CONTRIBUTIONS OF STREET VENDING ON LIVELIHOOD OF URBAN LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN THE CITY OF KIGALI, RWANDA

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DECLARATION

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for the award of a degree or any other qualification in this or any other university.

Signed: ………………………………………Date: ………………………………………

Claudine UWITIJE

B63/69434/2013

This thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as University Supervisor

Signed: ………………………………………Date: ………………………………………

Prof. Ndegwa Elijah Njunguna
DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to Almighty God for his enlightenment in my life with hope, fairness and love. To my father Cyprien Kayitani and my mother Anne Marie Mukasinafi and to my dearest brother and sisters, Potien MASENGESHO, Claire UWABEZA, Pacifique UTAMURIZA and Clarisse UMUTONI who assisted me and encouraged me in completing this study.
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My gratitude goes to GOD for His gift of life, for strength and grace without which this thesis wouldn’t have materialized.

My gratitude goes also to my parents for sponsoring me to this master’s programme. Indeed, without their support, this thesis wouldn’t have been completed.

Special thanks are addressed to my supervisor, Prof Ndegwa Elijah Njunguna for providing encouragement, understanding, support, availability and priceless guidance in writing this thesis; and to Dr. Frida Mugo, my teacher, from whom I got inspiration and intellectual stimulus in research work. Special thanks are addressed to Rev. Pasteur André for his endless help in completing this thesis.

I am also very grateful to the University of Nairobi, particularly the Department of Urban and Regional Planning helping me to make good progress and achievement as far as academic knowledge is concerned.

I am sincerely indebted to all research assistants who spent their valuable time in collecting data for this work and to all my classmates, colleagues and friends who have contributed in a way or another to make this study a success.

May our Lord give you in abundance his blessings!
ABSTRACT

Street vending activities contribute to the livelihoods of millions of people and to national wellbeing at large, especially in developing countries. This sector, however, has been undermined by policymakers who perceive street vending as a liability rather than a potential. Hence street vendors are exposed to various challenges. The need to understand the dynamic of street vending sector better, whose objective is to analyze the contributions of street vending activities on the livelihoods of urban poor in Kigali City, is what prompted this study. Literature review which guided this study showed that the governments of China, Singapore, South Africa, and Tanzania had recognized street vending as a potential contributor to the national economy through job creation, livelihood support for urban poor, and through tax and site rent payment.

This study is based in the City of Kigali, Rwanda. The study used a non-experiment design, a purposive sampling method and participant observations to collect data for this research. Ninety street traders were sampled. Survey questionnaires instruments with both closed and open ended questions were administrated to them. Semi-structured interview with key informants were also undertaken in the city of Kigali, Rwanda.

The study found that failure to secure employment in formal establishments, the need to support family, and dissatisfaction with previous employment conditions were among the major factors that pushed people into street vending business. Data analysis showed that the average daily income generated was Rwf 5092 (USD 7.3) while the average daily expenditure for those interviewed was Rwf 2487 (USD 3.5). Meaning that besides meeting urban poor daily needs, there is a small surplus that is saved for a rainy day and for further investment. On monthly
basis, street vendors generate Rwf 127, 300 (USD 182) which is above the poverty line of Rwanda (Rwf 118, 000 (USD 169) and the salary earned by some of the low cadre employees in the formal sector such as the cleaners (Rwf 20,000/ month; USD 29).

Street vending is not temporary; it is an alternative to job creation and a source of livelihood to the urban poor. Despite, urban authorities still consider street vending activity as an illegal and unproductive activity. The policy makers in Kigali City and the city of Rwanda should take a cue from the governments that have created a conducive environment for street vendors. This could among others entail reviewing urban planning legislations to create space and enabling a favorable working environment for the sector.
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# ACRONYMS

<table>
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<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD</td>
<td>Commercial Business District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>df</td>
<td>Degree of freedom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDPRS</td>
<td>Economic Development &amp; Poverty Reduction Strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Information Communication Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labor Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Km²</td>
<td>Kilometer squared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Number of the respondents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NISR</td>
<td>National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REMA</td>
<td>Rwanda Environment Management Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMEs</td>
<td>Small and Micro Enterprises</td>
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<tr>
<td>SV</td>
<td>Street vending</td>
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<tr>
<td>SVB</td>
<td>Street Vending Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD</td>
<td>United State Dollar</td>
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<td>URT</td>
<td>United Republic of Tanzania</td>
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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

Today in many African countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, the population continues to grow, and so does the number of people living in urban areas. The population growth in urban areas is a combined result of migration to the cities and natural growth, where the proportion has increased from 26.5 to 33.3% between 1990 and 2000 (UN, 2001). Economic growth, however, does not keep pace with the population growth which surpasses the capacity of both industrial and urban social services to effectively absorb the growing labor force (UN-Habitat, 2008; Seythyurema, 1981). Most developing countries are experiencing unsustainable urban growth and consequently, poverty incidences are high resulting in a large increase in the number of the urban poor. Thus, many of the poor have turned to the urban informal sector for their livelihoods (Holm, 1992; Muiruri, 2010).

For instance, approximately 85% of all new employment opportunities around the world are created in the informal economy according to the International Labor Organization report (2002a). Specifically, in North Africa, informal economy provides 48% of non-agriculture employment; 51% in Latin America; 65% in Asia; 72% in sub-Saharan Africa and 27% in Rwanda. The 2015 Kenya economic survey report confirms that the informal sector had the largest share of employment accounting for 82.7% of the total employment (Kenya, 2015). The informal economy sector does not only provide employment to the low income group, but it also contributes largely to the overall GDP growth in different countries. For example, in 2005, it
contributed up to 35.5% of GDP in South Asia, 41.5% in Latino America and Caribbean, about 42.3% in sub-Saharan Africa and 34.3% in Kenya (UN-Habitat, 2007).

In the case of Rwanda, high demographic growth rate, return-migration of Rwandese refugees after 1994, skills and human capital challenges accompanied by rural-urban migration have given rise to the informal sector employment in the country. In 2007, the National Statistics Institute of Rwanda reported that approximately 27% of the total employees in the country are employed in non-agricultural informal sector.

Besides, permanent and protected jobs in the formal sector are shrinking with the result that even those with requisite skills are unable to find appropriate employment. For these people, work in the informal sector is the only way of survival. This has led to a rapid growth of the informal sector that has been accompanied by dramatic increases in street vending (Muiruri, 2010). Street vending forms one of the most visible segments of informal sector and represents a significant share of the urban informal workforce after home-based workers in developing countries (Luberki, 2006; ILO, 2002a).

Street vending is not only seen as one of the options for earning a living in the face of increasing poverty, but it is also viewed as having a huge capacity to offset urban unemployment and poverty alleviation (Jimu., 2005). Street vending, however, generally operates outside of the current formal legal framework, and is characterized by violation of zoning codes and non-compliance with labour codes and tax liabilities. Street vending is characterized by relatively low levels of income, ease of entry and those involved are self-employed. Consequently, it attracts a large number of people who do not have other means of earning a livelihood especially the urban
poor. Even though the income in the sector is low, the startup investment needed to is also low while the people engaged in the sector do not require special skills and training. For these reasons; unemployed (men and women) often find street vending one of the easiest form of earning a decent livelihood in urban centers’ and cities.

In developing countries, Rwanda included, it is acknowledged that the street vending sector plays a significant role in the urban setting by generating employment and providing income to a significant percentage of people, particularly those with no formally approved skills to obtain formal sector employment. Furthermore, the street vending sector provides goods and services at affordable prices for the poor strata of urban society. In this regard, street vending provides a viable alternative for subsistence living in urban areas when formal employment is unavailable. It also acts as a barrier to anti-social practices like theft, prostitution, etc. (Bromley, 1998; Backer, 1994; Darrare, 2007; Jimu, 2005).

According to the ILO report (2002a), street vending and home-based workers represent 10-35% of the non-agricultural workforce in developing countries, in comparison with 5% of the total workforce in developed countries. Street vending occupies 8%, 14.6% and 6% of the non-agricultural labour force in Kenya, in South Africa and in Tunisia respectively. Women represent the majority of the vendors who take up street vending as a means of earning a livelihood.

There still exists, a limited understanding of the size and contribution of street vending to the economy as a whole and the problems which street vendors face mostly due to urban planning regulations. Policies have not supported pro-poor strategies in the light of the current socioeconomic realities of urban poverty. Urban policies and regulations as well as local
government-bodies are often biased against street vending. Street vendors are often evicted from the sites where they sell their goods and often face confiscation of their wares. The sites where street vending is carried out are often unsanitary and hazardous due to the lack of basic services because such informal places are not factored in the planning and service provision within urban area development processes. Employees in this sector operate without contracts, worker benefits or social security. Very often, street vendors’ right to ply their trade activity is limited due to unfavorable urban planning regulations. This situation not only threatens their livelihoods, but contributes to increase poverty among the vendors and their families.

This study underlines the increasing importance of street vending as one of the informal sectors that provide employment and generate income livelihood to a big number of people worldwide, especially in developing countries in which Rwanda belong. The study is focused on exploring street vending activities and its contribution to the livelihood of low income families and its effects on the city environment in Kigali City, Rwanda.

1.2 Problem Statement

Rwanda and many other sub-Saharan African countries have been experiencing rapid population growth as a result of increased urbanization rising through natural increase and high rates of migration into the cities and large towns. In cities and towns, most of these people find it difficult to get jobs in the formal economic sectors due to their limited education and lack of skills for formal employment. In their quest for making a living, many of these people have limited choices other than taking to the streets by engaging into street vending activities. Street vending, however, has not yet been integrated as a component of urban economies in most
countries of the world, especially in the developing world. Although the sector has not been accommodated within the city and national policies, it provides employment opportunities as a means of income generation for the urban poor, especially for those who migrate from the rural areas. It also provides to consumers convenient and accessible retail options and forms a vital part of the social and economic life of a city.

The importance of this sector has therefore been underestimated, neglected, and usually seen more as a liability rather than a potential resource of employment creation and a source of national income generation (Kusakabe, 2006). The result being that the obstacles that the operators of the sector face and the contribution to their socio-economic well-being are less understood and less recognized (Muiruri, 2010). Teltscher (1994) and Bromley (1998) reported on lack of research and accurate data on the subject matter while other informal activities such as production and manufacturing have received more research attention. It is therefore difficult to obtain accurate and reliable information on the street vending sector, resulting in a lack of initiation and implementation of appropriate and timely policy interventions unlike in other informal activities such as manufacturing, mining etc.

Anjaria (2006) has alluded to the fact that there has also been inconsistent report among policy makers on how they perceive street vending activities. Street vendors are viewed as a nuisance, a menace and an eyesore. Hence, street vendors are exposed to different risks and conflicts of varied forms and nature which have led to arrests and confiscation of goods, as local authorities deem these activities to be an affront to the full realization of aesthetic, social and economic standard for modern cities. In addition, policies, regulations and institutional support programmes are not available or designed for the street vending activity. This is the case in
Rwanda where street vending informal economy does not feature substantially in many government policies such as the Vision 2020. The conditions in which street vendors operate are therefore not favorable resulting in many problems in the course of running their activities, even though they play an important role in socioeconomic development of the country.

Many cities around the world that have realized that street vending is important to urban economies and have started conducting research on this sector for appraisal of its contributions to socioeconomic and environmental perspectives (ILO, 2002a; Mitullah, 2003; Adhikari, 20011). Street vending in Rwanda is a growing sector that deserves careful and research attention like any other economic activity. In Rwanda today, there has been limited information and research on the operators and other variables - such as how best the sector can be integrated within the urban economy. This study, therefore, seeks to make a contribution to fill in the gap by analyzing the contribution of street vending on the livelihood of low income families in Kigali city.

1.3 Research questions

a) What factors attract people to engage in street vending?

b) What is the contribution of street vending on the livelihoods of low income urban households?

c) What are the spatial effects of street vending on the urban environment?

d) What are the key challenges faced by street vendors?

e) How can policy makers and other stakeholders in Kigali be made to appreciate the contribution of street vending to income generation and employment so that they can support and better manage street vending?


1.4 Research objectives

1.4.1 Overall objective

Identifying the contributions of street vending on the livelihoods of low income earners

1.4.2 Specific objectives

a) Identifying the driving factors which attract people to street vending

b) Identifying and analyzing the economic contribution of street vending on the livelihoods of low income urban households

c) Identifying and analyzing spatial effects of street vending on the urban environment.

d) Examining the key challenges faced by street vendors.

e) Proposing measures that can make street vending more acceptable and sustainable.

1.5 Hypothesis

Street vending activities contribute to the livelihood of urban poor in Kigali City.

1.6 Justification

While there is a wealth of information on the economics of the formal sector in many urban areas of developing countries, including Rwanda, relatively little has been researched on the informal sector in Rwanda especially in street vending sector. The first survey that was conducted in Rwanda on informal sector was in 2006 and the survey did not take into account street vending activities even though the sector existed then and is fast growing. The study showed that 27% of the population is employed in non-agriculture informal sector.
This study, therefore, adds to this component of the literature of the informal economy in Kigali, Rwanda by focusing on the analysis of contributions of street vending on livelihoods in Kigali City. Hence, it contributes to the work of other scholars studying the phenomenon in developing cities, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. It also fills the gap left by earlier works done in Rwanda by offering detailed knowledge about street vending within Kigali City. It provides an understanding and raises awareness of urban development agencies, both public and private in regard to the role of street vending within the city. It is hoped that such awareness will result in the incorporation of street vending within the city of Kigali planning considerations.

Furthermore, the study provides detailed information for the decision makers on how street vending can play a vital role on livelihoods in urban areas of Rwanda. There was a need for the study to provide information for planners and government officials on the need to accommodate street vending within the future plans of Kigali City.

1.7 Scope of the study

The scope of the study covers street vending activities in the city of Kigali, their economic contribution to the livelihoods of those who are engaged in street vending, their spatial effects, and challenges that street vendors experience in the course of running their activities within the city. The study is limited to Nyabugogo national bus terminal and its surrounding streets (600m along KN 1 Rd, 100 m along KN 91 St, 201m along KN 8 St and 150 m along KN 5 Ave), in the CBD along KN 2 St and KN 74 St, and Gisozi sector along KN 8 Avenue and KG 14 Avenue. Even though street vendors are found all around in Kigali city, their experiences are the same. Consequently, the findings from the selected area apply to other parts of the Kigali City.
1.8 Assumption

a) The street vending sector is an informal livelihood option which will remain in place for a long time. There is therefore a need to study its operation and to seek ways of accommodating it in the planning of town and cities in Rwanda.

b) Street vending sector is mainly unregulated.

c) Street vending has both positive and negative economic effects, especially for low income households and spatial effects.

1.9 Definitions of key terms

a) Street vending: is an income-generating activity within the informal economy where individuals deliver goods and services for sale to the public along streets and sidewalks to passing pedestrians without having a permanent built-up structure (Bhowmik, 2005; Kamunyori, 2007).

b) A Street vendor: is a person who offers goods or services for sale to the public without having a permanent built-up structure but with a temporary static structure or mobile stall (or head load). Street vendors may be stationary by occupying space on the pavements or other public/private areas, or may be mobile in the sense that they move from place to place carrying their wares on push carts or on cycles or baskets on their heads, or may sell their wares in a moving bus etc. (Bhowmik, 2005)

c) Livelihood: is considered to consist of the assets, activities and entitlements that enable people to make a living. Assets that support livelihoods, including human capital, social capital, natural capital, physical capital and financial assets such as startup capital, etc.
d) **Low income earners:** are those people who earn an amount of income that is less or equal to each country standard monthly income. They include workers in a range of lower paid occupations, particularly in activities such as retail or manufacturing, a child care worker, or cleaner as well as people earning the minimum wage. In Rwanda, low income group earners are divided into two groups that include very low income group earners with a monthly income of less than 100,000 Rwf and moderate low income earners with a monthly income varying between 100,000 Rwf and 200,000 Rwf.

**1.10 Organization of the report**

The study report is divided into six chapters. Chapter one elucidates background of the study, a statement of the problem, objectives of the study, justification of the study, scope; and definition terms of the study which are the introduction part of the report. Chapter two reviews major debates surrounding the informal economy in general with emphasis on the street vending sector while chapter three presents the methodology used to collect the data during the survey and the analysis of data collected in the field. Chapter four presents the information regarding the study area which is within Kigali City. Chapter five presents the research findings along with their explanatory analysis and discussions. Chapter six is a summary of major findings, conclusion policy implications and recommendations.
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews the literature related to street vending by focusing on the literature associated with the research topic. The purpose is to explore what other authors and scholars have written and be able to identify factors for analyzing the situation in Kigali.

2.1 Urban informal economy

The concept of street vending is one of the components of the urban informal economy, and discussion on street vending cannot be exhaustive without reference to the informal economy. Street vending is perceived as a manifestation, offshoot, spillover and often, a prodigal subset of the urban informal sector (Hope, 2001). During the 1950s and 1960s, it was widely assumed that, with the right mix of economic policies and resources, poor traditional economies could be transformed into dynamic modern economies.

In the process, the traditional sector comprising of petty traders, small procedures, and a range of casual jobs would be absorbed into the modern capitalist or formal economy and thereby disappear by the mid-1960s; optimism about the prospects for economic growth in the developing countries, however, began to give rise to concerns about persistent widespread unemployment. This is the case in Kenya, where it has been recognized that the traditional sector had not just persisted, but expanded to include profitable and efficient enterprises as well as marginal activities. It is from this recognition that use of the term “informal sector” began rather than the use of the term “traditional sector” in reference to the range of small scale and
unregistered economic activities (ILO, 2002a). It is at the 1991 International Labour Conference, the informal sector, for the first time was featured as a major agenda item.

The ILO referred to the informal sector as the non-structured sector that has emerged in the urban centres as a result of the incapacity of the modern sector to absorb new entrants. The urban informal sector was conceptually defined to include all economic activities which are not officially regulated and which operate outside the incentive system offered by the state and its institutions. In contrast, enterprises which enjoy official recognition, protection and support are defined as formal sector enterprises. While many factors help explain the persistence and expansion of the informal economy, the urbanization and globalization are of particular concern. Opportunities for decent employment and income are extremely scarce for the vast majority who opt to earn a living in the urban informal economy. For instance, since the 1990’s, formal labour markets in Africa have been absorbing less than 25% of the newcomers into the labour force while the informal economy has absorbed more than a half of the active population in many parts of the developing world (ILO, 2002a). According to the ILO report in 2002, informal economy comprises over 90% of the workforce. The proportion of workers absorbed by the informal economy in Burkina Faso is 80%, in Ghana 90%, in Kenya 72%, and in South Africa 53% (Carr, et al, 2000). As a result, the share of the urban labor force in the informal sector, especially in street trading activities is growing and ranges from 30% to 70% with the average standing at 50% (Chen, et al 2005). Its contribution to countries accounts for nearly 30% of the total income and over 40% of the total urban income.
2.2 Concept of street vending

Street vending is an old practice in cities all over the world (Cross, 2000). In the developing world, there has been a trend toward informalisation of the urban economies with increased share of income earned coming from unregulated employment. In many developing countries, particularly in Africa and Asia, the formal sector has not been able to provide jobs for the growing urban population. This has led to proliferation of the urban informal sector (UN-Habitat, 2006). According to the International Labor Organization, approximately 85% of new employment opportunities around the world are created in the informal economy and 60% of all urban jobs are in the informal economy (ILO, 2002a;2002b). The informal sector has been and still is an important source of income and livelihood for many people around the world.

