

Information and Communication University review of street vending and its impact in Mpongwe, (case study) of markets in Mpongwe in Copperbelt province of Zambia

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Abstract

Concentration is very high in major commercial areas that come under the central, west and east zone. Due to predominance of commercial activities in these areas also attract a very large number of people and have become prime location for informal activities like vending. Transport nodes are the other important location where one can see a large number of vendors are engaged in hawking are also located in these zones.

Saasa, O. (2005). "Vendors are categorized according to different criteria being used by earlier researchers". Based on the type of business they can be classified as Larry who basically mobile vendors are selling items like vegetable, fruits, second clothes and other goods. Another type is known as salaula who normally sell their commodities while sitting on the ground. Government of Zambia (2009). "In terms of mobility they can be classified as Mobile that moves from one place to another on the same day, Semi-Static units where the vendors erect a structure which is removed at the end of the day, and Static which is more like a stall or kanthemba that is used for selling commodities and fixed in a particular location". In Mpongwe we have seen all types of vendors but in this study we have grouped those in terms of commodities they are vending.

Residential areas are mainly having vendors selling regular commodities like vegetables, fruits and other items. In addition to the natural markets Mpongwe is also having special weekly markets like Saturday and Kabwandila where one can see a very large number of vendors are engaged in selling different types of goods. The Mpongwe City Council has also taken initiative to settle the vendors in few locations like Mpatamatu, Luanshya town, Mpongwe housing Markets. Few items like vegetable and fruits can be seen in almost all the locations.

While some markets are specialized in garment or non-vegetarian food items others remained general. Street vending is an important activity related to informal sector in urban areas. Majority of street vendors are illiterate or educated at primary level. They have low skill and poor economic condition. Street vending provides job opportunity and means of livelihood to the urban poor but Urban Local Bodies consider it as illegal activity so far. National Policy on Urban Street Vendor, or Model Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) by-laws are some of the initiatives taken by the Local Government at street vending level. Other agencies have played major role to push vendors issue and formulation of policies in favour of street vendors.

The present study comprehensively covers the social economic and spatial issues for the Mpongwe City. An attempt has also been made to compare the situation of street vendors of Mpongwe to other Zambian Cities like Lusaka, Ndola, Kitwe and Livingstone, respectively.

The condition of Mpongwe street vendors was found more or less same in comparison to other cities. The planning framework for integration of street vendors of Mpongwe is based on 08 markets located in different parts of the City. Broad recommendation for inclusion of street vending has been given under the preview of Nation Policy on Urban street Vendors.

Keywords: communication, street vending, markets

Introduction

Street food vending has become a worldwide phenomenon in the recent past. Rationalising the rise of street food vending in Latin America, explain that, like in most other areas, it arises from multiple causes which they enumerate as follows: deterioration of rural living conditions, migration to the cities, and accelerated urbanization leading to enormous urban congestion, long commuting distances between the workplace and home, and a shortage or absence of establishments that serve reasonably priced food close to the workplace.

Recent studies on the informal sector have focused mostly on economic, social and political challenges, spatial implications have been neglected. It was believed that as the societies developed the informal sector would be absorbed into the

formal/ organized sector, which proved incorrect. Far from being absorbed into the organized sector, the informal sector has in fact expanded in all countries like Zambia too, including the developed countries. However, it is significant that it was through the existence of vendors that the concept of an informal sector was developed.

Vendors are thus not only a significant part of the informal sector but also an integral part of urban economy. It is stated that a very low skill and capital investment is required to enter this trade. In comparison other trades it is easier to enter this trade for the poor migrants as well as lower income groups living in the city for some time. With the increase of the urban population one can see the growth of urban poor, which constitutes the largest section of consumers for these street

vendors, has led to an increase in the number in any given city.

Many researchers have noted that the presence of the hawkers is quite useful for a large section of the urban poor as street vendors provide goods, including food, at low prices.

Hence, one can find that one section of the urban poor, namely, street vendors, subsidizing the existence of the other sections of the urban poor by providing them cheap goods, including food stuff. Middle-income groups also benefit from street vending because of the affordable prices offered. But signification of services provided by the street vendors does not get reorganisation or recognition by most of the city authorities so far. For one section, not for the entire administration, street vending is considered an illegal activity and street vendors are treated as law breakers. In the existing situation, street vendors have no legal status to conduct their business and they are constantly harassed by the authorities. Yet they are popular because they provide much needed services to the large section of society that neither the municipalities nor the larger retailing outlets can provide. The sheer size of this sector in an urban economy implies that equal, if not more attention be paid to spatial and locational requirements of this sector.

Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation (2009) ^[13]. "In all Zambian cities, street vendors provide a low cost, decentralized and highly efficient system of distribution of a wide variety of goods of daily needs ranging from fruit and vegetables to clothes, utensils and many others". They reach the consumers at convenient locations, without whom people would have to travel large distances to procure these goods.

