

Assessment of the Livelihood Challenges of Female
Headed Household in Addis Ababa Town: The
Case of Lideta Sub city

Thesis Report Submitted to Indira Gandhi National Open University

School of Social Work in Partial Fulfillment of
Degree Master of Social Work

By

Nuroye Abtew Seifu

Enrollment No. 099110830

Advisor

Assaye legesse

May, 2013

Addis Ababa

CERTIFICATE

This is certify that Mr. Nuroye Abtew Seifu student of MSW from Indra Gandhi national open university, new Delhi was working under my supervision and guidance for his/her project work for the course MSWP-001 his project work **entitled assessment of the livelihood challenges of female headed household in Addis Ababa town** : the case of Lideta sub-city, Which he/she is submitting, is his/her genuine and original work.

Name -----

Signature-----

Address of the supervisor-----

DECLARATION

I here declare that the dissertation entitled **assessment of the livelihood challenges of female headed household in Addis Aababa town**: the case of Lideta sub-city, submitted by me for the partial fulfillment of MSW to IndraGandhi national Open University. (IGNOU) New Delhi is my own original work and has not been submitted earlier, either to IGNOU or to any other institution for the fulfillment of the requirement for any other program of study. I also declare that no chapter of this manuscript ion whole or in part is lifted and incorporated in this report from any earlier work done by me or other.

Name -----

Signature -----

Enrollment no. -----

Table of Content

Content.....	i
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
List of Tables	vii
Acronyms and Abbreviations	vi
CHAPTER ONE	
1. Introduction.....	1
1.1 back ground of study.....	1
1.2 statement of the problem.....	3
1.3 objectives of the study	5
1.4 The significance of the study	6
1.5 Delimitation of the study	6
1.6 limitation of the study	6
1.7 operational definitions	7
CHAPTER TWO	
2. Review of literature.....	8
2.1 The general overview about females headed household.....	8
2.1.1 The classification of females headed households	10
2.1.2 Prevalence of female headed households	11
2.1.3 The economic status of female headed households	12
2.2 Livelihood approaches and poverty issues	13
2.2.1 Household livelihood definitions.....	13
2.2.2 Poverty in female headed households: theory and evidence	14
2.2.3 Female headed household and the feminization of poverty.....	16

2.2.4 The issue of poverty among female headed household in Africa.....	18
2.3 The urban informal sector	19
2.3.1 Perspectives on informal sector and urban economy.....	19
2.3.2 The urban informal sector in Africa.....	21
2.3.3 The urban informal sector in Ethiopia	21
CHAPTER THREE	
3. Methodology	24
3.1 Area of the study.....	24
3.2 Sources of data.....	24
3.3 samples and sampling techniques	25
3.3.1 Key informant interview	25
3.4 Tools of data collection.....	25
3.4.1 The questionnaire.....	25
3.4.2 The interview	26
3.4 Methods of data analysis.....	26
CHAPTER FOUR	
4. Data analysis presentation and interpretation	27
4.1 Participants background.....	27
4.2 Occupational structure and income.....	32
4.3 Challenges of selected female headed households on working activities.....	37
4.4 Analysis of interviews.....	41
CHAPTER FIVE	
5. Results and Discussion	43
CHAPTER SIX	
6. Summary, conclusion and recommendation	46

6.1 Summary	46
6.2 Conclusion	47
6.3 Recommendations.....	48
References.....	51
Appendixes	56

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Above all I would like to thank my almighty God for helping me to accomplish this research. First, I would like to give my deepest gratitude to my Advisor Ato Assaye Legesse for his tireless advice, correction, encouragement as well as commitment to reading drafts and giving constructive suggestions.

Secondly, my special thanks and heartfelt gratitude goes to my wife Bezunesh Letyblu for her encouragement and assistance to finalize this study. Next, I will never forget forever to express an immense gratitude with all my heart to my friend Abbi for his assistance and encouragement in my study. At the end my deepest thanks go to my respondents for their willingness to give reliable information and record source for this study.

Abstract

The main purpose of the study was to assess the livelihood challenges of female headed households in Lideta sub-city of Addis Ababa. To this end the study employed both qualitative and quantitative approach. The study involved 71 females headed households taken from a total of 710 females headed households through simple random sampling and 5 key informant interviewees selected from kebeles officials and women affairs through purposive sampling. The study used both primary and secondary sources of data. Open-ended questionnaire and semi-structured interview were employed to collect the data. The collected data were analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative techniques. Finally based on the finding of the study conclusions reached and the paper suggests some measures that might helps find possible solutions for the problems.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADB: - Asian development bank.

BRIDGE: - Gender and development in brief.

CIA: - central intelligence agency.

CSA: - Central statistical agency.

DFID: -Department for international development.

FHH's: - Female headed households.

IFAD: - International fund for agricultural development.

ILO: - international labor organization.

MHH's: - Male headed households.

NGO: - Non –governmental organization.

UN: - United nation.

UNDP: - United nation's development program.

UNIFEM: - United nations fund for women.

A.A: - Addis Ababa.

LIST OF TABLES

CONTENT	PAGE
Table 1: distribution of the female headed households by age status.....	27
Table 2. Distribution of the female headed households by educational Status	28
Table 3.Distribution of female headed households by religion	29
Table4. Distribution of the female headed households by marital status	30
Table 5.distribution of female headed households by family size	31
Table 6 Distribution of female headed households by employment Status	32
Table 7: distribution of selected respondents by monthly income	33
Table 8: The challenges of female headed households by socio-economic status	33
Table 9: female headed household’s income adequacy to meet their basic needs	34
Table 10. Female headed household’s problems to meet basic needs.....	35
Table 11: distribution of the female headed households by migration status.....	35
Table 12: Distribution of female headed households by their residence	36
Table 13: Place used to save money by female headed households	37
Table 14: work related constraints of female headed households engaged in petty trading	37
Table 15: The work related constraints of female headed households engaged in daily labor	38
Table 16: work related constraints of female headed households engaged in domestic work.....	39
Table 17: work related constraints of female headed household those had own account formal business.....	40
Table 18: The work related constraints of female headed households hired in government works.....	40

CHAPTER ONE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACK GROUND OF THE STUDY

Now a day's life is becoming increasingly difficult especially for low income women in third world. Many cities in third world nations are today suffering from border conflicts, Civil wars, draught and famine and many other tragic developments. The women living in these countries are the principal victims of all these problems (UN, 2000). Even though women contribute a lot to society as wife's, mothers and worker, most of the benefits go to men. This is mainly because power belongs to men, under such conditions women suffer, even all the more when they become heads of households (Ibid).

A household is usually headed by a husband who plays a father role and a wife who plays a mother role in a co-operative manner. But there are also cases where one of the partners is absent due to different reasons. These are households headed by single parents. They are called male headed and female headed households based on the miss role in the household; this may be as a result of divorce, separation, widowhood and other reasons (Connell 1994, 64). In many countries in Africa, as elsewhere, there has been significant increase in the percentage of female –headed households (FHH) in recent years. Among the main causes are male migration, the deaths of males in civil conflicts and wars, unpatented adolescent fertility and family disruption (IFAD, 1999).

There seems to be little dispute over the fact that FHH's are usually disadvantaged in terms of access to land, other assets, credit, education, health care and extension services. For instance, in Zimbabwe female headed households have 30-50% smaller land holdings than male headed households. There are similar findings on Malawi and Namibia, but here is disagreement as to whether or not they are poorer than male-headed households in terms of income poverty. On the one hand, the fact FHH's are usually smaller in size means that they should be less poor, since the poor tend to be concentrated in larger households. On the other hand, the fact that they have a higher number of dependent relative to the number of income earners, which is also correlated with poverty (IFAD, 1999).

Female headed households are most susceptible to poverty because they have fewer income earners to provide financial support within the house hold. (Brenner 1987, 76). In countries like Ethiopia, even without the additional burden of heading a family, females are said to be suffering from the low status attached to them as a member of the society. They are generally poorer than men economically due to lack of access to education, training and resources, as a result of these they engaged in low status and low paying jobs (Nuri, 2001).

Consequently in Ethiopia the participation of females in formal economic activities is very low, though they participate in informal activities like petty trade, labor work, etc. Therefore this study focused on assessing the livelihood challenges of female headed households and their socio- economic problems they faces from day to day living and also who undertake a different livelihood strategies in order to generate their income, mainly in the informal sectors in Lideta sub city in Addis Ababa city Administration.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Women and men live in different worlds that differ in terms of access to education and work opportunities, as well as health, personal security and human Rights (Richard 2006, 280.)

Most of all, women's work in occupation with lower status and pay scales than men in both developing and developed countries. However, it's estimated that if women's production is properly valued, women contribute 40-60 percent of household income in some developing countries (UNDP, 1995). Similar to this the population of women head over 40 percent of African households; they supply about 70 to 80 percent of the labor for food production, 50 percents of labor in domestic food storage, 100 percent in food processing, 50 percent in animal husbandry, 60 percent in marketing (Ibid).

Therefore as UNDP report indicates that their participation in the labor force is still low; 17.9 percent for Ethiopia women, 10 percent in Zambia, 8.2 percent in Senegal, 16 percent in Mauritania and 16.9 percent in Zimbabwe, just to mention a few. Most women work in the informal sector, which is characterized by low incomes, small value additions and job insecurities (UNDP 1995).

Since job opportunities in the formal sector are decreasing due to the contraction of the sector and are requiring more and better educational qualifications, which most women do not have, the informal sector is becoming the refuge of last resort for women (UNDP 1995). In Ethiopia, the informal sector has long been serving as a safety net for the urban poor. Women constitute the largest number in this sector i.e. 52% compared to 23-25% of them employed in the formal sector (ILO, 2000). The greater participation of women in the sector is the result of poverty on the one hand and lack of or lesser access to initial capital and education on the other, these

problems hinder women's participation in the formal sector, as a result women's are the major victims of poverty, Among this population as the data of central statistical agency 24.2% is covered by female unemployment rate. From these population 16.6% of female unemployment rate are population of female headed household (CSA 2012). As a result female headed households mostly belong to the lowest social and economic class. This is partially attributed to the low status given to women by the society in terms of education, employment, etc (Nuri 1992:2).

