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Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences



**The reasons and causes for the mass migration of
Rwandan population abroad**

BACHELOR THESIS

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Declaration

I hereby declare that I have done this thesis entitled the “Reasons and causes for the mass migration of Rwandan population abroad” by myself, all texts in this thesis are original and all the sources have been quoted and acknowledged by means of complete references and according to Citation rules of the FTA.

In Prague, 13/04/2019

.....

Marie Noella Mukamurisa

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Abstract

Migration of Rwandans allows them to acquire and exchange knowledge with the rest of the world, send the remittances and contribute furthermore to the development of the country.

The objectives of the thesis were to analyze the reason behind Rwandans migration abroad and within the country, to examine the contribution of remittances in social and economic sectors in the Republic of Rwanda and to analyse the situation between East African Community countries. All data and information were analyzed and compared by using the secondary data resources from scientific databases. Migration in Rwanda is motivated by following reasons: to seek better living conditions, political instabilities in Rwanda and sub region. The study analyzed the opportunities and advantages the migrants receive abroad and how they influence the remittances sent in the countries of origin. Remittances were recounted to accelerate the growth of individuals and are effective in the schooling, consumption and investment. Rwanda has built and upholds strong institutions within the East African region, encouraged by different regional and international agreement on free movement of goods and people. Our study demonstrates benefit from the free movement of people and goods, which leads to access on global market; investment and increase Gross Domestic Product.

The keywords: Republic of Rwanda, mass migration, development, remittances

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List of Abbreviation used in the Thesis

CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
EAC	East African Community
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECDPM	European Centre for Development Policy Management
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDPRS	Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy
EICV	Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey
EU	European Countries
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ILO	International Labor Office
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MINECOFIN	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
NISR	National Institute of Statistics in Rwanda

OECP	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
RPF	Rwanda Patriotic Front
SACU	Southern African Customs Union
SADC	South African Development Community
UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union
UN	United Nations
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
WB	World Bank

1. Introduction

Rwanda is a landlocked country located in the Great Lakes region in Africa its capital city is Kigali (Arieff & Terrel 2018). Rwanda is known to be a country that passed through different affliction, ethnicity conflicts since 1959 that finally led to a Genocide against Tutsi in 1994 and killed one million of population (NISR 2012). The massacre resulted in several casualties, loss of infrastructure, human capital, resources and left many orphans and a high rate of refugees, however the war was ceased by Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) a dominant party led by the president of Rwanda Paul Kagame (McDoom 2014). Rwanda has made progress in the development such as advancing health care, boosting agriculture productivity, establish security in the country, infrastructure improvement, supporting the investors as well as empowering women's involvement in parliament. According to MINECOFIN (2014) Rwanda has different sectors such as service, industrial and agriculture-which is the main sector that is creating jobs to many citizens and increasing their livelihoods; the main crops that Rwanda exports are tea, coffee and minerals which are traded usually in East African Community (World Bank 2017). EAC is an intergovernmental organizational composed with 6 countries such as Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda and South Sudan with the aim of working together, develop economic growth and facilitate free movement of goods through trade and people with only traveling between the countries on simple ID cards (Marchand et al. 2017). Rwanda built a good education foundation which is the key for poverty alleviation as well as forming the future successful Rwandese by providing them with different scholarships abroad to obtain more knowledge and skills (World Bank 2004). Bridgeland et al. (2009) stated that Rwanda has also acknowledged that its essential resources are the citizens on top of natural resources that are in the country. World Bank (2004) the current situation is that, Rwandans migrate abroad to seek for employment, better living and advanced education, afterwards they send the remittances which are contributing to the development of the country. The number of the community from rural-urban migration in Rwanda is increasing mainly by the youth by means of looking for better social services, better jobs and good infrastructures in cities (Mutandwa et al. 2011).

2. Objectives

2.1. Main Objective

The main objective of the thesis is to assess the reasons and causes for the mass migration of Rwandans abroad and to indicate the contribution of remittances in economic sectors.

2.2. Specific Objectives

The main objective will be accomplished with following specific objectives:

- To analyse the motives and the main roots causes of Rwandans migration to abroad and within the country
- To examine the role of remittances in the society and in economic sectors of Rwanda
- To analyse the situation between East African Community Countries (EAC)

3. Methodology

The objectives of my thesis are attained from analyzing secondary data resources, including articles, institutions sources and scientific journals such as: World Development, International Migration Institute, Comparative Migration Studies, current Africa issues, National Institute Economic Review, Population studies, Ethnic and Migration studies, Information Technology for Development, Social Science and Medicine, Human Resources, International studies Quarterly, Asian and African studies, Modern African studies, Social Sciences, European Journal of population, Immigrant and Refugee studies, Population Economics, Political Geography, African Trade, Economics and Business, Political Geography, Rwanda journal, African development finance and Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies.

Reports, data and graphic representation used in the literature review aimed to make a comparison situation between countries and to see the impact on Rwandan Economy through remittances, the reports and the statistical database used were from the NISR, UNHCR, WB, IMF, ECDPM, UNDESA, EICV, UN, FAO. The publications that were used are Science Direct, Web of Science, Google Scholar and Scopus. The sources used for literature review were in English.

All the sources have been quoted and acknowledged by means of complete references and according to Citation rules of the FTA.

4. Literature Review

4.1 General Information about the Republic of Rwanda

4.1.1 Rwandan history

Rwanda is a small country located in Central Eastern Africa with an area of 26 338 km², it is known as a country of thousand hills and the fastest economy growth in African regions (Nweze 2018). Hintjens (1999) mentioned that from 1899 it was colonized by the Germans followed by the Belgians and it has obtained its independence in 1962. Although Rwanda has stabilized the political situation, invest in tourism and showcasing the new Rwanda after 1994, it has suffered to rebuild with lack of capacitated individuals, since either the majority was already in exile, others died or in prisons for committing atrocities, many Rwandans have migrated one way or another (Nielsen and Spenceley 2010). Mutandwa et al. (2011) reported that in 1918 the beginning of migration started when the unknown number of Rwandese were taken to work in plantation in great lakes region, others to work in the mining field in Congo Zaire and cotton plantations of East Africa. UNHCR (2004) indicated that from 1927-1930, the total number of Rwandans migrated due to hunger was about 100,000; the highest emigration of Rwandans started during 1959-1973 because the citizens escaped the inequality and disparity between Hutu and Tutsi which was orchestrated by the colonial masters, the Belgians. Tutsi fled to the nearest countries, which are Burundi, Congo and Uganda (UNFPA 2005).

4.1.2 Rwandan Demography

Rwanda is a country with 12.13million population and the main religion is Christianity followed by the Islam with other non-indicated denomination (IMF 2018). Kinyarwanda is a mother tongue and English as well as French are official languages. The total proportion of female is 51.7% while the male is 48.3% (NISR 2016). Rwanda has an increase of population growth whereby Kigali known as a densely city, which are driving to the demand of basic human needs; the government is establishing the programs such as the use of

contraceptives as well as family planning to reduce the fertility rate as well as lowering the infant death rate to assist in the development of the human resources (World Population 2018). According to NISR (2018) the unemployment rate dropped by 0.7% in the past 2 years 2017 and 2018.

Image 1. Rwandan map



Source: United Nations, 2015

4.1.3 Rwandan economic situation

Rwandans are divided in 3 different sectors which are: agriculture 75.3%, industry 6.7% and services 18% (MINECOFIN 2014). Rwandan economy growth has increased through the good leadership, resources, as well as International Monetary Fund and World Bank supports; its good leadership empower the women to govern with the highest % of 64 (Nimusima et al. 2018). The country set the objectives and aims to be achieved by vision 2020 in order to alleviate poverty along with middle income country through the

establishment of EDPRS 1 & 2 Strategies which have the following pillars: (i) to boom the economy of the country to 11.5% (ii) to lessen the poverty gap much less than 30% (iii) to advanced infrastructure (iv) to encourage private sectors (v) good governance (vi) proficient human resources (vii) promote export (viii) employment.