The informal sector is characterized by small scale, labour intensive, low fixed cost, use of simple technology, reliance on family labour, use of personal or informal sources of credit, nonpayment of taxes, relatively easy to establish and exit, etc. (Hart, 1973; Hope, 2001). In addition, it relates to economic activities involving the production and distribution of goods and services that are not registered and regulated by the state or local government in the context where similar activities are regulated. The informal sector excludes those activities legally proscribed and sanctioned which are indeed by their nature criminal, underground or hidden (Sinclair, 1978; UN, 1996). As far as street vending, therefore, fits into these characteristics, then it is of course a segment within the informal sector (Jimu, 2004). Over the years, street vending has become a rampant source of employment and income to many urban dwellers. Hence, it is the largest sub-group of informal workforce after home-based workers. All together, these two groups represent 10-35% of non-agricultural workforce in developing countries.
compared to 5% of the total force in developed countries (ILO, 2002a). In the same study, ILO showed that street vending occupies 8%, 14.6% and 6% of the non-agricultural labour force in Kenya, South Africa, and Tunisia respectively. Note that these percentages are increasing as time passes by.

2.3 Socioeconomic characteristic of street vendors

Street vending activity is associated with the people having no professional skills, have low levels of education so they cannot get jobs in the formal sectors (Kamala, 2007). Studies undertaken at Johannesburg CBD and Durban metropolitan in 1997 showed that the level of education of street vendors was very low, with 10% to 18.3% of vendors lacking primary education in the two cities. Half of the vendors in the two cities had completed only primary school education level. There are also gender disparities in terms of education level, with more women than men having no education training (Lund, 1998).

Clearly, the idea that street vending attracts those who have limited opportunities in obtaining formal employment appears to be waning with time. In addition, due to gender bias in education, women dominate street vending informal sector as it offers them the flexibility of combining it with other household-related activities. Men, on the other hand, it has been noted that they join the street trade while still young and later leave for other jobs. Unlike men, women join street vending later in life and keep it until old age (Mitullah., 2003). Table 1 shows how women dominate the street vending sector.
Table 1: Street Vending Employment in Non-agricultural Informal Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country/region</th>
<th>Women’s street vending employment as % of non-agriculture informal employment</th>
<th>Men’s street vending employment as % of non-agriculture informal employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niamey</td>
<td>14.41</td>
<td>12.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouagadougou</td>
<td>16.26</td>
<td>17.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamako</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakar</td>
<td>17.31</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abidjan</td>
<td>23.29</td>
<td>8.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lomé</td>
<td>34.95</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data prepared by Javier Herrera (2012)

2.4 Typology of street vendors

Street vendors are not one homogeneous group, but comprise various sectors, such as fixed-stall vendors who operate in front of their houses or from the street pavement and mobile sellers who vend from one location to another by carrying their wares on hand or on push carts. Iyenda (2005) has identified two main types of street vendors in Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of Congo): the walking vendors and the fixed vendors. Walking vendors refer to those street vendors who are mobile all the time, while fixed vendors on the other hand, are those who remain in particular locations for a certain period.

2.5 Driving factors that attract people to street vending

There are many reasons, economic or social, that push a person into the street vending sector. The following section explains some of the reasons that push people into street vending.
2.5.1 Economic driving factors

i. Search for Employment

Many sub-Saharan African countries to which Rwanda belong have experienced rapid population growth and urbanization from natural population increase and high rates of migration into the cities and large towns. In this regard, Kigali has become the main destination place for internal flows of migration in Rwanda. In 2002, Kigali accounted for 37% of the internal migration and it was estimated that 57% of Kigali’s population were rural migrants (Mutandwa, 2011; ACCRON, 2011). Most of these people have difficulty in finding jobs in the formal economic sectors due to their often limited education and lack of skills required in informal employment. In their quest to make a living, many of these people have no choice other than taking to the streets to fashion out a living.

According to Berner et al. (2008:1) and Gomez (2008: 10), street traders do not start their business by choice but are forced into it because they cannot find wage employment or because of other economic shocks. Similarly, Nittaya (2014) showed that the suitable conditions for new entrants to street vending are a large pool of unemployed people.

ii. Escape taxes and government trade policy

In some countries business registration procedures are costly and cumbersome; the taxation system is heavy while labour regulation is rigid. Due to this, small entrepreneurs’ initiatives are limited and therefore forced to operate from the streets. It is, therefore, necessary to eliminate some of the entry barriers to the formal sector of the economy in order to improve conditions in the labour market.
iii. Other economic driving factors

This literature review shows that street traders undertake the business due to lack of enough capital and to avoid paying rent in the formal markets. Further, traders try to avoid the cost of formality in terms of strict rules and regulation, taxes, time and effort involved in complying with formal state procedures (De Soto, 1989). Others engage in street vending to supplement income earned elsewhere, or changing the jobs because the previous job working conditions were unsatisfactory (Turner & Laura, 2012).

2.5.2 Social Driving Factors

i. To be self-employed

According to Ndhlovu (2011), street traders undertake the activities as an easy means of setting oneself up as self-employed with low initial capital.

ii. Supporting family

Street vending provides earning opportunity and livelihoods to support the dependent family members. Because of the increasing vulnerability at the household level, one is supposed to support family members, for example, children, siblings and parents. Providing basic necessities to dependent family members becomes the responsibility of youths and adults. Many vendors work on the streets for the survival of their dependent family members. This has also been confirmed by Babere in her study in 2013 about struggle for space: appropriation and regulation of prime locations in sustaining informal livelihoods in Dar-Es-Salaam City, Tanzania. She found that street traders take the role of providing for their household as the circumstances require, which makes them for any means possible for meeting the family daily needs.
iv. Limited education

The study of Judai in 2002 in Zambia showed that lack of education and training for employment in formal sector is one of the various reason that push people into street trading activities. This has also been confirmed by Ndhlovu (2011) in her study on street vending in Zambia, a case study of Lusaka District.

2.6 Economic Contribution of Street Vending to Livelihood

Street vending is one of the activities within the informal economy and is fast becoming a global phenomenon. Although it is mostly practiced in developing countries, it is not uncommon in the developed world. Over the years, it has become rampant and a source of employment and income for many urban dwellers. Street vending contributes largely to the distribution of relatively priced goods (Muiruri, 2010).

2.6.1 Street Vending and Creation of employment opportunities

Street vending is becoming an important activity for the survival of many urban poor people around the world, by helping them create their own jobs and earn cash incomes, especially in the developing world. Thus, street vending activities avail good opportunity for the urban poor to work and to be self-employed. This sector, therefore, has been neglected and underestimated (Hart, 1973). The street vending sector contributes significantly to the urban employment creation where unemployment and poverty issues are more acute.

In Tanzania, the Dar-es-Salaam city authority shows that street vending employed more than 1 million in 2014 (Mramba, 2015). Increasingly, street vending is becoming an employment and
income earning option for a larger segment of the African society (Mitullah., 2003). Furthermore, this sector also links to the other formal sectors by providing labour force and marketing their products. Studies show that a lot of goods sold by street vendors, such as clothes, leather and plastic goods as well as household commodities are manufactured in small scale or home-based industries. These industries employ a large number of workers and they rely mainly on street vendors to market their products. In this regard, street vendors provide a valuable service by helping to sustain employment in these industries (Timalsina, 2011). The sector acts as a provider of a viable alternative to formal employment. It acts, therefore, as a buffer against instability and insecurity in terms of work and income opportunities among the urban poor. Table 2 and table 3 shows the statistical numbers of street vendors in some cities. One should note that it is difficult to produce accurate estimated figures.

Table 2: The Number of Person engaged in Street Vending from different countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of street vendors</th>
<th>% of non-agriculture labor force</th>
<th>% of females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benin(1992)</td>
<td>45,591</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>81.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia(1997)</td>
<td>125,619</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya(1999)</td>
<td>416,294</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>33.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>445,000</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ILO (2002)
Table 3: Street vending as a Significant Share of the Total Employment and the Total Informal Employment in Different Cities (2001/03)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region / country</th>
<th>% of share of total employment</th>
<th>% of share of informal total employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abidjan, Côte D’Ivoire</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotonou, Benin</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamako, Mali</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>19.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lome, Togo</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmedabad, India*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires, Argentine</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lima, Peru</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanoi, Vietnam</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>11.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.6.2 Street Vending and Generation of Income for Livelihood

Street vending is perceived as an important sector, having vast vitality for promoting economic growth, employment creation and on the job training or developing entrepreneurial skills (UN, 1996). In fact, it has a potential role in alleviating poverty through income generation from the sector. In other words, it is a means of survival and confers financial independence. Street vending creates economic resources to sustain the livelihoods of vendors and other people who benefit from their services, especially low income families (Tripp, 1997). In all these cases, the profit margins from street trading activities depend on the size and location of the business, the tax burden, and level of education, the initial investment into the business, gender and the type of commodities sold. However, given the poor conditions of street vendors, most traders make minimal but reasonable profits (Adhikari, 2011); (Bell & Loukaitou, 2014).
In China (Beijing), the daily income is approximately 20 USD while in a country like Nepal; the daily income is 5.57 USD. This is about 600 and 167 USD per month respectively. A survey undertaken by Mitullah (2003) showed that in South Africa, street traders earned between Rand 600 and 800 per month (51.760 and 69.014 $/ per month).

Income generated contributes to daily expenditure for family livelihood needs. Furthermore, the income earned from this business can be spent on commodities that are not related to the current business operation such as buying agricultural land, supporting children’s education, paying medical fees and medical insurance (Turner & Laura, 2012).

Apart from creating jobs and being a source of income, street vending offers business opportunities where vendors can successfully compete. This is the case in South Africa, where street traders begun by selling only a few low cost items like cigarettes and candies before switching to sell high profit items such as shoes and clothing (Cohen, 2010). In addition, street vending can serve as a transient job before moving to other jobs (Agadjanian, 2002).

2.6.3 Street Vending and Provision of Relatively Low priced Goods

Street vendors provide food, services and commodities at cheaper prices and at convenient locations. For this reason, they provide basic necessities from the pavements, particularly for low income groups who cannot afford to shop in formal shops (Nittaya, 2014). Street vending also offers goods and services at prices that are affordable for the low-income population. The distinct advantages of buying from street vendors are that one can buy very small quantities of goods such as a single bar of soap, for example, instead of a package of three. In this sense, street vending makes goods accessible to those with scarce resources (Roever, 2014).
2.6.4 Street vending and security in the city

In Durban, South Africa, street vendors make an effort to keep the streets safe and clean. They said:

- “We protect our community from thieves; if we see someone who is in trouble we are there to help. There is no forest for thieves to hide in as we traders are all over the city, keeping it crime-free and safe.

Some said they specifically help protect tourists from crime. Street vending deter antisocial activities such as theft, prostitution and other crimes, and therefore acts as a buffer against instability and insecurity while offering work and income opportunities among the urban poor. This is a crucial role in enhancing security within a city (Roever, 2014; Cohen, 2010).

2.7 Spatial effects of street vending on the urban environment

In investigating street vending and the use of public space, it is necessary to find out what effects does street vendors activities have on the urban environment and the implication for urban planning.

2.7.1 Street Vending and Human flow and motorized traffic flow

Street trading takes place along the most profitable locations. Those sites for trading are at the busiest locations where competition for space is acute. Street traders transform streets, pavements and other public and private spaces into arenas for commercial transactions, which effectively create congestion problems. These impede free flow of traffic, both pedestrian and

2.7.2 Environmental effects of street vending

Street trading causes the spatial problem that comprises the environmental spillovers that arise either by virtue of the sheer location of street economic units or as a result of their activities in the urban space. Unregulated street trading activities tend to create environmental problems such as the generation of excess filth and littering that stretches the already limited capacities of city authorities to keep their cities clean. Further, street traders worsen existing waste disposal problems partly because of non-existent or inadequate infrastructure resources and properly functioning systems of waste collection and management in developing cities (Jimu 2005; Yankson 2000a; Onesmus 2005).

Countries that have been able to formalize street vending sector, the sector contribute in the cleanliness of the city. This is the case in Durban where street vendors provide cleanliness and sanitation services in the public place by undertaking the cleaning themselves and by paying fees for waste removal services. In the same city, they clean their workspaces when they arrive, keep them clean during the day and make sure they are clean when they leave at night (Roever, 2014). It is worth while noting that Durban is very organized in street vending.

2.8 Challenges faced by street vendors

Despite the socioeconomic importance of street vending in urban areas, especially for the urban poor group, street vendors face various challenges. Cohen et al, (2000) found that like all informal workers, informal street vendors lack legal status, representation, and voice. Due to this
situation, they face several specific problems along the way of securing the livelihood which limits their opportunities to work efficiently for income generation and poverty reduction.

2.8.1 Street vending on run

Asiedu & Agyei-Mensah (2008) and Brown (2006) said that vendors are continuously on the run due to constant harassment, assault and seizure of goods by the local government authorities or police in and other users\ of the city space. All these disturb the development of links with customers, reduce the accumulation of fixed-asset value, and discourage investment even if the investment is low.

2.8.2 Street vending and access to capital

If street vendors could have access to funding from financial institutions, they could also have higher investment capital, judging from the expensive merchandise they sell. In addition, the high capital could provide them with the opportunity to rent space in prime areas of the city. But street traders operate below capacity because they have limited access to capital as they have no access to financial services such as credit, loans from financial institutions because they do not have collateral security.

This concurs with the assertion of the renowned Zimbabwean economist John Robertson, who stated that it is difficult for people in the informal sector to secure credit facilities because they do not have evidence to secure such services since their incomes are erratic and low with little production involved. They lack things like pay slips and bank account statements as an indication to the lender that one can pay or service credit (Nkululeko et al, 2014). Therefore, the lack of capital or access to capital hinders the development of their activities.
2.8.3 Street vending and Business Skills

The majority of street vendors has a low level of education and do not have any skills for business. Even those who are educated do not have the requisite skills for business. And because their activities are not legally recognized, they therefore do not have access to any training for business and any technical training that could help in ensuring the development of their business. This continues to challenge their business as they have low level of business skills.

2.8.4 Street Vending Regulations and Policy

Majority of street vendors around the world, undertake street vending business with the threat of eviction, jail, harassment, and fines because street vending activities are usually not recognized or protected under legal and regulatory frameworks. Almost in all countries in Africa, they operate with restrictive policies and regulations that lay emphasis on the illegality of street vending (Bhowmik, 2005; Mitullah, 2003). As informal activities (street vending activities) in many countries are on the fringes of the law, authorities often confuse them with criminal activities and subject them to oppression (ILO 2002:3 as cited in Brown, 2006).

Street vending is mainly affected by policy and practice of both national and local governments. According to Brown (2006: 191), actions of local governments can be a major hindrance to the development of a secure environment for street trading. For the street vending business to work towards poverty reduction there is a need for the African governments to formulate supportive policies, regulations and organization of street vending space that will provide legal protection while conducting business.
2.8.5 Street vending and access to Basic Infrastructure

In many developing countries street vending is often looked down on as an undesirable activity undertaken by criminals which impinges on the use of public space. Due to this, they work in poor conditions, with little access to basic infrastructure such as water, electricity, waste removal, storage facilities etc (Donovan, 2008).

2.8.6 Street Vending and planned Business Location

In many developing countries, lack of well-planned and designed business areas and premises result in conflict of land use and also expose street vendors to harassment or eviction from the place that they have invaded for trading. In addition to this, street vendors face environmental risks involved in the activity. Here one may cite the constant exposure to harsh weather conditions like heavy rains and harsh sun, especially in tropical Africa as the traders mostly carry out their activity in the open areas without any shelter (Lund, 1998).

2.9 Street Vending Success Stories

Many countries are a major obstacle to the development of street vending sector activities. The countries have declared vending illegal. Yet some actions that support street vendor have been successfully implemented in some countries. The following are some of the best successful examples:
2.9.1 India case study

India is a country that has succeeded in organizing and formalizing street vending sector. Among the factors that made India to succeed in street vending are:

a) Legal Protection

Street vendors in India have a legal protection through the Street Vendors Act of 2014 (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending). This is an Act of Parliament of India enacted to regulate street vendors in public areas and protect their rights. The bill received the assent of the President of India on 4 March 2014. The Act aims at providing social security and livelihood rights to street vendors. The key point of the Act is it gives legitimate protection to street vendors from harassment by police and civic authorities; demarcation of vending zones; planning for street vending activities every 5 years; conducting research on street vending at least once within 5 years; establishment of town vending committees; and the establishment of effective grievance redress and dispute resolution mechanism (India, 2012).

b) National Policy on Urban Street Vendors, 2009

India had recognized the role of street vendors in improving the livelihood of the poor people in Indian towns. In this light, India formulated a policy regarding street vending activities. The starting point of this policy was the recognition of the positive role of street vendors in providing essential commodities to people at affordable prices and at convenient places. India also recognized the need for regulation of street vending based on certain objective and principles.
The overall objective of this policy, therefore, is to provide for and promote a supportive environment for the vast mass of urban street vendors to carry out their vocation while at the same time ensuring that their vending activities do not lead to overcrowding and unsanitary conditions in public places and spaces. The policy aims to achieve these objectives through the provision of legal status, civic facilities, transparent regulation, and organization of the vending, participative process, self-regulation, and promotional measures (India, 2009).

c) Street Vendors Association

One of the best street vending associations in the world is the National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI). It is a federation of 715 street vendor organizations, trade unions and non-governmental organizations (NGO's). This association advocates for street vending and takes any case to protect their livelihoods.

2.9.2 China case study

China is also among the countries which have recognized the role of street vending and has attempted to formalize the sector through regulation and enforcement of street vending licensure. Park and Cai (2011) study reveal that by the year 2002 undocumented workers represented 39% of the Chinese labour market. Based on these studies, informal employment appeared to represent a substantial portion of both the labour market and China’s economy. This signifies a growing percentage to the overall economic activity, especially street vending. In order to effect the formalization of the street vending sector, multiple levels of government attempted to develop and implement regulatory practices through revamped licensing procedures, creation of vending districts, and new forms of supervision (Bell & Sideris, 2014).
a) Regulation and Policies

The government of China started to recognize the informal economy in 1980 by formulating various regulations and policies which fluctuated with time.

