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UNITE DE RECHERCHE ET DE
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**THE INFLUENCE OF RETURN MIGRATION AND
REMITTANCES ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT IN FUNDONG SUB-DIVISION
(NORTH WEST REGION. CAMEROON)**

A Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of a
Master's Degree in Geography

Speciality: Marginality, Strategies of Development and Globalisation

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DEDICATION

To my parents: Mr Ngong Oliver Mbangsi and Mrs Mbang Gilder Njang who did everything possible to see me attain this level in my education.

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ABSTRACT

Return migration and remittances plays a vital role in socio-economic development especially in Cameroon and particularly Fundong Sub-division. Its role in socio-economic enhancement is manifested through the creation of businesses, investment in vocational training, opening of modern farms and construction of modern buildings. However, return migration does not adequately improve on the socio-economic conditions because it creates a series of constrains such as environmental problems, land grabs, inequality, increase cost of living and investment is directed towards non-productive activities. Return migration is also plagued by many challenges which range from political, administrative, socio-economic and communication challenges. These constraints stand as a stumbling block for returnees and remittances to effectively enhance socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division. It is against this backdrop that this work set out to investigate the role of return migration and remittances on socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division. Three hypotheses were stated to guide this study. Research methods and techniques adopted and employed led to collection of data, processing and analysis. Secondary data were gotten from published and unpublished documents and from various documentation centres. Primary data were gleaned from field survey where a total 104 respondents provided responses following convenient chosen sample size. Supplementary primary data were obtained from interviews, focus group discussions and field observation. Inferential and descriptive statistics were used that paved way for the testing of hypotheses with the aid of chi square statistical tool. This enabled the drawing up of important conclusions at the end of each chapter and then a general conclusion. The outcome of the data collected, processed and interpreted in the three chapters of the findings revealed that the motive of return migrants were festive reasons (35%), high cost of living in the host area (16%), the desire to stay back home (14%), the desire to invest home (12%), achievement of objective (10%) while poor health constituted (10%). The results in areas of investment by return migrants showed that return migrants invest in agriculture (33.6%), commerce (23%), housing construction (17.3), vocational activities (16.3) and transport facilities (10.5%). Findings showed that the inconveniences caused by return migrants are environmental problems (26.9%), land grabbing (35.5%), inequality (15%), increase living cost (14.4%), while investment on non-productive goods activities made (6.7%).

As concerns the challenges plaguing return migrants and remittances in Fundong Sub-division, the results revealed that, return migration is bog down by political instability (41.3%), socio-economic challenges (31.17%), administrative challenges (15.3%), and communication challenges constitute (11.3%). Findings shows that, adopted strategies to cope with challenges have been put in place by the returnees and population in general, among which are; buying and stocking of food stuff and basic manufactured goods against ghost towns and lockdown, settling checkpoints by paying money, adaptation to the environment and respecting ghost town by the local inhabitants

The study recommends that, return migrants and remittances should invest in productive activities that can create jobs to the local population. Land should be judiciously distributed, by limiting the size of land owned by a single person so as to avoid land grab. Higher institutions and vocational training centres should be created in Fundong to bridge the gaps between return migrants and non-migrants population in terms of education and training skills. Administrative procedures should be simplified to ease the processing of documents and issuing of business licenses and other documents relating to creating income generating activities.

KEY WORDS: return migrants, remittances, socio-economic development, challenge

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| ABADU | Abassakom Area Development Union |
| ACP | African Caribbean and Pacific group |
| ADB | African Development Bank |
| FAO | Food And Agricultural Organisation |
| FCDP | Fundong Council Development Plan |
| IFAD | International Fund for Agriculture |
| MDGs | Millennium Development Goals |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| ODA | Official Development Assistant |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| SSA | Sub-Sahara Africa |
| UNCTAD | United Nations Conference on Trade and Development |
| UNICEF | United Nations International Children Fund |

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

0.1.1. Background to the study

Generally, for over a century return migration has shaped socio-economic development in developing countries especially in sub-Saharan Africa as migrants acquire skills and financial capital in host areas and invest in their place of origins via remittance and when they return home. The implications of return migration according to the cause effects model relates to human and social capital gained abroad through education, training and gained on job skills and financial capital that is ejected into home region via remittances and savings. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, 2024) underlined that return migration has emerged as a critical policy concern for both destination and country of origin because less attention is being given to return migration. Yendaw (2013) in the same light highlighted that the issue of return migration has been neglected in most migration studies in Africa, meanwhile there has been growing recognition that migration both internal and international can offer an important route out of poverty for many people from developing countries.

The contribution of return migration to economic development has gain much grounds especially in sub-Saharan Africa and in Cameroon particular where their footprints are highly visible. This highly agreed with OECD (2008) which stressed that the contribution of migrants to the development of their country of origins result from a combination of the resources they transfer upon their return and the return obtained from those resources. These resources can be of three kinds: firstly, migrants bring back with them the education and working experience they acquired abroad, secondly, they may comeback with financial capital, in the form of savings accumulated during their stay abroad which may repatriate in various degree of liquidity. Finally have specific social capital obtain from migration experience which could take the form of networks, foreign values, attitudes and ideas.

Remittance which is another form of return migration has also been very instrumental in influencing economic development in migrants place of origin especially in sub-Saharan Africa. International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD, 2008) stressed that Migrants send money back to their country of origin in variety of ways, where available, they may use formal channels such as banks and money transfer services. In other instances, they use informal channel channels, carrying money home or sending cash and kind goods home with returning migrants. Adams, (2007) underpinned that from 2002, remittances to developing countries increased by 107% and sub-Saharan Africa received less than less than 5% of all the official international remittances. Remittances have a potential positive impact as development tools

for recipient countries. The development effects of remittances can be decomposed into effects of savings, investment, growth, consumption, poverty and income distribution (Solimano, 2003)

Return migrants also known as returnees are those who return to rehabilitation centre or newly created settlements, their area of origin or previous residence having being destroy by wars or natural disaster or have fallen a victim of gerrymandering. Returnees may also involve children who were born abroad and whose place of origin is technically not the place where they currently find themselves (Oladele, 2002). Returned migrants within the framework of this study are those who left their places of origin to urban centres or move out of the country for about five years and have come for temporal or permanent stay in their areas of origin. For different reasons, some of them return to their country of origin and particularly those highly skilled can instigate or support knowledge base economic development (Elijah, 2013).

Solimano (2003) denoted that remittances can be in kind such as goods send in the home country, migrants can also make donation in the host country to institutions like the church, charitable organisation form by co-nationals. Also, they can make several payments (insurance premium, tuition for schools, payment for international airfares directly to the airline) on behave of relative on friends from their home country. Remittances is money or any contribution and goods sent my migrants within and out of the country to their place of origins.

The economic crises that hit most sub-Saharan African countries in the 1980s and 1990s highly affected Cameroon and was accompanied by the implementation Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAP), which witness a slash in income of many urban inhabitants and caused a rapid return of people from urban to rural areas. As salary levels of public-sector employees were reduced by about 70% after 1992 and many works of the public sector and parastatal were laid off and support services couldn't longer afford living cost in urban areas especially Yaoundé. Migrants who returned to rural areas massively engaged in clearing forest in order to plant food crops during recession (IOM, 2012). The present migration trend in Cameroon takes the form of general movement both from the countryside to cities and from the cities, the propensity is to emigrate to other countries (Afu, 2016). Return migrants in the North West Region and Boyo Division in particular during this period engaged in agricultural sector and commercial activities. Cameroonian diaspora and those living in urban areas within the country send money in cash and kind back home to family members and relative, cash money and money in kind goods for setting up private business as well as cash to support development association and construction of Fun's palace. This highly manifested in Fundong sub-division

where money from remittances both from home and abroad has significantly influence local development. Return migration and remittances induce socio-economic migration in Fundong sub-division through contribution to community development projects, introduction of modern farming techniques, craft work, construction of modern houses and investment in trade. Though return migrants stimulate local development, some of their activities do not really improve local development, this is because return migration create inconvenience such as environmental pollution, land grabbing, inequality such as social status, land ownership, consumption of consumers goods, increase cost of living for non-migrant population and investment in non-productive activities. The return migrants in Fundong sub-Division are affected by a series of political, administrative and socio-economic challenges. It is therefore necessary to create a conducive environment for return migrants and remittances to effectively contribute to socio-economic of their respective areas which is paramount in achieving Goal 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which aims to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full productive employment and decent work for all.

0.1.2. Justification of the study

Migration plays a key component in shaping development both at national and international level and needs attention. In sub-Saharan Africa, the activities of returnees immensely contribute to structural transformation in the countryside and little attention has been paid to the role played by return migrants in rural transformation. In Fundong sub-Division, most of the local development projects are community driven and huge financial contribution come mainly from returnees. The raising wave of out migration in Boyo Division due to the on-going socio-political crisis in the North West and South West Regions warrants considerable attention so as to create awareness on the implications of the return migrants when the crises will cease. Most of the active population that has moved out of Fundong sub-Division to other parts of the country and across national boundaries are still attached to their homeland and they have the cultural affinity of reinvesting back home. Therefore the role of migrants is very vital in the reconstruction process of homeland ravaged by the social unrest. Mover, people from Fundong sub-Division that are internally displaced need to engage in vocational training, studies, entrepreneurship so as to be gainfully employed and create income generating activities which will enable them to efficiently contribute to local development in Boyo sub-Division.

Return migrants often encounter some challenges when they return to Fundong sub-Division which limits their effort to fully contribute to socio-economic development and reintegrate into the society. It is imperative to throw more light on some of these challenges in

order to look for sustainable solutions to overcome the challenges face by returnees. This can be achieved by creating awareness on the stakeholder of the local community which include the local inhabitants, local rulers, Non-Governmental Organisations and the state, so that they create an enabling environment for return migrants to effectively operate and also crate an atmosphere where the activity of return migrants should alter the cultural heritage of the local inhabitants in Fundong sub-Division.

The activities of returnees are so crucial in local development in Fundong sub-Division and there still exist knowledge gaps on how to harness the potential of return migrants to effectively contribute to socio-economic development as well as gap to overcome the challenges faced by return migrants. The results of this study will create awareness to the extent in which return migrants play in the socio-economic development of Fundong sub-Division. The results will also bring out the problems induced by the activities of returnees and the challenges encountered by return migrants. Further, the outcome of this study will be of great importance to migration studies, International Organisation for Migration, FAO and UNCTAD. To the scientific community, this research will provide literature review for future researchers writing on return migrants.

0.1.3. Delimitation of the study

This study is delimited into three major parts which includes; thematic, temporal and spatial delimitation. The thematic delimitation will be the first to examine, followed by temporal and then spatial delimitation.

0.1.4 Thematic delimitation

This study concentrates on the contribution of return migrants to socio-economic development, bringing out the various activities carried out by return migrants in Fundong Sub-division that induce local development. The study also explores the problems created by return migrants on the environment and the challenges encounter by returnees which limit their effort to effectively contribute to the socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

0.1.5. Temporal delimitation

This study covers the period spanning from 1980 to 2022. This period marks beginning of economic crises that hit most sub-Sahara countries and Cameroon in particular, this forced the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to adopt the Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs as a relief package. The macro-economic adjustment led the closure of state

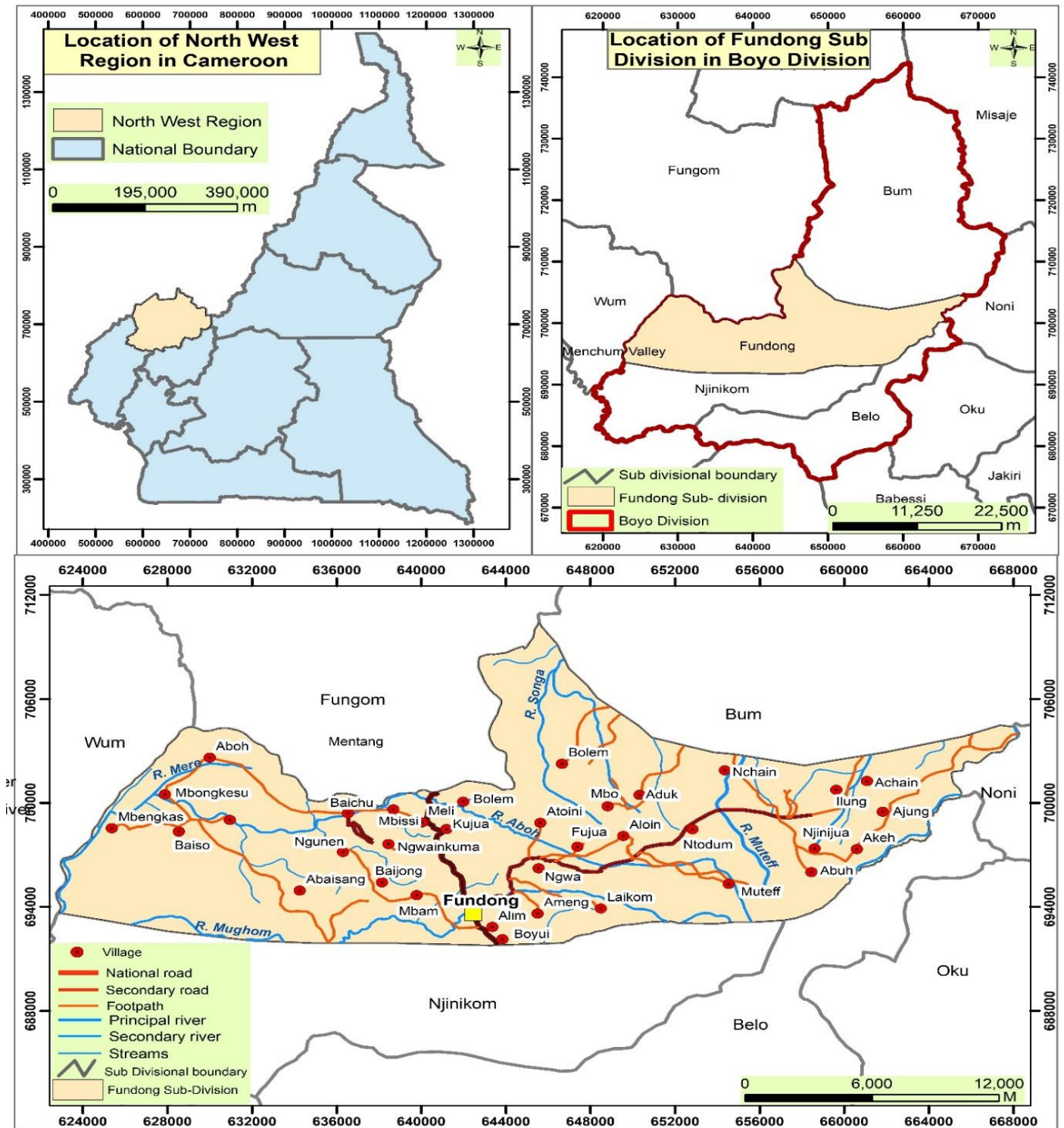
corporations and parastatal laid off many employees. The laid off workers returned from the urban centres to their places of origin, and some emigrated to Europe and North America. Those that return to the countryside engaged in agricultural produce while others ventured into small and medium size craft industries and other carried out small businesses. Those that travel abroad acquired know how and skills which enabled to have gainful employment and were able to reinvest back home. The remittances from migrants who either return from urban areas or those from abroad to the countryside significantly contribute to socio-economic to their places of origin.

Moreover, the uprising socio political crises in the North West and South West Region of Anglophones in 2016 triggered a wave out migration in Fundong sub-Division in the North West Region of Cameroon especial active population deserted the area to other parts of the country and some people that emigrates to other countries warrants attention on the potential of the migrants and displaced persons to fully integrate in the society and to contribute to local development in Fundong Sub-division. Also stakes and challenges that will limit the ability the returnees to reintegrate into their place of origin in future and participate in promoting local development warrant succinct analyses. The is lack of broad knowledge on how to harness the potential of return migrants which could significantly contribute to local development and also the state has not envisaged appropriate strategies to deal with the challenges face by return migrants.

0.1.6. Spatial delimitation of the study

Fundong is one of the four Sub-divisions of Boyo Division, North West Region of Cameroon. It is found within the Western Highlands of Cameroon. This Sub-division lies between latitude 6°15'17" and 6°25'22"N of the Equator. Longitude 10°7'11" and 10°29'0" East of the Greenwich Meridian. It is situated about 68km from the regional capital of North West Region (Bamenda). Fundong Sub-division is bounded by Wum Sub-division in the west and Noni Sub-division to the east while to the north it is bounded by Bum Sub-division and to the south by Njinikom Sub-division (Fundong Council Development Plan, 2012). The Sub-division covers a total surface area of about 519 square kilometres with 25 villages . Fundong Sub-division is the headquarters of Boyo Division. This Sub-division was created by a presidential decree N°77-203 of 29th 1997 following the organisation of councils as laid down in law N°74-23of 5th December 1974. Fundong Sub-division effectively became autonomous in 1996 following the decentralisation of councils in Boyo Division (FCDP, 2012). Figure 1

shows the localisation of North West region in Cameroon, Boyo Division and Fundong Sub-division in Boyo Division.



1g Sub-Division

Figure 1: Location of the Study Area

Source: National Institute of Cartography (NIC), 2022

Figure 1 shows the locational map of Fundong Sub-division in Boyo Division, North West Region of Cameroon. The small red points on the map represent the villages (25) in Fundong Sub-division. The main road run from Fundong in central to the east, linking the various secondary road that connect the different villages, the main road also run from Fundong to north-west and to the south linking secondary roads that connect the various village. There are many rivers and streams in the east and centre of Fundong than in the west.

0.2.1. Statement of the research problem

In the world today, return migration is constructed as being natural, necessary, and a path to attaining increased social status (Tazanu, 2015). Moreover, international mobility to the Global North is connected with social and collective hopes for a better life and future, with upward social mobility of the migrant and his/her relatives staying at home and with ideas of membership within a globalised world (Collins, 2018). It has been noted that return migrants are very innovative and bring brilliant ideas to the development of the community. In Cameroon especially in Fundong sub-division, return migration and remittances has played a very big role in developing their place of origin, most Returnees have engaged in modern farming techniques, local craft industries, investing in small business, contributing in realizing local development projects and building of modern houses, portable water and creation of training centres for the under privileged.

Regrettably, return migration brings about so many inconveniences in a Fundong sub-division. The activities of return migrants and remittances create inconveniences which range from environmental pollution and inequality such as social status, land ownership, inequality in purchase of consumers goods, investment in non-productive activities and increase prices of basic commodities. Return migrants purchase huge hectares of land for construction and cultivation making land so expensive for the local dwellers to afford, also huge portions of land are cleared down, thus the vegetation cover is removed which exposes the land to water erosion which leads to land degradation. Also, solid waste from disposal on the surface has risen.

Return migrants in Fundong sub-division face a lot of challenges in carrying out their developmental activities in the community. These challenges are felt at the social, economic, political and administrative level. This has greatly limited their ability to effectively contribute to the socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division. Return migration has also created inequality and segregation in Fundong Sub-division thereby altering the communal way of life that has existed for centuries. Return migrants who have accumulated wealth and skills in cities

and oversee are more educated and have more skills than non-migrant population. Implementing all these activities in Fundong sub-division is so challenging because the rural population have a way of life that is totally different from that of the returnees. Also, return migrants invest on non-productive activities such as housing, small scale farming, purchase of land that neither creates any significant employment nor significant investment

It is therefore imperative for the above stated problems to be diagnosed and addressed so that the return migrants and remittances flow can adequately contribute to the socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division which is very vital for the wellbeing of the local population. It is against this background that this research has been designed to provide answers to the following research questions.

0.2.2. Research Questions

0.2.3. General Research question

- How do return migrants and remittances influence socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division?

0.2.4. Specific Research Questions

- 1) What are the areas of contribution to socio-economic development by return migration in Fundong Sub-division?
- 2) What are the inconveniences caused by return migration in Fundong Sub-division?
- 3) What are the challenges faced by return migrants and remittances in Fundong Sub-division?

0.2.5. General research objective

- To investigate how return migrants and remittances influence socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

0.2.6 Specific objectives

- 1) To access the areas in which Return migration contributes to the socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division
- 2) To examine the inconveniences caused by return migration and remittances in Fundong Sub-division
- 3) To investigate the challenges plaguing return migrants and remittances to effectively contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

0.2.7 Research hypotheses

- 1) Return migration has influenced socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division via the introduction of modern farming techniques, craft work, trading activities, construction of modern houses transportation sector
- 2) Return migration has caused inconveniences in Fundong sub-division.
- 3) Return migration is plagued by socio-economic, administrative and communication challenges to fully contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

0.3.1. Literature Review

Recent studies on return migrants in sub-Saharan Africa upholds that return migrants play a fundamental role to socio-economic of the countryside and rural transformation. Migration can have meaningful benefit for global economic welfare. When migrant workers move between differently endowed countries that movement can boost economic growth in both sending and receiving countries (GCIM, 2005). International Labour Organisation, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the World Bank (2015), pinpointed that return migrants have the potential to make a positive contribution to the economic development in their countries of origin through human, social and financial capital acquired abroad. A wide range of research works have been carried out on migration and return migrants. These studies are found in articles, journals, theses, reports, conference proceeding, reviews and books. Presently exclusive works have not been effectively carried out on the contribution of return migrants to socio economic development in the countryside of Cameroon, particularly Fundong Sub-division. However articles exist on crossing boundaries: internal, regional and international migration in Cameroon (IOM, 2012), international migrants and rural development in Moghamo community; North West Region of Cameroon (Afu, 2018), working research paper exist on internal migration in Cameroon (Abomo et al, 2013), working paper on return migration and entrepreneurship in Cameroon (Tamwo et al, 2022), rural livelihood transformation and local development in Cameroon (Griet et al, 2017), Migrants shaping cities: integrating migrants into local agenda (Bongwa, 2015), master's dissertation on the impact of migration and brain drain in Cameroon (Afu, 2016). None of these pre-existing works actually handles the significant contribution of return migrants to socio-economic development, and problems caused by returnees as well as challenges encountered by return migrants in Cameroon especially in Fundong Sub-division.

In this perspective, it is imperative to draw understandings from theoretical and empirical works to build a rich and befitting literature in order to proceed with this study. The diverse literatures from multidisciplinary backgrounds enable the identification and filling of knowledge gaps. It also gives way for the development of appropriate conceptual framework of this study. Though the literature streams from different theoretical and methodological setting, in a wider viewpoint, they are explaining similar phenomenon from various perspectives. This section focused on reviewing previous works on migrant's contribution to socio-economic development, problems created by return migrants in areas of origins and the challenges encountered by return migrants.

0.3.2. Return migrants and development

Griet and Lindert (2017), working rural livelihoods transformation and local development stressed that remittances are important factor that contribute to local development especially in Cameroon and Ghana, remittances form substantial part of household income. The authors further underlined that most household engage as a means of livelihood survival or consolidation strategies. Return migrants use remittances to diverse goods including farm inputs such as fertilizers and cooking utensils, food supplies, cloth, bicycles, small solar panels to power lights at night and charge mobile phones. The authors in their working paper were more interested on how rural-city connections and livelihoods diversification contribute to development processes, that is they were focused on how better rural connectivity through technological infrastructure that contribute to increase mobility dynamics between rural-urban, which facilitate migrants to easily reach the countryside with remittances that dynamize rural areas. This research does not examine how high connectivity between rural facilitate migrants to easily reach rural areas and diversify the countryside. It aims to investigate how return migrants' remittance both from home and broad influence socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

Afu (2018), writing on international migrants and rural development underscored those remittances result from migration have a general beneficial effect on poverty reduction, improve health and school attendance. The author further underpinned that the Moghamo cultural development association in the United State of America make substantial contribution in the domain of education via scholarship which is a vital component in development and other contributions through building of modern homes and orphanage as well as promoting their culture back home. The author was only interesting on the role of international migrants' contribution to rural development. This research does not only examine the contribution of

international migrant to socio-economic development, it goes beyond to include the contribution of return internal migrants to local development.

Stark, 1991, 1991., Mesnard, 2004, cited by Elijah et al (2013), denoted that in the perspective of new economic model, international migration and return is seen as a calculate strategy which intends to mitigate market imperfection at origin in which migration serves to accumulate enough savings to provide the capital or at least the guarantee required to obtain credit for investment at home, particularly in business activity. The author (Elijah, 213) who was writing on the socio-economic status of return migrants further stressed that household could sponsor its member to migrate abroad to work and earn some income to acquire property, the income gotten via migration could be used to support the household income. The author was more focused on the socio-economic status of return migrants and the assets, human, financial and social capital and saving acquired oversea which change the status of returnees back home. This study examines the contribution of return migrants (internal and international migration) to socioeconomic development.

Intense population movement has been a long tradition in many parts of Africa, important issues include change in mobility and migration pattern and the role of remittances as well as network cutting across rural and urban settlement (Tacoli, 2002). The author further underscored those remittances are key components of the rural household income and a vital element of the continued link between migrants and their home areas across all wealth groups. The author was more interested on the interaction between rural- urban and their impacts on rural livelihoods. This work focuses on the contribution of return migrant from within the country and overseas to socioeconomic development.

Mercandalli et al (2019), writing on rural migration in sub-Sahara Africa underpinned that sub-Sahara migration presents a diversified picture in terms of mobility patterns destination both at in internal international levels, in particular, the dynamics of circular or non-residential migration, between and within countries, are a direct answer to the challenge faced by rural households. The authors go further by highlighting that due to growing multi-local and active households strategies which are renewed component structural transformation process contribute to consolidate a diversity of socioeconomic and spatial linkages, they support the development of new territorial dynamics rooted in a deeper rural-urban interface, which is reshaping the process of change. The authors in their work were focused the role migration in the development, the causes and pattern of migration. This study set out to investigate the contribution of return migrants to socioeconomic development.

Dgananjavan (2005), researching on migration and development who looked migration view highlighted that migration can play a positive role on country of origin because the money that migrants send home can contribute significantly to the recipients' wellbeing as well as the receiving country economic welfare. The author advanced the view that when migrants return home either for permanent or short stay, with new skills that they make good use of, they and their families can benefit, even when the migrants don't return personally. The diaspora community can contribute to the development of their place of origin via trade, investment, networking and skill transfer. The author also took a contrarily view of contribution to development by outlining the adverse effects of migration and pointed out that some poor countries that have high rates of permanent emigration, particularly highly skilled migrants, migration can be a big threat. This is explained by the fact that where these countries have poor financial infrastructure, the ability of migrants to contribute to development through remittances, investment and return is impeded. The author was more concerned with international migration, based on how to explore the impacts of migration and economic development and poverty alleviation. The author also throw light on the negative aspect of migration, that the problems emigrants especially highly migrants may encounter in some poor countries that might limit their potentials to send remittances to their country of origin. This research focuses on the contribution of return migrants to socioeconomic development.

Sub-Saharan African transnational communities hardly cut ties with home; their aim is to eventually return home even only in retirement. They are active in political advocacy and in charity and cultural exchange, their associations help new arrivals to adapt and insert themselves into labour markets and they mobilise members' capital for investment and community development projects at home. These migrants are sources of financial flow and technology transfer and act as link to their home country for international ideas (Aderanti, 2008). The author was interested on current international migration issues such as migration and development, causes of migration, the negative impacts of migration both in areas of origin and destination countries as well as direction movements. This study seeks to investigate the role play by both internal and international migration to socioeconomic development in their areas of origin.

Linklater et al (2022), writing on integrating migration into rural development stressed that many migrants contribute can directly contribute to rural development in their home countries by sending remittances, filling labour shortage, transferring knowledge and skills, countering depopulation, paying taxes and injecting their income into the economies where they

are and where they come from. The authors were more focused on examining factors of rural urban migration, the gap left behind by rural migrants in the areas of origin and the diversification of the activities (farm and non-agricultural activities) in rural areas. This work focuses on the contribution of return migrants both internal and international migration to local development.

