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Assessment of Internally Displaced Persons Access to Housing in some selected towns in Oromia: A Case Study in Adama, Batu, Bishan Gurracha and Shashamanne

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Abstract: The issue of internally displaced persons access to housing, as well as other important related human rights like the right to work, safety, a healthy environment, education, and social security, needs to be addressed by the government. However, several research papers indicate that the government did not pay close attention to the issues of internally displaced persons. This research article assessed and examined access to housing and other important related human rights like right to work, safety and healthy environment, education, and social security post settlement based on international human rights laws that recognize access to housing signed and ratified by Ethiopia, including the grand constitution and other subordinate laws. Descriptive qualitative research design was employed to address the issues of housing and other important related human rights in the study areas. Descriptive qualitative research was used to analyse the gathered data. Both primary and secondary sources of data were used to get comprehensive information. Purposive sampling was employed to select the sources of data and tools of data gathering and analysing. The primary source of data ranges from in-depth interview to focus group discussion. The finding of the study disclosed that internally displaced persons (here after, IDPs) suffered different problems with respect to access to housing, shelter and others related rights. Some of the important problems are forceful eviction by the government body, frequent attacks by non-displaced community with support of local authorities, denial of effective and rapid legal remedies mainly in case of forced evictions. Generally the finding disclosed that the government instead of respecting, protecting and fulfilling rights of IDPs was the main actor in creating problems the IDPs suffered. Based on the findings, there should be strong institutions including non-state actors that work together to enforce international and national human rights laws to address problems of IDPs access to housing and other related human rights. The government should devise adequate policies, sufficient legal and institutional frameworks to protect IDPs. Further, research on protection of IDPs is necessary to have due insight into the issue.

Key Words: Housing and Shelter; Ethiopia; Internally Displaced Persons; and International and Domestic Human Rights Instruments.

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1. Introduction

International human rights law recognizes everyone's right to an adequate standard of living, including access to housing (United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), 2009). Access to housing was recognized as part of the right to an adequate standard of living in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and in the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). Access to housing is relevant to all states, as they have all ratified at least one international treaty referring to access to housing and committed themselves to protecting access to housing through international declarations, plans of action or conference outcome documents. Several constitutions protect access to housing or outline the state's general responsibility to ensure housing and living conditions for all. Following the border conflict between Oromia and Somali region millions were internally displaced from Oromo and Somali nation. Majority of the displaced people were Oromo's. The internally displaced persons are settled in close to 400 locations, either in internally displaced sites, with host communities or in collective centres along the border areas and in major towns or villages across Oromia, Somali, Harar region, Dire Dawa and Finfinne (Addis Ababa) cities (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA, 2018). The focus area of this paper is internally displaced persons settled in major towns like Adama, Batu, Shashamanne, and Bishaan Gurraachaa, across Oromia region. The paper assessed and examined access to housing and other important related human rights like right to work, safety and healthful environment, education, and social security post settlement based on international

human rights laws that recognize access to housing signed and ratified by Ethiopia, including the grand constitution and other subordinate laws.

2. Research Design and Approach

Descriptive qualitative research design employed to address the issues of housing and other important related human rights in the study areas. Both primary and secondary source of data were used to get comprehensive information. Purposive sampling was employed to select the sources of data and tools of data gathering and analyzing. The primary source of data ranges from in-depth interview to focus group discussion. The interview was made totally with forty (40) key informants. That means ten (10) key informants at each selected study areas. The discussion about the issues of the study was made with eight (8) groups. That means two (2) groups at each selected study areas. The interviewees were purposively selected because the size of the population in the study area is large in which it is impossible to contact them all as time and resource matters. The interview has helped the researcher to get a broad and clear answer on questions which are important and relevant to this study. The focus group discussions with internally displaced persons were organized purposively to corroborate the information collected through interview. More qualitative information could be generated through focus group discussions, which was undertaken assembling a small group of internally displaced persons. In addition for corroborative purposes, documents, news, and features from private and government legal websites were used as secondary sources of data. Further to get necessary information from aforementioned sources of data, personal observation which is both participatory and nonparticipatory was used as data gathering tools because the researcher is living in one of the study areas (i.e. Batu/ East Shewa) where the internally displaced persons settled, and this was helpful to get important information which is relevant to this research. The descriptive qualitative research was used to analyse the gathered data.