According to the above paragraph the unemployment rate mostly affect women's especially for those who are a head of households and who are vulnerable groups. Therefore to overcome the situation of their problems they engage in different livelihood strategies and economic activities that they are able to perform. On that point the researcher identified that, in the Lideta sub city most female headed households are engaged in informal sector employments rather than formal sector to generate income and to win their life, this is as a result of lack of education and enough skill, lack of sufficient capital to invest, and poverty etc.

In spite of the fact that this study focused on assessing the livelihood challenges of female headed household in kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city who are engaged in different livelihood strategies mainly in those of informal sectors like petty trades, daily labor etc, Which characterized by a low socio economic status and which get a least attention by local government. The reason why the researcher selects the two kebeles (50&51) from other kebeles of Lideta sub city are the identified problems extremely reflected in these two kebeles and the populations of these kebeles are densely populated. In addition the finding of the study may minimize the challenges of female headed households in their work sector through giving

suggestions and recommendations for the existing problem, which improve their socio-economic life in one aspect.

Research Questions

- What are the ways female headed households in use to secure their livelihood in order to generate income?
- What are the challenges for Lideta household women not to participate in formal economic sector the reason behind?
- What are the degrees of problems they face in relation to their work sector?

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The general objective of the study is to examine how female headed households secure their livelihoods to generate income and the reason behind in 50 and 51 kebeles of Lideta sub city in Addis Ababa city administration.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the study were:

- To identify the ways female headed households secure their livelihoods to generate income
- To identify why women do not participate in formal economic sector
- To differentiate the degree of challenges female headed households were facing in relation to their work.
- To give some suggestions(forward) and recommendations for the existing problem

1.4 THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY.

The importance of the study was to assess the livelihood challenges of females headed households by examining how female headed households secure their livelihoods and the reason behind it in kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city, to differentiate the reasons why females headed household do not participate in formal economic sector. In addition the finding of the study can provide important information and suggestions for policy makers and planners, government officials and concerned bodies (for instance; women and child affairs, kebele administrators) to minimize the problems of females headed household regarding their work sector.

At the end, the finding of the study may pave the way for another researcher who work on this area and may be used as a base line.

1.5 DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The study was geographically delimited on the two kebeles ,I.e. kebele 50 and 51 found on lideta sub city of Addis Ababa city administration ,and also the study were conceptually delimited on the idea of assessing the livelihood challenges of females headed household in Kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city of Addis Ababa.

1.6 LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The researcher faced many ups and downs or difficulties through the accomplishment of this study. Among those challenges the researcher had are:-

- Shortage of time.
- Ups and downs to get relevant information.
- Difficulty to get some key officials and who would provide essential data.

1.7 OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

Formal sectors: Official organization of economic activities fostered and regulated by state (ILO, 2002).

Informal activities: unregistered small scale and informally organized activities as women work (ILO, 2002).

Poverty: A situation where individuals or groups in society are unable to meet the standard of living (Tim Allen (2002).

Female headed household: Female-headed households are defined as women with children, who are widowed, unmarried mothers or caretakers and women who are divorced or separated (Rachel Samuel 2005).

CHAPTER TWO

2. Review of Literature

2.1 THE GENERAL OVER VIEW ABOUT FEMALES HEADED HOUSEHOLD

Case studies of female-headed households in African, Middle-Eastern and Asian countries indicate that male out-migration was largely responsible for the emergence of female-headed households (Makinwa-Adebasoye, 1989).

Female-headed households are defined as women with children, who are widowed, unmarried mothers or caretakers and women who are divorced or separated. Most surveys identify female headed households as households where no husbands or adult males are present. Households where both spouses and partners are present but the wife's responsibility, authority and economic contribution is greater, tend to be classified as male-headed households (Batista, 1994).

Attempts to rectify such situations have led to constructs such as the 'working head' to refer to the household member most heavily engaged in income-generating activities (Rosen house, 1989) or the 'cash-head' referring to the individual with the greatest individual contribution to household cash income (Llyod & Gage-Brandov, 1991).

In Bangladesh, for example, female-headed households were found to be less common but a large proportion of the female-headed household heads were widowed and currently unmarried women (Ruzika & Chowdhury, 1978; Ellickson, 1975).

This is found to be true in many other countries as in the census and surveys, the head of households is usually regarded by the members of households as such and need not be the main

breadwinner of the households. In Malaysia, the oldest member who may not bear economic responsibility is usually regarded as the household head as a mark of respect. An older woman living with adult children is more likely to be listed as a household head rather than a younger woman who has to bear economic responsibility for herself and her children. However, a woman is seldom listed as the household head in the presence of a regular adult male of the same generation (Tey 1991, 11).

Female headed households are believed to be mostly the result of war, economic crisis, migration, women's growing independence rising divorce and separation rate dislocation of many men from their families, widowhood and changed in marriage partners (O'Connell, 1994: 67)

Due largely to a longer life span, women often assume the position of household heads only upon the death of their husbands. There are also women who have to cope as single parents, either due to divorce or separation, 'temporary' absence of the spouse due to employment elsewhere, desertion or polygamy (Rachel Samuel, 2005)

A study conducted by Tan and Tey (1993) found female-headed households more prevalent amongst older and those who were widowed, divorced, separated or single. Many of these females are not working or are engaged in marginal occupations and had poor education. Females were likely to be head of households with parents and siblings present especially if she was currently unmarried or her spouse was not a usual member of the household (Tan & Tey 1993, 14)

2.1.2 THE CLASSIFICATION OF FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS.

Women headed households can be identified according to *de facto* or *de jure* female-headed households. *De facto* households are households where the self-declared male head is absent for a large proportion of the time (usually at least half). Labor migration studies suggest that this type of female-headed households is increasingly common in Africa (Buvinic & Youssef, 1978). In these households, husbands or other male relatives may still play a role in basic decision making and continue to contribute to household incomes.

In *de jure* households, a woman is considered the legal and customary head of a household. *De jure* households are usually headed by widows (often the grandmothers of the children in the households) or unmarried, divorced or separated women. This group of women can be classified as single mothers (Rachel Samuel, 2005).

In another way, according to Youssef and Hetler (1983), female headed households can be classified into five categories as follows:

- Households with no male spouse or partner present at any time
- Households where the male partner is a transient resident
- Households from which the male spouse or partner is temporarily absent
- Households in which the male spouse or partner is present, but his contribution to the economic maintenance of the household is marginal
- Households from which the male spouse or partner is absent, but one or more adult male are in residence.

2.1.3 PREVALENCE OF FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS

Women head 20 percent of all households in Africa, the developed regions and Latin America. There are how even marked regional variations in the proportion of female headed households. For example, in Norway 38 percent of households are headed by females while it is 16 percent in Spain (UN, 1991:17)

The smallest proportion of female headed households, which is about 14 percent, is absorbed in Asia (UN, 1991:17). According to the study conducted by Tan and Tey (1993) found female-headed households more prevalent amongst older and those who were widowed, divorced, separated or single. Many of these females are not working or are engaged in marginal occupations and had poor education. Their study showed that households headed by females accounted for 17.7% in 1980 compared to 18.5% in 1991. In terms of age, there is a rise in younger age groups of 20-39 and in older age groups of 60 years and above in 1991 compared to 1980. Another significant observation was that females reported as household heads were also more non-currently married; an increase from 23% in 1980 to 30% in 1991. These households were mainly Chinese and it was consistent with the rising age of first marriage and increasing proportion remaining single at advanced age. The study showed that 20% of these households were headed by Chinese women compared to 18% Indian and Malay women.

Females were likely to be head of households with parents and siblings present especially if she was currently unmarried or her spouse was not a usual member of the household (Tan & Tey, 1993,p&14)

2.1.4 THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS

Households headed by females have been found to be among the poorest of the poor and they require special and urgent government attention and assistance (Buviriic et.al. 1978). Such households are more vulnerable to poverty because unpatented women usually retain the primary responsibility for childcare and home maintenance tasks and in the absence of a male breadwinner, they face the additional challenge of making market-oriented activities compatible with domestic responsibility, have less access to financial resources and land ownership compared with men (Merrick & Schmok, 1983).

Women functioning as household heads in families without a regular adult male present often occupy an ambivalent position in society. The situation is made worse when some anti-poverty programs ignore the reality that women's experience of poverty may be different and more acute than that of men and women become poorer together with the rest of the household as a result of the deterioration of a household's access to resources (Heyzer 1991). Women also benefit less from economic modernization due to unequal property rights and access to credit. Their full participation in development project is constrained by the non-recognition of their reproductive contribution and the assumption that the household head is male, as well as poor access to training and other productive inputs, political organization and poor family support and the high investment requirements of commercial agriculture (Bamberger, 1991).

Women have less access to work and face greater uncertainties in having access to the necessities of life (Mueller, 1983). This, coupled with the child-bearing and child-rearing responsibility and their longevity make them more dependent on a support system as

compared to men. While the weakening of the familial support system does not foster well for women who are likely to require them, it nevertheless also frees women from familial constraints, inducing them to pursue employment opportunities more vigorously and to seek more equal roles in the family and community (Youssef, 1974)

Programs and policies on poverty need to consider an overlap of the two areas as women in poverty would require special focus and attention if they are to become the main beneficiaries. This arises because women are seldom considered the household head or the main beneficiary if there is a regular adult mate present. (Rachel Samuel, 2005)

In general, female-headed households are more prevalent among older women and among those who are widowed, divorced, separated or single. Yet policies and programs have tended not to consider such household heads as different and that they may require special focus and attention because many of them are likely to live in poverty (Rachel Samuel, 2005)

2.2 LIVELIHOOD APPROACHES AND POVERTY ISSUES

2.2.1 Household livelihood definitions

The livelihood definition provided by Chambers and Conway (1992: 7) says “A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (stores, resources, claims and access) and activities required for a means of living.” Chambers and Conway (1992: 7)

Ellis (2000: 9) seeks to build on this definition by bringing in a more explicit consideration of the claims and access issues, and in particular the impact of social relations and institutions that mediate an individual or family's capacity to secure a means of living: “A livelihood comprises the assets (natural, physical, human, financial and social capital), the activities, and the access to

these (mediated by institutions and social relations) that together determine the living gained by the individual or household.” Ellis (2000: 10). In addition to assets and activities, and the factors that mediate access, livelihood considerations must take account of the outcomes of the interaction of these components. Livelihood outcomes would ideally be what people seek and strategize to achieve through their activities, albeit in practice the means or the choice of activities may be restricted or absent and the ends will not always be realized. Desired outcomes might include increases in income (monetary), food and water security, health, physical security, independence, knowledge, status, or time – the inverse of various poverty dimensions. The outcomes in turn will usually have a direct effect on the asset base and activities (and possibly on the access regimes), so in this sense there is a cyclical relationship between assets, activities and consumption outcomes (DFID, 2001).