The middle and lower income groups buy a large proportion of daily goods from these vendors at reasonable rates often lower than the formal stores. According to the current situation, urban vending is inclusive of both traders and service providers, stationary as well as mobile vendors and incorporates all other3 local/region specific terms used to describe them, such as, hawker, (Igo-igo), or (Kabaza), footpath, and sidewalk traders, respectively. As per prevailing situation, there are three categories of street vendors in Mpongwe City, namely;

1. Those Street Vendors who carry out vending on a regular basis with a specific location,
2. Those Street Vendors who carry out vending not on a regular basis and without aspecific location, for example, vendors who sell goods every weekend (Saturday market in Mpongwe) or (Kabwandila Market) and so on,
3. The Mobile Street Vendors.

Statement of the problem

Street vending also provide viable income generation opportunities for those who cannot find their way into the formal job market. Given that unemployment is a major concern in Zambia, the contribution of street vending as an informal sector activity towards the alleviation of this problem is indeed significant.

"However, despite all these benefits which can be gained from street vending, evidence suggests that good safety in street vended goods is highly compromised" Barro *et al.* (2012) ^[2].

With high incidences of out-flowing sewage systems, careless dumping of garbage and many other practices that contribute to unclean environments in the streets of Mpongwe, for example, street food vending puts the health of unsuspecting public consumers at great risk.

Purpose of the study

The basic aim of this study is look into socio-economic impact of the street vendors for developing a strategy for its inclusion into formal planning process in Mpongwe City.

Objectives

- To analyse the existing impact of informal shopping and street vendors,
- To establish the socio- economic profile of the street vendors,
- To identify issues and required provision for vending,

Research questions

- What is the impact of informal shopping and street vendors
- What is the socio-economic profile of the street vendors
- What are the issues and required provision for vending

Significance of the study

This study was significant firstly because the findings provided valuable information which would be a basis for further research for the improvement of street vending on the economy of Mpongwe street vending in Zambia. Secondly, the findings of this research were important as they brought awareness of important teaching experiences in of street vending on the economy of Mpongwe street vending which would be of interest to teachers, teacher educators and to curriculum planners. It is in the interest of every educational system to ensure that teachers are competent in the subjects they teach.

The information can also provide a basis for making changes in school programs. Focusing on perceptions of practicing teachers as a means of identifying critical competencies provided an opportunity to re-conceptualize the role of street vending on the economy of Mpongwe street vending with regard to teaching responsibilities, professional development, and roles in curriculum and staff development. Focusing on teacher perceptions also helped revealing important elements inherent in the teaching of street vending on the economy of Mpongwe street vending which would otherwise be impossible to identify if observed from an outsider's point of view. It is of prime importance that the teachers' perceptions on such issues be reflected through interpretative research.

Theoretical Framework

Theoretical framework is a collection of interrelated ideas based on the theories attempting to clarify why things are the way they are based upon theories introducing new views of the research problem allowing understanding realms of the problem helping to conceptualize topic. "It's entirely and also to acknowledge problem from wider perspective for objectives". Jumani, (1991) ^[12].

This study is based on three theories; the first is the basic needs theory developed by Abraham. According to this theory, there are certain minimum requirements that are essential to a decent standard of living which are known as physiological needs and these includes food, shelter, health and clothing. They are primary needs and have to be catered for before other needs such as security are pursued. This is actually true with phenomenon under study, people in developing countries like Zambia are facing the problem of unconquered infectious diseases due to poor or nonexistence of sanitation and poor public health services, poverty and inadequate food lowers people's resistance to infectious. Poor eating habits and life style has gave way to degenerative illness and premature death.

Literature Review

However, by their practice, even mobile vendors qualify to be referred to as street vendors and although some restaurants provide this sort of service, it is usually done by individuals or family groups. The Huntington, Samuel P. (1991)^[9]. "reports that when restaurants provide this service, they tend to under-report sales from this part of their enterprise or do not report it at all when they have to pay tax". This, as a matter of fact, is a common practice among informal sector businesses.

At present, street food vendors are gaining increasing recognition as a necessary element of daily urban life, especially in developing countries, like Zambia. This is, in spite of the negative impacts of street food vending such as, those on urban renewal, cleanliness, and traffic congestion. Food vending is also thought to ease the trouble that people working in urban centres have to go through to find affordable, tasty and nutritious meals close to their work places. note that "labourers and white workers, teachers and their students, the vendors and their family members tend to consume the same food; even housewives feed their families the rich cultural array of foods available on the street in urban areas in Asia and Africa." They further explain that street food vendors also do a flourishing business catering to tourists, multitudes of whom typically find that they offer an attractive low-cost opportunity for sampling local fare. Another positive factor about street vending is that it also provides employment. The sector not only provides work directly or indirectly to millions of people across the world but in some cases, it is the only way for households to sustain themselves. In most of Africa, street vending is argued to be one of multiple survival strategies adopted by poor urban households to maintain and expand the base of subsistence incomes, especially in the current surge of the economic crisis.