4.2 Migration theories

4.2.1 Definition of migration

Migration is a sophisticated circumstance that cannot be diminished by a lonely element but resolved from compound, coincidental and variable causes (Carbone 2017). Migration is among the component of the development (FAO 2017).

Lidák (2014) demonstrates that the international migration is wide phenomenon, complicated with many different aspects. The author examined different migration stages, which are:

- Macro-assumption which describe the basics circumstances that affect the migration stream which sometimes related to the state affairs, economic situation, civilization of a country with the physical surroundings.
- Micro-assumption is based on personal side- that affect the opinion and manner of human beings, households and classes. Those factors can be the supports- individuals can get after migration which prompt people to stay in receiving countries or to go back in their origin countries.

Olson (1990) defined migration as managing the incident to alter the situation. Moreover, NISR (2014) stated that definition of migration is composed by the place of birth, destination place and the movement in the residence country during a timeframe.

The intentions of migrants are to seek jobs, to increase their living standards and to escape the political instabilities in their home countries (Fransen et al.2017). In addition Kohnert (2007) also noted that conflicts outcomes affect migrants to flee from their countries and seek restoration in high industrialization countries.

4.2.2 Determinants of migration (push and pull factors)

Haimannová (2015) push factor is defined as a situation that people are living in but not pleased to be in which persuade them to quit their location. Flahaux and Haas (2016) added that push factors are the reasons and causes that are driving people to move from one place to other locations while the pull factors are the factors that capture the attention of the people and lead them to relocate in that area. According to Connell et al. (2007); UN (2008); Bezuidenhout et al. (2014); Lucas (2005); UK government (2011); Menocal and Stringer (2016); Flahaux and Haas (2016) push and pull factors of migration are:

Push Factors

Poor health service in the country, financial problems, lack of motivation in their work place, calamities and poor working conditions, natural disaster, war, corruption, devastation of land, high population growth that resulted to the unemployment rate, lack of equipment provisions, political instability or bad governance, conflicts or disputes, inequality, discrimination, insecurity, low income level, women and men migrate because they escape from their unsuccessful marriage whereas divorce is not a choice, Retirement age, people migrate to avoid different hazards such as drought, hurricanes, earthquake flood and diseases; they prefer to migrate as well in the countries with better climate conditions.

Pull Factors

The good framework of the political leadership in developed countries such: as values given to citizens, liberty, protection in the country, as well as the assistance received, people also migrate because of possibilities to acquire more skills, degrees and experiences, to earn more money in order to improve their standards of living, education purpose, family reunion, traveling purpose, willingness of achieving destiny out of the country, good health care services, financial motives, look for better life, jobs opportunity in different sectors granted to people, high jobs markets available due to large companies- these are the main reasons of emigrations. When migrants have relatives and friends abroad who can help in the establishment in a new nation it is getting easier to migrate.

4.2.3 Terms of migration

IOM (2011) presented different terms of migration:

Direction of movement

Emigration: the process of moving outside of the origin country with a purpose of residing in a foreign country.

Immigration: is when the non-citizens move into a country with a purpose of residing.

Destination of movement

Internal migration: when inhabitants move from one place to another inside the country.

International migration: when the inhabitants move from their origin country to another country for living there.

Lawfulness of the movement

Legal migration: when people migrate in the country in a lawfully way

Illegal migration: when people relocate in a place in an unofficial way

UN (2018) defined:

The duration of the migration:

Permanent migration: when people relocate from one place to another for over a year or longtime period.

Temporary migration: when people relocate from one place to another over a short-term period or less than a year.

Types of International Migration

Wallerstein (1974) observed that international trade and the combination of capitalism in less developed countries generate the migration internationally facilitated by easy movement and transmission of information.

Labor Mobility/ social economic:

For those who migrate due to the jobs purpose are called the labor migrants, which is defined as: “the circulation from a country with low capital resources to a high capital resources from rural places to urban one”. After moving and acquiring jobs, immigrants send money to their families, which motivate their family members to leave also their countries and increase the social welfare in the destination countries. Those people migrate in other countries because they think that the life conditions are much better than their countries (Castles et al. 2014; Luck et al. 2000). Ellerman (2003) mentioned that people migrate due to the benefits of different opportunities they gain abroad which increase the remittances. Hunt (2017) showed that people leave their countries because of the destitutions and a lack of basic needs; People can migrate abroad by exporting their products as well.

Permanent migration

Ellerman (2003) mentioned that some refugees migrate with low competencies and acquire an education, knowledge and experience in industrial countries where they received more opportunities and decide to stay and earn money and become better off in foreign countries.

Temporary migration

People choose to go abroad to learn the languages, to get more experience in different field and decide to come back in their country of origin, back to their communities with high proficient skills and competencies-which allow them to help their community (Barrett & Goggin 2010; Co et al. 2000; Reinhold & Thom 2013; Wahba 2015b).

Voluntary migration

[Fransen et al. \(2017\)](#) shows that people migrate because of their own will without being forced by any circumstances.

Forced migration

After losing their belongings and fortune due to different wars and crash which push them to migrate people decide to migrate where they will find peace ([Fransen et al. 2017](#)).

4.2.4 Migration negative and positive effects

Positive effects on host countries and their citizens

[Liďák \(2014\)](#) and [World Economic Forum \(2017\)](#) show that skilled migrants contribute to the destination countries with different competencies and experience, immigrants who move to find jobs can pay taxes and contribute to the growth of the countries of destinations. [Baerlocher \(2006\)](#) mentions other essential role of emigrants are when they are filling the gap and carry out the jobs that are neglected by the natives; some of those jobs located in the remote places or rural areas. According to [Embrace \(2006\)](#) showed that the immigrants exchange their culture with the citizens in the destination countries and get to learn their culture; the country with the multicultural environment get to develop very well.

Positive effects on migrants and their origin countries:

According to the [World Bank \(2011\)](#) the migrants acquire more knowledge, obtain good jobs and send the remittances in their home countries which reduce poverty in their families; when countries have more human resources due to different experiences received abroad this boost the development easily. [Klus \(2009\)](#) shows that developed countries agreed to assist many skilled migrants to migrate legally through granting visa so that they can have access on education, employment like their citizens and work in their countries, which can improve the individuals' development. When skilled migrated people move, they

get the opportunities to have good careers with their competencies as [Castles et al. \(2014\)](#) and [De Haas & Miller \(2014\)](#) mentioned that the developed countries attract those people with high proficiency by giving them privilege to receive the permanent residents, which encourage them to stay in the country. The languages were among one of the motivation people have, because if you move to a country where you can speak the same language it gets easier for you to get a job ([Ghosh 2019](#)).

Negative effects in the host countries and their citizens

[Gebresellasie \(1993\)](#) destinations countries benefit from migrants due to cheap labor force. [Anderson and Ruhs \(2010\)](#) stated that high migration rate increases the demographic of destination countries. [Sander and Maimbo \(2003\)](#) added that the countries that receive immigrants worry about employment opportunities when it comes to jobs market because of more job seekers than job providers.

