

Contribution of the Demographic Characteristics in Mobilizing Income among Micro Entrepreneur's in Goma DR Congo

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Abstract

The present article has the main objective to find out the contribution of the demographic characteristics in mobilizing income among micro entrepreneurs in Goma DR Congo. The proportion of males (52.3%) was higher than the proportion of females (47.7%). Thirty five percent (35.5%) of the study population in both gender groups were aged between 30 to 39 years representing the highest proportion of people who engaged themselves in micro enterprises. About the marital status, more than half of the micro entrepreneurs (54.3%) were married. Married people involved themselves in micro enterprises more than single (34.9%) because all their family needs depended on their revenue, while majority of single persons either support themselves or depended. About the population movement, majority (71.2%) of micro entrepreneurs were residents in the city where no one moved. Thirteen (15.1%) of respondents were composed of people who moved into the city due to volcanic eruption. Almost three quarters (71.3%) of micro entrepreneurs who supported 5 persons and above in their households moved to the city due to volcanic eruptions. Three quarters (75.9%) of micro entrepreneurs had been in business for 5 years and above. About the contribution of different age range of micro entrepreneurs to mobilize profit, all (100%) respondents with 40 years and above had gained 50 US \$ or more. About the Sex of respondents, profits were low mostly among women sites. About the marital status, eight out of ten (80.2%) of married respondents had gained 50 US \$ or more. About the population movement, seven out of ten (73.6%) of residents without any movement had gained 50 US \$ or more. About the household size, half (51.5%) of the respondents who supported less than 5 persons in their house had gained more than 100 US \$ per month. About the duration in working, half (58.8%) of respondents had less than 5 years in micro enterprises had gained 100 US \$ per month.

Keywords: contribution, demographic-characteristics, in-mobilizing-income, among-micro-entrepreneurs

INTRODUCTION

From Kikoli M (2012, p5), we hear that: “The Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) is one of those countries whose populations suffer from multi-sources of chronic disaster dominated by the economic disaster (due to the inflation of the country currency from 1990, losing their saving on some financial institutions which had collapsed), the political disaster (the interethnic armed conflict from 1993, the coming of Rwandese refugee in 1994, the long time war from 1996), the security disaster (robbery attacks, looting actions, pick pocketing actions from 1992) and the environmental disaster (the regular volcanic mountain eruption, fear of the eruption of the Lake Kivu gas)”. In looking for the basic livelihood, jobless Goma citizens, displaced people, war and volcanic eruption victims, engage themselves in micro enterprises. Micro entrepreneurs in the City are destabilized by the effect of the chronic disasters which threaten the whole country. Every disaster episode resulted in a greater loss.

The long period of insecurity has destabilizing the living conditions in Goma City and his surrounding area. In this situation, the heads of household should work in the aim of looking means for survival. Life circumstances have put different heads of household to become micro entrepreneurs in initiating business activities in informal sector of the economy. Such micro entrepreneurs have to support the lives of their children. This situation makes the entrepreneur in a condition to continue working in looking for resources to sustain the family. Unfortunately, the repetitive war in the region has contributed to kill local people, a situation which has inversed the formula of the population growth. Military people in this region have a bad habit of killing civilians as their strategy to loot their richness. Another issue is seen where some rebel movements want to occupy the region so their best strategy is to kill people in order to live in the region.

According to Tchoukoue P. (1988, p141) : “3 out of 4 entrepreneurs, who do not have access in the marketable

economy, are in their productive age.” In most cases micro entrepreneurs are working with an aim of getting means for survival. According to Nguyen R. (1983 p334) : “Micro enterprise finality is social. In all manual workshops, the manpower has blood relationship to their boss, with a high representation of adolescent. The tactic of employed adolescent has helped micro entrepreneurs to use cheaper manpower among youth people. Those youth blood related manpower receive as payment lunch and a gift sometime when the business is doing well.” In Goma City, some micro entrepreneurs usually involve their sons, daughters, brothers and sisters among workers so that all household members should contribute to the process of looking for income. In this regard, Kayungura and Kikoli (2011, p83) support this statement in saying that: “Usually in Butembo City, it is in the extended family where many people seek their workers for cheaper payment like domestic work or others.” Micro entrepreneurs employ their extended family members who do not have large responsibility, in the purpose of decreasing the amount of their salary. In many cases those dependents work for their relatives in compensation for the school fees that they will benefit.

Another problem is the low representation of female in public services, so the heads of household should suffer from feeding their family members. In this situation, Capt J. (2000) says that: “The protection of women workers and the promotion of equality between men and women in employment have been areas of longstanding concern.” The concern of less representation of females in public services is the engine of female involvement in self employment through micro enterprise. Unfortunately, the consideration of female is at its lower stage in many societies in most of the developing countries, which becomes a threat in the process of poverty reduction. This confirms that women are contributing to the household income through their micro enterprises. In Goma City, women are doing their best in order to be able to contribute to the household income through their micro enterprises created in different domain.

