



(RESEARCH ARTICLE)



Seasonal migration and youth social life in the Eastern Barienou district, Benin

Ghislain Sewanou Dagbeto ^{1,*}, Beatrice Ndiga ² and Zipporah Karimi Muiruri ²

¹ Master's student in sustainable development, Institute for Social Transformation, Tangaza University. Nairobi/Kenya.

² Institute for Social Transformation, Tangaza University. Nairobi/Kenya.

International Journal of Science and Research Archive, 2024, 13(01), 2636–2647

Publication history: Received on 06 September 2024; revised on 13 October 2024; accepted on 16 October 2024

Article DOI: <https://doi.org/10.30574/ijrsra.2024.13.1.1969>

Abstract

This study investigated the relationship that exists between seasonal migration and social life of youth in the Eastern Barienou, Benin. Several young people from the Barienou district in the northern Benin leave their homes each year to work in Nigeria's agricultural sector. Migration is a strategy employed to improve their standard of living. The objective of this study was to investigate the effect of seasonal migration on social life of youth in the Eastern Barienou. This study employed a mixed-method research design that combines a correlation survey and a phenomenological study. The population of the study included 450 people. The sampling frame included not only a list of youth in the Eastern Barienou district but also a list youth's parents and youth's leaders. A total of 196 participants were sampled using stratified sampling techniques. Data were collected using a questionnaire, an interview guide and a focus group discussion guide. A multivariate regression analysis was run to assess the association between seasonal migration and social life. Seasonal migration has a significant negative relationship with youth social life ($\beta = -.39$, $p < .001$). QDA miner lite V3.0.6 was used for qualitative data analysis, SPSS 21 for descriptive analysis, and SPSS AMOS 26 for multivariate regression analysis. The study recommended that the Benin government enhance farming sector in the Eastern Barienou district and collaborate with the Nigerian government to improve working conditions for seasonal migrants.

Keywords: Migration; Seasonal migration; Social life; Youth

1. Introduction

Youth are the most important component of every country's long-term growth. That is why the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has called on all governments to invest in children and youth to make the world a more fair, just, and sustainable place for all [1]. The sustainability of any investment for the benefit of young people is typically measured using youth development indicators. Youth development describes the holistic development of youth through eight (8) indicators that are linked to the three pillars of sustainable development. The eight indicators of youth development are, ethical, civic, professional, behavioral, social, psychological, and health [2]. This section aims to investigate the effects of seasonal migration on youth social life at the global, continental, and local levels, in line with the social sustainable development.

The effects of seasonal migration are multifaceted and vary depending on the type and circumstances of each migratory event. In terms of social effect, left-behind children of migrants who left rural areas to pursue jobs have worse life satisfaction and school accomplishment than non-left-behind children from the same rural area in Hubei province [3]. Migration also has an impact on social relationships inside families. Wanyonyi et al. [4] revealed through a qualitative study that migration in the Western Indian region resulted in family separation or child mistreatment due to the absence of one of their parents. Lu [5] discovered that family migration had stronger psychosocial consequences on migrant girls than on migrant boys due to gender differences in Chinese culture. In addition, the Global Migration Group (GMG) claimed that if the system is adequately organised, migration can become an opportunity not only for young but also for

* Corresponding author: Ghislain Sewanou Dagbeto

their places of origin and destination [6]. Bossavie and Özden [7] found that seasonal migration reduces poverty and improves welfare in the origin nation.

In Africa, migration has both positive and negative social consequences. Nyikahadzoi et al. [8] used a mixed-method research design in Zimbabwe to show that migration has both economic and non-economic consequences. In fact, 50% of participants said that migration had enhanced their household’s well-being. In contrast, the well-being of some households remained unchanged. Migration hurt some migrants’ relationships, preventing male migrants from allowing their wives to leave the household. Migration has a negative impact on the education of young people. However, Haider [9] argued that migration has a positive social effect since it enhances the health and well-being of migrant households. It should be highlighted that the Republic of Benin is not exempt from this social challenge of migration.

Migration has contributed significantly to Benin’s development. For example, remittances from Ghana, Italy, and Germany improved the economic and social life of migrant households [10]. Despite the fact that many youth in the Djougou department participate in seasonal migration, the rates of monetary and non-monetary poverty (social) continue to rise in Donga county and Barienou district. In fact, certain negative social effects have been recorded in Benin. According to Kombieni [11], migration has resulted in the abandonment of patterners and children, as well as possible divorces in the Aplahoue commune. Using a mixed-method research design, Alladatin [12] discovered in Grand Popo County that there is no significant association between a home with a fisher return migrant and a household without a fisher return migrant. According to Alladatin [12], 75% of participants reported losing a relative as a result of illness suffered during their migration journey. In addition, Migration may have a negative impact on some members of the local community by reducing the productivity of some communities and villages as a result of young people’s migration. Young people from Djougou city (North Benin) go to Nigeria to work in farming, where they are sometimes subjected to harsh working conditions. Some of those migrants must deal with social restraints such as exploitation, debt repayment, and the social position of men and women in Northern Benin.