3. An Overview of International Human Rights and Domestic Laws Governing Internally Displaced Persons Access to Housing and Others Related Human Rights

Human rights are interdependent, indivisible and interrelated. In other words, the violation of access to housing may affect the enjoyment of a wide range of other human rights and vice versa (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998). Access to housing can be a precondition for the enjoyment of several human rights, including the right to work, health, social security, vote, privacy or education (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998). The possibility of earning a living can be seriously impaired when a person has been relocated following a forced eviction to a place removed from employment opportunities (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998). Without proof of residence, homeless persons may not able to vote, enjoy social service or receive health care (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998). Schools may refuse to register slum children because their settlements have no official status. Inaccessible housing can have repercussions on the right to health; for instance, if houses and settlements have limited or no safe drinking water and sanitation, their residents may fall seriously ill (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998). The full enjoyment of other rights contained in other international covenants- such as the right to freedom of expression, the right to freedom of association, the right to freedom of residence and the right to participate in public decision making is indispensable if access to housing is to be realized and maintained by all groups in society (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998). Similarly, the right not to be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with one's privacy, family, home or correspondence constitutes a very important dimension in defining access to housing (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998).

Forced evictions can have implications for the enjoyment of several human rights, including the right to education and the right to personal security (CESCR, General Comment No. 9, 1998). Owing to the interrelationship and interdependency which exist among all human rights, forced evictions frequently violate other human rights (CESCR, General Comment No. 7, 1997). Thus, while manifestly breaching the rights enshrined in the covenant, the practice of forced evictions may also result in violations of civil and political rights, such as the right to life, the right to security of the person, the right to non-interference with privacy, family and home and the right to the peaceful enjoyment of the possessions (CESCR), General Comment No. 4, 1991). Forced evictions often result in children's schooling being interrupted or completely stopped (CESCR, General Comment No. 7, 1997). The trauma experienced following a forced eviction can also impair a child's capacity to attend classes (CESCR, General Comment No. 7, 1997). During forced evictions, people are frequently harassed or beaten and occasionally even subjected to inhumane treatment or killed (CESCR, General Comment No. 7, 1997). Women and girls are particularly vulnerable to violence, including sexual violence, before, during and after an eviction (United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), General Recommendation No. 19 (1992).

At the same time, access to housing can be affected by the extent to which other human rights are guaranteed. Access to housing is most at risk for those denied the right to education, work or social security (CESCR, General Comment No. 7, 1997). Improving housing conditions and protecting against forced evictions are often dependent on claims made by those affected (CESCR, General Comment No. 7, 1997). Where the rights to freedom of expression, assembly or association are not respected, the possibility for individuals and communities access to housing subjected to violence, arbitrary arrest, and arbitrary and prolonged detention (CESCR), General Comment No. 4, 1991).

Access to housing is a human right recognized in international human rights law as part of the right to an adequate standard of living. One of the first references to it is article 25 (1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social service, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstance beyond his control. The international covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, widely considered as the central instrument for the protection of access to housing, refers to the right to everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions (Article 11 (1). The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provides that no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation (Article 17). The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families provides migrant workers and member of their families' access to housing, including social housing schemes, and protection against exploitation in respect of rents (Article 43 (1) (d)). At the regional level, access to housing is recognized in the European convention on the legal status of migrant workers (1977), the African charter on the rights and welfare of the child (1990), the American convention on human rights (1969), and the African charter on human and peoples' rights (1981) do not explicitly refer to access to housing, in the jurisprudence its protection has been derived from the enjoyment of other human rights, such as the right to privacy, the right to property and peaceful enjoyment of possessions, and the right to protection of the family.

Several international guidelines and principles also set out specific provisions related to access to housing. While not legally binding, they provide useful guidance regarding the implementation of access to housing, notably for specific groups such as workers, refugees and internally displaced persons, and indigenous peoples (ILO old persons, Recommendation No. 115). Of particular relevance are the basic principles and guidelines on development-based evictions and displacement developed under the mandate of the special Rapporteur on access to housing. They outline states' obligations to protect against forced evictions, along with specific obligations before, during and after development based evictions.