About people migration, human being is a special creature because he is constantly in the process of looking for a solution to a problem which is likely to block his progression. This idea allows people to displace themselves from one place to another in seeking for dignified living. According to Evans R. (1996, p54), Botswana people also migrate from rural areas to town seeking for income. She said : “The economy of the rural areas is based mainly on cattle and subsistence farming yet a series of droughts in the past few years had forced people to abandon their farms and

come to Gaborome in search of jobs and better living standards.” This situation look like similar to that in Goma City, where people in the past migrated from rural areas to the City seeking only for jobs in escaping from agriculture and animal keeping activities. In addition people who come from the surrounding area surrounding Goma City are displacing themselves to look for security. The problem is to look for means for survival in the town context. The initiation of micro enterprise has become the unique solution. But the issue is to get sufficient resources to sustain the initiated business activities.

A large number of people think that those entrepreneurs in the informal sector are those persons who were in the civil service. In this situation, Ikiara G. (1994 p122) thinks that :“African entrepreneurs operating in informal sector especially in small scale enterprises are mainly composed of those individuals who are or once were in the civil service, private jobs, urban or rural petty bourgeoisie of artisan’s craftsmen and traders.” In Goma City, jobless people initiate different business activities in looking for their household income. In many situations the initiated activities do not prosper due to lack of sufficient capital to run the business. Unfortunately, a certain number of micro enterprises collapse due to lack of sufficient capital to support all the exploitation expenses that are needed to run the business.

Main objective

This study has as the main objective to find out the contribution of the demographic characteristics in mobilizing income among micro entrepreneurs in Goma DR Congo.

Specific Objectives

This study has the following specific objectives:

- To present the demographic characteristics among micro entrepreneurs in Goma DR Congo.
- To estimate the contribution of the demographic characteristics by level of profit per month among micro entrepreneurs in Goma DR Congo.

Scope and limitation of the study

One limitation encountered in this study was that people were not ready to talk about the contribution of their respective demographic characteristics in mobilizing income and business activities due to fear of robbers. The looters, daily look for information from the entrepreneurs’ working places or at home as they plan their robbery. This situation made micro entrepreneurs to become suspicious about anyone who could be

interested in their business schedule. As the solution, the entrepreneurs suspect anyone, as a potential robber and do not give information about their business. As a limitation to this study, it was difficult to get all the savings coping strategies that have been applied by micro entrepreneurs as to keep secret due to fear of robbers.

The researcher based the study on the half part of the Goma City, and then nine populated quarters from the eighteen in the city were included in the study. The nine populated quarter's chosen among eighteen exhibits the same characteristic in type of businesses to the remaining quarters of the targeted study population. The chosen quarters in Goma Commune from 7 quarters include: Keshero, Himbi, Katindo and Mikeno. The chosen quarters from Karisimbi Commune include from 11 quarters: Murara, Katoyi, Mabanga North, Mabanga South and Majengo. The aim of focusing on the half of the City was to choose the area that the researcher could easily manage in seeking data from the targeted study population.

After a situational analysis based on micro entrepreneurs activities, five quarters out of eleven from Karisimbi commune (urban division), and four quarters out of seven from Goma commune were selected, in order to have a picture of the contribution of the demographic characteristics in mobilizing income among micro entrepreneur's in Goma DR Congo. The study was undertaken from March to May 2016 in Goma City, DR Congo. Qualitative data were collected from 2nd march up to 8 April 2016. Quantitative data collection was collected from 20th April 2016 to the 30th April 2016. Goma is the capital city of the North Kivu province in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

METHODS

To deal with the present paper, we took into account the following methods: descriptive, exploratory and cross sectional study design. We applied both qualitative and quantitative approaches to collect data from 396 micro entrepreneurs. As far as qualitative study is concerned, we selected 44 key informants' interviewers, whereas in quantitative study, we selected 352 respondents. In collecting qualitative data, micro entrepreneurs were identified using purposive and snowball techniques. In the quantitative method, cluster sampling technique was applied, where the proportional allocation of respondents helped in sample size distribution in clusters. The random sampling technique helped in choosing a quarter from different communes. The study had 16 clusters of 22 respondents each, giving a total of 352 respondents. The sample size was allocated in 4 business sectors of 88 respondents each (trading

activities, unskilled labour, artisans or craftsman and consultants).

The researcher interviewed 44 key informants' micro entrepreneurs where each business sector had 11 key informants. The data collection was done from March to May 2017 in Goma City, DR Congo. Goma is the capital city of the North Kivu province in the Republic Democratic of Congo. The chosen quarters in Goma Commune include: Keshero, Himbi, Katindo and Mikeno from 7 quarters. The chosen quarters from Karisimbi Commune include: Murara, Katoyi, North Mabanga, South Mabanga and Majengo, from 11 quarters.