Many young people from the Eastern Barienou district went to Nigeria to work in plantations once, twice, or many times. The effect of seasonal migration on their social life over time is not evident in the area. If the effect of this social issue is not investigated, it may continue to have a detrimental impact not only on the country’s agricultural output and food security but also on the dropout and lack of elites in the Barienou district [13]. Djegbenou [13], and Bonnassieux & Gangneron [14] used qualitative and descriptive studies to explore the issue of seasonal migration in northern Benin. The current study used a mixed-method research design to investigate the effect of seasonal migration on youth social life in the Eastern Barienou district. Then, the objective of the study is to examine the effect of seasonal migration on the social life of youth in the Eastern Barienou district, Benin. To achieve this objective, the following hypothesis was developed: there is no significant relationship between seasonal migration and youth social life in the Eastern Barienou district, Benin.

2. Material and Methods

Seasonal migration, the independent variable, has a variety of characteristics. There are youth who never migrate (zero) and there are some youth who migrate once or many times. Likewise, youth social life investigated how youth perform in terms of health, education, interpersonal relationships and psychological

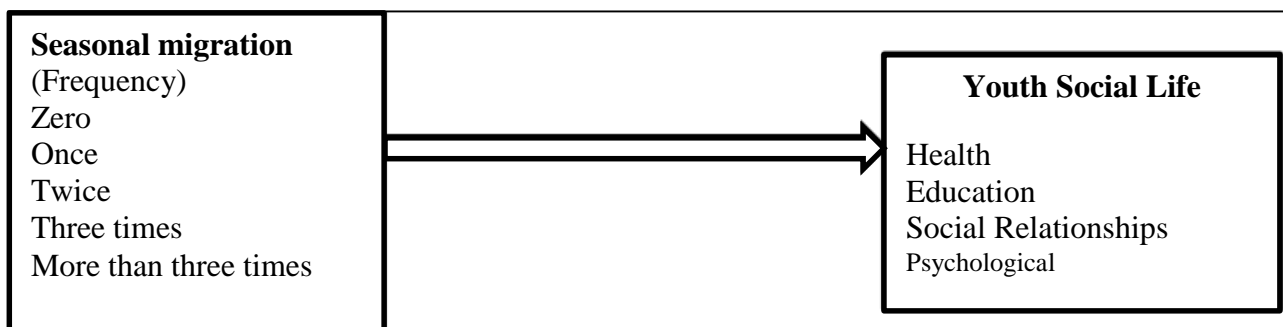


Figure 1 Conceptual framework

2.1. Research design and location of the study

Mixed method research design was used with correlation and phenomenological research as components [15]. The correlation survey was used because the study established the correlation between seasonal migration and youth social life [16]. In addition, the study used phenomenological research to gather the qualitative data. Concerning the location of the study, the researcher chose Barienou district because the issue of seasonal migration is very significant in this area. This area is well located in terms of channels used by many seasonal migrants from North Benin and even those from North Togo (neighboring country). The Eastern Barienou has nine (9) villages but this current study focused on seven of them which are Toko-Toko village, Affon village, Sissi village, Timba village, Tchiloloni village, Akekerou and Gosso village.

2.2. Target population, sample size and sample technique

The target population is estimated at 450 people with 366 youth, 70 youth's parents and 14 leaders of youths. In addition, the participants must meet the inclusion and exclusion criterion of the study before taking part to the study. The sample frame included then 5 lists such as, the list of 279 youth migrants, the list of 87 youth non-migrants, the list of 35 youth's parents of Timba village, the list of 35 youth's parent of Toko-Toko village and the list of 14 leaders of youth. When it comes to the determination of sample size, this current study applied the table of sampling of Krejcie and Morgan [17]. Actually, using this table, the sample size of this study is 196. Then sampling fraction was applied to determine the sample size of youth migrants, youth non-migrants, youth's parents of Timba village, youth's parents of Toko-Toko village and leaders of youth in the Eastern Barienou district.

Youth migrants: $(279/450 \times 196 = 121)$; Youth Non-Migrants: $(87/450 \times 196) = 38$; Youth's Parents of Timba village: $35/450 \times 196 = 15$; Youth 's Parents of Toko-Toko village: $(35/450 \times 196 = 15)$; Leaders of youths: $(14/450 \times 196 = 7)$.