It has been debated that emigration can mitigate some of the problems which developing countries are facing, emigration may reduce pressure on the labour market and generate remittances that makes up a vital source of foreign exchange and income for migrants' families. Financial and human capital transfers occurring via return migration can have positive consequence because they help to improve the quality of life back home and promote socioeconomic development (Ammassari and Richard, 2001). The authors were interested in both positive and negative consequences of international in destination areas and home countries, types of migration and return as well as reasons for return and readjustment problems. This research set out to assess the role played by return migrants to socioeconomic development.

Uchenna et al (2012), researching on crossing boundaries for internal, regional and international migration underscored that home town connections give migrants a spiritual link to ancestors, access to land and social security upon retirement, on the contrary, a migrants who is permanently disconnected from his or her home village is regarded as rootless or has lost the social nexus that attached an individual to a given community. Goheen (1998), cited by Uchenna et al, identified a number of mechanisms for upholding urban- rural development ties, involving the use of native language and construction of houses in the village of origin. Such houses give a positive image for the whole village and prestige for the family. The authors (Uchenna et al) in their work were mainly focused on the dynamics of rural-urban migration, migrant's circulation within and across frontiers, the adverse impacts of migrants areas of origin and returns from emigration. This work seeks to examine the contribution of returnees to socioeconomic development.

Abdou (2003) researching on stakes and challenges of international migration work in West Africa stressed that return migrants invest in housing and in small and medium size enterprises, the choice of return migrants to invest in logging is linked to many incentives amongst which; the symbolic and practical rule to be a house owner to lodge and lodge his family, lodging guarantee security for investment which is lucrative, the amount of rent is fixed and known in advance. The scholar further posited that investment of return migrants in housing

sector has diversified investment in old activities such as import and export of second-hand cars, car spare parts, construction materials and second-hand cloths. The author was focused on the challenges of international migrants both at receiving areas and areas of origin, determinant of international migration in Africa, contribution of international migrants to socio-economic development in areas of origin and the stakes of reinsertion of returned migrants into the society. This research is interested on the contribution of return internal migrants and international return migrants to socio-economic development in area of origin.

0.3.3. Returned migrants and problems

Byron et Condon (1996), cited by (2015) underscored that returnees adapt their expectations and behaviours to local society with the aim to become reaccepted, they rather tend to direct their consumption pattern to unproductive investments and to unobtrusive consumption. The authors (Byron et Condon) further highlighted that resources tend to be monopolized by the family members of return migrants who invest their savings in the building of big houses and in the purchase of luxury cars, rather than using savings to modernise agricultural machinery. The authors were analysing the international theory which aim at assessing the contribution of migration to development, and the structural approach of the theory of migration which underscores the role play by returnees to development in the country of origin at the same time sougning out the inability of return migrants to contribute local development when they return home. This study focuses on problems created by return migrants in the countryside.

Sophie (2021) writing on conflict, force migration and access to land highlighted that demographic pressure resulting from an increase in displaced persons and those who have returned to their villages of origin create problems for access to arable land due to the fact that most of the local communities are farmers and breeders. Communities hosting migrants no longer have capacity to host them because they also need aid and to maintain control over their land for livelihoods. The author was interested on conflict over land and local resources due to demographic pressure mainly cause by refugees and return migrants as well. This research is aims to investigate the problems the problems caused by return migrants in their area of origin.

Returnees may present a threat or an advantage to non-returnee population in the allocation of presumed finite resources such as land, water, pasture, forest produce, jobs, housing healthcare, school places veterinary services, extension services, credit facilities and employment opportunities (Kibreab, 2002), cited by Neajai (2016). Kibreab (2002) further

posited that changes and transformation in occupation, settlement pattern, consumption habits and development of trans-ethnic and trans-religious social relations and network, which may either enhance or impede socio-political and economic cohesion amongst returnees and non-returnees. Neajai (2016) highlighted that returnees may compete with non-returnees for jobs which may exacerbate already high level of unemployment. The authors were researching on the positive and negative implications of returnees in their place of origin. This research is focused on the negative implications of return migrants in the countryside.

The relation between land degradation and migration are complex and are mediated by intervening economic, social, political demographic and environmental process that operate at local and global scale. In some areas, population pressure resulting from natural increase and migration from other locality helps to aggravate land degradation. The author was interested on factors of migration and the impacts of migration on land and environment on in the receiving region. This work focuses on the adverse implication of return migrant in the area of origin.

0.3.4. Return migrants and Challenges encountered in place of origin

Oladele (2000) researching on return migration and the problem of reintegration underlined that many return migrants still encounter serious problems of reintegration, ranging from unemployment and social maladjustment to boredom and frustration. The author again stressed that some returnees also face an identity crisis which often leads to identity trauma and effects of this stress are manifested in many ways such as depression, alcoholism, suicide and other misconducts. The researcher was looking was interested on adopted strategies to reintegrate returnees and insufficiency of these strategies. This study does not only look at reintegration challenges, it goes beyond to examine economic and political challenges encountered by returnees.

Housing is generally a main concern for migrants in the perspective of finding the correct neighbourhood that is safe for migrant's families, affordable with good transport network. Major cities which are main destinations for internal and international migrants offer different types of housing based on the level of affordability. Migrant with financial difficulties often occupy informal housing in congested areas such as slums, the increase in slum population has impacts on available infrastructure such as sewage, water supply and health services. These services are supplied to informal settlement that do not meet the required standard of the city council plan (Mberu, 2023), cited by Adhlambo

Nauja et al (2013) writing on life after deportation and migration crisis lamented that involuntary return migrants who have lived for many years abroad particularly those that have maintained little contacts with their family and friends in their country of origin suffer from social isolation and marginalisation, they may find themselves with little social networks and without full knowledge on how things are done locally. The author again underpinned that the situation of involuntary returnees may also be undermined by rumours for their return including suspicious of criminal or immoral behaviour abroad, causing social isolation and stigmatization. The researcher further outlined that that deportees and emergency returnees usually return empty handed and face other problems such as unemployment and difficulties in establishing a sustainable livelihood. The authors in their work were focused on the challenges of involuntary return migration, that is, migrants who returned due to deportation and other emergency and they can reintegrate in the society. This research is interested on the challenges faced by return migrants back home, both international and internal migration, being it those who return on voluntary and involuntary bases.

European Migration Network (EMN, 20214) researching on challenges and good practices and reintegration of irregular migrants stressed that returnees in most west African countries encounter challenges which ranges from unstable internal political crisis and health risks. EMN further underscored that returnees also suffer from such as housing problem, poor transport infrastructure inadequate, inadequate power supply and corruption. The research document of EMN was interested on the challenges face by irregular return migrant in urban areas and good practices of reintegration. This study focuses on the challenges return migrant face in the countryside.

Körner (1984) researching on problems of migrants workers return to their home country delineated that a large proportion of Greek, Portuguese and Spanish returnees opined that arrival in their home country was accompanied by economic, social and psychological problems, which prevent them from finding jobs, especially inadequate political positions, which prevent them from improving their social situation according to aspiration. Those who returned have the sentiment that at home the national administration is inefficient in creating jobs, improving social insurance and modern market system as well as well as providing modern educational system. The author further stressed that return migrants who were dissatisfied with the general functioning of the socio-economic system in their home countries regretted why they return. The author was assessing the problems international return migrants encounter in their home countries mostly in urban areas. This study is interested on the

challenges encounter by return migrants in the countryside, those migrants from urban centres and those from abroad.

Aloysius et al (2022) writing on age return migrants and the challenges of reintegration in rural Nigeria underlined that age migrants who returned from urban to rural areas encounter challenges which ranges from low economic base and poor infrastructure in rural areas which made life difficult to adapt and the situation of the aged returnees was further aggravated by high expectation and poor treatment from community members. The authors were focused on the challenges face by aged migrants who returned from urban areas to rural areas. This work examines the challenges face return migrants from all age group and return migrants within the country and those from foreign countries.

Stagnant economic situation at home such as structural economic problems, unemployment, poverty and conflicts that have engendered migration in the first place have not greatly changed, therefore there is less incentives to return on the part of migrants workers and the diaspora. The national labour market may not be able to absorb returning migrants workers. The author goes further to stress that lack of appropriate laws, policies and institutions regarding return and reintegration slowdown the reintegration process of return migrants, as well as lack of information on available services and programmes also bog down the reintegration process of return migrants (Piyasiri, 2019). The author was writing on reintegration policy for international return migrants, and the issues and challenges of reintegration. This work is concern with the challenges encounter by internal and international return migrants in the countryside.

Remittances are the financial counterpart to migration and are the most tangible contribution of migrants to the development of their areas of origin. Migration and remittances are significantly reshaping the traditional social and economic structures of rural communities, in both positive and negative ways. Communities are extended beyond strict geographic boundaries, and their members abroad are playing an active role —sending remittances, bringing innovative ideas— in the well-being of the rural communities they left behind. At the same time, families are affected by the impact of separation and the absence of the most productive members of the communities (Tazanu, 2015). In a similar way, this study goes further to examine how are impacting the development of rural like Fundong Sub-division.

Many migrants have established continuous social and economic interaction with their communities of origin and play unique roles as agents of change in both their countries of

destination and of origin. Governments, financial institutions and international development agencies can no longer afford to ignore the ever-growing impact that financial flows from migrants have on the economic and social development of remittance-receiving countries (Adams, 2005). They also need to focus on how migration can positively influence the achievement of the development targets set by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In addressing rural poverty, one challenge is to take these new social and economic realities into consideration and integrate them into innovative strategies for promoting rural development. The current economic crisis has revealed the importance migration and remittances have for millions of families that depend on this financial flow for their survival.

After years of steady increases in worldwide remittances, migrant workers and their families are facing new challenges in light of the financial crisis. According to IFAD estimates, global remittances may have declined by as much as 10 per cent in the first six months of 2009, with large differences in the effect of the crisis on individual countries. For the countries hardest hit in regions and major areas, such as Eastern Europe and Latin America, the decline in remittances is threatening the livelihoods of millions of people who depend on funds sent by relatives and friends working abroad. Despite these challenges, positive aspects remain. Even if decreasing, remittances are proving far more robust than other capital flows. Foreign direct investment to developing countries, for instance, is estimated to have fallen by 50 per cent in the first half of 2009. Furthermore, of the 31 countries for which IFAD has data, only four countries have shown increases in remittances in 2009.

0.4.0. Conceptual and theoretical framework of the study

A number of concepts and theories are examined and reviewed in this study in order to show their significance in this work in the domain of return migrants and remittances and their implications on socio-economic development in which this study dwells. In a whole, two theories and two concepts are used in this study. The concepts of remittances, return migrants and that of socio-economic development which are well defined and conceptualised. The theories include; the theory of spatial diffusion of innovations, development theories; the theory of necessity for development and the theory of collective action.

0.4.1. The conceptual framework

This write-up is guided by the link that exists between the return migrants, and their contribution to the socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division. Some concepts were

identified and defined to guide the understanding of this research. Concepts such as, return migrants, remittances and socio-economic development which are directly linked to the topic have been carefully defined and conceptualised while concepts such as challenges which are not directly linked to the topic of this research have been identified and used to facilitate the understanding of this work. The definitions adopted are conceptual and theoretical. The intention is to articulate these terms around the context and background of the research questions vis -à -vis the perception of the local population of Fundong Sub-division so as to give them their meanings and significance through a cumulative development in knowledge.

0.4.2. Socio-economic development

The Cambridge Advanced Learners sees development as growth, change and more advancement. From the above perspectives, development can be in the political, cultural, economic, social and many other dimensions. In another light, development can be understood as an improvement, growth or a positive change in the society. It involves social, technological and economic transformation focusing on economic prosperity. If a community or people have the capacity to satisfy the basic needs of a larger portion of its people or population, we talk of a developed society. According to Irish Aid (2006), development refers to the actions and activities in which individuals and communities participate. It occurs in the social, economic, political and geographical areas where these individuals and communities exist. The local population of any given geographical area influences the outcome of development of that area. As per Human Development Report, (1996 p.1), economic development is the measurement of life expectancy, adult literacy, access to all levels of education as well as people's average incomes which creates freedom of choice. This study examines socio-economic development as an improvement in the domain of job creation via agricultural improvement, social facilities and mobility services and trade as well as construction of modern buildings (figure 2)

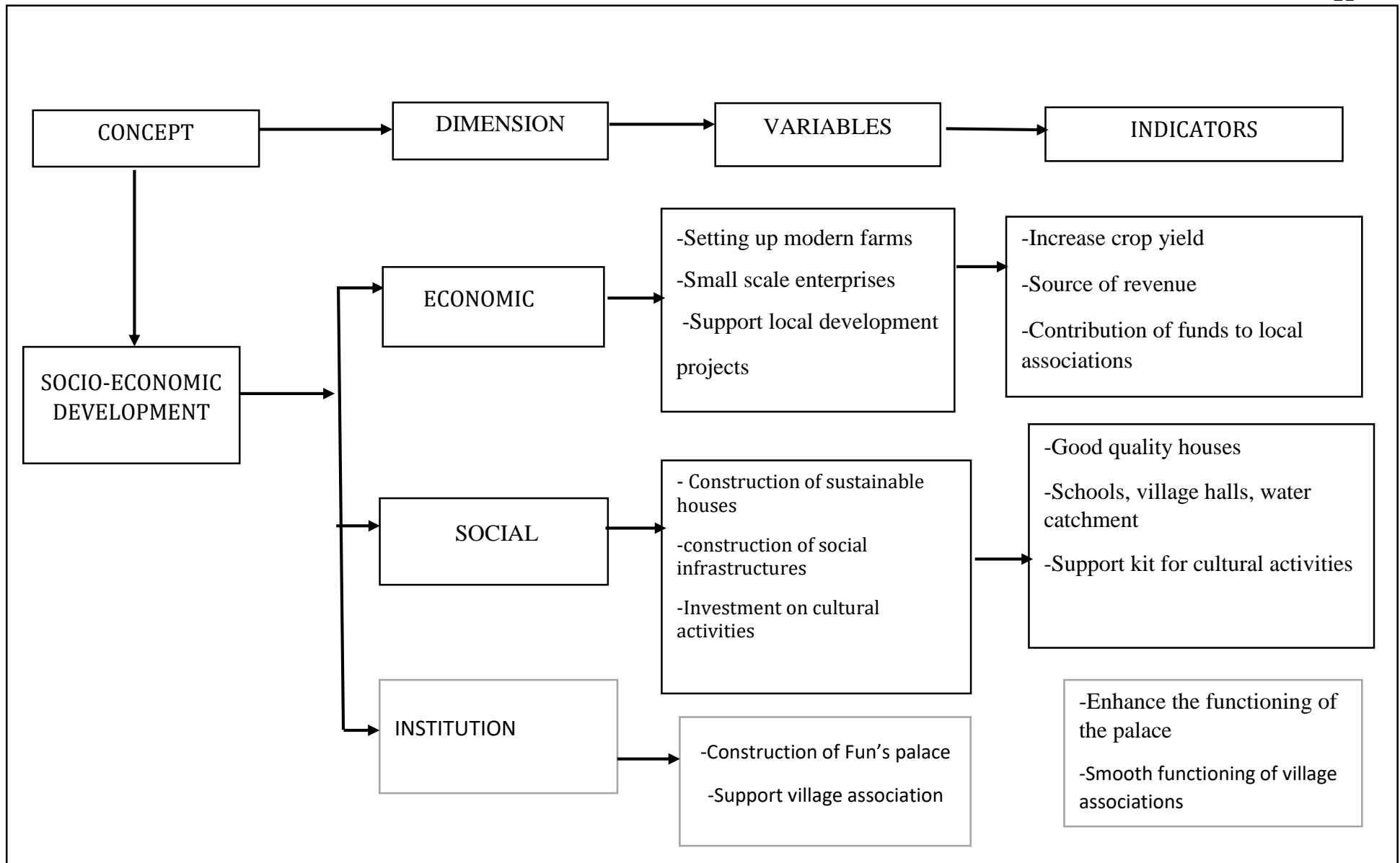


Figure 2: Conceptualisation of socio-economic development

Source: Conceived by the author, inspired by field work, 2022

0.4.3. Return migrants

The term return migrants might be used to refer to repatriation, the voluntary or involuntary return of travellers and migrants to their place of origin (Mirriam international dictionary, 2020). Marta, (2020) pointed out that return migration can be a form of forced migration, although very often it is not. The scholar further underlined that most at times return migration can take the form of deportation. In most societies, “deportation” is associated with “criminal activities” creating the perception that deported persons do not deserve re-entry into social life; this complicates social contacts between returnees and their origin communities (Drotbohm, 2011). Return migrants within the framework of this study are migrants who returned from abroad and urban centres in Cameroon to their area of origin (Figure 3).

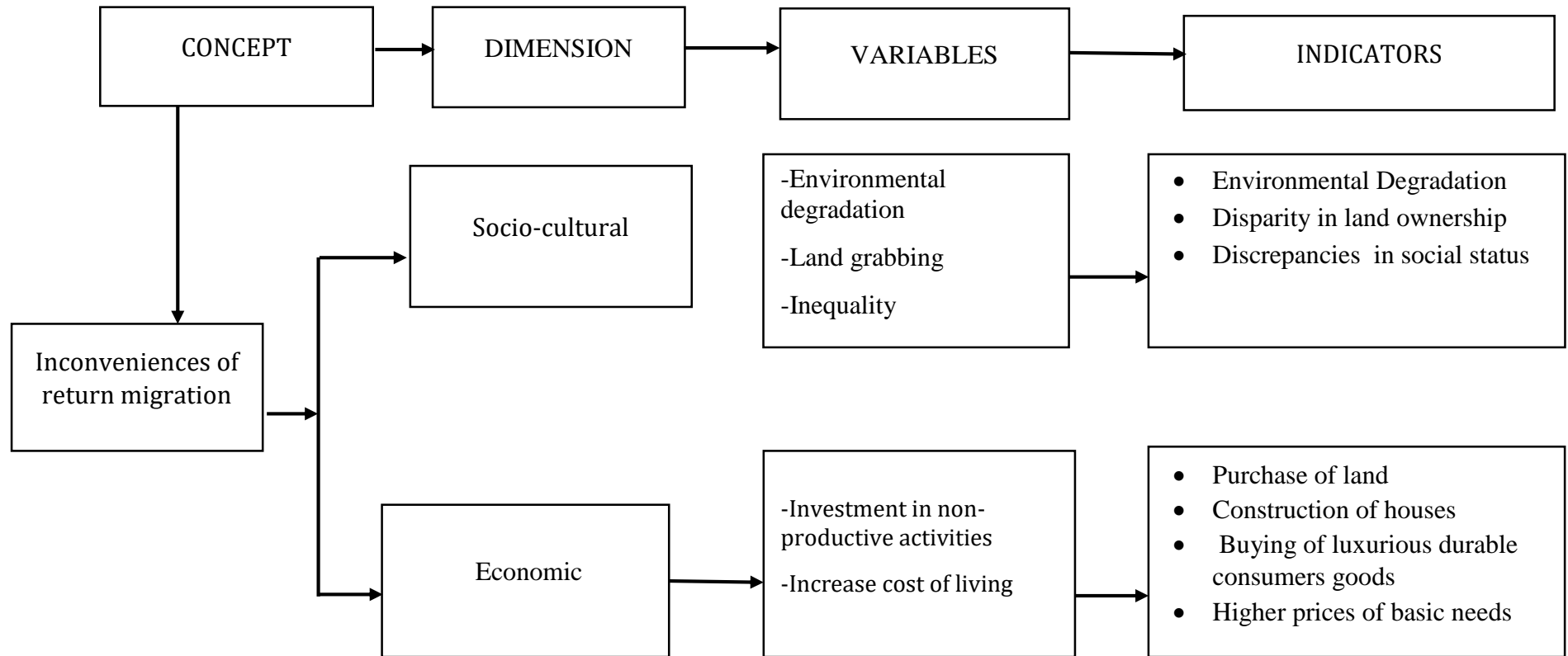


Figure 3: Conceptualisation of Inconveniences of Return migration

Source: Conceived by the author, inspired by field work, 2022

0.4.5. Return migrants challenges

According to IOM migrants' challenges are those related to adaption to new host societies and identity is at the center of this adaptation process. Migration experience three impacts on personal identity; how he or she is perceived by others, interiorized societal factors such as roles and social expectation related to gender, culture and tradition, and how person finally see themselves in terms of individuality. Returnees experience these challenges of identity both during their transit and upon arrival at their destination and also during the process of returning and re-adaptation to their communities of origin. Challenges of return migrants within the context of this study are economic, social and political difficulties encountered by return migrants to fully contribute to socio-economic development in their areas of origin (Figure 4)

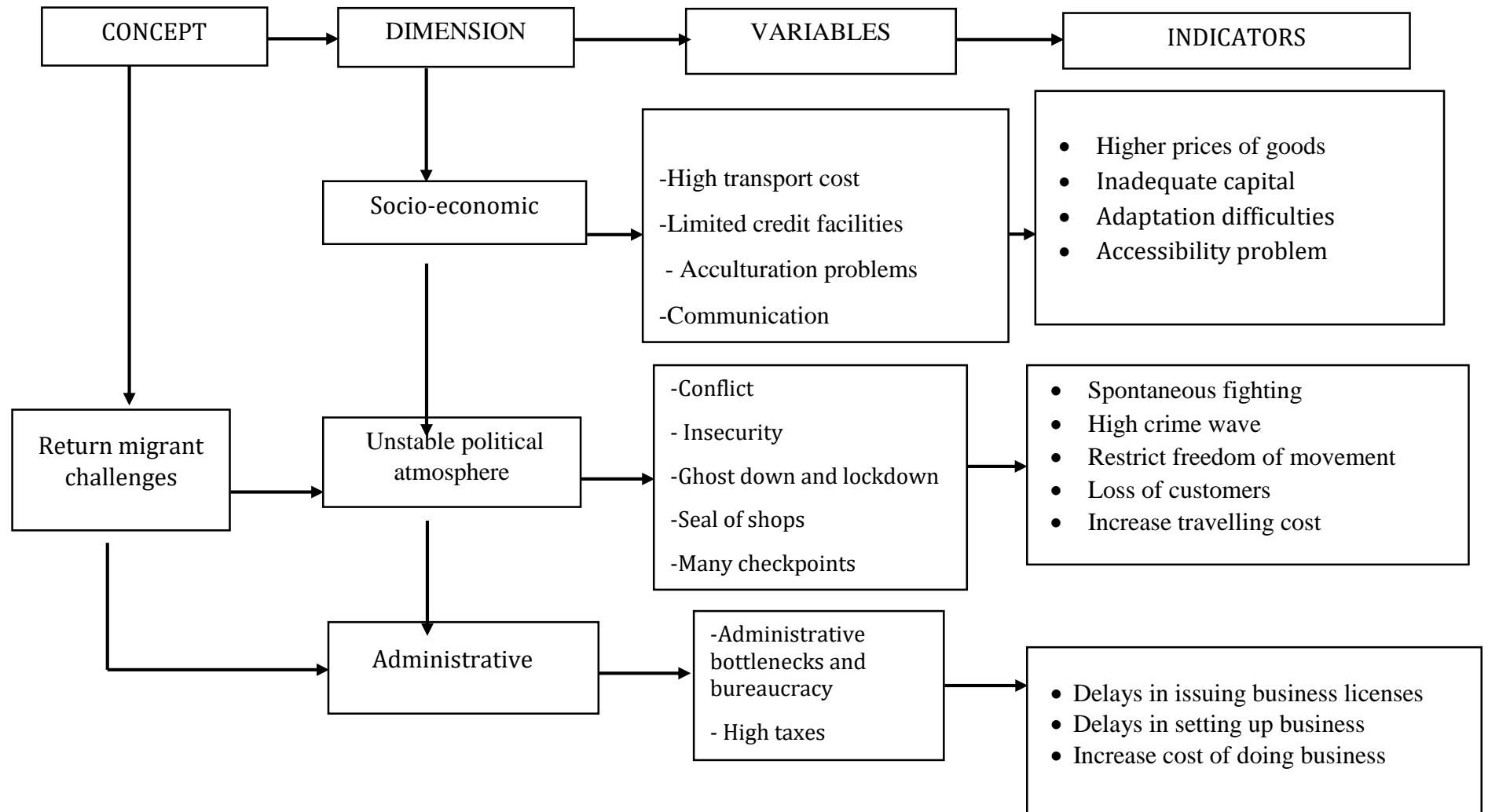
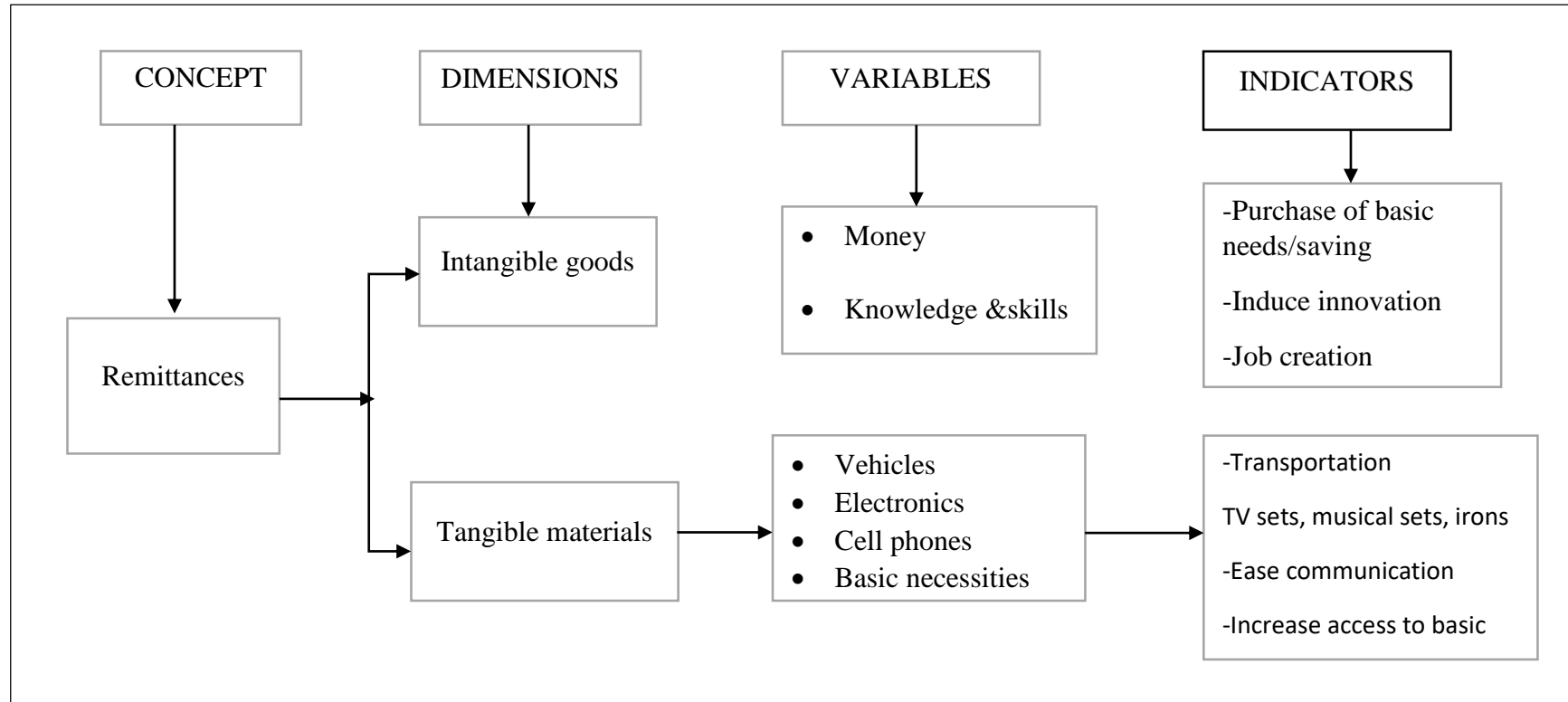


Figure 4: Conceptualisation of Return migration challenges

Source: Conceived by the author, inspired by field work, 2022

0.4.6. Remittances

The concept of remittances has evolved overtime and has also taken different dimensions. According to the Oxford Advanced Learners' dictionary, Remittances refers to a sum of money sent to someone in another place or country. As per IOM (2016) remittances are multidirectional, voluntary and private international monetary transfers made by migrants, individually or collectively, to people with whom they maintain close links. The financial earning of migrants can be spent, invested or saved both destination and origin countries. Remittance according to Solimano (2003) is the transfer of money or in kind made by a migrant to his home country. Remittances can be in kind such as goods send to the home country, migrants can also make donation in the host country to institutions like the church, charitable organisation form by co-nationals. Also, they can make several payments (insurance premium, tuition for schools, payment for international airfares directly to the airline) on behalf of relative or friends from their home country. Remittances is money or any contribution and goods sent my migrants within and out of the country to their place of origins. In the frame work of this study, migrant remittances is money and tangible goods sent by migrants within and out of Cameroon to their place of origin, to support lives back home (Figure 5).