Despite the fact the term "informal sector" stemmed from an analysis of African urban economies, the ensuing theoretical debates tended to draw on experiences from Latin America Huntington, Samuel P. (1991)^[9]. De Soto continues to be very influential in policy circles and his research institute – Instituto Libertady Democracia (ILD) – has been commissioned by a number of African governments. During the 1980s, his work primarily focused on Peru and other Latin American contexts. In *The Other Path: The Economic Answer to Terrorism*, he devotes a whole chapter to informal trade. He records the numbers of street traders and outlines their high

dependency ratios. His researchers posed as informal traders and attempted to negotiate the state system; the chapter outlines the numerous restrictions those involved in these activities face. He concludes that legal institutions have ceased to provide the means to govern society, stating "the existing legal system – the red tape, the widespread mistreatment on waiting lines, the bribes, the rudeness – are a Kafkaesque trap which prevent (the Informal's) and the country's resources from being used efficiently" IMF; IDA. Zambia (2000)^[11]. points out there is a tension between modernization of African cities and what are often perceived as "non-modern" activities like street trading. This issue of how street traders are perceived recurs.

In the case of violent removal of street traders in Zambia, IMF Zambia (2005)^[10]. "points out that these actions were condoned by national government who argued that the presence of street traders were discouraging international investors". Further, as previously noted, street traders are often removed prior to international events as part of city "beautification" processes. As Bromley (2000)^[3]. argues, there is a widely held view that street trading is "a manifestation of both poverty and under-development" thus "its disappearance is viewed as progress".

This view is connected to the focus in urban studies, policy and practice on "world class" cities. Bromley (2000)^[3]. says it is a classic text in this literature. The authors establish a roster of world cities. In their analysis, only one mention is made of an African city – Johannesburg. As Bromley (2000)^[3]. outlines, the notion of "world" or "global" cities has the effect of "dropping most cities in the world from vision". The position and functioning of cities in the world economy thus becomes the dominant factor in urban economic development planning. The implicit economic development policy prescriptions are that international investment should be pursued above all else. Informal activities, like street vending, in this paradigm, are seen as undesirable and their contribution to local economies is not recognized. Bromley (2000)^[3]. argues that the notion of world class cities imposes "substantial limitations on imagining or planning the futures of cities".

This imposition is particularly the case in the developing world, such as, Zambia.

Shifting these perceptions remains a critical challenge. Research that calculates the contribution that street traders make to the economies of cities is a critical first step. This research would speak to economic development planners. Further, documentation of those cases where cities have included street traders in urban plans, creatively resolved conflicts between different users of public space, and developed approaches that have resulted in improved street trader management may help to introduce new possibilities particularly in the minds of spatial planners and urban managers. This introduction would go some way to addressing Robinson's concern about the current limits on how we imagine cities. Finally, both research but also literature and art that celebrates the diversity and vibrant dynamic that street traders introduce into cities would also go some way to changing perceptions in the general public. This recognition is

part of the contribution that Simone and other urban scholars who draw on post-modernism are currently making.

Summary

Urban spatial planning – metropolitan-wide but also at a neighbourhood level – has an important role to play in inhibiting or supporting street traders. Gewald, J.B. (2008) ^[5]. “Most African cities inherit colonial spatial planning where the rich and poor are separated with the poorer residents on periphery of city centres”. This separation has implications for street traders who largely live in poorer parts of the city.

Further urban design choices made in colonial times, like the width of streets and pavements, continue at times to limit current urban design solutions. At a neighbourhood level, transport and land use planning are critical. Those concerned with processes of inclusion and exclusion of traders need to ask to what extent are traders accommodated in areas of high congestion, like transport nodes and places where there are middle class consumers, for example, are there flyovers built over poor areas. Facilities created for street traders indicate the extent to which they are incorporated into urban plans. Street traders need shelter from the elements, places to store their goods, and ablution facilities. In many of the countries for which there is information, there seems to be an approach in which markets are built to house traders.

Although street traders are often desperate for facilities, too often local authorities pay scant attention to the importance of foot traffic in locating these markets. Barro *et al.* (2012) ^[2] outlines how the local authority in Lusaka built a city market that opened in 1997 and, for the reasons outlined above, many years later remains empty. There is much more of a tradition of markets in West Africa. In their study of markets in Dakar, Senegal and Bromley (2000) ^[3], point to more successful municipal efforts to provide and manage market space. The case study evidence seems to suggest that licences can be used as an inclusionary or exclusionary tool. Licensing street trading gives traders the right to operate. If traders are to have a securer livelihood and invest both in their economic activities and their trading areas, security of tenure is critical. Licensing and site allocation are key components in better management of public spaces. The critical issue, however, is how many licences as a proportion of the total number of traders are issued.