In addition, probability sampling was applied in the selection of research participants. The stratified sampling technique was used for the selection of participants based on the list of youth migrants, the list of youth non-migrants, the list of youth's parents of Timba village, the list of youth's parents of Toko-Toko village and the list of youth's leaders. Moreover, random numbers were generated using Internet in order to draw 196 participants from 450. In each stratum, random numbers were used to select participants using simple random sampling. These are the participants who took part in the study. The four random numbers' tables generated are presented in Table 1

Table 1 Random numbers for participants

121 Random Numbers for migrants							
129	60	201	200	221	279	216	160
80	256	69	132	174	106	134	170
270	195	169	127	223	100	9	105
272	95	67	5	6	27	245	263
128	162	230	146	23	42	35	29
236	96	85	182	37	238	26	108
61	199	103	187	225	123	94	122
68	30	235	275	217	82	205	59
224	159	14	193	244	65	172	257
234	179	41	83	3	86	229	232
222	145	138	261	274	121	87	210
151	192	92	218	215	219	260	124
190	76	186	258	89	135	34	259
63	33	163	155	183	242	178	21
250	136	115	109	53	119	131	1

50							
38 random Numbers for non-migrants							
63	9	34	8	27	83	77	14
17	53	22	13	84	49	85	35
26	4	43	37	24	21	87	76
50	40	18	46	39	69	67	23
5	57	47	2	36	20		
15 Random Numbers for parents							
17	4	22	7	13	1	6	26
20	29	11	18	32	9	35	
7 Random Numbers for youth's leaders							
10	9	14	4	1	5	3	

2.3. Research instrument

Three research instruments were used to collect the data such as, questionnaire, focus group discussion guide and interview guide. The participants filled out the questionnaire, assisted by research assistants. The questionnaire combined various kinds of questions such as open-ended questions and closed-ended questions. Also, the researcher translated the questionnaire into French and local language with the help of the two research assistants. The focus group discussion guide and the interview guide were also translated into French and then into the local language by the principal researcher and the research assistants. The focus group guide for parents and the interview guide were based on some open-ended questions in order to have the broader understanding of youth's leaders and parents about the effect of seasonal migration on youth social life.

2.4. Validity and reliability

In this study construct validity and triangulation were used. In fact, a construct was developed to measure youth social life. In terms of reliability, internal constancy and mainly the Alpha coefficient method (Cronbach Apha) was applied because of the issue of the availability of our participants and the constraints of time and resources. SPSS 21 was ten used to test reliability Cronbach Alpha coefficient method.

2.5. Data analysis

After data collection, condensed data were processed and edited, categories were created, and codes were assigned. In reality, the qualitative data were transcribed and translated from French to English without changing the meaning of the participants' responses, and grammatical errors were corrected to ensure clarity of the discourses. Similarly, quantitative data were coded using numbers, and qualitative data were coded using themes derived from our research objective.

To examine the effects of seasonal migration on youth social life, the study employed a multivariate regression analysis. The current study deals with a independent variable (seasonal migration) and multiple dependent variables (health, education, social relationship and psychology). The multivariate regression is then the appropriate model for this type of study [18].

In addition, descriptive analysis such as percentage, average, and variance were also used to evaluate the opinion of participants about the social effect of seasonal migration. SPSS version 21 and Excel 2019 were used for the descriptive data analysis while SPSS AMOS 26 was used for the multivariate data analysis. QDA miner lite V3.0.6 was used to analyze the qualitative data

3. Results

3.1. Response rate and Cronbach alpha test

The researcher received 157 copies that were well filled out after distributing 159 copies, representing a response rate of 98.74%. The researcher eliminated two returned questionnaires because they were only partially completed. When it comes to Cronbach alpha test, youth Social life scale ($\alpha=0.73$), was reliable. However, an item (conflict with neighbors) was eliminated before obtaining greater reliability.

The reliability results are shown in table 2

Table 2 Cronbach's alpha test

Constructs	No of items	Cronbach's alpha (α)
Social life	7	0.73

3.2. Demographic characteristics of the participants

Participants' demographic characteristics are presented using descriptive statistics, taking into account age, gender, education level, marital and migratory status. Table 3 summarizes the demographic characteristics of the participants.

Table 1 Demographic characteristics of participants

Descriptions	Frequencies	Percent (%)
Ages		
18 to 27 years	91	46.91
28 to 37	73	37.63
38 to 47	6	3.09
48 to 60	24	12.37
Total	194	100.00
Gender		
Male	187	96.39
Female	7	3.61
Total	194	100.00
Education level		
University	3	1.55
Secondary school	51	26.29
Primary school	127	65.46
Out of school	13	6.70
Total	194	100.00
Marital status		
Single	45	23.20
Married	128	65.98
Divorced	17	8.76
Widowed	4	2.06

Total	194	100.00
Migration status		
Migrant	119	75.80
Non-Migrant	38	24.20
Total	157	100.00
Duration of migration		
1 year	4	3.36
2 years	20	16.81
3 years	47	39.50
4 years	30	25.21
More than 4 years	18	15.13
Total	119	100.00

According to table 3, the majority of participants were between the ages of 18 and 27 (n=91; 46.91%), followed by those aged 28 to 37 (n=73; 37.63%). The majority of participants were male (n=187; 96.39%). However, the study had initially proposed include women in the study. In terms of education level, the results suggest that a large number of participants (n=127; 65.46%) have a primary school education, whereas fewer have a university education (n=3; 1.55%).