Source: Conceived by the author, inspired by field work, 2022

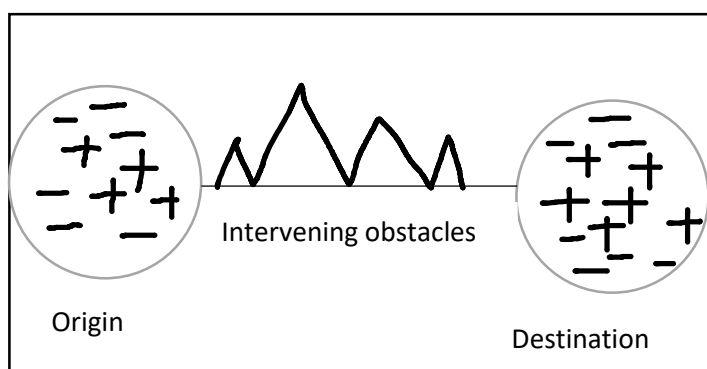
Figure 5: Conceptualisation of Remittances

0.5.1. Theoretical framework of the study

This study is integrated in the problematic in relation to return migrants, remittances and socio-economic development. This study is inscribed in the framework of Everett Lee's theory of migration, the theory of spatial diffusion of innovations and some development theories such as the theory of necessity for development and that of collective action. This was in a bit to give the work a scientific base and to use the theories as a point of reference.

0.5.2. Lee' Theory of migration/Push and Pull Theory (1966)

In 1966, the demography Journal publish his seminal work titled 'A Theory of Migration.' The theory which is drawn on the principles of sociology, attempts to formalise a theory of migration of which provide a scheme of the factors that could explain the volume of migration between origin and destination (Nkosinathi & Siphesihle, 2019). For Lee, when migrating, factors that have to be considered are those related to the place of origin (push factors) and those linked to the place of destination (pull factors) and intervening obstacles. A push factor is something that makes a person leave his/ her area of origin and move to another area (destination). This could not be limited to lack of economic opportunities, discrimination, violation of human rights, religious and political persecution, high crime wave. A pull factor is what attracts an individual to a specific area, which could be good healthcare facilities, religious and political freedom (Barman & Lumplan, 2015). An intervening obstacle may be a cultural or environmental feature that may hinder the migrant's journey. Lee (1996) postulates that these may include the distance between the place of origin and the destination, lack of adequate transport, immigration policies and laws, ethnocentrism, borders and natural barriers such as rivers and mountains



Source: Lee (1996)

Figure 6: Lee graphical representation of push and pull theory

The theoretical framework will help in this study to understand factors of migration, reasons for migrants return home. It will also aid to understand why migrants may choose to migrate elsewhere (push factors) and which factors attract them to various destination (pull factors). It also helps the understanding of some of the various types of intervening obstacles migrants may face while en-route to their destination.

0.5.3. The theory of spatial diffusion of innovations

The general theoretical position of the theory of spatial diffusion of innovations consist of proposing a partial explanation as well as prediction possibilities about the state and probable evolution of geographic entities on basis of knowledge of their situation with respect to other geographic objects. It postulates ideas and technologies spreading across cultures. <http://www.hypergeo.eu/spip.php?article187>. The theory thus bases on aspects of typical spatial diffusion which suggests six elements: an environmental space; a diffusion time, in two or more intervals; an innovation or “message” to be diffused; a set of message holders and message receivers in the initial time interval; an interaction path between message holders and message receivers. These six elements are indirectly suggestive of other elements that should be considered in examining spatial diffusion in any culture and economy which in turn depend in the culture and type of innovation. Innovations are developed in the course of interactive process depending on the actions of actors located in the centre. This action may be creation, anticipation and attempt to take a profit from it or imitation of an innovation that has registered success elsewhere, both attitudes representing adaptation strategies.

These processes of ideas and technologies spreading through cultures are however affected by barriers like culture and physical environment (Paul and Robert, 1973). This theory will be applied in this work in order to examine how return migrants’ activities and remittances spread various changes or innovations. This has led to the spread of innovative activities and ideas in Fundong imported by the return migrants. The examined innovations are the changes in lifestyles, development projects and rapid diffusion of the activities in the study area and its contribution to socio-economic development. Figure 6 illustrates how activities of return migrants and remittances have diffused from Fundong centre to the other parts of the Sub-division since its initiation (Figure 6).

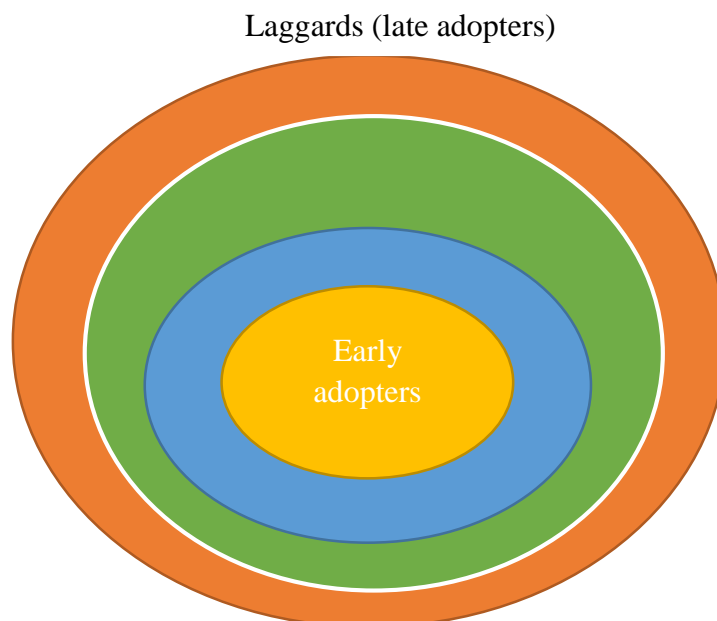


Figure 6: The spatial diffusion of commercial motorbikes in Fundong Sub-division in concentric rings

Source: Inspiration from Von Thunen's concentric land use during field work, 2022

Legend

- Fundong centre (Fundong three corners)
- Immediate surroundings of Fundong centre (Alim, Fujua, Atoini, Meli and others)
- Further outer limits of the centre (Ngwa, Mentang, Achain, Ajung, Akeh ...)
- The outermost peripheries of Fundong centre (Muteff, Mbengkas, Aduk, Itom etc)

In line with the theory of spatial diffusion of innovations, figure 5 shows that the activity of return migrants such as businesses started in Fundong centre (early adopters) and latter spreads to the neighbouring villages around the centre. The activity later extended to other parts such as Ngwa, Mentang, Aduk and others. Due to some challenges such as poor roads and accidented terrain the activities did not reach the outermost parts very fast. Today, some villages in the Sub-division do not still have access to some of the innovations (laggards or late adopters). This demonstrates how their innovative ideas have diffused from Fundong centre to the outskirts though some villages are still lagging to this innovation.

0.5.4. Development theories

As put forth by Robert Chambers in his urban bias theory, development stakeholders often neglect rural areas in development. It is in this light that the Pan African Institute for Development was established to train aspiring development experts who will tactfully respond to the needs of rural areas.

Development theorists such as W.W. Rostow, saw development as a continuous process. To him, developments most begin from somewhere before it reaches a certain level which he called mass consumption and production. Villages develop to towns and gradually to cities and megalopolis. We will thus see development in Fundong Sub-division as a process of transformation effectuated by the activities of return migrants. According to the social theories on development, emphasis is being laid on job creation through human capital. In this theory, it is seen that employment creation, education and access to food are major tools to economic growth and development.

0.5.4. The theory of necessity for development

This theory is suggested by economists and integrated for use in improving on the welfare of societies. The theory lays emphasis on long-term growth for a country to possess the capacity to continuously supply diverse products to the population. This increase capacity is based on advanced technology and institutional ideologies necessary for adjustments (figure 7).

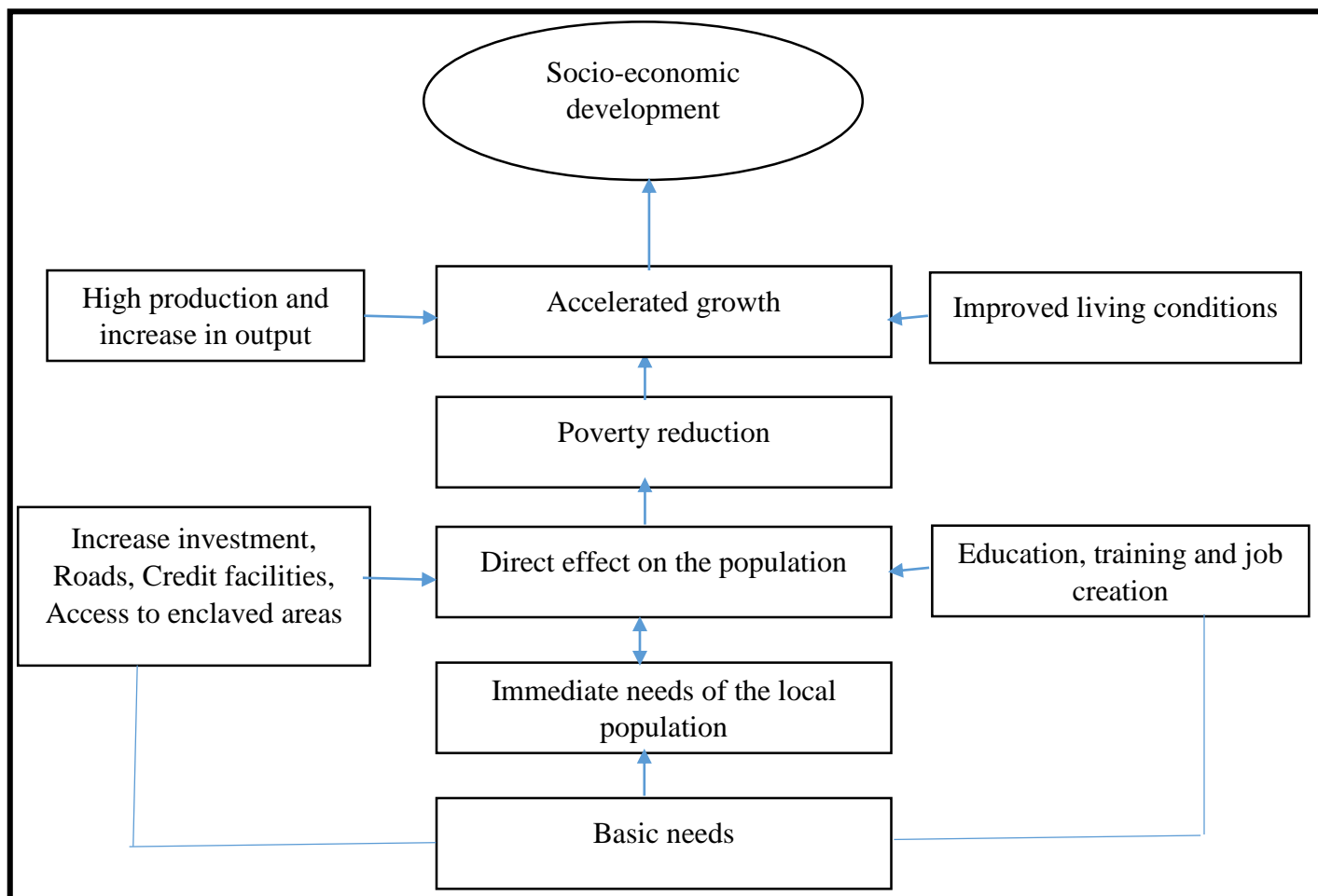


Figure 7: Basic Needs theory for development

Source: Adapted and modified from Tufoin, Kilian (2022: page 227)

This theory shows that for a community to develop, basic needs of the people must be attained. In the context of this study, for return migrants to effectively contribute to socio-economic development, the basic needs of the activity must be met. This includes good roads to access enclave areas, credit facilities for savings and taking loans and mobility of the population. A proposed strategy here within the context of this study is education, training and job creation. This, in no doubt will lead to socio-economic development which is the aspiration of every society.

0.5.6 The theory of collective action

The Theory of Collective Action by David Barton Bay (2008) seeks to understand how groups of individuals cooperate to overcome social dilemmas, assuming that being a self-interested, short-term maximiser is the default position. The behavioural approach to collective action begins with an evolutionary argument: Human beings have evolved the capacity to learn cooperation norms and social regulations which have enhanced the success of groups. In this view, individual rational action is just one of a suite or a continuum of behaviours from the very individuals to the very social activities which human beings exhibit, and which can be adaptive in different circumstances. This further suggests that the default position may be cooperative which can then be withdrawn if there is no reciprocity. Whether individual's cooperation or individual actions dominate, depends heavily on the social context.

This theory is therefore applicable in the theoretical framework of this research as it seeks to present how individual actions or groups of people and collectivities which make up a community contribute to the development of their community. It further explains the impacts of these groups or individual actions on development. We will thus be showing how return migrants and remittances contribute to the socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division.

0.6.1. Research methodology

The methodology that was used in this work include a hypothetico-deductive approach with hypotheses as the point of departure which were subjected to verification. This approach was carried out using various research methods and techniques that were largely concern with data collection, treatment or processing and analyses. A good number of libraries were consulted with the intension of collecting secondary information on international migration, remittances and socio-economic development which included; the libraries of the University of Yaounde1, the libraries of the University of Bamenda and archives of Fundong council. The BUCREP office, institute of statistics, Ministry of Scientific research and other related offices and institutions were used to gather more secondary information on migration studies and remittances. This gave way for the field work to carefully identify and observe the activities induced by return migrants and how remittances is igniting the socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division. Here, return migrants, family members of those whose relatives have *fallen bush*, council authorities and resource persons in Fundong Sub-division were contacted

and the information collected was either through field observation, administration of questionnaire, focus group discussions or by granting of interviews.

0.6.2. Data collection

In this research work, data collection came from two main sources which were secondary and primary sources.

0.6.3. Secondary sources

The data that was gotten here was largely qualitative data and was gotten mostly through literature review. This involved the consultation and systematic exploration of textbooks, theses, dissertations, research reports, periodical journals, and conference papers, published and unpublished documents on international migration and remittances and related websites. Internet materials were downloaded in a flash disk and later exploited. These documents were exploited by analysing ideas of existing authors and research works on the topic and making some adjustments and amendments. These consultations were realised from libraries, research institutions and internet exploration. The libraries of the University of Yaounde 1 were used especially those of the Faculty of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences (FALSS). The intension was to find out what has already been done in the domain of the return migrants and remittances in relation to social and economic development to adjust and equally to gather more facts in the domain of the research topic. Fundong Council Development Plan was consulted to get some statistics on the evolution migration in this Sub-division. The BUCREP office was visited to obtain demographic data of the population of the study area that was used to design the sample size of the population. All these were done to get information on the activities of return migrants in Fundong Sub-division vis-à-vis the existing problems confronting the return migrants and the flow of remittances.

0.6.4. Primary sources

This involved data gotten through field work which was largely constituted of quantitative data. This data was gotten through visits to the study area during which council authorities, related offices and resource persons were contacted. From these visits, information was collected by direct field observation, administration of questionnaires and granting of interviews to resource persons. Focus group discussions were used to obtain information on the challenges faced by the by return migration and how the flow of remittances have contributed

the socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division. In this light, two field trips were organised whereby the first one was for the familiarisation with the field and the commencement of data collection. The second continued with data collection which took quite long because of the socio-political crisis in the region. Some respondents from Fundong Sub-division were even contacted in the town of Yaounde for interviews such as the Mayor of Fundong council. This data in no small way played a great role in the attainment of the objectives of the study.

0.6.5. Direct field observation

With regards to field observation, areas with high influence of second hand goods were selected for observation such as Fundong centre, Abuh, Muteff, Achain roundabouts. This was carried out in view of the spatial distribution of the shops concerned with the sales of second handed in Fundong Sub-division. We equally carried out participant observation with resource persons contacted in the field. During field work, the attitude and initiated projects by return migrants.

0.7.1. Interviews

Interviews targeted resource persons and related officials that could give an insight of the activities of return migration. This involved the Fundong council mayor, key return migrants and relatives of those whose family members have *fallen bush*. All these people were contacted to have a wider knowledge on the contribution of return migrants and the flow of remittances to the socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division.

a) The Mayor of Fundong council

This personality was interviewed to adequately understand how return migrants are operating in Fundong Sub-division, their contribution to socio-economic development and how their activities are organised to safeguard the needs of the local population. Information on the growth and evolution of remittances in Fundong Sub-division was equally obtained from this personality. This interview also drew information on the various projects initiated by return migrants and the flow of remittances in Sub-division.

b) Veteran return migrant

This personality was interviewed to have an in-depth information on the role that return migrants are bringing to the development of Fundong Sub-division. Their integration into the development stream of Fundong, challenges faced by those abroad to send remittances back home and the various development projects that they have engaged in. This information assisted in analysing the data to help attain the objectives of the study. This also enabled us to evaluate the relationship between remittances, return migrants and socio-economic development of Fundong Sub-division.

0.7.2. Focus group discussions

This process of data collection was used during the second field work and was made up of return migrants. The two focus group discussions had a maximum of 10 persons and a minimum of 5 persons. This helped us to have additional facts and an insight on the activities of return migrants especially the challenges faced, and strategies adopted to overcome them in Fundong Sub-division. Equally, the flow of remittances and how it has evolved over time were all discussed. Projects and contributions of return migrants to the socio-economic development of return migrants were all aspects discussed in the focus group discussions. During the discussion asides, and some gestures exhibited by the return migrants were recorded which were later analysed and interpreted.

0.7.3. Life experience and telephone surveys

This method involved the contact with veteran return migrants who have lived abroad for over five years at least and latter return home for good. Contacts of *bush fallers* were gotten from their relatives back home where they were contacted and interviewed on the flow of remittances back home. Challenges faced in sending remittances back home were all noted. Development projects that they have engaged in back home were all key issues of the discussions during telephone surveys. Telephone surveys were equally used to contact some resource persons that were difficult to be contacted physically because the socio-economic crises.

0.7.4. The population of the study area

The population of the study area was composed of 25 villages found in Fundong Sub-division. These villages included; Mbengkas, Baiso, Mbongkesu, Abuh, Aboh, Mentang, Baichu, Mbissi, Fundong-up, Meli, Ngwainkuma, Mbam, Atoini, Fujua, Alim, Boyui, Ngwa, Bolem, Mboh, Aduk, Achain, Laikum, Muteff, Ajung and Akeh. These 25 villages regroup a

total population of 38104 inhabitants and 4244 households (BUCREP, 2010 population and housing census). These 25 villages make up the study area and were grouped into four clusters; northern, eastern, western and southern clusters (figures 7 and 8). These villages were grouped in order to reduce the complexity of tables to be used in this work. The mapping out of these villages was facilitated by some integrated projects realised due to the emergence of inter-village associations such as Abasakom Area Development Union (ABADU). The northern cluster had eight villages with a population of 11711 inhabitants, southern cluster had five villages with 6356 inhabitants, eastern regroups seven villages with a population of 1524 inhabitant while the western clusters had a population of 4791 inhabitants. (Figure 8) below presents the different village communities found in the Sub-division arranged in order of the different clusters that were used to facilitate the study.

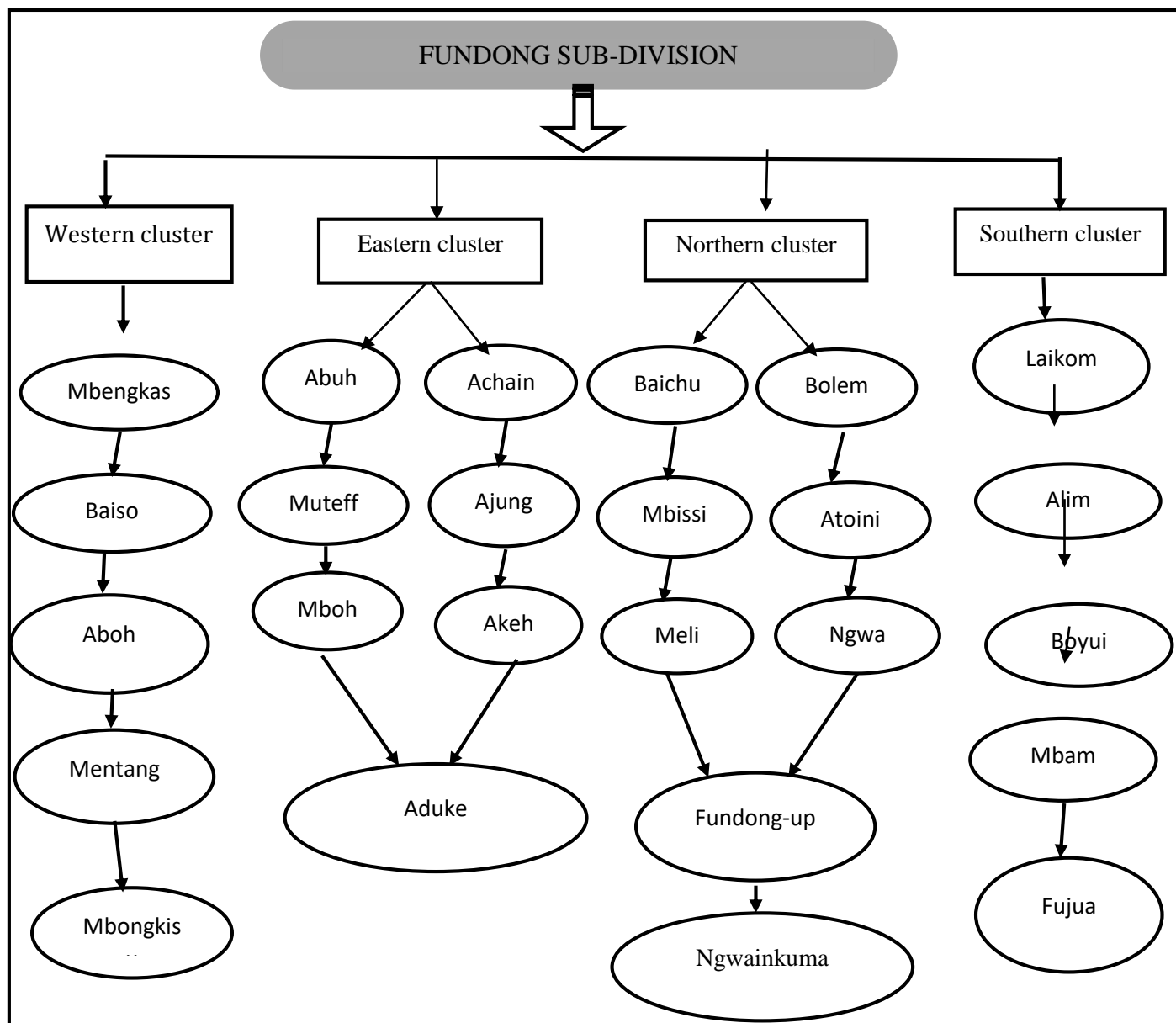


Figure 8: The different village communities in the four clusters of Fundong Sub-division

Source: Adapted and modified from (Tufoin Kilian, 2020 page 30)

These same cluster and the villages found in the clusters were delimited and spatialised in a in figure 9 for a better understanding and comprehension.

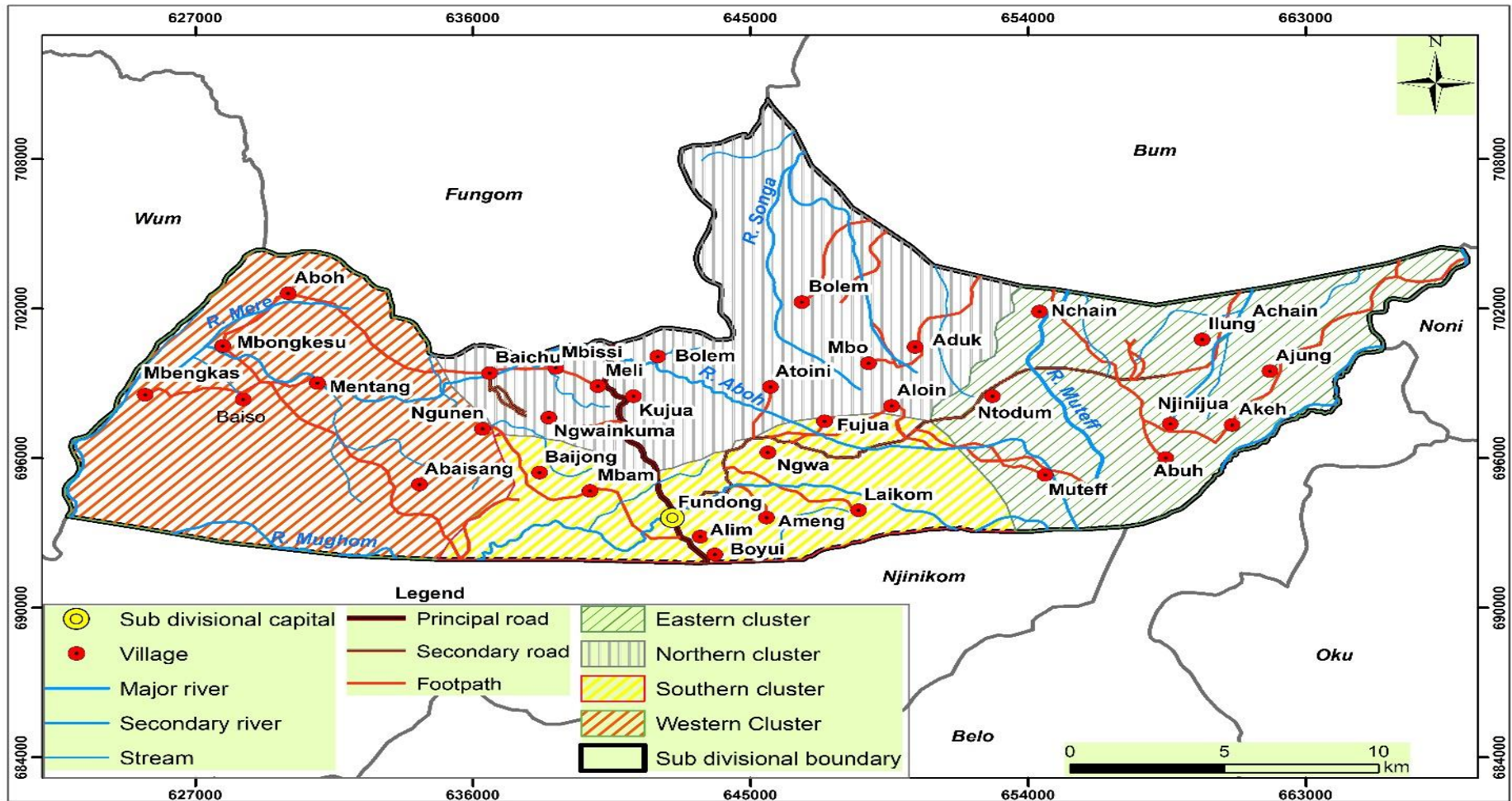


Figure 9: The four clusters of the study area

Source: NIC and field work, 201

The 25 village communities in Fundong Sub-division were grouped into clusters and village population was portrayed (table 1). This table also demonstrate the total population in each cluster and the number of households in each village and in each cluster. The totals of households in each cluster were calculated so as to draw out the intended sample population for the effective administration of the questionnaire.

