

Women Household of Tea Making Under Condition of Livelihoods: Evidences from Sudan

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Abstract

The paper described women working in unorganized sector in Khartoum, Sudan during the period of (2016/2017). Primary data were collected through regular questionnaire and non-probability randomized (purposive) sample of (38) women were interviewed; secondary data were collected from the relevant sources. A set of research tools including; descriptive statistics and multiple regressions were used. The findings of descriptive statistics showed that (60%) of the respondents reported tea making is the main sources of income whereas (32%) receiving additional income from other sources of activities and able to earnings monthly (SDG1000) of local currency. The study revealed that (65%) benefits from the unorganized working and able to save monthly (SDG500). An important results obtained from the regression showed that the factors; working hours, returns, and consumption recorded positive significant effect into household income at (0.10, 0.05 and 0.01) level of significance respectively, while social status showed negative significant effect at (0.10) level of significance, coefficient of determination ($R^2=71\%$) expressed that the variation in the household income is explained by the independent variables in the regression equation. Findings from this study, suggests that the research and future Development (R & D) should be focus on pilot and quick-impact projects for the women working in informal sector so as to enhance their income generating sources. This could be possible through, identify income generation carry out a market assessments and objective to made Micro Economic Initiative (MEIs) program in the communities.

Keywords

Women Informal Economy, Khartoum Sudan, Household Economics Income Generation Activities

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1. Introduction

Sudan, its total population of (38.4) million, (13.6%) unemployment, (3.5%) of growth rate and growth national product (GNP) is 167.70 billion (GNP), per capita (\$4.344) (SDG 69.504). Out of total number who actively works are (32.7%) either informally hired (22.3%) or have a part of their salary paid in cash. Rate of informal employment (34% for age group of 15-24) and the oldest (73%) of age 65+ (Sudan Household Survey, 2009).

The poverty risk rate is significantly higher for informally

employed than formally employed (17.1%) comparison to (5.9%). Salary main income of informally are an average by (28%) lower than income of formally employed, GNP per capita is 14.710. (UNDP, 2016).

Some studies had been carried out by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MSAs) for the unorganized work of women engaging in the tea making as source of livelihoods and income generating activities. A total of (8485 person) of women engaging in the tea making in the seven localities of Khartoum State; and earnings monthly income of (SDG300 to SDG 1000). (Ministry of Social Affairs, 2008).

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In mid of September, 2012 till December, (2013) a survey carried out by ministry of social development and reported (13,247) of women participating in the informal work of tea making, (441 women) had a university degree, (73 women) post graduate and (7681) foreign women from Eretria. (Ministry of Social Affairs, 2013).

Given its contribution to the overall economics, it's important to understand how efficiently the informal sector firms perform. From the household economy perspective, efficiency of informal sectors provide about (92%) to the total employment and contribute about (60%) to the net domestic product (NDP) at the global level. (Review of the Economy, 2016) Therefore, the study focuses specifically on the women working informal business or doing informally in the tea making as sources of Income Generation Activities (IGAs).

There is an ongoing debate regarding the definition of informal/unorganized sector both at the national and international levels. The unorganized sector refers to those operating units whose activity is not regulated under any statutory Act or legal provision and/or which do not maintain any regular accounts. Though the concept of unorganized sector is slightly different from the informal sector, but here we will use both the terms inter-changeably. Central Statistical Organization (CSO, 1980).

1.1. Condition of Women Working at Unorganized Sector Economy

The Unorganized Sector in the developing countries e.g in Africa during the past decade is estimated to have accounted for almost (80%) of non-agricultural employment, over (60%) were urban employment and over (90%) of new jobs. For women in Sub-Saharan Africa; the informal economy represents (92%) of the total job opportunities outside of agricultural. Almost (95%) of these jobs are performed by women as self-employed or own-account workers and only very small number of (5%) as paid employees. [Sida, 2002].

The informal economies are a pervasive and persistent economic feature of most developing economies, contributing significantly to employment creation, production, and income generation. Recent estimates of the size of the informal sector in developing countries in terms of its share of non-agricultural employment range roughly between one-fifth and four-fifths; in terms of its contribution to GDP. The informal sector accounts for between (25% and 40%) of annual output in developing countries of Asia and Africa.

In both high and low income countries; women continue to work fewer hours in paid employment, while performing the vast majority of unpaid household and care work. On

average, women carry out at least two and a half times more unpaid household and care work than men in countries where the relevant data are available. Although this gap remains substantive, it has decreased over time, mostly because of some reduction in the time spent by women on housework; while there have been no significant reductions in the time that they spend on childcare. Women, however, continue to work longer hours per day than men when both paid work and unpaid work are taken into consideration. In particular, employed women (either in self-employment or wage and salaried employment), have longer working days on average than employed men.