2.2.2 POVERTY IN FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS: THEORY AND EVIDENCE

Buvinic and Gupta (1997) identify three channels that are likely to determine why female-headed households are poorer than male-headed counterparts. First, female headed households in general have more dependents and thus have higher non-workers to workers ratio compared to other households. Second, female heads typically work for lower wages and have less access to assets and productive resources compared to men owing to gender bias against women. Third, women typically bear the burden of household chores that result in time and mobility constraints compared to male-heads. In other words, female heads must shoulder the burden of economic support and household chores, which leaves them with lesser time for leisure compared to male heads. This link between leisure-work trade-off also leads to intergenerational transmission of poverty in female-headed households. Buvinic and Gupta provide evidence that in Chile, policies targeting female-headed households in pursuit of reducing poverty have been an efficient way of

reducing poverty. Barros et al. (1997) show that female-headed households have worse social, economic and demographic features compared to male-headed counterparts and are thus more likely to be poor. They provide evidence that female-headed household in Brazil tend to have lower household income compared to other households because of lower average earnings of the female head. Senada and Sergio (2007) investigate whether female-headed households are more vulnerable to poverty in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Using yearly per capita consumption expenditure measure of poverty (adjusted for regional differences in prices), they do not find any support for this claim.

Appleton (1996) presents evidence that irrespective of the way poverty is measured (i.e. by income, consumption or social indicators); female-headed households in Uganda are less poor than male-headed counterparts. Fuwa (2000) shows that in Panama, only certain categories of female-heads such as widows, and female-heads with unmarried partners are particularly disadvantaged in both income and non-income dimensions of poverty compared to male-headed households. The study of Swarup and Rajput 1994 shows that in India, lack of access to family property and assets, and deficient micro-credit facilities contribute to the poor economic conditions of female-headed households. Several studies have pointed out that intra-household discrimination in education against girls, which results in girls possessing less skill than boys, contributes to fewer economic opportunities for women (Oxaal 1997), resulting in higher poverty rates among female-headed households.

Households with single women as the head can potentially face even a higher risk of poverty because of the cultural and social stigmas attached to their marital status (Ramaprasad, 2009).

2.2.3 Female headed household and the feminization of Poverty

The idea that women bear a disproportionate and growing burden of poverty at a global scale, often encapsulated in the concept of a ‘feminization of poverty’ has become a virtual orthodoxy in recent decades. The dearth of reliable and/or consistent data on poverty, let alone its gender dimensions, should undoubtedly preclude inferences of any quantitative precision (Marcoux, 1997; Moghadam, 1997:3). Yet this has not dissuaded a large segment of the development community, including international agencies, from asserting that 60-70% of the world’s poor are female, and that tendencies to greater poverty among women are deepening (see for example, UNDP, 1995:4; UN, 1996:6; UNIFEM, 1995:4 cited in Marcoux, 1997; also ADB, 2000:16).

The factors responsible for the ‘feminization of poverty’ have been linked variously with gender disparities in rights, entitlements and capabilities, the gender-differentiated impacts of neo-liberal restructuring, the informalisation and feminization of labour, and the erosion of kin-based support networks through migration, conflict and so on. One of the primary tenets, however, has been the mounting incidence of female household headship (see BRIDGE, 2001; Budowski, 2002; Chant, 1997; Marcoux, 1997; Moghadam, 1997). Indeed, Davids and van Driel (2001:162) go as far as to say that: ‘...the feminization of poverty focuses on female-headed households as an expression of that same feminization of poverty’. In turn, because lone mothers are often the biggest sub-group of female heads, whose poverty is attested not only to affect them, but their children too, it is no surprise that in some circles the ‘culture of single motherhood’ has been designated the ‘New Poverty Paradigm’(see Thomas,1994,cited in Budowski et al,2002:31).

Contemporary reflection of this thinking can be seen in a recent internet circular distributed by the Coordination for Productive Development for Women of FONAES, a subsidiary decentralized body of the Mexican Ministry of the Economy. Referring to a census-based graph of marriage and divorce statistics for 1990 and 2000, the opening statement of the communication reads:

‘At the present time, we are experiencing a phenomenon known as the “feminization of poverty”, which has been accentuated, amongst other things, by the increase in separation and divorce. Added to the tradition of leaving responsibilities for children to the mother, this situation has given rise to an increasing incidence of lone parent families headed by women whose vulnerability for all their members is elevated (Sylvia chant, 2003).

The links so frequently drawn between the feminization of poverty and household headship derive first, from the idea that women-headed households constitute a disproportionate number of the poor, and second, that they experience greater extremes of poverty than male-headed units (see BRIDGE, 2001:1; Buvinic and Gupta,1993; Gonzalez de la Rocha, 1994b:6-7; Moghadam,1997; Paolisso and Gammage,1996:23-5). An additional element, summed up in the concept of an ‘intergenerational transmission of disadvantage’ is that the privation of female household heads is passed on to their children (see chant, 1997b. 1999). As asserted by Mehra et al (2000:7), poverty is prone to be inter-generationally perpetuated because female heads cannot properly support their families or ensure their well-being (see also ILO 1996).

In broader work on poverty, and especially in policy circles, the poverty of female-headed households has effectively become a proxy for women’s poverty, if not properly in general (see

Jackson, 1996, 1998; kabeer 1996, 2003:81; also May, 2001: 50). In fact, the twinning of the 'feminization of poverty' with the 'feminization of household head ship' has become so reutilized in policy discourse that interrogating whether or not any intrinsic interrelationship actually exists seems to have become secondary to doing something about the 'problem'. If women-headed households are 'poorest of the poor', then attention needs to be directed to alleviating their condition. In its most immediate form this may involve palliative interventions such as the provision of assistance to affected parties with child-feeding, day care, access to credit, skills- training, or shelter (see for example, Bibars, 2001:81; chant, 1997a; Grosh, 1994: Lewis, 1993; Safa, 1995:84).

2.2.4 THE ISSUE OF POVERTY AMONG FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLD IN AFRICA

In many countries in Africa, as elsewhere there has been significant increase in the percentage of female headed households (FHH) in recent years. Among the main causes are male migration, the deaths of males in civil conflicts, and wars, unpatented adolescent fertility and family disruption. Development initiatives have often tried to direct resources and services to FHH's on the assumption that they were poorer than households headed by men (MHH's) and less able to improve their situation without special help (IFAD, 1999)

There seems to be little dispute over the fact that FHH's are usually disadvantaged in terms of access to land , other assets ,credit ,education ,health care and extension services. For instance, in Zimbabwe, female headed households have 30-50% smaller land holdings than male headed households. There are similar findings on Malawi and Namibia, but there is disagreement as to whether or not they are poorer than male headed households in terms of income poverty. On the

one hand, the fact FHH's are usually smaller in size means that they should be less poor, since the poor tend to be concentrated in larger households. On the other hand, the fact that they have a higher number of dependents relative to the number of income earners, which is also correlated with poverty, would argue the reverse (IFAD, 1999)

2.3 The Urban informal Sector

The main characteristics of this sector are that its activities are unregulated and none licensed. Taxation in neither directly nor regularly paid to government. Women especially those who head households dominate the informal sector; they enter the informal sector because they do not fulfill educational and other requirement of formal sector (UN, 1996: 34; selamawit, 1994: 15)

In addition the flexible working conditions and end of entry, small initial capital requirements could also be other seasonal there are also who engage in informal activities to get more incomes in comparison to the low wages offered by the formal sector but, most often, women join the informal sector in order to survive (Ibid).

2.3.1 Perspectives on Informal Sector and Urban Economy

Different view and debates focus on the relationship between the informal sector and the rest of urban economy. According to different ILO studied (Salah, 1985: 61-67) the informal sector lacks link age with the other parts of urban economy, especially the capitalist mode of production, but different scholars including Bromley, Gerry and Le Brum, have tried to pinpoint the linkage and to indicate how the capitalist mode of production has affected petty commodity production. Bromley, in his introduction to the urban informal sector (1970) has stated how the informal sector helps in the expansion of reproducing capital for big industries. Gerry and Le

Beum, together (1975) also have considered how the capitalist mode of production works both in conservation and elimination of the petty commodity production.

Writers argue that informal sector activities, especially petty commodity's production help in the growth and expansion of the capitalist big industries and at the same time serve the urban poor with cheap and affordable accommodation. In addition, those who support this view have stated that petty commodity production came as a result of needs by the big industries. Supporting this, Birkbeck indicated, (Cited in Salah, 1985; 61-63) the emergence of garbage-picking in Colombia as a result of the demand the big paper and cardboard factories.

As stated by Salah, there are also views which portray the increase of unskilled tertiary workers, those who are self-employed, as a result of 'hyper-urbanization' but when Salah criticized this group, he argued that this doesn't show the reality. These activities have not taken place just to be a refuge for those who are unable to be employed in the urban employment, this could be one of the many reasons. The scholars of this group have not taken into consideration, the increasingly demand of such activities by both the urban rich and poor, he indicated that their roles in supplying the demand for food and services was not taken into consideration. In addition he also has stated that they function for the general welfare and comfort of the other population by provision of unskilled personal service and at the same time, they are also important for survival of those who are able only to afford cheap commodities and services.