Table 1: The population of the study area

| Number | Villages | Cluster names | Village population | Total cluster population | Number of households | Total HH cluster |
|---------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Mbengkas | Western cluster | 730 | 4791 | 111 | 474 |
| 2 | Baiso | | 704 | | 48 | |
| 3 | Mbongkesu | | 606 | | 88 | |
| 4 | Aboh | | 690 | | 85 | |
| 5 | Mentang | | 2061 | | 242 | |
| 6 | Abuh | Eastern cluster | 4691 | 15246 | 533 | 1981 |
| 7 | Muteff | | 1538 | | 195 | |
| 8 | Mboh | | 296 | | 94 | |
| 9 | Aduke | | 2185 | | 265 | |
| 10 | Achain | | 2056 | | 302 | |
| 11 | Ajung | | 1382 | | 233 | |
| 12 | Akeh | | 3098 | | 359 | |
| 13 | Baichu | Northern cluster | 836 | 11711 | 115 | 816 |
| 14 | Mbissi | | 2025 | | 242 | |
| 15 | Meli | | 426 | | 52 | |
| 16 | Fundong-up | | 1026 | | 132 | |
| 17 | Ngwainkuma | | 496 | | 71 | |
| 18 | Bolem | | 1291 | | 153 | |
| 19 | Ngwah | | 4516 | | 593 | |
| 20 | Atoini | | 1095 | | 151 | |
| 21 | Mbam | Southern cluster | 1717 | 6356 | 271 | 973 |
| 22 | Alim | | 1219 | | 216 | |
| 23 | Boyui | | 836 | | 115 | |
| 24 | Laikom | | 1163 | | 159 | |
| 25 | Fujua | | 1421 | | 212 | |
| TOTALS | | | 38104 | 38104 | 4244 | 4244 |

Source: BUCREP, 2010 Population and Housing census. HH=Household

0.7.5. The sample size of the population of the study area

The sample size of the population was drawn from the 4244 households in the study area following the 2010 population and household census. The reason for this rational use of households was that, it is much easier to administer questionnaires in households than individuals in streets and this will equally reduce cost and facilitate the work. To this effect, 4% of the households made up the sample population of this study that produce an in miniature cross section of the population.

The reason for choosing a 4% sample size is in accordance with the postulation of Nwana (1982: page 92) which stipulates that:

- If the population of the study is in hundreds, a 40% or more sample should be used,
- If the population is in many hundreds, a 20% will do,
- If the population is in a few thousands, a 10% will do and,
- If the population is in several thousands, a 5% or fewer samples will do (Nwana, 1982, quoted by Tufoin, 2020)

Furthermore, the 4% chosen was to ease the work due to the fact that the anglophone zones of Cameroon have been facing socio-political crisis and it was not easy to administer questionnaire to a very large population.

The 4% sample size for this study was selected from the total number of households in each village using the formula: $x * 4/100$ where;

X = number of households

*= multiplication sign

4 = sample size chosen

From the total number of households, a 4% sample size household was selected. This 4% sample size gave 170 households to which questionnaires were to be administered. This sample helped the researcher to know the total number of questionnaire to be taken to the field for effective administration (table 2).

Table 2: The population of the study area and effective respondents**HH. Eff. Resp. effective respondents**

| N | Villages | Clusters | HH (Villages) | Total HH cluster | 4% size | Total sample size | Eff. Resp | Total Eff. Resp | % of eff. Resp |
|---------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Mbengkas | Western cluster | 111 | 474 | 4 | 22 | 3 | | 75 |
| 2 | Baiso | | 48 | | 2 | | 2 | 15 | 100 |
| 3 | Mbongkesu | | 88 | | 3 | | 2 | 66.7 | |
| 4 | Aboh | | 87 | | 3 | | 2 | 66.7 | |
| 5 | Mentang | | 242 | | 10 | | 6 | 60 | |
| 6 | Abuh | Eastern cluster | 533 | 1981 | 21 | 78 | 11 | | 52 |
| 7 | Muteff | | 159 | | 7 | | 4 | 36 | 57 |
| 8 | Mboh | | 94 | | 4 | | 2 | 50 | |
| 9 | Aduk | | 265 | | 10 | | 6 | 60 | |
| 10 | Achain | | 302 | | 12 | | 5 | 42 | |
| 11 | Ajung | | 233 | | 10 | | 4 | 40 | |
| 12 | Akeh | | 151 | | 14 | | 5 | 36 | |
| 13 | Ilung | Northern cluster | 115 | 816 | 5 | 39 | 3 | | 60 |
| 14 | Mbissi | | 242 | | 10 | | 6 | 28 | 60 |
| 15 | Meli | | 52 | | 2 | | 2 | 100 | |
| 16 | Fundong-up | | 132 | | 5 | | 3 | 60 | |
| 17 | Ngwainkuma | | 71 | | 3 | | 3 | 100 | |
| 18 | Bolem | | 153 | | 6 | | 4 | 66.7 | |
| 19 | Ngwah | | 193 | | 7 | | 4 | 57 | |
| 20 | Atoini | | 151 | | 6 | | 3 | 50 | |
| 21 | Mbam | Southern cluster | 271 | 976 | 10 | 38 | 5 | | 50 |
| 22 | Alim | | 216 | | 9 | | 5 | 25 | 55.5 |
| 23 | Boyui | | 115 | | 5 | | 3 | 60 | |
| 24 | Laikom | | 159 | | 6 | | 4 | 66.7 | |
| 25 | Fujua | | 212 | | 8 | | 6 | 66.3 | |
| TOTALS | | | 4247 | 4247 | 170 | 170 | 104 | 104 | 82.4 |

Table 2 further illustrates the different village communities in Fundong Sub-division, clusters, household totals in clusters and villages, sample totals that were drawn from each village and

each cluster, effective respondents in each village and in each cluster. The totals of effective respondents and percentages of these effective respondents are equally illustrated by this table. The table shows that a total of 170 questions were to be administered in the field but only 104 of them were administered representing 82.4%.

The spatial distribution of questionnaires is represented in figure 9 with 15 questionnaires attributed to the western cluster, 36 to the eastern cluster, 28 to the northern cluster and 25 the southern cluster. This proportionate distribution follows the population size and the household's totals to each cluster (Figure 10).

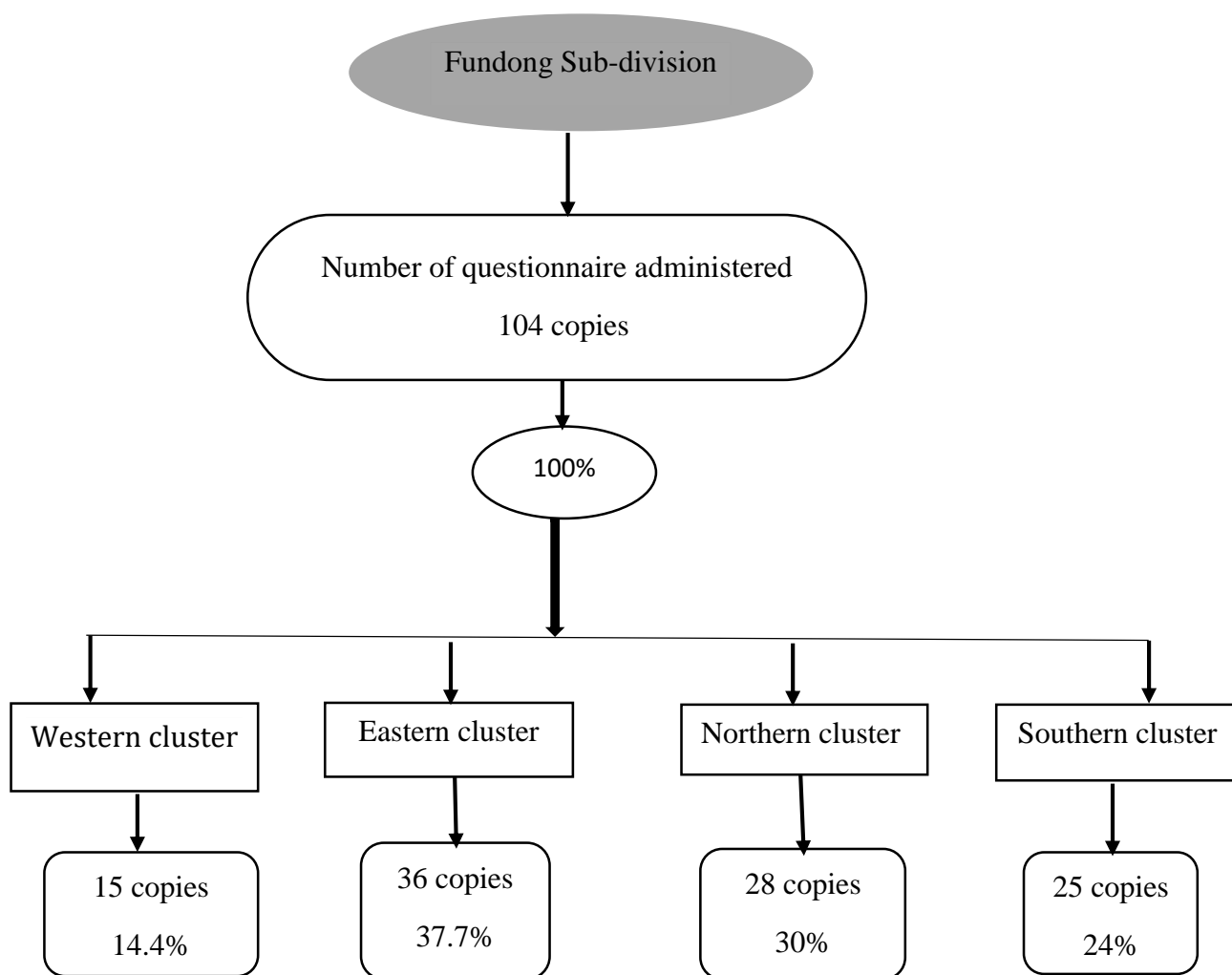


Figure 10: Spatial distribution of effective respondents in the four village clusters

Source: Drawn from table 2

0.7.6. Administration of questionnaire

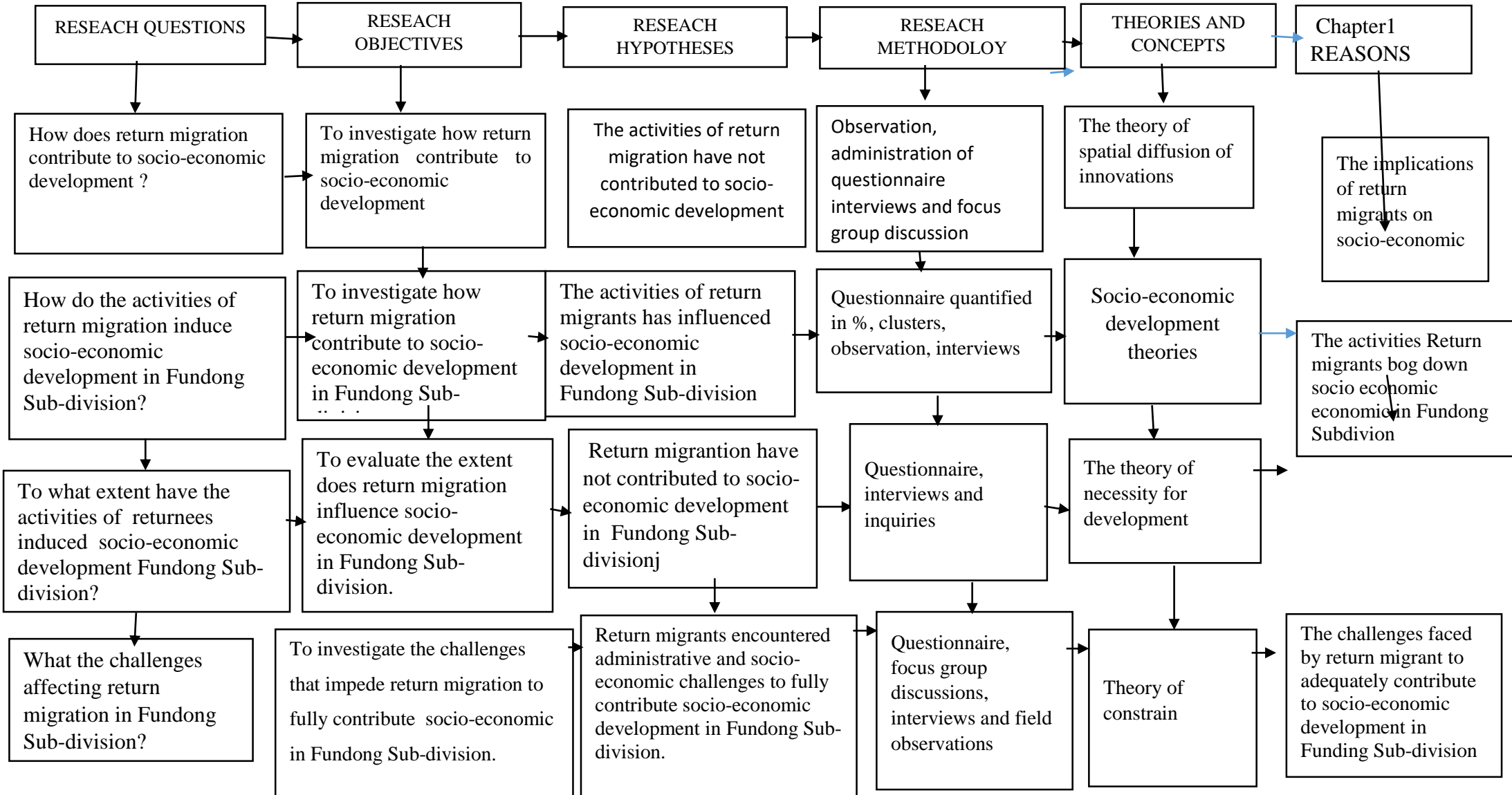
The administration of questionnaire followed a cluster random procedure and a systematic random sample of each cluster whereby households were selected systematically in

each cluster for administration of questionnaire. The questionnaire was prepared to draw information on the contribution of return migrants and remittances to the social and economic development of Fundong Sub-division. These included aspects such as; job creation, contribution in agricultural production, the specific challenges faced by return migrants and the flow of remittances amidst others. Other issues on motorbike training, daily income of motorbike riders, were not left out. Also, this instrument intended to draw information on respondents' characteristics such as; educational levels, ages, marital status amongst others. These questionnaires were administered in households which contained single and multiple response questions.

From these research instruments designed to collect data, a synthetic matrix table was conceived to demonstrate the constructive framework in which the work was framed. This was designed from the research question, objectives, hypothesis methods concepts/theories used to derive the various chapter outlines as viewed in the table of matrix.

Table 3: The table of syntax or matrix

Source: Conceive by the author, inspiration from master's II classes



0.8.1. Operationalization of Variables

A succinct look at the research questions, objectives and hypotheses show that we have dependent and independent variable which need to be operationalised to enable the building of questionnaire and also the type of data to be collected.

Hypothesis 1: Return migration has influenced socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

Dependable variable: Socio-economic development

Independent variable: Domain of investment by return migrants

Table 4: The operationalisation of variable of hypothesis 1

| Independent variable | Indicators | Dependent variable | Indicators |
|---|--|----------------------------|--|
| Domain of investment by return migrants | <p>Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Setting up modern farms - Small businesses -Local development projects <p>Social</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Construction of sustainable houses -Construction of social infrastructure -Investment in cultural activities -Maintaining fun's palace | Socio-economic development | <p>Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increase agricultural output -Employment creation -Realisation of micro development projects <p>Social</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improvement in housing conditions -Construction of schools, village halls and water catchment -Support kit for cultural activities -Improvement in the buildings of the fun palace |

- 4) **Hypothesis 2:** Returnees and remittances have caused a lot of inconveniences in Fundong Sub-division.
- 5) **Independent variable:** Problems induced by return migration

Dependent variable: Adulteration of the countryside

Table 5: The operationalisation of variable of hypothesis 2

| Independent variable | Indicators | Dependent variable | Indicators |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Problems of return migration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Environmental degradation -Land grabbing -Inequality -Waste investment -Increase cost of living | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - land degradation -Waste disposal -Disparity in land ownership -Investment in non-productive activities -Inflation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Degradation of the land scape. -Disposal of solid waste to the environment -Disproportionality in land ownership, -Disparity in housing occupancy, consumption, education and training -Investment housing, land, durable consumers goods, health insurance. -Increase prices of food items and manufactured goods. |

Hypothesis 3: Return migrants are plagued by socio-economic, administrative and communication challenges to fully contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong sub-division.

Dependent variable: Challenges faced by Returnees

Independent variable: administrative bottlenecks

Table 6: The operationalisation of variable of hypothesis 3

| dependent variable | Indicators | Dependent variable | Indicators |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| Challenges encounter by returnees | <p>Socio-economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -High taxes -High transport cost -Limited credit facilities -Low sale turnover - Poor transport network -Multiple check points -Insecurity -Limited social facilities -Identity crisis -Ghost towns and lockdown <p>Administrative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Administrative bottlenecks -Bureaucracy -Complicated customary laws | Communication challenges, Bureaucracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Partial declaration of sale turnover to tax officials - Raising prices of goods -Borrowing from njangi houses -Diversification of business activities -Settling control posts -Provision of social facilities -Storing basic needs in the house and sensitization of people by the administrative authorities -Simplifying administrative procedures -Simplification of customary laws |

0.8.2. Data treatment, presentation and analysis

Many types of data were collected in this research that was given different types of treatment before presentation, analysis and interpretation. These types of data were essentially made up of qualitative and quantitative data. The data collected include interview data, questionnaire data focus group discussion data, observation data and cartographic data. As stated, these data were treated separately and presented in the form of graphics, figures and tables.

Interview, focus group discussion and observation data treatment, presentation and analysis

The treatment of qualitative data began with data coding where the Strauss method of open system data coding was used. In this case, categories of responses from respondents and the major themes were identified, assigned and classified. These categories were recorded manually on a prepared block based on the objective of the study that facilitated the formulation of constructive code from in vivo codes obtained during interviews and focus group discussions. The in vivo codes laid emphasis on the participants' actual spoken words. This type of data coding method is favoured because of its usefulness in highlighting the voices of the participants themselves during interviews and focus group discussions. The in vivo coding method was also used because it was thought to be very reliable to pass across the message using the direct words of the participants. The codes obtained based on the objective of the study include;

Objective 1: To access the areas in which Return migrants and remittances contribute to the socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division,

Objective 2: To examine the inconveniences caused by return migration and remittances in Fundong Sub-division,

Objective 3: To investigate the challenges plaguing return migrants and remittances to effectively contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

These codes were presented and analysed in three chapters of the study using both inferential and descriptive statistics and the results interpreted where significant conclusions were drawn.

Observed phenomena were captured with the use of a digital camera. These data were input in a Photoshop software where the photos were enhanced through enlightening and clearing off impurities found in the photos to make them very clean and visible.

Cartographic data treatment, presentation and analysis

This category of data was obtained with the use of the Global positioning system (GPS) whereby waypoints were collected in residential areas of returnees, investment activities of return migrants, in Fundong Sub-division. These data were downloaded from GPS and superimposed on cartographic shape file of Fundong Sub-division where they were spatialised in space and the information presented on maps, analysed and the results interpreted for spatial analysis. With regard to main zones inhabited by returnees, and relief map realised, the data

was obtained from the National Institute for Cartography (NIC) and uploaded into cartographic shape file of Fundong Sub-division from which the maps were realised for spatial analyses.

Questionnaire data treatment, presentation and analysis

The data that was collected with this instrument was principally quantitative data and warranted succinct method of treatment and presentation. Questions in the Survey instrument that required the respondents to choose from a series of options were weighted one point for easy quantification. These statistics were collected for each question in the questionnaire thereafter, they were put in Microsoft excel where the total number of villages were sum up and the total of the cluster obtained since each cluster constituted many villages. Tables carrying the statistics, total and percentage were generated. From the total and percentages, different graphs such as bar charts, pie chart and areas were generated for analysis. Many tools and instrument were used in this study that assisted in the collection of data (table 7).

Table 7: Tools, instruments and uses

| Tools and instruments | Uses |
|--|--|
| A digital camera | To capture phenomena |
| GPS | To collect waypoints |
| Questionnaire | To collect quantitative data |
| The eye | It was used to observe phenomena |
| Google maps | To collect spatial information on space and to verify roads and relief maps realized |
| Adobe Photoshop | To enhance photos and clear off impurities |
| ArcGIS (shape files) and Adobe illustrator | To realize maps |
| Microsoft word and excel | To treat qualitative data and to obtain graphs |
| Appendices | For the clarification of assertions made in the study |

The work genuinely began with a plan adopted for the reader to have a clear rundown of the content of the work from general introduction to general conclusion.

Dissertation chapter layout

The study consists of three chapters which are further subdivided into sections. These sections largely include the introduction, discussions of the data presented in the chapter and finally a

conclusion which ultimately crowns the chapter. This conclusion simply recaptures and summarizes the main issues raised and discussed in the chapter and introduces the next chapter

Chapter one examines the domains of contribution by return migrants. This chapter examines areas of return migrants, motivating factors for return migrants and domain of investment by return migrants in Fundong Sub-division. The main goal of this chapter is to validate hypothesis 1 which states that, Return migration has influenced socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

Chapter two investigate the problems or inconveniences brought by returnees in Fundong sub-division, in line with hypothesis two which states that, Returnees and remittances have caused a lot of inconveniences and problems in Fundong sub-division.

Chapter three focus on the challenges encounter by returnees to effectively induce socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division and adopted strategies to cope the challenges. The data collected, presented, analysed and interpreted in this chapter enables us to validates hypothesis three, which state that socioeconomic, administrative and communication challenges bog down the ability of returnees to effectively contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

General conclusion focuses on summaries of findings, the testing of hypotheses and suggestions or recommendations and finally references.

CHAPTER 1

THE IMPLICATIONS OF RETURN MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN FUNDONG SUB-DIVISION

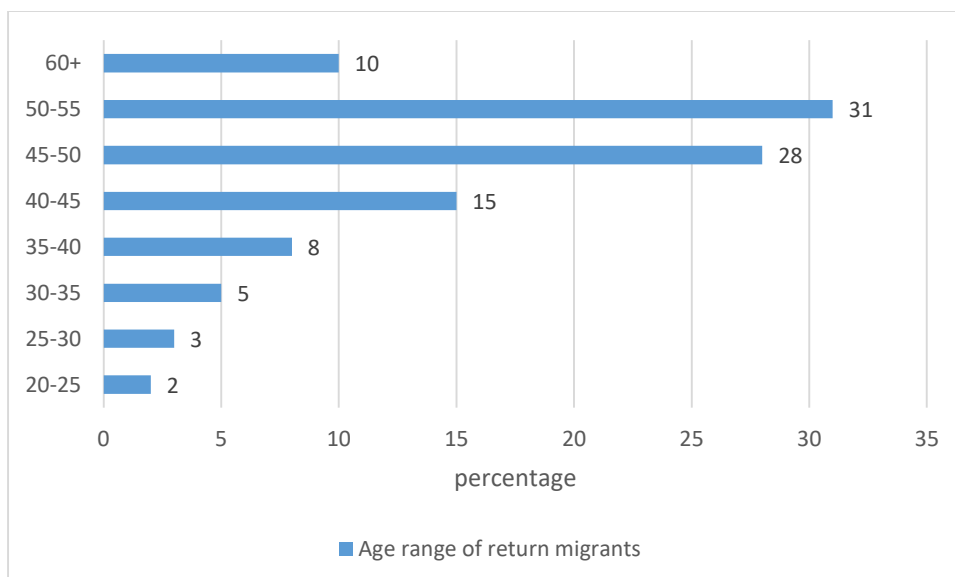
Introduction

The activities of return migrants and remittances contribute significantly to the socio-economic development of medium and low-income countries. In most countries of sub-Saharan Africa and Cameroon in particular, when people move out of their places of origin to urban centres and to foreign countries, when they come back home either temporarily or permanently, they use the financial capital and skills they have acquired during their stay out of their place of origin to invest in diverse domains back home. Even during their stay out of their places of origin, they send a significant portion of their income back home to realize certain projects which go a long way to transform the socio-economic conditions of the countryside. The tremendous role played by returnees in the socio-economic development in areas of origin warrant us to examine areas where the migrants are returning from, motive for their reinvestment home and the domain in which return migrants invest. This chapter seeks to investigate towns or countries where the returnees are coming from, motive for reinvestment back home and the domains in which return migrants invest in, in Fundong Sub-division. The chapter was guided by hypothesis 1 which states that; ‘Return migration has influenced socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division’. This chapter is made up of an introduction, three sections and conclusion. The introduction focuses on the main ideas and the presentation of areas of investment of return migrants. Section 1.1 dwells on the nature of migration in Fundong Sub-division. Section 1.2 examines reasons for return home. Section 1.3 assesses the types of activities in which return migrants invest on. This section examines the investment of returnees that enhances the livelihood and local development of Fundong Sub-division. This chapter is finally crowned with a conclusion where the next chapter is introduced.

1.1 Nature of migration

The phenomenon of migration started in Boyo Division in the 1880s during the German administration where plantation agriculture was introduced along the coast of Cameroon. Consequently, there was massive out migration of people from the grass field region of Cameroon in general and Kom (Boyo) in particular to work in German plantations at the coast.