Most of people enter the informal economy, which is characterized by low productivity and low pay, not by choice but impelled by lack of opportunity in the informal economy and absence of other means livelihood. Informal constitute more than one half of non-agricultural employment in the most regions of the developing world. (ILO, 2016).

In three out of six regions, informal employment is a greater source of non-agricultural employment for women than for men (sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Southern Asia). Women remain overrepresented as contributing family workers or in occupations (such as domestic workers). That are more likely to be in informal work arrangements, preventing their access to social protection (Burnham and Nik, 2012; Vanek et al, 2014; UN Women and ITUC, 2013). In Latin America, the situation differs across countries, with the share of non-agricultural informal employment ranging from (36.4%) in Brazil to levels above (70%) in Honduras and Guatemala (ILO, 2013). In all circumstances, however, informality disproportionately affects women, young people and households at the bottom of the income distribution chain. (ILO, 2016).

Informal employment, so defined, is a large and heterogeneous category. For purposes of analysis and policymaking it is useful to first, sub-divide informal employment into self-employment, wage employment and then within these broad categories, into more homogeneous sub-categories according to status in employment, as follows:

1. *Informal self-employment including*; employers in informal enterprises, own account workers in informal enterprises, contribution family workers, and members of informal procedures cooperative (where these exist) and the;
2. *Informal wage employment* that hired without social protection contributions by formal or informal enterprises or as paid domestic workers by households. Certain types of wage work are more likely than others to be informal. These include employee of informal enterprise, casual or daily labors, temporary or part-time workers, contract

workers, paid domestic workers and unregistered or undeclared workers.

When looking at informal employment by sector in the largest developing countries, the share of women in informal employment in manufacturing activities is usually much higher than that of men. For example, in Brazil, (48.6%) of women have an informal job in the manufacturing sector, as compared to (31.7%) of men. In India, the share of women with an informal job in the manufacturing sector even reaches (94%).

The informal economy and livelihoods refers to activities and income that are partially or fully outside government regulation, taxation, and observation. The main attraction of the undeclared economy is financial. This type of activity and livelihoods allows unemployed and the self-initiated increase their take-home earnings or relying on other unorganized or casual working. On the other hand, informal of households economy and livelihoods can provide a cushion for workers who cannot find a job in the formal sector. The household Economic Security income and livelihoods as the status of an individual, household or community that is able to cover its life and livelihoods obligatory expenditures in a sustainable manner, consistent with its environment, culture and customs (ICRC and IFRC, 2016).

1.2. Research Problem

In Sudan, people (women) engaging in unorganized sector for variety of reasons *Lack of Economic Security*, lack basic education and skills, access to occupational-skills training, low income wages, employees and unemployment. In addition to the living conditions, life expectancy resulted in intensive labors, unemployment and the limited opportunities. This situation forced many people/household particularly, women headed household to work in unorganized work of porridge making, (*Kisra and Baleela local food*) at Khartoum and Omdurman markets. In spite of the important role of informal economy in Sudan with view to the livelihood and sources of *Income Generation Activities* (IGAs) remained main concern. The role of government and contribution to the (IGAs) is still very low. Therefore, it's necessary to investigate the contribution of small unorganized works of the Sudanese Household and livelihoods economy. Thus, this research paper seeks to address the following questions:

What is nature of informal economic activities among women tea making household living in low-income?

1. Why do people participate in the unorganized economy (tea making)?
2. What incentives exist for informal economic?

3. How are unorganized economic activities patched together with more traditional income streams to support individuals and their household families.

1.3. Main Objective

The main objective of the study is to assess the economic significance of unorganized sector of women working in the tea making as sources of Income Generation Activities (IGAs) and the contribution shared into the household economy. The study further aims to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. To study the socio-economic characteristics of women involved in the informal working (tea making).
2. To determine motivational factors influencing women's participation in tea making.
3. To identify and describe the livelihoods situation in the area of study.
4. To add new insights into women working in unorganized sector in Sudan.

1.4. Hypotheses Test

1. There is significant impact contribution of casual working into the household livelihoods economy.
2. Women working informally of tea making are a homogenous.
3. There is self-motivation and desire for independence of women involve in unorganized.
4. The small Income-Generation Activities (IGAs) reducing the unemployment rate and create jobs/opportunities and elevate poverty.
5. There is limited support of government for unorganized sector.