Negative effects on the migrants and their origin countries

[Musterd \(2011\)](#) migration process bring segregation among people which generate hatreds and causes insecurity among the society. [Carbone \(2017\)](#) Illegal movement of the migrants may lead to the death of people who travel through oceans and other illegal harmful ways moreover, Illegal migrants increased at the highest rate and are exposed to many illegal activities on the black market, crimes, smuggling, human trafficking which lessen the development of the destination countries. [Sander and Maimbo \(2003\)](#) the origin countries are more bothered on their human resources who live their countries. According to [Gebresellasie \(1993\)](#) migration disjoint different families and the parents leave their children, it brings pain when it is forced, it makes hard to adapt into society because of different cultures. [Connell et al. \(2007\)](#) mentioned that people who migrate face language challenges and are unable to speaking the native languages of the countries which prevent them to perform on the job markets and renders them uncomfortable. High operational costs due to government that pay fees for students to seek knowledge and advanced skills

out of their home country (Awases et al. 2004) with the expectation of having more human resources and after some students decide not to go back home to work in their country with the fear of not finding the jobs. When they migrate abroad, their origin hospitals get the deficit which causes other employees to work extra hours than before which resulted to unproductive results due to fatigue, it is mainly happen in the public hospitals (Buchan et al. 2004; Volqvartz 2005). When educated people move abroad it decrease the brain drain in the origin countries which led to low performance of the country due to low level of human resources (Docquier and Rapoport 2012).

4.2.5 Definition of remittances

Adams (2009) defines international remittances as money and goods that are transmitted to households by migrant that working outside of their origin countries, on the other hand, Inoue (2017) defines it as an individual and private unrequited income transfers between overseas workers and their families in their home countries.

4.2.6 The role and benefits of remittances

The remittances help the recipients to invest in education, which is the fundamental of development of a country. Remittances are effective in the schooling and in a reduction of poverty among families (Lipset 1959). According to Tyburski (2012) countries that receive higher remittance have less corruption and good democratic system. Remittances contribute positively to the livelihoods of citizens so that they can: (i) receive foreign currency (ii) limit transaction amounts carried inbound and outbound (iii) control the financial crimes. The government use remittances to finance its economy, reduce the withdrawing that helps the government to be more accountable and more responsive to political pressure (World Bank 2006).

4.2.7 Negative and positive impacts of remittances

Negative impacts of remittances

According to all benefits of remittances mentioned above [UNFPA \(2005\)](#) and [De Haas \(2003\)](#) demonstrated some negative side of Remittances to the receivers: they rely too much on their family members who are abroad to send them something, they don't work effectively with much efforts because they surely know that at the end of the month or year, they will receive remittances which will support them in their expenses, they shorten the work involvement in their society because the remittances they received seem enough for them. [Chimhowu et al. \(2005\)](#) said that receivers of remittances don't socialize with others to much due to the lack of participation in the community activities which can reduce the reconciliation in case of conflicts.

Positive impacts of remittances

The brain drains contribute a lot to the country such as technology transfer, more skills and knowledge acquired. The migrants take the advantage of saving the money to send home and acquire the knowledge and skills in case they would return and become the good assets of their home country ([ILO 2004](#)).

[IMF \(2005\)](#) found out that some of the diaspora help their family member to obtain additional income to increase their food consumption, to enlarge their human capital, physical capital and financial investment, the report shows that remittances are highly sent to repay the assets destroyed by rainfall. [ECA \(2010\)](#) people used the remittances to build their own houses of living or running business as well as acquiring their basic needs. [Mbaye and Drabo \(2017\)](#) mention that remittances reduced the poverty of the life of population especially the poor households.

4.3 The main roots cause of Rwandans migration to abroad and within the country

4.3.1 Reasons of Rwandans migration and migration history

Sellstrom and wohlgemuth (1995) demonstrated that during 1959- 1966 years, the Tutsi were the minority and relocated in Rwanda due to the discrimination against them that were in the country, 1 135 000 of Rwandese migrated in the neighboring countries in 1969 due to different cases such as: shortage of food, low rainfall, government issues, low economic status, lack of land and possessions; others migrate with a purpose of looking for jobs. In 1960, the number of migrants that migrated abroad were 3000. Hintjens (1999) declared that before the colonization, all Rwandese were one without any division but since the colonization began, after the WWI the Belgians took over the Germans and colonized Rwanda then, started favoring more Tutsi-began receiving many good opportunities than the Hutu, which didn't please the Hutu although they killed the Tutsi. NISR (2012) added that after the WWII, there was a high rate of emigration in Rwanda due to the conflicts that started in the country when colonizers started dividing Rwandans into 2 groups which brought the hatred between Rwandese and this led to the killing of 1 million in 100 days and led 600 000 people to relocated in the country. UNHCR (2004) added that the people who fled the country after Genocide of 1994 were between 2 million and 2 300 000 afterwards 700 000 of them came back. Abaka and Gashugi (1994) informed that after the Genocide against the Tutsi in 1994, the people who had fled the war, migrated in other countries and it was reported that 2.2million fled the country in that era. Blumenstock (2012) one Million have passed away and left 100 000 orphans, in that period many people migrated from the country at the highest rate. Kraler (2004) after 1970, Rwandese migrated also out of Africa such as France, Belgium, Canada, Switzerland and United States, and live there for longtime, some of them graduated in their universities and the language was the advantage to them as they were colonized by the Belgians where they used French language, the highest rate of migration in Rwanda started after being colonized with the Europeans. However, Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) took over and stopped the Genocide

(McDoom 2014). 1.7million people continued to migrate because of fear and scattered in different parts of the world and some people requested for the refugee's papers (Muhoza and Rutayisire 2006).

4.3.2 Rwandan migration to abroad and within the country

These are the following reasons of Rwandans migration to abroad:

Economic factors

Olson (2015) declared some economic reasons of Rwandese migration to abroad such as: low production of goods and services due to the small land area and few factories, dry seasons which are unsuitable to many agriculturist and prevent them to produce enough food because of low productivity and he mentioned that the increase on prices of goods and services led people to move to countries with good economic situation where life is affordable and better than their own places. World Bank (2017) free trade between East African Community members provide different opportunities among the member countries which allow many people to operate their business. Connell (2007) jobs market availability abroad attract more, because of high salaries than their home countries, so they move to increase the standard of living of their families. UK government (2011) rich families migrate in developed countries, with the expectation of running their own business due to high profitability in the future. Carbone and Vigil (2017) stated that the insufficient of capital resources to expand their growth, financial crisis, unemployment, poverty and hunger led people to migrate to abroad.

Socio- cultural factors

World Bank (2004) Rwandans scholars migrate abroad to study, sometimes they sponsored by their families, government or other forms of scholarship provided by the schools which led to high migrants' rate of graduates for seeking and obtaining more knowledge and skills. Clemens and Pettersson (2008) migration of Rwandan nurses was more than 10% due to

getting different offers to work abroad or attending different workshops in health care centers. [World Bank \(2011\)](#) Rwandan emigration in 2000 were more than 25% rate; in 2004 it was accounted on the rank of 24 to 54 African countries with the highest proficient migrants, speaking the language of destination countries become the advantage to move which help them to compete in the job markets. [Verwimp & Bavel \(2005\)](#) added that Rwandans families were separated during the war in 1994. Winning Visa Lottery or green cards Visa allow the African citizens to move to the United States and head for better life, Rwandans benefit in this program at the good level ([Capps et al. 2012](#)). Migrants with high degrees are many compared with others and the social network is one of the motivations of relocation ([Olson 2015](#)).

Political factors

Genocide was the main reason of Rwandans migration in 1994 period [UNHCR \(2004\)](#). During 1990, people fled from wars, conflicts and political instabilities to neighboring countries ([Orozco 2009](#)).

