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## Refugees and Livelihood: A case study from Hitsats



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Picture: 2017, Hitsats Refugee Camp, Tigray region (Ethiopia). Photo by Mirjam van Reisen (copyrights)

We have made every effort to truthfully report the findings of the research. If there is any error or comment on the content of this report, we are grateful if you bring this immediately to our attention.

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## List of abbreviations

ARRA - Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs in Ethiopia

CRRF - Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

DAR framework - Development Assistance for Refugees framework

DFID - Department for International Development

ETB – Ethiopian Birr

ILO – International Labour Organization

NGO – Non-governmental organization

UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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# 1. Introduction

*As other people, we think about the future. We live for the future.*

*But we don't have any future here.*

(Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 3, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)

In the past few years, Ethiopia has introduced open-door policy towards refugees from Eritrea who are being welcomed on Ethiopian soil. However, the need for the durable solutions remains stalled in practice. According to UNHCR's report, over 18000 Eritreans fled their country to Ethiopia in the first nine months of 2017 (UNHCR, 2017). Most of the Eritrean refugees are situated in refugee camps in Tigray region of Northern Ethiopia. Chances of return in safety to the country of origin remain very low for Eritrean refugees in upcoming future. Therefore, it is inevitable to adopt a solution that will provide the dignified prospect for their future through integration into the local communities of a country of asylum (Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016). Access to sustainable livelihood programs is essential for camp as well as urban refugees to prevent the secondary migration and dangers that are closely connected to migration movements, such as human trafficking. In addition to that, UNHCR agency in cooperation with several non-governmental organizations (hereinafter NGOs), promote livelihood programming to enforce the self-reliance and lower dependence of refugees on humanitarian aid (Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016).

The main objective of this study was to understand the dynamics of livelihoods within a refugee camp. With the presumption that the access to livelihood is a crucial entry point for strengthening self-reliance and refugee's prospect for life, the present study looked into the main sources for income generating activities, limitations, obstacles and good practices relating to refugee livelihoods. In order to create a knowledge base, empirical research was carried out in Hitsats camp, during which the perceptions on livelihood were observed through personal experiences of refugees as well as NGO workers.

The need for the understanding of livelihood situation emerged from the research conducted in Northern Uganda (van Reisen et al., 2018) and Ethiopia (carried out by researcher Kidane and Stokmans, 2018). In these studies, researchers were looking at the

effects of trauma relief on social economic resilience through the new counselling program of Self Help Low Cost Post Traumatic Stress program. The significant outcome showed that both individual, as well as collective trauma, negatively impacts the programs promoting the livelihoods (van Reisen et al., 2018). Therefore, trauma support and counselling is a crucial element in order to enhance and improve livelihoods of refugees. The study on livelihoods of refugees, outlined in this chapter, aims to provide a contextual base for research on possibilities to enhance social-economic resilience in the camps (Kidane and Stokmans, 2018)

The present chapter describes the methodology used during data collection including research activities and ethical considerations. The main findings are presented in the second half of the chapter which introduces the main obstacles that prevent refugees from pursuing livelihoods as well as good practices observed. In addition, collected data shows that the camp setting, climate and lack of resources bring challenges to a daily routine of refugees which limit the access to the basic needs such as water, food, shelter, healthcare, and energy. The study is characterized by a descriptive design which aims to answer ‘what’ refugee livelihoods encompass rather than ‘why’ specific phenomena happen within the reign of livelihoods.

### **1.1. The relevance of research on livelihoods of refugees**

According to UNHCR’s observations ‘understanding refugee livelihood strategies is a prerequisite to improved interventions’ (UNHCR, 2006, p. 5). There is no singular approach to refugee livelihoods. Preferably, the specific way to improve livelihood opportunities and programs should be adapted to the local contexts (ILO, 2017). The current challenge that is faced by many NGOs is the gap between the relief and development (UNHCR, 2003). It is observed that refugees are often entirely dependent on humanitarian aid and left without any prospect of becoming self-sufficient (Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016; Samuel Hall, 2014; UNHCR, 2011). The present study stems from these observations and tries to bring a better understanding of the situation in which livelihood is promoted or hindered having preserved the emphasis on the local context of Hitsats camp.

One of the goals of the development livelihood programs is to empower people to become self-reliant and be able to create socio-economic and cultural ties with host community (UNHCR, 2012). Being able to construct stable and sustainable livelihoods and enhance self-reliance of refugees, one has to be aware of and take into account all the

limitations, obstacles as well as needs of potential targeted beneficiaries. Therefore the research question and its sub-questions have been constructed to bring clarity to this matter.

Lastly, the relevance of this study is linked to the research of trauma support and its' importance on social economic resilience which is discussed by Kidane and Stokmans (2018). The outcomes of the present study provided contextual considerations for the research on trauma relief.

## **1.2. Research Question**

The present chapter aims to carefully analyse the dynamics of livelihoods in the context of camp-based refugees in the north of Ethiopia. In order to improve understanding of this matter, following research question has been identified:

*To what extent do Eritrean refugees have access to livelihood opportunities and especially to work, in the refugee camp in Ethiopia?*

The aim is to improve understanding of access of Eritrean refugees to livelihoods in the camp. In order to get a more precise picture, we will try to bring answers to the following sub-questions:

- 1) *What are Eritrean refugees' main sources of livelihood?*
- 2) *What access to income generating activities do refugees have?*
- 3) *Which obstacles and opportunities do refugees face within the camp setting to access livelihoods?*
- 4) *What are the basic needs of refugees and how are they provided for in the camp setting?*
- 5) *Which good practices have been established within the camp with regard to the livelihood activities?*

The present study has engaged a quantitative and qualitative research method. For the quantitative data collection, specific questionnaires have been designed in order to understand the nature of livelihoods accessible to Eritrean refugees in the Hitsats camp and to construct answers to the questions mentioned above in this section. The aim of qualitative data collection was to deepen the knowledge about the livelihood programs, access to basic needs and income generating activities within the camp.

## 2. Theoretical Framework

Refugees are people with capacity, skills, and motivation to seize and enhance livelihood opportunities. To be able to utilize their skills to the full extent, governments should take steps towards building an environment in which refugees are linked to the market and public services, and which allows them to exercise their rights (ILO, 2017). Effective integration of refugees into a country of first asylum has to go hand in hand with enhancement of their access to livelihoods and economic opportunities (Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016). It has been observed that presence of secondary movements is firmly rooted in the case of Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia (Samuel Hall, 2014). The lack of socio-economic opportunities fuels the despair of refugees, especially young population of refugees, who opt for further migration with all the dangers involved rather than face their future without any prospect (Samuel Hall, 2014). The present study aims to scrutinize and list all the hardships that prevent refugees from accessing the livelihood.

Promoting livelihood programs and better quality of life may lead to self-reliance of refugees. *“The basic criterion for good programme is self-reliance”* (UNHCR, 2003, p. 4). However, observed phenomena demonstrated that camp refugees often depend on humanitarian aid and assistance (Samuel Hall, 2014; Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016; UNHCR, 2003). Studies show that this dependence is caused by various limitations to the livelihood programming and lack of sustainability. The present research tries to examine this within the context of Eritrean refugees in Hitsats. For a clear understanding of terminology, the following sub-sections will interpret the theoretical definitions and framework that became the background for empirical research.