The regulation stated that every legal street vendor should have a licence, lack of it renders the activity illegal (Hu and Zhao, 2006). Further, the State Council (China’s Cabinet) established urban management districts in Chinese cities that officially started operation in 2002 and included the policing of street vending among their responsibilities (Zhang and Zhang, 2008; China Daily, 2009a). Sidewalk vending policy is overseen by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, while monitoring and fining of illegal vending is typically handled by Chengguan, urban management officers. Chengguan are also responsible for the enforcement of ordinances relating to sanitation, traffic safety, urban construction, and stopping illegal business (the category into which unlicensed street vending falls).

Today, the Chinese initiative demonstrates new responses, such as a call for greater leniency when dealing with unlicensed street vendors, and an emerging civil society discourse that seeks more flexible solutions to the conflict between street vending and local regulatory authorities (Bell & Sideris, 2014). In 2009, street vending and its regulation became the focus of a public dialogue in China, when the Legislative Office of the State Council solicited public opinion on a regulation of self-employed businessmen (Xinhua, 2009b). New laws in Beijing related to street vendor status were developed due to the responses from a public Internet-based survey. This ensured that the public were involved in policy creation. For example, laws have changed in some regions to allow unregistered vendors the right to sell in specific areas or at certain times.
b) Creation of Street Vending Districts

In Hong Kong in China the response to the street vending issues has been to consolidate street vending into hawker centres or cooked-food centres. Hawker centres provide an experience and preservation of livelihood, with the additional benefit of improved regulation of health and management.

2.9.3 South Africa

Durban city is among the cities that have been able to recognise street vending activities. Durban municipality is often presented as an example of good practice of street vending. For Durban to succeed, it had adopted the following approaches to support street vendors (Durban, 2001; Sung, 2011)

a) Spatial tools

Durban uses the concept of permitted zones. A permitted zone is a geographic designation where vending is allowed, a departure from the typical licensing that assigns a specific location to a vendor. In Durban, street vendors are granted access to permitted zones by paying for a permit, which provides legality and a basic package of services (water, trash, etc), whereas in Johannesburg, street vendors are given trading space in return for agreeing to comply with health and environmental standards. These permitted zones approach offer an innovative approach to managing informal street activity and offer promise toward a spatial management approach.
b) Integrated approaches to support street vendors

In 2001, a policy on Durban’s informal economy, inspired by several pilot projects, was adopted. It made a number of suggestions for improving street vending with regards to registration (simplification of the registration process and reduction of its cost), site allocation (criteria for allocation should be negotiated with stakeholders and the allocation of sites should then be done by officials), and operating charges (different transparent fees should be set according to location, size and services provided; payment should be simplified). The policy established as well a framework of principles for by-laws. The integrated approaches focus also on the following:

**Planning:** the policy stated that new markets and trading opportunities must be properly planned, bearing in mind the economic needs of traders, the need for more vibrant land use, and the need for orderly town, spatial and transport planning, as well as health and safety.

**Sector-based support:** the support function, in terms of focused efforts to help small operators take steps along the ladder towards growth and independence, should be provided through a sectoral approach, as is happening in industrial policy in support of large business.

**Support for small enterprises:** Support for building the capacity of organisations of informal workers is closely linked to the development of their enterprises. Durban has much to learn from its own recent efforts at support, as well as from international experience, about which forms of training and support are effective, sustainable, and able to reach large numbers of people.
**Regulation and control**: regulation of the informal economy is linked to the management and support functions. The local government is responsible for setting the basic minimum standard (of cleanliness for example) and the small business people maintain that standard.

**Assistance in building the capacity of organisations of informal workers**: the success of area based management and of support for economic development would hinge on the orderly growth of organisations of workers in the informal economy. The interests of informal operators are best served when they can bargain from a position of strength and confidence. For example, the Self-employed Women’s Union (SEWU), launched in 1994, and the Informal Trade Management Board, established in 1995, lobbied and negotiated with the Durban local authorities to obtain infrastructures for street vendors. Their activities ensured the incorporation of vendors in city planning.

**2.9.4 Singapore**

Singapore, a Southeast Asian, known by most people for its government's perceived obsession with cleanliness and rather draconian forms of punishment for the equivalent of misdemeanor crimes. The country is actually home of the world's second-busiest port and is a major global center of trade, technology, and finance. Since its independence in 1965, street vending especially food vending, known there as "hawking," became a popular entrepreneurial activity when formal jobs were scarce following the post-World War II reconstruction years. Street hawkers had set up their carts or ersatz food stalls along major thoroughfares, at public spaces and near public housing complexes.
But the overabundance of unregulated street hawkers turned into a serious problem for Singapore: Cleanliness and sanitation of vending areas became a major issue for vendors. Food quality and foodborne illnesses also became part of the public health issue. And food and liquid wastes polluted the city's streets. In the late 1960s, the Singaporean government embarked on a compulsory registration drive for all street hawkers and designated temporary off-street locations for them to operate. In the 1970s and 1980s, hawker centres or public food courts were constructed to house the street vendors.

Open-air and semi-enclosed by design (due to Singapore's year-round hot tropical climate), for street food vending hawker centres not only provide dining areas but, most importantly permanent facilities for cooking, food storage, preparation, and sanitary amenities like restrooms, sinks, and disposal receptacles. The end result was something that satisfied both the government's penchant for urban cleanliness and the country's culinary traditions. The hawker centres are typically found adjacent to high-density housing complexes and commercial districts. Singapore government also organizes regular training courses on food and personal hygiene, and environment cleanliness.

The composition of the city’s street vending population in Singapore had changed over time. There was an emergence of younger, better educated street vendors. This change is attributed to the rising unemployment that has put more graduates out of jobs. Many of these have taken to street vending. The government decided to upgrade the hawker centre in the densely populated residential areas. Though the rents charged by the government have increased, the street vendors still get a lot of clientele because the items they sell are cheaper than those sold in shops. One significant fact about street vendors in Singapore is that over the past 30 years they have helped
keep the cost of living down since workers, students and the poorer sections depend on them for their daily necessities, including their meals. This is true of other places as well but unfortunately the planners rarely consider these contributions to the local economy. Strategically placing these hawker centers near heavily pedestrian areas, transit facilities, parks or public plazas, or mixed-use developments will further enhance Kigali’s ongoing maturity of its public-space identity.

2.9.4 Tanzania

Tanzania has taken forward steps to recognize street vending informal livelihood activities since the early 1990s. The Dar-es-Salaam city council was persuaded to adopt a consultative approach which greatly helped in the implementation of the plan and resolved many issues such as crime and street cleanliness.

a) Institutional framework

Municipality which is the main actor for managing and controlling the informal activities within the municipality collaborates with the city council for organizing the informal activities. The city departments which are involved include the Departments of Land and Town Planning, Finance and Trade, Hygiene and Environment, and Health. The municipality exercises its responsibility for facilitating informal livelihood activities by issuing licenses, allocating working spaces, health and quality control, as well as setting and enforcing rules, regulations and policies. A department of Land and Town Planning within the municipality of the city is responsible for the production of spaces for street vending and their inclusion in the city design. Second, it is responsible for identifying new spaces and processing their change of use. Finally, it involves the
control of informal activities by playing a part in decision-making on the relocation of informal livelihood operators.

The Finance and Trade Department within the municipality is responsible for providing technical advice in terms of the management of informal activities, as well as acting as the main agent responsible for issuing business licenses within its boundaries and ensuring that the revenue collection process is efficient. The Environmental Working Group is responsible for implementing municipal cleaning campaigns.

b) Provision of capital

The municipality has facilitated the availability of capital which was once inaccessible to informal livelihood operators. Although the majority still experience limited access to finances, the reform has provided a chance for them to access other services such as opening savings accounts (Kessy and Urio, 2006).

c) Formation of street vendors’ organizations

It is recommended that informal operators should form economic working groups. The main role of these organizations is to mediate between the needs of informal operators and those of central government and local authorities as well as other institutions interested in informal sector issues.

(URT, 2000; Kessy et al, 2006; URT, 2010; Babere, 2013)
2.10 Failure case

In countries like Kenya, Rwanda, Malawi, Zimbabwe have failed to accommodate street vending in their cities. Street vending activities have decorated the streets of these countries’ capital cities and have become an increasingly visible and disruptive locus of conflict between the government’s efforts to maintain public order of a desired modernized city on one hand and the citizens’ efforts to generate income on the other (Kamunyori, 2007).

Where there have been windows for better practices emerge, there tends to be a continuity problem. In many cities of developing countries, street vendors are consistently harassed and periodically violently removed from the selling sites. All these challenges make the sector not to operate freely although it is a source of livelihood for most unemployed people and urban poor in different cities (Steel, et al, 2012; Skinner, 2008)

The study done in Harare, Zimbabwe revealed that the inability to achieve stable governance of street vending may be rooted in problems at the national, city and local levels. First, policy contradictions caused by conflicting political incentives at different levels of the state have made establishment of sectoral governance rather elusive. Second, at the city level, neoliberal by-laws and regulations continued to exclude street vendors from participating in the economic activities of the country. These by-laws have failed to adapt to the changing circumstances. Third, street vendors lacked formal association(s) that can coordinate strategies across different groups to achieve sectoral governance (Njaya, 2014). This is the case in most developing counties that had failed to accommodate street vending into urban areas. Therefore, measures should be taken to
accommodate the sector into urban areas as the sector provide and improve the livelihood urban people who rely on street vending sector

2.11 Conclusive remarks on successes and failure case

Street vending plays a key role in shaping the urban economy in many developing countries. It is also the main livelihood for urban poor. But in many developing countries, street vending sector is considered as illegal and street vendors are consistently harassed and periodically violently removed from the selling sites. With such policy, street vending is therefore spread haphazardly and the trend will be the same unless street vending sector is regularized or established in planned locations. The successful stories in some countries like Singapore and South Africa about street vending had found a way and means to regularize and recognize street vending activities in urban planning and urban development programs through legal protection of street vendors, organization of street vendors, provision of training, and allocation of street vending business sites.

2.12 Conceptual framework

In order to examine the contribution of street vending to urban low income households; street vending livelihood constraints; coping strategies; and which livelihood assets are important among street vendors; Figure 1 is used as a conceptual model to analyze the practical realities of street vendors in earning their livelihood. In its simplest form, the Framework views people operates in a context of vulnerability or challenges that force them to engage in street vending activities as a source of livelihoods; the processes which impact how the livelihood strategies are
converted into livelihood outcomes. The arrows in the framework indicate a relationship rather than direct causality.

The framework incorporates a driving approach which emphasizes factors such as looking for employment, lack of education, supporting family, lack of capital, etc. as the driving forces that push people into street vending. Low income situation is not a static scenario and people can move in and out of relatively low income. It is acknowledged that even though low income people may not have access to financial assets, they have other resources which are demonstrated through the utilization of a wide-range of options such as street vending in the case of this study in order to ensure the survival or security.

The economic factors as well as social factors push low income into street vending activities which have both positive and negative impacts on economic, social and environment. For the better practice of street vending, there is a need for intervention for the sector to grow in sustainable environment. With street vending intervention in place, there are job opportunities; income household improved which lead to the improvement of standard of livelihood
Figure 1: Conceptual Model

Source: Author (2015)
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction
The research study was carried out in Kigali city, the capital of Rwanda. It targeted street vendors, who currently carry out their business on the sidewalks and in the public space within the city. The city of Kigali was selected because there is a high volume of street vendors compared to other cities in the country. The field work was carried out for 4 weeks.

3.1 Research design
The research design is the guiding framework on how the researcher will get and analyze information. Actually, it helps to have the most appropriate and feasible methods for testing hypothesis or answering research questions. It situates the researcher in the empirical world. In the case of this study, a non-experimental design (survey) was used and took both a quantitative and a qualitative dimension.

3.2 Research population
The target population for the study was that of street vendors. The population was chosen by the researcher because of the researcher interest in street vending which is a growing sector for the urban low income households in Kigali who depend largely on the street vending activities as a source of income for their livelihoods. People vending commodities such as processed food products, second hand clothes, plastic products, shoes, vegetables, fruits, cigarettes, sweets, equipment used for household purpose, cosmetics used for beautification, books, newspapers and
stationery were chosen in this study. In addition, government officials, formal business operators, and pedestrians were interviewed as key informants about the street vending sector.

3.3 Sampling

Since the target group was street vendors, the sample population of 90 street vendors was drawn from this group of traders. In addition, information was obtained from other informants who included central and local government officers, pedestrians, customers and formal traders. According to O’Leary (2010:170), purposive sampling involves the selection of a sample with a particular purpose in mind and the researcher concentrates on people with particular characteristics who are better positioned to facilitate the success of a study.

The sample was purposively selected from the target population. Purposive sampling was used to select a sample group of 90 people that had the characteristics of what the research was studying. Purposive sampling was in addition used in the selection of the three sites of street vending since the study was interested in finding out the contribution of street vending on livelihood of low income families.

A reconnaissance study was conducted before the actual study, and the researcher observed and mapped the street vending sites in Kigali. After mapping all the sites, the researcher observed that street vendors in all the sites mapped had the same characteristics. Since the street vendors had the same characteristic, the research purposively selected three different sites of street vending that had high number of street vendors. To ensure accuracy of the data, maximum variation and homogeneous sampling were used.
The study was conducted in three different study areas of Kigali with 30 street vendors interviewed in each site. Thus, 90 street vendors participated in the study. The sample is enough to be representative of the whole population and the information from that sample was enough to respond to research questions and to undertake statistical analysis. For each street vendor who participated, individual interview was carried out to determine their personal perception on (1) the factors that forces people into street vending, (2) economic contribution of street vending on the livelihoods of urban low income group, (3) effects of street vending on pedestrian mobility, traffic flow and environment, (4) the challenges faced by street vendors in the course of conducting their business, (5) suggestion on the possible solution for improving street vending activities.

3.4 Data need matrix

A data matrix table is shown in table 4 for describing in summary type of data collected according to the objectives of the study and the sources of that information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Type of data</th>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>Expected outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>1. main reasons that force respondents to start street vending</td>
<td>1. street vendors, key informants, pedestrians</td>
<td>Factors that push people into street vending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 2</td>
<td>2. income generated and livelihood benefit from street vending to the operators and other residents of the city 3. other advantages of street vending to the city</td>
<td>2. street vendors 3. street vendors, key informants, pedestrian 4. street vendors, key informants, pedestrian</td>
<td>Daily income earned from street vending Information on how much street vendors spend per day Benefit of street vending activities to the city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 3</td>
<td>5. Effects of street vending activities on human and traffic flow 6. Effect of street vending activities on the city environment</td>
<td>5. Street vendors, Key informants, pedestrian 6. Street vendors, Key informants, pedestrian</td>
<td>Effects of street vending activities on traffic flow Effect of street vending activities on the city environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 4</td>
<td>7. challenges faced by street vendors</td>
<td>7. street vendors, key informant, pedestrian</td>
<td>Street vendors challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 5</td>
<td>8. suggestion that can make street vending acceptable and sustainable</td>
<td>8. street vendors, key informants, literature review, Government officials</td>
<td>Recommendation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.5 Data collection method

The methodology of the study used to collect data including the primary and secondary data; included survey questionnaires which had closed ended questions (question which includes fixed items, fixed responses categories and fixed sequences of items) and open ended questions (question or statement with no fixed responses, requiring the respondent to generate a written or oral responses or create something such as a drawing), observations, semi-structured interviews and literature review.

To facilitate the data collection, two research assistants were hired in addition to the researcher. Six hours of seminar training was held to familiarize the research assistants with objectives of the study. As the local language in Kigali is Kinyarwanda, questionnaires were translated in Kinyarwanda in order to be able to communicate effectively with the targeted population.

The questionnaires for this research were administered face-to-face. The research team approached any street vendor in the selected streets and public spaces randomly. Some were willing to talk while others were not. Consequently, the questionnaires were administered to the street vendors who were willing to be interviewed; both male and female respondents were interviewed in order to ensure that gender perception on the sector was effectively captured. It was not easy to find those who were willing to talk because they were afraid that the local government officials were trying to trick them and prosecute them for being in the streets. Street vendors were assured of confidentiality of information given. The confidentiality was gained by talking to a street vendor and explaining to him/her that the purpose of the study is only academic and the researcher is not trying to trick them. After winning the confidence of the
respondents and if they had accepted to participate in the survey, the researcher or research assistants took them aside for the interview in order to prevent the biased responses in the event they were interviewed in the presence of others. For each street vendor who was willing to participate in the research, they were taken through the whole process of completing the questionnaire through face to face interview.

The sample included traders who were trading in different products to widen the scope and participation of both genders. Owing to the pattern of activity in the study area, the timing of questionnaire administration was divided into three categories: morning, afternoon and night. The questionnaires were administered for seven days in one week. The aim of this was to ensure that the operators interviewed represented the range of activities that took place in selected streets and public spaces. Photography was used to capture the activities in the study area.

For the key informants, open-ended interview instrument were designed to allow discussion between the interviewer and respondents. The interviewer prompts respondents using questions that could attract their attention and generate discussion. The researcher took the responsibility for the field notes and records which were used at later stages of the investigation.

The secondary data collection constituted reviewing existing literature in form of published journal articles, published books, conference papers, newspaper articles, government publications and other researches available on the internet. Secondary data were used to explain and compare the research findings.
3.6 Data analysis and data presentation

After data was collected, it was analyzed both quantitatively and qualitatively. This was done by comparing and contrasting the primary and secondary data sources. Simple statistical analysis techniques were used in data analysis. The compilation and analysis of quantitative data was done using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) software. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze every variable and inferential statistic was used to evaluate the relation between independent variable and dependent variables. The interviews carried out were interpreted and analyzed qualitatively. Further quantitative data which had been gathered from statistical analysis were input to Microsoft Excel software in order to generate graphs, tables and other diagram presentation. In addition, pictorial information was presented in the form of pictures. After analyzing the data, a conclusion and recommendations were made.

3.7 Limitation of the study

The following limitation were face during the research study

Some street vendors were not willing to talk because of fearing that the researcher is a government authority who wants to find them and prosecute them. Others would cut down the interview and leave before the whole completion of the questionnaire. Time and cost factors were also major challenges faced. However, some alternative were used to overcome these limitation to maintain the effectiveness of the research work. Some of the alternatives include insurance of confidentiality of the information given in order to winner the confidence of the street vendors, working extra-time in order to overcome the time limitations.
CHAPTER FOUR: STUDY AREA

4.0 Introduction

The chapter gives a brief description of the study area in order to help to understand better the areas of concern.

4.1 Geographical location

Rwanda is a small country of 26,338 km$^2$. It is located in Central/Eastern Africa and shares borders with the Democratic Republic of Congo in the West, Uganda in the North, Tanzania in East, and Burundi in the South. The capital city, Kigali, is located near the centre of Rwanda. The geographical position of Kigali is at Latitude 1º 57'S and on Longitude 30º 04’ E. The city is built in a hilly region and is almost ringed by higher hills with an average of 1542 m elevation above sea level. Kigali City is divided into three Districts namely Gasabo, Nyarugenge and Kicukiro.