2. Methodology

2.1. Study Area

The study carried out at Omdurman (*Al-Sug Alshabi*) market. It is located about 15 km North West of Khartoum capital of Sudan. It has a total population of (677537) persons (WFP, 2016). It has the area coordinates at Latitude 1 (5° to 66' N) and Longitudes (32° to 46° E). The area is fully operated by Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) both private and public. People characteristics by different small livelihoods economy, such as casual of (labors, petty trades, trades, handcrafts practices, wheelbarrows and youth working in mobiles of cash transfer. In addition, the jobs seekers are including; blacksmith carpenters, youth cleaning cars, and the women workings and sorting out crops and items in the

market. Both are working informally and unorganized with miscellaneous income sources and livelihoods activities. Women working in unorganized; the tea making constitute major sources of income and livelihoods in the area. They made local food; (*Kisra, Ballilla, Thick Drinks* and the tea making). Therefore, the study targeted the women whom are recently running the business of tea making as source of income generation and livelihoods.

2.2. Data Collection and Sampling

Due to the nature of the economic activities, the study examined women working informally to provide a basis for selecting representative probability sampling. Therefore, we used a non-probability sampling method. The study selected women who met specific criteria these were:

1. Women working in tea making (*Al-sug Al-shabi place*)
2. Adult between 15 and more than 50 years age
3. Low income; and
4. Currently operating a business or working at the tea making.

A field survey was conducted during August, (2017) in Omdurman locality, *Al soug Al-shabi* market. Both primary and secondary data methods were used in this study. Primary data was collected during the field survey through using semi-open ended and structured questionnaire. Simplified random sampling was used to select sample composed of (38) women heads household. The field assessment provided data for many indicators including Household (HH) heads information (or socio-characteristics of HH) education level, economic and income generation activities and the informal self-employment. While the secondary data were taken from different sources these include; published papers, Journals, researches articles, books and relevant information in the websites. UN agencies and include: (UNDP, WFP, FAO and USAID), (NGOs) a group of (ICRC, MSP, Save the Children Fund) and governmental institutions of annual reports (CBS).

2.3. Analytical Techniques

For the data analysis used descriptive frequency and inferential statistics and multiple regression equation. The descriptive statistics, frequency and percent were used to deal with HH demographic characteristics, socio-economic factors that effect on the HH unorganized to analyze the objective of this study, while the coefficient of multiple determination (R^2) were used to analyze relationship and measure how strong variables between the socio-economic characteristics of the HH.

In other words, a statistical analysis method of multiple regressions is used to identify the relationship between assets

of independent/explanatory variables ($x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$ etc.) on single dependent variable of (Y). Gujarati, N. (1995).

As in the bellow mathematically formula:

$$Y = f(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n \text{ etc.}), \tag{1}$$

where:

Y = HH income from the tea making

x_1 = HH age in years

x_2 = HH social status

x_3 = HH members in persons (adult and children)

x_4 = HH education level

x_5 = HH working hours

x_6 = HH consumption (SDG)

x_7 = HH return (SDG)

x_8 = HH other sources of income.

x_9 = HH income earned from other sources of income (SDG)

x_{10} = HH total saving from all sources of income (SDG)

The model for the study will be

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + \dots + \beta_k x_k + e_i \tag{2}$$

General regression module will be:

$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1$ HH age + β_2 HH social status + β_3 HH size persons + β_4 HH education level β_5 HH working hours + β_6 HH consumption + β_7 HH return (SDG) + β_8 HH earned other sources of income + β_9 HH monthly saving from all sources.

Where: Y = Dependent variable (HH income earning from tea making SDG).

$$\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \dots, \beta_k = \text{Parameters should be estimated} \tag{3}$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \dots, x_k = \text{Explanatory variables} \tag{4}$$

e_i = Disturbance random error.

The coefficient of determination (R^2) was used to express the variation in the household income and explain the independent variables in the regression equation.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Household Social Characteristics Discussion

The descriptive statistics of Household (HHs) social characteristics considered in the study include, age of HH in year, HH social status, HH members (persons), education level, HH working hours and the reasons that why women participated in the tea making. Findings of the field survey