Other scholars like (Husmann's and Farhad) were also agreed on Salah's ideal by arguing the informal sector represents an important part of the economy and certainly of the labor market in many countries especially developing countries and thus plays a major role in employment

creation, production and income generation. In countries with high rates of population growth and or urbanization, it tends to absorb most of the growing labor force in the urban areas.

2.3.2 The Urban informal Sector in Africa

Over the past decade the informal work is estimated to have accounted for almost 80 percent of non agricultural employment, over 60 percent urban employment and over 90 percent of new jobs in Africa (Charms, 2000 cited in ILO, 2002). In sub Saharan Africa it accounts for three quarters of non agricultural employment, having increased dramatically over the last decade from about two thirds. For women in sub Saharan Africa, it represent 92 percent of these jobs are performed as self -employed or own-account workers and only 5 percent as paid employees (ILO, 2002).

Among the regions, countries of west and east Africa and south Asia tend to have the highest proportion of informal to total employment. In some countries including Ethiopia, there are more women than men in informal employment, even in absolute number (Ibid). Home -based workers and street vendors are two of the largest sub- groups of the informal work force; taken together they comprise an estimated 10 to 25 percent of the non agricultural work force in developing countries and over 5 percent of the total work force in developed countries (ibid).

2.3.3 The Urban informal Sector in Ethiopia

As in other developing countries, the informal sector plays a major role in the Ethiopian Economy. In Ethiopia the urban informal sector embraces significant proportion of both men and women especially those who do not fulfill the requirements of the formal sector. The labor force participation of women in informal sector is significant than their counter parts. In 1999, women

in Ethiopia consisted of 64 percent of urban informal sector, on the other hand, their participation of 'much lower in Formal sector, as a result of this, self employment has become a major income generate strategy for the urban poor particularly women (Tsehay and Mengistu, 2002).

In Ethiopia, there are a number of constraints that affects negatively the participation of women in economic activities. The major problems that are hindering women active participation in economic activities such as lack of adequate level of education and training, social and cultural attitudes, lack of information, lack of credit facilities access to production resources and the policy environment, due to the problems the earning capacity of the women particularly the work in the informal sector become limited and their ability to save is also limited (Nuri 1992 and Hayat 1997). In general in the informal sector the majority of women are engaged in activities with a very low state and low income. These activities are classified in to the following four categories.

I. Petty trading

Petty trading is one of the major activities of informal sector. The majority of the urban poor are women who are engaged in the informal sector in different income generating activities particularly petty trading which include salvage clothes selling, small local trading, production and sale of local traditional fuel materials, running small retail shops etc (Desta, 2004).

II. Daily Labor; this activity is done by both men and women; this group includes people who work in construction areas (buildings, road etc). They are paid on daily performance these daily laborers help construction workers in taking care of activities like carrying stoma,

mixing cement, sand water as needs by the workers. In this type of activity job insecurity is very high (ibid)

III.Domestic Service

This group serves as a household help (baby sitters, house maids, etc) As Nuri indicated (1992: 11) Young rural migrants with low or no education dominate this group. They earn a very low salary and sometimes are just provided with food and shelter mostly it is just an entry of or the migrations to urban employment. They are classified in to different categories. Among them we find those who are provide with board and those who have their own house and come daily or based on arrangements to give services. Female headed householders mostly belong to the second category since they have to take a care of their own household and more over, to gain the benefit of additional wage given to them for absence of boarding. There are also those who are part- time participants in domestic works (Nuri 1992: 11).

IV.Prostitution

This serves as a means of survival. It's very common in the third world countries and it's illegal throughout the world. Young female migrants, especially those who are good looking are dominant in this group. Women's usually do not become prostitutes in areas where their age born are brought up, but they engage in such activities by going to other areas where they are not known (Andargachew 1988: 248.)

CHAPTER THREE

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 AREA OF THE STUDY

The research was investigated in Lideta sub city found under Addis Ababa city administration. Lideta sub city is found in the western district of Addis Ababa. The sub city is found in 8 98N, 38 80E direction and have 7726 feet (2355 meter) height above sea level and has 61.8 annual rain falls, which is similar for whole Addis Ababa (CIA 2004).

According to new world encyclopedia (2012), the total population of Addis Ababa city is 3,627,934 with annual growth rate of 8% as of 2007 population data census, from this population women accounts 1,636,000 in number. However the research specifically delimited to kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city. The total population of kebele 50 and 51 were 11500 and the population of women accounts 5226 with 8% annual growth rate. The reason why the researcher select kebele 50 &51 from Lideta sub city were the population of these kebeles was densely populated and the identified problem was seriously reflected in these kebeles.

3.2 SOURCES OF DATA

The data required for the study include the primary source of data and the secondary source of data. The primary source of data were collected from the selected female headed households through questionnaires and interviews, in addition, also the primary source of data were collected from government officials and concerned bodies, for instance women and child affairs through key informant interview. Key informant interview is interviewing officials and concerned bodies in order to get relevant and important information for the study. And also in addition secondary

source of data were gathered from published and unpublished documents prepared by these concerned bodies.

3.3 SAMPLES AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

The sampling techniques used for the study were simple random sampling, because simple random sampling is important to select respondents in equal chance and fair way. Therefore from 710 total population of females headed households 71 female headed households were selected by using simple random sampling.

3.3.1 KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW

Key informant interview is interviewing officials and concerned bodies in order to get relevant and important information concerning the study. Therefore through purposive sampling 5 respondents were selected from government officials and concerned bodies for key informant interview. The reason why the researcher used purposive sampling method to select key informant interviewees was purposive sampling method is used to select limited number of samples (informants) have in depth of information for the study.

3.4 TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION

The tools of data collection used for the study were questionnaire and interview.

3.4.1. THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaires used for the study was open ended questionnaires which helps to collect enough and relevant information for the study and helps the respondents to explain briefly about their idea for the questions in the questionnaire. Therefore the prepared questionnaires were distributed to 71 selected female headed households.

3.4.2 THE INTERVIEW

To gather enough data for the study the interview was used to ask those respondents selected from general population. Therefore the interview used for the study was semi structured interview and employed to 5 selected key informants in the form of face to face approach.

3.5 METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS

The collected data were analyzed by using qualitative and quantitative data analyzing method. Qualitative data analyzing method means interpreting the collected data through descriptive ways by using words. Quantitative data analyzing method means interpreting the collected data through using numeric (numbers). Therefore the data collected from questionnaires were analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively (by developing tables and percentages) and also the data gathered through interviews was analyzed qualitatively.

CHAPTER FOUR

4. Data Analysis Presentation and Interpretation

This section of the paper intends to show the various finding of the study investigated on assessing the livelihood challenges of females headed household in kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city in Addis Ababa city administration. Therefore study was conducted on sample size of 71 female headed households selected from general population.

4.1 Participants back ground.

This part reveals the socio-demographic characteristic of female headed households which include: age distribution, marital status, educational level, employment status and house hold size.

Table 1: Distribution of the Female Headed Households by Age Status

Age group	No of Respondents	Percent (%)
20-29	12	16.9%
30-39	27	38%
40-49	20	28.2%
50-69	8	11.3%
60 and above	4	5.6%
Total	71	100%

The age distributions of selected female headed households are grouped in to 10 intervals except the last intervals which do not have specified limit.

Table 1 shows that the majority of the selected female headed households 27(38%) fall in the age interval 30-39, 20(28.2%) of respondents are found between the age group of 40-49 years, 12(16.9%) of respondents are found between 20-29 age group, the remaining 8(11.3%) and 4(5.6%) are found 50-59 and 60 and above respectively. According to the above data the researcher can draw the conclusion that the majority of the female headed households in the kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city are found in the productive and active age status which is crucial for affording means of livelihood,

Table 2: Distribution of the female headed households by educational status

Educational level	No of Respondents	Percent (%)
Uneducated	17	23.9%
Primary schooling	30	42.3%
Secondary schooling	13	18.3%
High school complete	5	7%
Preparatory complete and above	3	4.2%
Others	3	4.2%
Total	71	100%

Level of education measured by number of years of schooling is one of the important indicators of human resources development. Therefore according to data of table 2 shows Out of the total selected female headed households; 17(23.9%) of them are uneducated or illiterate and do not have access to education, in addition to this 30(42.3%) and 13(18.3%) of the respondents

accomplished primary and secondary schooling respectively, the rest 5(7%) and 3(4.2%) accomplished high school and preparatory level, much worse only two respondents were successfully afforded by certificate. In spite of the fact that the researcher concludes as the majority of female headed households found in these kebeles are uneducated and have very little education and skills as such find limited employment opportunities leading to acceptance of low paid and informal sector employment that are often considered “socially inferior”.

Table 3: Distribution of female headed households by religion

Religion status	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Orthodox	30	42.2%
Muslim	20	28.2%
Protestant	14	19.7%
Others	7	9.8%
TOTAL	71	100%

As table 3 shows that the number of selected female headed households follow the orthodox religion are 30(42.2%), Muslim 20(28.2%), protestant 14(19.7%), and also the number of respondents follow other religions (which not stated above) are 7(9.8%). Therefore the researcher concludes that the most number of selected female headed households are orthodox believers, followed by Muslim believers, protestant and other religions.

Table 4: Distribution of the female headed households by marital status

Marital status	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Never married	6	8.5%
Presently married	13	18.3%
Married but spouse absent	21	29.6%
Widowed	12	16.9%
Divorced	19	26.8%
Total	71	100%

As table 4 shows that the majorities of the selected female headed households 21(29.6%) are married but spouse absent and 19(26.8%) of the respondents are divorced and the rest 13(18.3%) and 12(16.9%) are presently married and widowed respectively, at the end 6(8.5%) of respondents are never married. From these data the researcher concludes that nearly all these selected female headed households had some experience of marriage, except few respondents who had no marriage, I.e. means they have got children through unpatented adolescent fertility and became female headed household.