The study focused on Nyarugenge and Gasabo Districts, precisely in Nyabugogo National bus terminal and its surrounding streets, CBD areas of Kigali City. These two areas are located in Nyarugenge District. The third area of targeted population was Gisozi which is located in Gasabo district. Figure 2 shows the administrative map of Rwanda. It shows the five provinces of Rwanda. The map also shows the case study area Kigali, in green color.
Figure 2: Rwanda Administrative Provinces

Source: Author, 2015
Figures 3 below shows the three districts of Kigali city

Figure 3: Kigali Administrative Districts

Source: Author, 2015
Figure 4 represents the three case study areas of interest within Kigali City

**Figure 4: Study Area**

Source: Author, 2015

- Yellow: CBD study area
- Green: Kinamba study area
- Red: Nyabugogo study area
Figure 4 shows the three study areas in relation to the city as whole. The yellow bullet represents the CBD; the green bullet represents the Gasabo study area while the red bullet represents Nyabugogo study area. Below there are images that represent clear the study area on the ground.

Plate 1 below show the CBD area which is one of the busiest places in Kigali and it attracts many different people who come from different parts of the country. Kigali CBD is the main center for commercial services in Rwanda and is the seat of the government of Rwanda services. Besides, the city of Kigali provides the highest level of services in the country. Not far from the CBD, there is a national hospital, a college of the University of Rwanda. People access those places by passing through the CBD which makes the place attract street vending during the day as thousands of people pass through the place daily.

Plate 1: CBD case study area

Source: Rwanda Natural Resources Authority, 2008
Plate 2 shows the Nyabugogo which is a national bus terminal where all public transport coming from all sides (districts) of the country stop. Every public transport vehicles from outside of Kigali stop there. From here, people take other transport means to access their destinations. All these factors make the area to experience a great number of people coming in or going out of the city for different reasons. In addition, the people in Kigali have to use the bus terminal to be able to circulate within the city.

Plate 3 shows Kinamba study area which is on a road that goes to a residential area that houses some of the lower income families in Kigali. It is also a transit node to other residential places in Kigali.
Plate 3: Kinamba study area,

Source: Rwanda Natural Resources Authority, 2008

4.2 Demographic characteristics of Kigali population

Rwanda is a highly populated country with 10,515,973 inhabitants, of whom 52% are women and 48% men. Between the 2002 Census and now, the population is estimated to 2.4 million, which represents about 2.6% as the annual growth rate on average. Kigali City which is an administrative province has the smallest population of 1,132,686 inhabitants compared to other provinces. Regarding Kigali, Gasabo District is the most populated with more than 500,000 inhabitants and Nyarugenge District is the least populated with less than 300,000 inhabitants, but is the most densely populated in Kigali with 2,124 inhabitants per km$^2$. Kicukiro has a density of 1,911 inhabitants per km$^2$ and Gasabo with 1,234 inhabitants per km$^2$. Approximately 76% of Kigali population lives in the urban area. The population in the city is still young, with 34% of
them aged between 20 and 34 years because young adults are migrating from rural areas to urban areas to study or in search of jobs. Males dominate city population as there are 105.4 males to 100 females overall, especially within the economically active age groups from 20 to 64 years. The average size of household is 5 persons (NISR., 2014).

4.3 Socioeconomic characteristics

Hills, ridges and valleys are found in Kigali and, as such, agriculture occupies the largest proportion of the land (60.5%), with built-up areas covering about 15%. Kigali generates 50% of the country’s GDP. In Kigali, 56% of households have electricity compared to the national average of 11%. In fact, charcoal is surpassing wood as a primary source of cooking fire for 51% of households. The city’s largest employment sectors are agriculture, fishing and forestry (24%). Other services include utilities and financial sector account for 21%; trade (20%), government (12%); transportation and communication (6%); construction (6%); and manufacturing (5%). Health care access is improving as the case for ICT (Information Communication Technologies). The enrolment at the primary level of education is very high, but school attendance drops off very quickly in higher grades (REMA, 2013).

4.4 Physical and social infrastructure

As a rapidly growing city, Kigali is the country’s most important commercial centre. It is also the hub of Rwanda transport network, with hourly express bus routes to all major towns in the country. The total length of roads in Kigali is approximately 1,017 km; only 14% of roads are tarmac-built. The city is well connected through a national road network to other parts of the country as well as to the neighbouring countries. Kigali has water network supplies for 65,000
homes and 280 public taps. Water production doubled between 2001 and 2011. Despite the increase in water supply, Kigali still faces some water shortage issues, including insufficient supplies mainly during the dry season, sediments in river water and unequal access to water between unplanned and modern settlement areas.

In health sector, Kigali’s capacity to provide adequate and quality healthcare is rapidly improving. Public sector, government assisted facilities, private sector and traditional healers currently deliver health care services (REMA, 2013).

### 4.5 Physical and geological features

Granitic and meta-sedimentary rocks underlie the City of Kigali. These include schist, sandstones and siltstones. Lateritic soils, rich in iron and aluminium, dominate the city’s hillside surfaces, while alluvial soils (fertile soil deposited in river valleys) and organic soils are found in the lowlands and wetlands. Inappropriate development on Kigali’s hilly slopes has caused extensive soil erosion in some areas. Kigali’s land areas is classified as a medium to high risk for soil erosion zones and with a slope of more than a 5% incline which are susceptible to heavy erosion. (REMA, 2013). Agriculture occupies the largest proportion of the city’s land area (60.5%) followed by wetlands (12.5 %). Urban land uses include residential, commercial, industrial, social and government infrastructure. Residential areas cover just over 9%, while commercial areas account for less than 1% of the city land area.

### 4.6 Climatic characteristics

Kigali has a temperate climate since it is situated in or near the subtropical dry forest biome. The coldest and rainiest months of the year are February and March, while June and July are the
hottest, and there are two rain periods that generally occur from February to May and from November to January. The total annual rain precipitation averages 1028mm while the annual mean temperature is 20.5 Celsius degrees. In times of extreme storms and rainfall, there can be a danger of flooding in the city. The relative humidity typically ranges from 38% (comfortable) to 100% (very humid) over the course of the year, rarely dropping below 29% (dry). Over the course of the year typical wind speeds vary from 0 m/s to 6 m/s (calm to moderate breeze), rarely exceeding 111 m/s (REMA, 2013).

### 4.7 Concluding remarks

Kigali City offers the best study area for street vending activities in Rwanda because the City is the Capital city of Rwanda. Kigali city is the only cities in Rwanda where street vending is growing faster than ever and the sector is growing in unorganized manner which make the street vendors face a number of challenges. In other cities and town of Rwanda, the sector almost operates freely mainly because the number of street vendors is still low. Kigali therefore offers the best site to base the study.
CHAPTER FIVE: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the data and the interpretation of the study findings. This chapter presents the results on street vendors and their characteristics, factors driving people into street vending, the contribution of street vending sector to the livelihoods of urban poor in urban areas, the challenges in street vendors and prospect of street vendors on the sectors itself.

5.0 Introduction

Street vendors offer a wide range of goods and services delivery, generate different levels of earnings/income and cope with various daily challenges. Yet, some clear patterns emerge around the status in employment, enterprise structure, gender, and working conditions. This section details some of these patterns. Furthermore, the findings help to explain how policy choices are likely to play out across and influence these different segments. The table 5 below shows in general the profile of the street vendors

Table 5: Profile of street vendors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Overall of the respondents</th>
<th>Youth (&lt;=25 years)</th>
<th>Adult &gt;25 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Total (%)</td>
<td>Male (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widower</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single mother</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.1 Demographic and Socio Characteristics of street vendors

The following section provides a detailed analysis of demographic and socio characteristics of the 90 respondents.

5.1.1 Household profile of street vendors

The average number of household members among street vendors in the sample was 2.04 ± 1.17. Figure 5 below shows 57% of the respondents had more than one person in the family which means that more than 50% of the street vendors had responsibility for at least one person to take care of, in addition to him/herself. In other words, street vending operators tended to have responsibility for dependents, in terms of either immediate or extended family, which influences their decision to get involved in street vending livelihood activities when they do not have other means for survival. The study also showed that 91% of the respondents were engaged exclusively in street vending while the remaining 9% had other sources of income in addition to street vending.

![Figure 5: Household Size](image-url)
Regarding the marital status, the study revealed that 50% of the surveyed street vendors had never been married. This can explain why a high number of the respondents were only one in their families.

![Marital Status of the Respondents (%)](image)

**Figure 6: Marital Status of the Respondents**

The respondents who were married at the time of the survey accounted for 25% of those interviewed while 13% were single mothers. This reveals that when women get children before getting married, they are forced to take the responsibility of taking care of the children. Therefore, with responsibility upon their shoulders, they are obliged to come and sell on the streets to make money. However, the number of males engaged in street vending was most likely to be married at 59.09 % against 40.41 % of females with the same status. It is therefore important to emphasize that street vending activities were really important as a main source of income for their households.
5.1.2 Gender of street vendors

According to the survey, women dominated the sector, accounting for 54.44% (n=49) of 90 respondents, while men accounted 45.56% (=41) of 90 respondents. This can be explained by the fact that a high proportion of Kigali’s females are unemployed compared to males. This finding is similar to that reported by Charmes (2000) on the street vending sectors in developing countries where he indicated that women share a higher percentage than men in this type of employment, in countries like Benin, Chad, Mali, and Senegal. The informal sector is a large source of employment for women where their participation in street vending outweighs that of men in many countries (Chen, 2001; Sethuraman, 1998). This can show that currently women are more actively engaged in economic activity in seeking a way of improving their livelihood conditions than in the past years where they were supposed to stay all the time at home while men went to work.

5.1.3 Street Vending Education and Age cohort

i. Street vendors and age cohorts

In Kigali city, street vendors in the study were mainly dominated by youth and adults who are main breadwinners for their family livelihood. They comprise the highest percentage of all age groups, since more than 50% of all respondents fell between the age cohort of 16-25 and 26-35. The average street vendors’ age was 28.47±5.89. The youngest among the respondents was 14 years old while the oldest was 47. The age span between 18 and 30 years is a period when most individuals are detaching from their nuclear families (parents) and take greater responsibility towards supporting parents and younger siblings, while also establishing their own households.
Another factor that could explain these results is the nature of Kigali City population which is dominated by youth. The average age of Kigali city population was 22.7 in 2012 (NISR., 2014). Another possible explanation to this is that the young people are more energetic and are therefore more able to respond to harassment and eviction when it occurs as compared to the older people. The Tanzanian study show the same results, where more than 50 % of the individuals who were engaged in street vending were between 20 and 30 years old. However, Kusakabe (2006) had reported different result where street vending is dominated by working age ranging between 30-50 in Thailand and Cambodia.

Plate 4: People engaged in Street Vending are mostly Young

Source: Field survey, January 2015

In addition, the findings showed that the young females outnumber males engaged in street vending. The reason behind the imbalance could be due the number of young female unemployed in Kigali and other urban areas of Rwanda. The number of young unemployed
women is higher than that of young men (NISR, 2014). A report on gender in Rwanda in 2012 showed that men tend to have a wider range of opportunities than women in terms of finding jobs. Occupation. As a result, women tend to be more concentrated in a limited number of occupations including street vending. This explains the high percentage of women employed in the street vending sector. This was revealed in a study undertaken by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda in 2012. Female youth unemployment rate in urban centres was almost 16% for the 20-24 age groups, compared to a much lower 7% among young men (NISR, 2014). Since governments have consistently failed to provide people with employment opportunities, while those in employment constantly look for opportunities to increase their household income, informal activities have become an avenue for them to make additional income. This is evident in both developed and developing countries (Cross & Morales, 2007b).

ii. Education levels of street vendors

The education level among street vendors was generally medium. Out of the total 90 respondents, about 44.44% of them had primary school education level or less; while 27.78% had acquired a higher level of education. In the sample, it was observed that women tended to be more educated than the men counterparts as shown in table 6, though the difference of gender and education level was not statistically significant (Chi-Square calculated value=2.17; Critical value= 7.815; Df= 3; p-value=0.539; level of significant=0.05). Although women were more educated than men, other studies show that men engaged in the street vending sector are more educated than women. In this regard, a study conducted in India showed that a greater number of street women vendors are illiterate and less educated than male (Saha, 2011). In Rwanda for instance, the possible reason that could explain this difference is that Rwanda launched a policy called
Education for All in 2007 and started promoting the number of women who entered school and reduced the number of women who drop out the school. This has contributed to the increase in the level of education for women as shown in table 6.
### Table 6: Street Vendors Education levels in comparison with their Age cohort and gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age cohort</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 15 years</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>11.11</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>7.78</td>
<td>8.99</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-30</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>6.67</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>12.22</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>8.89</td>
<td>12.22</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>7.78</td>
<td>13.33</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-35</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 35</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>7.78</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>90</strong></td>
<td><strong>22.22</strong></td>
<td><strong>22.22</strong></td>
<td><strong>44.44</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>16.67</strong></td>
<td><strong>26.67</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.22</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.56</strong></td>
<td><strong>27.78</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.11</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.11</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary =6 years

Lower secondary school (9 years) = 6 years of primary school + 3 years

Upper secondary school (12 years) = Lower secondary school (9 years) +3 years
5.1.4 Time spent in street vending and working place

i. Street vending and time spent in the business

Street vending was not a temporary occupation for most vendors in the study sample. On average, respondents had been working as street vendors for 7 to 12 years. Up to 46.67% of the respondents had been engaged in this activity between 5 to 8 years while 21.11% had been practicing street vending between 9 to 12 years. In addition, the study show that the street vending is a growing sector as 24.44% of the respondents had been working in this sector for less than 4 years. The sector, therefore, needs to be planned to grow in a well-organized manner. The sector is not only growing in Kigali City, as the same results was found in Ethiopia where within one year, the number of people engaged in street vending increased from 84,416 to 109,712 (Ethiopia, 2010). It is furthermore observed that males have been selling on the street for a longer period than women as shown in table 7.

Table 7: Time engaged in street vending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working hours</th>
<th>&lt;=4 hours</th>
<th>5-8 hours</th>
<th>&gt;8 hours</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time engaged in SV</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;=4 years</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 years</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>6.67</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 years</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 12 years</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>7.78</td>
<td>16.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ii. Working hours

The study showed that 54.44% of the respondents worked for more than 8 hours per day while up to 37.78% of the respondents worked between 5 to 8 hours per day. Only 7.78% worked 4 hours or below because they have another job in addition to street vending.
More than 50% of street vendors worked six days per week while 32.22% worked seven days a week. The study also showed that men are likely to work all the days of the week than women because 34.15% of the men work for seven days a week compared to 30.61% women.

iii. Working place

This study found that all sampled street vendors operate either in bus terminals or on the street as shown in Table 8. In addition, street vendors are all mobile (hawkers) because they do not have fixed or static vending sites. The reason behind this situation is that street vending is not legally and economically supported in Kigali. For street vendors to be able to work and be flexible in running away from the authority, they choose to walk along the streets or in the public place such as bus terminals. These findings corroborate those of McGee (1973) who argued that street vendors are classified according to their locations namely markets, buses terminals, street and pathways or bazaar

Table 8: Street Vendors and their Working Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working place</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Street pavement</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>85.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public space (Bus terminal)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (both on street pavement &amp; in bus terminal)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

iv. Products sold by the street vendors

The commodities sold by street vendors are classified into three different categories (durable, consumable and fresh produce). Table 9 shows that durable products were likely to be sold by
male (41.12%) while women represented 32.22%. There were no male involved in selling fruits and vegetables. Only women were selling fruit and vegetables. The difference in gender and type of product sold is statistically significant (Chi-square Value calculated =16.39; Critical value=5.991; Df= 2 and p-value: 0.05, level of Significant=0.05). This can be explained by the fact that women are more likely to take risk in trading the products that are quickly perishable than men do.

Table 9: Categories of Items sold by gender and Street Vendors’ level of Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Items Sold</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No formal Education and Primary Education</td>
<td>Low secondary School and or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durable Female</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durable Male</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumable Female</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumable Male</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh produce Female</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh produce Male</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Durables product** include shoes, second hand clothes, hand bags, bed sheets, bed covers, telephones & Ipad, DVD-Film, soft drinks, home materials and manufactured products. **Consumables products** are cooked eggs, cooked maize, breads etc. **Fresh produce** includes fruits and vegetables.

As far as the types of products sold and street vendors’ level of education are concerned, definitive statements cannot be made on the basis of the survey; however, they may possibly reveal that the sector does not demand high level of education. Furthermore, the study also found that most of the vendors got their products from wholesalers (93.33%). Only a small percentage gets the products that they sell from retailers or even from producers.
Durables product include shoes, second hand clothes, hand bags, bed sheets, bed covers, telephones & Ipad, DVD-Film, soft drinks, home materials and manufactured products. Consumables products are cooked eggs, cooked maize, breads etc. Fresh produce includes fruits and vegetables.

Plate 5: Types of Commodities sold by Street vendors

Source: Field survey, January 2015

5.2 Driving factors that attract people to street vending

The objective one of this study was to find out the driving factors that attract people to street vending. From the literature review, searching for employment, to be self-employed, limited of education, supporting family and escaping taxes and government trade policies were among the major factors that push people into street vending. With reference to these factors, table 10 below shows the factors driving people into street vending in Kigali and how the factors were ranked by the respondents. Note that these driving factors are grouped into social and economic factors.
Table 10: Factors Attract People in Street Vending Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driving factors</th>
<th>% of the 1st ranked Factors</th>
<th>% of the 2nd ranked Factors</th>
<th>% of the 3rd ranked Factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Search for employment</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>26.67</td>
<td>5.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissatisfied with of previous employment</td>
<td>27.78</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>4.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be self-employed</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>8.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need to support and care for their my families</td>
<td>6.67</td>
<td>16.67</td>
<td>34.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6.67</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have no one to support me</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>28.89</td>
<td>14.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated with my family</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>6.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited education</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>11.11</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High taxes</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>8.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government policy</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is clear from table 10 that need for employment was the most important factor that pushed people into street vending work. The important factors that force people into street vending business are discussed below namely lack of employment, need to support and care for their families, self-reliance, unsatisfying previous employment, self-employment, and lack of education.