Following the independent of Cameroon in the early 1960s, Cameroon urban centres started experiencing growth and the urban growth in Cameroon was intensified in the 1970s following the changes of landscape of the administrative units of Cameroon, where new sub-divisions, division and provinces were created. The growth of towns and creation of new administrative units in Cameroon was accompanied by the creation of jobs in both public and private sector. The availability of jobs in major towns of Cameroon and plantation farms at the coast triggered many people from Fundong to migrate for greener pasture in these areas. Those that were employed in public and private sector and earn good salaries some further travelled abroad. Following the economic crises of the early 1980s and the mid 90s, there was retrenchment of many workers the public service and parastatal. Some of the layoff workers that were from Boyo returned home and engage in agricultural activities, small business trading and craft work. The advent of multipartyism in the early 1990s was characterised by ghost towns and frequent strikes caused political instability, further caused many people from Boyo who were residing in some of the majors towns in Cameroon such as Bamenda, Douala, Bafoussam, Kumba to return home. Since the mid 1980s and late 1990s, there have been steady return of migrants to Fundong either on temporary or permanent basis (compile from the archive of Fundong Council). During field investigation the age of the returnees was investigated so to determine the predominant age structure of return migrants (figure 11)



Source: Field work, 2022

Figure 11: Age range of return migrants

Figure 11 shows the various ages of returnees, it can be seen on the figure that the age range of return migrants between 20-35 years is very low, representing 2%, 3% and 5% respectively. This is because between this age range (20-35), most of the migrants are still pursuing their objectives and have no intention of returning soon. As from 35-45 years (8% -15%) respectively, the number of migrants returning home start increasing because a good number of the migrants have started achieving their objectives and some of them are now working at this age range and have started coming back to settle and invest home either on temporary or permanent basis but most of them at this age range return on temporary basis. From 45-55 years the number of migrants returning home increase to 28-31% respectively, this is because most of the migrants have realized their objective and those migrants who working, some of them are on retirement and have relocated home while those who are still working at age range are anticipating retirement soon and have started relocating home. At the age of 60 and above the percentage of return migrants drops (10%) because few of the returnees reach this age range. The places of departure where returnees come are in table 12 below

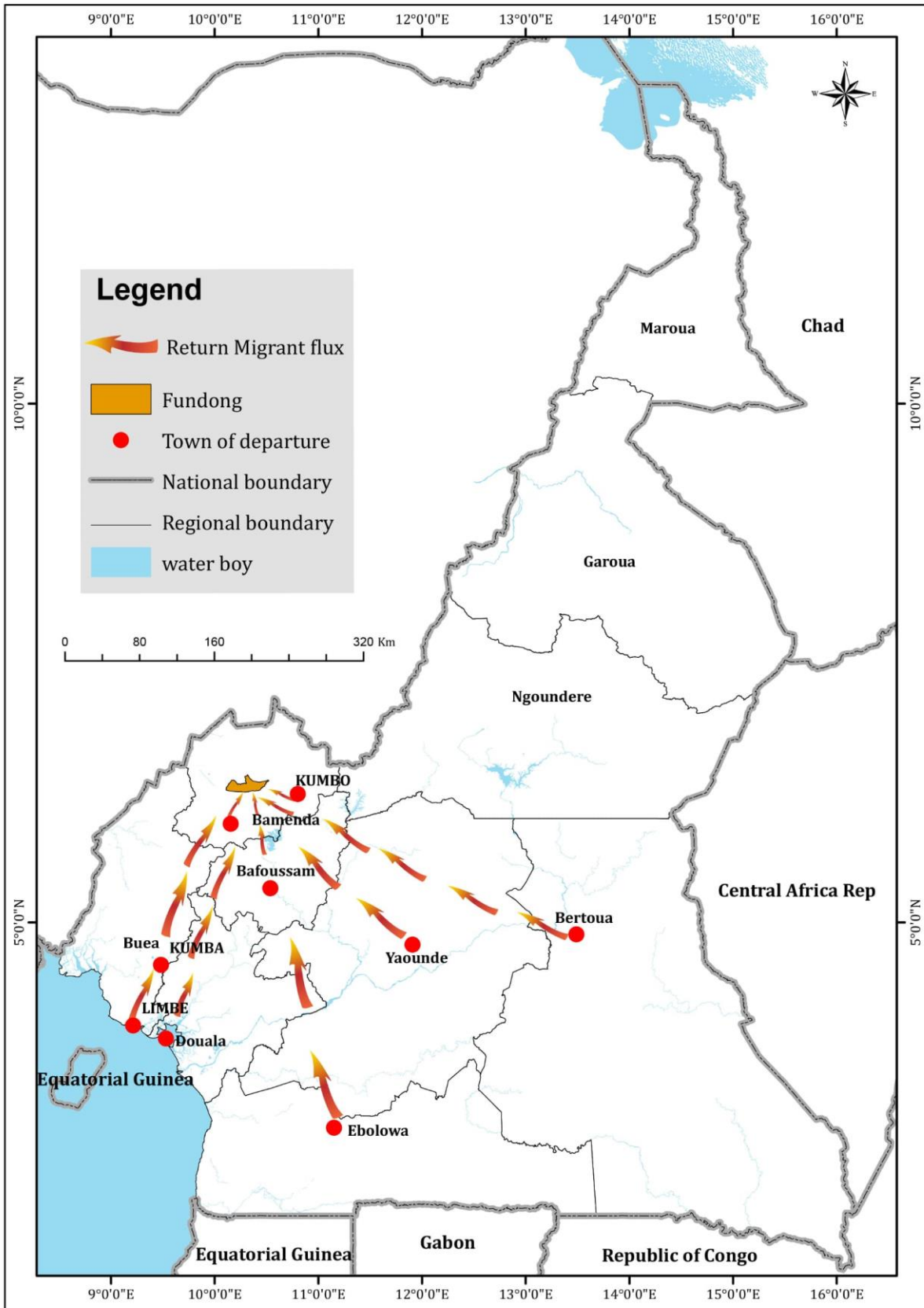


Source: National Institute of Cartography (NIC), 2023

Figure 12: Departed areas of return migrants

Figure 12 shows return migrant's departure areas, it is proven on the figure that 18% of the returnees come from the town of Bamenda. This is probably explained by the proximity of Fundong to Bamenda which enables migrants to easily migrate to Bamenda. In a focus group discussion, it has revealed that most of the migrants settle in a Bamenda as businessmen and

as civil servants. Returnees from Kumba represent 15% and most of the returnees settle in Kumba as farmers and businessmen. Those from Douala constitute 13% of the home returnees in Cameroon. According to interviews conducted with 20 returnees, from Douala, those from Douala were mostly businessmen. Limbe represents 11%, Buea 10%, as per focus group discussion, return from Limbe and Buea were mostly those who were working in the primary sector. Bafoussam constitute 7%, Kumbo 6%, Ebolowa 5% and Bertoua 3% are those who were mostly employed in the primary sector in host areas. The influx of returnees into Fundong Sub-division from the various parts of Cameroon can be seen on figure 13 below, next page



Source: National Institute of Cartography 2023

Figure 13: The flux of return migration into Fundong subdivision

Figure 13 shows the town from which return migrant come from within Cameroon. As per figure 13 returnees are coming from towns in Cameroon such as Bamenda, Yaoundé, Douala, Bafoussam, Kumba, Buea, Bertoua and Ebolowa. The returnees come home periodically either on temporary or permanent stay.

1.2. Motivating factors of migrants return

Migrants often return home for social or economic reasons, the return could be temporarily or permanent. People of the North West Region of Cameroon who live out of their place of origin often return home massively during feast periods such as Christmas and New Year celebration as wells cultural festival especially during the dry season. Returnee's decision to stay, or to return are link to the household economy, domestic and social power structure (IOM, 2001). The reasons for return vary greatly but are closely related to objectives set for migrating in the first place. Some migrants return after achieving their objectives, others return out of frustration and failure to realize their dreams at destination, return migration may also be occasioned by some circumstances related to retirement (Oladele, 200). During field survey, the returnees advanced various reasons why they return. The results obtained from respondent during field work shows that some migrants return due to achievement of their objectives (10%), 35% of the respondents attested that they return for festive reasons, 16% indicated that they return because of high cost of living in the host area, 14% attested that they return because of the desire to stay back home, 8% stressed that they return due retirement, the desire to invest back home (12%), poor health (5%) (figure 14).

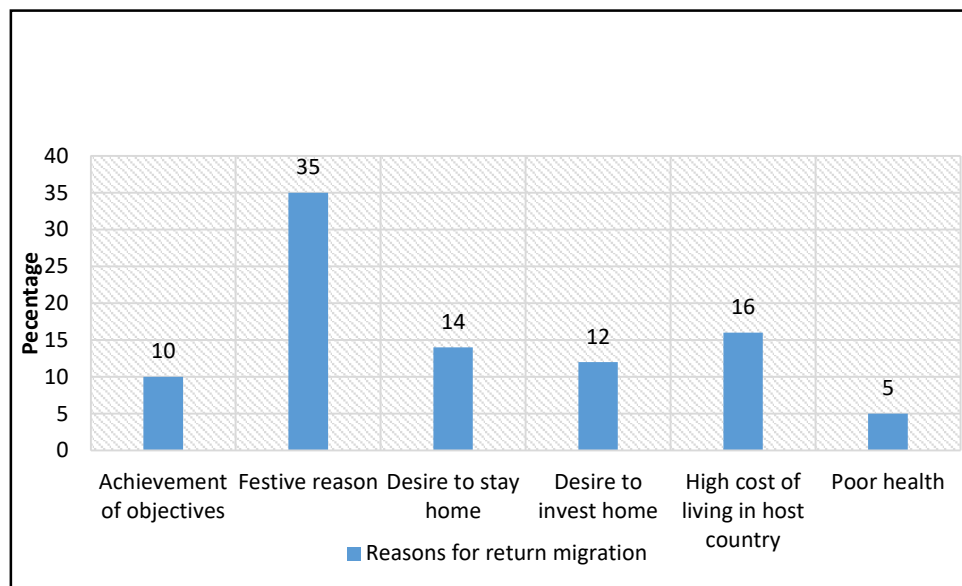


Figure 14: Reasons for return migration

Source: Field work, 2022

Figure 14 shows the view of migrants why they return home, 10% of the returnees attested that they return home due to achievement of their objectives in the host country. These are migrants who stay out because they wanted to raise money for a project, obtain training for a particular field and end of visit. 35% acknowledged that they came home for festive reasons, these are those who come home during the month of December for Christmas and New year celebration as well as death celebration that is usually celebrated between the month of November to March. 14% of the returnees agreed that they return home because of the desire to stay home, these are returnees that are attached to their place of origin and feel comfortable when at home. The desire to invest home represent 12% of the opinions of the returnees, these are returnees who have acquired capital and skills and have decided to come back and invest so as to contribute to local development. 16% of the return migrants indicate that they return back home because of high cost of living in the host areas, these are return that didn't have suitable job that generate good income for them to cover their cost of living, these are migrants with no skills so they could not find well paid jobs, they have to return back hme because they cannot longer support the cost of living in towns and other host countries. While 5% of the return stressed that they have come back home due to poor health, these are migrants with health problems and have come to home because the cost of health care is less expensive at home also couple with the fact that the Bingo Hospital which is one of the best hospital in Cameroon can offer them better treatment. Some of the migrants with issues prefer traditional herbs and have return home where they can obtain better treatment from traditional practitioners. Return

migrants in Fundong Sub-division use the financial resources and skills which they have acquired in urban centres and other host countries to boost socio-economic development at home.

Domain of investment in Fundong Sub-division by returnees

Return migrants in Fundong used the capital, skills and training which they have acquired out of their place of origin to invest home, which go a long way to improve local development in their places of origin. GCIM (2005) underpinned that Migrants send money home that greatly contribute to the recipient welfare and the receiving country's economic well-being, where migrants return home either for short or permanent stay, with new skills that they put to use, they and their community can benefit. This is highly manifested in Fundong Sub-division where return migrants significantly contribute to socio-economic development through their investment in different domains.

During field survey, the views of returnees were sought on the various domains where they invest. They indicated that they invest in diverse domains such as modern farming, commerce, craft work, real estate, and contribution to community development projects (table 8)

Table 8: Return migrants investment domains

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Domains of investment by return migrants | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| | | Commerce | Agriculture | Vocational activities | Housing construction | Transport sector |
| Western | 15 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Eastern | 36 | 8 | 11 | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| Northern | 28 | 7 | 10 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| Southern | 25 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| Total | 104 | 24 | 35 | 17 | 18 | 11 |
| % | 100 | 23 | 33.6 | 16.3 | 17.3 | 10.5 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 8 shows the different areas where return migrants invest in Fundong Sub-division. From table 8, it is observed that 33.6 of the returnees invest in agriculture, most of the return migrants in Fundong venture into agriculture which involve modern agricultural techniques. Investment in agriculture appears to be the highest (33.6) of the returnee's investment. Trade represents

23% of the returnee occupation. This is explained by the fact that most of the return migrants who have raised capital during their stay out Fundong, as they return home, they find it easy to engage in commercial activities. Craft work constitutes 16.3% amongst the domain where returnees invest, some of the migrants have acquired vocational training and skills in urban centres and other host countries have come back home and engage in craft work such as electronics and cars repair, carpentry works, tailoring. Some returnees also operate in information and communication technology. Some the return migrants invest in Real estate domain (17.3%), this is justified by the fact that some of the Returnees devotes much of their capital in house construction, the houses rented out serve both for residential and host commercial activities. The returnees also transform the land that they purchased for recreational activities. Transport facilities represents 10.5% of the investment domain, return migrants in Fundong Sub-division. Most of the transport facilities used in the transportation of passengers especially motorbikes are owned by returnees who raised capital during migration to buy vehicles and later on return home venture into transport sector.

The investment domains of return migrants are further examined discretely and treated to better understand how return migrants contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division.

1.3.1 Return migrant's investment in commercial activities in Fundong Sub-division

Reducing unemployment and stimulating economic, entrepreneurship contribute in enhancing competitiveness and adapting to economic change and structural change in economics (Alshanty et Emeagwali, 2019, cited by Tamwo, 2022). Cameroon is a prime field for analysing the effects of return migration on entrepreneurship as its economic structure is dominated by small and medium size enterprises (Tamwo et al, 2022).

During field survey it was found that a good number of returnees in Fundon Sub-division are involved in trading activities ranging from store operation, selling of cloths, motorbikes spear parts, and imported second hand goods (table 9)

Table 9: Types of business activities carried out by return migrants

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Business activities operated by return migrants | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|---------|-------------|----------|----------------------------|
| | | Stores | Clothes | Spear parts | Services | Phones and its accessories |
| Western | 15 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Eastern | 36 | 13 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 3 |
| Northern | 28 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| Southern | 25 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| Total | 104 | 37 | 25 | 13 | 21 | 8 |
| % | 100 | 35.5 | 24 | 12.5 | 20.1 | 7.6 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 9 shows the various business activities operated by return migrants in Fundong Sub-division. It can be observe from table 8 that 35.5% of the returnees are engaged in store operations, these stores sell various basic necessity items, as well hard ware stores that deal with construction materials. 24% of the respondents attested that deal with clothes. They sell both new and second-hand clothes. Spear parts constitute 12.5% of the activities the returnees, these are mostly motor bike spear parts because motorcycles are widely used especially for commercial purposes. 20.1% of the respondents attested that they deal with service activities such as dispensaries, documentation, hotel management and gastronomy. While 7.6% of the respondents acknowledged that they sell cell phones and cell phone accessories.

During field survey, it was observed that the business activities of the returnees as indicated on table 8 employ about two to ten persons. In an interview conducted with twenty returnees on their business activities positively impacts the community, they indicated that they pay taxes to council which the council use to finance projects of general interest, they contribute part of their income to village association to realize community development projects. Another domain where a significant number of returnees invest is agriculture where they cultivate a variety of crops. (Plate 1, next page) shows some business activities operated by returnees in Fundong Sub-division.

Plate1: Some business activities operated by return migrants



Source: M. Clovis, 2022

Photo A shows return migrant hardware store (building materials), photo B shows return migrants selling second-hand clothes, photo C shows pharmacy run by returnee and photo D indicates hotel managed by return migrant.

1.3.2. Returnees involvement in agricultural activities

Return migration and remittances can significantly affect agriculture since migrants may bring back financial savings, as well as direct labour contribution and experience acquired abroad. Remittances and savings from return migrants can be invested in agricultural productive assets, household might invest in productive assets such as machinery, barns, fencing, feeding mechanism, irrigation systems and tractors (OECD, 2017).

During field survey, it was observed that returnees cultivate different types of crops which are both intensive subsistence food crops and cash crops (figure 15).

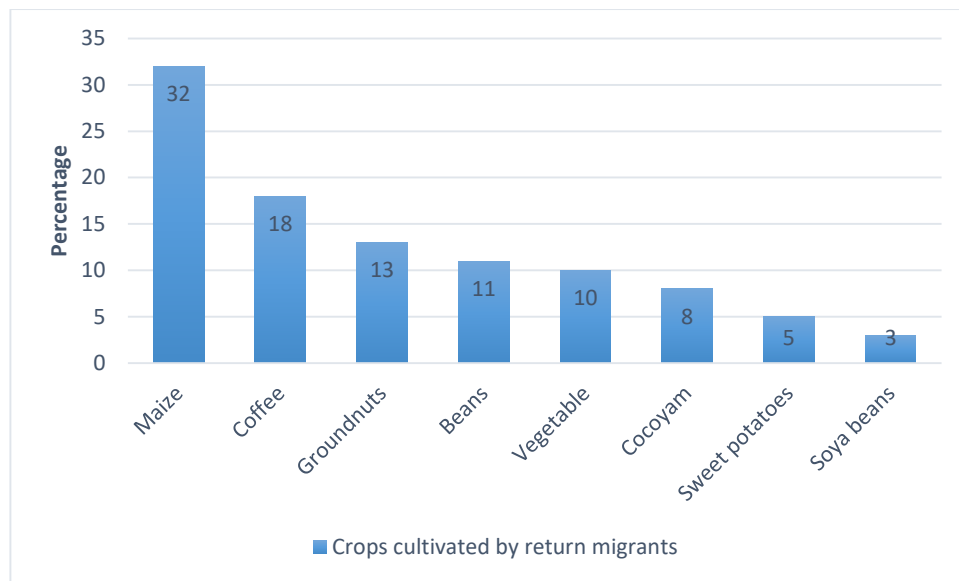


Figure 15: Crops types cultivated by return migrants

Source: Field work, 2022

Figure 15 shows the different subsistence crops cultivated by returnees in Fundong Sub-division. It is observed in table 10 that maize cultivation represent 32% among the various crops cultivated. Maize is a cereal crop which is widely cultivated in Fundong and return migrants who are involved in maize cultivation apply more farm inputs than the non-migrants population, this explained by the fact that returnees have more capital and modern farming techniques which they have acquired from migration experience. Beans production represents 11% of the food crops cultivated by returnees. Beans also highly consumed in Fundong it is cultivated both for home consumption and for sale, those who cultivate high quantity of beans are returnees. Vegetable constitute 10% of the food crops cultivated by return migrants, the vegetable cultivated by returnees include herbs, cabbage, tomatoes and species. Groundnuts made up 13% amidst the food crop cultivated by return migrants. Groundnuts are highly consume both fresh and dry groundnuts where high out is ensured by return migrants because returnees can afford to pay labour to work on farms. Cocoyam represent 8%, it is cultivated both for home consumption and for sale. Sweet constitute 5% of the cultivated crops by returnees and it is commonly consumed in Fundong especially in the dry season which is the harvest period. While Soya beans represent only 3%, it is highly nutritive though it output is declining, most of the peasant farmers who cultivate soya beans in Fundong are returnees. Coffee which is a cash crop represent 18% of the crops cultivated by returnees and is cultivated only for sale and hight produced of coffee is Fundong is guaranteed by returnees who have invested a lot in coffee production.

Coffee and vegetable cultivation was observed during field survey (plate 2).

Plate 2: Subsidence farming owned by returnees



Photo A shows subsidence coffee farm owned by returnee. Coffee is cultivated using improved techniques savings acquired during migration.

Source: M. Clovis, 2022

Photo B shows vegetable cultivation around residential areas because keen attention is highly needed. This cultivation techniques is acquired out homeland

Source: M. Clovis, 2022

Most of the return migrants in Fudong Sub-division who engaged in subsidence cash crop, cultivate coffee which is the main cash crop cultivated in Boyo Division. There is increased output of coffee due high investment in coffee production with savings accumulated during migration (photo 1)



Photo 1: Increase coffee output of coffee production

Photo 1 shows increase output of coffee production in Fundong, due to high capital investment in the coffee sector with savings raised during migration.

Source: M. Clovis 2022

1.3.3. Return migrants engagement in vocational activities

Returnees who have acquired vocational training during their migration period are involved in some specialise activities which generate income. This agrees with the view of Elijah (2004) underscored that migration optimists are of the view that migrants through international migration bring back critical skills and experiences which are useful for developing world, skills brought back by returnees include artistic skills (designing, tailoring and sculpture), specialised technical skills such as construction and metal work and skills in social work such as laundry, child care, age care, cleaning and home management, industrial skills (processing and packaging) as well as entrepreneurial skills which include investment, and hotel management. Returnees in Fundong especially those from urban areas within Cameroon bring back skills acquired from vocational training and schooling create a positive impact because the skills are transferred to young apprentice and the skills are put into practice as well. It is generally recognised that the return of migrants possessing different skills can significantly

contribute to home country development through their substantial human, financial and other resources (IOM, 2008). During field survey, returnees indicated the various skills which they have acquired during migration which ranges from technical skills, artistic skills, entrepreneurial and managerial skills (table 10)

Table 10: Skills acquired by return migrants

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Various skills of return migrants | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------|
| | | Artistic skills | Technical skills | Entrepreneurial skills | Others |
| Western | 15 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Eastern | 36 | 15 | 7 | 9 | 5 |
| Northern | 28 | 12 | 5 | 7 | 4 |
| Southern | 25 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| Total | 104 | 43 | 19 | 28 | 14 |
| % | 100 | 41.3 | 18.2 | 26.9 | 13.4 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 10 shows the vocational activities of returnees, from table 9 above, artistic skills represent 41.3% of the vocational activities carried out by return migrants. The various specialised domain under vocational activities embody; designing, tailoring and carving. Entrepreneurial skills constitute 26.9% of the vocational activities of return migrants, the domain within entrepreneurial skills ranges from investment and hotel management. Technical skills represents 18.2% of the skills activities of the returnees, the related domains under technical skills are construction work metal works, electronics repair and mechanics while other made up 13% of the vocational activities of return migrants. The categories skill activities are those migrant skills which were complicated to classified under the various sub groups, some of the skills acquired by returnees that were classified under other include; training obtained from higher institutions such as agricultural technicians, veterinary services, medical services and financial management. Artistic and technical skills activities of returnees in Fundong Sub-division (plate 3)

Plate 3: Skilled work of return migrants



Photo A shows returnee involved in motor mechanics repair

Source: M. Clovis, 2022



Photo shows tailoring workshop, where returnee are engaged in dresses sewing

Source: M.Clovis, 2022

1.3.4. Return migrants involvement in construction domain

One of the prime objectives of returnees is to construct a modern house in his or her place of origin, constructing a modern house in place of origin by migrants in sub-Saharan Africa is general considered as an investment at home, attachment to homeland as well as a symbol of prestige. According to Tiemoko (2003), one of the reasons for migration among migrants is to accumulate capital for housing. During field work it was observed that a good number of returnees own houses and findings revealed during field survey shows that few migrants own houses before migrating and after migration, the number of migrants that own houses increase (table 11).

Table 11: Status of returnees house ownership prior to migration and after migration

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Migrants house occupancy status before and after migration | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|
| | | Migrants who owned houses before migration | Migrants who owned houses after migration | Migrants who don't own houses |
| Western | 15 | 4 | 9 | 2 |
| Eastern | 36 | 10 | 19 | 7 |
| Northern | 28 | 8 | 15 | 5 |
| Southern | 25 | 6 | 16 | 3 |
| Total | 104 | 28 | 59 | 17 |
| % | 100 | 26.9 | 56.7 | 16.3 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 11 shows the rate of house ownership by migrants, it is observed from table 10 that 26.9% of the migrants own houses before migrating and after migration, 56.7% of returnees own houses. This implies that, after migration the number of migrants who own a houses was just about 26.9% but after migration, the number of returnees house's ownership increased to 56.7%. While those returnees who do not own houses represent 16.3%, these are migrants who do not achieved their objectives, that is those returnees who couldn't not raised enough savings during migration. Returnees who have invested in real estate domain purchase land, construct houses both for residential and commercial purposes (plate 4) shows residential and commercial houses owned by returnees.

Plate 4 modern houses of returnees



Photo A shows privately owned return migrant modern residential apartment, which lodges tenants
Source: M. Clovis, 2022



Photo B shows a hotel owned by return migrant
Source: M. Clovis, 2022

The privately owned residential house has many apartments for rent and tenants lodge inside, while the hotel lodges customers and tourists who visit Fundong. During interviews conducted with house owners, it was revealed that most of those who own modern houses are returnees who have invested heavily in real estate projects in Fundong.

Another domain where returnees have greatly invested in Fundong Sub-division is the transport sector.

1.3.5. The implications of return migration in the transport sector

Migrants who return home in Fundong Sub-division especially youths are actively involved in the transport sector. Some the returnees owned vehicles and motor cycles which are used in the transportation of passenger within and out of Fundong Sub-division. The motorcycles transport passengers within Fundong sub-division and other sub-divisions in Boyo Division, while four wheel vehicles such as minibuses and pick ups and vans transport passengers between Fundong and Bamenda. During field survey it was revealed most of those who owned motorcycles and Vehicles in Fundong are those who have travelled and worked or currently working out of Fundong Sub-division (table 12)

Table 12: Origin of fund used for the purchase of vehicles

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Areas where fund is raised for the purchase of vehicles | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------|
| | | Savings from home | Savings obtained via migration | Remittances |
| Western cluster | 15 | 3 | 8 | 4 |
| Eastern cluster | 36 | 7 | 20 | 9 |
| Northern cluster | 28 | 5 | 17 | 6 |
| Southern | 25 | 4 | 16 | 5 |
| Total | 104 | 19 | 61 | 24 |
| % | 100 | 18.26 | 58.6 | 23 |

Source: Field work, 2022

As indicated on table 12, it shows that 58.6% of the purchased their vehicles with obtained from migration savings. These are migrants who work in urban centres and out of Cameroon who return home either for temporal or permanent stay, the vehicles here include both vehicles and motorcycles. Most of the vehicles are used for commercial purposes especially motorbikes. Remittances represents 23% of the origin of funds used to purchase vehicles and gift, this is money and gifts sent to those who stay back home by their family members living in urban

centres in Cameroon and those living abroad. Remittances is still a source of income gotten via migration, this implies that most of the transport facilities is obtained with funds and gift from migration. While those who raise their money from savings at home made 18.26% of the origin of finance used to buy vehicles. These are those who live at home and are employed in the agricultural sector, commercial activities and local public services as well as state workers. This implies that return migrants play a big role in public transport as they own most of the commercial vehicles (motorcycles and minibuses). During field survey, findings on the types of commercial vehicles owned by returnees and types of commercial vehicles obtained via remittances revealed that motor cycles constitute a greater proportion of the public transport followed by minibuses and other small vehicle with low carrying capacity (figure 16)

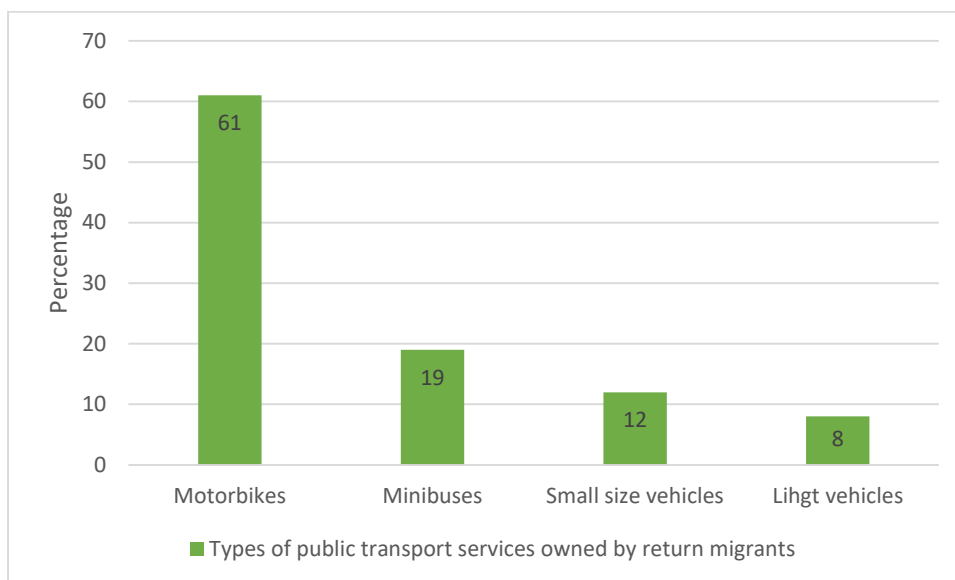


Figure 16: Different types of public transport services owned by return migrants

Source: Field work 2022

Figure 16 shows the different public transport vehicles owned by returnees in Fundong. It is observed from the table that commercial motorbikes represent 61% of the public transport services; the commercial motorbikes transport passengers within and out of Fundong. These commercial motorbikes are mostly purchased with funds from migration. Minibuses owned by returnees represent 19% of the public transport services; these minibuses are inter transport vehicles and transport passengers from Fundong to Bamenda. Small size vehicles of low carrying capacity made up 12% of the public transport facilities. These are vehicles of low capacity with five seats which transport passengers from Fundong to other sub-divisions within Boyo Division and beyond Boyo. While light vehicles represents 8% of the of public transport vehicles, the light vehicles are mostly freight vehicles such as pick-up, trucks, vans and lights

trucks. These light vehicles transport agricultural produce from Fundong to Bamenda and manufactured goods from Bamenda to Fundong. The public transport facilities which are purchase with mostly funds gotten via migration makes public transport facilities available to the local inhabitants of Fundong Sub-division. (Photo 3 shows motorbikes) which is the dominant transport facilities in Fundong sub-division.