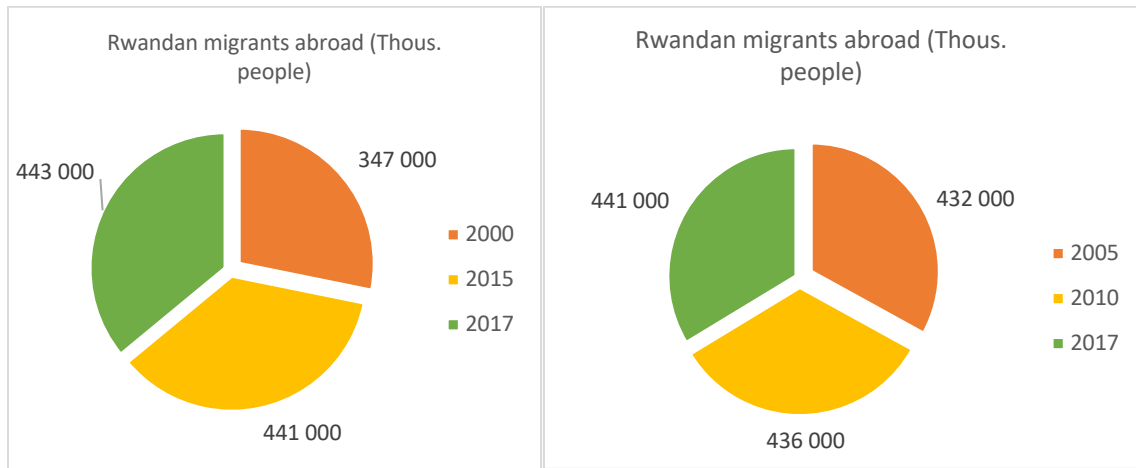
Demographic factors

According to [Olson \(2015\)](#) Rwanda is known as a small country and it has a problem of overpopulation as well as environment pressure which is among the reason of migration, the study shows that women migrate to join their husbands who work abroad hence they have high migration rate compared to men.

Ecological factors.

Rwandans are migrated because of losing their goods due to the deterioration of soil ([NISR 2014](#)). [Menocal and Stringer \(2016\)](#) weather conditions are not suitable for many, there is either too much hotness or too high raining season which destroy the assets of people that is why they prefer to migrate in countries with better climate than their home place, in other countries out of African continent or in the nearest countries.

Figure 1. Rwandans migration abroad



Source: United Nations Report (2015, 2017)

Source: United Nations , 2018

Main destination countries of Rwandans

Samuelhall (2017) enumerated that Rwanda is one the largest country with emigrants in East African Community countries that includes: Kenya, Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda and South Sudan. The total number of emigrants were 315,866, the total number of refugees were 286,322.

According to UNDP (2005) the main destinations countries are:

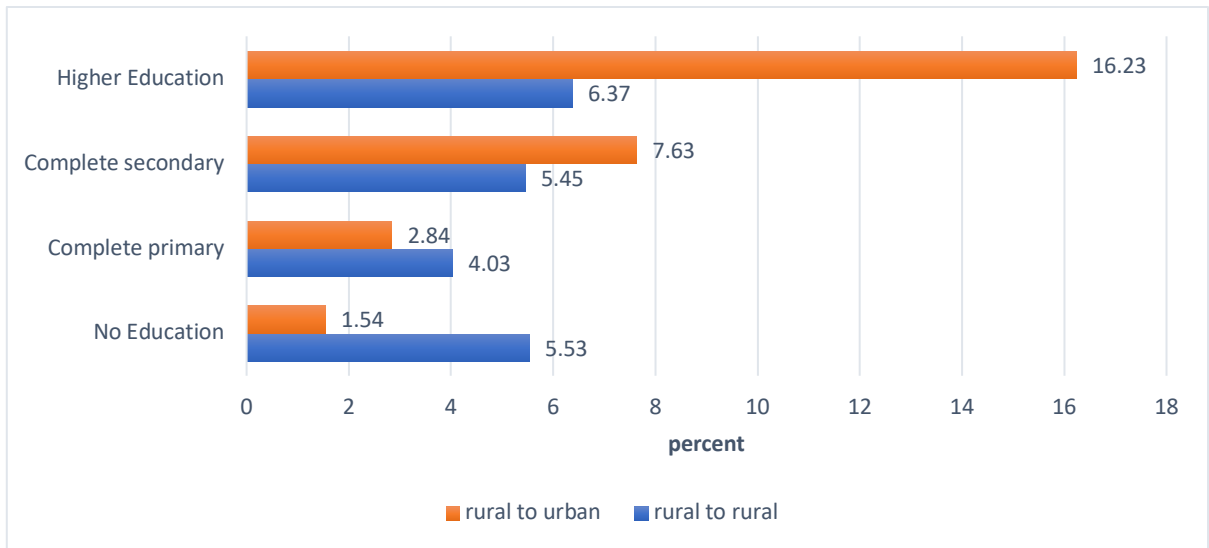
In Africa: (a) Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), (b) Uganda, (c)Burundi, (d)Tanzania

Out of Africa: (a)Belgium, (b) France, (c) Canada, (d)United States, (e)United Kingdom, (f) Germany, (g) Italy, (h)Netherlands.

Migration within Rwanda

The migration from one area to another inside the country called in-migration, Rwandans migrate from rural areas to urban areas whereby the highest number of migrants are youths with 17-22 years of age (Mutandwa et al. 2011). The rate number of urbanizations from 2010-2015 were 6.43% (Carbone 2017).

Figure 2: In-migration based on knowledge level

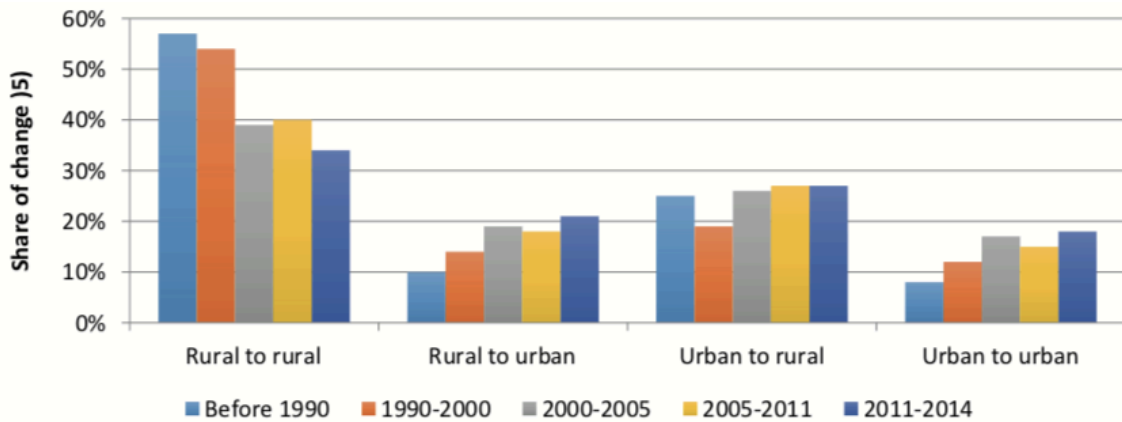


Source: EICV, 2014

It is stated that the poverty in the rural areas are even double than the poverty in cities (World Bank 2017). The intention to move from one place to another is that in the rural areas, there is high unemployment, lack of a good education while in the cities they can have them. Because of poor infrastructure the investors get discouraged to start business in those cities and the industries cannot work in the rural areas due to lack of electricity to store their food, water, or poor roads which can damage their goods and make it difficult to access the market, World Bank (2017) stated different types of in-migration:

i) Rural-rural migration ii) rural-urban migration iii) urban-rural migration iv) urban-urban migration.