5.2.1 Economic Driving Factors

i. Search for employment

Looking for employment was identified as one of the important factors that drive people into street vending. Up to 40% of the respondents ranked it as a first factor that push people into street vending. This can be explained by the fact that 53.33% of the respondents had never been engaged in any other income generating activities before joining street vending. From the above statistics, street vending attracts not only those who are looking for income but also those who
are dissatisfied with formal employment. Street vendors entered into the business in order to move from their unemployment status to self-employment opportunity because it is better working on the street rather than to be classified as unemployed or beggar. Further, the capacity of formal employment sector to absorb the available workforce is gradually declining and the only option remaining is to enter into street vending to eke out a living. The rate of unemployment is increasing in Rwanda. In 2012, up 8.7 % of the urban youth were unemployment and this can explain why they prefer to work in street vending rather than being referred to as unemployed (NISR, 2014).

ii. Dissatisfaction with previous employment

Up to 46.67% of the respondents had been working before joining street vending and most of them had mentioned that the conditions they were working in were not satisfactory and they eventually decided to join their friends in street vending. Among other activities that they were engaged in are household made and cleaning. Majority of them said that the main reason they had left the previous jobs is that they were underpaid as compared to the kind of work they were asked to do. Even though today the income earned is still low, some of them are quite satisfied with the condition as one of the respondent stated:

“Before I used to teach in primary school but my friend was a street vendor. One day we discussed and he told me how much he was earning from street vending and I was surprised because that income was much higher compared to my salary. From that day I decided to come here and I am earning more than my former salary as a teacher in primary school.”
iii. Other Economic Driving Factors

The survey results revealed that very high taxes, low capital of investment, increasing income from other activities, trading parcel expensive rent in the formal market are also important economic factors that push people into street vending.

5.2.2 Social Driving Factors

i. To be self-employed

According to the survey, the main reason that people do sell on the streets was because of their interest in becoming independent and be their own bosses so that they can manage their time as they want regardless of the income which they get.

ii. Need to support and care for their families

The survey had shown that 56.67% of the vendors have a family size of more than one. This shows that the majority of street vendors have full responsibility for at least one person to take care of in addition to themselves. This explains their need to look for a where they can earn money so that they can be able to support and care for their own families. Those who are still single indicated that they help partly their families using the income earned in their daily street business.

iii. I have no one-else to support me, hence self-reliance

According to the survey, many people were single and they come from poor families. Others are orphans and have to take care of their siblings or to help the families that they have left in rural areas. Therefore, they end up in street vending as a way of tracing their livelihood and also
helping their family as a result of having no support from elsewhere, hence they are forced to be self-reliant.

iv. Limited education

In the survey, 40% and 24% had only primary education level or even less and 9 years of basic education respectively. For them, it is more difficult to find a formal job than those who had at least secondary education. Since, it is not easy for them to find formal jobs; they look for something else that enables them to earn some money. Most of them end up by joining street vending as it is easy to exercise this activity whether you are educated or not. However, due to unemployment condition, even some educated people with secondary and tertiary level of education join street vending as an open door to self-reliance by earning money from the products sold on the street.

5.3 Economic contribution of street vending to livelihoods

The objective two of this study was to find out the economic contribution of street vending to livelihood urban poor by focusing on street vendors. The economic contribution of street vending to livelihood of urban poor in Kigali is analyzed and discussed in this section

i. Ownership of Goods sold by Street vendors

The finding of the survey showed that 95.56 % of the respondent are owners of their business while only 4, 44% did not own the goods that they were selling. For those who were not owners of the goods they were selling, their employer was either a street vendor or a wholesaler. This shows that street vendors can create employment opportunities not only for those who own the
goods to be sold but also to other people. Here, for example, there are formal market operators or street vendors who hire people into street vending as a way of increasing income.

ii. Income level

Street vending is an employment like any other, although it is not legally recognized in many countries. However, it gives opportunities for earning money and enhancing livelihood especially for poor people who do not have another alternative opportunity in urban areas. Because of the heterogeneity of groups involved in these activities, it would not be appropriate to assume that there is similarity in income from street vending activities. The income of street vendors depends on various factors such as the type of merchandise sold, the place where they operate from, working hours etc. Figure 7 and 8 reveal respectively the daily income status and the amount of daily expenditures that street vendors can possibly make.

The average daily income among the respondents was 5092 Rwf (7.275 USD) per day with a mode of 3000 Rwf (4.29USD)/day and a daily medium of 4759 Rwf (6.78USD). From the figure 7, the two main considerable portions of the respondents (46.67% and 43.33%) had a daily income ranging from 1500 to 4500 Rwf (2.14 to 6.43 USD) and 4500 to 7500 Rwf (6.43 to 10.71 USD) respectively. The total number of respondents in the next income category of 7500-10500 Rwf (10.71 -15 USD) amounted to 5.56% while 2.22% of the respondents had an income ranging between 10500 and 14500 Rwf (15 and 20.71 USD) per day. The lowest income per day was 1500 Rwf (2.14 USD) while the highest among the respondents was to 17500 Rwf (25 USD).
When it comes to daily expenditures as shown in figure 8, the average and the mode of daily expenditure among street vendors in Kigali was 2500 Rwf (3.57 USD). The lowest spending was 800 Rwf (1.14 USD) while the highest was 5000 Rwf (7.14 USD) per day. This shows that the daily expenses were lower than the income earned; meaning that besides meeting low income person’s daily needs, there is a small surplus that it is saved for a rainy day and for further investment.

Figure 7: Daily Income

Figure 8: Daily Expenditure
As indicated above, the average net income of the street vendors evolved around 5092 Rwf (7.275 USD) per day. The international poverty line is 1USD per day and if a street vendor is the only breadwinner supporting 3 people in a family (2.04 average people in a family), with an average of 7.275USD per day, street vendors will therefore fall above the poverty line though they are still classified as poor. In actual facts, the income earned makes them look better off since there is a positive impact on the side of the street vendors and even on the side of the government in terms of achieving its goals of poverty reduction.

But these results sharply contradict the findings of those researchers who in the past reported that street vendors live below 1 USD per day, with the understanding that most of the street vendors are indeed the major income earners in their families. In this regard, our findings can shake the understanding which had been made by those researchers who earlier said that street vendors and their families can be categorized as the poorest among the urban poor because their living income was below 1 USD per day (Kusabe, 2006; Agnello & Moller, 2004).

Figure 9 describes the average daily income and daily expenditure distributions and variations among the street vendors. As matter of facts, the daily income line remains above the daily expenditure, meaning that street vending option really impacts their life and improve street vending operators’ livelihood.
Figure 9: Daily Income and Daily Expenditure Distributions among the Street Vendors

When street vendors were asked what happens when they are unable to earn enough to cover their daily expenses, 69% of the respondents said that such situation never occurs once they were able to wake up healthy and come to sell their commodities on the street as one of the respondent said:

- “when I wake up healthy in the morning and be able to come here on the street for trading, I never end up the day without a minimum income that can help me to cover my daily expenditure”

On the other hand, 15.56% said that when such situation occurs, they use money that they had saved previously. Up to 7.78% said that they get help from their husband or wife for those who are married. A small percentage of respondents said that they borrow money from their colleagues and give it back the next day.
iii. Comparison of street vending income against low income family salaries in Rwanda

In Rwanda, like elsewhere in the world, the population is classified into the three categories based to their incomes. These are high class group, middle class and low class groups of income. Our study focused on the low income group. The low income group in Rwanda is a group of people who earn between 100,000 and 300,000 Rwf per month (164 to 493 USD) and less than 100,000 Rwf per month (164 USD). Low income class group is again divided into three segments. The first segment includes those who earn lesser than 100,000 Rwf (<164 UDS) per month. The second segment includes those who earn between 100, 000 Rwf and 200,000 Rwf (165 and 329 USD) and lastly the third segment comprises those who earn between 200,000 and 300,000 Rwf (330 to 493 USD). According to our field findings, street vendors operated on average of 25 days per month. Therefore, the monthly average income among street vendors in Kigali is 127, 300 Rwf (182 USD), the families of street vendor fall within the second segment of low income class group.

The average monthly income for a street vendor (127, 300 Rwf ~ 182 USD) is almost equal to some low cadre employees in the formal sector such as cleaners, skilled service and sales workers etc. This can be explained by the survey results of Rwanda wage survey that had been conducted in 2012. This study showed that the skilled service and sales workers earned 38,400 Rwf (55 USD) per month while the highest wage earned in agriculture, manufacturing and construction was 160, 080 Rwf (228 USD). The same study again has shown that only 49 % of the population sampled in that study was paid on or above the standard Rwanda poverty line which is 118,000 Rwf (169 USD) per month. The company cleaner workers are paid 20,000Rwf (29 USD) per month (Besamusca, et al, 20013). The gross monthly salary of a headmaster in a
primary school equals to 111, 431 Rwf (160 USD) while a primary school teacher earn a monthly gross salary of 59, 125 Rwf (85USD) (Rwanda, 2013). From the average income earned by street vendors, this study concludes that the income of street vendors is above the poverty line and is much more than or nearer to most salaries of some low cadre employees in the formal sector.

The same scenario has been found in Tanzania where street vendors earn more than formal employees in management positions. Others claimed to be earning nearly as much as the government employees with minimum wages (Babere, 2013). However, those in employment get some advantages that street vendors do not access to, such as pension and bonus, job security or a guaranteed regular income etc. Despite the fact that street vendors do not get the additional advantages, the incomes generated from their activities enable them to send their children to school and to pay for monthly house rent as well as buying household utilities and affording medical services.

**iv. Income levels and gender of street vendors**

The average daily income earned in the street vending sector is likely to be higher among men than women but this difference is not statistically significant (Chi-square calculated value=3.27; Critical value= 11.070; Df= 5, P-value= 0.659; level of significant= 0.05). Men earn an average of 5465 Rwf (7.80USD) per day while women earn 4780 Rwf (6.83USD) per day. This is about 136, 625 Rwf (195.17 USD) and 119, 500Rwf (170.71 USD) per month for men and women respectively. This difference can be explained by the difference in working hours per days, working days per week, and the types of products sold.
v. Income levels and age cohort of street vendors

Differences in earnings are especially significant between age groups: a total of 16.67% of the respondents aged between 16 and 25 earned 2,996 Rwf (4.28USD)/day while 28.89% of the respondents who were 26 to 35 years old earned 6,000 Rwf (8.57 USD) per day. This difference is statistically significant (Chi-square calculated value=38.47; Critical value=37.652; Df=25, P-value=0.042; level of significant=0.05) though the correlation between these two variables is low 0.23.

**Figure 10: Comparison of Age and Daily Income for Respondents**

vi. Income levels and education levels of street vendors

Earnings also varied with the education level though the difference is not statistically significant where a high percentage of those who had lower secondary school or more got a higher daily income than those with only primary education or no formal education as illustrated in table 11. (Chi-square calculated value=4.09; Critical value=11.070; Df=5, P-value=0.536; level of significant=0.05).
Table 11: Level of Education and Daily Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income/day</th>
<th>Overall Respondents</th>
<th>Primary Education or less (%)</th>
<th>Lower Secondary Education and Above (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 1500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1501-4500</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>46.67</td>
<td>12.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4501-7500</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>43.33</td>
<td>8.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7501-10500</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10501-14500</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;14500</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>22.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

vii. Income level and type of product sold

The disparities in terms income generated also depended on the type of goods sold as figure 11 illustrates it. The difference in income level and type of product sold is statistically significant (Chi-square calculated value=20.95; Critical value= 18.307; Df= 10, P-value=0.021; level of significant=0.05). Therefore, the conclusion is that the income among street vendors depends on the types of commodities sold.

Figure 11: Type of Commodities Sold and Daily Income
viii. Income level and place of vending

Street vendors’ activities are carried out in different parts of urban spaces. This study focused on vendors from three kinds of urban locations: along transport ways (streets) in the centre business district (CBD), in a residential area, and in a public space commonly known as Nyabugogo National Car Parking (bus terminal) and along with the streets surrounding the bus terminal. The CBD and the public area (bus terminal) tended to have more formal markets with denser populations of both consumers and street vendors, and at the end of the day; they are likely to earn more money. For instance, public area and the CBD street vendors earned a daily average income of 4,440 Rwf (6.34 USD) up to 6,440 Rwf (9.20 USD) respectively while those who were based in non-central areas earned 4,200 Rwf (6 USD) per day. Therefore, the more the place of vending is exposed to dense people traffic, the more the income generated owing to buyers’ increased purchasing power.

ix. Street vendors and honest living

Street vendors unanimously said that street vending activity helped them to honestly make their livelihood without engaging in anti-social activities as one of the respondent stated:

“I think that trading on a street or in bus terminal helps us as well as our country because once you come to work here, you are busy and you are able to earn the little money for making an honest living instead of waiting for help from nowhere or thinking of making money in other bad ways such as stealing or prostitution”

In fact, the income earned helped the street vendors in different ways as related to their specific needs, priorities and responsibilities. Among others, it was used in supporting family, monetary
savings or further investment (e.g. investing in other economic activities). In addition to this, the income generated served as a new capital to buy more commodities to sell on the street. Street vendors had also formed an informal social saving group known as *ikimina* locally and the members of the group agree on certain amount they have to save on daily or week basis. These social saving groupings have helped them to save some money to be able to help themselves especially as members when need be.

Table 12: Use of Money from Street vending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of money from Street Vending</th>
<th>1st ranked usage</th>
<th>2nd ranked usage</th>
<th>3rd ranked usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>support family</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>48.89</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saving money in monetary terms</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>44.44</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buy more commodities to sell</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saving money in good terms</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>90</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On the top this, the income generated from street vending enabled them to pay house rents, household utilities, medical fees, school fees and buy adequate school equipment and uniforms for those parents who have children at schooling age. The survey indicated that 95.56 % of respondents were able to pay medical insurance for themselves and for their children for those who had. Actually in Rwanda, there is a government policy regarding a community-based health insurance known as Mutuelle de Santé locally where each and every Rwandese pay 3000 Rwf (4.3 USD) per year to have access to all basic local health services upon a co-payment of 200 Rwf (approximately 0.28 USD) per visit in public hospitals or health centers. The findings indicated, the average size of one household was 2.04 persons, say approximately 3 persons. One
street vendor is able to pay the amount for his/her household in order to have access to basic
health services without any problem thanks to the income from street vending activities.

Education in Rwanda is free and every child can attend free public primary school. Paying
school fees, therefore, refers to the capacity of paying school fees in private or other institutions
since in all public schools are free up to 12 years of basic education. In this study, 22
respondents had children of schooling age, 13 of them (59.09%) were able to pay school fees in
other institutions that were not public while the rest of them (9 respondents) were not able to do
so. Furthermore, 19 respondents from among the 22 who had children of schooling age
(86.36 %) were able to buy enough school equipment and uniforms for their children.

All in all, the income generated from street vending activities had helped the operators to
improve their socioeconomic wellbeing. For instance in Rwanda, there is a concept called
“Ubudehe”. This concept is one of Rwanda’s national programs geared towards fighting against
poverty and where the population of Rwanda is classified into four different categories
depending on their wealth level so that the government could be able to help the poor to improve
their lifestyle based on the category they are classified in. The first categories of Ubudehe group
the people who are very poor while the last category groups the people who are rich. According
to the survey, 91.01% of the respondents were in the first category of Ubudehe but, after joining
street vending, they were classified in the second category of Ubudehe.

Income and expenditure were significantly related with a positive moderate correlation of 0.61.
This result supports the hypothesis which states that street vending contributes to improvement
of the livelihood of low income households through income generation. Income generation
determines therefore what to spend and this defines the kind of livelihood one can be basically having.

Income generation contributes to the livelihood improvement. Most of the issues associated with urban poverty are related to the lack of decent income. The urban poor do not have real income, yet they need to meet their basic needs in terms of food, water, shelter, education and health care services. Lack of income really means that their diet is insufficient for good health and that it is very difficult for them to pay fees in order to invest in education and training which might eventually enable them to obtain average wages. In addition, lack of income also means that saving and securing assets is very hard, rendering thus households particularly vulnerable to all sorts of crises. Having to pay medical bills, for example, may mean that families become indebted to a local money lender. But with income generated through street vending, vendors are able to properly and honestly meet their basic needs and this contributes to improving their livelihoods.

x. Other sources of income for street vendors

During the survey, the sampled street vendors were requested to indicate whether they were engaged in other jobs which serve as their source of income in addition to the income obtained from street vending. Accordingly, 88.89% of 90 interviewed were not engaged in any other job. They only relied on the income from street vending business. The remaining 11.11% were engaged in other activities while two of them were students; for the students this means that they do not get income from the additional activity they are engaged in. These two students simply come to vend on the street after school in order to help their family to increase income or to help
pay school fees. The remaining eight respondents get income from the activity they were engaged in; plus the income earned from the street vending.

The average income earned from those additional activities to street vending equals to 47,600 Rwf per month (86 USD/ month). It is interesting to note that majority of street vendors rely on the income that get from street vending. The survey also showed that among the eight respondents who were engaged in other activities in addition to street vending, six of them are educated and have low secondary school or even more level of education. The same result was noted in Mekelle City in Ethiopia, where the majority of street vendors only relies on street vending (95%) while only 4% had other sources of income (Kebede, 2011).

**xi. Other advantages of street vending**

Street vending plays a key role in social welfare as well as in the national economy by providing livelihoods to street vendors, through selling goods and commodities at affordable prices to the poorer segment of the urban population and by providing retail markets to goods produced in small and large industries.

**a) Benefits of being a street vendor**

The street vendors get a certain range of opportunities from their activities. The study revealed that all street vendors pointed out that their activities give them an opportunity to receive cash on daily basis and it helps them to meet their daily needs as they also improve gradually their livelihood. This can be confirmed by the fact that more than 90% of the respondents were able to change their social-economic status for the better, thanks to street vending activities.
In this regard, up to 94.44% of the respondents said that street vending gives them an opportunity of not paying taxes and about 95.56% pointed out that they helped themselves and their families while 98.89% said that street vending was a source of employment for those who cannot get any other job for in their livelihoods. In the same way, up to 4% of the respondents said that being a street vendor was helping them to satisfy their day-to-day needs without asking or waiting for assistance. The economic independence and daily income generation contributed to their feeling good about the business.

b) Street vending and urban community

Street vending does not only benefit the operators of this sector but also, it serves the community as a whole particularly the poorer segment of urban areas. Some of the residents in urban areas might not have the capacity to buy goods that are sold in the formal shops or market and supermarket due to low income and poverty. Consequently, street vending greatly contributes to helping these inhabitants through distribution of retailed goods, even at very small quantities and at low prices compared to the formal business operators. This is because they do not pay for public space rent that they use nor trading taxes.

In addition, street vending provides commodities in very small quantities so that everyone can be served according to their capacity. Furthermore, street vending acts as an opportunity for low investment in small business for the poor people in the city. It becomes clear that street vending plays a major role in keeping busy the persons who are engaged in it and reduce the number of people who would otherwise engage in anti-social behaviors (theft, prostitution, crime, vending drugs etc.). In addition to this, vendors conveniently take the goods and services to the customers
needed while returning to their homes from office, church or any other places. Hence, a lot of time is saved in making street purchase.

Street vending is related to urban low income economy through different market linkages with suppliers, intermediaries, and customers ranging from close acquaintances with the general public to formal enterprises. Part of the income from street vending goes to government institutions such as schools, hospitals, etc.