The majority of the participants (n=128; 65.98%) were married, with a small minority being widowed (n=4; 2.06%) or divorced (n=17; 8.76%). In terms of migration among youth, the majority of the studied population was involved in seasonal migration (n=119; 75.80%). Furthermore, the findings suggest that among the young people involved in seasonal migration, the majority spent three years (n= 47; 39.50%) and four years (n=30; 25.21%) in Nigeria.

3.3. Relationship between seasonal migration and youth social life

This section discusses the impact of seasonal migration on the youth social life. Descriptive statistics were performed using SPSS version 21, whereas inferential statistics were performed with SPSS AMOS 26. The qualitative data were analysed using the QDA miner lite V3.0.6 software. In addition, the results of six items from the youth social life were reported using descriptive, inferential, and content analysis.

3.3.1. Seasonal migration and participants' Marital Status

Table 4 shows the participants' marital status as married, single, or divorced.

Table 4 Migration and participants' Marital Status

	Married		Single		Divorced		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Migrant	85	71.43	19	15.97	15	12.61	119	100
Non Migrant	12	31.58	26	68.42	0	00	38	100

Table 4 reveals that the majority of migrants are married (n=85; 71.43%), whereas the majority of non-migrants are single (n=26; 68.42%). Only 15 migrants (12.61%) reported having a divorced marital status.

3.3.2. Seasonal migration and participants' level of education

Table 5 shows the education levels of migrants and non-migrants.

Table 5 Migration and participants’ level of education

	University		Secondary School		Primary School		Out of Sc		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Migrant	1	0.84	12	10.08	93	78.15	13	10.92	119	100
Non Migrant	1	2.63	32	84.21	5	13.16	0	0.00	38	100
Total	2	1.27	44	28.03	98	62.42	13	8.28	157	100

According to the findings (Table 5), the majority of migrants (n=93; 78.15%) attended primary school, while the majority of non-migrants attended secondary school (n=32; 84.21%). There were also a few cases of out-of-school among the migrants (n=13; 10.92%).

3.3.3. Seasonal migration and participants’ language skills

The participants’ language skills were assessed based on their ability to speak, write, and read any language. Participants with three, two, and one skill are classified as high, moderate, and low skill, respectively. The results are reported in figure 2

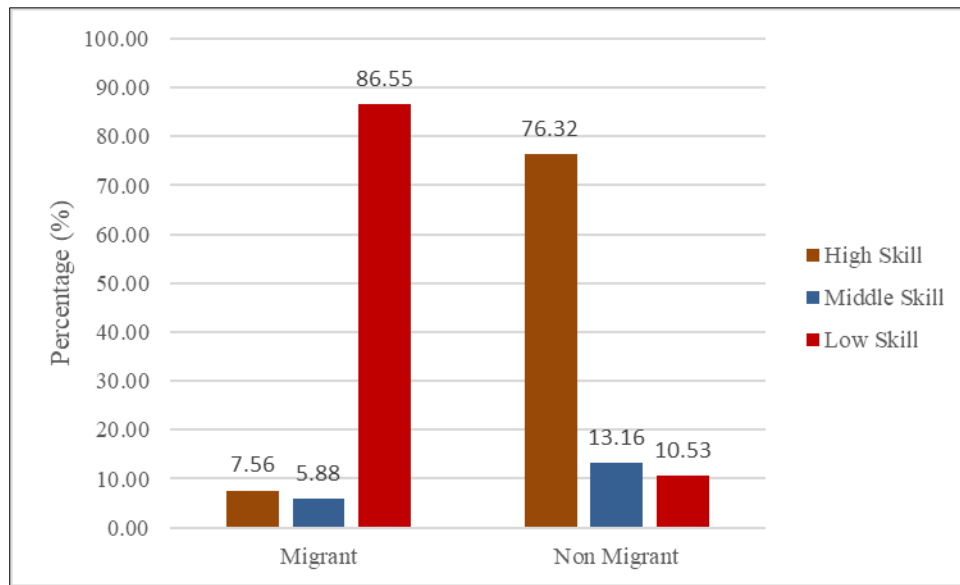


Figure 2 Migration and participants’ language skills

Figure 2 shows that the majority of migrants have poor skills (86.55%), while the majority of non-migrants have high skills (76.32%). Furthermore, there is a greater number of non-migrants with intermediate skill levels than migrants (13.16% against 5.88%).