FINDINGS PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Demographic Characteristics Among Micro Entrepreneurs

Respondents' age and sex

The proportion of males (52.3%) was higher than the proportion of females (47.7%). Males' respondents exceeded almost (5%) the proportion of females, see Table 1 below, presented at the end of the sub title. This means males (husbands) tend to perceive themselves as more responsible to look for their household income than females (wives). In contrast, the representation of female in micro entrepreneurs appears to be motivated by the desire to increase their value within their marriage by contributing to the household revenue through their business. This observation is in harmony with that of, Capt J. (2000) who stated that: "The rationale for supporting the development of women-headed micro and small enterprises is to contribute to women's economic and social empowerment." Through the revenue that female contribute in their households, they were now able to discuss with their husbands budgets and expenses thus making them equal partners.

Thirty five percent (35.5%) of the study population in both gender groups were aged between 30 to 39 years representing the highest proportion of people who engaged themselves in to micro enterprises, see Table 1 below, presented at the end of the sub title. These findings concur with those of Borton J. et al. (2002) who stated that: "In France, any person at 25 years old is preoccupied with the activity of his own promotion." Yet, people work for their social economic promotion which ends up sustaining their survival. Majority of people of 30 to 39 years are in their reproductive age and tend to work very hard to get income to feed their family and meet other household expenses. We realized that human beings had an intrinsic motivation to be involved in any activity which will help them to get

their daily food like what micro entrepreneurs were doing in the City of Goma.

Table 1 Distribution of the study population by sex and age

		Age of micro entrepreneurs				Total
Sex		>20 years	20 – 29 years	30 - 39	40 years and >	
Male		12(6,5%)	49(26,6%)	66 (35,9%)	57(31%)	184 (52,3)
Female		9(5,4%)	48(28,6%)	59(35,1%)	52(31%)	168 (47,7)
Total		21(5,9%)	97(27,6%)	125(35,5%)	109(31%)	352(100%)

Respondents’ Marital Status

More than half of the micro entrepreneurs (54.3%) were married. It appears here that married people involved themselves in micro enterprises more than single (34.9%) because all their family needs depended on their revenue, while majority of single persons either support themselves or depended on their parents or people who had adopted them, see Table 2 below, presented at the end of the sub title. According to Tchoukue P.S (1988, p146): “In economic crisis

period, married people men and women were involved in small manual activities expecting to get their income for food, cloth, rest and leisure.” The fact that all the family needs depend on parents, make married people involve themselves in different jobs like micro enterprises to look for means of getting income to feed their family and dependants. The involvement of different persons in micro enterprises is the strategy of people who did not get jobs in formal sector to seek for their survival by creating their own businesses.

Table 2 Distribution of the study population per marital status

		Marital status among micro entrepreneurs in Goma					Total
Sex		Polygamous marriage	Monogamous marriage	single	Separated	Under 15 years	
Male		18(9,8%)	87(47,3%)	69(37,5%)	5(2,7%)	5(2,7%)	184(100%)
Female		9(5,4%)	77(45,8%)	54(32,1%)	25(14,9%)	3(1,8%)	168(100%)
Total		27(7,7%)	164(46,6%)	123(34,9%)	30(8,5%)	8(2,3%)	352(100%)

Respondents’ Movement

Majority of micro entrepreneurs who responded to the quantitative study tool were residents in the city where there was no movement (71.2%), see Table 3 below, presented at the end of the sub title. It appears that the majority of respondents did not displace themselves in the City in the near past or did not lose some wealth due to some bad events like the volcanic mountain eruption, war, insecurity, wealth looting or robbery which usually occur in the City. The residential stability makes majority (71.3%) of micro entrepreneurs remain in prosperous position of familiarity with their customers for a long time and gain proper identification of product that they should offer in their working place. In addition, the rest of micro entrepreneurs who present a total of twenty eights (28.7%) respondents, were composed of people who moved into the city due to

volcanic eruption (15.1%), people who moved in the City because their house was burnt (0.6%), refugees (5.1%), and internally displaced people (8%), see Table

3 below, presented at the end of the sub title. Almost a third of respondents had gone through bad circumstances which may have contributed to the loss of jobs, resources in the village or the City where they were, consequently these had resulted in migrating to the City of Goma for their security and survival. According to Ponson B. (1995, p99): “In South East Asia and in sub-Sahara Africa, the informal entrepreneurs were immigrants from other countries or people from rural area to town.” In most cases, immigrants did not have sufficient resources for survival; as a result, they engage themselves in entrepreneurial activities for survival.