5.4 Spatial effects of street vending on the urban environment

Objective three of this study was to find out the spatial effects of street vending on the urban environment. With reference to literature review, the most common spatial effects of street vending include human and motorized traffic flow congestion and the environment. In this study, table 13 shows the results on traffic congestion.

Table 13: Spatial Impact of Street Vending: human and motorized Traffic Flow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents operating place</th>
<th>Do you think that street vending causes motorized traffic congestion</th>
<th>Do you think that street vending causes human traffic congestion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pubic space (Nyabugogo national bus terminals and surrounding street pavements)</td>
<td>83.33% (n=25)</td>
<td>26.67% (n=5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD</td>
<td>33.33% (n=10)</td>
<td>66.67% (n=20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street pavement in Residential area (Kinamba)</td>
<td>10% (n=3)</td>
<td>90% (n=27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>42.22% (n=38)</td>
<td>57.78% (n=52)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.4.1 Motorized Traffic Flow

As clearly seen from the Table 13, the vendors were asked if street vending is one of the causes of human or motorized traffic congestion. In this regard, 42.22% of vendors in all the three different zones surveyed (Nyabugogo, CBD and Kinamba) agreed on the fact that the activity itself can be a source of traffic congestion. But they added that they do not cause motorized traffic jams because they never get in the middle of roads for trading. However, they may cause traffic accidents when they are attempting to escape from or to hide from the local authorities when they come to arrest them or to evict them. Up to 57.78 % of the respondents said that they operate on the sides of the roads and they do not interfere with vehicle and motorcars movement. One of the respondents said:

“We never cause motorized traffic jam like preventing the flow of vehicles but what I see is that we can cause accidents when we are running away from the authorities when they come to arrest us or to confiscate our commodities. At that time, we run away in any direction and cross the road without even being careful. This can be a source of vehicle accidents. We never stand in the middle of the road for vending.”

From observation, the street vendors in Kigali never stand in the middle of transport ways. They are always on the sides of the roads. From table 13 above, the group of street vendors in the bus terminal and surrounding area agreed on the fact that they were sometimes a potential source of road accidents.
5.4.2 Human Traffic Flow

The vendors (88.89%) agreed that they cause human congestion because they normally operate on pedestrian pathways and in the middle of bus terminal where many people pass during the day. Therefore, they hindered the movement of pedestrians. Street vending exercises a negative effect on urban environment because the vendors operate in unauthorized places which cause conflict of land use and this is often reported as one of the negative effects of street vending operations in urban areas. However, they still need to operate in those spaces as there is no provision of appropriate spaces for this kind of activity.

5.4.3 Environment Effects

From an observation of view, the streets in Kigali are generally clean and as such street vending does not contribute much to create environmental problems such as the generation of excess filth and littering. This is because of culture that already exists in the street of Kigali where everyone is responsible for keeping Kigali City clean. In addition, most of the street vendors sell durable commercial commodities which do not generate a lot of garbage.
5.5 Challenges in street vending

The objective four of this study was to explore and analyze different challenges that street vendors face in their businesses. The literature review revealed street vendors face challenges such as conflict with local authority, lack of capital, lack of business skills, lack regulations, lack trading sites, and access to basic infrastructure. This section describes the analysis of those challenges as ranked by the respondents.
i. Lack of working space

Accessing working space was reported as an important factor in any commercial business in any urban area particularly the prime locations. Since, street vending was not legally recognized in Kigali, as an economic activity, there is no authorized space for these types of activities. The street traders have to struggle to get access spaces for trading their goods. This explains why all of street vendors accessed their working space through invasion. A majority of street vendors ranked lack of working space as the first constraint that they face in their everyday activities.

Plate 8: Invasion of Pedestrian pathways by street vendors  Plate 9: Invasion of Space in the Bus Terminal
Source: Field survey, January 2015

ii. Harassment and eviction

Using a public space as a place of work is a defining feature of street trade. Most countries’ constitutions grant regulatory authority over urban public space to local governments, but few local governments formally recognize public space as a livelihood resource. Except in places where historic street markets (like Makola market in central Accra) have been preserved, street
vendors from Ahmedabad, Lima, and Nakuru city report ongoing challenges to access a secure and stable workplace (Roever, 2014).

This is the case in Kigali where harassment and eviction from the selling points were identified as an important challenge faced by street vendors. Despite the local government’s regular involvement harassing of street vendors, street vendors continued to work in the same areas within the city. Harassment was part and parcel of their everyday experience and as they said during the survey, they took it as a challenge which so far had not been addressed and do not make them stop their activities. The harassment defines the vulnerability of the sector.

iii. Confiscation of commodities
On top of harassment, street vendors were exposed to confiscation of their goods. This leads to inevitable heavy losses. When the local city authority seizes and confiscates their commodities, then they lose their capital and they have to start afresh. This was a challenge which does not absolutely help street vendors in improving their livelihood because once the commodities are confiscated, they never get them back. Several vendors reported that confiscation of their merchandises undermined their ability to meet their household needs.

iv. Lack of social security
In Kigali City, street vendors have no social benefits because they are not legally recognized. They do not have access to insurance, whether for their goods or for their own-life. This was a challenge because everyone should have access to some social security rights. During eviction and harassment, street vendors’ products are directly confiscated and never get them back. They are beaten or jailed because they do not enjoy any social security benefit or belong to an organization to protect or defend their rights.
v. Lack of freedom during street vending operations

Confiscations of goods by local authority were not only economically costly, but some of the street vendors spoke of the humiliation and frustration they go through. Street vendors are neither allowed to trade on the street nor in any public space. In this regard, they do run their business freely and as a result, they are psychologically unstable and tortured by fear of being arrested, jailed or of losing their capital through seizure and confiscation of their goods.

vi. Lack of access to credit

Most street vendors are from poor families and they cannot provide collateral in order to access credit. In such a case, their investment in business is always small which result in low profits. Consequently, street vendors are not really able to change their informal status into formal one as they are not able to meet the requirements.

Table 14: Current Challenges Faced by Street Vendors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of the item</th>
<th>First ranked challenges</th>
<th>2nd ranked challenges</th>
<th>3rd ranked challenges</th>
<th>4th ranked challenges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of working space</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>33.33</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harassment and eviction</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31.11</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of social security</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of freedom during operation</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12.23</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too much competition</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confiscation of commodities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working place is unsanitary and hazardous</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evictions by private shops guards</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No access to credit</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unprofitability of the business</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>82</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>90</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some respondents identified more than four top challenges as presented in table while some more were simply omitted.

The study found that for all the three different groups surveyed (public space, CBD and one residential area), lack of working place was a common challenge and a first one faced by all street vendors. But when it comes to harassment by local government, public spaces and CBD street vendors ranked it as a second challenge while residential area street vendors ranked lack of working space as their second challenge.

Due to these challenges faced, street vendors’ location sites are influenced by various factors for them to overcome the challenges and to maximize the profit. In general, street trading occurs in different parts of the city due to various factors. Most street vendors locate themselves in places with dense flow of human traffic, accessible, and secured. They also prefer a place where consumers of their commodities pass. This study found the following considerations in the choice of a street vending business location.

**a) Availability of customers and accessibility of location**

The availability of consumers and the accessibility of location were ranked as the first among other factors taken into consideration when street vendors choose a place for street trading. Majority of the street vendors said that operating away from their homes does not bother them as long as their business is taking place in an area where there is a good flow of customers to buy what they are selling during their working hours. This can be explained the high number of street vending in the busiest streets of the CBD and in buses terminals.
b) Site with potential of high profit

The respondents indicated that a place with more profit attracts them. A location that generates more profit of course is accessible and consumers are available. The locations that meet these considerations include CBD and other open places frequented by many people. The study revealed that the more street vendors operate in the city centre, the higher the profit compared to those who were operating in a place which was far from the centre or in suburban areas. This factor was demonstrated in this study because survey results showed that the street vendors in CBD who operate in the CBD had more average daily income than those who operate from other area.

c) Sites that have high security

Security was ranked as one of the most important factors that guide people when they choose a place where they can operate from. Street vendors considered security both in terms of their own personal security and the security of their goods.

d) Site where it is easy to hide from the authorities

Street vending in Kigali is not supported as a legal economic activity. However, people still trade along the streets to survive. Therefore, they choose a place where they are able to hide themselves from the authorities when city authorities come to arrest them or to confiscate their products. Majority of street vendors either hide themselves in or behind the shops of formal operators or hide their goods in those shops. Formal business operators are willing to cooperate with street vending operators, especially hiding them when the harassment occurs. It is worthy noticing that with this kind of relationship, it will be very hard to eliminate this business of street vending.
In addition to the above discussed considerations in the choice of the location of street vending site, street vendors were also likely to trade at a place which is not far from their home in order to avoid their transport fair but still they look for a place with heavy pedestrian traffic. Another factor that determines local street vending location is a place where street vendors can easily hide from the city authorities when they come to arrest them or to confiscate their goods.

According to Mitullah (2003), street vendors locate themselves along main roads and streets, near shopping centres or at corners where they can be seen by pedestrians and motorists. Street traders operate on sites with heavy human traffic and in streets spontaneously without any official allocation.

![Figure 12: Location Factors for Street Vendors in Kigali](image)
5.6 Prospects in street vending

Street vending as an economic activity to improve the livelihood of operators should have other future prospects that are indeed different from the current ones. The following section presents the different views from the respondents about the future and views from government officials.

5.6.1 Street vending association in Kigali

In Kigali and in Rwanda in general, there is no single association for street vendors. This was been confirmed by Kigali City authorities during the interview conducted with them in the course of the survey. They said that there is no association for street vendors in Kigali for the moment, but there exist only cooperatives for those who accept to forget about street vending activities and opt for other formal businesses. The city authority also reported that different national programmes exist to help poor people fight against poverty. Therefore, street vendors are encouraged to come up with cooperatives in order for them to get the opportunities from
those programmes because no one can have access to those opportunities while still running street vending activities.

On the contrary, countries like Tanzania, South Africa, and some country in Asia, street vendors’ associations exist within an organized system. This is a clear indicator that Kigali City has not yet recognized the advantages of the sector and does not include it in national or local economic activities which have their own advantages and disadvantages as in any other business. Until now street vending activity is seen as an eyesore to the beauty of the city.

5.6.2 Expectation from street vendors on street vending activity

Due to various reasons presented in table 13, 79% of street vendors would opt to stop street vending and opt for other alternative livelihoods activity to improve their lifestyle while 21% would not opt for another livelihood pattern. There is any statistical significance between the option of accepting to opt or not opt another livelihood (Chi-square calculated value=0.72; Critical value= 7.815; Df= 3, P-value=0.868; level of significant=0.05).

From the table 15, street vendors said that if they can change the business, they will get a chance to work without government harassment, enjoy a peaceful environment without confiscation of their goods, being beaten, jailed or dishonored. But they added that they were willing to change their livelihood option if they were able to acquire better jobs, which paid them equally or more than they were earning. Others said they wished to work decently in a formal work or business which would help more in the national economy as they will be paying taxes.
Figure 13: Willingness to opt for another livelihood and education

Table 15: Expectation from the Vendors on Street Vending activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Respondents%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reason for opting for another livelihood</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chance of working without government harassment</td>
<td>49.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chance of working decently in a formal way</td>
<td>7.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working in a peaceful environment</td>
<td>15.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With known place and known formal business, one can get credit or any other help easily</td>
<td>4.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV does not help so much in improving livelihoods due to different challenges faced</td>
<td>1.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No one can refuse it as long as we get the profit which is more or equal to what we earn today</td>
<td>14.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV is the only way of getting job for those who lack employment, but most of us do not like it</td>
<td>8.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reason for not opting for another livelihood</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV requires low investment</td>
<td>10.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not tax involved</td>
<td>21.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit is enough</td>
<td>15.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I cannot get profit as much I get when I am in street vending</td>
<td>21.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not pay rent fees for the parcel from which to trade on</td>
<td>5.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV is to increase income that I get from other jobs</td>
<td>21.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV is a flexible job</td>
<td>5.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the same attitude was revealed by street Vendors in Mekelle City in Ethiopia. Majority of street vendors in Mekelle city said that they want to change the business and do something
else other than selling on the street (Kebede, 2011). Contrary to these, most of street vendors in Botswana had a positive attitude towards the sector and they expressed the feeling that they would want to remain in the street vending as a type of employment. However, the people have faced bottlenecks like lack of capital, income, skill and other factors that affect the expansion of self-employment activities (Kapunda & Mmolawa, 2006). Up to 21.11% of respondents who were willing to continue working as street vendors, claim that they cannot get as much profit as they get in street vending, or there are no taxes paid or that they do street vending as a way of increasing the income they got elsewhere in order to meet their basic needs.

5.6.3 Changing current selling location

Majority of street vendors (83.33%) were willing to shift towards an alternative places instead of selling goods on a street or at the bus terminal (public space) because they hope that the challenges they face will be reduced and this will help them to earn more money and be more stable. But they said that other alternative spaces for trading should be places which attract customers and which are easily accessible in order to be able to get clients and make more profit. They said so because they were not willing to be relocated to such inaccessible places. Note that this is where the ideas of land use and location theory should come in to provide useful insights to urban planners and designers. With this theory in mind, central locations attract formal businesses and offices since they are able to bring the highest rents, due to the accessibility of such locations. Therefore, the same claims are made by the street vendors; and such locations equally become the best choices for the street vendors. But up to 16.67% of the respondents said they cannot accept to sell in any other place other than on the street or public
place because they believed that there is no any other place where they can earn enough profit as they do in the streets.

5.6.4 Willingness to pay taxes

The street vendors did not pay taxes due to their mode of operation and again their activities were not legally registered. Majority of the vendors (78.89 %) said that if they can be relocated in prime urban areas which attract customers, they are very much willing to pay taxes as one of the respondent claimed:

“If I chose to come and sell on the street, it is not because I refused to pay taxes but it is because my capital investment was very low and I could not be able to pay for selling place rent fees and taxes at the same time and remain with some money for making my life bearable. Truly, currently taxes and selling places rent fees are high compared to my investment capacity.”

In addition, they added that they were willing to pay taxes but also the government should make it commensurate with their earnings. On the other hand, 21.11 % of the respondents said that they are not willing to pay any taxes.

5.6.5 Banning street vending

Street vendors were asked if they support the street vending ban in Kigali City; about 84.44% of the respondents did not support such a political agenda. This may indicate that street vending activities will be there for a long time even if the government continues to ban these kinds of business. People always find a way of coping with harassment from the authorities and they are able to earn enough to make life bearable for themselves or for their families.
Table 16 shows various reasons given by the respondents as to why they did not support the street vending ban. Some vendors (18.42%) claimed that their wealth does not allow them to pay taxes as in the formal sector. Therefore, there should not be a ban on street vending as some people do not have any other means of earning a livelihood apart from street vending. Others claimed that street vending ban will absolutely lead to loss due to confiscation or harassment when the authority is enforcing the ban policy. In short, a total success in street vending ban could negatively impact the livelihood of many people especially those who depend on it for survival and this could also harm urban economic growth at all levels.

However, a proportion of 15.56% of the street vendors support the street vending ban because they see this sector as a disorganized and unsupported business which brings various negative consequences on their lives. As a matter of fact, they are not comfortable in working in such conditions for all their whole lives unless these conditions could be changed for the better. The sector does not pay taxes and this leads to decreasing the rate of development of a country as the country loses some revenues in tax collection from the sector through the taxes evasion.

Table 16: Expectation of Street Vendors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Respondent (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Reason for not supporting street vending ban</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of my job</td>
<td>28.95(n=22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My level of wealth and my capital cannot allow me to pay taxes</td>
<td>18.42(n=14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV creates employment for us</td>
<td>18.42(n=14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss due to confiscation of goods and harassment</td>
<td>9.21(n=7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of this opportunity of trading on street or in public space</td>
<td>9.21(n=7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habit for me to SV</td>
<td>5.26(n=4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My level of wealth and my capital cannot allow me to pay rent for the parcel</td>
<td>2.63(n=2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I will have to pay taxes in formal market</td>
<td>2.63(n=2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of capital Investment because it is not mine</td>
<td>2.63(n=2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict with authorities</td>
<td>2.63(n=2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00(n=76)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There is no statistical significance between the education and the support of street vending ban in Kigali among the respondents (Chi-square calculated value= 4.75; Critical value= 7.815; Df= 3, P-value= 0.191; level of significant=0.05).

5.6.6 Extent to which street vending business serves the poor communities

In different cities around the world, especially in developing countries, the urban poor survive by working in the informal sector, especially in street vending. Majority of the respondents said that street vending contributed to job creation through small scale business for the people who do not have enough capital to start a formal business. Therefore, this group seeks the job opportunity in street vending and revenue generation for themselves and for their families. About 25.56% of the respondents see this sector as a means of helping the poor communities in urban areas to purchase at affordable prices. In fact, the sector helps the urban poor to some extent meet their daily needs.
Furthermore, 12.22% of vendors believed that street vending contributed to the improvement of the livelihood for both street vendors and clients of their services. The street vendors gain income while clients obtain services at an affordable cost. Up to 8.89% agreed that they are able to help their families from street vending income which is a positive outcome.

Approximately, 3.33% of the respondents said that the sector helps the poor people from engaging into antisocial activities such as stealing and prostitution as the sector keeps people busy while honestly earning money for their livelihood. Only 1.11% believed that the sector reduced the number of beggars. Some respondents (7.78%) took street vending as a way of earning a livelihood even if the street vendors can go for years without any improvement on their social status but at least they are able to meet their needs. Up to 12.22% said that the sector helped customers to get commodities not far from their homes especially for the poor. In that way, transport cost is saved for use in other purposes.

![Figure 15: Extent to which street vending business serves poor communities](image-url)
5.7 Need for support from the government and non-government organization

The survey included a question on the type of support that street vendors need from government and non-governmental organizations to improve the operating conditions in the sector and their livelihoods. Up to 96.67 % of the street vendors wanted different types of support from government and non-governmental organizations, in order to improve their activities and livelihoods while 3.33 % did not want any support at all.

5.7.1 Formulating Favorable Rules and Regulations for street vending

A high proportion of 92.22% of street vendors needed support from the government in terms of formulating vendors-friendly rules and regulations to guide street vendors in a secure and reliable environment without fear of being arrested or of facing the various challenges as they do face today.