### 2.1. Livelihood

The term ‘livelihood’ has been inherent to several research studies within the past years. According to the Oxford English Dictionary livelihood represents “[a] means of securing the necessities of life” (English Oxford Dictionary), and is often associated with an income or a job(s) which enables a person to access basic needs such as food, water, or shelter. Even though no universal definition of livelihood has been defined up to date, the most widely accepted one has been introduced by Chambers and Conway (Chambers & Conway, 1991):

*[A] livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (stores, resources, claims and access) and activities required for a means of living: a livelihood is sustainable which can cope with and recover from stress and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for the next generation; and which contributes net benefits to other livelihoods at the local and global levels and in the short and long term. (p. 6)*

Enhancement of self-reliance through economic empowerment and access to livelihood has a strong place within the UNHCR's protection mandate (UNHCR, 2012). The study of livelihoods has also been pursued within the agenda of development actors that have developed different frameworks<sup>1</sup> to address the importance of this topic. It is vital to note that literature does not indicate which framework is the most appropriate to use in a refugee context (UNHCR, 2006). Though, one of the most widely applied frameworks within development programs is Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF) adopted by the Department for International Development (DFID). It introduces main factors affecting livelihoods and close linkages between them. (DFID, 1999) Also, it draws attention to the particular assets, upon which livelihoods are built, and core influences and processes that shape the use of these assets (DFID, 1999).

Following the Chambers and Conway's working definition, de Silva puts forward the interpretation of livelihood which *"can be complex and may necessitate access to health care, education, land and other natural resources [...], and even services that secure one's legal rights to employment and wages or otherwise"* (de Silva, 2013, p. 5).

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<sup>1</sup> E.g., the framework of Department for International Development, the CARE livelihoods framework, the Oxfam livelihood framework, and the UNDP livelihood framework.

Several external factors shape access to livelihood opportunities. Both camp and urban refugees often have to face a broad range of limitations and restrictions that prevent them from accessing livelihoods, such as limited access to land, restrictions to freedom of movement, inability to access formal labour market and lack of opportunities in informal sector (Samuel Hall, 2014; Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016). To reach self-reliance, one should have access to such livelihood opportunities. Refugees, like other individuals, should be enabled to fulfil their potential, by engaging in livelihood programmes provided by organizations based in the camp. If this vital link is missing, it often leaves refugees in limbo which does not provide any prospect for their future life. Livelihood is an essential feature of the empirical study which tries to describe this phenomenon through the context of camp-based Eritrean refugees. The study tries to describe overall livelihood situation through partial interrelated topics, each represented by sub-question (see section 1.2.).

## **2.2. Self-reliance**

According to UNHCR '*self-reliance*' is social and economic ability of people to fulfil their needs and being able to exercise their rights in a sustainable manner (UNHCR, 2012; UNHCR, 2011). In order to achieve a durable solution for refugees, UNHCR has developed Development Assistance for Refugees (DAR) framework which, among other things, aims to facilitate "*empowerment and enhancement of productive capacities and self-reliance of Refugees*" (UNHCR, 2003). The DAR framework includes two prerequisites needed for improved programs leading to self-reliance which is (1) political will of the host government and (2) access of refugees to socio-economic activities (UNHCR, 2003). The element of self-reliance has been observed in the present study through the notion of livelihoods. The empirical study tries to apply the latter point to understand the peculiarities of the access of refugees to income generating activities.

The political will of the host government was not included in the empirical research. However, it is reflected in the following section based on the review of secondary literature sources.

### **2.3. Legal framework as a barrier to livelihood**

One of the factors preventing refugees from pursuing livelihoods is the restriction of rights of refugees which are guaranteed under international human rights and refugee law (Jacobsen, 2002; Horst & UNHCR, 2006). When a state lacks willingness and interest to ensure fundamental human rights, refugees shall face further barriers which can lead to their exposure to exploitation. Up to date, right to livelihood has not been covered explicitly by any international legal framework. However, refugee livelihoods are indirectly linked with legal provisions that protect right to work. One of the most relevant international legal instruments concerning the rights of refugees is 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (hereinafter 1951 Convention) and its 1967 Protocol. The refugees' right to work is covered by three articles – Article 17 (Wage-earning employment), Article 18 (Self-employment) and Article 19 (Liberal professions) (UN General Assembly, 1951). Article 17 (1) provides a minimum standard of treatment for those refugees that engage in wage-earning employment. Even though the 1951 Convention is a crucial source of law protecting refugees' right to work, provisions are not a guarantee of a job for refugees. Furthermore, as identified in Craven's commentary, states are not obliged to create work opportunities based on the preferences of individuals seeking work (Craven, 1995). It can be described instead as “a gateway through which refugees may provide their value to a receiving country, [and] rebuild their lives with dignity” (Asylum Access, 2014, p. 11).

Ethiopia is a state party to the 1951 Convention, the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa<sup>2</sup>, as well as to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights<sup>3</sup>. A restrictive approach to the right to work can be observed due to the reservations made by Government of Ethiopia with respect to the employment provision of Art. 17 of the 1951 Convention. It is therefore recognized as a recommendation and not legally binding obligation (United Nations Treaty Collection, 2018). This National legal framework concerns rights of refugees in the Refugee Proclamation No. 409 of 2004. Although Proclamation No.409 grants some rights to refugees, legal entitlement to work remains restricted (National Legislative Bodies, 2004). Refugees in Ethiopia are eligible to work only to

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<sup>2</sup> Despite the scope of this Convention is complementary to the 1951 Convention there is no specific provision providing for the protection of the refugees' right to work and employment.

<sup>3</sup> The right to work is granted to every individual under the Article 15.

the extent as the law allows other foreign nationals in Ethiopia to do so (Ibid. Art 21(3)). Furthermore, as recognized by Zetter and Ruaudel, “Ethiopia’s Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs only grants work permits to foreigners when there are no qualified nationals available and in practice does not grant work permits to refugees” (Zetter & Ruaudel, 2016, p. 25). This inconsistency in the implementation of a legal framework contributes to the fact that possibility for local integration of refugees remains low.

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1. Data Collection

This study can be characterized as ethnographic research that is based on two visits to Ethiopia, more specifically to Hitsats refugee camp situated on the Ethiopia-Eritrea border. Hitsats camp is the youngest out of 4 refugee camps for Eritrean refugees in Shire region. The location of the camp is set in very challenging climate conditions which are characterized by hot temperature and strong aridity. Currently it hosts around 13,000 Eritrean refugees, however, the precise number is difficult to estimate due to the high influx and out-flux of refugees.

Data collection was conducted under the direction of Kristína Melicherová with the support of ZOA organization and Mekelle University during two visits. The first visit, in December 2017, aim to grasp dynamics of livelihoods available to refugees in the camp, as well as obstacles and good practices related to earning livelihoods within the camp through collecting data that were quantitative in nature. The qualitative interviews were conducted during the second visit, in February 2018.

The population studied during research visits encompass: i) Refugees (both man and women) who have been living in the Hitsats refugee camp at least 30 days prior to the day of data collection; ii) People who are associated with organizations that are active in the camp (hereinafter NGO workers).

#### 3.2. Ethical considerations

Before conducting data collection the Research Protocol (see Annex 3) has been designed and signed. To conduct research within the refugee camp in Ethiopia, a researcher has to

obtain the specific permit from the ARRA agency. After introducing the research project to the ARRA authorities, together with the generous help of Mekelle University, the permission was granted for both rounds of data collection.