Photo 2: Popular public transport services

Source: M. Clovis, 2022

→ Motorbikes

Note **A** shows the author conducting interviews with commercial bikes on the origin of the finance which permit them to purchase bikes

Notes **P** shows Passenger at the motorbike park

As per interview conducted with fifteen bike readers on the origin of finance that has been used to purchase motorbikes, 80% of the returnees revealed the origin of fund which they used to purchased motorcycle came from migration.

Conclusion

Migration which entails the movement of people from one place to another has greatly evolved in Cameroon from the colonial era to present, and it has tremendously contributed to socio-economic development of less developed regions as wealth flows from developed to less developed through returnees as well as via remittances. In Cameroon, return migrants and remittances from urban centres and abroad have significantly enhanced the socio-economic development of countryside as the case of Fundong Sub-division where returnees play a key role in local development through their engagement in agricultural sector, trade and construction of decent houses. Irrespective of the fact the activities of returnees in Fundong Sub-division have undoubtedly contributed to socio-economic development, the activities of return migrants have also created problems as well, which form chapter 2 of this work.

CHAPTER 2

INCONVENIENCES CAUSED BY RETURN MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES IN FUNDONG SUB-DIVISION

Introduction

Environmental degradation, indecent dressing, social inequality, investment in non-productive activities, land grabbing, modification of cultural values are issues induced by the returnees in Fundong Sub-division which adulterate the social set up and the environment. Robert (2017) underlined that land degradation and migration are closely interconnected processes which are mediated by other intervening socio-economic, political, demographic and environmental processes. This implies that migration is connected to land ownership, land and land degradation. This chapter seeks to investigate the loopholes of returnee's activities on the environment and social life in Fundong Sub-division. This chapter attempts to confirm the second hypothesis of the study, which states that Return migration and remittances have caused a lot of inconveniences in Fundong sub-division. This chapter is subdivided into an introduction and four main sections which are 2.1, 2.2,2.3.,2.4. Section 2.1 throws light on the inconveniences induced by return migration on the environment, 2.2 investigates inequality instigated by return migration, investment on non-productive activities is presented in 2.3.and 2.4 discusses on the increase in cost of living as a result of return migration. This is in a bit to investigate how the activities of return migrants have altered the social norms in Fundong Sub-division.

2.1.1 Inconveniences induced by return migration in Fundong Sub-division

Return migrants and cash flow through remittances introduce activities which do not necessarily improve on the socio-economic development in Fundong. Some of their activities do not only cause environmental degradation but also adulterate the social norms. Findings from field investigation reveals that return migration accelerate environmental problems, land grabbing, bring inequality, increase cost of leaving and investment in non-productive activities which does not improve on socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division (table 13)

Table 13: Inconveniences induced by return migration

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Inconveniences created by return migration | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Environmental problems | Land grabbing | Inequality | Increase of cost of living | Invest on non-productive goods |
| Western | 15 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Eastern | 36 | 11 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Northern | 28 | 7 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Southern | 25 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| Total | 104 | 28 | 37 | 16 | 15 | 7 |
| % | 100 | 26.9 | 35.5 | 15.3 | 14.4 | 6.7 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 13 shows the inconveniences induced by return migration in Fundong Sub-division. It is seen that land grabbing represents 35.5% of the problems caused by return migration. This is explained by the fact that returnees possess more financial strength than non-migrants. Similarly, cash flow from remittances is used to purchase vast piece of land to the detriment of financially fragile non-migrants population. Environmental problems constitute 26.9% of the inconveniences cause by return migration, the environmental problems ranges from land degradation and pollution from solid waste. Inequality (15.3%) represents another problems resulting from return migration, return migrants possess more income and also money gotten via remittances have widened the gap between non-migrants and returnees. Increase cost of living (14.4%) constitute another inconveniences resulting from the presence of return migrants, returnees and remittances have increase prices of food products due to high demand from return migrants and income from remittances. Investment in non-productive goods represents 6.7%, it creates inconveniences because returnees invest money on consumers goods and also money sent via remittances is invested on consumers goods which does not create a multiplier effects, thus the local population does feel the benefit of return migration, it instead broaden the gap between the rich and the poor.

The environmental problems induced by return migration cut across land degradation and disposal of solid wate to the environment which is a cause for environmental concern. The environmental concern induced by return migration is examined discretely from land degradation and waste disposal on the environment.

2.1.2 Degradation of the environment by returnees in Fundong Sub-division

The environmental impacts of migration at the area of origin are closely related to remittances (Davis and Lopez, 2010). Remittances have intensified farmland expansion and conversion of rainforest to cattle grazing land (Taylor et al 2006). Increase use of fertilizers and pesticides has also been linked to remittances (Morgan et al 2010). Remittances may indirectly encourage higher levels of agricultural production through shifts in consumption pattern possible to increase the use of natural resources (Davis et Loez, 2010). Migrants themselves might impacts agricultural practices upon return through the introduction of new techniques as they can afford the risk and cost of such investment (De Haas, 2001). During field survey, it was observed that returnees' activities such as agricultural cultivation, building and construction cause environmental degradation as well as pollution of land through waste disposal. Figure 17 below shows the land use pattern of Fundong Sub-division.

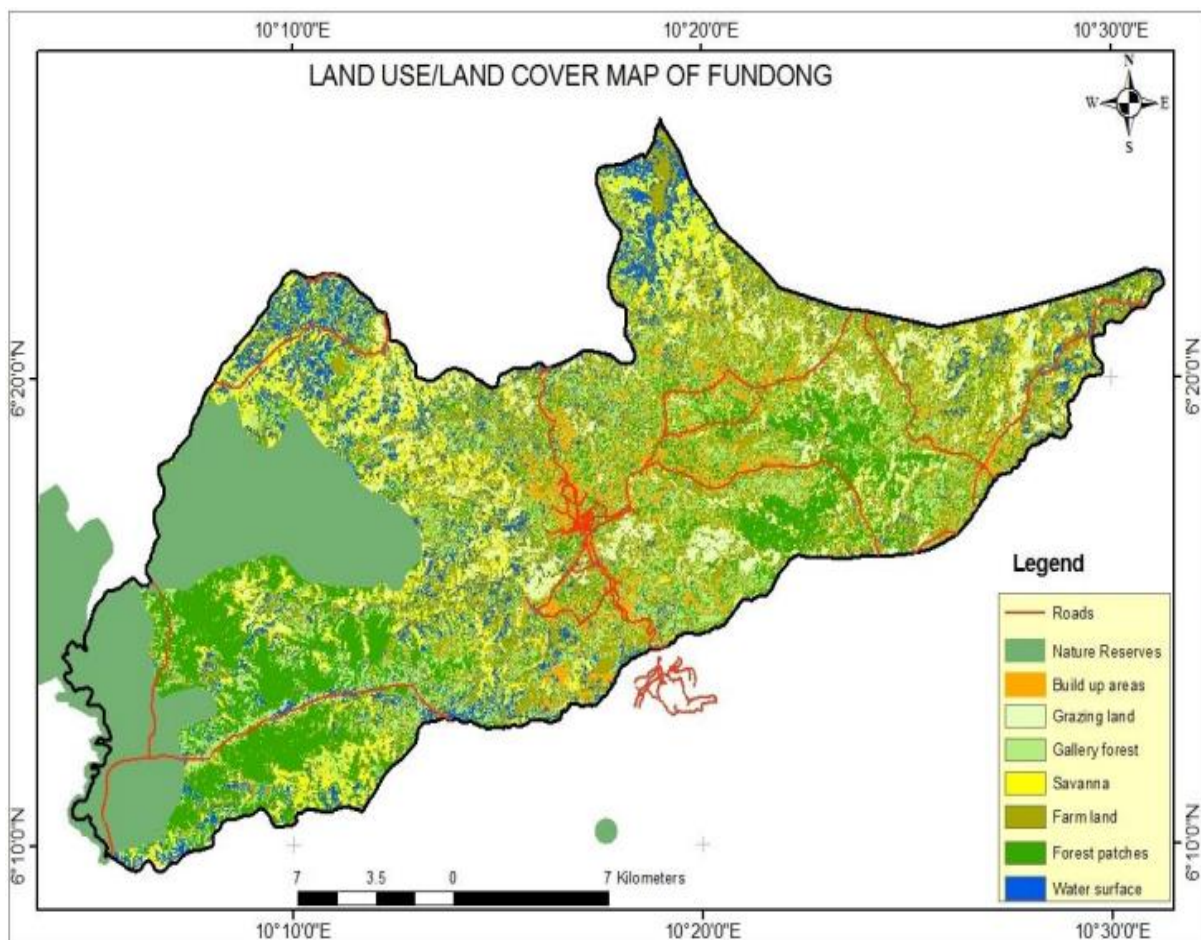


Figure 17: The land use map of Fundong

Source: National Institute of Cartography, 2023

Figure 17 shows the land use map of Fundong, it is observed that settlements are concentrated in the center, south, north and north east of Fundong. There little vegetation in the south east and the central part of Fundong is virtually without vegetation because much of the land is settlement areas. Most of the vegetation in south and north have cleared and converted into settlement areas mostly returnees that occupy these new layout zones. Agricultural activity is concentrated in the south and the north, vast land in these zones have been consumed by farming and most of those who encroached these zones are return migrants.

2.1.3. Land degradation induced by agricultural activities

Environmental degradation is a consequence of complex interaction between societal and environmental processes (Berry et al, 2003) cited by (Eche, 2013). The complex relationships between land degradation, small-scale farms development, labour migration and rural development, evolving under the pressure of increasingly globalizing markets are high, both on national and international agendas. Land degradation originates from unsustainable land use, deforestation, heavy rainfalls, hurricanes and lack of technical and financial assistance to protect the soil and improve farm productivity (Eche, 2013). Conacher (2009) further underpinned that land degradation is considered to be caused or at least exacerbated by human action. This therefore implies that land degradation is highly attributed to anthropogenic factors. In Fundong Sub-division agricultural cultivation by returnees is highly responsible for land degradation as they possess the financial resources to pay for labour in to clear down vast land. Findings during field survey revealed that vast land cleared for cultivation, labour is paid mostly money from migration (table 14)

Table 14: Origin of funds for cultivation on a piece of land between 3 to 5 hectares

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Origin of funds use for cultivation | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | | Money raised during migration | Remittances | Credit from Njangi | Past savings |
| Western | 15 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Eastern | 36 | 15 | 9 | 7 | 5 |
| Northern | 28 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| Southern | 25 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| Total | 104 | 41 | 28 | 21 | 14 |
| % | 100 | 39.4 | 26.9 | 20.2 | 13.4 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 14 shows origin of funds use to cultivate agricultural land use of 3 to 5 hectares, 39.4% of the finances use to cultivate a piece of land which ranges from 3 to 5 hectares is money accumulated during migration, 26.9% of the funds used for cultivation come from remittances. 20.2% of the finance used to pay farm labour comes from Njangi houses, while 13.4% of the finances use in paying farm labour comes from past savings. This show that most of the funds used to finance farm labour come from return migration and remittances which are all aspects of migration. Money from migration has there expanded the scale of agricultural cultivation in Fundong Sub-division, the expanded agricultural cultivation financed with money from migration has accelerated land degradation.

It was observed during field survey that vast land that has been cleared for coffee cultivation and most of those who cultivate subsistence cash crop (coffee) are returnees and money from remittances is highly invested on coffee cultivation (plate 5)

Plate 5: Land degradation induced by return migrants for coffee cultivation



Photo A shows land degradation with bare surface because the vegetation has cleared for coffee cultivation. This exposed the soil to high risk of erosion

Source: M. Clovis, 2022



Photo A show coffee grown on vast land, the original vegetation has been replaced by coffee trees

Source: M. Clovis, 2022

In a separate focus group discussion with farmer who cultivates intensive food crops and coffee, most of the farmers indicated that the money they use to pay labour and buy farm inputs come from savings accumulated during migration and remittances, which enable them to expand agricultural cultivation. This of course improves outputs but the irony is that the money raised during migration and remittances which is invested in agriculture has altered the natural vegetation resulting to environmental degradation. A sustain environmental degradation will further exhaust the soil and make agricultural cultivation costly especially for poor farmers

who do not possess the financial means and highly depend on the natural soil fertility. Apart from land degradation resulting from galloping agricultural activities induced by return migration, return migrant also pollute the environment.

2.1.4. Waste disposal induced by return migration

Increase dumping of solid waste on the environment in Fundong Sub-division is highly attributed to return migration. Return migrants has the high propensity to consume than non-return migrants. The demand for consumer goods in Fundong is mostly accelerated by return migrants and income from remittances. Some of the goods after usage or when they get bad are being disposed to the environment which ends up polluting the environment especially solid waste. During field investigation, the most common waste disposed to the environment by return migrants were plastic bottles, can bottles, plastic papers, electronics, shoes and clothes (table 15)

Table 15: Common disposed waste to the environment induced by return migration

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Disposed waste to the environment | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | | Plastic bottles | Cane bottles | Plastic papers | Electronics | Clothes and shoes |
| Western | 15 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Eastern | 36 | 8 | 3 | 13 | 5 | 7 |
| Northern | 28 | 5 | 2 | 11 | 4 | 6 |
| Southern | 25 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| Total | 104 | 23 | 11 | 34 | 15 | 20 |
| % | 100 | 22.1 | 10.5 | 32.6 | 14.4 | 19.2 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 15 shows the different waste disposed to the environment emanating from return migration. It is observed from table 12 that plastic papers represent the highest (32.6%) of the waste disposed to the environment by returnees, and most of these plastics are non-biodegradable. Plastic bottles constitute 22.1% of the solid waste discharged to the environment, soft drinks and water are sold inside plastic bottles and mostly consume by returnees and funds from remittances. The plastic bottles are not environmentally friendly as they block water passage when disposed to environment which cause flooding, the plastic papers also take thousands of years to decompose. Clothes and shoes constitute 19.2% disposed

to the environment, returnees who sell clothes and shoes have establish business links in urban dispose some of the spoiled clothes and shoes to the environment, this is very common with imported second hand clothes and shoes. The disposed clothes and shoes usually piled up on the environment. Disposed electronics waste (14.4%) of Television parts, radios, phones and phones accessories thrown to environment, most of those who own by returnees and also electronic sent home by migrants. These electronic parts also pollute the environment. Cane bottles made of aluminium represents 10.5% of the rubbish thrown to the environment, mostly imported alcoholic drinks and sold inside cane bottles and mostly returnees consume such drinks. The cane bottles are non-degradable caused environmental hazard when thrown into environment. Away from environmental pollution, another noticeable problem induced by return migration is land grabbing

2.1.5 Land grabbing by return migration

Land grabbing as a result of return migration has put the vulnerable non-migrant population with limited access to land for settlement and for cultivation. Savings accumulated from migration and cash flow from remittances have accelerated land acquisition since returnees who have raised money via migration and money from remittances have enable the purchase of land by few rich at the detriment of financial vulnerable population. Cotula et al (2011) underlined that land grabs' are growing phenomenon in Central and South America, Africa and southeast Asia, a growing phenomenon where outside interest acquired land with the rights to harvest timber or establish large scale-scale commercial farms, plantations and livestock operation in developing countries where tenure has historically been communal or customary in nature. Cotula et al (2014) again stated that the most common of all are land grabs initiated by domestic investors with the help of their own governments. Davis et al (2014) further stressed that about 12 million people globally experience loss of household income as a direct consequences of land grabbing. Vargas et Lanly (2007) admitted that influx of remittances may lead to an increase in land prices as a result of migrants households investing in land, which may exacerbate inequalities when land become less accessible to the poorer households and more concentrated in the hand of few people. Findings from field survey reveals that land sizes above two hectares are owned by returnees or are purchased with money gotten via remittances (figure 18)

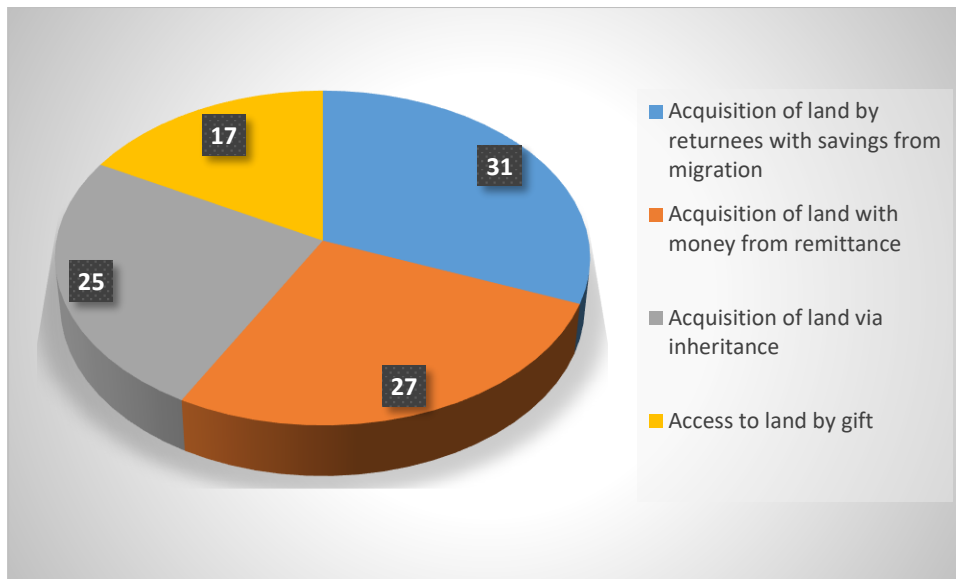


Figure 18: Land ownership above two hectares

Source: M. Clovis 2022

Figure 18 shows means of acquiring land above two hectares in Fundong Sub-division. It is observed that large land sizes of two hectares above is own by return migrants. This explained by the migrants often use the savings they accumulated via migration and invest a significant part of it for land acquisition either for construction or cultivation purposes when they return home. Acquisition with money gotten from remittances represents 27% of land acquisition above two hectares, this is justified by the fact that migrants have the culture sending money home to purchase land especially for construction because they are aware that they will one day come back home. Access to land via inheritance constitutes 25% of land acquisition above two hectares. This is explained by the fact the succession rights in Kom is matrilineal were land is ceded by men to their nephews when they die. This has enabled some men to acquire land vast land. Access to land by gift represents 17% of land acquisition, this is due the fact that men who own owned vast land often distribute it to sons and nephews, when they grow big and able to construct, land is given to them so that they can start their own lives. It is seen in figure 12 that the highest percentage of land ownership above two hectare is owned by returnees and land acquired with money from remittances. This demonstrates that return migration has accelerated land grabbing putting the less privileged population with limited access to land. Another inconvenience induced by return migration is inequality.

2.1.1. Inequality in housing occupation

Migration has been considered as one of the avenues for improving upon the socio-economic conditions of individuals and families in areas that poorly endowed with resources (Anarfi et al, 1999). Migration is a dynamic process that that changes over time, the cost and risk involved, migrants tend to come from wealthier' families and remittances may therefore widen economic and social inequalities in migrants source area (Vargas, 2008) Return migration instigate inequality as return migrants have accumulated skills and financial capital and they live a more comfortable life when they return home than non-migrants inhabitants. Also remittances sent back home has enabled migrant family members to afford basic necessity. Income disparity resulting from saving accumulated from migration and money from remittances have altered the egalitarian way of life in Fundong Sub-division where everyone is considered to be equal in the society, but the phenomenon of return migration has bring class stratification as it has widen the gap in terms of income and social status. Savings accumulated from migration and money from remittances have broaden the gap between the rich and the poor, as return migrants and those who received money from family members in urban centres and broad live in good houses and have more access to basic needs such as health, education and ownership of capital assets. During field investigation, it was found that return migrants and remittance have brought differences in housing status because most of the modern houses are owned by returnees and modern houses construction with fund from remittances (figure 19)

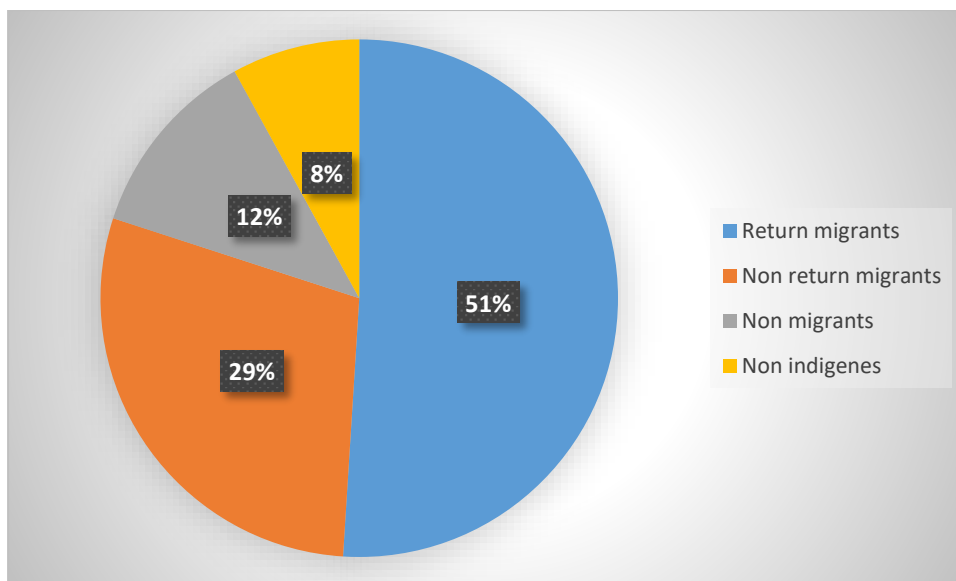


Figure 19: Disparity of modern housing ownership

Source: M. Clovis, 2024

Figure 19 shows inhabitants who owned modern houses in Fundong Sub-division, return migrants represent 51% among the returnees who modern houses. Returnees who have accumulated savings from urban centres and from abroad owned a majority of the modern houses. Non- return migrants constitute 29% of modern house ownership, the non-return migrants are those who still live in Fundong and have constructed houses back home. Some of the non-return migrant houses are occupied by their family members. Non-migrants represent 12% amongst those who owned modern houses. These are local inhabitants who have not migrated out of Fundong and they are locally employed in the primary and tertiary sectors. Some of them are administrators. Others are businessmen while others are farmers. They have managed to accumulate savings at home which enables them to build decent houses. Non-indigenes constitute 8% of those who owned decent houses. These are inhabitants whose place of origin is not Fundong, they live and work in administration, others are businessmen. Modern houses are mostly owned by return migrants and non-return migrants which are all aspect of migration. This shows that most of the modern houses are constructed with funds gotten from migration. This has brought social inequality in terms of housing between non-migrants and migrants population as the majority of the modern houses are owned by returnees or constructed with money sent via remittances while most of the houses which are locally constructed with mud blocks are owned by non-migrants inhabitants. Another aspect where income inequality was observed is in the domain of durable consumers goods.

2.2.2. Disparity in ownership of durable consumers goods

Most of those who own luxurious consumer goods such as vehicles, house furniture, refrigerators, electronics, cooking utensils and cell phones are return migrants, also some of the luxury goods are bought with remittances sent back home by emigrants to their family members and some of the tangible luxury goods are sent by migrants to their family members, friends and relatives back home. For instance (Ammassari, 1994, 2001) stressed that remittances sharpen income inequality because the better-off areas of communities are more likely to send their family members abroad and therefore are also more likely to draw more benefits from migration. King, (1986) argued that many return migrants are better off as compared to non-migrants. Studies show that migrants after years of hard work and savings are able to acquire consumers durable goods and other property after their return (Black et al, 2003). In this study, respondents ranging from return migrant households, non-returnees family members and non-migrants household population where asked to indicate the type of consumers durable goods and household assets they possess (table 16).

Table 16: Disparity in ownership of consumers durable goods

| Household assets | Ownership of consumers durable goods | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------|
| | Return migrants (%) | Family members of non-return migrants (%) | Non-migrants population (%) | Percentage (%) |
| Refrigerators | 51 | 35 | 14 | 100 |
| Electronics | 46 | 30 | 24 | 100 |
| House furniture | 49.3 | 29.7 | 21 | 100 |
| Vehicles | 54.7 | 33.2 | 12.1 | 100 |
| Cooking gas | 56 | 34 | 10 | 100 |
| Motor bikes | 38.9 | 29.2 | 30.9 | 100 |
| Bed/ foam mattress | 49 | 39 | 12 | 100 |
| Smart phones | 40.3 | 37.8 | 24.9 | 100 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 16 shows the ownership of some essential consumer durable goods that was assessed during field work. Findings on ownership of household assets (table 14) reveals that return migrants and families of return migrants possess more durable goods than non-migrants household population. In regard to ownership of refrigerators, return migrants possess 51%, non-returnees' migrants families represent 35%, while non-migrants household inhabitants represent 14% amongst the inhabitants who own refrigerators. As concerned electronics, return migrants represents 46%, non-return migrant families (30%) while non-migrants population constitute 24%. The electronics appliances is made up of TV sets, radios, electric irons, the high ownership of electronics result from income generated by return migration. Concerning Vehicles ownership, findings from field work reveals that that return migrants represent 54.7% of the car ownership. The ownership of vehicles consist of private and commercial vehicles. Among the respondents who indicated that they own cooking gas (56%) are return migrants and families members of return migrants who have access to cooking gas represent 34% while non-migrants household who use cooking made up 10%. This shows that a majority of the non-migrants population still depend on fuel wood for cooking. 38.9% of those who own motorbikes are return migrants. These are mostly young men who have raised capital during their migration period in urban centres in Cameroon and from neighbouring Nigeria. Non-

returnees family members at home represent constitute 29.2% amongst bikes owners. The motorcycles are mostly use for commercial purposes and are purchase with money from remittances sent by migrants to families members back home or the motorcycles are sent in tangible form. Those who have bedroom with foam mattress 49% of them are return migrants and family members of non-returnees (39%) of them have bedroom with foam mattress while non-migrants population represents 12%. As concern smart phones, non-returnees represents 40.3% amidst those who owned smart phones, non-returnees family members (37.8%) own smart phones while non-migrants population constitutes 29.4% amongst those who possess smart phones. The overall findings show that a majority of those who own durable consumer goods result from income gotten via return migration, this is either savings which return migrants accumulated during migration period or money from remittances as well tangible assets sent back home. The disparity of household assets show inequality induced by return migration and remittances between non-migrants population.

Inequality between migrants and non-migrants population was also revealed in the domain of education acquired

2.2.3. Discrepancies in educational and professional skills

People migrate in search of a better life, new job or education opportunities as a result of political and economic changes, crises and wars. For diverse reasons some of them return to their country of origin, especially highly skilled migrants can stimulate or support knowledge-based economic development. The return migration of highly skilled can contribute to reverse the negative effects of what has been discussed as brain drain, especially in developing and newly industrialised countries (Hunger, 2004). Most of educate and skilled people in the countryside developing countries in general and sub-Sahara Africa in particular are return migrants who have acquire tertiary education and professional skills in urban centres and abroad. It was revealed during field work that a majority of the inhabitants of Fundong Sub-division who have tertiary education and professional skills are return migrants. The gap between returnees and non-migrant population in terms of tertiary and professional skills has induced inequality and thus class stratification within the inhabitants in Fundong Sub-division which sharpen the gap between return migrants and the financial weak population (table 17)

Table 17: Differences in tertiary education and professional level

| Category of people | Educational and professional skills levels | | |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------|
| | Diploma (%) | First Degree (%) | Professional skills (%) |
| Return migrants | 51.3 | 62 | 53 |
| Family members of non-returnees | 36.6 | 38 | 31 |
| Non-migrant population | 12 | 00 | 16 |
| Total (%) | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 17 shows the differences in tertiary education and professional skills between return migrants, non-indigene population and non-indigene inhabitants. Non-indigenes population was included in the findings because a good number of non-indigenes have acquired tertiary and professional skills and reside in Fundong. It was necessary to consider all those who have obtained tertiary education and professional skills irrespective of origin so as to have the proportion of returnees who have acquired tertiary and professional skills. Findings from table 14 shows that amongst those who have acquired diplomas, return migrants represent 51.3% this because most the institutions at the higher level are not found at Found in Fundong and those who wish to enrol into these institutions have to migrate out of Fundong, thus leaving the population that cannot afford to migrate with limited access to diploma. Family members of non (36.6%) are those that are being sponsored by their family members who live in towns in Cameroon and abroad which permit them to acquire higher education. Non-indigenes constitute 12% amidst the inhabitants who have received diploma, these are inhabitants whose origin is not Fundong and have acquired their education and skills elsewhere and have come to work in the civil service and in parastatal. As concern First Degree, 62% of the respondents that have acquired first degree are returnees. This is explained by the fact that there is no university and other higher institutes and those who want to have Bachelor Degrees have to move out of Fundong Sub-division and non-indigenes (12%) received tertiary education elsewhere out of Fundong while non-migrant's population represent 0%, this is due to the absence of university in Fundong thus depriving the non-migrants population from receiving tertiary education. As such returnees represent the highest (62%) amongst those who acquired First Degree, this has widened educational gap between returnees and non-migrants inhabitants. In regard to professional skills, 53% of the returnees indicated that they have

acquired professional skills. This is because during their migration, migrants acquired professional skills such as nursing, banking and finance, electrical engineering, agricultural engineering, catering and hotel management in higher institute of learning and apprenticeship such as mechanics, electronics repairs, iron work, carpentry and tailoring. Family members of non-returnees (31%) indicated that they have received professional training, they were able to received professional training thanks to remittances sent by their family members and relatives in towns or abroad while 16% of non-migrant's population admitted that they have acquired professional skills, most of non-migrant population have merely acquired vocational skills within Boyo Division such as nursing, mechanics, electronics repairs carpentry, tailoring and iron work. The over all results show that return migrants have acquired tertiary education and professional skills more than non-migrants population, thus bringing disparity in the level of education and professional training between returnees and non-migrants population.