5.7.2 Access to Work Places

The survey revealed that 88.89 % of the respondents needed access to a working place where they can sell their commodities. The remaining 11.11 % said that they do not care either accessing or not an authorized working place or not. According to the street vendors, the work space which should be assigned to them by the government needs to be a conducive place for selling various commodities. They said that the place should be accessed to by many customers; for example, it should be located in the CBD or near the transport networks within the city. In addition, the place should have facilities such as, water, toilets, and electricity. The street vendors pointed out that if the allocated working place is not accessible, they may run away from those places and return back to the street to sell their commodities.
5.7.3 Access to Credit

Up to 82.22% of the respondents (street vendors) highlighted that they need to have access to credit in order to improve their business or change the kind of business. Credit would increase their capital which can help them to maintain variety, quality, and consistency in the stock that they offered to customers once they are allocated with conducive sites for selling or when they need to relocate to the formal market. Without capital, one can never think of joining the formal market, because he/she cannot be competitive due to lack of enough goods.

5.7.4. Receiving Training on Entrepreneurship

Up to 80% of the respondents said that they wish to get some training on entrepreneurship, so as to be able to improve their business. This shows that they are willing to make changes to their work if they gain more knowledge on entrepreneurship of small scale enterprises. As previously said most of the vendors agreed on the fact that they are willing to change the working place and are willing to pay taxes. If they could get some training, it could allow them to improve their thoughts on doing business and contribute to increasing of their income.
CHAPTER SIX: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 Summary

6.0.1 Introduction

The study aimed at analyzing the characteristics and contributions of street vending on livelihoods in urban areas of Kigali, the Capital City of Rwanda. The study looked at the factors driving people into street vending, the economic contribution of street vending on livelihoods of low income households, spatial effects of street vending, challenges faced by street vendors and the kinds of support needed by street vendors in order to improve their trade and livelihoods. The study sought to answer five research questions as follows:

a) What factors attract people to engage in street vending?
b) What are the economic contributions of street vending on livelihoods of low income urban households?
c) What are the spatial effects of street vending on the urban environment?
d) What are the key challenges faced by street vendors?
e) How can policy makers and other stakeholders in Kigali be made to appreciate the contribution of street vending to income generation and employment so that they can support and better manage street vending?
6.0.2 Empirical Findings

The main findings of the study were discussed in chapter five. The empirical findings were divided into various sections in line with street vending activity. Each section responds to each research question, except the first section which looked at the characteristics of street vending in Kigali. The findings were divided into follows sections: characteristics of street vending, driving factors into street vending, economic contribution of street vending on low income urban household, spatial effects of street vending on the urban environment, challenges in street vending, and support needed from government or non-government organization.

i. Characteristics of Street Vendors

The findings revealed that the average household size of street vendors was 2.04 with a maximum of six persons and a minimum of one person. The study found that 91% of the street vendors were engaged exclusively in street vending while 9% had other jobs as supplementary sources of income to the street vending activity. Regarding the marital status of the respondents, 50% were single while 24.44% were married. Another 6.67% were widowers while 3.33% were divorced. Single mother street vendors and children accounted for 13.33% and 2.22% respectively.

The study found that females (54.44%) were more than males (45.56%) in street vending. The two dominant age groups of street vendors range between 26 and 35 years old (56.67%) and between 16 to 25 years (30%). These characteristics showed that the young people have been driven to street vending by unemployment and hence use street vending as a means of earning an
honest living. The average age of the street vendors in this sector was 28.47 years old. The youngest street vendor was 14 years old while the oldest was 47 years.

With regard to education of street vendors, the study found that the majority of street vendors (44.44%) had primary education level or lower while 26.67 % had a nine year basic education. The street vendors who had completed secondary school and graduated from university accounted for 27.78% and 1.11% respectively. The entry of University graduates into street vending is an indication of the seriousness of unemployment in Kigali City.

The study findings showed that street vending activity was not a temporary occupation as more than a half of street vendors had been in the sector for more than 5 years. Furthermore, the study showed that 54.44% of the street vendors worked more than eight hours per day while 37.78 % worked between five and eight hours per day. Only 7.78 % reported working less than five hours per day. Up to 50% of the street vendors worked 6 days per week. The study also showed that the number of hours worked daily depends on the age group where a great percentage of people who worked above eight hours are aged between 26 and 30 years.

With regard to the type of street vending style, all street vendors were mobile due to the fact that the activity is not legally recognized. Street vendors prefer therefore to walk on the street/ road/ pathways while selling their goods so that they could evade the city authority law enforcement agents who come to arrest them. The study showed that 85.56 % street vendors carry out their activities along street pavements while 10% operate in public spaces such as bus terminals. The remaining 4.44 % were either on the street or in the public space.
The findings also showed that street vendors were mainly selling durable products. This category accounted for 73.33% of the street vendors. Another 17.78% of the vendors traded in fresh produce while about 8.89% of the vendors traded in consumable products such as cooked eggs, cooked maize, bread etc. In addition, almost, all the street vendors bought their commodities from wholesalers.

ii. The Driving Factors to Street Vending

The driving factors that led traders to street vending were complex and various. According to the study findings, the first ranked factor that pushed people into street vending business was the search of employment. Dissatisfaction with previous employment and the need for independence leading to self-employment were ranked as second important factors that push people into street vending. Those who were previously employed before joining the sector mentioned that they left their previous jobs because they were underpaid. In addition, social family responsibilities such as supporting families, lack of support from any sponsor were also ranked as pushing factors behind people venturing into street vending.

iii. Economic Contribution of Street Vending to Low Income Households livelihoods

A majority of street vendors (88.89%) rely on the income generated from street vending to meet their daily needs. Up to 95.56% of the vendors were self-employed while 4.44% were employed by other people. The income generated from street vending activity greatly contributes to the livelihood improvement of the street vendors as they earn more than they spend daily.

Field findings showed that the average daily income among the street vendors was approximately 5,092 Rwf (7.275 USD) while their daily expenditure is about 2,500 Rwf (3.57
USD). The monthly income averaged 127, 300 Rwf (182 USD) per month. This monthly income is far above the Rwandan poverty line mean which is equivalent to a monthly income of 118,000 Rwf (169 USD). Street vending monthly income is also equal or even more than the minimum monthly pay for some people in formal employment in some big institutions. For example, a skilled and sales agent monthly salary is 38,400 Rwf (55USD) while company cleaner workers receive only 20,000 Rwf (29 USD) per month. The primary school teacher in public schools receives a gross monthly salary of 59,125 Rwf (85 USD). The highest monthly wage in construction and manufacturing is 160,080 Rwf (228 USD).

The above figures show that street vending business contributes positively not only to street vendors’ income but also to the inhabitants in urban areas because with the income earned, they are able to obtain goods and services from other city service providers whom they pay. The findings show that from the income generated, street vendors were able to become self-reliant to meet their personal needs and to support their families. In this regard, street vendors were able to pay house rent and other house expenditures.

Income earned from street vending enable vendors to invest in education which leads to improved human capital resources. Education gives skills to people and skilled people are resources for positive change in livelihood. Some of the street vendors, especially the youth, have used income earned in acquiring for skills and education while other street vendors have invested in other income earning schemes. Street vendors are also able to pay medical fees through Mutuelle de santé. The study showed that 95.56% have access to medical services thanks to income generated in street vending. When a country has a healthy population, it is an asset. For most street vendors, their social welfare status had changed for the better after joining
the street vending sector. Indeed, the majority of street vendors were classified as very poor before joining street vending but now they are classified under the poor who are able to meet their basic needs.

Street vending does not only help people who are engaged in the sector but also other people in urban areas by selling and-retailing goods even in very small quantities and at low prices. This makes different goods and services delivery very much affordable to various groups of low income within the city. Street vending has a multiplier effect in job creation and other economic opportunities where it strengthens the economic linkages within the city by providing a market for products coming from both small and large scale enterprises in both urban and rural areas.

iv. **Spatial Effects of Street Vending**

Street vending has some negative impacts on the environmental condition of the city. One of the negative impacts is that street vending is a source of land use conflicts because the street vendors use spaces which have not been designed for trading. However, street vendors do not slow down motor traffic flow by seeking to sell their products to people in the vehicles because motorized traffic jam is not frequent in Kigali. However, street vendors can be a source of road accidents when trying to escape harassment from the city authority. The study showed that street vending creates human congestion as the street vendors take over pedestrian walk ways for trading purpose.

v. **Challenges in Street Vending**

Street vending is faced with different challenges before, during, and after the startup. According to the findings, lack of capital, harassment, lack of working space, lack of social security,
confiscation of commodities, lack of freedom, and lack of access to credit were revealed as the main challenges faced by street vendors.

Because of the above mentioned challenges which street vendors face at the work place, and during the working hours, 78.78 % of the street vendors were willing to change their source of livelihood if they can engage in alternative activities. The same percentage of street vendors was willing to pay taxes for their new location or new livelihood as long as the taxes are proportional to the business volume. Street vendors wish to work without harassment and in peaceful environments. The study also showed that 21.11 % of the respondents do not desire to leave street vending because they are unlikely to get any other profitable venture as street vending.

From the findings, street vendors would like to be assigned authorized selling points which should be accessible to and attractive to customers. The selling point should be near a road or other facilities such as bus terminals. Up to 83.33 % would not object to relocation to alternative selling places which meet the above mentioned minimum conditions.

vi. Support Needed from Government or non-Governmental Organizations

Due to the constraints faced during operation; street vendors are exposed to losses which undermine their capacity of meeting their basic needs or be able to support their dependents. Street vendors need therefore different sorts of support from the government, and even from non-government organizations or other stakeholders to promote their activities and their livelihoods. The support that street vendors require include access to authorized working spaces, access to credit, and provision of training on entrepreneurship and advice on street vending
business. Majority (92.22%) of the street vendors wish to work under a favorable environment led by a set of rules and regulations for street vending activities.

6.1 Conclusion

6.1.1 Lesson Learned

The study has established that there is a linkage between street vending and formal regulatory environment business. It has also shown the nature of entrepreneurship in street vending.

6.1.2 Linkage between Street Vending and Formal Regulatory Business Environment

The data indicated that street vendors operate “outside of” established regulatory systems and that they do not pay taxes as other formal sectors do. But the study revealed that street vendors were not able to pay taxes because the sector is not recognized by the city administration. Besides, the taxes that are paid in formal market are a bit high. Thus, they cannot afford to pay them. On the other hand, street vendors are willing to pay taxes and to be registered as urban services providers on condition that taxes can be calculated on the basis of their ability to pay. Therefore, the study suggests that there should be a policy to guide street vending taking into account the views of street vendors in this matter.

6.1.3 Entrepreneurship in Street Vending

Most of the street vendors are self-employed; they are not generally paid employees. They do not work on commission for formal business enterprises. As with other formal workers, street vendors are subjected to business risks such as sluggish demand, unreliable supply chains, etc. But again, street vendors are exposed to physical risks which formal workers are not subjected to
because they do not enjoy a legal framework as formal workers since they work without any licenses to use public spaces.

The study also established that street vending could be a growing sector beyond the survivalist opportunity and strategy, but it is hindered by the limited access to credit, lack of fixed working spaces and other challenges that undermine its development. Another major constraint is unfavorable legal environment in which street vendors work which subject them to abuses by authorities. There should, therefore, be a clear policy intervention for street vending activities. The policy should lead the sector to transformation, and provide a secure and a conducive working environment with access to credit to support increase of assets. This will lead to the sector improvement and the well-being of the street vendors.

6.1.4 Concluding thought

Development means positive change of individuals and communities well-being. Development can be achieved through accessing various means of resources by individuals and communities. According to the study, street vending is an important urban community development tool as it allows a great number of poor people in urban areas to access different resources and goods. Street vending is an alternative source of livelihood for a significant number of the urban poor. With the necessary institutional and infrastructure support, the sector can be environmentally sensitive and economically viable.

Although street vending is not legally recognized, it significantly helps in reducing unemployment, increasing incomes of the vendors, hence its contribution to the economy. Despite these benefit, Kigali city is mainly concerned with only negative impacts of street
vending which explains the harassment the street vendors are subjected to by the city authority. Therefore, in order to give value and honor to street vendors and to recognize the importance of the sector, there is a need for a regulation and control of street vending sector to ensure its sustainable development and to derive the maximum benefit from the sector. There is a need to integrate street vending activities into small scale business. It is possible to organize the sector for it to grow into a sustainable sector compared to the scale of the sector as in other countries such as China, India, Singapore, and Tanzania.

6.3 Recommendations

In light of the above findings and in order to improve street vending sector, the study suggests that the government of Rwanda considers legalizing street vending and planning for appropriate location in urban areas for street vending, registering street vending organization, registration and licensing street vendors, build capacity of street vendors, formulate a street vending policy and strengthen stakeholder relationship. The following recommendations for the City Council, Street vendors and NGOs are suggested.

6.3.1 Recommendation for the City Council

i. Legalization of street vending

Majority of street vendors around the world undertake the street vending business under threats of evictions, harassment and jail because the law does not recognize their operation within the urban areas. In some countries like India, China, South Africa and Singapore, the governments have recognized street vending as an economic sector. For example, the city of Durban has
regulations which support street vendors to operate their business in the permitted zones. In India, where there is in existence a Street Vending Act enacted in support of street vendors.

To improve livelihoods of urban poor, therefore, there is a need for the Kigali City Council to formulate supportive policies and regulations that will take into account the practical reality and current challenges faced by street vendors. This legislation may streamline the rules and regulations for street vending, making it easier to be a street vendor in Kigali city while complying with wide national and city level requirements.

Vending in public right of way should require a Street Use Permit from the Kigali City Council. There should be several different types of Street Use vending permits: Sidewalk Vending, Public space Vending, Stadium and Event Center Vending, Mobile Food Vending among others.

**ii. Provision of Business location**

Street vending is a subsector of the informal sector economy that operates in urban spaces meant for other planned uses. As the study found, street vendors’ location depends on attractiveness, accessibility, number of customers, as well as site allocation by the city authority. In order to take some initiatives to assist street vendors, in terms of business locations, the city government should assign and demarcate city specific designated and well planned restriction free street vending zones, restricted street vending zones. The no-street vending zones are to be made city specific also. This will help to incorporate street vending into the life of the city management. Those business locations should take into account the interests of sellers and customers within the city.
iii. Assistance in formation of Street vending organization

The city authority should assist and encourage street vendors in establishing a strong association/organization that will be responsible for ensuring livelihood and social security of street vendors. The City Council should clearly explain to them the benefits, including easy access to credit, access to training, and fair and timely hearing of street vendors’ voices and needs and should help in putting these into action.

iv. Assistance with registration and with Business licenses

Business licenses are the permit issued by the government that allows individuals or companies to conduct business within the government jurisdiction. Based on this statement, street vendors in Rwanda do not have any business license, hence they operate illegally. In Cities like Durban, and Beijing, every legal street vendor is required to have a business license otherwise he/she is operating illegally. A legal street vendor should pay a given amount of money as tax and space rent fee. Kigali City and Rwanda in general should develop a mechanism on how every street vendor can be registered. Every registered vendor should be allocated a place for selling goods at designated selling points. As every street vendor would be registered, it would be easier to control the sector and to let it grow in an organized manner. Those with a license should have access to various advantages, including training, access to bank credit, microfinances and other advantages that are available.
v. Street vending policy

The central and local government needs to formulate a standard policy for street vendors. The policy should address the main challenges such as business location, license, taxation, skills and capacity building. The policy should also address inclusion of street vending in urban planning regulations, and provide guidelines on harassment from local government authorities, confiscation of vendors’ commodities. In short, the overall objective of the policy should be the provision for and promotion of a supportive environment for the urban street vendors to carry out their vocation while at the same time ensuring that street vending activities do not lead to overcrowding and unsanitary conditions in public spaces and streets. Such policy will ensure protection of street vending for livelihoods enhancement.

6.4.2 Recommendation for the Street Vendors

i. Formation Street vendors’ organization

Improvement of the working conditions on the side of street vendors heavily depends on their willingness to organize themselves into groups and organization. The street vendors should be encouraged to organize into associations which have rules and regulations in order to come up with an organized sector. Street vendors should be made to know the benefits of such associations in their everyday business and in their livelihoods. The street vendors’ associations should be strong enough to advocate for their members and to make their voice heard at the city level and national level for the sake of improving their sector. A secure access to the basic services acts as a platform to channel their challenges to the appropriate authority organ for quick action.
In South Africa for instance, street vendors associations provide some business services for members such as storage, marketing, training etc. In addition to these services, members of those associations should be given responsibility for controlling and managing the surrounding environment in order to avoid land misuse and ensure a clean environment.

**ii. Registration and acquisition of Business license**

Every street vendor should register his/her activity and be provided with a license for selling along a street or within the designated places. In the cities like Durban, and Beijing, every legal street vendor is required to have a business operation license; otherwise he/she is operating illegally and is punishable in accordance with the law. The same should be applied in Kigali. The registered vendors should have some advantages such as accessing bank credit, getting training for capacity building etc.

**6.4.3 Recommendation for NGOs**

**i. Assistance to Street vendors in forming an association**

NGOs, CBOs need to assist street vendors to establish strong associations that would be responsible for ensuring livelihood and social security of street vendors through policy intervention, and or amendment, capacity building for street vendors’ organizations and their advocacies.

**ii. Capacity building for Street vendors**

The government in partnership with NGOs or CBOs should build capacity of the street vendors through training, advocacy and various programmes. Life skills and knowledge acquirement is a major tool for improving productivity and better working conditions. Trade skills in business are crucial to perform business activities such as business strategy, bookkeeping, and general
business management. In addition, training about the need for preservation of the city environment should be provided to the vendors to be aware of the need for cleaning their surroundings to keep Kigali City clean. When it comes to having access to loans and credit, education should be provided by microfinance institutions and banks because some of the vendors have negative views about banking and microfinance groups.

**iii. Building partnerships with stakeholders who can assist street vendors**

For success of all the recommendations given above, there is need to building a strong stakeholder relationships among key stakeholders (central government, Kigali City Council, street vendors, NGOs, CBOs, and financial institutions). With a strong relationship, street vendor income will increase, while confrontation with authorities will be cease, safety and security will be improved, clean and protected environment will be enjoyed by all, appropriate skills and access finance services will also be increased and all stakeholder goals will be achieved. In such environment, street vending in Kigali City will contribute to improving the livelihood of urban low income households and by extension the economy of Rwanda.

**6.4 Recommendation for further research**

The study recommends further research on the following areas:

- Impacts of street vending on livelihoods of urban poor by focusing not only on street vendors but also on urban poor in general

- Spatial relationship of street vending activities in Kigali

- Comparative study of street vending with other informal activities
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APPENDICES

Appendices 1: Questionnaire for Street Vending Operators

University of Nairobi
School of built environment
Urban and regional planning department
Nairobi, December, 2014

This questioner is prepared to collect data on the impact of street vending in Kigali. The aim of the questionnaire is to collect information on the demographic profile of the vendors, working conditions, socio economic benefit of street vending in urban area, etc. I would like to promise you that the whole information given by the respondent is used for academic purpose only and the privacy and confidentiality of respondent is ensured. Hence, considering the purpose of the questioner respondents are kindly requested to cooperate with the researcher in giving the necessary information. I would like to thanks you for your cooperation.