When potential participants were selected, the study was explained to them, and they were asked to participate. They were told that they are under no obligation to participate, and there will be no adverse consequences if they do not agree. The participants were assured that their identities will be kept confidential throughout the processes of data collection as well as in the analysis and write-up of the study findings. Every effort is made to ensure that participants cannot be identified in the final written products of the study. No names have been provided during data collection. For the purpose of analysis specific codes have been assigned to each questionnaire and interviewee. The whole process of data collection has been conducted in good faith and without intention to harm anybody. All participants agreed that the information provided in the questionnaires or during interviews could be used for data analysis and write-up of research findings.

### **3.3. Selection of study sample**

A total number of 94 questionnaires from refugees were collected in the group sessions, and 7 questionnaires from NGO workers were collected separately. In addition to the questionnaires, qualitative interviews were carried out to deepen the understanding of the refugee livelihood within Hitsats camp.

The targeted study population of refugees was divided into two groups during the selection process; those who did receive vocational training by ZOA and those who did not receive such training. Participants from both groups were aged 18 and older and had to reside in the camp more than 30 days before the day of data collection. The first group of refugees was selected with the support of the ZOA organization from the list of refugees that had previously participated in vocational skill trainings initiated by ZOA. For this group, a stratified sampling (on gender) was used (random sampling from the list of male and female beneficiaries of the ZOA training), that resulted in 47 returned questionnaires. The data were gathered in four sessions, of max. 12 participants each, and held within the location of Hitsats camp. The sessions were divided according to gender due to the convenience during the selection process.

The second group of refugees was selected with support from local fieldwork assistants who helped with distribution of questionnaires among refugees who have not participated in the ZOA programs. Two Non-probability Sample Techniques were combined. At first, a Convenience Sampling technique was used to select participants on the basis of convenience in terms of availability, reach and accessibility. Then a Snowball Sampling method was implemented for further selection of participants. Gender balance was respected during the whole selection process. For these groups, data were gathered in five sessions, of max. 12 participants each, carried out within the location of Hitsats camp. For this group, 47 questionnaires were collected.

When it comes to the representativeness of study sample of both refugee groups we have to take into account several considerations. As the research question focuses on livelihoods of refugees within the camp setting, the interviews of refugees took place solely in a real-life situation to maximize the accuracy of representative samples. In order to assure that input from both genders would be represented equally the study sample was split into these two segments. The criterion to reside in the camp at least 30 days prior to data collection aimed to increase the likelihood that the selected samples would reflect upon the livelihood situation within the camp more accurately. However, it is important to note that the occurrence of sample bias cannot be excluded entirely from the present research. It is possible that mistrust of refugees towards the researcher or towards fieldwork assistants misled participation of study sample. In addition to that, the research on trauma relief (see Kidane and Stokmans, 2018), conducted within Hitsats camp, observed the presence of individual as well as collective trauma which may affect the overall performance and participation of the study samples. Because of these limitations, the overall representativeness of study sample selected from the refugee population can be questioned.

The NGO workers were selected on the basis of Snowball Sampling method. In total 7 questionnaires were collected with the help of ZOA organization. Six questionnaires were collected from ZOA employees out of which 2 were distributed in Hitsats and 4 in Shire. One questionnaire was filled by the employee of Norwegian Refugee Council. Having experience with livelihood programs within the refugee camp was the prerequisite for the selection process.

### **3.4. Research Activities**

A literature overview has been conducted first in order to understand relevant terminology and grasp the existing research in the present topic. In November 2017, this was followed by developing tools for conducting fieldwork research such as the research protocol, questionnaires, and their translation into Tigrinya language. The first data collection was conducted in the Hitsats refugee camp in Ethiopia from 8 to 15 December 2017.

At the beginning of the session, each participant was greeted and welcomed. The researcher introduced the study and paid particular attention to the ethical code. The translated version of the questionnaire into Tigrinya language was provided to all participants. They were asked to sign the consent clause on the first page of the questionnaire.

During each session of the data collection, the local translator, as well as fieldwork assistant, were present. In a session, each question was pre-read by a translator in the local language and some time was given to participants to fill in the answers. In some cases, additional questions were asked by participants to clarify the question. Participants who faced problems with literacy or other difficulties were personally helped by fieldwork assistant to fill in the answers.

The quantitative data collected was transferred into excel and SPSS database to prepare a platform for analyses in SPSS. The second data collection took place between 30 January and 1 February 2018 followed by the analysis of all collected materials. The purpose of the second phase was to conduct qualitative interviews with refugees as well as with NGO workers to deepen the understanding of livelihoods within the camp. Questions for the qualitative interviews stem in the questionnaires used during quantitative data collection (See the Annex). Respondents were asked to elaborate more upon the questions. Interviews with refugees were conducted in a group setting, during which local translator assisted with interaction and communication between interviewer and interviewees. Respondents were selected based on Convenience Sampling method. In total 4 refugees have participated in interviews out of which 3 were male, and 1 was a female refugee. Interviews with NGO workers were held separately in the English language, and selection process was based on Convenience Sampling method. Four conversations with NGO workers were recorded and transcribed into a word document. One conversation was carried out off the record, and only the notes were captured from this interview.

### **3.5. Challenges and limitations**

Data collection have also been accompanied by some challenges. It was clear from the beginning of the trip that the limited amount of time will be the main challenge to face, due to the goals set before departure. It had been overcome by active support from fieldwork assistants and ZOA organization. Setting clear outline and schedule for the data collection on was a crucial part which allowed the whole fieldwork team to seize the most from the limited time slot. Another aspect of a shortage of time was that closer interaction with refugees was not possible with all the participants and it was also limited by the language barrier.

## **4. Findings**

### **4.1. Demographic features**

In total 94 respondents took part in the survey distributed among refugees in Hitsats camp. Due to the sampling procedure used, men and women were represented equally by a number of 47 for each gender. Even though the gender balance was preserved within quantitative data collection, the qualitative interviews disclose that the male refugees dominated within the camp population.

*In every aspect, there is a dominance of male refugees. In overall demographics [of the camp], even in our training and livelihood activities, [numbers of] male refugees are dominant. (Interview, Melicherova with NRC worker, face-to-face, 30 January 2018)*

Some interesting demographic phenomenon was recognized during the process of analysis. The demographics of the camp is dominated by young male refugees. More than 80% of the refugee respondents, both men and women, are between 18 and 30 years old which shows the high proportion of young Eritreans migrating.

**Table 2. 1: The age of refugee respondents (n=93)**

Age Group	Percentage
18 - 25	60.2%
26 - 35	26.9%
36 - 59	12.9%

One of the consequences of migration in early age is the lack of education of refugees received back in Eritrea. However, respondents to the questionnaires did not have problems with literacy, although, in total 60.5% of refugees have obtained 10 or fewer years of education. Consequently, the range of skills that refugees managed to develop before they flee Eritrea, remain low.

**Table 2. 2: Years of education**

Years of education	Gender	
	Female	Male
≤ 10	30	24
11-12	12	16
≥ 13	0	3

Due to the remoteness of the camp, many refugees decide to leave and conduct secondary movement. Despite very dynamic inflow and outflow of Eritreans, to and from Hitsats respectively, many of refugees have been residing in the camp for several months or even years (Table 2.3.). That is closely linked with low possibilities or resources, such as lack of money, that prevent refugees from moving out of the camp.

*Those [refugees] who have chance, opportunities or power left the camp. People who live in this camp are those who didn't have any chance or power to go. In this camp, it is only those who don't have money [nor] support [from families or friends]. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 4, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

**Table 2. 3: Year of arrival to the camp (n=91)**

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
When did you arrive to the Hitsats camp?	2013	9	9.9	9.9
	2014	21	23.1	33.0
	2015	17	18.7	51.6
	2016	35	38.5	90.1
	2017	9	9.9	100.0
	Total	91	100.0	

In the following sections, we will report on the results along the sub-questions asked in the introduction of this Chapter.

