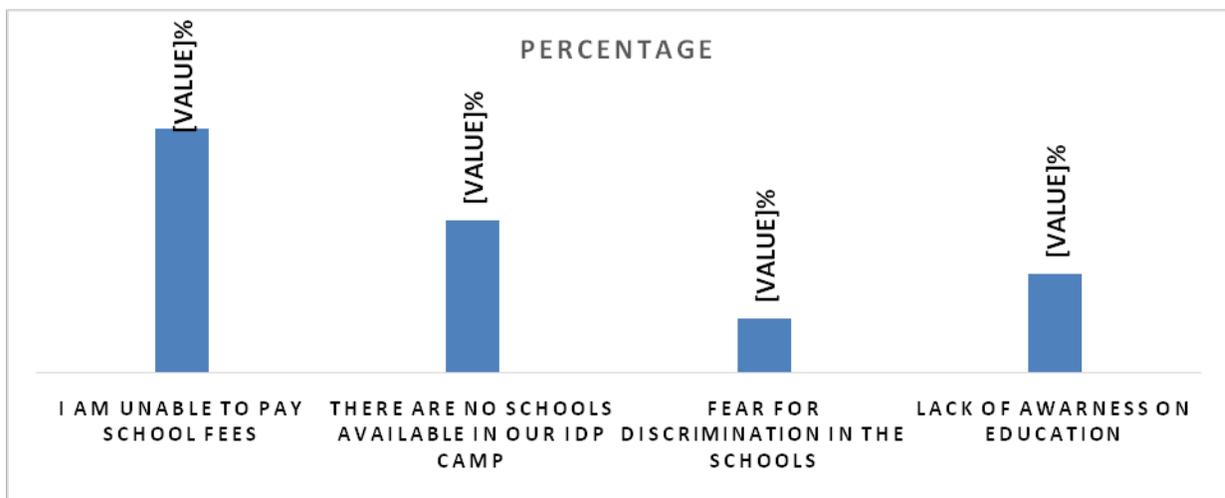
Highest Level of Education.	F.	Percentage%.
Neve Had schooling.	65	42.2
Primary Education.	70	45.45
Secondary Education.	19	12.35
University.	0	0 %
Total	154	100.0

4.2 Causes for the low level of education among the IDPs.

According to figure (4.2 Below) Respondents were also asked about the causes for the low level of education among the IDPs living in this camp, data revealed that 50 (44.6%) indicated that People living in this IDP camp cannot afford to pay school fees, while 31 (27.7%) indicated that there are no schools in the area around the IDP Camp that have made school access very difficult, also 20 (17.9%) indicated that there is a lack awareness of education in the IDP camp only 11 (9.8%) indicated that people living in this IDP camp are feared to face discrimination in the schools, hence they do not to attend schools, because they are considered as inferiors and holders of lower jobs. Hence, data revealed that due to lack of IDPs to pay school fees to educate their children and limited access to schools among the IDPs are the main cause of low level of education among the IDPs, on the

other hand, social discrimination were indicated by a fair percentage, while very few indicated a lack of willingness to educate their children as main cause of low level of education among the IDPs. This was in tandem with findings of the Kanty P Feksi and Andrew Sulley, (2011), which stablished that poor people are not educated due to fact that they are unable to pay schools with 34% of his respondents, also 30% of his respondents indicated that they are not schools available in the places where poor people are living. However, these findings contradict Kanty P Feksi and Andrew Sulley (2011) findings that 36% of his respondents are not able to go for education due to discrimination in the schools, since in my respondents only less 18% indicated IDPs fear discrimination in the schools by the hosts.

Figure: 4.2. Causes for the low level of education among the IDPs.



4.3 How low educational level effects on poverty among IDPs.

The respondents were also asked to indicate how educational level affects poverty among the IDPs living in this IDP camp. Data reveals that almost half of the respondents with 79 (51.3%) indicated that low level of education denied opportunity for the people in this IDP camp to get competitive jobs. While also about 67 (43.5%) indicated that low level of education among the people living in this IDP camp made them to be ignorant on how to make successful business in the market. Only 8 (5.2%) indicated that low level of education among the

people living in this IDP camp only obstructed them to make livelihood for their families and hence this has led for them to remain poor. These findings are in line with Datt and Ravallion (2012), findings that Low level of education blocked Poor to get opportunities in the competitive and merit based jobs, coupled by ignorance for them not be aware of the existing jobs in the market which made their livelihood difficult for them (See table 4.3 Below).

Table 4.3 How low level of educational level effect poverty among IDPs.

How Education Level Affect Poverty.	F.	Percentage%.
Low level of education blocked me opportunity to get competitive job in the market.	79	51.3
low level of education made me to be ignorant with no skills to make successful business.	67	43.5

low level of education obstructed me to make livelihood for my8 family.	5.2
Total	154 100.0

V. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this study, it was concluded that educational level effects poverty among internally displaced people in Puntland. there was direct relationship between educational level and poverty. Educational level is commonly used in study to measure persons’ level of poverty and wellbeing. When the educational level is high it is regarded that persons’ income level is high, hence it reduces the level of Poverty. Further, this study established that educational level had more predicting strength than the other independent variables. This aligns the argument that lack of education is the asset for human wellbeing.

This study also concluded that educational level of most of the IDPs are very low and these are favorable for high level of poverty, since from the findings all of them indicated that they have never attended university level of education and also majority of them have not attended even secondary level of education. Further the study also concluded that majority are not educated since they cannot afford to pay school fees, or there are no schools near IDP camps, and lack of awareness on education among the IDPs. Similarly, the study also concluded that low level of education among the IDPs affects their poverty among since they cannot access competitive jobs to secure livelihoods, also the study concluded that IDPs could not afford to make successful business in the market due to their ignorance in the existing opportunities in the market. Hence, the study generally concludes that education level directly effects poverty among IDPs.

5.1 Recommendations

As their level of education, skills and knowledge is relatively low, free education policy program would allow IDPs to have skills and knowledge to be able to make proper investments, and income sources based on skills and knowledge. In parallel to this, international Humanitarian organizations should also help IDPs in getting free and accessible education

programs, these programs should focus building schools, awareness raising on education and giving incentives to families who educate their children.

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