In this study, the defining features of street food vending have been identified as follows: ready-to-eat food and beverage, prepared and sold on the street, or prepared at home and sold on the street. Clearly, these key features emphasise the type of food, the mode of preparation and the location of sale. Street food and other vending goods, therefore, qualifies as an informal sector activity. Since there are various types of street vendors as highlighted in the section above, this study sought to get insight from each category. As highlighted, the nature of street vending, while making it a profitable enterprise for those who engage in it, also makes it a risk to public health such as salaula (second hand clothes, shoes and foods).

Within this context and considering the paucity of research on the nature of street vending and what can be done about it in Zambia, this study was formulated to make an ethical assessment of the practice. The methodology used was a

qualitative case study with an ethical component. The study should not, however, be mistaken especially that there is a mention to do with microbiological examination of foods vended on the street but rather as an assessment of the impact practice of street vending in order to inform policy regarding it.

Establishment of the gap

Huntington, Samuel P. (1991) ^[9]. “Most of the vendors want to buy a shop, some want to rent a shop and few vendors want to get rented hand cart”. Majority of the vendors don’t want their son/ daughters continue this trade due to insufficient earning despite of hard work. Half of the vendors reported that they are facing problems to continue doing business. Out of half of vendors’ one third facing problem of harassment by authorities, one third facing problem of eviction and few of them are facing problem of conflicts with pedestrians, confiscation of goods and extortion by authority. In general, three fourth of the total vendors do not agree to relocate from original place whereas one fifth of the vendors agreed only if they are shifted to nearby places and their requirements are taken care in new location.

Personal critique summary

The National Policy stresses on demarcation of “Hawking” and “No- Hawking Zones”. The policy says that “designation of vendors market/ no vending zones should not be left to the sole discretion of any civic or police authority but must be accomplished by the participatory process”. As there are hawking and no- hawking zones are demarcated in Mpongwe City, there is need to accommodate the street vendors that make stalls in the markets come under no hawking zone like Trikarnagar, in India. Human Rights Commission (2008) “Relocation or accommodation of vendors in these markets can be done through participatory process as suggested in the National Policy”. Before bringing any street under no-hawking zone it is essential to have specific rehabilitation strategy for the vendors going to be affected. For this purpose a city level advisory body can be formed. Such body should have adequate representation of the vendors and other civil society groups as suggested in the National policy.

It will help to reduce the possible conflict street vending between vendors and Mpongwe City Council and City Police. Integration of hawking units with organized retail spaces in their present location itself Hawking space can be provided along formal shops, shopping centres, and complexes. But such strategy must ensure that a distinct distance is maintained between the formal shops and the hawking units, so that a clash with formal shop owners to be avoided.

Methodology

The study is basically concerned with the broad understanding of the socio-economic profile of street vendors and how to integrate them in the process of urban development in Mpongwe. It also looked into issues of street vendors in the light of existing policies and land use so that these policies could be used for better management of street vendors. The understanding of the existing situation of vendors is expected to give detailed practical solutions of the whole process of

integrating of vendors in a fast growing city like Mpongwe. The well-known locations of street vending were identified through personal visit and discussions with the officials of the City council. The detailed primary survey intended to identify the typology, characteristics, space used and space requirements, variation of street activity according to time and demands of street vendors as well as the conflict street vending arising due to vending activity. A local level strategy for the integration of vending is intended through local level planning.

Research Design

However, a case study used functionally qualitative and quantitative methodologies for the gathered data. Qualitative method allowed the researcher to obtain in depth information about the aspect under investigation. Then, quantitative method ensured the researcher to achieve high-level of reliability of gathered data. For case studies, are concerned with rich and clear descriptive of events relevant to the case. They further strive to portray what it is like to be in a particular situation, (Barro *et al.* (2012) ^[2]). Therefore, the researcher conducted a case study in order to get in depth understanding of the aspect under study.

Sampling Procedure

For selection of markets, simple sampling technique was used. This, however, gave equal chance for all markets in Mpongwe street vending to participate in the study. Barro *et al.* (2012) ^[2], indicate that simple sampling “it is a procedure in which all the individuals in the defined population have an equal and independent chance of being selected as a member of the sample”. Regarding this study, two sampling techniques were used. These are simple random sampling technique to choose the Marketers Chairpersons and purposive sampling was employed to select the Street vending Local government officials in Mpongwe to complete the questionnaire.