showed that the HH age group 20-30 years represents the highest percent of (57.9%) and reasoning that as a preferable youth mood of drinking tea. Followed by age group 30-40 years (36.8%) and only a small number of (5.3%) age group 15-20 years. The marital status reported (39.5%) single, (26.3%) divorced, (21%) married and (13.2%) remaining widowed. Nearly half of sample (52.6%) lives in a house with members, Three-five, about one third (34.3%) seven-nine, (10.5%) less than 3 persons and only a small fraction of (2.6%) more than nine people in the house. The education level reported (34.2%) were literacy, (31.6%) with secondary, (26.3%) had basic level, (5.3%) had *Khallwa* and the lowest number of (2.6%) had a university degree. Many of them reported flexible working schedules that may actually yield a better return on the time investment in the work; women spent over 8-10 hours (89.5%) and 4-6 hours (10.5%) per day. A variety of reasons, for some it is necessity or their best options – better alternative than low wage formal employment. In response to the question why women participating in the tea making, over half of respondents (50%) self-motivation, around one-third of (31.6%) wish to set their own work schedule, earn as much as they willing to dedicate in the work hours, and free from outside forces. (10.5%) giving satisfied earned, (5.3%) were dissatisfied with informal working and only a small fraction of (2.6%) were lacking of the job opportunity. (Table 1: bellow illustrates HH hold social characteristics).

Table 1. Shows Household head social characteristics.

Items	Frequency	Valid percent (%)
1. Household age in years		
15-20	2	5.3
20-30	22	57.9
30-40	14	36.8
Total	38	100
2. Household marital status		
Married	8	21
Single	15	39.5
Divorced	10	26.3
Widowed	5	13.2
Total	38	100
3. HH members (persons)		
Less than 3	4	10.5
3-5	20	52.6
7-9	13	34.3
More than 9	1	2.6
Total	38	100
4. HH education level		
Literacy	13	34.2
<i>Khallwa</i>	2	5.3
Basic level/intermediate	10	26.3
Secondary	12	31.6
University	1	2.6
Graduate	0	0
Total	38	100
5. HH working hours		
4-6	4	10.5
8-10	34	89.5
Total	38	100

Items	Frequency	Valid percent (%)
6. Reasons women participates in the tea making		
Self-motivation	19	50
Giving satisfied earn/day	4	10.5
Lack of job opportunity	1	2.6
Dissatisfaction with formal employment	2	5.3
Desire for independence and control	12	31.6
Total	38	100

Source: own data survey, (2017).

3.2. Household Socio-economic Discussion

Overall, the tea making was considered as the main source of HH heads income in the study area. Findings showed that about (60%) of HH heads do not have alternative to other means sources of income. In contrast, (32%) of HH heads had a part of their income was generated from other business including women making porridge, *kesra*, *Baleilla* and *thick drink (soup of starch)*. A small number of those interviewed (8%) had part of their income was generated from sources include jobs, trading, and government formal employment. The HH earnings from the tea making is (36.8% ranged from SDG50-75, 23.7% SDG75-100, 21% SDG100-125SDG, 13.2% SDG125-150 and only 5.3% earnings SDG 150 respectively).

The HH heads consumption is more related to the members and the daily expenditure per each. The average cost to install full set up of tea making place was ranged from (SDG 3000 to 4000) and it's depend on many factors; place, location, market and gender age. Respondents were asked for the daily cost to operate tea making, over half of all respondents (52.6% SDG 30 and 47.4% SDG 60). In the other hands, the HH heads monthly savings from all sources was (34.2% less than SDG 250, 31.6% SDG 250 to 500, 21.1% SDG 500 to 750, and 7.9% SDG 750 to 1000 respectively). A small number of respondents (2.6%) were able to save (SDG 1000 to 1500) per month. (It can be seen from the data in Table 2).

Table 2. Household heads pattern of income (SDG).

Items	Frequency	Valid percent (%)
1. HH income earned from the tea making in SDG		
50-75	14	36.8
75-100	9	23.7
100-125	8	21
125-150	5	13.2
More than 150	2	5.3
Total	38	100
2. HH other sources incomes SDG		
No job (0)	23	60
Jobs	3	8
Other business	12	32
Total	38	100
3. HH earned from other sources of income SDG/ month		
Have no other sources of income (0)	23	60.5
1000	10	26
1500	4	10.9
2000	1	2.6

Items	Frequency	Valid percent (%)
Total	38	100
10. HH consumption SDG		
50-80	14	36.8
80-100	19	50
100-120	5	13.2
Total	38	100
4. HH daily cost of tea making SDG		
30	20	52.6
60	18	47.4
Total	38	100
5. HH monthly saving from all sources of income SDG		
No saving at all (0)	1	2.6
Less than 250	13	34.2
250-500	12	31.6
500-750	8	21.1
750-1000	3	7.9
1000-1250	1	2.6
Total	38	100

Source: own data survey, (2017).