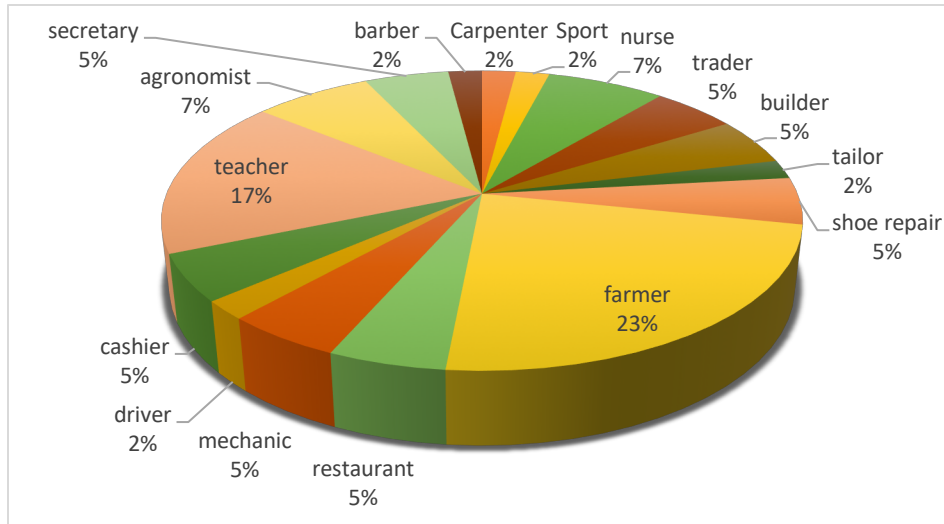
Figure 3: Rwandans migration to rural and urban areas



Source: EICV, 2014

World Bank (2017) demonstrated the rate proportion of Rwandan migrants: i) rural areas to rural is 34% ii) rural to urban is 22% iii) urban to rural is 26% iv) urban to urban is 18%. The main destination is in Kigali city: Gasabo and Kicukiro districts, the main migrants are from Eastern Province: Rwamagana, Nyagatare and Kayonza districts, the least migrants are from Western Province: Rubavu and Rusizi districts. Their intention to move from one place to another is that in their home place they have no access to jobs. According to the Analysis done by Mutandwa et al. (2011) (see Figure 4.) demonstrated the jobs activities done by the youths who migrated from North and West rural areas to urban areas:

Figure 4: Jobs activities in cities carried by the North and West migrants in Rwanda



Source: Mutandwa et al., 2011

Reason of internal migration in Rwanda

Rural to Urban

Schutten (2012) mentioned that the reason of in-migration of Rwandese is to look for good jobs in the towns, good infrastructure to be able to run different business, access to international market, good universities with good education system in Kigali city that can allow them to find the internship easily and obtain the experience in their field of studies, the urban areas have high security due to high number of military which attract the rural habitant due to the insecurity in their home place, access to health institutions and hospitals than the ones in rural area, when one of the married couple work in a city it become obviously that his/her partner will migrate as well. In the city, the services are well provided which are one of the favorite factors people count the most (World Bank 2017; Mutandwa et al. 2011). Good infrastructure in urban areas attract more investors, which lead to high employment level. The workers in agriculture sector gain low amount of salaries because the prices are low in the rural areas and the demand are not high, so they move in the city

where they expect to gain more money, people also attracted in urban areas because of the access of technology.

Urban to Rural

Based on the report of the [Republic of Rwanda \(2015\)](#) lack of land in the city due to high prices led some Rwandans to move in the rural areas where the price is affordable to them. [World Bank \(2017\)](#) shows that the high living cost in Kigali push the population to move in the rural especially the less knowledgeable ones due to lacking jobs. The people with low education degrees are more likely to leave the city as well as those who are getting older. Destitution among people can also lead people to be in a place where they are satisfied, when there is high rainfall and destroy the houses and other properties of the citizens, they get the option to move in the rural regions.

Measure of in-migration in Rwanda

According to [World Bank \(2017\)](#) the government is putting much effort to work on factors that are forcing people to move from rural areas to urban areas, they want to help the citizens who migrate for lacking different opportunities in their home place. [Mutandwa et al. \(2011\)](#) stated that the rate of unemployed Rwandese can be reduced with the rate of in-migration because they cannot all get jobs in the urban areas; these can be accomplished when the government of Rwanda can improve rural infrastructures (schools, electricity, hospitals, roads, water) which can attract many people to live there as well as charging low taxations to the investors who can run their business in rural areas. Other factors are when the agriculture system can switch to the modern with the use technologies to produce more goods within short period of time, the use of family planning system can prevent the high mass of population that can cause the shortage of food. The provision of loans to cultivators at the low profits rate, which can still be the reason why they can continue to work in the farms. The government may assist in the development of rural regions by subsidizing the inputs to farmers, in return farmers earn more. The authority can ensure security in rural areas and assist NGOs that are mainly working in the rural places with many participants

and stakeholders, so that after the project has been terminated, the projects can be still profitable. The distribution of authority must be the focused in rural areas where people might be satisfying with the services they are receiving.

4.3.3 Negative and Positive effects of Rwandans migration

Positive effects of in-migration in Rwanda

The government of Rwanda is facilitating their experts to acquire more knowledge in urban areas so that they can apply what they learn in different parts of the country, which will lead people to perform well the task and raise the economy of the country, in addition to that the in-migrants gain high income and get the access of infrastructure ([The Republic of Rwanda 2005](#)).

Negative effects of in-migration in Rwanda

After the migration of people to urban areas it can be a problem for food provision due to low labor force in rural areas in the agriculture sector. When Rwandese migrate in urban areas and fail to get jobs, it leads to criminal violation, stealing and some of them engaged in the prostitution which was stated as one of reasons that increase the HIV/AIDS ([Ingabire et al. 2012](#)).

Positive effects of Rwandan migration abroad

According to [IOM \(2015\)](#), Rwandan labor migration is mainly to increase their standard of living and benefit their country of origin by paying back to their community and send the remittances to their families; as well as serving and contribute to the development of destination countries during a specific period. [World Bank \(2004\)](#) Rwandan Government is sponsoring their expats to migrate abroad to gain more skills and knowledge so that they can be able to work efficiently and effectively in their work place in their country. The issues of migration push the country to put much efforts on the security in the country which are important to its citizens to be able to stay in the country without moving everywhere for

seeking refugees' papers. [The Republic of Rwanda \(2005\)](#) stated that migration contribute to the social cohesion and gender equality between men and women for example: when women migrate, men take care of the children and when the men migrate, the women take the role of their partners and manage well all the budgets of the families.

Negative effects of Rwandan migration abroad

[Yanagizawa \(2006\)](#) added that overpopulation lower the ability to get jobs which resulted to the insufficient of capital, nevertheless [Gachuruzi \(1996\)](#) added that the increase of Rwandan migrants in Zaire led to the destruction of natural resources such as deforestation and land degradation in the destination countries. Poor provision of public health service led people to shift to private clinics, which are expensive and not affordable to poor people who used to seek medical help in public ones supported by the government ([Gerein et al. 2006](#)).

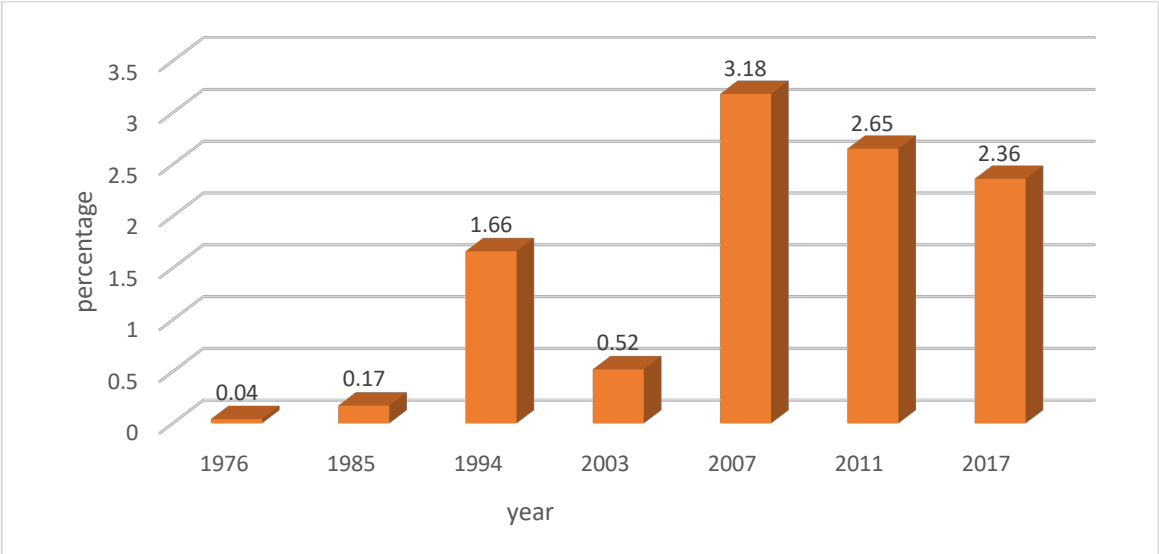
4.4 The Role of remittances in the society and in economic sectors of Rwanda