#### **4.2. Refugees' main sources of livelihood**

Despite the low percentage of regular access to income generating activities, refugees conceded that they had previously accessed specific sectors through which they had earned their livelihood. A major sector that provides opportunities for refugees to earn some income is institutional employment which shows that organizations based in camp intend to create opportunities within refugee communities. Alongside the institutions, refugees engage in petty trade, personal services (such as beauty parlours, hairdressers, and barbers), construction-related works and technical services (mainly for male refugees). Refugees in Hitsats are not allowed to own a piece of land, and therefore access to livelihoods through agriculture is lacking.

Stemming from the quantitative analysis, the following table shows sectors in which refugees were able to earn a livelihood in the past.

**Table 2. 4: Sectors**

Sector	Number of refugees accessing the sector
Institutional Employment	12
Construction	3
Technical Services (mechanics, repair, electrician etc.)	5
Petty Trade	10
Personal Services (Beauty Parlors, Hairdresser, Barber)	6
Agriculture	5
Manufacture	3
Health Care	3
Care of Unaccompanied minors	3
Translation	2
Education	11

The qualitative interviews confirmed that refugees are able to access livelihood through sectors, displayed in Table 2.3, even though this access is insufficient.

*There are several opportunities in petty trade, personal services, and small businesses - like shops. Those are the main sources of livelihood activities. The main gap is in small industries - like leather craft and soap making. Even [accessing livelihood through] agriculture like a dairy, poultry, home-gardening is lacking. (Interview, Melicherova with ZOA worker 2, face-to-face, 14 December 2017)*

In total 87.5% of respondents have not gained experience in the same sector back in Eritrea. This is again closely related to the fact that most of the refugees are very young and they did not have time to gain experience in labour market before they flee from Eritrea.

#### 4.3. Access of refugees to income generating activities

The study carried out in the camp has demonstrated that any kind of income generating activity, even within informal channels, is highly challenged by several factors (see sub-section 4.4). Table 2.4 displays, how many respondents had access to work in the past 30 days prior to the day of data collection. Data shows that gender does not play a very significant role in this sample - the percentage of female not working in the last 30 days prior to the data collection is higher by 5% comparing to their male counterparts.

**Table 2. 5: Work in the past month**

		Worked last month		Total
		Yes	No	
Gender	Female	5	42	47
	Male	8	38	46
Total		13	80	93

The following table reveals the main sources of income in the camp setting.

**Table 2. 6: Sources of income**

Source of income	Number of respondents
Cash money from humanitarian aid	14
Remittances from relatives	26
Revenues from small business	8
Earnings from occasional work	17

The irregular character of income generating activities prevents young Eritreans from building self-reliance even for those who have had an opportunity to access some livelihood programs. Only 15 respondents have claimed to work regularly. Furthermore, the analysis showed that many refugees continuously search for income generating activities mostly when their access to activities leading to income is irregular in nature.

**Table 2. 7: Continuous search for livelihood opportunities**

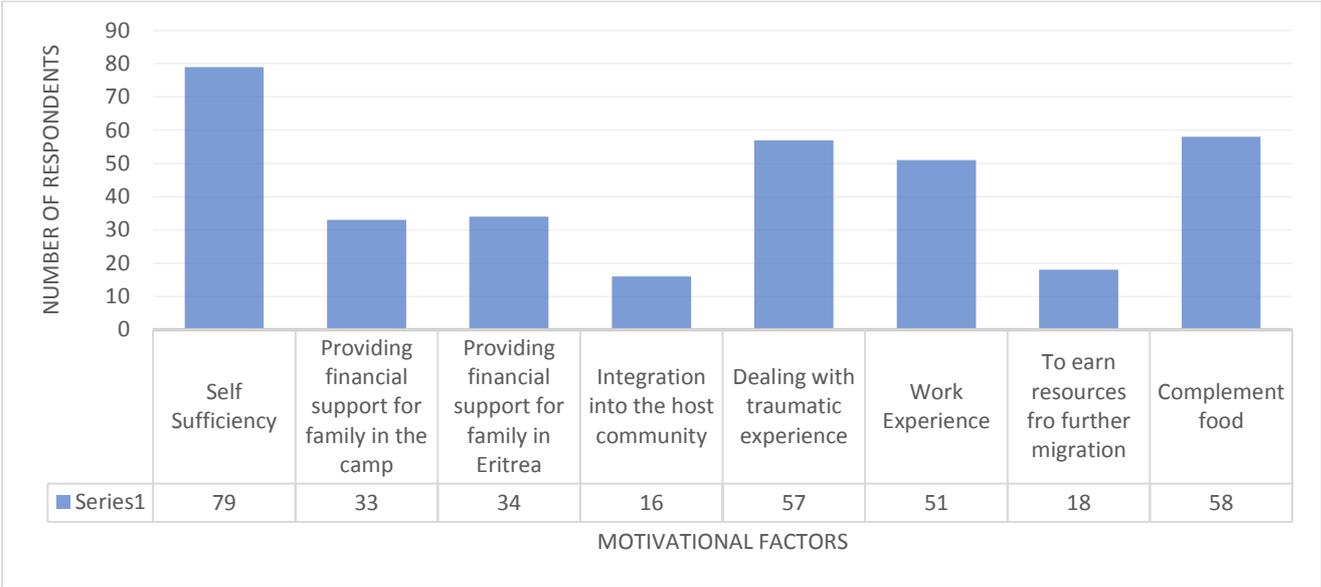
		Frequency of participation in activities leading to income	
		Regularly	Irregularly
Continuous search for livelihood opportunities	Yes	14	31
	No	1	2

The quantitative interview with NGO worker has observed some interrelation between incentives of continuous search for livelihood opportunities and market demand.

*Refugees need sound business within the camp. As long as there is a satisfactory opportunity in terms of market linkage, they are interested [to search for opportunities continuously]. If they see that the link to the market is missing, they might not be interested. In existing businesses [the missing link] leads to drop-out [of the business activity]. (Interview, Melicherova with ZOA worker 1, face-to-face, 14 December 2017)*

The next table provides an overview of motivational factors that keep refugees triggered to participate in income generating activities. The largest motivational factor is ‘self-sufficiency’ which was opt for by 84% of respondents. A significant difference in responses of two genders was observed in relation to the motivation of ‘providing financial support for the family in the camp’ which was recognized by 63.6% of women compared to 36.4% of the male counterpart. On the other hand ‘dealing with traumatic experience’ was considered as driving motivation for 59.5% of men compared to 40.5% of women. The other motivational factors were represented only with minor difference between two genders.

**Figure 2. 1: Motivational Factors**



The qualitative interview revealed, however, that beneficiaries of livelihood programs often lose their motivation to continue with particular livelihood activity (e.g., business activity) which may lead to drop-out.

*A loss of motivation of beneficiary is often a problem. Most of them are young. They expect to have a short-term benefit and [at the same time] huge benefit. (Interview, Melicherova with ZOA worker 2, face-to-face, 14 December 2017)*

**4.4. Obstacles and opportunities to access livelihoods**

Both quantitative (Table 2.7.) and qualitative data revealed a wide range of obstacles that can explain the low access of Eritrean refugees to livelihood. By far, the lack of job opportunities is considered as a main constraining element by refugees which makes it difficult for them to gain an additional income. Except a few micro-businesses like beauty salons, shops, cafés, or restaurants, very little income generating activities have developed in the camp which is closely linked with demographics and constant secondary movements of refugees. Even refugee who owns small business faces challenges on a daily basis to sustain it and generate small income out of the specific business activity.