Target Population

Mpongwe street vending has about 455783 population of people, as per Central Statistical Office CSO (2010) ^[4]. The target population are the general communities involved in street vending in the selected markets in Mpongwe street vending.

Sample size

A sample is a subset of a population that is used to represent the entire group as a whole, The sample size of the study is about 20. Participants distributed as follows; street vending Local government officials, Marketers chairpersons and the general vendors.

Data Collection

Primary survey: The study is based on the primary survey of the hawkers which was carried out in 08 locations known as high concentration of vendors with the help of a detailed questionnaire. It also includes interviews and observations. Furthermore, it is known that questionnaires are used to gather data over a large sample and may have both open—ended as well as closed questions. So, semi-structured questionnaires

were used in the study to capture data from the general vendors in the communities, Street vending Local government officials and Marketers’ Chairpersons, respectively. In respect of these types, one type was used in all cases for local government officials, the marketers’ chairpersons and general vendors. With the help of the study of the socio-economic background, vending details, problems, issues, needs of vendors were collected. The brief space in the same questionnaire was used to collect the details of the problems, issues, locations and markets.

Triangulation

The data for qualitative research were drawn from several sources, including interviews, classroom observations, field notes, and questionnaires. Triangulating the methods of data collection in this way allowed the researcher to compare different perspectives and ensure validity of the findings. Quantitative data was also interpreted using descriptive statistics in form of frequencies and percentages. Triangulation was achieved through the use of classroom observations and analysis of curriculum documents in the follow up interviews.

Ethics Considerations

Government of Zambia (2002) ^[6]. “Ethics are a set of moral principles suggested by an individual or group, is widely accepted and offers rules and behaviours expectations towards respondents and other stakeholders in research”. In course of the research, the researcher would observe the ethical considerations by respecting the rights and views of the participants. The researcher seeks a written informed consent from Information and Communication University in order to conduct their research. For instance, the relevance of the data to the participants’ decision as one of the most vital elements in informed consent. Permission to conduct research in markets were required from the marketers chairpersons allowed the researcher to engage the marketers in the study.

Scope and Limitations

The study gives emphasis on socio-economic analysis of the vendors and identifies appropriate strategy to include street vending into city system. However, given the complexity of street vending and diversity of individual circumstances suggesting any generalized solution to the existing problem for a large and growing city like Mpongwe is quite difficult task.

- The geographical scope of this study is restricted street vending and to areas under the jurisdiction of the Mpongwe City council and only to some 08 selected markets. Newly developed areas remained outside the purview of this study.

Presentation of the Findings

To investigate the negative factors of street vending and its impact in Mpongwe district street vending in Copperbelt province of Zambia, Mpongwe” pupils, teachers, and other education staff were interviewed. The responses and their background characteristics are in tables below:

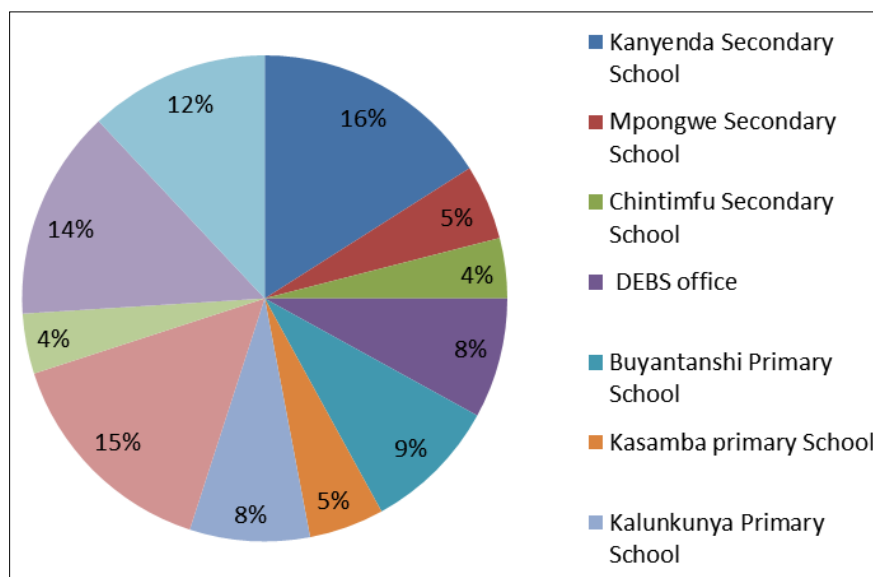
Respondents’ background characteristics

Table 1: Distribution of respondents by institution

Kanyenda Secondary School	16%
Mpongwe Secondary School	5%
Chintimfu Secondary School	4%
DEBS office	8%
Buyantanshi Primary School	9%
Kasamba primary School	5%
Kalunkunya Primary School	8%
Council staff	15%
Police staff	4%
Marketers	14%
Street vendor	12%
Total	100%