3.3.4. Seasonal migration and participants’ Marital Status chronic sickness, insomnia and conflict with relative

During data collection, individuals were asked if they had a chronic illness, insomnia, or had a conflict with a relative. The results are reported in table 6

The results in Table 6 revealed that few participants had chronic illness, insomnia, or conflict with a relative during the data collection process. However, there are more participants suffering from chronic illnesses among migrants than non-migrants (n= 33; 27.73 vs. n=7; 18.42). Furthermore, more migrants than non-migrants have conflict with relatives (n= 18; 15.13% vs. n=1; 2.63%). In contrast, non-migrants are more likely than migrants to suffer from insomnia (n=14; 36.84 % versus n=22, 18.49%).

Table 6 Migration and participants’ Chronic sickness, Insomnia and conflict with relative

	Chronic Sickness				Insomnia				Conflict with relative			
	No		Yes		No		Yes		No		Yes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Migrant	86	72.27	33	27.73	97	81.51	22	18.49	101	84.87	18	15.13
Non Migrant	31	81.58	7	18.42	24	63.16	14	36.84	37	97.37	1	2.63
Total	117	74.52	40	25.48	121	77.07	36	22.92	138	87.90	19	12.10

3.3.5. Seasonal migration and type of participants’ chronic sickness

Figure 3 illustrates the numerous chronic illnesses that 40 participants suffered from.

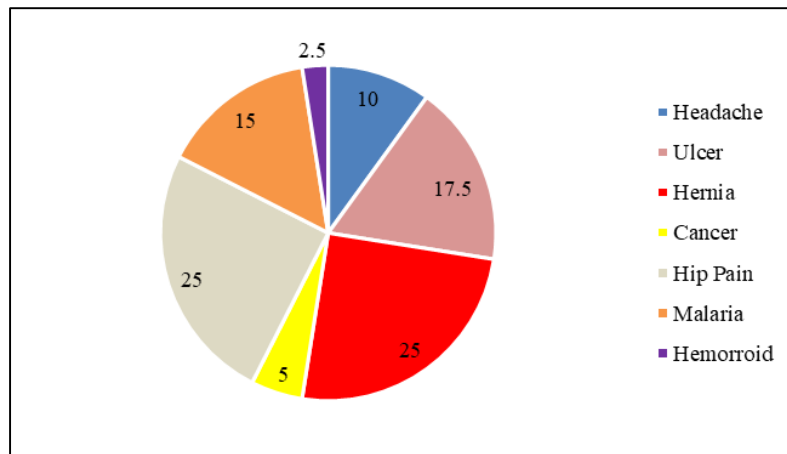


Figure 3 Migration and type participants’ Chronic Sickness

The results (figure 3) revealed seven chronic illnesses cited by participants, including headache, ulcer, hernia, cancer, hip pain, malaria, and hemorrhoid. In addition, Figure 4.2 demonstrated that participants are primarily impacted by Hernia and Hip Pain (25% each), followed by Ulcer (7.5%), Malaria (15%), and Headache (10%).

3.3.6. Association between seasonal migration and youth social life

The association between migration and youth social life was examined using SPSS AMOS 26. Each item in the social component received a score ranging from one to three. Table 7 summarizes the findings of the analysis.

Table 7 Migration and social life

Parameter	Estimate	Lower	Upper	P
Marital Status	-.373	-.438	-.304	.001
Education level	-.551	-.634	-.460	.001
Language Skills	-.536	-.620	-.444	.001
Chronic Illness	-.229	-.318	-.134	.001
Insomnia or stress	.246	.151	.338	.001
Conflict with relative	.019	-.039	.081	.515
Youth social life	-.39	-.458	-.315	.001
Independent variable: Duration of migration.				

Table 7 found a significant negative correlation between migration duration, marital status, education level, language abilities, and chronic illness ($p < .001$). In contrast, there is a substantial positive correlation between migration duration and participants' insomnia or stress levels. Furthermore, there was no significant positive correlation between migration duration and conflict with participants' relatives ($p > .001$). Finally, there was a significant negative correlation between seasonal migration and youth social life ($p < .001$).

3.3.7. Social effect of seasonal migration according to youth's leaders and parents

Four indicators related with youth social life are identified: health, education, social, and psychology. Based on these factors, three themes emerged from the discourse of youth's leaders and youth's parents on the positive and negative effects of seasonal migration. The three themes are: health status, social relationships, and language skills (figure 4).