*I try to work. Mentally, it helps me. I have my small business, but I don't have a good income. In order to have an income, I need customers. But these people [refugees within the camp], they don't have money. If they don't have money, how come they can come to the café to eat? Sometimes you open the doors and for two, three days no one comes. I try to work. But how do I get people to come here? There is no good ground for work. These people are very, very poor. The money they get is not enough for a living. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 3, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

*Some people have the opportunity to open a café or a shop, but it is very difficult because they don't have customers. I don't have the will to open a café nor a shop [when] I see that they [owners] are not working. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 4, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

This is interlinked with the limitations of freedom of movement which prevents refugees to travel to urban settings freely in search for better livelihood opportunities. In order to be eligible to leave the camp legally, a refugee has to obtain written permission from ARRA which, however, obliges holder to return to the camp after a predefined period.

*There is no chance to go to other cities to work. You need special permission to go. Such condition does not encourage you to work. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 4, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

**Table 2. 8: Obstacles recognized by refugees and their relation to gender**

Obstacles	Gender		Total
	Female	Male	
Restriction of the freedom of movement	18	25	43
Lack of working permits	22	16	38
Discrimination	13	6	19
Lack of job opportunities	36	34	70
Language barriers	9	12	21
Lack of experience	5	8	13
Lack of education	9	13	22
Lack of market information	2	9	11
Unacceptance by the host community	8	3	11

The qualitative interviews confirmed the severity of the lack of income generating activities.

*It is very difficult to live here [in the camp], [both] mentally and physically. Because it is very hot here. There are no work opportunities; only for few people. ... Sometimes there is some opportunity to build [shelters], but it is for a short time. When you finish, there is no work anymore. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 3, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

Even for existing activities, it is very challenging to generate some income due to the low market opportunities.

*In any type of livelihood activities, the market is not encouraging. Alongside the skill trainings and getting support investments, they [refugees] have to be linked to the markets which is tough work [to do] for the NGOs. (Interview, Melicherova with ZOA worker 1, face-to-face, 14 December 2017)*

#### **4.5. Basic needs of refugees and how are they provided for**

All of the constraining factors cause that Eritrean refugees struggle to meet their basic needs on a regular basis. Life in Hitsats brings only a few opportunities to generate income which makes refugees highly dependent on aid and assistance from UNHCR programs. However, both refugee respondents, as well as NGO workers, reported many challenges (for quantitative data see Table 2.8.). In particular, many complained that monthly food supplies provided by World Food Program do not last for the whole month. Each person receives 10 kilograms of wheat and 60ETB which was reduced from 100ETB. In addition to that, refugees receive 0.9 liters of oil, 1.5 kilograms of pulses, and 0.25 kilogram of salt.

*Only 10 kilograms of wheat are given to the people. It is not enough. Maybe it is enough for two or three weeks. But after that, what are they doing if they don't have any money? [In order] to manage for one month, the people cook and eat together [rather than] alone. ... It is difficult. When I see it, I am disturbed. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 1, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

*It is very difficult to live here. We don't get enough food. Even the food they give us is not enough. ... and because people don't have enough food they are exposed to illnesses. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 4, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

Another problem is water supply. Even though water taps were installed for refugee communities in Hitsats, there is a shortage of water distribution. The international standard for refugees is 20 litres of water per person per day.

*Sometimes there are problems with distribution. Sometimes refugees do not get even 20 litres [of water] per day. So they go to rivers or water holes, and*

*they use unsafe water. That is a challenge. (Interview, Melicherova with NRC worker, face-to-face, 30 January 2018)*

*This time the water [situation] is difficult. For example, now there is a shortage of water. Only two jugs are allowed per house per day. Forty litres is not enough. We can buy water from the locals who have wells, [we have to pay] 2ETB for 20 litres. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 2, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

*There is a shortage of water. We can buy water, but it is not safe. Nobody knows whether it is clean or not. Even during the rainy season, people go to wash in the river. But it is not good. It brings some allergies. ... The situation with water is worsening. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 4, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

Each refugee that arrives in Hitsats is granted a shelter. However, challenged by the lack of space, refugees have to share simple houses with many others. They can be as many as ten people assigned to share one shelter.

*Nine or ten people live together in one house. But we are different. We have different ethnicity, culture; we came from different villages, cities; we don't know each other or our behaviours. So it is very difficult to live in one house like this. I don't live with my family nor friends. Instead, I live with different people who came from different regions. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 2, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

Lastly, the low access to power brings another struggle to a daily reality of refugees. They lack the wood and coal which are essential for cooking. “[A] furnace without coal is nothing” (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 1, face-to-face, 1 February 2018).

Consequently, refugees often cut trees to get some firewood for cooking. This often causes clashes between refugee and host communities and may even lead to the detention of refugees.

*We don't have [fire]wood either coal. We have to pay for it. If we try to take wood from locals [host community] we may fight with them, or they may beat us, or we may [end up in] a detention centre. (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 2, face-to-face, 1 February 2018)*

**Table 2. 9: Needs of refugees and how they are provided for**

Need	Number of respondents	
	Provided by assistance	Earned additionally
Food	92	88
Water	90	82
Transport	11	78
Health care	85	69
Sanitation	16	83
Communication (mobile, internet)	6	90
Clothing	12	91
Education	90	12
Access to Energy	9	85

**4.6. Good practices established in the camp**

Several organizations based in the camp are keen to promote and support livelihood programs and build greater self-reliance. Refugees are highly motivated to take part in the programs offered. They seek to obtain certificates which they may potentially use in the future even after leaving the camp. All the procedural and technical aspects of livelihood programs, initiated by NGOs, have to be consulted with ARRA - governmental agency present in the camp.

The programs enhance the capacity development through vocational skills trainings and by providing start-up materials and micro-loans for small businesses. Vocational skill trainings

are provided inside the camp for refugee as well as host communities. Each NGO provides these training independently based on the assessment conducted prior the start of livelihood programs. Long-term programs of 6 months include trainings such as furniture making, food preparation, garment making, and construction. Short-term trainings take 3 months and include, e.g., laser work, metal work, and beauty services such as hairdressing or haircutting. Upon receiving vocational training, participants follow business skill training which educates them about basic business strategies and peculiarities. After graduating from the trainings, organizations provide micro-loans and start-up kits for groups to start their own small business. Not every graduate, however, qualifies for receiving start-up materials as the demand is much higher than possible offers.

Not only refugees themselves but even organizations have to face a lot of limitations and challenges. As multiple NGOs provide the same type of trainings, this causes duplication of certain vocations and leads to saturation of the market. This happens because of lack of horizontal cooperation between organizations during the assessment phase and livelihood planning. *“To train people is not enough. To put them in a good business market, to give them the market is good”* (Interview, Melicherova with Interviewee 1, face-to-face, 1 February 2018).

The connectivity of refugees to the economic market outside the camp is non-existent which dramatically decreases chances to generate enough income for sustaining the business activity and at the same time increases the vulnerability of refugees.