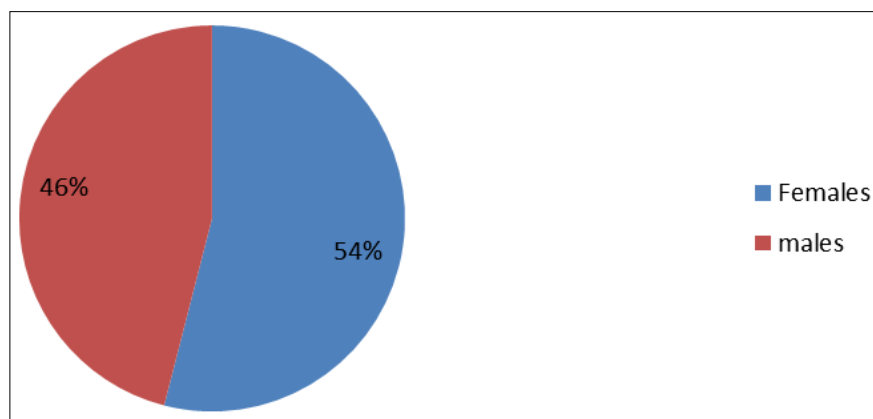
Table 1 above shows the institutions where the respondents were drawn. It shows that sixteen percent of the respondents (16%) were from kanyenda SCHOOL, five percent (5%) were from MPONGWE SCHOOL and another four percent (4%) from Kasamba SCHOOLS. The table further shows that eight percent of the respondents (8%) were from Chintimfu

SCHOOL, nine percent (9%) were from the DEBS’ office, five percent (5%) from buyantanshi eight percent (8%) from Kalunkunya Primary School, while fifteen percent (15%) came from Council staff, Police staff four percent (4%), Marketers fourteen percent (14%) and twelve percent (12%) came from Street vendor.



Field work 2016

Fig 1: is a graphical presentation of the respondents by institution.



Source: Field work 2016

Fig 2: Distribution of respondents by sex

Following the table above, it is clear that out of the total number of fifty (50) respondents 27 (54%) were female while 23 (46%) were male. Therefore, there were more female participants than male although the sampling was generally random for most of the participants except for the

administrators who were selected purposively as a result of the positions they held.

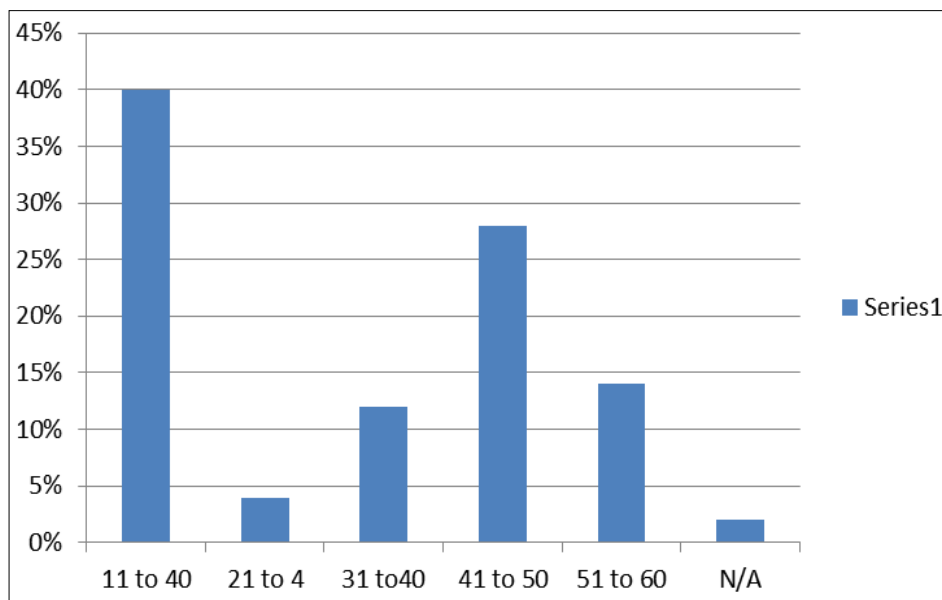
Respondents Age distribution analysis

Table 2

Age Range	Percent (%)
11 TO 20	40%
21 TO 30	4%
31 TO 40	12%
41 TO 50	28%
51 TO 60	14%
N/A	2%
Total	100%

Following the analysis of the respondents’ ages, the study revealed the ages were between 11 and 60 years and broken down as follows; Participants who were between 11 and 20 years represented forty percent (40%) of the total sample size. Those who were between 21 and 30 years represented four percent (4%) which had probably the least participants. Respondents who were between 31 and 40 years represented twelve percent (12%), while twenty eight percent (28%) were

between 41 and 50 years and another fourteen percent (14%) were between 51 and 60 years old. Furthermore, two percent (2%) of the respondents did not declare their ages hence displayed as N/A on the table. Forty percent of the respondents were in the lowest age range showing that most of the pupils were between 11 and 20 years old.