Table 5: Distribution of female headed households by family size

Households size	No of respondents	Percent (%)
1-3	10	14.1%
4-6	41	57.7%
7-9	15	21.1%
9 and above	5	7.1%
Total	71	100%

As table 5 Shows that the house hold size from 1-3 family member are 10 (14.1%), from 4-6 are 41(57.7%), from 7-9 are 15(21.1%) and the family size of the households from 9 and above members are 5 (7.1%).

From this the researcher concludes that the majorities of selected female headed households had large family size(4-6) which accounts 41(57.7%), which is difficult to afford the house hold need requirements; this are because of financial instability ,poverty , lack of education and low economic status.

When their house hold sizes increase, the less likely on the quality of living standards and which makes it very difficult for grown up children by fulfilling their basic needs.

4.2 Occupational Structure and Income

Table 6: Distribution of female headed households by employment status

Employment status	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Government employed	7	9.9%
Own account business/formal	11	15.5%
Petty trader	28	39.4%
Daily Laborers	15	21.1%
Domestic worker	8	11.3%
Child support	2	2.8%
Total	71	100%

As table 6 shows that the number of selected female headed households working as government employer accounts 7(9.9%), own account business which is formal accounts 11(15.5%), petty traders account 28(39.4%), daily laborers account 15(21.1%), domestic workers account 8(11.3%) and the rest whom are getting support from their children as means of livelihood accounts 2(2.8%). From this the researcher concludes that the majorities 53(74.6%) of female headed households are engaged in informal economic sector(daily labor ,petty trade, domestic work) as a means of livelihood that are often considered “socially inferior” and known by low economic status. As the data reveals from questionnaires the major reasons for female headed households to engage in Informal sectors are because of lack of adequate education and skills 53(74.6%), lack of enough capital to invest 51(71.3%), absence of their husband 35(49.3%).

Table 7: distribution of respondents by monthly income (Birr)

Monthly income	No of respondents	Percent (%)
100-300	11	15.5%
301-500	31	43.7%
501-700	18	25.3%
701 and above	11	15.5%
Total	71	100%

As majorities of selected female headed households responds that the majorities of them are neither do not have regular income nor do they keep exact recording of their intermittent earnings. Nonetheless they are putted between those intervals of their monthly incomes.

As table 7 shows that the number of respondents gets monthly income from 100-300 accounts 11(15.5%), from 301-500 accounts 31(43.7%) and the rest from 501-700 and 701 and above accounts 18(25.3) and 11(15.5%) respectively. Therefore from the above data the researcher concludes that the majorities of selected female headed households are getting low income per month; which makes them more vulnerable to poverty. As a result they are facing financial instability to fulfill their basic needs of their family.

Table 8: The challenges of female headed households by their socio-economic status

Facing challenges	No of respondents	Percent (%)
YES	52	73.2%
NO	19	26.8%

TOTAL	71	100%
-------	----	------

As table 8 shows that the number of selected female headed households faces challenges in their socio-economic status are 52(73.2%) and the number of selected female headed households respond as not facing challenge in their socio-economic status are 19(26.3%). In spite of the fact that the researcher concludes as the majority of the selected female headed households respond that most of them are facing challenges in relation to their socio-economic status. As most selected female headed households respond that the challenges this female headed households facing are financial instability, poverty, irregular and low waged employment, less access to financial resources, in addition the children of these respondents are being often ill-treated by society.

Table 9: female headed household's income adequacy to meet their basic needs

Income adequate	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Yes	19	26.8%
No	52	73.2%
Total	71	100%

Table 9 shows out of 71 total respondents only 19(26.8%) are satisfied to meet their basic household needs and the majorities 52(73.2%) are unsatisfied and facing inadequacy of income to meet their basic household needs.

Table 10: Female headed household's problems to meet basic needs

Problems	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Adequate food	42	59.1%
Rent of housing	17	23.9%
Health service	30	42.2%
Fulfilling basic needs and educational service for their children.	39	54.9%

As table 10 shows that the number of selected female headed households needs adequate food are 42(59.1%), rent of house accounts 17(23.9%), health service 30(42.2%), and fulfilling basic needs and educational service for their children accounts 39(54.9). From this the researcher concludes that majorities of the selected female headed households have lack of basic needs to fulfill like that of need of adequate food, health service, fulfilling basic need of their children, and rent of housing.

Table 11: distribution of the female headed households by migration status

migration status	No of respondents	Percent (%)
In-migrant from rural	29	40.8%
In-migrant from urban	14	19.7%
Non-migrant	28	39.4%
Total	71	100%

As table 11 shows that the number of immigrants from other rural areas accounts 29(40.8%), immigrant from other urban areas accounts 14(19.7%) and the non-migrant accounts 28(39.4%) from the total respondents (71) of female headed households. From the above data the researcher concludes that the majorities of the selected female headed households are emigrate from rural area to this kebeles. As most respondents respond that the reason why they migrate to this kebeles are to meet better life status and job opportunity and others are to secure their employment.

Table 12: Distribution of female headed households by their residence

Residence in	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Kebele's house	45	63.4%
Their own house	10	14%
By Renting	16	22.5%
Total	71	100%

As table 12 shows that 45(63.4%) of the selected female headed households lives in kebeles house, 10(14%) lives in their own residence (house) and the rest 16(22.5%) of them lives through renting house from others. From this the researcher concludes that majorities of female headed households have problem of housing, which is the basic character of poverty.

Table 13: Place used to save money by female headed households

Money saved in	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Bank	20	28.1%
Equb	39	54.9%
Not save their money	12	16.9%
Total	71	100%

Table 13 shows that the selected female headed households who save their money in bank are 20(28.1%), those who save in “equb” accounts 39 (54.9%) and the rest respondents who are not saving their money accounts 12(16.9%) from the total respondents. From these the researcher concludes that the majorities of female headed households in the 50 and 51 kebeles of Lideta sub city are using ”equb” as a means of saving institution for their money , this is as a result of their low income strata.

4.3 Challenges of female headed households in working activities

Table 14: work related constraints of female headed households engaged in petty trading

Means of livelihood	Work related constraints	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Petty trader	Lack of working capital	23	82.1%
	Lack of appropriate work place	25	89.3%
	Un profitability of the business	27	96.4%
	Lack of credit	11	39.3%

	Government regulation	18	64.3%
--	-----------------------	----	-------

As table 14 shows that out of the total number of 28 petty traders 23(82.1%) of them faces lack of working capital and 25(89.3%) of them are facing lack of appropriate work place. In addition 27(96.4%) of them are facing unprofitability of the business and 11(39.3%) of them are facing lack of credit and the rest 18(64.3%) of the respondents are facing high government regulation on their working area. From this the researcher concludes that from the total petty traders (28) more than half (>50%) of them are lies under the same work related constraints.

Table 15: The work related constraints of female headed households engaged in daily labor

Means of livelihood	Work related constraints	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Daily laborer	Low payment	13	85.8%
	Health problems	6	39.6%
	Un secure employment	15	100%

Table 15 shows that from the total number of (15) selected female headed households engaged in daily labor who faces work related constraint 13(85.8%) of them are facing problem of law payment, 6(39.6%) of them facing health problems caused by the working difficulties, the rest 15(100%) of them are facing the challenge of unsecure employment. From this the researcher concludes that all the selected female headed households engaged in daily labor are facing the

challenge of unsecure employment and more than half of them lies under the same work related constraints.

Table 16: work related constraints of female headed households engaged in domestic work

Means of livelihood	Work related constraints	No of respondents	Percent (%)
Domestic worker	low payment	7	87.5%
	Health problem	5	62.5%

As table 16 shows that from the total number of selected female headed households engaged in domestic work 7(87.5%) of them are facing work related constraints of low payments and 5(62.5%) of them are facing health related problems, this is as a result of the difficulty of their work activities. From this data the researcher concludes that more than half of these female headed households engaged in domestic works are facing similar work related constraints in their work area. From the data revealed from total selected female headed households (71) the number of respondents gets child support are 2(2.8%) though the challenges of these female headed households are low income generated from their children as means of livelihood.

Table 17: work related constraints of female headed household those had own account formal business.

Means of livelihood	Work related constraints	No of respondents	Percent (%)
own account formal business	High taxation	9	81%
	Un profitability of business	7	63%
	Lack of enough capital to invest in good status	5	46%
	Uncomforted of work place.	4	36%

As table 17 shows that the work related constraints out of total (11) number of selected female headed households those engaged in formal business 9(81%) of them are facing the challenge of high taxation, 7(63%) of them are facing unprofitability of business, 5(46%) of them are facing challenge of lack of enough capital to invest in good status and 4(36%) of respondents are facing challenge of work place uncomforted. From this the researcher concludes that more than half (>50%) of the selected female headed households are facing the same work related constraints.

Table 18: The work related constraints of female headed households hired in government works

Means of	Work related	No of	Percent (%)
----------	--------------	-------	-------------

livelihood	constraints	respondents	
government employed	Low waged employment	5	71.4%
	Social-stigma	3	42.8%

Table 18 shows that from the total (7) number of selected female headed households engaged in governmental work 5(71.4) of respondents are facing the challenge of low payment as a result of little education and skills as such find limited employment opportunities leading to acceptance of low paid and also 3(42.8) of respondents are facing challenge of social stigma. From this the researcher concludes that most of the female headed households engaged in government works are facing similar problems, especially the challenge of low payment.

4.4 ANALYSIS OF INTERVIEWS

This analysis section is the response of key informant interviews of the kebeles officials, women affairs and concerned bodies:

- What is the status of female headed households and informal sector employment looks like in these kebeles?

According to the key informants of the study responds that the majorities of women's in the kebeles are engaged in the Informal sector employments rather than the Formal ones, which is characterized by low socio-economic status in order to meet their basic household needs. Especially for those who alone without their husband (depart, divorced and widowed), who are the major source of income generate and bread winner for their household.

- What are the major reasons of female headed households to be engaged in informal sector rather than formal in these kebeles?

According to these respondents respond the major factors of women to engage in informal sector are lack of adequate education and skill, lack of enough capital to invest, and absence of their husband. The respondents also say that in the absence of a male bread winner they usually retain the primary responsibility for child care and home maintenance tasks. Therefore the researcher concludes the above idea as the major factors of female headed households to engage in informal sector in kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city are lack of adequate education and skill, lack of enough capital to invest and absence of their husband.