*There are also stereotype problems. You help them [refugees] to start up business, and they feel like you will support them all their life here. NGOs try to help them within their limited budget and capacity, but [refugees'] expectations from NGOs are a lot higher. They feel like you always have to be there to support them rather than [they] strengthen themselves. These syndromes are [present] there. It is a problem to make livelihood really sustainable. You see that their business collapses and they start to go down. (Interview, Melicherova with ZOA worker 1, face-to-face, 14 December 2017)*

Current livelihood programs cannot be considered as sustainable. Sustainability in livelihood planning should be an essential element which helps to prevent secondary migration movements. As the SLF framework of DFID qualifies livelihood as sustainable when it does not depend on external assistance, when it recovers from external shocks and stresses, and when the long-term productivity of natural resources is preserved. (DFID, 1999) Therefore, it is necessary to shift from short-term to long-term planning with a holistic approach. Nevertheless, further research is needed in order to understand how sustainability can be embedded better within refugee livelihood programs.

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1. Representativeness of the collected data

Stemming from the data analysis, it was observed that livelihood situation in the camp remains stalled in practice and the need for enhancement of livelihood programs remains high. It is important to note that the representativeness of the data can be questioned. The following two criteria used during selection process intended to increase the likelihood that the data will reflect the overall camp population more accurately: (1) input of both genders was represented equally; (2) all respondents had to reside in the camp at least 30 days. In reality, the collected data was represented by respondents who had been residing in the camp for one year or more (see Table 2.3 ). This perhaps amplifies the validity of data as the respondents' experience, perceptions and observations on livelihood situation may expand over the time spent in the camp.

Nevertheless, the occurrence of bias cannot be excluded from the considerations of data validity, while taking into account possible mistrust of refugees towards the researcher as well as the possible impact of traumatic experiences (as described in Kidane and Stokmans, 2018) on the responsiveness of refugees. In addition to that, demographic criteria, except gender, are not represented equally in the collected data. It raises a chance of having different results if the population would be represented by the equal number of refugees in variables such as age group or years of education.

When discussing universality of data, we have to look into the research carried out independently from the present study. The current results confirm observations of the research conducted in two different camps, Adi Harush and Mai Aini, with solely Eritrean

refugee population (Samuel Hall, 2014). Both research studies (by Samuel Hall and the present research) recognized the low access to income generating activities as well as the lack of sustainability of livelihood opportunities. The study by Samuel Hall is, however, broader as it considers refugee livelihoods beyond the camp settings.

The quantitative data collected in Hitsats were complemented by the qualitative interviews and observations from NGO workers which increased the representativeness of overall data outcome. Nevertheless, the validity of these results was questioned by ARRA agency during the process of dissemination. The ARRA representatives pointed out that results of quantitative data do not capture the severity of livelihood situation and that the real-life conditions are more alarming than the results were able to capture. Specific remarks were directed towards the analysis of the needs of refugees (see sub-section 4.5.), such as access to water, food, shelter, and energy. According to ARRA, the real-life situation and real numbers are far more startling. Therefore, the further research is vital in order to strengthen the overall validity of data.

## **5.2. Considerations for further research**

Even though the element of sustainability was not specifically incorporated in the research tools, the qualitative analysis has pointed out the lack of durable solutions in the livelihood programming. Therefore, including the variable of sustainability into the future research would complement the understanding of the present findings. In addition to that, the research can be expanded by following questions that have emerged during the process of data collection and its analysis:

- a) What are the root causes of the lack of sustainability of livelihood programs?
- b) Is there a positive correlation between sustainable livelihoods and prevention of secondary migration?
- c) Do durable solutions in livelihood programs enhance the resilience of refugees?

Secondly, the data revealed the gap in the communication and cooperation among NGOs.

Thus the following questions can be considered for future research:

- a) To what extent does communication among NGOs affect the sustainability of livelihood programs?

- b) To what extent does communication between NGOs and public sector affect the sustainability of livelihood programs?
- c) What are the root causes of the lack of communication relating to livelihood programs among NGOs?

The future research may be significantly shaped by new developments in laws that are currently reviewed by the Ethiopian government. The new national refugee proclamation shall grant refugees the right to work, access to education, employment, health, justice and freedom of movement (CRRF, 2018). Even though the effective implementation of the new legal provisions requires its time, it is important to take this into consideration within future research endeavours.

## 6. Conclusions

The aim of the present study was to deepen the understanding of livelihood situation of camp refugees through the case study of Hitsats camp. The overall findings of the research have shown that access of Eritrean refugees to livelihood opportunities is very low within the refugee camp setting. The study was approached through the set of sub-questions which helped to structure the analysis of data. The following sub-sections summarize the main findings stemming from the research.

### *a) Access to IGA's is lacking*

As it was illustrated, refugees have no possibility to enter formal labour market within Ethiopia. Despite the legal instruments that Ethiopia has adopted (see section 2.3.), many provisions regarding refugee's right to work are not applied in practice. Already the theoretical overview has drawn out that the camp refugees are facing challenges on a daily basis (Zetter & Ruadel, 2016; Samuel Hall, 2014). The data showed that lack of income generating activities, even in the informal sector, and irregularity of the existing ones leave the majority of Hitsats refugees highly dependent on humanitarian assistance provided by UNHCR. Searching for work alternative outside the camp, in urban areas, does not provide a visible option due to the restrictions of freedom of movement, limitations defined in the Out-of-camp policy, as well as the lack of resources of refugees (Samuel Hall, 2014). According to the DAR framework access of refugees to socio-economic activities is one of the essential

prerequisites leading to self-reliance. Given the fact that, according to the data, refugees cannot rely on regular income, the social and economic ability of refugees to fulfil their needs is unattainable.

*b) Sources of livelihood are limited*

The data illustrates that there are several sectors available in the camp through which refugees have been able to access livelihoods and earn some income. Refugees may engage in petty trade, personal services or construction-related services, set up a small business or work for NGOs based in the camp. All these activities, however, are excessively limited and only minor part of the refugee population is accessing any of mentioned sources. It has also been observed that market within the camp become saturated with some of the small businesses, such as hairdressing services, shops or cafés. On the other hand, some sectors, such as agriculture, are omitted which shows lack of consistency and sustainability within the livelihood programming. According to the SLF framework of DFID, livelihood is sustainable when it does not depend on external assistance (DFID, 1999). High level of dependency of refugees on the humanitarian aid is characteristic for the case of Eritrean refugees of Hitstats.

*c) Lack of basic needs*

It was observed that alongside the lack of work opportunities, young camp refugees strive to meet their basic human needs. Based on the interviews with refugees and NGO workers, monthly rations for food (10 kg of wheat per person) are not sufficient to sustain oneself. Location of the Hitsats camp contributes to lack of water for refugees. Results showed that refugees do not get 20 litres of water as the international standard prescribes. In addition, purchased water from the water wells is not purified and may lead to several health problems. Low access to energy brings complications to refugees as they depend entirely on coal and firewood to prepare their food. This causes the tensions between refugee and host communities since refugees often cut the trees for firewood in the act of desperation. Due to the poverty and hardships, young refugees have to repeatedly strive for complementing the food, water and coal supplies. However, it is impossible to do so without regular income or remittances from family members or friends.

*d) Access to livelihood is prevented by several obstacles*

The data revealed a wide range of obstacles that can explain the low access of Eritrean refugees to livelihood. Lack of job opportunities is considered by refugees as one of the most pressing issues. Qualitative interviews showed that even those refugees who have established micro-business in the camp are jeopardized as they don't have (paying) customers on a regular basis; thus, they cannot rely on regular income. Secondly, restriction of freedom of movement followed by the lack of working permits illustrates the difficulty of refugees to go and search for better life prospect outside the camp. Results from the analysis demonstrate that young Eritrean refugees happen to live in the vicious circle where one challenge leads to another. This often evokes very frustrating and hopeless feelings in refugees. Consequently, they often opt to move out from Hitsats camp and even from Ethiopia. They are willing to conduct dangerous journeys to developed countries in hope for better future.