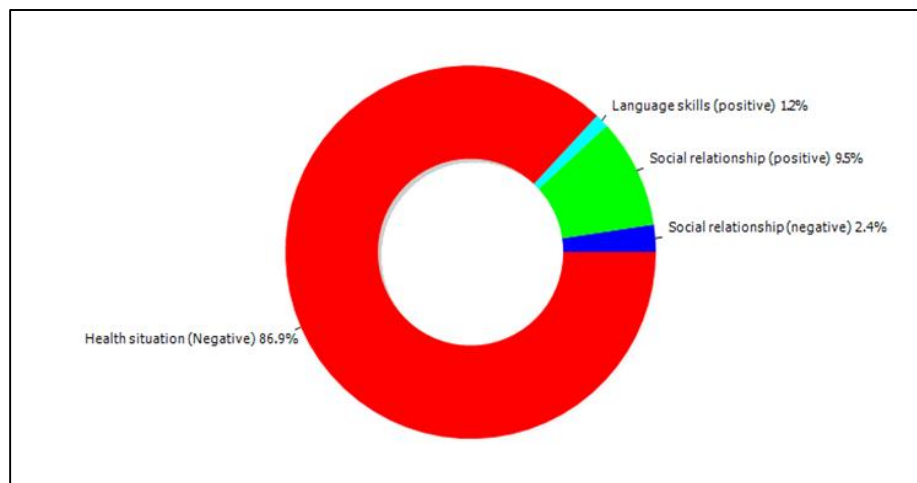


Figure 4 Social effect of seasonal migration

Theme 1: Health situation

There was a greater negative effect of seasonal migration on the health of youth migrants (figure 4). In fact, 86.9% of significant information connected to the social effect of migration was regarding the negative effect of seasonal migration on migrants' health (cases: 100%). This includes information concerning energy loss, working too hard or as slave labour, harsh working conditions, death, and exposure to mosquitos. A youth's leader described the negative effect of seasonal migration on migrant health: " When we go to work in Nigeria, we lose a lot of energy, we get very weak, we can't do anything anymore, we age quickly, and we live as slaves" (35 years old, YL 3). Farming work in Nigeria is so intense that young men are exhausted. Furthermore, the migrant does not have good accommodation with bad quality food, and some get ill, as stated by a youth's parent in Toko-Toko village:

Young men embark on adventures, they don't find food, and occasionally people phone to tell you that your son is unwell; he gets transported from Nigeria to Benin with no financial support. In those circumstances, young men are rarely provided money for food or transportation. Aside from the illness, the youth arrives and, having already aged, is unable to contribute to the family. It is the father who must strive to feed his son (51 years old, YP17).

In the worst situations, some youth lose their lives or are exposed to some sexual risk and this was described by a woman among the youth's parents of Toko-Toko village:

Sometimes our girls complete their apprenticeships but do not have the funds to launch their own shop. They are therefore forced to travel to Nigeria in order to purchase the tools or machines. Unfortunately, some girls return with unwanted pregnancies, while others pass away (56 years old, YP4).

There is subsequently a concern about the quality and availability of food consumed by young migrants in Nigeria, as well as the condition of accommodation. All of these conditions exposed them to illness and a lack of protection from the risks linked with work, such as unexpected pregnancy and loss of life.

Theme 2: Social relationship

The second theme of social effect to be identified after health situation was social relationship (11.9%). The majority of participants (9.5%) reported having a positive social relationship. The positive significant information regarding the social relationship was mostly the effect of seasonal migration on weddings. However, one parent in Timba village discovered that seasonal movement had a negative effect. This poor relationship was caused by the absence of a family member, as stated by a parent in Timba: "The young man travels to Nigeria and leaves his father alone for farm work" (60 years old, YP22). His father stated how the family farm is left in the hands of the parents once the children leave the home to work in Nigeria.

Theme 3: Language skills:

A youth's leader indicated that migration has a good influence on language skills (1.2%). According to him, "Seasonal migration allows us to make a lot of money at the end of the year, purchase motorcycles, and learn the Yoruba language" (33-year-old YL1). The Yoruba language is spoken in Nigeria and Benin. Their 11-month or longer stay in Nigeria helps them master the language.

3.4. Hypothesis testing

The proposed hypothesis was investigated using path analysis in SPSS AMOS 26 with 2000 resamples at 95 CIs. The study revealed an excellent structural model fit: $\chi^2 = 50.699$, $df = 16.25$; $\chi^2/df = 3.12$; CFI = 0.96; IFI=0.97; SRMR = 0.07; RMSEA = 0.03; and P close = 0.08.

In addition, the results of the path analysis revealed that seasonal migration affects negatively the youth social life ($\beta = -0.39$, $p < 0.001$). In other words, as migration duration increases, the youth social life does not improve. As a result, the null hypothesis was rejected, stating that there is no association between seasonal migration and youth social life.

4. Discussion**4.1. Demographic characteristics of the participants**

The socio-demographic characteristics describe the numerous attributes of the study's population [19]. The study considers the following socio-demographic characteristics: gender, age, education level, marital status, migration status, and migration duration. In general, the study's population found that men are more involved in farming than women. Out of 194 persons sampled for the study, 187 (96.39%) were men and the rest were women. The discussion group included a small number of female parents. Females were primarily in charge for cooking and harvesting during farming tasks. Women are also less active in the village's decision-making process, which is why only seven women were selected among the youth's parents for the focus group discussion. Furthermore, nearly half of the participants (46.91%) were aged between 18 and 27 years old. Young people are heavily engaged in farming activities. The highest proportion of participants (65.46%) completed primary school. Youth with a primary school education are more engaged in farming activities. Similarly, married youth are more involved in farming activities (65.98%). Finally, there were more youth migrants (75.80%) in the study population than youth non-migrants (24.20%), with the majority having three years of migration experience (39.50%). Seasonal migration drew the majority of the youth employed in farming in the Eastern Barienu district. The findings are consistent with the issues that women participate in farming activities, since the majority of them are involved in food preparation.