Source: Field work, 2016

Fig 3: The distribution of Respondents age ranges

Table 3

Position	Percent (%)
Debs	2%
Deputy Head Teacher	10%
Street Vending Guidance Teacher	2%
Eso	2%
Guidance Teachers	4%
Head Teacher	6%
Hod	4%
Prcc	2%

Pupil	42%
Section Head	2%
Senior Teacher	4%
Subject Teacher	20%
Total	100%

Table 4 above shows the positions held by respondents. Out of the total one hundred percent, the highest percentage of respondents comprised the pupils who represented forty two percent followed by subject teachers whose total was twenty percent. Furthermore, deputy head teachers totaled ten percent, head teachers, six percent, guidance teachers, HODs and senior teachers totaled four percent each while the rest of the respondents who included the DEBS, ESO, PRCC and section head represented two percent each. Despite the percent of pupil respondents being high, the number of respondents holding administrative positions which included head teachers, deputy head teachers, HODs, senior teachers, the DEBS, ESO and the street vending Guidance coordinator was equally which meant that the respondents had wide experience in teaching, conducting and managing examinations.

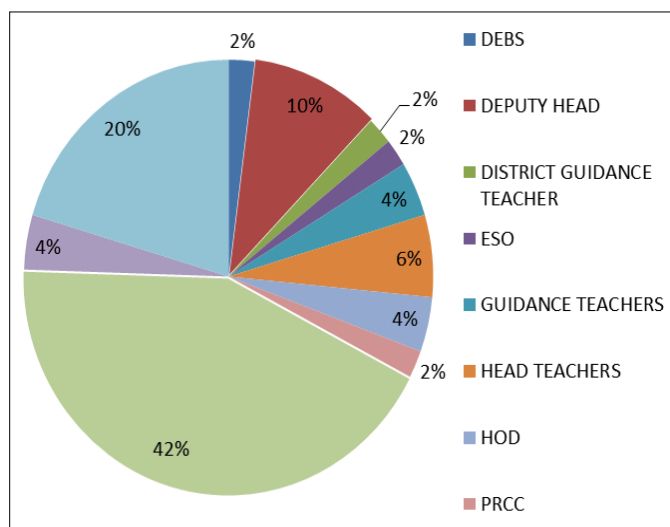


Fig 4: Displays the Positions Held By Respondents

Table 4: Respondents on the the impact of street vending in Mpongwe district

Negative street vending	Response percent (%)
VERY HIGH	2%
HIGH	56%
LOW	24%
QUITE LOW	4%
N/A	14%
TOTAL	100%

Source: Field work, 2016

Following the results of the study tabulated in figure 4.1.5, two percent of the respondents said that negative impact of street vending very high, fifty six percent of the respondents said it was high, twenty four percent further said it was low while four percent declared street vending negative impact levels were quite low and fourteen percent of the respondents

did not say anything concerning the street vending impact levels in Mpongwe district. The fourteen percent of the respondents did not express their views whether street vending impact levels were high or not, the table shows clearly that street vending negative impact was still a problem in our country’ eradication system because, no matter what the respondents could have said whether very high, high, low or quite low, it was evident that the problem of street vending eradication was far from being over. This was evidenced by few or no computers found in some schools.

From the questionnaires issued to pupils it was discovered that 90% of Mpongwe district do not have markets, 75% of the questionnaires given to school officers reviewed that the market –marketeers ratio is 1 to 18. 25% of the district. Council officers said that the market to marketer - ratio is 1 to 5.

The interview with the DEBS reviewed that the Street Vending is very bad and attributed this to lack of employment. He suggested that this year the government should make a deliberate policy of empowering at least 10 males and 10 females every month from the grants given to the youth and the elderly and women. He also reviewed that the government is doing everything to empower many street vendors to improve the employment levels. It is for this reason that the council in copperbelt province has recruited many staff to work with street vendors to help stop the vice and go to various market centres built for them.

Discussion of Findings

Lack of training for marketers

The majority of the respondents said lack of training for marketers was common among markets which make it very difficult for them to help in the implementation of street vending eradication in Mpongwe. For any council to implement street vending eradication easily they need to train marketeers without which it is practically impossible to implement street vending eradication in Mpongwe. Therefore, many respondents said that lack of training for marketers had a negative effect on street vendors’ compliance to council policies on eradication of street vending in Mpongwe. Some respondents further said, ‘last year many street vendors had street battles with the police because of unemployment and few markets/’ For instance, one respondent from Mpongwe council said:

“The performance of some of the councils street vending removal was very low because we do not have enough officers, markets, and trainers to teach us how to do business better, we also don’t have an alternative”.