*e) Good practice present in the camp*

It has been observed that camp based NGOs are keen to focus on livelihood programs. Their focus is oriented mainly on providing vocational skill trainings as well as micro-loans and start-up materials for the business. Even though refugees are interested in participating in skill trainings, the linkage to the market is almost non-existent which prevents them from putting skills into practice. According to the ILO guidance, in cases when the environment is not sufficient enough to link refugees to the market and public services, neither the skills of refugees nor the rights are utilized to the full extent (ILO, 2017). Subsequently, this halts refugees from integration to the country of first asylum (Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016), in this case into Ethiopian society.

A great need for better development of livelihood programs remains high. The concept of refugee livelihood shall not be, however, resolved on its own without stepping into the more complex picture. It is not the mere creation of job opportunity and providing skill training that may result in self-reliance and lead to resilience. Livelihood should be considered within the policy mechanism available in the host country (Samuel Hall, 2014). In addition to that, the comprehensive study carried out in Northern Uganda showed that improvement of livelihood is possible when the aspect of trauma relief is taken seriously within the livelihood

programming (van Reisen et al., 2018). This was also confirmed by the research conducted in Hitsats and Shimelba (see Kidane and Stokmans, 2018).

Overall, the conclusion is that the access of refugees to livelihood opportunities, income generating activities remain very low in the camp setting. Programming highly lacks the element of sustainability which is proved by the number of drop-outs of the livelihood program beneficiaries. Even though sustainability was not an explicit part of the present research, it has been observed that in order to bring long-term solutions, a holistic approach needs to be adopted together with the improvement of horizontal cooperation between NGOs. This finding needs further investigation and is included in a proposal for future research.

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# ANNEX 1

## QUESTIONNAIRE

(Code R)

### INTRODUCTION

This questionnaire has been prepared by Kristina Melicherova, junior researcher at Tilburg University who is interested in livelihoods available to refugees in the Hitsats camp. The research project focuses on the linkage between the participation of refugees in the (informal) labor market and potential obstacles that prevents or good practices that facilitates this participation.

This questionnaire is anonymous and no names will be revealed to the public.

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### CONSENT

I agree that the information provided in this questionnaire can be used for the data analysis for the scientific papers by Kristina Melicherova.

Date:

Place:

Signature:

### DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

CODE	QUESTION	ANSWER
D1	Age	
D2	Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Female (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Male (2)
D3	Nationality	
D4	Years of formal education	
D5	Does your family live in this camp?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (1) <input type="checkbox"/> NO (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (3):
D6	How many family members live in this camp?	
D7	When did you arrive to this camp?	

D8	How long do you think you will stay in this camp?	
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**QUESTIONS RELATED TO LIVELIHOODS OF REFUGEES**

CODE	QUESTION	ANSWER
Q.1	Have you worked in the last month (in the past 30 days)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (1) <input type="checkbox"/> NO (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (3):
Q.2	Which of the following obstacles prevent you from gaining additional money to assistance received in the camp?	<input type="checkbox"/> Restriction of the freedom of movement(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of working permits (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of job opportunities (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Language barriers (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of experience (6) <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of education (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of market information (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptance by the host community (9) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (10):
Q.3	In which of the following sectors do you earn your livelihood or have you previously earned it in the camp?	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Employment (UNHCR, ARRA, local NGO) (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Construction (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Services (electrician, mechanics, repair, etc.) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Petty Trade (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Services (Beauty Parlors, Hairdresser, Barber) (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture (6) <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacture (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Care of Unaccompanied Minors (9) <input type="checkbox"/> Translation (10) <input type="checkbox"/> Education (11) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (12):
Q.4	Did you earn your livelihood in the same sector in your home country?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (1) <i>(if yes, please, go to Q.6)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> NO (2) <i>(if no, please, go to Q.5)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Other(3):

Q.5	In which of the following sectors did you earn your livelihood in your home country?	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Employment (UNHCR, ARRA, local NGO) (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Construction (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Services (electrician, mechanics, repair, etc.) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Petty Trade (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Services (Beauty Parlors, Hairdresser, Barber) (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture (6) <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacture (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Care of Unaccompanied Minors (9) <input type="checkbox"/> Translation (10) <input type="checkbox"/> Education (11) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (12):
Q.6	How frequently do you participate in activities leading to earning an income?	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Irregularly (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Other(3):
Q.7	Do you continuously search for new livelihood opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (1) <input type="checkbox"/> NO (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Other(3):
Q.8	What motivates you to participate in activities leading to earning an income?	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-sufficiency (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Providing financial support for family in the camp (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Providing financial support for family in your home country (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Integration into society of the host community (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Dealing with traumatic experience (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Work experience (6) <input type="checkbox"/> To earn resources for further migration (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Complement food (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (9):
Q.9	How do you get information about livelihood opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/> Through local NGOs (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Through ARRA (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Trough UNHCR (3)

		<input type="checkbox"/> Through ZOA (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Trough Social Media (5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Facebook (5.1)</li> <li>○ WhatsApp (5.2)</li> <li>○ Viber (5.3)</li> <li>○ Twitter (5.4)</li> <li>○ Other(5.5):</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> Mouth-to-mouth from other residents of the camp (6) <input type="checkbox"/> Through SMS (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Radio (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Flyers (9) <input type="checkbox"/> Other(10):																								
Q.10	Which organizations provide you help when you face obstacles in finding livelihood in the camp?																									
Q.11	What are the sources of your income in the camp?	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash money from humanitarian aid & assistance (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Remittances from relatives (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Revenues from small businesses (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Earnings from (casual) labor [earnings from (occasional) work] (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (5):																								
Q.12	<p>What are your needs in the camp and how are they provided for?  <i>(Tick the box if the need is provided by assistance and/or you need to earn it additionally)</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Need (A)</th> <th>Provided by assistance (B)</th> <th>Earned additionally (C)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Food (1)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water (2)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transport (3)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Health care (4)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sanitation (5)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communication (mobile, internet) (6)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clothing (7)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Need (A)	Provided by assistance (B)	Earned additionally (C)	Food (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transport (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health care (4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sanitation (5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Communication (mobile, internet) (6)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clothing (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Need (A)	Provided by assistance (B)	Earned additionally (C)																								
Food (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																								
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Clothing (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																								

	<b>Education (8)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>Access to Energy (9)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>Other(10):</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## ANNEX 2

### QUESTIONNAIRE

(Code W)

#### INTRODUCTION

This questionnaire has been prepared by Kristina Melicherova, junior researcher at Tilburg University who is interested in livelihoods available to refugees in the Hitsats camp. The research project focuses on the linkage between the participation of refugees in the (informal) labor market and potential obstacles that prevents or good practices that facilitates this participation.

This questionnaire is anonymous and no names will be revealed to the public.

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#### CONSENT

I agree that the information provided in this questionnaire can be used for the data analysis for the scientific papers by Kristina Melicherova.

Date:

Place:

Signature:

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#### INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

CODE	QUESTION	ANSWER
I.1	What organization do you work for?	
I.2	What is your position in this organization?	
I.3	How long have you been working in this organization?	