4.2. Relationship between seasonal migration and youth social life

Seasonal migration has a negative effect on youth social life. In reality, among the study's participants, an important number are divorced (12.61%), have only completed basic school (78.15%), have limited academic skills (86.55%), and suffer from chronic illness (27.73%). Seasonal migration is negatively associated with marital status ($\beta = -0.373$, $p < 0.001$), education level ($\beta = -0.551$, $p < 0.001$), education skill ($\beta = -0.536$, $p < 0.001$), and chronic illness ($\beta = -0.229$, $p < 0.001$). The study found a negative correlation between seasonal migration and youth social life ($\beta = -0.39$, $p < 0.001$). The social life of youth decreases as the period of migration increases. These findings are consequently related to the studies undertaken by Wanyonyi et al [15]; Kombieni [11]; Nyikahadzo et al. [8]; and Alladatin [12]. According to Wanyonyi et al. [4] and Kombieni [11], migration has a negative effect on social relationships, resulting in separation or divorce. Similarly, Alladatin [12] discovered in Grand Popo County that 75% of participants lost a relative as a result of illness during their migration journey. In Zimbabwe, Nyikahadzo et al. [8] discovered that 52% and 23% of migrants got primary schooling in 2015 and 2018, respectively. Seasonal migrants' poor level of education prevents them from understanding labour contracts. They must then endure terrible working conditions and difficult agricultural activities. Finally, the findings

align with the qualitative data collected from youth leaders and parents. The discussion with youth's leaders and parents revealed significant negative effects of seasonal migration on youth social life, with 86.69% relevant data related to a poor health status, as indicated by a youth's parent.

Young men embark on adventures, they don't find food, and occasionally people phone to tell you that your son is unwell; he gets transported from Nigeria to Benin with no financial support. In those circumstances, young men are rarely provided money for food or transportation. Aside from the illness, the youth arrives and, having already aged, is unable to contribute to the family. It is the father who must strive to feed his son (51 years old, YP17).

However, these results were not in accordance with the findings of Haider's [9] research, which confirmed that migration has a positive effect on quality of life by improving access to water, food, and education.

5. Conclusion

Based on the study's findings, the following conclusion, recommendations and suggestions for further studies were made:

There is a significant negative association between seasonal migration and youth social life ($\beta = -39, p < .001$). Youth social life reduces as the duration of migration increases. This negative relationship is caused by seasonal migration's negative effect on migrants' health and the poor labour conditions of seasonal migrants. The researcher then rejected the null hypothesis, which stated that there is no significant association between seasonal migration and youth social life in the Eastern Barienou district of Benin.

Concerning the recommendations, the researcher asserts that the poor working conditions and lack of social security to face the risks associated with seasonal migration, which play a significant role in the negative impact of seasonal migration on social life, can be overcome by implementing some policies and collaborating with the Nigerian government to protect the rights of youth migrants. Migrants' health status can be improved by preventing chronic illnesses, and seasonal migrants can save money on medical expenses. In terms of suggestions for further study, a comparative study might be conducted by scholars to determine a cause-effect relationship between seasonal migration and youth social life. Furthermore, the target population may include women who migrate seasonally to Nigeria and work mostly as domestic workers. To gain a fuller knowledge of the effects of seasonal migration, some studies may include the child and wife left behind by seasonal migrants to better understand what they experience when their parent or partner leaves the household to work in Nigeria.

Compliance with ethical standards

Acknowledgement

I express my gratitude to my supervisors, Dr. Beatrice Ndiga and Dr. Zipporah Muiruri, for their availability and wise guidance during the whole process of this research work. Additionally, I would like to use this occasion to express my gratitude to the academic staff and Br. Dr. Jonas Yawovi Dzinekou, the director of the Institute for Social Transformation, for their efforts in providing us with a high-quality education. In addition, many thanks to my Institute (Comboni Missionaries of the Heart of Jesus) as well as my formators for all the support I received to do this study.

Disclosure of conflict of interest

No conflict of interest to be disclosed.

Statement of ethical approval

The current study was conducted following some ethical principles, including autonomy, non-maleficence, confidentiality, anonymity, and the protection of vulnerable groups. The participants were not compelled or constrained to take part in this study. The consent was stated by a consent form, which they signed before data collection to preserve their autonomy. The non-maleficence principle was observed to ensure that the study has no physical or psychological repercussions. In order to ensure confidentiality and anonymity, the participants were not allowed to indicate their name on the questionnaire. Likewise, to meet the requirements of International Labour Law, anyone under the age of 18 was not allowed to participate in this study. Likewise, authorizations were obtained by the researcher not only from Tangaza University but also from the local administration of Barienou district and the municipal officer of Djougou city. These authorisations ensured the participants that the study is only for an academic purpose. Before allowing

individuals to take part in the study, the researcher got their consent. The confidentiality of their answers was also guaranteed by the study.