Table 3 Distribution of the study population by migration

Population movement among micro entrepreneurs						
	Residents without any movement	Refugee	Internally displaced people	Moved due to volcano eruption	Moved because his/her house was burnt	Total
Sex Male	142(77,2%)	5(2,7%)	11(6%)	26(14,1%)	0(0%)	184(100%)
Female	109(64,9%)	13(7,7%)	17(10,1%)	27(16,1%)	2(1,2%)	168(100%)
Total	251(71,2%)	18(5,1%)	28(8%)	53(15,1%)	2(0,6%)	352(100%)

Respondents’ Household Size

Almost three quarters (71.3%) of micro entrepreneurs who supported 5 persons and above, see Table 4 below, presented at the end of the sub title. It looks like the fertility rate was higher in Goma City. World Bank (1994) states that: “The total fertility rate in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was estimated at 6.2 in 2000 and the annual rate of population growth being at 3.1.” As the City of Goma is in DR Congo it is

normal to find that almost three quarter of micro entrepreneur’s households were very populated. The family chain puts the household head in a situation of putting in more efforts for survival. In this case, people without jobs engaged themselves in micro entrepreneur activities to look for food and income in order to solve other family needs.

Table 4 Distribution of the study population by household size

Household size among micro entrepreneurs				
	< 5 persons	5-9 persons	10 persons and more	Total
Sex Male	49(26,6%)	84(45,7%)	51(27,7%)	184(100%)
Female	52(31%)	86(51,2%)	30(17,9%)	168(100%)
Total	101(28,7%)	170(48,3%)	81(23%)	352(100%)

Respondents’ Duration in Business

Three quarters (75.9%) of micro entrepreneurs had been in business for 5 years and above, see Table 5 below, presented at the end of the sub title. This finding of three quarter (75.9%) of respondents who resisted to the chronic disaster situation features. It looks like micro entrepreneurs were able to resist to the chronic disaster situation because they had got sufficient time to create different coping strategies and had adapted themselves to any different circumstances which occurred within the City. Experienced micro entrepreneurs with more

than 5 years in micro entrepreneurial domain had been creative by reframing their coping strategies in adapting them to the social, economical and political context. According to Wood S.E et al. (1999) : “Creativity can be thought of as the ability to produce original, appropriate and valuable ideas and/or solutions to problems.” The experience in micro entrepreneurial activities had contributed to strengthening the imaginative capacity of micro entrepreneurs through their life experiences.

Table 5 Distribution of the study population by the duration working as micro entrepreneurs

Duration in working as micro entrepreneur				
	< 5 years	5-10 years	> 10 years	Total
Sex Male	46(25%)	76(41,3%)	62(33,7%)	184(100%)
Female	39(23,2%)	67(39,9%)	62(36,9%)	168(100%)
Total	85(24,1%)	143(40,6%)	124(35,3%)	352(100%)

Demographic Characteristics By Level Of Profit Per Month

Age of micro entrepreneurs by level of profit per month

Seven out of ten (70.1%) of respondents with 20 to 29 years had gained less than 50 US \$ while (64%) of respondents with 30 to 39 years had gained 50 US \$ or more. All (100%) respondents with 40 years and above had gained 50 US \$ or more. Result of the X² statistical test indicated that age of respondents is significantly associated with the level of profit (p: 0.000 < 0.05), see Table 6 below, presented at the end of the sub title. From Borton J. (2002): “In France, at the age equal or superior to 18 years old any person is allowed to work.” The France situation had been verified in micro enterprises whereas in Goma they were micro entrepreneurs aged below to 20 years. It emerges that, as people got old, the more they were able to think deeply and creating a useful coping strategy for rising profit from their business, because (70.1%) of people below 30 years old had gained less than 50 US \$ per month whereas (64%) of people 30 years old and above had gained more than 50 US \$ per month.

The more micro entrepreneurs’ age progressed, the more the family responsibility increased. Fortunately when his or her age progress, the time in the micro enterprises increase also. More the time of the micro entrepreneurs increase in owning and managing a micro enterprise, the more he or she gain more experience in their work. More the micro entrepreneurs has the experience in their work, more there are able to create, testing and using different coping strategies which had fortunately contributed to the increase of the profit from the business. This statement is similar to that Kikoli

(2017, p190) presents in saying that: “The Kikoli’s social-dynamic survival cognitive theory, learning results are obtained through knowledge based on life experience. In this situation, life experience could be lesson that someone can get from his/her owner experience or learning from other colleagues experiences.” It appears that as the entrepreneur’s age progress they acquire day by day the additional ability and know how through different situation in working in business, and such entrepreneurs were able to produce useful coping strategies that had facilitated the growth of their business profit.