I.4	Does your organization support refugees in searching for livelihood opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (1) <input type="checkbox"/> NO (2) <i>(if NO, please, go to I.6)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (3):
I.5	How is this support provided?	
I.6	Does your organization support refugees in promoting livelihoods?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (1) <input type="checkbox"/> NO (2) <i>(if NO, please, go to QW.1)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (3):
I.7	What type of livelihood does your organization promote for refugees?	<input type="checkbox"/> Higher-grade professionals, administrators, and officials (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Lower-grade professionals, administrators, and officials, higher-grade technicians; supervisors of non-manual employees (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Routine non-manual employees (administration and commerce; sales and services) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Small proprietors, artisans; farmers and smallholders (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Lower-grade technicians (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Skilled manual workers (6) <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-skilled and unskilled workers (not in agriculture) (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural and other workers in primary production (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Other(9):

**QUESTIONS RELATED TO LIVELIHOODS OF REFUGEES**

CODE	QUESTION	ANSWER
QW.1	In your perception, what livelihoods are available to male refugees in the camp?	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Employment (UNHCR, ARRA, local NGO) (1)

		<input type="checkbox"/> Construction (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Services (electrician, mechanics, repair, etc.) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Petty Trade (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Services (Beauty Parlors, Hairdresser, Barber) (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture (6) <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacture (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Care of Unaccompanied Minors (9) <input type="checkbox"/> Translation (10) <input type="checkbox"/> Education (11) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (12):
QW.2	In your perception, what livelihoods are available to female refugees in the camp?	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Employment (UNHCR, ARRA, local NGO) (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Construction (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Services (electrician, mechanics, repair, etc.) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Petty Trade (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Services (Beauty Parlors, Hairdresser, Barber) (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture (6) <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacture (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Care of Unaccompanied Minors (9) <input type="checkbox"/> Translation (10) <input type="checkbox"/> Education (11) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (12):
QW.3	Do refugees continuously search for livelihood opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (1) <input type="checkbox"/> NO (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (3):
QW.4	What motivates male refugees to participate in activities leading to earning an income?	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-sufficiency (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Providing financial support for family in the camp (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Providing financial support for family in their home country (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Integration into society of the host community(4) <input type="checkbox"/> Dealing with traumatic experience (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Work experience (6)

		<input type="checkbox"/> To earn resources for further migration (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Complement food (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (9):	
QW.5	What motivates female refugees to participate in activities leading to earning an income?	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-sufficiency (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Providing financial support for family in the camp (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Providing financial support for family in their home country (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Integration into society of the host community(4) <input type="checkbox"/> Dealing with traumatic experience (5) <input type="checkbox"/> Work experience (6) <input type="checkbox"/> To earn resources for further migration (7) <input type="checkbox"/> Complement food (8) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (9):	
QW.6	What are the sources of income of refugees?	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash money from humanitarian aid & assistance (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Remittances from relatives (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Revenues from small businesses (3) <input type="checkbox"/> Earnings from (casual) labor [earnings from (occasional) work] (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (5):	
QW.7	<b>What are the needs of refugees in the camp and how are they provided for?</b> <i>(Tick the box if the need is provided by assistance and/or refugees need to earn it additionally)</i>		
	<b>Need (A)</b>	<b>Provided by assistance (B)</b>	<b>Earned additionally (C)</b>
	Food (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Water (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Transport (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Health care (4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sanitation (5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Communication (mobile, internet) (6)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Clothing (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Education (8)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to Energy (9)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	<b>Other(10):</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>QW.8</b>	<b>How do refugees get information about livelihood opportunities?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Through local NGOs (1)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Through ARRA (2)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Trough UNHCR (3)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Through ZOA (4)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Trough Social Media (5)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Facebook (5.1)</b></li> <li>○ <b>WhatsApp (5.2)</b></li> <li>○ <b>Viber (5.3)</b></li> <li>○ <b>Twitter (5.4)</b></li> <li>○ <b>Other(5.5):</b></li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mouth-to-mouth from other residents of the camp (6)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Through SMS (7)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Radio (8)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Flyers (9)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other(10):</b>	
<b>QW.9</b>	<b>Which of the following obstacles prevent refugees from gaining additional money to assistance received?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Restriction of the freedom of movement (1)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lack of working permits (2)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Discrimination (3)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lack of job opportunities (4)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Language barriers (5)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lack of experience (6)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lack of education (7)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lack of market information (8)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unacceptance by the host community (9)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other (10):</b>	
<b>QW.10</b>	<b>What organizations provide help for refuges in the camp?</b>		

## ANNEX 3

# Protocol for Data Collection

This Protocol is an outline for conducting a fieldwork research in the Hitsats refugee camp in Ethiopia by Kristína Melicherová. The purpose of the fieldwork is to better understand livelihoods available to refugees in the camp, as well as obstacles and good practices related to earning livelihoods within the camp.

### *Study Population*

The population to be studied during data collection encompasses:

1. Refugees (both man and women) who have been living in the Hitsats refugee camp at least 30 days prior to the day of data collection.
2. People who are associated with organizations that are active in the camp [hereinafter NGO workers].

### *Selection of Study Sample*

The first group of refugees will be selected with support of the ZOA organization from the list of refugees that participate or have previously participated in programs initiated by ZOA. Two Probability Sampling Techniques will be used during selection process. At the beginning *Stratified Sampling* will be used to divide study population by gender. Then the participants will be selected by using *Random Sampling* method from each group of gender.

The second group of refugees will be selected with support from local fieldwork assistants who will help with distribution of questionnaires among refugees who have not participated in the ZOA programs. Two Non-probability Sample Techniques will be combined. At the beginning *Convenience Sampling* technique will be used to select study samples on the basis of convenience in terms of availability, reach and accessibility. Then *Snowball Sampling* method can be used for further selection of study samples. Gender balance shall be respected during the whole selection process.

The NGO workers will be selected by using *Snowball Sampling* method.

### *Data Collection*

The following steps shall be followed during data collection within refugee population of the Hitsats refugee camp:

- Selected refugees will be invited to attend a session in a group of max. 12 participants at a time (6 men and 6 women);

- Participants will receive the Questionnaire (Code R) translated to Tigrinya language upon arrival to the venue. They will be asked to fill the questionnaire (Code R) by themselves and anonymously;
- Local translator will pre-read each question and some time will be given to refugees to fill the answers of the Questionnaire (Code R);
- In case of low literacy of the participant, local translator will help to fill the answers of the Questionnaire (Code R);
- For each session refreshments will be provided;
- Two sessions should be scheduled per one day (one session in the morning, the second in the afternoon).

The following steps shall be followed during data collection within group of NGO workers of the Hitsats refugee camp:

- Selected NGO workers will be invited for an interview;
- Each participant will receive the Questionnaire (Code W) and will be asked to fill in the answers;
- The interviews will be conducted in English or Tigrinya (language selection is based on the preference of the participant);
- Each question from the Questionnaire (Code W) will be pre-read and some time will be given to fill the answers;
- The interviews will be recorded upon the agreement from the interviewee.

#### *Ethical considerations*

Potential participants are selected, the study is explained to them and they are asked to participate. They are told that they are under no obligation to participate, and there will be no negative consequences if they do not agree. The participants are told that their identities will be kept confidential throughout the processes of data collection as well as in the analysis and write-up of the study findings. Every effort is made to ensure that participants cannot be identified in the final written products of the study.

#### *Consent Clause*

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I will adhere to the guidelines of the abovementioned Protocol for conducting data collection in the Hitsats refugee camp in Ethiopia.

Date: 6 December 2017

Name: Kristína Melicherová

Signature:

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