According to [World Bank \(2011\)](#) Rwandans send remittances to their home country, more often remittances are sent to carry out some of the activities including: (i) building houses, (ii) livestock production (iii) investment in agriculture, (iv) school fees (v) health insurance (vi) business investment (vii) consumption and get the profit in the return and (viii) access to social services ([Rubyutsa 2012](#); [Kuptsch et al. 2004](#)). The public level benefit from remittances through the foreign exchange revenues and balance of payments. Beneficiaries participate and get access to the financial system through financial services (bank, forex bureau, cooperatives). The stakeholders raise deposits, increase credits and for those who run the financial business raise their revenues, and finally promote the development of the country by supporting the financial business to design and market new products ([Orozco 2009](#)).

❖ Economic Sector

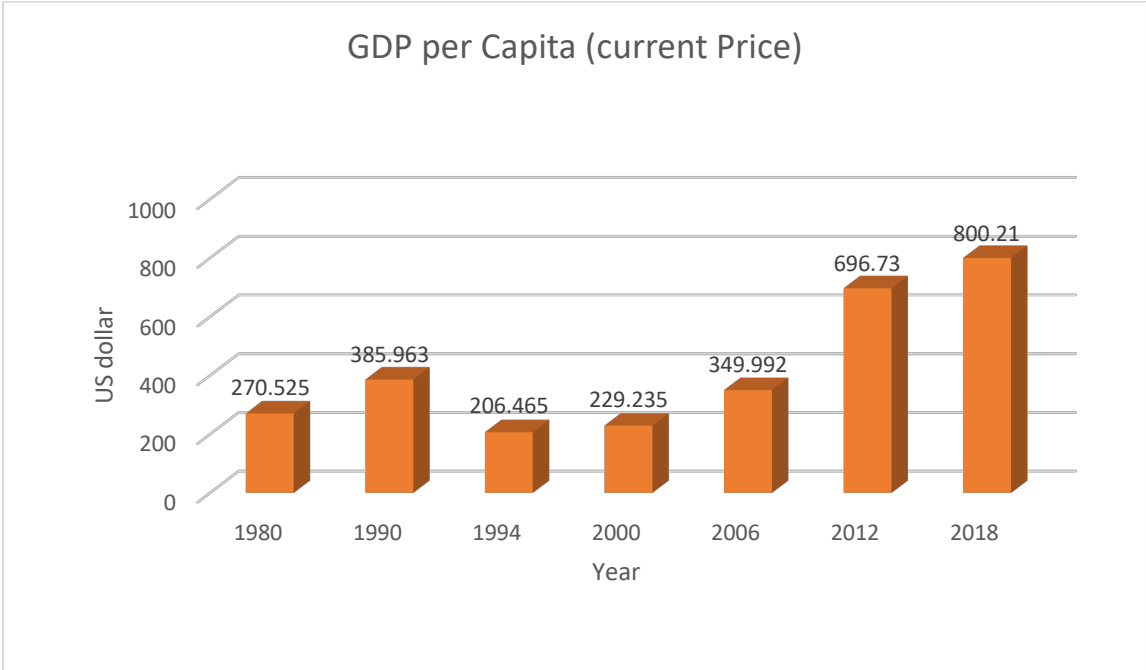
Rubyutsa (2012) stated that the remittances sent by the diaspora improve the living conditions of the recipients and increase the economic growth of Rwanda, between 2006 and 2009 remittances had a high impact level on Rwandan national income which caused by high amount of money in circulation and leads to the high consumptions and productions, thereby 2007 was marked as a year that Rwanda had received a lot of money from diasporas which was 98.5 million USD. Remittance reduced the poverty and the number of poor households and are spent more on the consumption than any other activity. Migration is often considered as a hindrance to the economy, it speculates that it brings low skilled labor, loss of inhabitants, and separation of families but nowadays through globalization, migration has shown potential for the development of the country through remittances. Kuptsch et al. (2004) families and friends benefit from remittances and increase the growth of the country's economy because they spend money in the country so all the transaction, they make such as (consumption, production, education, healthcare, bills) boom the economy of the country. Normally the recipients are parents, friends, relatives, family members. Money sent formally and informally. Remittances are quickly distributed in Rwandan country more than private capital flows. In 2008 western union held 81% of the market. Remittances benefits Rwanda as a country in the sub-Sahara region; According to World Bank (2018), the total remittances received in Rwanda in 2016 were US \$172 518 762.5 per year. The contribution of remittance in Rwandan GDP in 2015 were 1.95%.

Figure 5. Contribution of Remittances in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Rwanda



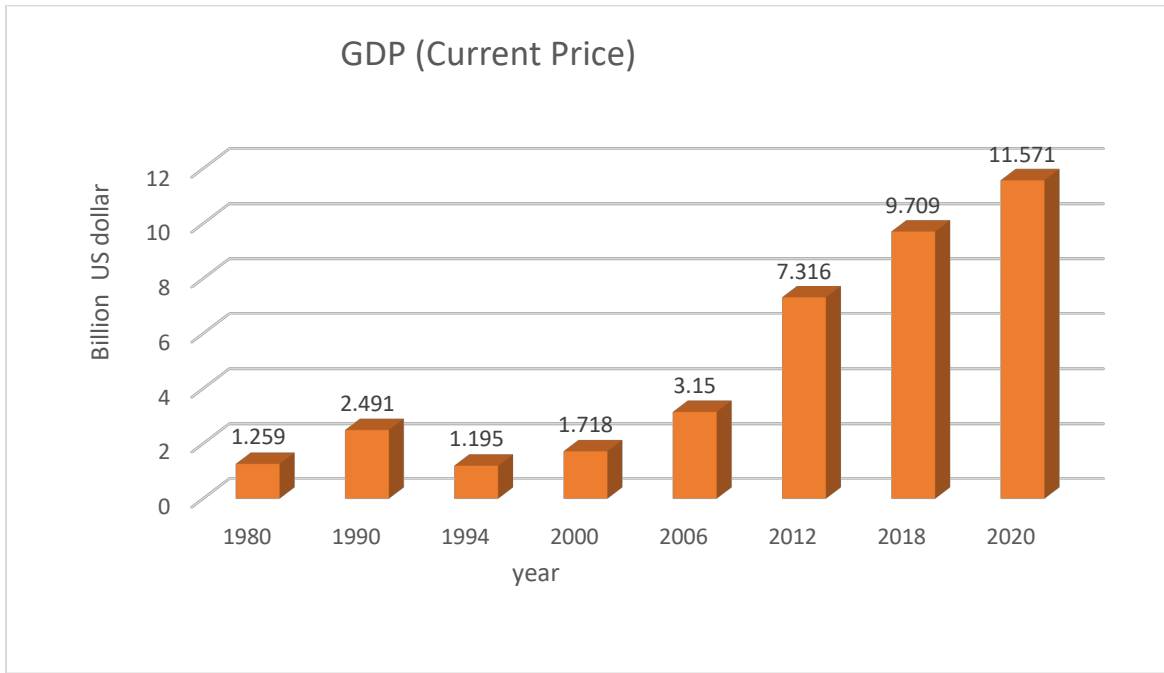
Source: World Bank Data, 2018

Figure 6. Rwandan GDP per capita



Source: International Monetary Fund, 2018

Figure 7. Rwandan current GDP



Source: International Monetary Fund, 2018

Inoue (2017) mentioned that the poverty in developing countries was alleviated mainly due to two main factors: financial development sources and remittances, the remittances cover around two third of the direct foreign investment in the country. Poverty, lack of jobs, poor economic conditions and political instabilities are the main reasons why people move to work and live in other countries, but some members with low-income find difficult to migrate due to high cost of international migration, so they prefer to migrate to high middle-income countries where they can be able to send the money to their home place. Matsas (2008) divided remittances into 3 different parts of transactions: (i) financial transfer to support relatives at home, (ii) money sent for investment to finance the economy of the country and lastly (iii) money sent to support the development of the project that started in the country.