Questionnaire no…………………………………………………………………………..
District……………………………………………..sector………………………………….cell……..
Date of interviewer……………………………………………………………………..
Respondent’s name…………………………………………………………………….
Telephone number…………………………………………………………………...
Interviewer’s Name………………………………………………………………….
SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. When did you start street vending? / Ni ryari mwatangiye gukora akazi ko kuzunguza kumuhanda?
   ..........................................................................................................................

2. When do you start street vending each day? Ni ryari mutangira kuzunguza kumuhanda buri munsi?
   (a) Morning: between 6 am-12 am / hagati saa kumi n’ebiyiri za mugitondo na saa sita z’amanywa
   (b) Afternoon: between 12 am-4 pm / hagati saa sita na saa kumi z’amanywa
   (c) Evening: between 4 pm-21 pm / saa kumi na saa tatu z’amugoroba
   (d) Other, specify / ikindi, sobanura
   ..........................................................................................................................

3. How many hours do you work a day? / Mukora amasaha angahe kumunsi?
   (a) 1-4 hours / Hagati y’isaha 1 n’asa 4
   (b) 5-8 hours / Hagati y’amasaha 4 n’amasha 8
   (c) 8 hours above / Hejuru y’amasaha 8

4. What time do you close daily? / Murangiza gukora ryari buri munsi?
   ..........................................................................................................................

5. How many days do you work per week? / Mukora iminsi ingahe mu cyumweru?
   ..........................................................................................................................

6. Where do you normally operate each day? / Ni hehe mukorera buri munsi?
   (a) Street pavement / kumuhanda
   (b) Public space / ahantu hari publique (nko muri gare)
   (c) Other / Ikindi, sobanura
   ..........................................................................................................................

7. Which categories of items do you sell? Nubuhe bwoko bw’ibicuruzwa ucuruza?
   ..........................................................................................................................

8. Where do you get the commodities to sell? / Ni hehe mugura ibicuruzwa mucuruza?
   (a) From wholesalers / kubaranguza
   (b) From retailers / abadandaza
   (c) From producers / uwabikoze
(d) From state enterprises/ muri entreprise ya Leta
(e) From private enterprises / muri entreprise iri prive
(f) Other specify,/ Ikindi, Sobanura

9. What is the size of your family?/ Umuryango wawe ungana ute?……………………………………

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family members</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Male=1</td>
<td></td>
<td>-Primary(6 years)=1</td>
<td>1-married</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female=2</td>
<td></td>
<td>- years basic education=2</td>
<td>2-single</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- years basic education=3</td>
<td>3-divorced</td>
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<td>-University=4</td>
<td>4-widower</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5-other / specify</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4th child</td>
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<td>5th child</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION 2: THE FACTORS WHICH ATTRACT TO STREET VENDING

10. Have you ever been engaged in other activity before joining street vending?/ Hari undi murimo mwakoraga mbere yogutangira kuzungyuza mu muhanda?
(a) Yes/ Yego
(b) No/ Oya

11. If your answer for question number 10 is yes, why did you leave the previous work?
Ni igisubizo cyanyu cya 11 ari yego, ni kuki waisemose kureka uwo murimo ukaza gucururuza mu muhanda?

………………..………………………………………………………………………………………………

12. What were the main reasons that forced you to start street vending? (You can choose more than one and ranking them from the first to the last reason). Ni izihe mpanvu zatumye cgzagute ye gutangira kuzunguza mu muhanda? ( usho bora guhitamo impamvu irenze imwe kandi ukazitondekanya uhereye kuyambere)
(a) To be self-employed/ Kwikorera ku giti cyawe
(b) Separation of my family/ Kuba waratandukanye n’umuryango wawe
(c) To support my family / Gufasha umuryango wanjye
(d) I have no one to support me / Ntawundi muntu nari mfite wo kumfasha
(e) Previous employment condition is unsatisfactory / Akazinakoraga mbere ntabwo nari nkishimiye

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(f) Looking for employment/ nashakaga icyo nakora
(g) Escape taxes/ Nagira ngo ntazajya nishyura imisoro
(h) Government policy/ Amategeko ya Leta
(i) Lack of education/ Nta mashuri mfite
(j) Others, specify / Ikindi, sobanura

SECTION 3. SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACT OF STREET VENDING

13. Do you own the goods sold by yourself?/ Ibintu mucuruzi ni ibyanyu kugiti cyanyu?
(a) Yes / Yego
(b) No/ oya

(i) If the answer in 13 is yes, Niba igisubizo cya 13 ari yego,
(a) How much do you earn per day in Frws?/ Winjiza amafaranga angahe k’umunsi y’amanyyarwanda?
....................................................................................................................................................................
(b) How much do you spent per day in Frws? Kumunsi ukoresha/cg utungwa amafaranga angahe?
....................................................................................................................................................................
(c) When income is lower than spent, how do you overcome the situation?/ Nonese iyo inyungu winjije kumunsi iri munsi y’amafaranga ukoresha kumunsi ubigenza ute icyo gihe?
....................................................................................................................................................................

(ii) If the answer in 13 is no, who is the owner? Niba igisubizo cya 13 ari oya, ni nde nyiribicyuruzwa?
....................................................................................................................................................................

(iii) Is he/she a street vending also or she/he is doing something else? Ese nawe azunguza kumuhanda cyangwa afite ikindi akora?
....................................................................................................................................................................

14. Do you do any other work apart from street vending?/ ese hari ikindi kintu ukora kitari kuzunguza mu muhanda?
(a) If yes, which kind of work? Niba igisubizo ari yego, ni uwuhe murimo?
....................................................................................................................................................................

(b) How much do earn from that (Frws)? Ese muri uwo murimo wundi mwinjiza amafaranga angahe?
....................................................................................................................................................................

15. What are the benefits that you get from street vending? (You can answer more than one)
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/ Ni akahe kamaro mukura mu kuzunguza mumuhanda? ( mushibora guhitamo igisubizo kirenze kumwe)
(a) Receive cash daily/ Kubona amafaranga ya cash buri munsi
(b) There is no tax / Kutishyura imisoro
(c) You help yourself and your family/ Kwifasha ubwanjye ndetse numuryango wanjye
(d) It improve your livelihood/ Guteza imbere imibereho yanjye
(e) It create employment opportunity/ Bitanga akazi / Bituma umunru abona icyo akora
(f) Other, specify/ Ikindi, sobanura

16. What are the benefits that street vending gives to the people in the city? (You can answer more than one)ni akahe kamaro kuzunguza kumuhanda bifitiye abandi baturage batuye mu mujyi? (mushobora guhitamo igisubizo kirenze kimwe)
(a) The people can buy in small quantity / abaturage bashobora kugura ibintu bike nukuvuga kuri detail
(b) The people can buy in small prices/ abaturage bagura ku giciro cyo hasi
(c) It creates employment opportunities for the poor people/ bihanga imirino cyane cyane ku bakene
(d) Available to the people everywhere at any time / kuzunguza biba biri ahantu hose kandi igihe cyose
(e) Other, specify / ikindi, Mubanure

17. What do you do with the money you get from vending different goods? (You can choose more than one and rank by order). (inyungu ukura mu kuzunguza uyikoresha iki?)
(a) Buy other commodities to vend/ kugura ibindi bicuruzwa ukabicuruzwa
(b) Save the money in monetary terms/ kubika amafaranga ubwayo
(c) Save the money in goods terms/ kubika amafaranga ariko uguramo ikindi kintu
(d) Support family/ Gufasha umuryango wanjye
(e) Other, specify Ikindi, Specify

18. From the income earned from the street vending, did you able to change from one level group of wealth to any other group of wealth? Inyungu ukura mukuzunguza kumuhanda yaba yaragufashije kuva mu cyiciro kimwe cyubudehe ujya mu kindi

19. From the income earned from the street vending, are you able to pay medical fees? Inyungu ukura mukuzunguza kumuhanda yaba igufasha mu kwifuza? ........................................................................
20. From the income earned from the street vending, are you able to pay school fees for your children or to change school for your children? Inyungu ukura mukuzunguza kumuhanda yaba yaragufashije kwishyura amafaranga y’ishuri y’abana cyangwa se yaragufashije guhindura ikigo cy’abana uva kugiciriritse? 

21. From the income earned from the street vending, have you able to buy enough school equipment for your children? Inyungu ukura mukuzunguza kumuhanda yaba igufasha kugurira abana ibikoresho bihagije by’ishuri?

22. Do you think street vending acts as a buffer against anti-social activities such as/ utekerezako kuzunguza kumuhanda ifasha kurwenya ibindi bikorwa bitari byiza nko
(a) Theft/ Kwiba
(b) Prostitution/ Uburaya
(c) Crimes/ Ubwicanyi
(d) Entering illegal activities (such as vending drugs)/ kujya muyindi itemewe na leta ( nko kugucuruza ibiyobyabwenge)

23. Do you think street vending causes congestion in Kigali/? Utekerezako kuzunguza kumuhanda bitera embouteillage y’imidoka mu muhanda?

24. Do you think street vending causes human traffic in Kigali?/ Utekerezako kuzunguza kumuhanda cyangwa muri ahantu hari pibilike bitera embouteillage y’abantu bagendesha amaguru?

SECTION 3: CHALLENGES FACED BY STREET VENDING OPERATORS

25. What were the difficulties you faced when you started the job? (You can answer more than one). Ni ibihe bibazo wahuye nabyo ujya gutangira uyu murimo wo kuzunguza kumuhanda?
(a) Lack of capital / Kubura igishoro
(b) Lack of credit / Kubura inguzanyo
(c) Harassment by police / kwirukanwa na polisi
(d) Eviction private shop guardians/ kwirukanwa nabandi bacuruzi
(e) Lack of working place/ Kubura ahantu ho gukorera
(f) High price of commodities / Ibintu bihenze
(g) Other, specify / Ikindi, sobanura .................................................................

26. What are the problems that affect your current vending activity? (You can answer more than one) ni ibihebibazo muhura nabyo ubu muri kano kazi kanyu? ( ushobora guhitamo igisubizokirene kimwe uhereye kukigenzi kuri wowe)
(a) Lack of working place/selling place / Kubura aho gukorera
(b) Too much competition/ Guhangana kwisoko ry’umurimo

c) Lack of social security/ntabwishingizi bafite

(d) Harassment and eviction from selling place by police/ wirukanwa na polisi

(e) Confiscation of their commodities/ gutwara ibicuruzwa byabo

(f) Working place is unsanitary and hazardous / ahantu bakorera ntihasukuye

(g) Evictions by private shop guards / Kwirukana nabandi bacuruzi

(h) No accesses to credit/Kubura igishoro

(i) Lack of freedom during operation and psychological instability/ Kubura uburenganzira igithe bakora

(j) Un-profitability of the business / Akazi katunguka

(k) Other, specify / Ikindi, sobanura .................................

27. What type of support do you get from government and non-government organization? (You can answer more than one answer). Ni nkubuhe bufasha Leta cyangwa inzego zitari iza Leta ibaha?( ushobora gyusubiza igisubizo kirenze kimwe)

(a) No support / Nta bufasha nifuza

(b) Training on entrepreneurship/ amahugurwa ku kwihangira imirimo

(c) Market premise / Kuduha amasoko

(d) Advice on how to improve the business/ Kutugura inama zukuntu twateza imbere business yacu

(e) Credit/Kubona inguzanyo

(f) Other, specify / Ikindi, sobanura .................................

Section 4: SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH STREET VENDING

28. Is there any street vending association in Kigali? Yes   Non/

Hari ishyurahamwe ryabazunguzayi riba muri Kigali?

29. Do you belong to any? Yes   Non / niba rihari, hari iryo urimo?

30. Would you like to stop street vending and opt for another alternative livelihood?/ ese wumva wareka gukorera kumuhanda igihe wabonye andi mahirwe yo gukora akandi kazi kagutunga?

Yes/ Yego

Non / Oya

(a) If (yes), why? Niba ari yego, kubera iki? ..................................................

(b) If (not), why? / niba ari oya kubera iki? ..................................................

31. Would you like to sell at any alternative place apart from the street or public space? Ese wakwemera gucururiza ahandi hantu hatari kumuhanda? If yes, which alternative? Ese niba ubyemera wahitamo gucururiza hehe?
32. If you are given a place where to sell your commodity, are you able to pay the tax?/ ese baguhaye ahandi hantu ho gucururiza wakwemera kwishyura imisoro?

(a) Yes/ Yego
(b) No/ Oya

33. Do you support the ban of street vending in Kigali?/ ese waba ushyigikyie ibuzwa cg se ihagarikwa ryo kuzunguza kumuhanda
If yes, please give the reason./ Niba igisubizo cyawe ari yego, sobanura impamvu

If not, please give the reason. Niba igisubizo cyawe ari oya, sobanura impamvu

34. To what extent does the market serve poor communities? Ni mubuhe buryo kuzunguza kumhanda bifasha abakeni?

35. Do you want support from the government and non-governmental organizations? / ese waba mukeneye ubufasha bwa Leta cyangwa se izindi nzego zitari iza Leta?

(a) Yes/ yego  (b) No / oya

36. If your answer for question number 35 is yes, what is most important support you want from government and non-governmental organization? (You can answer more than one answer). Niba igisubizo cyantu cya 35 ari yego, ni ubuhe bufasha bw’igenzi mukeneye bwa Leta cyangwa se izindi nzego zitari iza Leta? (Ushobora gusubiza ikisubizo kirenze kimwe uhureye kubufasha bwigenzi kuri wowe )

(a) Access to working place / Kugira aho gukorera
(b) Access to credit/ Kubona inguzanyo
(c) Formulating favorable rules and regulations / Gushyiraho amategeko tubaje gukoremo
(d) Giving training on entrepreneurship / Guduha amahugurwa ku kwihangira imirimo
(e) Advice on how to improve the business
(f) Legalization/
(g) Other specify/ ikindi, sobanura …………………………………………………………………………………………………

37. What are the factors that determine the location of street vendors? Ni izihe mpamvu zibafasha guhitamo aho mugomba kujuya muzunguriza? …………………………………………………………………………………………………

38. Do you have any comments you would like to add on how the government could solve the problems that you faced?  Ese mwaba mufite ikindi mwakongera kubyo tumaze kubabaza cyafasha Leta mukubafasha guhangana nibibazo muhura nabyo?
Appendix 2. Interview Schedule for Key Informant

Questionnaire no. ............................................................................................................

District ............................................................................................................................

Date of interviewer ........................................................................................................

Respondent’s name ........................................................................................................

Telephone number ........................................................................................................

Interviewer’s Name .......................................................................................................

1. What are the factors that lead peoples to street vending?
........................................................................................................................................

2. Can you estimate on the number of street vendors in Kigali?
........................................................................................................................................

3. Which are the problems associated with street vending in Kigali (Social, economic and environment)?
........................................................................................................................................

4. What are the problems that street vendors face while operating their business?
........................................................................................................................................

5. What are the opportunities that street vending has to the national economy?
........................................................................................................................................

6. What are the opportunities that street vending has to the urban poor communities in the city?
........................................................................................................................................

7. Do you support the ban of street vending in Kigali? Yes No
(a) If yes, please give the reason.
........................................................................................................................................

(b) If not, please give the reason
........................................................................................................................................

8. To solve the problems faced by the street vendors what is to be done by the government.
........................................................................................................................................

9. Is there any street vending association in Kigali?
........................................................................................................................................
10. If the answer in 9 is yes, what are them?

11. Are street vendors aware of street vendors’ associations?

12. What are the government policies toward street vending in Kigali or in Rwanda as whole?

13. If there is any, do you think the policy is appropriate?

14. Currently what are the measures taken by the government to facilitate street vending?

15. Currently what are the measures taken by the government to control street vending?

16. Which solution will you suggest to solve the problem associated with street vending?

17. Is there any plan for giving space and time for street vending in Kigali?

18. Do you have any general comments you would like to add?
Appendice 3. Interview Schedule for Formal Business Operator

Questionnaire No……………………………………………………………………………………………

District……………………………………..sector…………………………………cell…………………………

Date of interviewer……………………………………………………………………………………………

Respondent’s name…………………………………………………………………………………………

Telephone number…………………………………………………………………………………………

Interviewer’s Name…………………………………………………………………………………………

1. Do you have any relation with street vendors in your day to day business?/ Ese hari aho waba uhuriy e nabazunguzayi bo k’umuhanda mu bucuruwi bwawe bwa buri muns? ………………………………………

2. If yes, how? Niba ari yego, gute? …………………………………………………………………………………

3. Does a street vendor have negatively impact on your business? Ese abazunguzayi bo k’umuhanda babanganira ubucuruizi bwanyu?
   (a) Yes / yego  (b) No / oya

4. If your answer for question number 3 is yes, what are the negative impacts does street vendors have on your business? /Niba igisubizo cya 3 ari yego, ni nkizihe ngaruka mubona bafite kuri business zanyu?
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

5. If your answer for question number 3 is yes, to solve the negative impact that street vendors have what should be done by government? Niba igisubizo cya 3 ari yego, niki cyakirwa na Leta ngo uko kubabangamira gukemuke cyangwa se gukurweho?
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

6. What is your opinion regarding measures taken by the government against street vendors? Ni iki wavuga kuri gahunda ya Leta yyo kurwanya abazunguzayi?
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

7. In your own view, what are the socio-economic impacts that street vending have on urban area? /Kuri wowe nakahe kamaro ubona abazungyuzyayi bafitiye umujyi cyangwa se abantu batuye mu mujyi?
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

8. What are the difficulties of street vending? Ni ibihe bibazo abazunguzayi bahura nabyo?
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

9. Which solution will you suggest to solve the problem faced by street vending? Ni iki cyakorwa kugirango ibibazo abazunguzayi bahura nabyo bibe byakemuka?
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

10. Do you have any general comments you would like to add? Hari ikindi mwakongeraho cg se indi nama mwatanga? ………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Appendices
4. Interview Schedule for Pedestrians and customers

Questionnaire no…………………………………………………………………………………..

District…………………………………………..sector………………………………….cell…..

Date of interviewer………………………………………………………………………………

Respondent’s name………………………………………………………………………………

Telephone number………………………………………………………………………………

Interviewer’s Name………………………………………………………………………………

1. How do you see the activity of street vending? / Nigute ubona aka kazi ko kuzunguza kumuhanda?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

2. In your own view, what are the advantages that street vending has? Nkuko ubibona wowe ubwawe, ni akahe kamaro abazunguzayi bafite?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

3. In your view, what are the challenges faced by street vendors in Kigali?/ Nkuko ubibona wowe ubwawe, ni ibihe bibazo abazunguzayi bahura nabyo?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

4. To solve the challenges what should be done by the government? / kugirango ibibazo bahura nabyo bikemuke wumva Leta yakora iki?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

5. Do you have any general comment would you like to add? /Hari iyindi nama watanga cganse ikindi kintu watubwira kubazunguzayi bo kumuhanda?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………