- What attempts done to solve the existed problems of these female headed households in your kebeles?

According to these respondents the kebeles administration are doing a major works to solve the problems facing by women engaged in Informal sectors, especially for those who are under line of poverty. The activities are establishing micro financial institutions in the kebeles to enhance the economic status of poor people, especially through giving priority for those women under extreme poverty. This is done through compounding them under different micro-enterprises and they are engaged in different working activities and the government is facilitating credit, training, giving a work place and facilitates markets for these women. There are also non-governmental organizations which support the women under poverty. Nonetheless, it's difficult to assure support for all women engaged in informal sectors; this is because of the capacity of the government and limited non- governmental organizations found in the kebeles.

CHAPTER FIVE

5. DISCUSSIONS OF RESULTS

In Ethiopia the urban informal sector embraces significant proportion of both men and women especially those who do not fulfill the requirements of the formal sector (tsehay and mengistu, 2002).

Accordingly the result of this study indicate that female headed households in Lideta sub-city are engaged in informal sector employment (daily labor, petty trade, domestic work) rather than formal as a means of livelihood to secure their life that are often considered socially inferior and known by low economic status.

Women especially those who head households dominate the informal sector; they enter the informal sector because they do not fulfill educational and other requirement of formal sector (UN, 1996: 34; selamawit, 1994: 15), similarly the main reasons of female heads of household in Lideta sub city to engage in informal sector are lack of adequate education and skills, lack of enough capital to invest and absence of their husband (as a result they take responsibility for child care and home maintenance tasks).

Such households are more vulnerable to poverty because unpatented women usually retain the primary responsibility for childcare and home maintenance tasks (Merrick & Schmok, 1983). Consequently as the data analysis and interpretation indicated that the majority of females headed households are getting low income per month that makes them more vulnerable to

poverty as a result they are facing challenges like that of financial instability, irregular and low waged employment, less access to financial resources and poverty.

According to Mueller (1983), Women have less access to work and face greater uncertainties in having access to the necessities of life. Women also benefit less from economic modernization due to unequal property rights and access to credit (Bamberger, 1991).

Therefore according to information obtained from selected women headed households; household women engaged in different informal sector employment (petty trading, daily labor, domestic work) faces greater challenges and less benefit from their work. As a result the challenges of female headed households engaged in petty trading are lack of working capital, lack of appropriate work place, unprofitability of the business and lack of credit and government regulation.

According to the findings of this study the challenges of female headed households engaged in daily labor are low payment, health problems and unsecure employment. And the challenges of female headed households engaged in domestic work are low payment and health problem.

Households with single women as the head can potentially face even a higher risk of poverty because of the cultural and social stigmas attached to their marital status (Ramaprasad, 2009).

accordingly the challenges of those household women engaged in government employ and own account formal business are low waged employment, social stigma and high taxation, unprofitability of business, lack of enough capital to invest in good status and uncomforted of work place respectively.

Especially lack of financial instability hinders these female headed households to fulfill their household basic needs. The lacks of basic needs of those female headed households to fulfill are need of adequate food, health service, fulfilling basic needs of their children and rent of housing.

According to data gathered from key informants(women affair officials, kebeles administrator) that the majorities of women in the kebeles are engaged in the Informal sector employments rather than the Formal ones, which is characterized by low socio economic status in order to meet their basic household needs. Especially for those whom are alone without their husband, whom are the major source of income generate and bread winner for their household. The major factors of these household women to engage in informal sector are lack of adequate education and skill, lack of enough capital to invest, and absence of their husband. The respondents also said that in the absence of a male bread winner they usually retain the primary responsibility for child care and home maintenance tasks.

If women-headed households are 'poorest of the poor', then attention needs to be directed to alleviating their condition. In its most immediate form this may involve palliative interventions such as the provision of assistance to affected parties with child-feeding, day care, access to credit, skills- training, or shelter (Bibars, 2001).

Accordingly as key informant respondents (kebele officials and women's affair bureau) says the kebeles administration are doing a major works to solve the problems facing by women engaged in Informal sectors, especially for those who are under line of poverty. The activities are establishing micro financial institutions in the kebeles to enhance the economic status of poor people, especially through giving priority for those women under extreme poverty, this is done through compounding them under different micro-enterprises and they are engaged indifferent working activities and the government facilitates; credit, training, giving a work place and facilitates markets for these women. There are also non-governmental organizations which

support the women under poverty. In addition this respondent responds that “Nonetheless, it’s difficult to assure support for all women engaged in Informal sectors, this is because of the capacity of the government and limited non- governmental organizations found in the kebeles.”

CHAPTER SIX

6. Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

6.1 Summary

The purpose of the study was to assess the livelihood challenges of female headed households in Lideta sub-city. To achieve this purpose the following leading research questions were formulated: -

- What are the ways female headed households in use to secure their livelihood in order to generate income?
- What are the challenges for Lideta household women not to participate in formal economic sector the reason behind?
- What are the degrees of problems they face in relation to their work sector?

To get through the stated leading research questions related literature were reviewed. A sample size of 71 females headed households were taken from total of 710 females headed households through simple random sampling. Moreover 5 key informant interviewees were selected from kebeles officials and women affairs through purposive sampling. The instrument used to collect pertinent information was open-ended questionnaire and semi-structured interview.

Finally the collected data were tabulated and analyzed mainly using qualitative and quantitative analyzing method. Therefore findings of the study are most of the female headed households in Lideta sub-city engage in informal economic sector as a means of livelihood. These are as a result of lack of adequate education and skill, lack of enough capital to invest. And also these female headed households who engage in informal sectors are facing many work related problems like that of lack of working capital, lack of appropriate work place, unprofitability of business, lack of credit, high government regulation, law payment, health problems and unsecure employment related to their working activities and means of livelihood.

6.2 Conclusions

Most Ethiopian women, like in many other developing countries are suffering from poverty. In addition to that, gender inequality has made it extremely difficult for them to compete with the male population as regard access to education, jobs and resources. This problem has attracted the attention of researchers in the recent and past. Therefore the study was under take based on this understanding with the principal objective of shedding of women who were head of households whom belongs to the lowest educational and income stratum in the Lideta sub-city city.

The study was conducted in Lideta sub-city of Addis Ababa city. The area is predominantly populated by people who engaged in low paying jobs and they belong to the low income groups. And the study tried to assess the livelihood challenges of females headed household engaged in informal sector.

The result of the questionnaire survey indicated that most of the female headed households engaged in informal economic sector as a means of livelihood.

As the data from questionnaire reveals that the female headed households who engage in informal sectors are facing many work related problems like that of lack of working capital, lack of appropriate work place, unprofitability of business, lack of credit, high government regulation, law payment, health problems and unsecure employment related to their working activities and means of livelihood.

The majorities of female headed households in the kebeles are unsatisfied with their generated income and it's extremely insufficient to meet the basic necessities of their household needs like that of fulfilling food requirement which is the basic life sustenance good and some of them are unable to gain adequate health service and unable to pay rent of house such so they lived in extremely poverty and their income uses them for survival of them and their households.

Even though there are some sorts of effort by government and non-governmental organizations to solve the problems faced by females headed households engaged in informal sectors, however it's not enough to solve the majorities living conditions. In general the findings of the study have shown that virtually the entire surveyed female headed household's lives under poverty especially those engaged in informal sectors.

6.3 Recommendations

The need for special attention for woman-headed households in developing country is largely due to low or non-availability of support to cater to their needs. As a result additional effort is required by the government and public to ensure these women-headed households have equal access to opportunity and equitable distribution of resources to ensure that they are well integrated into the society (Nadira, 2003). Therefore based on the findings and conclusion of the study the following recommendations are given: -

Female-headed households are more prevalent among older women and among those who are widowed, divorced, separated or single. Yet policies and programs have tended not to consider such household heads as different and that they may require special focus and attention because many of them are likely to live in poverty (Rachel Samuel, 2005).

Therefore the assistance to be given to these female headed households should be that of enabling them to become better bread winners, by providing them with the necessary training and skill development by government and women affairs in kebele level.

Another equally important area of assistance should also be that of providing credit service to those who are interested in continuing to work as traders or those who are interested in starting their own business.

Rehabilitating the most destitute women by preparing them for a suitable vocation and making them economically independent.

Government and all concerned public and private institutions should give attention for improvement of household women's work and employment who engage in informal economic sector. This should be done by facilitating multi-work sector through establishing micro financial institutions and engaging them in different work sectors, facilitating entrepreneurship training and facilitating credit to enhance their work potential also private institutions should work cooperatively with government by providing financial support.

Public support should be given for parenting, equalization of responsibilities and power among parents, and bolstering the socio-economic status and rights of female heads of household

regarding problems to meet basic needs of household and work related constraints of those hired in government works.

The kebele, sub city and A.A city administration should give emphasis to intervene to provide employment opportunities for these household woman those have little education and skills to minimize limited employment opportunities leading to acceptance of low paid.

Kebele administration and concerned bodies like NGO's should support the children of these household women to ensure their education through provision of additional support to reduce costs of education in terms of books, uniforms and others.

Policy makers and women affairs (especially in Sub-City and kebele administration level) should invest in women's capabilities, through education, health, vocational training and so on, and enhancing their access to assets such as employment, credit, infrastructure and housing.

REFERENCE

<http://www.uwec.edu/./women.bottom.pdf.data center .kids count.org>

CSA, (2010). **Central statistical agency**. Retrieved from: <http://www.csa.gov.et>.

Desta L. (2004). **Challenges in promotion of micro and small enterprise in Addis Ababa**.

Retrieved from: <http://www.microinerprise in Addis Ababa. Gov. Et/articles -3htm>
posted to the web October 20.2004.

DFID, (2001). **Household livelihood strategies in semi-arid Tanzania**. Retrieved from:

<http://www.livelihoods.org/post/log frame2-postit.html>>

Hussmann Ralf and farmhands, M. (2011). **Statistical definition of the informal sector:**

International standards and national practices in the national labor office. Retrieved
from <http://www.sdrc.org/informal /Huss 0772 pdf> cited in April 2011.