Another inconvenience induced return migrants is investment in non-productive goods.

2.3. Return migration investment are invested in non-productive activities

The impacts of return migration on socio-economic development has been a long debate as many scholars have argued that return migrants as well as remittances have failed to enhance development because they are not spent on investment goods but rather on basic consumer goods. Hermele (1997) cited by IOM (2001), citing the case of the impacts of remittances on development describes how this argument goes “remittances are not put into productive use, but mostly spent for unproductive purposes such as housing, purchase of land, transport, repayment of debt or to a smaller extent, wasted on conspicuous consumption, or simply save as insurance and old age pension funds.” This is manifested in Fundong where return migrants invest put most of their invest in buying land, construction of houses, buying imported furniture, cars and electronics goods which do not trigger any meaningful socio-economic development, also money from remittances is invested on similar activities. Findings from field work reveals the various domains where return migrants are invested on purchase of land, construction of houses, purchase of durable consumers goods and buying of cultivation land (figure 20)

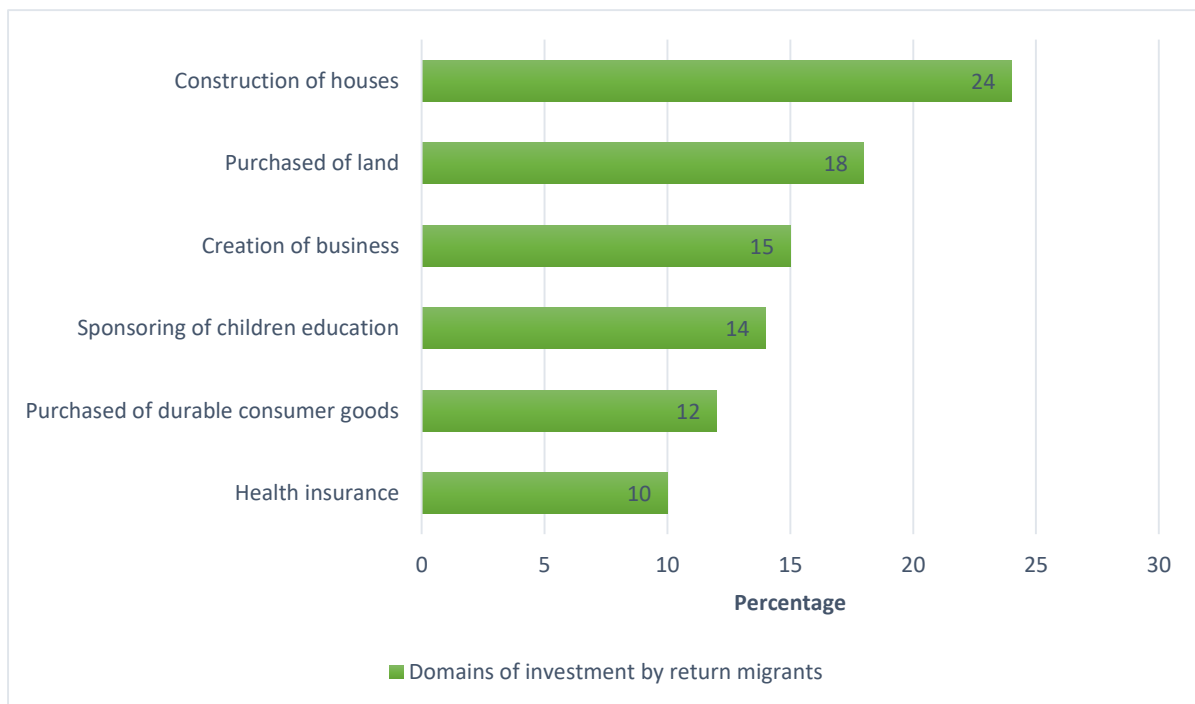


Figure 20: Domains of return migrants investment

Source: Field work, 2022

Figure 20 demonstrates the various domains of investment by return migrants and 18% of the respondents indicated that they highly invest their savings accumulated from migration to buy land, while 24% of the returnees admitted that they used most of their savings from migration to construct houses. Those return migrants who used most their money to buy durable goods (12%) were mostly returnees who are still and planning to build, they spent much of their money on durable consumers goods such as television sets, radio sets, cell phones, cars and refrigerators. 14% of the respondents agreed that that they use the money reap from migration to sponsor children education. 10% of the respondents acknowledged that they invest in the buying land for cultivation, and 15% of the returnees indicated that they have invested in in setting up business while 10% of the returnees responded that they used the savings accumulate from migration for health insurance. Investment in business and sponsoring of children's education which can have significant impacts on socio-economic development is relatively low compared to high proportion of return migrants who invest on housing construction, purchase of land, purchase of consumer goods and health insurance do generate any income nor create employment to the local population. This therefore implies that return migrants invest in wasteful activities. Findings equally reveal that money from remittances is invested on non-productive activities (figure 21) below.

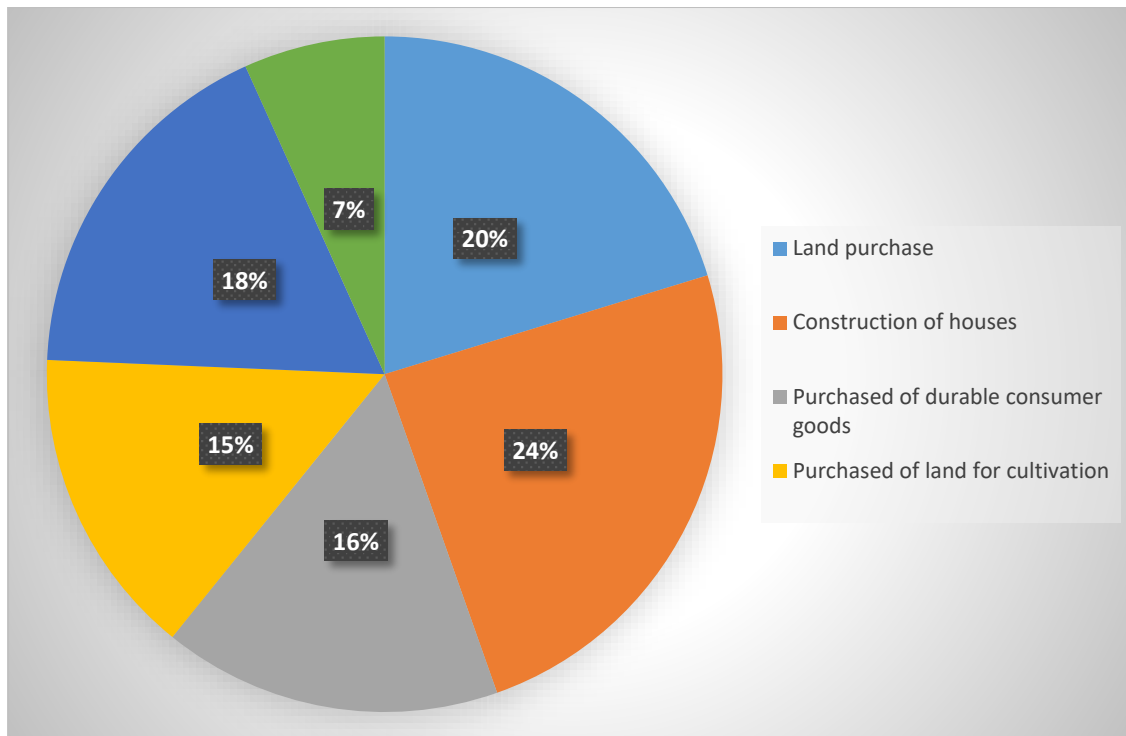


Figure 21: Domains of investment of remittances

Source: Field work, 2022

Figure 21 shows the different domains where money sent from urban centres within Cameroon and from abroad is being invested. 29% of the respondents (family members of non-returnees) attested that remittances sent by family members from urban centres in Cameroon and abroad are invested on the purchase of land. 20% of the respondents admitted that remittances are invested on construction of houses, 19% indicated that the remittances they received is used to buy their basic needs. 17% acknowledged that the remittances is use to sponsor young ones to school and vocational training and 11% of the respondents attested that the remittances sent home have been invested in business while 4% agreed that the remittances have been used to set up vocational training centres. It is observed that the purchase of land represents the highest (29%), followed by investment in construction of houses (20%), purchase of basic needs represent 19%, which are all investments that are not productive while little is invested on vocational training centres, business establishment and on human investment (sponsor for schooling) which are domains which can enhance socio-economic development. There a considerable amount of remittances is invested on non-recreational domains that don not improve on socio-economic development.

Increased in the cost of living was also identified due to return migration as will be the focus of section 2.4

2.4. Increase cost of living instigated by return migration

Return migration may positively influence consumption in migrants place of origin and push prices upward as consumption is not backed by production. This is because return migrants savings accumulated via migration and remittances are often spent for consumption. Some scholars for example Piore (1979) has argued that remittances cause inflation because they create a demand without a simultaneous production capacity, whilst (Vargas et al, 2007) emphasised that the influx of remittances may result to an increase in the price of land due to migrants household investing in land. Findings from field investigation discloses the return migration has pushed the prices of land, food commodities, basic manufactured goods, house rents (figure 22).

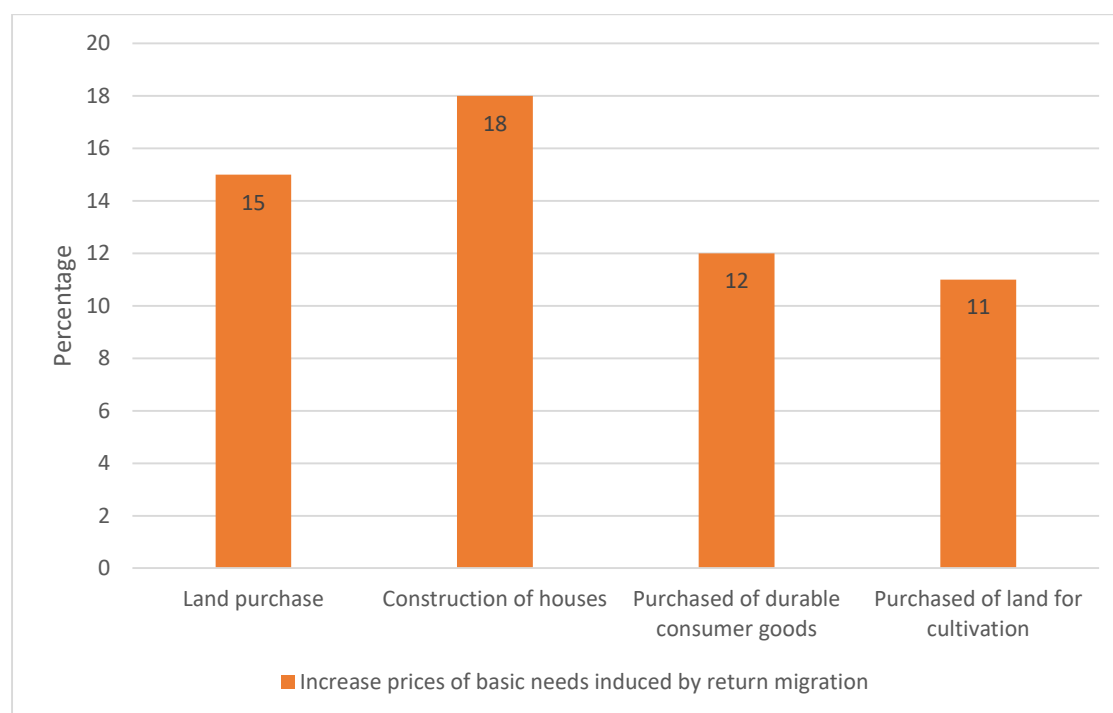


Figure 22: Return migration Increase prices of basic needs

Source: Field work, 2022

Figure 22 shows prices increase of some basic needs induced by return migration. Respondents targeted (non-migrants population), 37% indicated that they have witnessed an increased in the price of land due to return migration. This is because the influx of return migrants increase the demand for land either for construction or land for agriculture and since migrants often possess money more than non-indigene migrants, they grabs more land and pushing its prices upward. Also, money from remittances is highly invested in the purchase for land and this cause land

competition to rise, thus the prices of land is susceptible to increase. 29% of the respondents indicated that return migration has caused prices of food items to rise, as most return migrants are concentrated in tertiary sector, most of them buy food, this intend increases demand for food items, money from remittance is also highly used for food consumption, consequently, a rise in prices of food items. Basic manufactured goods represent 19% of the prices increase of basic needs. Basic manufactured goods such as refined cooking oil, soap, magi, sugar, salt, clothes, shoes, slippers, kitchen utensils and hygienic products have also increase due available market provided by return migrants and cash flow from remittances. 15% of the respondents attested that house rent has risen due return migration, this is explained by the fact that returnees construct modern houses whose rents are higher compared to substandard local houses. Migrants families at home who received remittances from Urban centres and from abroad have the propensity to afford the rents of modern house, thus a rise in house rents.

Conclusion

There has been growing concern about return migration and remittances in places of origin in developing countries in general and sub-Sahara Africa in particular as return migrant induced environmental problems such as land degradation and discharge of solid waste to the environment, return migration creates inequality in land ownership, housing status, consumption of durable consumers goods, disparity in education and professional skills, returnees invest in non-productive activities as well as remittances are mostly invested on non-income generation activities such as construction of houses, purchase of land, purchase of durable consumers goods and used as health insurance. Returnees and money from remittances also bring about increase cost of living due cash flow from remittances and high purchasing power of returnees compared to non-migrants population. Apart of inconveniences created and remittances in Fundong Sub-division which bog down socio-economic development, a series of challenges also hampered the effort of returnees to effectively contribute to socio-economic development, this form the focus of chapter 3.

CHAPTER 3

CHALLENGES PLAGUING RETURNEES TO FULLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF FUNDONG SUB-DIVISION.

Introduction

Return migration plays a vital role in ameliorating socio-economic conditions and redistributing income in countries of the south in general and sub-Saharan African countries in particular, as migrants accumulate financial and human capital during migration period and re-invest in their places of origin, migrants also send remittances to their places of origins which pumps in money. This has gone a long way in alleviating poverty as finance resource is being transferred from the regions of abundance to lacking regions. Many issues however stand as obstacles which limit the ability of return migrants and remittances to effectively contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division. These challenges are many and ranges from administrative, communication and socio-economic challenges. In this chapter the study aims to investigate the challenges return migrants face as well as remittances to contribute to socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division and recommendations which could enhance return migrants capacity and remittance to effectively use for development purposes. This chapter is subdivided in five sections which are; 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 section 3.1 examines administrative challenges with emphasis on, Administrative bottlenecks and bureaucracy. 3.2 investigates social challenges with emphasis on, communication difficulties, acculturation problems. 3.3 dwells on Economic challenges such low sales turnover, high taxes limited credit facilities. While 3.4 examines the unstable political atmosphere which triggers conflicts, insecurity, ghost towns and lockdown, seal of shops, many control points.

3.1. Challenges affecting return migration

As stated earlier, return migration is affected by many challenges, these challenges ranges from socio-economic, political atmosphere and administrative to communication which bog down return migration to enhance socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division table (table 18)

Table 18: Challenges affecting return migration

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Challenges of return migration | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| | | political | Administrative | Socio-economic | communication |
| Western | 15 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| Eastern | 36 | 16 | 5 | 11 | 4 |
| Northern | 28 | 11 | 4 | 10 | 3 |
| Southern | 25 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 3 |
| Total | 104 | 43 | 16 | 33 | 12 |
| % | 100 | 41.3 | 15.3 | 31.7 | 11.5 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 18 shows challenges affecting return migration in Fundong Sub-division, respondents were asked (return migrant/ migrants family members) to indicate the challenges they face. 41.3% of the respondents attested that political instability was a big challenge for to effectively run their activities. The unstable political atmosphere is due to the crisis in the North West and South West that has been rocking the Region for over six years which has disrupted many activities, aggravated by spontaneous fighting between armed militia and Government force, insecurity, ghost town and lockdown. 31% of the respondents admitted that socio-economic difficulties impede their effort to run their affairs. The socio-economic challenges are explained by high taxes, limited credit facilities, high transport cost and adaptation difficulties. 15.3% of the respondents indicated that administrative policy was a challenge for them to run their businesses. Administrative bottlenecks and bureaucracy that affect return migration due to complicated administrative procedure to obtain business licenses, many checkpoints. No guidelines for investors. While communication challenges represent 11.5%, this is due to the poor nature of the terrain with accidented slopes and poor inaccessibility in some areas and high transport cost.

3.1.1. Political challenges affecting return migration

The political upheaval in the two English Regions of Cameroon since 2016 has affected many activities in Fundong Sub-division and this is manifested by ghost towns and impromptu lockdown, insecurity, seal of shops by the administrative authorities against shops owners who obeys ghost towns and lockdown declared by secessionists, many control points and spontaneous clash between separatist fighters who want autonomy of the two Region and Government forces. These challenges have grievously affected return migrants in Fundong

Sub-division and those from Fundong who lives in many towns in Cameroon and abroad who intend to invest back home (Table 19)

Table 19: Political challenges affecting return migration

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Challenges of return migration | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
| | | Ghost towns and lockdown | Insecurity | Many checkpoints | Seal of shops |
| Western | 15 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Eastern | 36 | 19 | 10 | 4 | 3 |
| Northern | 28 | 16 | 7 | 3 | 2 |
| Southern | 25 | 14 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| Total | 104 | 57 | 29 | 11 | 7 |
| % | 100 | 54.8 | 27.8 | 10.5 | 6.7 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 19 demonstrate the political challenges affecting return migration in Fundong Sub-division. 54.8% of the respondents who were returnees and migrant families who received remittances indicted that the challenges that perturb them to go about their business were ghost towns and lockdown. Ghost towns have been declared every Monday and spontaneous lockdown by separatists whenever a national day is coming up as a means of civil disobedience. The ghost towns and lockdown restrict movements of persons and goods, anybody that disobey ghost town and lockdown risk his/her life of being torture, kidnap or even killed. This paralyses every activity and makes life very difficult across every aspect of life. This seriously affects return migration, that is, returnees cannot pursue their day-to-day activities because projects and businesses cannot be executed with money from remittances as intended. 27.8% attested that insecurity was a big concern, this is due to spontaneous fighting between Government forces and separatists. At times civilian are caught in-between the fighting and stray bullets at times led to death of civilian, this scaled civilians and cause fear as well as panic. Also spontaneous shooting, arm robbery and kidnaping by armed men further create a general atmosphere of fear, thus this create an atmosphere of fear and confusion which push people to run for their safety to their various home, therefore daily transaction is disrupted. 10.5% admitted that many checked points were a concern as there are many checkpoints set up by Government forces and armed militia group. Government forces set up control points to checked the movements and infiltration of separatist fighters and track down criminals,

separatist set up their own control post to collect money from passengers, also to check the movement of Government forces and administrative personnel. This slows down movement and transactions. Also, money paid to armed militia and government forces at checkpoints increases travelling cost and make life difficult to survive in such environment. In a focus group discussion most travellers attested that they often pay money at each Government forces and armed militia control point from Bamenta to Fundong. 6.7% acknowledge that seal of shops was a big challenge to them. These were returnees who operate shops and their family members who operate shops with money from remittances. The shops are being sealed by the local administration and shop owners are required to pay a fine before the seals are removed, this because shop owners obey ghost towns, something government is seriously fighting against. The seal of shops is very costly to owners as they lost customers and drop in sales as well as they payment of fines which is very costly to business operations. Seal of shops, insecurity many checkpoints and ghost affect return migration to enhance socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division (plate 5) shows images of ghost towns.

Plate 5: Deserted busy places due to ghost towns



Photo 1 show deserted busy junction where commercial motorbikes often parked during ghost town day declared by separatists.

Source: M.Clovis 2023



Photo B shows deserted popular ground stand junction where it is always busy, but deserted on ghost towns days

Source: M. Clovis, 2023

The ghost towns and lockdown paralyses every activities since movement is prohibited by the separatists, this makes every activities to still.

3.1.2. Socio-economic challenges hindering return migration

The role of return migration in Fundong Sub-division is very instrumental in boosting local economy, however, return migrants cannot effectively operate as intended and remittances sent from many urban centres in Cameroon and abroad to invest back home are not full utilised due to a series of socio-economic difficulties which impede return migration to effectively contribute to socio-economic development. Finding from field work where return migrants were contacted and domains where remittances are being invested revealed many challenges amongst which are; high transport cost, limited credit facilities and acculturation problems (table 20)

Table 20: Socio-economic challenges plaguing return migration

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Socio-economic challenges of return migration | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | | High prices of basic items | Limited credit facilities | Acculturation difficulties | Low sales turnover |
| Western | 15 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| Eastern | 36 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 18 |
| Northern | 28 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 12 |
| Southern | 25 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 13 |
| Total | 104 | 28 | 16 | 11 | 49 |
| % | 100 | 26.9 | 15.3 | 10.5 | 47.1 |

Source: Field work, 2022

On table 20, it is seen that 47.1 of the respondents agreed that low sales turnover one of the difficulties plaguing return migration. This is explained by the low purchasing power of the population and this has been aggravated by the socio-political crisis rocking the region which has paralysed economic activities and layoff many people from their jobsite, thus people's income have dropped. In an interview with economic operators in Fundong market, most of the respondents attested that the profit they reap from business is very low, that they find it difficult to cover the cost of their business. This is because the because the purchasing power of most household has fallen, even the purchasing power of most farmers have fallen as well as the frequencies of going to their farm sites have reduced due to ghost towns and lockdown, also farm produce cannot reach big urban centres particularly Bamenda which is the main consumption centres of farm produce from Fundong Sub-division. 26.9% of the respondents

hiking prices of basic commodities is challenges to them. The high prices of commodities is highly attributed to ghost town and lockdown because during this period, basic manufactured goods and agro-food items cannot reach Fundong, this causes scarcity of manufactured goods and agro-food items. 15.3% of the returnees and those operating business whose capital is gotten via remittances underlined that limited credit facilities is set back to set up business, in a focus group discussion most of the respondents underscored that is very complicated and difficult to borrow money from financial institutions such as banks and micro-finance to expand the scale of their operation. 10.5% of the returnees admitted that acculturation problem was one of the challenges they encounter. This is because they have stayed out of Fundong for long and as they return, it was not easy for them to adapt to the local environment. They have inherited urban and western life and also ghost towns and lockdown declared by separatists leaders cause boredom as they have to stay in-doors for days or weeks, something they have never experienced in their migration period. Another challenge plaguing return migration in Fundong Sub-division is administrative bottlenecks and bureaucracy which is examined in the next sub chapter.

3.1.3. Administrative challenges disturbing return migration

Administrative policy has impacts on economic activities and all aspects that has to with the economic development, for example a simplified administrative policy will ease the procedures of setting up business and creating enterprise and where the administrative procedure is complicated and characterized by bureaucracy, the processes of setting up business and creating enterprises will be longer and this may discourage investors from investing and people to peruse their objectives. It was reaved during filed work that a series of administrative such as administrative bottlenecks, low incentives to investors (table 21)

Table 21: Administrative challenges perturbing return migration

| Number of cluster | Number of respondents | Administrative challenges | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | | Administrative bottlenecks | Low incentives | High tax regime |
| Western | 15 | 4 | 3 | 8 |
| Eastern | 36 | 7 | 10 | 19 |
| Northern | 28 | 6 | 8 | 14 |
| Southern | 25 | 5 | 7 | 13 |
| Total | 104 | 22 | 28 | 54 |
| % | 100 | 21.1 | 26.9 | 51.9 |

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 19 shows administrative challenges which bog down return migrants effort and migrants remittances to contribute socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division. 51.9 of the respondents attested that administrative challenges limit their effort to run their activities. This is because the tax system instituted by taxation department in Cameroon is too heavy on economic operators. 26.9% of the acknowledged that low incentives is one of the challenges that bog down their effort to carry out their business. This is because little or no incentives are given to returnees to create businesses and small and medium size enterprises, and also little or no progress has been made to encourage migrants to invest back home. Administrative bottlenecks represent 21.1% of the challenges plaguing return migration. This is explained by the fact that the it takes long for the administration to process and issue business licences, and to procedures to follow up administrative documents at is tedious and this discourage some returnees to follow the process. Also the procedures for clearance of imported goods that are sent by non-return migrants abroad is complicated as well, this lower the incentive to run business.

Amongst the administrative challenges, the tax regime represents the highest, and the fiscal policy plays a lot on the performance of economic activities (table 20) shows the tax regime in Cameroon and the percentage of taxes levied on personal income tax and business licence tax (Table 22).

Table 22: Business tax levies on business persons

| Business taxes | | |
|----------------|------------------------|--|
| Percentage | Scale of enterprise | Contribution |
| 0.159 | Large enterprise | 5 million minimum to 2.5 billion maximum |
| 0.283 | Medium size enterprise | 141500 minimum to 4.5 million maximum |
| 0.494 | Small size enterprise | 50,000 minimum to 140,000 maximum |

Source: taxsummaries.pwc.com

Table 22 shows business tax licences in Cameroon, from the table, 0.159% is levied on the turnover of large enterprises under the jurisdiction of large tax payer unit, for a minimum contribution of 5 million and maximum contribution of 4.5 million. 0.283% is charged on the turnover of medium sized enterprises whose jurisdiction is under the medium size taxpayer centre, specialised tax centre for liberal profession and real estate, for a minimum contribution of 141500 and a maximum contribution of 4.5 million. 0.494% levied is charged on the turnover for small size enterprises which is under the jurisdiction of divisional tax centre, for a

minimum contribution of 50,000 and a maximum contribution of 140,000. The various business taxes is applicable in Fundong sub-division and most return migrants and those who want to run business with money from remittances find it difficult to comply. This has also gone a long way to affect return migration. Other taxes on individual income include corporate tax (table 23)

Table 23: Income taxes levied on companies/corporate bodies and on individual income

| Companies/ corporate bodies | Percentage (%) | Income taxes on individuals | Percentage |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Corporate tax | 30 | Real property tax | 0.1to 15% |
| Value added tax | 19.25 | Registration duty | 15 |
| Council tax | 10 | Payroll tax | 2.5 |
| | | Transfer tax | 10 |
| | | Local development tax | --- |
| | | Social security contribution | 11.2 to 4.2 |

Source: Cameroon Fiscal Guide, 2019

Table 23 demonstrate the various taxes levied on companies and other corporate bodies as well as taxes on individual income. Corporate taxes (30%) are taxes paid by companies and corporate bodies to the taxation department. Value added tax (VAT) represents 19.25% is tax levied on natural persons or legal entities, including authorities and bodies governed by public law which, usually or occasionally carry out taxable transactions. These persons shall be liable for VAT regardless of their turnover achieved, their situation in relation to other taxes and the nature of form of their activities. There are two rates of the VAT, general rate 19.25 including additional council taxes and zero rate; 0% for exportation sales (Cameroon Fiscal Guide, 2019). Council taxes (10%) are taxes paid by companies and businesses to the council. Taxes on individual income include; real property tax (0.1% to 15%), property tax is due annually on real estate properties built or not situated in Cameroon. 0.1 of the value withholding tax is applicable on income from renting out infrastructure. Registration duty (1% to 15%, registration duty applies to certain deeds listed by the general tax code. The assessment basis depends on the nature of transaction and the rate varies from 1% to 15%. Transfer tax (10%), this tax is levied on the sale of business in Cameroon. Local development tax is a direct council tax collected for the basic facilities and services provided to the population, notably street lighting, sanitation, refuse collection, ambulance services, drinking water supply, electrification. The rates vary depending on whether it is an employees or person liable to

discharge tax or business license from 3000 to 90,000FCFAC. National Social Fund (11.2 to 4.2 respectively. Employers in Cameroon must contribute 1.75%, 2.5% or 5% of salaries to the National Social Insurance Fund for industrial accidents when they are respectively in group A, B, or type of activities (Cameroon Fiscal Guide, 2019) see appendix these are general tax regime in Cameroon applicable to companies, businesses and on individual income. The regime is not favourable to business people in Fundong Sub-division and most return migrants find it difficult to cope with the taxation regime. This also discourages reinvestment at home via remittances. Communication difficulties is another challenge affecting return migration in Fundong Sub-division.