We realized that, as the age progress, as also as the micro entrepreneurs had the experiences in life problems and in micro enterprises domain, as he or she able to think better than a young micro entrepreneurs. Considering the family responsibilities, mature, married and someone who support the charge of a family work very much and as the results he or she produce much profit than a young and inexperienced micro entrepreneur. In this perspective Kikoli (2017, p184) says that : “The critical thinking in the Kikoli’s social-dynamics survival cognitive theory to think critically about the solution to his/her problems before it’s implementation in: (1) analysing harm from the problem by examining its distribution and (2) investigating about causes (3) investigating about consequences of that problem. Slowly by analyzing his/her problems, people are learning from problems encountered in life and from their experiences. Life problems make micro entrepreneurs to create different defensive mechanism or coping strategy which could help them to escape the effect of the chronic disaster in their business.”

Table 6 Age of micro entrepreneurs by level of profit per month

		Level of profit per month			p:0.000 Total
		<50 Us \$	50-100 Us \$	> 100 Us \$	
Age of micro entrepreneurs	< 20 years	0(0%)	0(0%)	21(100%)	21(100%)
	20-29 years	68(70,1%)	0(0%)	29(29,9%)	97(100%)
	30-39 years	45(36%)	24(19,2%)	56(44,8%)	125(100%)
	40 years and above	0(0%)	80(73,4%)	29(26,6%)	109 (100%)
Total		113(32,1%)	104(29,5%)	135(38,4%)	352(100%)

Sex of micro entrepreneurs by level of profit per month

Profits were low mostly among women sites. Half (52.7%) of male respondents had gained more than 100 US \$, while half (51.2%) of female had gained less than 50 US \$. Result of the X² test indicated that the

association between sex of respondents and the level of profit is statistically significant (p: 0.000< 0.05), see Table 7 below, presented at the end of the sub title. As the City is regularly in insecure condition and following the fact that females do not work in insecure time, it’s possible that they gain less profit than males in micro

enterprises in insecure period. From Tchoukue P.S. (1988, p146): “In economics crises period, men and women involve in small manual activities in expecting to get their income for food, cloth, rest and leisure.” It had been found that men and women were both represented in micro enterprise even if the proportion of male (52.3%) exceeded 5% the proportion of female (47.7%). Also, it appears that, male had the capacity of gaining much profit than female, because half of male (52.7%) had gained more than 100 US \$ per month, but half of female (51.2%) had less than 50 us \$ per month. But on the other hand, it emerges that, the idea tended to relate to profit to the level of capital because three quarters (71.4%) of female started their business with 500 US dollars or less and they had made less profit (less than 50 us \$ per month), whereas (46.2%) of male started their business with more than 500 US\$ and they had made more profit (more than 100 US \$ per month). In addition, females had the additional responsibility of working as wives and mother. Both responsibilities make females micro entrepreneurs in a position of not invest all their time in the business activities as they should prepare food for all the household members, where her colleague male is continually working in

searching profit to feed the family. Fortunately, wives micro entrepreneurs had the advantages of compensate the revenue loss when she left her shop in the revenue which will be generated by her husband who remained at his work place the moment the wife had left for the household responsibility. In such situation, we may affirm the interdependence of the wife and her husband in working for the household running. In this situation, Kikoli (2017, p189) says that: “a man who want to succeed in his initiatives, should not be isolated even if is working, so he must develop relationship with colleagues in the same business sector through the social capital in thinking together and in looking solution to the problems within their sector. The social-dynamics as that intellectual forces what pool someone to relate with others to think and operate in creating different coping strategies into seeking solution to their problems from the social environment, social life, political or from other domains.” In this circumstance, the husband and her wife had manifested the complementary and the social capital in being present in both situations where each one had represented the household.

Table 7 Sex of micro entrepreneurs by level of profit per month

		Age of micro entrepreneurs				Total
		20 – 29	30 - 39	40 years and >		
Sex	>20 years	years				
Male	12(6,5%)	49(26,6%)	66 (35,9%)	57(31%)	184 (52,3)	
Female	9(5,4%)	48(28,6%)	59(35,1%)	52(31%)	168 (47,7)	
Total	21(5,9%)	97(27,6%)	125(35,5%)	109(31%)	352(100%)	
Level of capital at the initiation						
		1-500 US dollars	501-1000 US dollars	More than 1000 US		
Sex	Male	99(53,8%)	28(15,2%)	57(31%)	184((100%))	
	Female	120(71,4%)	27(16,1%)	21(12,5%)	168(100%)	
Total		219(62,2%)	55(15,6%)	78(22,2%)	352(100%)	
Level of profit per month						
		<50			p:0.000	Total
		Us \$	50-100 Us \$	> 100 Us \$		
Sex of micro Entrepreneur	Male	27(14,7%)	60(32,6%)	97(52,7%)	184(100%)	
	Female	86(51,2%)	44(26,2%)	38(22,6%)	168(100%)	
Total		113(32,1%)	104(29,5%)	135(38,4%)	352(100%)	