Poor sanitation on the markets: In Mpongwe many markets are dilapidated and do not have toilets and enough water to have the markets clean always to avoid diseases. One teacher said:

“If it were possible can the government use a deliberate policy to take on all markets and renovate them to meet the standards of modern markets.”

Unemployment

The study further revealed that unemployment is another challenge faced by the government to implement street vending removal which is a practical activity. The markets are highly over clouded such that selling is a very big problem. The markets are just unmanageable for street vending to be controlled.

Thus one respondent said;

“a market needs at least 200 traders to trade if they are to trade better, unlike the status quo we have 605 traders in a market”

While another respondent said,

“The furniture is not available in the market for the street vendors and what they do is stand whilst doing their business and this makes them to continue moving up and down and not concentrate on one area, in addition there is always scramble for customers.”

Low numbers of market places

The respondents also observed that Low numbers of market places in the area has contributed to poor implementation of street vending removal in Mpongwe District. Some schools do not have enough personnel and infrastructure to help stop street vending while others have less than the acceptable number of staff to help train and remove street vendors.

Lack of markets infrastructure

Most of areas do not have enough man power and infrastructure to help stop street vending problems making it very difficult to implement street vending removal in Mpongwe district. The first thing to do to have a good street vending removal implementation is to build go infrastructure to facilitate successful street vending removal implementation. Therefore, every province, district street vending and institutions had to come up with strategic plans of how they were going to solve the problem of infrastructure to help the government implement street vending removal successfully.

Lack of electricity in market places: Many markets in rural areas are mostly disadvantaged because of the remoteness of their areas where ZESCO cannot reach with electricity. This is one problem that needs to be solved first if street vending is to be controlled. Many markets have may be 3 or 6 computers but they do not have electricity so this makes it practically impossible for them to help those street vendors who deal in computer accessories who depend on electricity in their business. According to street vending a 2015 report “Zambia is relatively poor by global standards with only 33.1 percent of the households in the country in employment and the rest are working on their own either in businesses and farming”.

Poor funding for implementation of the removal street vending: some of the participants in the study proposed that the funding of street vending removal implementation was cardinal in the implementation of street vending removal.

Therefore, the government of Zambia must aim at increasing the funding to implement street vending removal. Some respondents said the government of Zambia knows very well that funding is very poor to this effect but why they cannot do the right thing by doing first things first. Furthermore, respondents suggested those in planning for the implementation should be scrutinized to see if they are competent if not they be replaced by competent ones.

One respondent thus said:

“The government must first provide funding, infrastructure, equipment and trained personnel before starting this mammoth task of implementing eradication of street vending in Zambia.”

It is clear that if the government would do its homework in this area this problem of implementation will be history.

Measures to Solve These Challenges of Eradicating Street Vending in Mpongwe

The respondents were aware of the measures the government has put in place to curb the challenges in the implementation process such as provide funding, infrastructure, equipment and trained personnel. However, some respondents thought much more needs to be done. For instance, the implementation should be in phases, the implementation should first be piloted in rural areas and in urban areas then implement it all over the country. The idea is good but the method of implementation has failed the government they needed to conduct a thorough research before implementing it. It failed last year and it will also fail this year because no practical measures have been implemented so far to help solve the challenges faced by the government in implementing street vending removal in schools. One street vendor who did not what to be named said: “We will not stop vending because this is where we feed our families from and earn a living”

Building Markets

Furthermore, respondents proposed government should build a number of **markets** for STREET VENDors. Surprisingly even in Lusaka capital city of Zambia there a lot of street vendors.

Build many markets facilities in rural and urban areas

Many areas in Mpongwe do not have market facilities making it difficult to trade effectively. Some markets that are there cannot be accepted as markets because they don't meet the standards. For example one markets we visited had no air electricity, no stands, no shelter, to mention just a few.

Conclusion

- The implementation of policies against Street Vending in Mpongwe has been affected negatively due to lack of good markets where STREET VENDors can trade, enough staff, lack of employment opportunities, over crowding in markets.
- In addition it is concluded that the impact of Street Vending in Mpongwe is so bad that the town is not easily controlled and crime rate has increased.

Recommendations

- The government should build many markets to cope with this increase in traders.

- The government should increase the funding to street vendors to move from the streets.
- The employment levels should also be increased by employing a lot of the youth, women and men.
- The government should upgrade the markets to meet the customers and vendors standards.
- The government should connect all rural areas to the national grid (ZESCO) so that entrepreneurship can be encouraged.

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