ILO (2002). **Briefing noted on the study of women does entrepreneur's development in**

Ethiopia. Zewde and associates plc Ethiopia Retrieved from: <http://www. Ilo.org. dyn/docs/note2 eth. Pdf>.

ILO, (2002). **World employment program**. African employment report (2000) Addis
Ababa.

IFAD (1999). Human enterprise ecology; **supporting the livelihoods of the rural poor**

in east and southern Africa, main report and working paper no.2. Rome

August. Retrieved from <Http// www.ifad.org/./60.htm>.

Nuri kedir. (1992). **women's participation in Non agricultural economic activities in Ethiopia A paper presented for the work shop on Access so and control of resources to overcome disparities in gender and development in Addis Ababa.**

Richard T. Schaeffer. (2006; 280) **A brief introduction to sociology**

Roung Johan. (1995). **Mainstreaming women in development the illusive agenda in Ethiopia.**

Selamawit Abebe M.A.(1994) **women in urban Informal sector of Ethiopian's economy, the case of market in Addis Ababa.**

Teshay .S and Mengistu .B (2002). **The impact of micro finance services among poor women in Ethiopia.** Occasional paper no 6.

UNDP (1995). Gender and employment in Africa

UN (2000). **The world women, 2000 tends and statics.** New York

[http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/feminization of poverty.](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/feminization_of_poverty)

<http://www.unhabitat.org/>

[http://www.ilo.org/dyn/docs/note 2 behalf](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/docs/note_2_behalf)

CIA (2004), world fact book. Retrieved from <http://www.Climate.zone.com>> world>

Africa. >Ethiopia.

[http//www. New world encyclopedia.org](http://www.Newworldencyclopedia.org)

CSA (2012). Central statistical agency-CSA.

Retrieved from [http//www.csa.gov.et/docs/2012%2520 urban%...](http://www.csa.gov.et/docs/2012%2520urban%...)

[http//www.frbatlanta.org/documents/news/](http://www.frbatlanta.org/documents/news/)

INDIRA GANDI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

QUESTIONNAIRES

- a) **Dear respondent:** I am conducting research on the livelihood strategies of female headed households on 50 and 51 kebeles of lideta sub city in Addis Ababa. Therefore the purpose of this questionnaire is to gather relevant data on the socio-economic status of females headed household and their livelihood strategies in this kebele. So your response is important to get relevant information for the study, therefore you are kindly requested to give your require answers. For better understanding and brief information this questionnaire was translated into Amharic.

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERSTICS

Personal information

1. Age

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| a) 20-29 | d) 50-59 |
| b) 30-39 | e) 60&above |
| c) 40-49 | |

2. Migration status

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) Non-migrant | c) Immigrant from other rural area |
| b) Immigrant from other urban areas | d) Other |

3. Educational level

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a) Un-educated | e) Preparatory complete and above |
| b) Primary schooling | f) Others |
| c) Secondary schooling | |
| d) High school complete | |

4. Religion status

A. Orthodox

C. Protestant

B. Muslim

D. And others.

5. Marital status

a) Never married

d) Widowed

b) Presently married

e) Divorced

c) Married but spouse absent

6. Employment status

a) government employed

d) daily laborer

b) own account business/formal

e) domestic worker

c) petty trader

f) other

7. Household size

a) 1-3

c) 7-9

b) 4-5

d) 9&above

APPENDIX-A

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

8. Is there a challenge you faces in relation to your socio-economic status?

A) YES

B) NO

9. If your answer is ‘YES’ for the question number ‘8’, what are those challenges? Explain briefly _____

10. What is the kind of your work sector?

A. Formal sector B) informal sector

11. If your answer is ‘informal sector’ for question number ‘10’, what the reason behind to be engaged in ? Explain briefly.

12. How much is your monthly income

a) 100-300

c) 501-700

b) 301-500

d) 701&above

13. Do the income you generate from your means of livelihood is enough to

meet your basic necessities of household need?

a) Yes

b) no

14. If your answer is “NO” for question number “13”, what are the needs you

lacks to fulfill? Explain briefly.

15. Do you face any obstacles in related to your work activities?

A) YES

B) NO

16. If your answer is “YES” for question number “15” what are the challenges

You face in relating your working sector?

17. Where do you save your money?

a) Modern institution/bank

c) Not save

b) Traditional/ekub

d) Other

18. Who own your current residence?

a) Your own

c) By Renting

b) Kebele/government

d) Other

19. is there governmental effort towards minimizing the problems stated

above? Explain briefly.

A) YES

B) NO

20. If your answer is “YES” for question number “19”, what are those efforts?

Explain briefly.

APPENDIX-B

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR OFFICIALS AND CONCERNED BODIES

- 1) What are the major challenges of female headed households in your Kebele regarding socio-economic status?
- 2) What are the major reasons of female headed households to be engaged in Informal sector rather than formal in these kebele?
- 3) What attempt has been doing to solve and minimize the socio-economical problems of these female headed households in your kebele?
- 4) What is the effort of government and concerned bodies is seems like to solve the existing problem of those female headed households, and do you think it is enough to minimize these problems?

Thanks for your co-operation!

Assessment of the Livelihood Challenges of Female
Headed Household in Addis Ababa Town: The
Case of Lideta Sub city

Research Proposal Submitted to Indira Gandhi National Open University
School of Social Work in Partial Fulfillment of
Degree Master of Social Work

By

Nuroye Abtew Seifu

Enrollment No. 099110830

Advisor

Assaye legesse

February, 2013

Addis Ababa

**Proforma for submission of MSW project proposal for approval from Academic
Counsellor at study center**

Enrollment no: 099110830

Date of submission:- February 2013

Name of the student center:- St. Marry University College

Name of Guide:- Assaye Legsse

**Title of the project:- Assessment of the Livelihood Challenges of Female Headed Household in
Addis Ababa Town: The Case of Lideta Sub city**

Signature of the student:- _____

Approved/Not Approved:_____

Signature_____

Name and address of the student

Name and address of the guide

CHAPTER ONE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACK GROUND OF THE STUDY

Now a day's life is becoming increasingly difficult especially for low income women in third world. Many cities in third world nations are today suffering from border conflicts, Civil wars, draught and famine and many other tragic developments. The women living in these countries are the principal victims of all these problems (UN, 2000).

Even though women contribute a lot to society as wife's, mothers and worker, most of the benefits go to men. This is mainly because power belongs to men, under such conditions women suffer, even all the more when they become heads of households (Ibid).

A household is usually headed by a husband who plays a father role and a wife who plays a mother role in a co-operative manner. But there are also cases where one of the partners is absent due to different reasons. These are households headed by single parents. They are called male headed and female headed households based on the miss role in the household; this may be as a result of divorce, separation, widowhood and other reasons (Connell 1994, 64)

In many countries in Africa, as elsewhere, there has been significant increase in the percentage of female –headed households (FHH) in recent years. Among the main causes are male migration, the deaths of males in civil conflicts and wars, unpatented adolescent fertility and family disruption (IFAD, 1999)

There seems to be little dispute over the fact that FHH's are usually disadvantaged in terms of access to land, other assets, credit, education, health care and extension services. For instance, in Zimbabwe female headed households have 30-50% smaller land holdings than male headed households. There are similar findings on Malawi and Namibia, but here is disagreement as to whether or not they are poorer than male-headed households in terms of income poverty. On the one hand, the fact FHH's are usually smaller in size means that they should be less poor, since the poor tend to be concentrated in larger households. On the other hand, the fact that they have a higher number of dependent relative to the number of income earners, which is also correlated with poverty (IFAD, 1999)

Female headed households are most susceptible to poverty because they have fewer income earners to provide financial support within the house hold. (Brenner 1987, 76).

In countries like Ethiopia, even without the additional burden of heading a family, females are said to be suffering from the low status attached to them as a member of the society. They are generally poorer than men economically due to lack of access to education, training and resources, as a result of these they engaged in low status and low paying jobs. (Nuri, 2001).

Consequently in Ethiopia the participation of females in formal economic activities is very low, though they participate in informal activities like petty trade, labor work, etc

Therefore this study will be focused on assessing the livelihood challenges of female headed households and their socio- economic problems they faces from day to day living and also who undertake a different livelihood strategies in order to generate their income, mainly in the informal sectors in Lideta sub city in Addis Ababa city Administration.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Women and men live in different worlds that differ in terms of access to education and work opportunities, as well as health, personal security and human Rights (Richard 2006, 280.)

Most of all, women's work in occupation with lower status and pay scales than men in both developing and developed countries. However, it's estimated that if women's production is properly valued, women contribute 40-60 percent of household income in some developing countries (UNDP, 1995). Similar to this the population of women head over 40 percent of African households; they supply about 70 to 80 percent of the labor for food production, 50 percents of labor in domestic food storage, 100 percent in food processing, 50 percent in animal husbandry, 60 percent in marketing (Ibid).

Therefore as UNDP report indicates that their participation in the labor force is still low; 17.9 percent for Ethiopia women, 10 percent in Zambia, 8.2 percent in Senegal, 16 percent in Mauritania and 16.9 percent in Zimbabwe, just to mention a few. Most women work in the informal sector, which is characterized by low incomes, small value additions and job insecurities (UNDP 1995)

Since job opportunities in the formal sector are decreasing due to the contraction of the sector and are requiring more and better educational qualifications, which most women do not have, the informal sector is becoming the refuge of last resort for women (UNDP 1995)

In Ethiopia, the informal sector has long been serving as a safety net for the urban poor. Women constitute the largest number in this sector i.e. 52% compared to 23-25% of them employed in the formal sector (ILO, 2000). The greater participation of women in the sector is the result of

poverty on the one hand and lack of or lesser access to initial capital and education on the other, these problems hinder women's participation in the formal sector, as a result women's are the major victims of poverty, Among this population as the data of central statistical agency 24.2% is covered by female unemployment rate. From these population 16.6% of female unemployment rate are population of female headed household (CSA 2012). As a result female headed households mostly belong to the lowest social and economic class. This is partially attributed to the low status given to women by the society in terms of education, employment, etc (Nuri 1992:2).