Marital status by level of profit per month among micro entrepreneurs in Goma

Eight out of ten (80.2%) married respondents had gained 50 US \$ or more, seven out of ten (70%) of separated had gained more than 100 US \$. Six out of ten (61%) single respondents had gained less than 50 US \$. Result of the X² statistical test indicated that the marital status is significantly associated with the level of profit (p: 0.000 < 0.05), see Table 8 below, presented at the end of the sub title. From Ntonga C.K. (1999, p68): “Many Women in Mwanza/Malawi carry beans and others vegetables to sell at the market while the men cultivate them along the banks of the river.” Following the situation where all the household needs depend on married and separated, they work more than single people and as the result, married and separated had gained much profit than single what had allow to support their family needs. Separated micro entrepreneurs had gained much profit than married and single micro entrepreneur, maybe because there are aware that they should support alone the charge of their dependants so work hard in the aim to get means of the survival for themselves and for their dependants.

From Kikoli (2017, p184) :“ In the Kikoli’s Social-dynamic survival cognitive theory, we believe that, proactive persons look for solutions to their problems early when it will be resolved with less resources. The theory recognizes the importance of the active cognition process in problem solving.” Like in Mwanza/Malawi, from Table 8, married people (54.3%) plus the number of separated (8.5%) were higher than the number singles (34.9%), because married and separated worked a lot looking for income to support the family. As a result of hard work looking for their household income, (80.2%) of married and (100%) of separated had gained more than 100 US \$ per month whereas (61%) of single had gained less than 50 US \$ per month. The study showed that, married and separated people were worried about how they will feed their family, consequently, they worked hard in creating different coping strategies which contributed to rise their income than singles people who were involved in micro enterprise to look for funds for their private use, as a result they had gained less than 50 US \$ per month because they were not enthusiastic to involve many coping strategies, as they had already got their survival money.

At this point separated micro entrepreneurs become proactive thinker in the aim of solving their problems.

Table 8 Marital status by level of profit per month among micro entrepreneurs in Goma

Marital status among micro entrepreneurs in Goma								
		Polygamous marriage	Monogamous marriage	single	separated	Under 15 years	Total	
Sex	Male	18(9,8%)	87(47,3%)	69(37,5%)	5(2,7%)	5(2,7%)	184(100%)	
	Female	9(5,4%)	77(45,8%)	54(32,1%)	25(14,9%)	3(1,8%)	168(100%)	
Total		27(7,7%)	164(46,6%)	123(34,9%)	30(8,5%)	8(2,3%)	352(100%)	
Level of profit per month								
		<50 Us \$			50-100 Us \$		> 100 Us \$	
							p:0.000	
Marital status among micro entrepreneurs in Goma							Total	
	Married poligamy	0(0%)			17(63%)		10(37%)	27(100%)
	Married Monogamous	38(23,2%)			78(47,6%)		48(29,2%)	164(100%)
	Single	75(61%)			0(0%)		48(39%)	123(100%)
	Separated	0(0%)			9(30%)		21(70%)	30(100%)
	Under 15 years	0(0%)			0(0%)		8(100%)	8(100%)
Total		113(32,1%)			104(29,5%)		135(38,4%)	352(100%)

Population movement by level of profit per month among micro entrepreneurs

Almost three quarters (73.6%) of residents without any movement had gained 50 US \$ or more, while (72.2%) of refugees had gained less than 50 US \$. Six out of ten

(60.7%) of internally displaced people had gained less than 50 US \$, whereas (63%) of people who moved in the City due to volcano eruption had gained more than 100 US \$. In addition, (100%) of people who moved into the City as their houses were burnt had gained more

than 100 US \$. Result of the X² test indicated that the association between the movement among respondents and the level of profit is statistically significant (p: 0.000 < 0.05), see Table 9.

Almost three quarts (73.6%) of micro entrepreneurs who were residents without any movement in the City had gained 50 US \$ and above. The micro entrepreneurs who were residents without any movement in the City had gained 50 US \$ and above as because they were stable. The stability in life helps some people to add their performances in different achievement that what we had noticed in micro enterprises by micro entrepreneurs who residents without any movement in Goma City. The stability helps in maintaining people’s activities very active. The stability helped various persons to become creative. In this point of view, Kikoli (2017,p193) says that :“The creativity is in the Kikoli’s social-dynamic survival cognitive theory, an important element on problems solving process, which helps to produce new and appropriate solution to a problem through an active critical thinking.”