3.3. Econometrics Results

The results obtained from the regression analysis in the Table 3 reported that, HH heads education, HH heads working hours, HH heads consumption, HH heads return, HH heads other sources, HH heads earned from other sources and HH heads monthly saving have higher efficiency than other. It also important to mentioned that the positive and higher efficiency relationship at HH heads working hours, HH heads return, and HH heads consumption are statistically significant at (0.000), (0.001) and (0.007) respectively with the T-Values of (4.048), (3.965) and (2.915) respectively. This implies that the probability of HH heads will increases with these variables explained by coefficient of determination of ($R^2=71\%$) variation in the regression. On the other hand, rest of variables is negatively related with technical efficiency. Among them HH heads age, HH heads social status, HH heads earned from other sources and the HH heads members have significant negative effect on efficiency. This implies that the characteristic of the HHs significantly adversely affecting on HH heads age, HH heads social status and the HH heads members. While the HH heads education, HH heads other sources of income and HH heads monthly savings were not significant but had positive signs. (As can be seen from the bellow table 3).

Table 3. Coefficient Results.

Explanatory variables	Unstandardized Coefficient	T- value	Sig.
1 (Constant)	-1.297	-1.148	0.261
HH age	-0.084	-0.337	0.739
HH social status	-0.366	-2.540	0.017
HH members	-0.167	-0.918	0.367
HH Education	0.025	0.239	0.813
HH working hours	1.782	4.048	0.000
HH consumption	0.615	2.915	0.007
HH return	0.939	3.965	0.001
HH other source	0.356	0.329	0.745

Explanatory variables	Unstandardized Coefficient	T- value	Sig.
HH earned from other	-0.216	-0.599	0.554
HH monthly saving	0.134	0.684	0.500

*, **, *** indicates significant level at 10%, 5% and 1% respectively.

Source: own data survey, (2017)

$Income\ earning = -1.297 - 0.084\ age - 0.366\ social\ status - 0.167\ members + 0.025\ education + 1.782\ working\ hours + 0.615\ consumption + 0.939\ return + 0.356\ other\ sources - 0.216\ earned\ from\ other\ sources + 0.134\ monthly\ saving\ from\ all.$

Coefficient of determination (R^2) =71%.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1. Conclusion

A country like Sudan, which is intensive labors resource very strong (IGAs) in unorganized sector with high value added is expected to stimulate the economy and contributed positively to a wide range of development objective typically, household economy can foster growth by small income resources through expanding miscellaneous income sources (formal, informal, business, etc.) ensure use of resources, mobilize domestic, create employments, reduce poverty, savings, investments and overall well-being. To attain this broad-based objective to be designed in local economy prospects of course, the possible forward linkage and their result value to the Sudan GDP as a whole.

The contribution to estimate the size of the informal economy is problematic, although there are internationally defined measurement methods to define the size and contribution of the informal economy to national accounts. Despite, the lack of government intervention, taxes, bribes, and misbehavior of individual personals government police, the current study found that women managed to benefits from the casual working of the tea making and improve their living conditions. Interestingly, 60% of women occupied the tea making and able to earns daily incomes of local currency SDG of (36.8% ranged from SDG50-75, 23.7% SDG75-100, 21% SDG100-125SDG, and 13.2% SDG125-150). In contrast, the monthly savings was ranged from (34.2% less than SDG 250, 31.6% SDG 250 to 500, 21.1% SDG 500 to 750, and 7.9% SDG 750 to 1000). This finding is fully supported to a study by social Ministry of Social Affairs in (2008 and 2013). Who found that women of tea makers had able to save up to SDG (750).

The situation of women in Sudan working at informally needs huge efforts of microeconomic intervention in both formal and private sector. Generally, the HH heads in the area of study Omdurman locality were more likely to be HH economy sum of ways in which the HH heads get its savings, its incomes, asset holdings, and consumption and non-food

items and the livelihoods conditions had capacity to access enough resources to cover their essential expenditures.

Due to practical constraints, this paper cannot provide a comprehensive review of unorganized sector in Sudan. It is beyond the scope of this study and further data collection is required to determine exactly how the unorganized economy can contribute to GDP.

These findings may help us to understand the empowerment of the women working in unorganized sector contributed positively to the household economy and livelihoods. Next, government has to take the serious concentration towards the development of unorganized, this sector comprising the backbone of the Sudanese economy.

4.2. Recommendations

Based on the results obtained from the study, the following points are recommended

1. Giving more attention on women working in unorganized sector and develop program which enable them to contribute efficiently in improving living standards of HH economy.
2. Government should focus macroeconomic and capacity building to help the middle HH to gain capabilities and skills that leads to empower them to more livelihoods and economic activities.
3. Future Research and Development (R & D) should focus on pilot and quick-impact projects for vulnerable segments of the population in the societies so as to enhance their income generating sources. This could be possible through, identify income generation, carry out a market assessments and objective to made Micro Economic Initiative (MEIs) program in the communities.

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