3.1.4. Communication challenges confronting return migration

Though the road between Fundong and Bamenda is paved, Fundong Sub-division is located in elevated altitudes, the rough terrain makes the journey unnecessarily long. Road communication between Fundong and other villages within Boyo Division is not quite accessible, the roads are muddy during the rainy season and dusty during dry season. Also the transport fare between Fundong and Bamenda is quite high and this makes traveling costly. The high transport cost is highly attributed to the Anglophone crisis which causes ghost towns and lockdown. This has increases the transport fare between Fundong and Bamenda as movement during this period is halted. During field survey a series of communication difficulties where identified which ranges from high transport cost, accented slopes, accessibility difficulties between Fundong and its environs (figure 23)

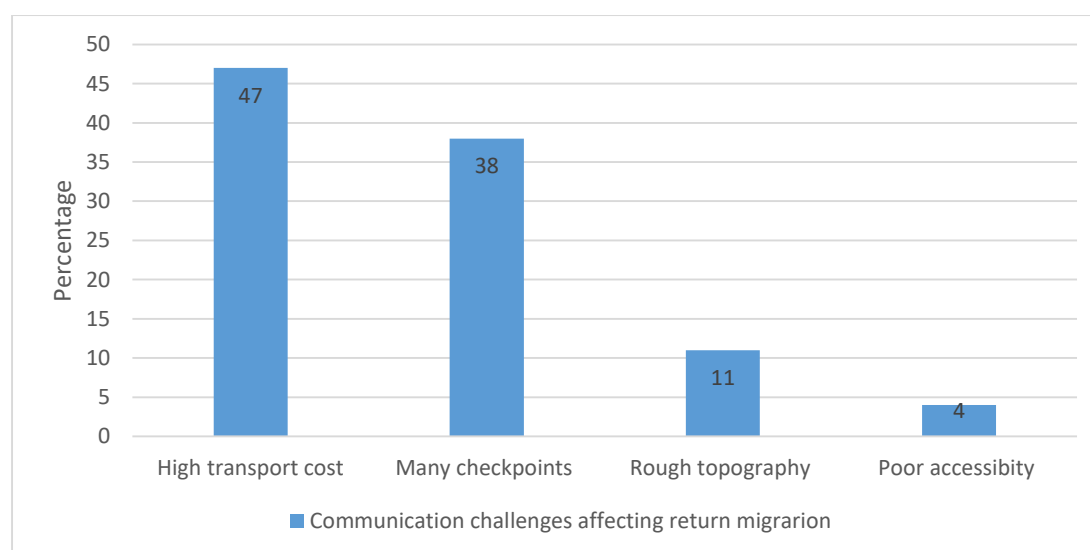


Figure 23: Communication challenges affecting return migration

Source: Field work, 2022

Table 23 shows communication challenges affecting return migration in Fundong Sub-division. 47% of the respondents attested high transport fare as one of the problem affecting return migration. High transport represents the highest of the communication challenges. The high transport fare is mainly explained by socio-political crisis in the North West and South West. Many checkpoints represents 38% of the challenges affecting return migration in Fundong Sub-division, this is due to the fact travellers have to settle many checkpoints. This delays travelling and increase travelling cost. 11% of the respondents attested that rough topography is a challenge plaguing return migration as the slope of Fundong are accidented, the road between and Fundong and Bamenda is made up many bends due to the hilly nature of the road. This make travelling unnecessarily long and boring. 4% of the respondents acknowledged that poor accessibility is one of the communication challenges they encounter. This explained by the fact that those returnees in Fundong carry out transaction within other villages in Boyo Division and the roads are not tarred, thus this cause accessibility problem in getting to other village because the roads are dusty in the dry season and muddy in the rainy season. High transport cost which represents 47% finding from field work revealed that there were factors that cause high transport fare (figure 24)

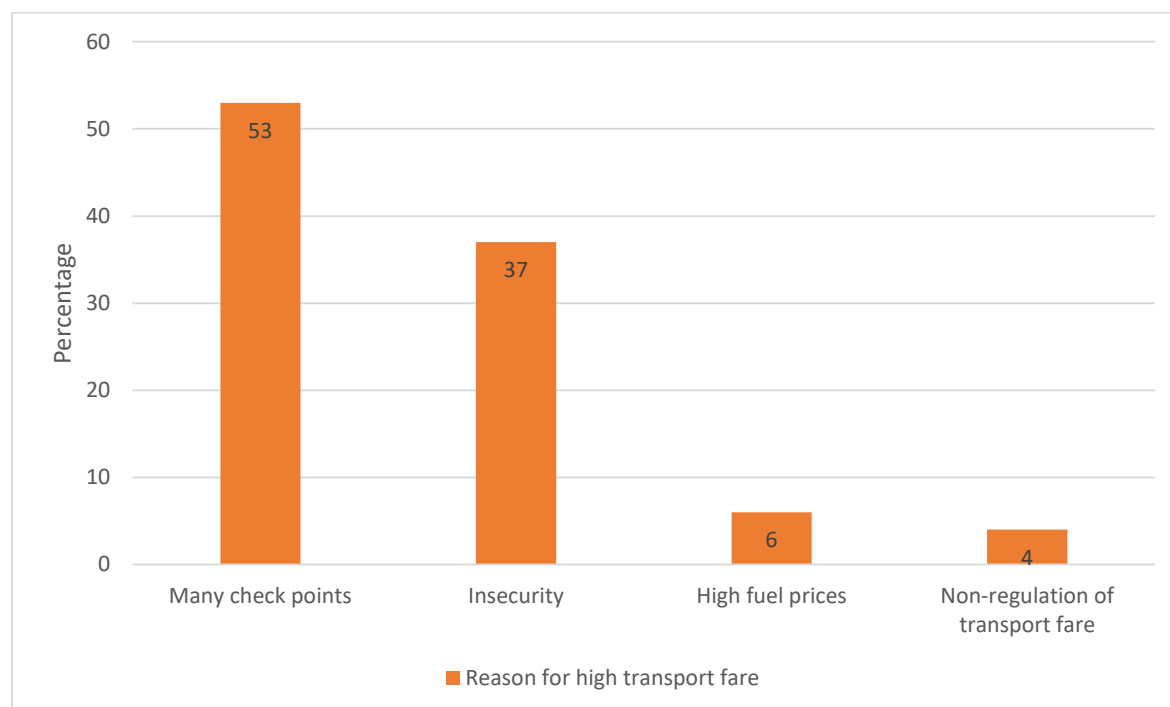


Figure 24: reasons for high transport fare

Source: Field work, 2022

In figure 24 which shows reasons for high transport fare, findings revealed that many checkpoints represent 53%. This is because many checkpoints have been set by Government forces and armed groups. The goal of police and military control points is to check the circulation and infiltration of separatist fighters and track them, while the checkpoints set up by armed militia is check the circulation of military personnel and administrative official. In these control points being it the control points set either by Government forces or militia groups, travellers and drivers have to settle each of the control points by paying money.

In an interview with 15 drivers, they all agreed that they pay 2000FCFA an above at each control point set up either by the military or the militia group. There they have to increase the transport fare between Bamenda an Fundong and between Fundong and its environ so as to meet up the cost of running their business. 37% of the respondents attested that the high transport cost is due to insecurity, most of the drivers are scared to security concern and those who have the courage to drive increases transport fare. 6% of the respondents admitted that the high transport fare is due to high fuel prices which have pushed transport fare to rise. 4% agreed that the transport fare is caused by non-regulation of the transport fare by the state. It is the drivers who determine the transport fare to be paid and no regulation mechanism has been put in place to ensure that drivers maintain a specific fare. The high transport fare discourages people from going to Fundong and this also increases prices of manufacture goods in Fundong. This has discouraged some returnees from doing business in Fundong Sub-division. In a focus group discussion, with passengers, most of them pointed out that initially the transport fare between Bamenda and Fundong was 1000FCFA. It started increasing in 2016 as a result of the on-going crisis, presently, transport fare from Bamenda to Fundong vary between 5000FCFA to 10,000FCFA. Figure (25) below shows a fluctuation of the transport fare between Fundong and Bamenda

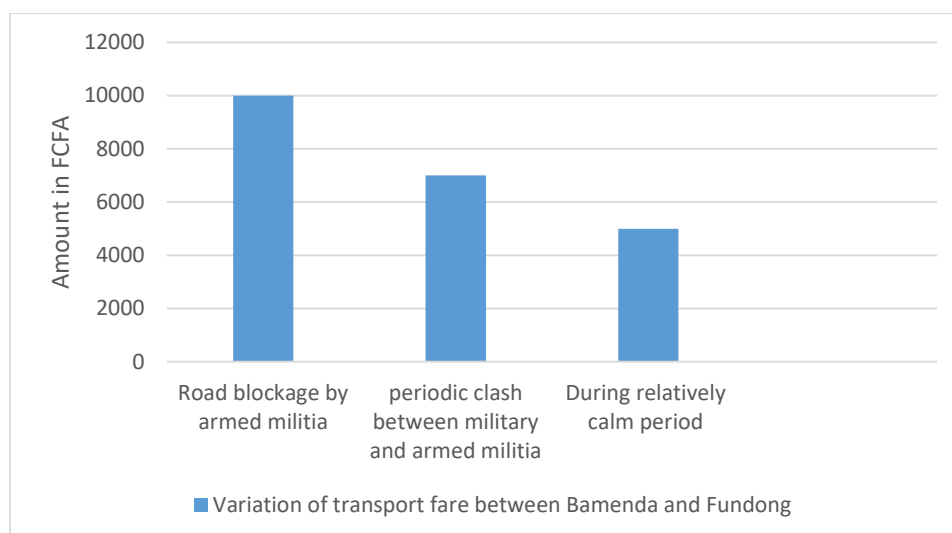


Figure 25: High fluctuating transport fare between Bamenda and Fundong

Source: M. Clovis 2022

Figure 25 shows high fluctuation of transport fare between Bamenda and Fundong. During road blockage caused by the ‘Amba boys’ (armed militia), the transport fare increases to 10000FCFA. This is because, when the separatist fighters blocked the road to prevent government forces from passing, only few drivers who are courageous enough transport passengers half way, as the passengers have to go down the vehicle where there is road blockage and continue their journey on foot. During this period travelling from Bamenda to Fundong and other villages within Boyo Division become very risky because any vehicle plying the road during this period can be shoot down by the armed militia from their hideout, also when passengers and drivers come across militia control points, the pay very high, consequently increasing the cost of travelling. Furthermore, during periodic clash between the ‘Amba boys’ and Government Forces, transport fare increases to 7000FCFA. This is because when there is exchange of gun shots between the separatists fighters and Government forces, most people and drivers are scared to travel because they might be caught by stray bullets and the few drivers that are courageous to drive during this period usually charged high transport fare because of the risk involved in travelling. At the moment when there is relative calm, the transport fare between Fundong and Bamenda is 5000FCFA, though low, it is still high compared to when it was 15000FCFA. The high transport makes life difficult in Fundong Sub-division thus this has an adverse implications on return migration because return migrants cannot perform their duties well and also projects to be carried out with money from remittance cannot be effectively executed and money gotten via remittances cannot be well spend as intended.

The above challenges plaguing return migration have caused people to adopt various strategies to cope with the challenges. The strategies adopted forms the next sub paragraph below.

3.2. Adapted strategies to the challenges

In any difficult environment where man is faced with challenges, he always tries to device strategies and adopts certain methods to overcome the difficulties. Return migrants have adopted a series of measures to cope with challenges faced in Fundong Sub-division. Findings from field works shows that return m migrants and those who received remittances or run projects of noon return migrants have adopted many strategies such as settlement of checkpoints, buying and stocking of basic needs at homes whenever ghost down or lockdown is to be declared, respecting ghost towns and lockdown.

3.2.1. Stocking of basic needs and food items at home

Return migrants and non-migrants population in Fudong sub-division have adapted strategies to adapt to the difficult environment by buying and stocking of manufactured goods and food items in house. Whenever lockdown is to be for about three days, one week and above, the inhabitants including return migrants always make sur to buy and stock what will be needed when there are indoors, this is usually food stuff and other manufactured goods. They have to use to stock items until the lockdown is over. Another strategy adopted is by respecting ghost towns and lockdown

3.2.2. Respecting ghost towns and lockdown

The inhabitants including non-migrants and returnees have adapted to the tense atmosphere by respecting ghost towns which is every Monday and lockdown whenever a national event is coming up. The ghost town and lockdown is often declared by the separatists leaders abroad and the armed groups on the ground ensure that it is executed because they always frighten and intimidate the population that anybody that disobey will be severely punish or even kill. This often threatens the population and returnees to stay home because of fear, so they have adapted to the prevailing circumstances and the environment.

3.3.3. Paying dues at control points by travelers and drivers

Return migrants and the inhabitants of Fundong Sub-division have adopted measures by settling control points. Irrespective of the control points, whether control by the military or spontaneous check points set up by the militia groups, passengers and drivers travelling from Bamenda to Fundong and other localities within Boyo Division have to pay money in each of the control point they come across. Figure (26) shows a diagrammatical representation of the

challenges affecting return migration and strategies adapted by return migrants and those running the business of non-return migrants to cope with the difficulties they encounter.

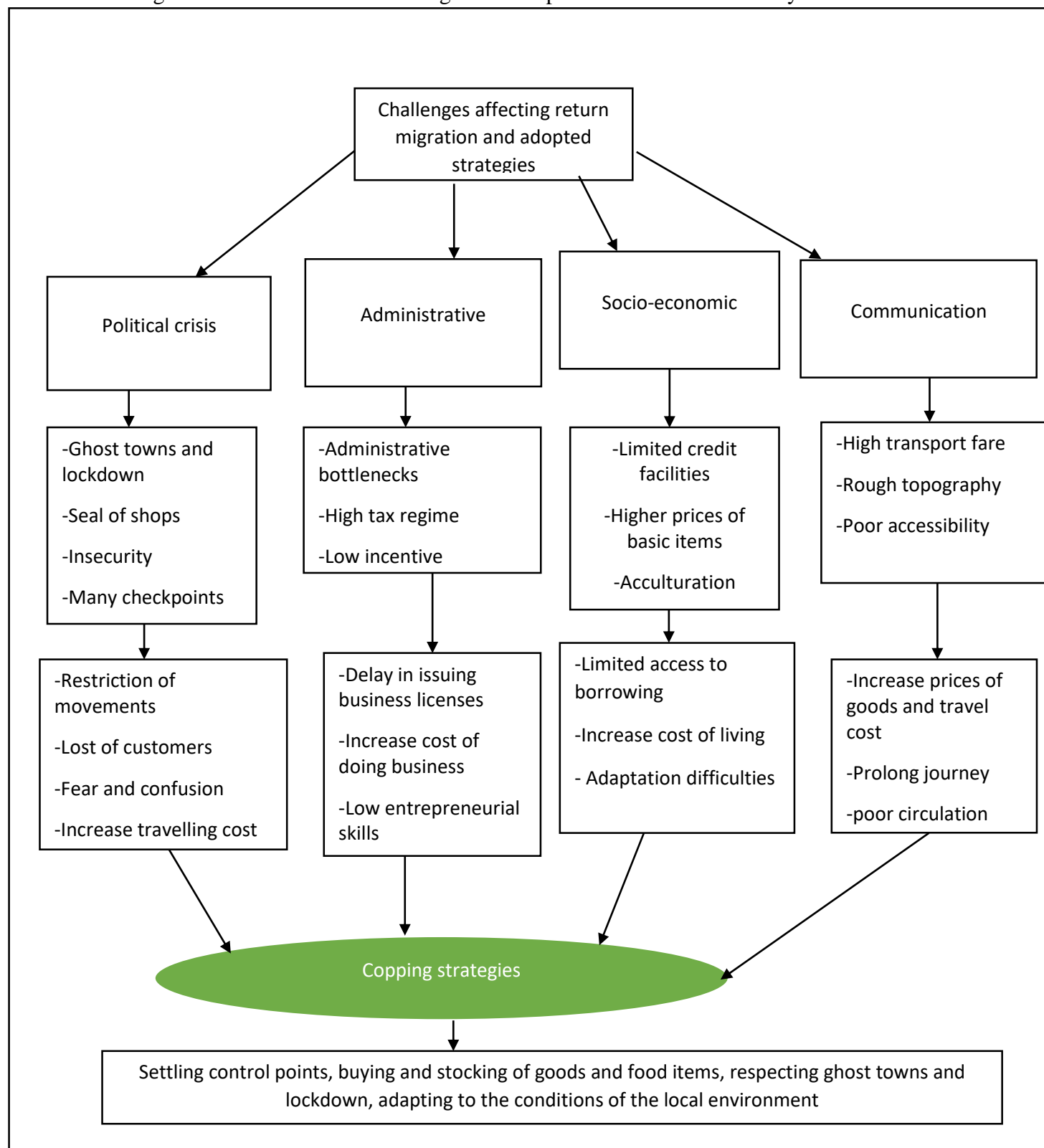


Figure 26: Challenges plaguing return migration and coping strategies

Source: Author conception and field work

Conclusion

Return migration in Fundong Sub-division is plagued by many difficulties which cut across political, administrative, socio-economic and communication challenges. The political challenges are manifested by ghost towns and lockdown, insecurity, many checkpoints and seal of shops. Administrative challenges result from high tax regime, low incentives and administrative bottlenecks while socio-economic challenges encountered is as a result of limited credit facilities, high prices of basic items, low sales turnover and acculturation difficulties. The communication difficulties are due high transport cost, poor accessibility and rough topography. Face with these challenges, the inhabitants including return migrants have adopted a series of strategies to cope with these challenges such buying and stocking of food items and basic needs when and lockdown is to be declared, respecting ghost town and lockdown and settling checkpoints

GENERAL CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION, TESTING OF HYPOTHESES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Generally Return migration has a long history and it has always played a significant role in human life across the globe. In Cameroon, population movements gained more grounds during the scramble era where people were recruited from the hinterlands and taken to work in European plantations at the coast. Again in the 1980s during the economic crises, the wave of migration took another phase as people were generally moving from Cameroon to abroad and from urban centers in Cameroon to their places of origin, this constituted what is known as return migrants. Those who travelled out of the country later return back home after some time either temporary or permanently and also constituted return migrants. Return migration is very instrumental in improving socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division. Migrants return to their place of origin due to various motivated factors such as; achievement of their objectives in the host areas, festive events back home, high cost of living in the host area, the desire to stay back home, retirement, the desire to invest back home, poor health and for temporary stay. Migrants upon their return invest immensely in the agricultural sector, commercial activities, vocational training and craft work, communication sector by providing transport facilities such as vehicles and motorcycle and construction of modern houses, all these activities are very beneficial to the community.

The role of return migration in influencing socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division has been very fundamental. However, return migration has resulted to problems linked to the environment such as environmental degradation, discharge of solid waste to the environment, land grabbing, inequality between returnees/non-return migrant's family members and non-migrants population, investment on non-productive activities and increase cost of living. Despite these inconveniences, the role of return migration in enhancing socio-economic development in Fundong Sub-division is very remarkable.

However a number of challenges bog down return migration to effectively contribute to socio-economic development. These challenges are many among which are administrative, political, socio-economic and communication challenges. The administrative challenges is due to administrative bottlenecks, low incentives and high tax regime while political challenges is manifested by ghost towns and lockdown, insecurity, many checkpoints and seal of shops. The

socio-economic challenges result from low sales turnover, limited credit facilities, high prices of basic items and acculturation problem. Whereas the communication difficulty is explained by high transport cost, rough topography and poor accessibility. In the face of these challenges, measures have been adopted by return migrants and the inhabitants of Fundong as a whole such as buying and stocking of basic food stuff and basic manufactured goods, settling checkpoints, adaptation to the environment and respecting ghost towns and lockdown declared by the separatists.

Recommendations

Returnees and remittances should invest on productive activities

Return migrants should invest in activities that are productive which in turn generate income; remittances should also be invested on activities that are productive. Remittances as well as returnees should invest in agricultural sector by opening up large farm estate and practice modern farming at a large scale so as to insure greater outputs. Also money from remittances should be used to create vocational training canter that will train youths in order to impact them with skills so that they can easily be absorb in the job market or they should be able to create jobs. Further money return migrants and remittances should be used to finance small and medium size enterprises that will create more jobs in Fundong Sub-division

Land should be judiciously distributed

The authorities involved in the sale of land and those who are in charge of land ownership should ensure that no single individual should grab more land at the detriment of the vulnerable groups. The maximum size of land to be owned by individual should be stipulated in other to stop those returnees and those migrants that send back home hard currency to acquire land for them. This will ensure that migrant should not grab more land if the maximum size of land to be owned by individual is instituted thus land grabbing issue caused by return migration will be mitigated.

Higher institutions and vocational training canter should be created in Fundong

In order to reduce the imbalances at the level of education and training, higher institutes and professional training centres should be created. This will enable youths and those who don't have the means to move to big urban centres such as Bamenda and Yaounde to acquire tertiary education and professional training. This will create high possibility for non-migrants

population to acquire knowledge and skills within their locality, this will bridge the gap of inequality between non-migrants population and return migrants

Simplifying administrative procedures in processing of documents and issuing of business licenses

Administrative procedures in processing documents and issuing of business licenses and other procedures related to creating remunerated activities and possession of properties should be simplified. This will ease administrative bottlenecks and it will reduce delays in delivery of documents by the administration. This will encourage return migrants to invest back home and will also encourage non-return migrants to send more remittances home for investment back home.

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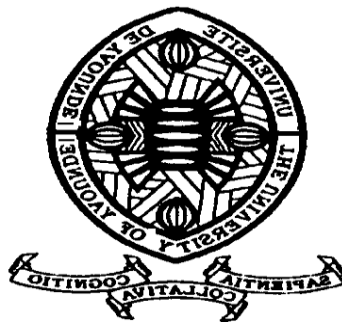
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THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE 1
 FACULTY OF ARTD, LETTERS
 AND SOCIAL, SCIENCE
 DEPARTEMENT OF GEOGRAPHY



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 FACULTE DES ARTS, LETTRES
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 DEPARTEMENT DE
 GEOGRAPHIE

A SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

**TOPIC: INFUENCE OF RETURN MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES IN
 FUNDONG SUB-DIVISION**

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENT

Please just tick the responds in the corresponding boxes and state answers where necessary.

1. Locality /
 Quarter.....
2. Age group: A)15-20 B) C) 21-25 D) 26-30 E) 31-35 F)
 36- H) 41- I)46-50 J) 56- K) 61-65
3. Age group: A) Male B) Female
4. Marital status: A) Single B) Married C) Divorce
5. Educational level: A) None B) FSLC C) GCE O/L D) GCE A/L
 E) Bachelor's degree F) Master's degree G) Others
6. Job/occupation.....
7. Number of years in the area: A) <2-5 B) 5-8 C) 8-11 D)11-14
 E) 14-17 F) 17-20years+
8. What is your level of education level of education?
 A) FSLC B) O Level C) A Level D) Degree E) Master
 F) Others

N/B; All information gathered is strictly for academic purpose and will be subjected under confidentiality to serve the purpose it deserves.

Hypothesis 1

QUESTION TO COLLECT DATA FOR HYPOTHESIS 1

Reasons for return migration

9) Are you a returnee a) yes b) no

10) What motivated you to return to Fundong? A) Employment B) Family reunion C) Education D) Trade E) Other

11) How long have you been living in Fundong as a returnee?

A) [0-5years B) 6-10years C) 11-15years E) 20years and above

12) What was the nature of migration? [] single [] couple family group []

13) Which other place have you stayed in Cameroon?

14) Do you live in your personal house? [] yes [] No [] where.....
why

15) Did you face any problem in acquiring the land? [] yes [] No [] if yes, specify

.....

why --

16) Before making the decision to return to Fundong were you encouraged by any person(s) to return Fundong? [] Yes [] No

If yes in 15 above, from whom? [] Friends [] both friends and Family

17) Do you live with all your family members? [] Yes [] No

If No in 16 above where do they currently live? [] Fundong [] Others specify

18) What is your main occupation as a returnee? [] Agriculture [] Trade [] Family members [] Limbe [] [] Services [] Others specify

Hypothesis 2

QUESTION TO COLLECT DATA FOR HYPOTHESIS 2

19) How do you obtain land to carry on this activity?

20) Has the occupation improved your living standards?

21) Do you have employees? [] yes [] No []

22) If yes how many

23) How much is your capital? [] 0-100.000 frs [] 100.001-300.000 frs [] 1301000frs and above

24) Where is your business place located? [] market [] quarter [] others please specify

25) Do you have any investment in Fundong? [] yes [] No

- 26) If yes what? bar hotel others please specify
- 27) Do you hope to return to live permanently here in Fundong? Yes No
- 28) Do you travel out of Fundong frequently? Yes No
 --If Yes how often? once a year Twice a year Thrice a year More than thrice
- 29) On what occasion do you often return to Fundong? Annual cultural festivals to visit sick relatives Others specify
- 30) How much do you earn a month? 15000 frs-20000frs 21000 frs-25000 frs 26000frs-300000 frs 31000 frs-40000 frs 140000 frs and above
- 31) On average, about what fraction of your monthly financial earnings do you send home as remittance? 0- ¼ Above ¼ Above 1/3 Above ½

More than 2

- 32) On average, how much money do you send home per year? 15000-10000 110000-15000 15000-20000 20000-25000 more than 25000
- 33) Apart from cash, do you send any other items back home? Yes No
- 34) If yes in 14 above, which are the items? Food items Clothing Other items specify
- 35) Do you belong to any association? Yes No
- 36) If yes what is the name
- 37) How many returnees are in your group?
- 39) Have you constructed a house? Yes No
- 40) What is the purpose of the house? -
- 42) Have you seen any change since you returned? Yes No

Hypothesis 3

QUESTION TO COLLECT DATA FOR HYPOTHESIS 3

- 44) What challenges you encounter in Fundong as a returnee?
- A) Administrative B) Socio-political C) Socio-economic D) Communication
- 45) Which meal do prefer eating?_
- A) Fufu corn B) Beans C) Cocoyams D) Rice
- E) Fried food
- b) What is their contribution to the development of the area?

Answers to the questions in this section are to be answered by experts like Government delegate to the Kumba city council, the mayors of Kumba, and the indigenes.