Residents without any movement in the City (73.6%), people who had moved in the City due to the volcano eruption (63%), people who move into the City as their houses were burnt (100%) had gained more profit because they were not new in the Goma City regarding local environment and in business domain, even if they got different problems, they were aware and able to create different coping strategies for rising profit. From Myers D.G.(1989, p432): “Social-cognitive theorist focus on how we and our environment interact.” Unfortunately, refugees (72.2%), internally displaced people (60.7%) had gained less profit because they were in a new environment where they were supposed to start to familiarize themselves to be able to create useful and excellent coping strategies. It appears that, after the adaptation to the local setup in Goma City, refugees and internal displaced people were able to create useful and excellent coping strategies that helped to increase profit from their businesses.

Table 9 Population movement by level of profit per month among micro entrepreneurs

		Level of profit per month			p:0.000
		<50 Us \$	50-100 Us \$	> 100 Us \$	Total
Popolation movement among micro entrepreneurs	Resident without any movement	66(26,4%)	101(40,4%)	83(33,2%)	250(100%)
	Refugee	13(72,2%)	0(0%)	5(27,8%)	18(100%)
	Internally displace people	17(60,7%)	0(0%)	11(39,3%)	28(100%)
	Moved due to volcano eruption	17(31,5%)	3(5,6%)	34(63%)	54(100%)
	People who moved in the City as their houses were burnt	0(0%)	0(0%)	2(100%)	2(100%)
Total		113(32,1%)	104(29,5%)	135(38,4%)	352(100%)

Household size by level of profit per month among micro entrepreneurs

Half (51,5%) of the respondents who supported less than 5 persons in their house had gained more than 100 US \$ per month. We realized that the household who had less and 5 occupants had less expenses for the household, then the profit is remarkable higher than households with some occupants that 10. We realized that households with more than ten occupants had much expenses so their profit for the growth of the business remain low. As, the African family remain big with more than seven and ten members even in Goma City up to to day, then the growth of the shop remains uncertain as the big amount of the profit must support

feed the family and finance all others the household expenses. The small amount of the profit is reinvested in the shop which could not compensative the loss which had been consumed by the family. In such circumstance, the micro enterprises remain low all the time or it could fail down. In this context Kikoli (2017, p193) says that: “Micro entrepreneurs in chronic disaster situation must be able to produce different alternative of solutions to their problems, assess the possibility of each option to solve the problem, select the best answer, and then develop an effective way for its implementation. In Kikoli’s social-dynamic survival cognitive theory, the problem solving process follows the following stages: (1) people should understand the presentation of the

problem, (2) the formulation of a problem, (3) then estimate its magnitude, (4) causes, (5) consequences and (6) importance; before the process of its resolution. The process of problem resolution request for the entrepreneur to (7) look for possible solution among different alternative of solutions to that problem, (8) in assessing each alternative of identified solution to that problem.”

Half (51,5%) of the respondents who supported less than 5 persons in their house had gained more than 100 US \$ per month, also 41.8% of respondents who had 5 to 9 persons in their family had gained more than 100 US \$. Result of the X² statistical test indicated that the household size is significantly associated with the level of profit (p: 0.000< 0.05), see Table 10. It emerges that,

micro entrepreneurs who were heads of families were psychologically prepared that their dependent were waiting for the income that they should generate at the end of the day. It had been proved that micro entrepreneurs multiplied their efforts by working and creating coping strategies as much as their responsibility increased and fortunately the profit also went up because people who supported from 5 persons and above had worked and gained more than 100 US \$ per month, which could help to meet their family needs. From the Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (2008, p450): “the effort is the result of an attempt to produce something.” Through micro entrepreneur effort, the household had met the income for solving their needs.

Table 10 Household size by level of profit per month among micro entrepreneurs

		Level of profit per month			p:0.000 Total
		<50 Us \$	50-100 Us \$	> 100 Us \$	
Household size among micro entrepreneurs	< 5 persons	49(48,5%)	0(0%)	52(51,5%)	101(100%)
	5-9 persons	46(27,1%)	53(31,2%)	71(41,7%)	170(100%)
	10 or more persons	18(22,2%)	51(63%)	12(14,8%)	81(100%)
Total		113(32,1%)	104(29,5%)	135(38,4%)	352(100%)

Duration in working as micro entrepreneur by Level of profit per month

We realized that seven out of ten (70.7%) of micro entrepreneurs had gained 50 US \$ and more. Almost a third (31.8%) of micro entrepreneurs who has more than five years in micro enterprises had gained more than 100 US \$ per month. We realized that the experience in the micro enterprises has helped micro entrepreneurs to increase their earning in their activities. In working in the same domain and in the same area makes people to be able to create different coping strategies for sustain the growth of their business then get much profit from it. We recommend each of us to be stable in what you are doing, so you will get the experience of overcoming all difficulties, and then, you may succeed. In this situation Kikoli (2017, pp193-194) says that: “The learning based on life experience from the Kikoli’s social-dynamic survival cognitive theory proceed by (1) a proactive critics of his survival progression, (2) analysis of the situation (life issues as it is), (3) analysis of causes, (4) analysis of consequences, (5) imagination of possible alternative, (6) discovering the most gainful, useful and less costly possible solution obtained by elimination among alternatives, (7) implantation of the chosen solution as a coping strategy, (8) strengthening

the coping strategy in creation of an alarm system of discovering the new problem and (9) solution to new identified problem.”