References

- [1] Unicef. (2020). Unicef and the Sustainable Development Goals [Internet]. Romania. 2020 [cited 2020 June 09]. Available from <https://www.unicef.org/romania/stories/unicef-and-sustainable-development-goals-0>.
- [2] Scales PC, Benson PL, Oesterle S, Hill KG, Hawkins JD, Pashak TJ. The dimensions of successful young adult development: A conceptual and measurement framework. *Applied developmental science*. 2016; 20(3): 150-174.
- [3] Song S, Chen C, Zhang A. Effects of Parental Migration on Life Satisfaction and Academic Achievement of Left-Behind Children in Rural China—A Case Study in Hubei Province. *Children*. 2018; 5(7): 87.
- [4] Wanyonyi I N, Wamukota A, Tuda P, Mwakha VA, Nguti LM.. Migrant fishers of Pemba: Drivers, impacts and mediating factors. *Marine. Policy*.2016;71: 242-255.
- [5] Lu S. Family migration and youth psychosocial development: An ecological perspective. *Children and Youth Services Review*. 2020; 113: 104953.
- [6] Cortina J. Migration and youth: Challenges and opportunities. Retrieved from International Labour Organization. [Internet]. 2014. Available from https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/news-statements/WCMS_329361/lang--en/index.htm
- [7] Bossavie L, Özden C. Impacts of Temporary Migration on Development in Origin Countries. *The World Bank Research Observer*. 2023; 38(2): 249-294.
- [8] Nyikahadzoi K, Dzingirai V, Zamasiya B, Warinda P, Quarshie E. Incomes, remittances and implications for the welfare of migrant-sending households in Zimbabwe. *Migrating Out of Poverty*. 2019.
- [9] Haider H [Internet]. Benefits of migration for developing. helpdesk Report, 2021. Available from file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/Benefits_of_Migration_for_Developing_Cou.pdf
- [10] Wathi [Internet]. The commune is emptying its able arms, which does not allow the bloom and explosion of economic activities, a guarantee of social and economic development. interview with Malick Gomina, mayor of the commune of Djougou in Benin. 2021. Available from <https://beninpolitique.org/la-commune-se-vide-de-ses-bras-valides-ce-qui-ne-permet-pas-lecllosion-et-lexplosion-dactivites-economiques-gages-du-developpement-social-et-economique-entre/>
- [11] Kombieni H A. Tendences, Determinants et Implications Socio-economiqued de la Migration des Populations Humaines dans la Communes d'Aplahoue (Benin). *Akofena*. 2021 ; 2(004): 269-290.
- [12] Alladatin J. Pauvrete, Recherche d'un Mieux-être et Migration au sein des Communautés de Marins Artisans pêcheurs du Sud-ouest du Bénin . *Les cahiers du MECAS*. 2013 ; (5) : 60-76.
- [13] Djegbenou R [Internet]. La migration des jeunes, quel gâchis pour la sécurité alimentaire du Bénin. Romuald Djegbenou 's Blog, 2013. Available from <https://djegbenou.wordpress.com/2013/12/23/la-migration-des-jeunes-quel-gachis-pour-la-securite-alimentaire-du-benin/>
- [14] Bonnassieux A, Gangneron F. Chapter 13. The role of seasonal and pluri-annual migration in reducing vulnerability. In B. Sultan, R. Lalou, A. M. Sanni, & et al, *Rural societies in the face of climatic and environmental changes in West Africa*. 2017 ; 253-268
- [15] Wambugu L [Internet]. Lesson 17- Mixed Method Research: Methodological Approaches, Definition, Sthrengths& Limitations. Research Methods Class, 2021 Available from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4W_DG4eiq1E
- [16] Lewis D [Internet]. 8.1 Multiple Dependent Variables. The world Bank, 2023 [cited September 2023]. Available from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpkJpYNqwOM&t=87s>
- [17] Peter, C. B. Research. In: Zapf Chancery, Eldoret, ed. *A guide to academic writing*. Kenya : p. 76.
- [18] Cassandra Q [Internet]. Multivariate Multiple Regression with Applications to Power lifting Data. University of Minnesota–Duluth, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, 2013. Available from <https://scse.d.umn.edu/sites/scse.d.umn.edu/files/cassiequickfinalpaper.pdf>
- [19] Fakhrul M I, Akter T. Impact of demographic factors on the job satisfaction: A study of private university teachers in Bangladesh. *The SAMS Journal*. 2019; 13 (1): 62-80.