According to the above paragraph the unemployment rate mostly affect women's especially for those who are a head of households and who are vulnerable groups. Therefore to overcome the situation of their problems they engage in different livelihood strategies and economic activities that they are able to perform. On that point the researcher identified that, in the Lideta sub city most female headed households are engaged in informal sector employments rather than formal sector to generate income and to win their life, this may be as a result of lack of education and enough skill, lack of sufficient capital to invest, and poverty etc.

In spite of the fact that this study will focus on assessing the livelihood challenges of female headed household in kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city who are engaged in different livelihood strategies mainly in those of informal sectors like petty trades, daily labor etc, Which characterized by a low socio economic status and which get a least attention by local government. The reason why the researcher select the two kebeles (50&51) from other kebeles of Lideta sub city are the identified problems extremely reflected in these two kebeles and the population of these kebeles are densely populated. In addition the finding of the study will minimize the challenges of female headed households in their work sector through giving

suggestions and recommendations for the existing problem, which improve their socio-economic life in one aspect.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What are the ways female headed households in use to secure their livelihood in order to generate income?
- What are the challenges for Lideta household women not to participate in formal economic sector the reason behind?
- What are the degrees of problems they face in relation to their work sector?

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1.3.1 GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The paper will examine how female headed households secure their livelihoods to generate income and the reason behind in 50 and 51 kebeles of Lideta sub city in Addis Ababa city administration.

1.3.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the study will be:

- To identify the ways female headed households secure their livelihoods to generate income
- To identify why women do not participate in formal economic sector
- To differentiate the degree of challenges female headed households are facing in relation to their work.
- To give some suggestions(forward) and recommendations for the existing problem

1.4 THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY.

The importance of the study will be to assess the livelihood strategies of females headed households by examining how female headed households secure their livelihoods and the reason behind it in kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city, to differentiate the reasons why females headed household do not participate in formal economic sector. In addition the finding of the study will provide important information and suggestions for policy makers and planners, government officials and concerned bodies (for instance; women and child affairs, kebele administrators) to minimize the problems of females headed household regarding their work sector.

At the end, the finding of the study may pave the way for another researcher who work on this area and may be used as a base line.

1.5 DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The study will be geographically delimited on the two kebeles ,I.e. kebele 50 and 51 found on lideta sub city of Addis Ababa city administration ,and also the study will be conceptually delimited on the idea of assessing the livelihood challenges of females headed household in Kebele 50 and 51 of Lideta sub city of Addis Ababa.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 AREA OF THE STUDY

The research will be investigated in Lideta sub city found under Addis Ababa city administration. Lideta sub city is found in the western district of Addis Ababa. The sub city is found in 8 98N, 38 80E direction and have 7726 feet (2355 meter) height above sea level and has 61.8 annual rain falls, which is similar for whole Addis Ababa (CIA 2004).

According to new world encyclopedia (2012), the total population of Addis Ababa city is 3,627,934 with annual growth rate of 8% as of 2007 population data census, from this population women accounts 1,636,000 in number. However the research specifically delimited to 50 and 51 kebeles of Lideta sub city. The total population of 50 and 51 kebeles is 11500 with 8% annual growth rate. The reason why the researcher select 50 &51 kebeles from Lideta sub city are the population of these kebeles are densely populated and the identified problem is seriously reflected in these kebeles.

2.2 SOURCES OF DATA

The data required for the study include the primary source of data and the secondary source of data. The primary source of data will be collected from the selected female headed households through questionnaires and interviews, in addition, also the primary source of data will be collected from government officials and concerned bodies, for instance women and child affairs through key informant interview. Key informant interview is interviewing officials and concerned bodies, in order to check whether the information gathered through questionnaires is correct or not and for further information and also in addition secondary source of data will be gathered from published and unpublished documents prepared by these concerned bodies.

2.3 SAMPLES AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

The sampling technique use for the study will be simple random sampling, because simple random sampling is important to select respondents in equal chance and fair way. Therefore from 710total population of females headed households 71 female headed households will be selected by using simple random sampling.

2.3.1 KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW

Key informant interview is interviewing officials and concerned bodies in order to get relevant and important information concerning the study. Therefore through purposive sampling 5 respondents will be selected from government officials and concerned bodies for key informant interview. The reason why the researcher will use purposive sampling method to select key informant interviewee is purposive sampling method is used to select limited number of samples (informants) have in depth of information for the study.

2.4 TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION

The tools of data collection to be used for the study are questionnaire and interview.

2.4.1. THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaires to be used for the study will be open ended questionnaires which helps to collect enough and relevant information for the study and helps the respondents to explain briefly about their idea for the questions in the questionnaire. Therefore the prepared questionnaires will be distributed to 71 selected female headed households.

2.4.2 THE INTERVIEW

To gather enough data for the study the interview will be used to ask those respondents selected from general population. Therefore the interview to be used for the study will be semi structured interview and will be employed to 5 selected key informants in the form of face to face approach.

2.5 METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS

The collected data will be analyzed by using qualitative and quantitative data analyzing method. Qualitative data analyzing method means interpreting the collected data through descriptive

ways by using words. Quantitative data analyzing method means interpreting the collected data through using numeric (numbers). Therefore the data collected from questionnaires will be analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively (by developing tables and percentages) and also the data gathered through interviews will be analyzed qualitatively.

2.6 ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES

The ethical and legal issues of the study will be respected critically. This will be through:

- ✓ **Informed consent:** all participants will be fully informed of the nature of the research, as well as the risks, benefits, expected out comes, and alternatives, before they agree to participate.
- ✓ **Voluntary participation:** participation in research will be voluntarily.
- ✓ **Anonymity:** using codes or unknown names for respondents.
- ✓ **Confidentiality:** keeping most important secret information and names of the respondents safely.

2.7 TIME FRAME WORK

The researcher attempt to states the basic activities will be done on this study, which translates what, when and so on of activities to be performed as a plan.

NO	ACTIVITIES	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	
1	Identifying the problem			×								
2	Collecting relevant information, data and materials for the study.				×							
3	Preparing research proposal.						×					
4	Submitting the proposal to the advisor.						×					
5	Preparing questionnaires and other tools.						×					
6	Providing the questionnaires to the concerned bodies.						×	×				
7	Conducting the data collection and interpretation of data.							×	×			
8	Analyzing and interpretation of data.								×			
9	Action suggestion.											
10	Action implementation and evaluation.											
11	Preparing summary and conclusion.								×			
12	Writing the final report and submission to the advisor.									×		

2.8 COST BREAK DOWN

Accordingly the researcher has been able to formulate the minimum requirements of resources to accomplish research as it magnified in the following table.

NO	ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE	REMARK
1	Paper	1 packed	120	120	
2	Binder	1	30	30	
3	Pens	4	5	20	
4	Printing	–	2	200	
5	Computer service	–	–	200	
6	Transportation	–	–	300	
7	Binding	–	15	30	
8	Refreshment	–	–	400	
		Sub-total	172	–	
		G/total	–	1300	

Reference

Brenner .J (1987). Gender population and Development.

Bromley (1970). An introduction to the urban informal sectors.

CSA (2010). Central statistical agency –CSA. Retrieved from <http://www.csa.gov.et>.

Desta loranso (2004). Challenges in promotion of micro and small enterprise in

Addis Ababa.

Retrieved from <Http://www.microinerprise in Addis Ababa. gov>.

Et/articles -3htm posted to the web October 20.2004.

DFID (2001). Household livelihood strategies in semi-arid Tanzania. Retrieved from <http://www.livelihoods.org/post/log frame2-postit.html>>

<Http://www.uwec.edu/./women.bottom.pdf.data center .kids count.org>

Hussmann and Ralf and farmhands M.(2011). Statistical definition of the informal

Sector international standards and national practices. In the national

labor office.

Retrieved from <http://www.sdrc.org/informal> /Huss 0772 pdf cited in April 2011.

ILO (2002). Briefing noted on the study of women does enter pruner’s development

in Ethiopia. By zewde and associates plc Ethiopia.

Retrieved from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/docs/note2eth.Pdf>.

ILO (2002). World employment program. African employment report (2000) Addis

Ababa.

IFAD (1999). Human enterprise ecology; supporting the livelihoods of the rural poor

in east and southern Africa, main report and working paper no.2. Rome

August. Retrieved from [Http// www.ifad.org/..60.htm](Http://www.ifad.org/..60.htm).

Nuri kedir. (1992). women's participation in Non agricultural economic activities in

Ethiopia A paper presented for the work shop on Access so and control

of resources to overcome disparities in gender and development in Addis Ababa.

Richard T. Schaeffer. (2006; 280) A brief introduction to sociology

Roung Johan. (1995). Mainstreaming women in development the illusive agenda in

Ethiopia.

Selamawit Abebe M.A.(1994) women in urban Informal sector of Ethiopian's

economy, the case of market in Addis Ababa.

Teshay .S and Mengistu .B (2002). The impact of micro finance services among poor

women in Ethiopia. Occasional paper no 6.

UNDP (1995). Gender and employment in Africa.

UN (2000). The world women, 2000 trends and statistics. New York

[Http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/feminization of poverty.](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/feminization_of_poverty)

[Http://www.unhabitat.org/](http://www.unhabitat.org/)

[Http://www.ilo.org/dyn/docs/note 2 behalf](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/docs/note2behalf)

CIA (2004), world fact book. Retrieved from [http://www. Climate.zone.com](http://www.Climate.zone.com)> world>

Africa. > Ethiopia.

[Http://www. New world encyclopedia.org](http://www.Newworldencyclopedia.org)

CSA (2012). Central statistical agency-CSA.

Retrieved from [http://www.csa.gov.et/docs/2012%2520 urban%...](http://www.csa.gov.et/docs/2012%2520urban%...)

[Http://www.frbatlanta.org/documents/news/](http://www.frbatlanta.org/documents/news/)