More than half (58.8%) of respondents who had less than 5 years in micro enterprises had gained more than 100 US \$. A third (39.2%) of respondents who had 5 to 10 years in micro enterprises had gained more than 100 US \$. Half (50%) of respondents who had more than 10 years in micro enterprises had gained 50 to 100 US \$ per month. Result of the X² test indicated that the association between the duration in working as micro entrepreneur and the level of profit is statistically significant (p: 0.000 < 0.05), see Table 11. It emerges that, the longer people had been in the business domain, the more they created useful coping strategies and the more their profit rose. This situation of gaining more profit after being familiar of a domain for some time showed how human beings were innovative in searching for success in their initiative. From Defour G. (1986): “Man constantly strives to make himself better. He persistently pushes against the limitations of his knowledge and power.” In the process of making himself better, human being think twice by creating useful coping strategies for sustaining his living even if his/her family charge is growing.

Table 11 Duration in working as micro entrepreneur by Level of profit per month

		Level of profit per month			p:0.000 Total
		<50 Us \$	50-100 Us \$	> 100 Us \$	
Duration in working as micro entrepreneur	< 5 years	35(41,2%)	0(0%)	50(58,8%)	85(100%)
	5-10 years	45(31,5%)	42(29,4%)	56(39,1%)	143(100%)
	> 10 years	33(26,6%)	62(50%)	29(23,4%)	124(100%)
Total		113(32,1%)	104(29,5%)	135(38,4%)	352(100%)

CONCLUSION

The present article has the main objective to find out the contribution of the demographic characteristics in mobilizing income among micro entrepreneurs in Goma DR Congo. About the proportion between male and female among micro entrepreneurs, the proportion of males (52.3%) was higher than the proportion of females (47.7%). Males' respondents exceeded almost (5%) the proportion of females. About the gender of micro entrepreneurs, thirty five percent (35.5%) of the study population in both gender groups were aged between 30 to 39 years representing the highest proportion of people who engaged themselves in micro enterprises. About the marital status, more than half of the micro entrepreneurs (54.3%) were married. It appears here that married people involved themselves in micro enterprises more than single (34.9%) because all their family needs depended on their revenue, while majority of single persons either support themselves or depended on their parents or people who had adopted them. About the population movement, majority (71.2%) of micro entrepreneurs were residents in the city where no one moved.

In addition, thirteen (15.1%) of respondents were composed of people who moved into the city due to volcanic eruption. About the household size, almost three quarters (71.3%) of micro entrepreneurs who supported 5 persons and above in their households moved to the city due to volcanic eruptions. About the respondents' duration in business, three quarters (75.9%) of micro entrepreneurs had been in business for 5 years and above. About the contribution of different age group of micro entrepreneurs to mobilize profit, seven out of ten (70.1%) of respondents with 20 to 29 years had gained less than 50 US \$ while (64%) of respondents with 30 to 39 years had gained 50 US \$ or more. All (100%) respondents with 40 years and above had gained 50 US \$ or more. About the Sex of micro entrepreneurs by level of profit per month, profits were low mostly among women sites. Half (52.7%) of male respondents had gained more than 100 US \$, while half (51.2%) of female had gained less than 50 US \$. About

the marital status by level of profit per month, eight out of ten (80.2%) married respondents had gained 50 US \$ or more, seven out of ten (70%) of separated had gained more than 100 US \$. Six out of ten (61%) single respondents had gained less than 50 US \$.

About the population movement by level of profit per month, almost three quarters (73.6%) of resident without any movement had gained 50 US \$ or more, while (72.2%) of refugees had gained less than 50 US \$. Six out of ten (60.7%) of internally displaced people had gained less than 50 US \$, whereas (63%) of people who moved in the City due to volcano eruption had gained more than 100 US \$. In addition, (100%) of people who moved into the City as their houses were burnt had gained more than 100 US \$. About the household size by level of profit per month, half (51,5%) of the respondents who supported less than 5 persons in their house had gained more than 100 US \$ per month, also 41.8% of respondents who had 5 to 9 persons in their family had gained more than 100 US \$. About the duration in working as micro entrepreneur by level of profit per month, more than half (58.8%) of respondents who had less than 5 years in micro enterprises. A third (39.2%) of respondents who had 5 to 10 years in micro enterprises had gained more than 100 US \$. Half (50%) of respondents who had more than 10 years in micro enterprises had gained 50 to 100 US \$ per month.

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