According to Adams (2005), the majority of the population over age 25 completed their secondary education in developing countries through migration and remittances, however

the poor households spend remittances more on the consumption rather than other activities.

[Prakash \(2007\)](#) states that remittances increase not only the consumption, living conditions, income levels but also reduce poverty among families.

❖ Social Sector

According to [Economic Commission for Africa \(2010\)](#) the remittances in Rwanda are mainly used for consumption and invested in education sectors, Health sector and social sector (clothing). The study demonstrated that, the more Rwandans diasporas sent the money back in their family the more they are contributing in the development of their home country. A survey conducted by [Africa Development Bank \(2008\)](#) said that 58 % of Rwandans has family members who live abroad and 25 % of them received the remittances from them and frequently received them 3 times a year, with US\$ 750 000 000 in total. However, [Caarls et al. \(2012\)](#) showed that 73.5 % of Rwandans who have their members out of the country received the remittances from them. [Koster \(2008\)](#) mentioned that 42.7% received the remittances regularly while 57.3 % received them irregularly; some remittances contribute in the wedding ceremonies, birthday parties, funeral cases and other events.

[Sander & Maimbo \(2003\)](#) added more on what remittances do, like supporting the family members which help some relatives to stabilize their income and; the receivers' life changes completely and make a difference. [Clay & Vander Haar \(1993\)](#) mentioned that parents receive extra income from their children who are abroad; the supports are in different forms but the common one is cash. The remittances cover their health insurance which help them to increase their health condition as well as good pension benefits resulted to good retirement income, and that is the reason why the families with children abroad are more privileged than others.

The country spends more money to its citizens to acquire more knowledge abroad, however [Connell & Brown \(2004\)](#) mentioned that even if the country spends a lot of money to its citizen to be specialized in different fields but the remittances sent by them are also high.

The money sent by the Diaspora that are abroad are higher than the annual budget a country received (Raghuram 2009).

Remittances Channels forms

Remittances company (Western Union, Money gram), foreign exchange bureaus, Banks, Families/Friends travelling, courier (DHL, Skynet, FedEx, Express mail service), mail, credit cards, post officers.

4.5. The situation between East African Community Countries (EAC)

EAC is an intergovernmental organizational composed with 6 countries such as Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda and South Sudan, was founded in 2000. This organization was formed to ameliorate the development and economic status of African countries. They are different principles and regulations in this organizational such as: free movement among people which assist the exchange of goods and services through export and import (Marchand et al. 2017).

Kis (2018) after Africa's freedom in ancient time, they were some divisional integration of different organisations that were created with the aim of improving the international trade among them, these integrations are: (EAC) East African Community, (SADC) South African Development Community, (SACU) Southern African Customs Union, (UEMOA) West African Economic and Monetary Union, (COMESA) Common Market for East and Southern Africa, (ECOWAS) Economic Community of West African States.

Table 1: EAC countries exports and imports within the world

Reporter	2004		2010		2014	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
Burundi	9.36	4.87	17.11	1.79	9.08	5.7
Kenya	6.03	2.56	5.57	4.5	Na	Na
Rwanda	10.11	1.27	11.65	1.41	13.35	7.25
Uganda	11.23	2.35	8.39	11.41	7.96	11.23
Tanzania	9.64	5.4	6.35	2.78	5.07	3.26

Source: ECDPM, 2016

Destination countries

Eastern African countries are migrating mainly in United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Sweden, Australia, Netherlands and Germany due to high economic performance and different provisions assistance compared to their home countries (Shahbaz and Aamir 2009; Carbone 2017).

Table 2: Comparison of East African Community Countries

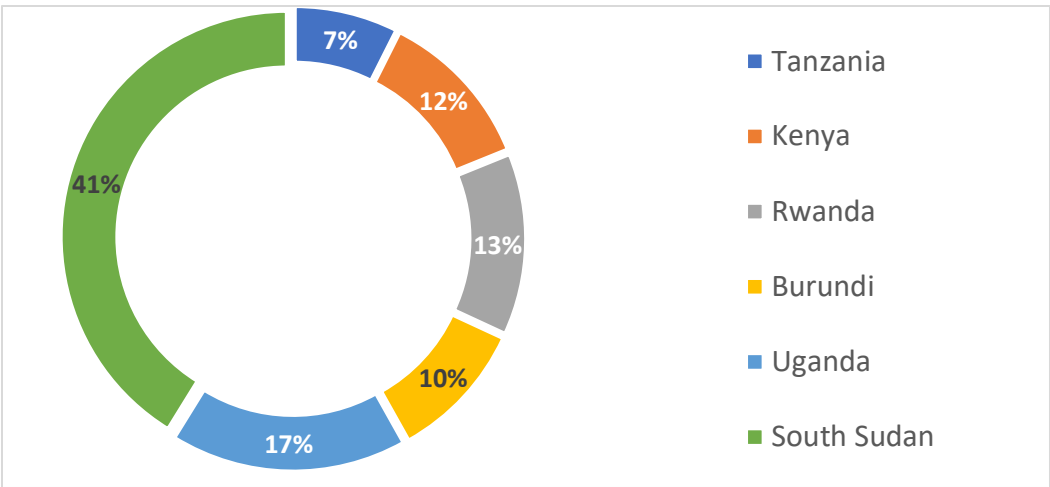
East African Community (EAC)	Number of international migrants (thousand)		Median age of international migrants (years)		Females among international migrants (%)	
	2000	2017	2000	2017	2000	2017
Burundi	126	300	30.2	31	51.4	50.7
Rwanda	347	443	29	29.2	49.4	50.2
Uganda	635	1692	29.2	30.5	50.5	53.1
Tanzania	928	493	31.2	34.3	49.3	50.1
Kenya	699	1079	20	24.6	50.1	50.1
South Sudan	-	845	-	29.4	-	48.9

Source: United Nations, 2017

As it is reflected in [Table 2](#), the number of international migrants in Rwanda during 17years increased by 21.6% while other countries increased by more than 30% excluding Tanzania that reduced the rate.

According to [Lucas \(2013\)](#), all Africans diaspora that are abroad: 45 % of them who were colonized by the French live in France, 53 % of them who were colonized by the Portuguese live in Portugal, 77 % of them who were colonized by the Spaniards live in Spain, 27 % of them who were colonized by the British live in United Kingdom.

Figure 8: Rate of emigration in EAC in 2017

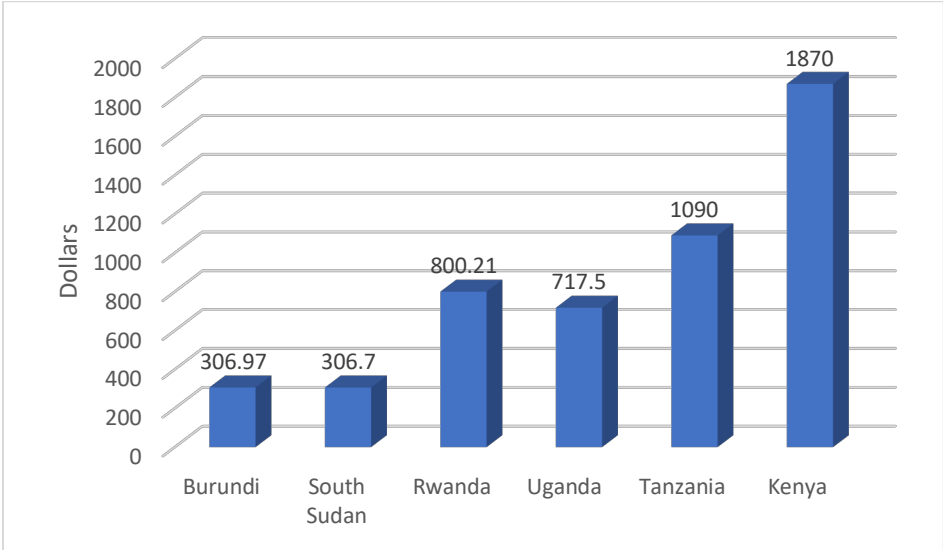


Source: UNDESA, 2017

Based on the Figure 8 in 2017, South Sudan had the highest emigration rate compared to others; the main reasons of migration were caused by conflicts and hunger ([World Vision 2019](#)). Uganda was also counted to have a high rate of emigration in EAC which caused by high unemployment rate ([IOM 2015](#)). The migration in Rwanda in 2017 was pushed by the high rainfall that destroy many habitations ([IOM 2017](#)).

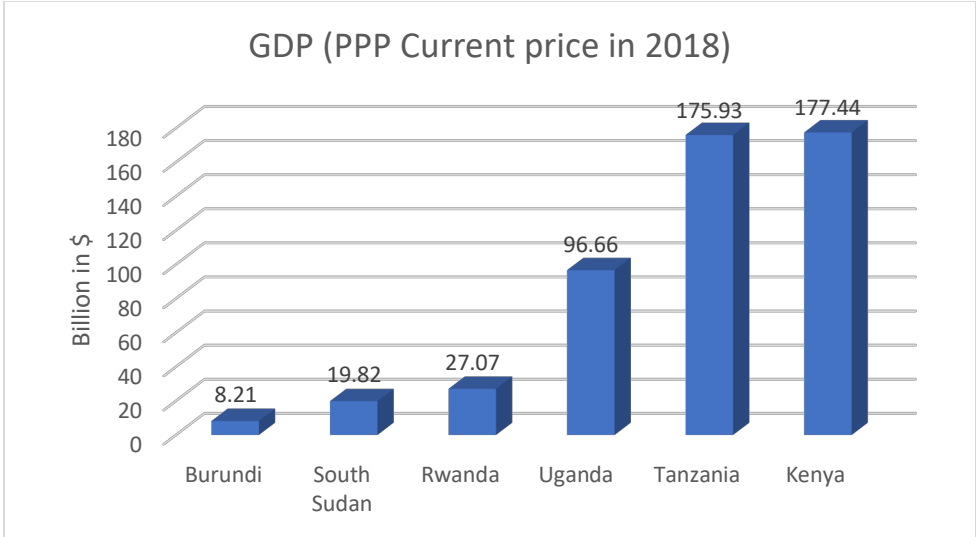
Migration is increasing in Africa, but Eastern Africa has the lowest rate compared to West, North and Southern African countries (De Haas 2010).

Figure 9: GDP per capita in EAC (Current price in 2018)



Source: IMF, 2018

Figure 10: GDP current price in EAC



Source: IMF, 2018

As we can see on 2 both graphs, Kenya and Tanzania had high GDP growth rate compared to Rwandan one, however Rwanda also performed better than Burundi and South Sudan.

4.5.1 Remittances in East African Community

De Haas and Flahaux (2016) added that in Africa, there is a visa free movement within the countries which creates a good dynamic of people and intra-trade between them. Free movements are mostly created by African organizations and institutions to allow free trade of goods and people. Among those organizations East African Community is one of them. Samuelhall (2017) stated two types of remittances among East African Community (EAC) countries which are inflows and outflows. Based on the remittances (inflows) Rwandans received through EAC in:

- 2010 were 103 million USD
- 2013 were 170 million USD
- 2015 were 161 million USD

Impact of remittances on economic sector in EAC

According to Kis (2018) stated that the remittances in EAC are constantly and well balanced compared to other assistance given; that is why the remittances are significant and play an important role to the life of the citizens. The receivers spend the remittances which rise their demand and lead to high access to global market which can be seen as an opportunity or motivational aspects to producers. The remittances are effective in trade either export or import but their effectiveness cannot be seen immediately but after longtime. World Bank (2017) remittances have been increasing mostly in Kenya and Uganda. The remittances inflow of Kenya and Uganda were higher than outflow while it was the opposite in Tanzania. All the remittances received in countries have been contributed to Gross Domestic Product. Giuliano and Ruiz-Arranz (2005) mentioned that remittances are spent essentially on consumption rather than long run projects. However, Kinyajui & Ochieng

(2017) said that the receivers saved the remittances mainly to be able to get the financial loans in the future expenditure.

Table 3: Difference between personal remittance in EAC

Countries	Year	Personal remittances, received (% of GDP)	Personal remittances, received (current US\$)
Burundi	2017	1.06	33,650,000.12
Rwanda	2017	2.36	215,292,000.39
Tanzania	2017	0.77	435,016,000.42
Uganda	2017	4.77	1,239,773,000.04
Kenya	2017	2.48	1,962,255,000.80

Source: World Bank, 2019

5. Conclusions

Rwanda experienced an ethnic conflict in 1994 that caused the highest mortality rate and led to a mass migration of more than 2million population, after the establishment of peace 700 000 population returned back in the country. currently, the push and pull factors of Rwandans migration include: desiring better standard of living with good conditions, looking for good professions, good education system and better medical treatment, on the other side, they migrate to escape from different hazards, natural disasters and crisis. With globalization being the center and access to information, Rwandans are migrating to other African countries, Americas and Europe. The dispersion of immigrations all over the world allow them to send back the remittances.

Remittances are playing a big role in the development of the country, poverty reduction and impacting the family members. Remittances help the recipients to cover the expenditures and to invest in education, business investment, animal breeding and finance some projects. Not only migrants contribute to their home places by sending the remittances that are helping their countries, they also contribute to the knowledge sharing and growth. Whenever they return, they share the knowledge within the communities and ameliorate process of ways of working borrowed especially from developed countries, it can be agriculture techniques, software, transportation efficiency and other infrastructures.

As Rwanda a part of East African Community, which was founded to facilitate the international trade between 6 members countries; the economic ties and trade relations provide a good opportunity for people because they are running their business and strengthen the good relationship between them. The rate of East African countries is lower compared to other parts of the world, they migrate mainly in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Sweden, Australia, Netherlands and Germany.

Migration is essential when the migrants are benefiting and contributing to destination countries by paying all the taxes required and become productive with the aim of assisting the economic booming in the host countries. In conclusion, the countries of origin should

facilitate the diasporas to get jobs after their studies abroad, which can motivate many students to return gladly home and perform well their roles and duties due to many experiences obtained overseas for this reason the migration can decreased at the highest level. The government should put much efforts to increase the infrastructure in rural areas which will attract more investors to start up the business and engage the locals which can prevent in-migration, as well as delivered better services and stability in the countries that will ensure people to stay in their homeplaces. Planned migration is good when it has reasonable justifications and when it will help either the host or destination countries however, illegal migration on the other hand lessens the development of countries which result in illegal activities and for that reason it can become a burden and affect the population whereby the destination and origins countries should have enough measures to stop illegal migration.

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