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (here after FDRE) Constitution that entered into force 21st August 1995 provides that: to the extent the country's resources permit, policies shall aim to provide all Ethiopians access to public health and education, clean water, housing, food and social security (Article 90 (1) of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) Constitution). The other human rights interdependent with the right to access to housing are incorporated in the FDRE Constitution. These human rights are: Every Ethiopian has the right to choose his or her means of livelihood, occupation and profession (Article 41 (2) of FDRE Constitution); Every Ethiopian has the right to engage freely in economic activity and to pursue a livelihood of his/her choice anywhere within the national territory (Article 41 (1) of FDRE Constitution); All persons have the right to a clean and health environment (Article 44 (1) of FDRE Constitution); The peoples of Ethiopia as a whole, and each nation, nationality and people in Ethiopia in particular have the right to improved living standards and to sustainable development (Article 43(1) of FDRE Constitution); Everyone has the right to privacy- this right shall include the right not to be subjected to searches of his home, person or property, or the seizure of any property under his personal possession (Article 26 (1) of FDRE Constitution). Where the right to freedom of expression which include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, through any media of his choice (Article 29 (2) of FDRE Constitution) not respected, the possibility for individuals and communities to advocate better living condition is significantly reduced. In addition, where everyone right to

assemble and to demonstrate together with others peaceably and unarmed, to petition (Article 30 (1) of FDRE Constitution), and to from association for any cause or purpose (Article 31 of FDRE Constitution) are not respected it affects individuals and communities better living conditions.

States have the primary obligation to protect and promote human rights. Under the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights, states have the obligation to achieve progressively the full realization of access to housing (Article 2 (1) of International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), 1976). In other words, the covenant acknowledges that states have resources constraints and that it may take time to ensure access to housing to everyone. Some components of the right to access to housing are, therefore, deemed subject to progressive realization. However, obligations such as non-discrimination are not subject to progressive realization (Article 2 (2) of ICESCR, 1976). While not all aspects of access to housing can or may be realized immediately, states must, at a minimum show that they are making every possible effort, within available resources, to better protect and promote this right. Available resources refer to those existing within states as well as those available from the international community through international cooperation and assistance (Article 2 (1), 11 & 23 of ICESCR, 1976).

There is also an immediate obligation to take steps, which should be concrete, deliberate and targeted, to fulfill the right to access to housing. Each state should guarantee at least minimum essential levels of this right (United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), 2009). For instance, it should ensure that significant

numbers are not deprived of basic shelter and housing (OHCHR, 2009). If a state cannot do so, it must demonstrate that it has made every effort to use all available resources to satisfy, as a matter of priority, these minimum essential levels (OHCHR, 2009). The committee on economic, social and cultural rights has also stated that certain measures must be taken immediately, for instance those aimed at conferring legal security of tenure to those lacking such protection; effectively monitoring the housing situation, notably to ascertain the full extent of homelessness and inaccessibility housing; protection against forced evictions; and the provision of effective legal or other appropriate remedies for violations of the right to access to housing (OHCHR, 2009). The role of international assistance and cooperation is reflected in the covenant of economic, social and cultural rights (Article 2 (1) of ICESCR, 1976). It is not a substitute for domestic obligations, but it becomes relevant if a state is unable to give effect to economic, social and cultural rights on its own, and requires assistance from other states to do so (OHCHR, 2009). International cooperation is particularly incumbent up on those states that are in a position to assist others in this regard (OHCHR, 2009).

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 Internally Displaced Persons Access to Housing and Shelter

The focus area of this paper is internally displaced persons settled in major towns like Adama, Batu, Shashamanne, and Bishaan Gurraachaa, across Oromia region. Some 5000 internally displaced persons located in these study areas (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) & Ethiopia National Disaster Risk

Management Commission (NDRMC), 2018). The internally displaced persons (IDPs) settled in the study areas (i.e., Adama, Batu, Shashamanne, and Bishaan Gurraachaa) provided with emergency shelter- through the use of collective centers. The concentration of large numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in collective centers can be initially useful during the distribution humanitarian aid (Brookings Institution, 2008). When internally displaced persons (IDPs) concentrated in collective centers they can be more easily accessed (Brookings Institution, 2008). The location of IDPs in the study area failed to consider their housing traditions and needs, including average family size, population density in the area of origin, activity undertaken at home, and typical construction materials and techniques. The discussion made with focus groups² disclosed that IDPs were not participated in designing and implementation programs that provide shelter and housing. The IDPs provided with emergency shelter at Adama and Batu collective center were attacked at different times by civilians of the above mentioned city and town respectively.³ They were evicted forceful by the competent authorities without creating conditions for resettlement or return to their home.⁴ That means the

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¹ An interview made with Rahim Abdella, Najib Hassen, and Mohammed Kedir, *et al.*, internally displaced at Batu & Adama collective centers, November 15-17, 2020.

² The eight focus groups organized in the selected study areas to address the issue of adequate housing and other important related human rights.

³ An interview made with Suleman Mohammed and Abdurazak Shemsedin, *et al.*, internally displaced at Batu and Adama collective centers, and an interview made with one of the local authorities from Batu town whose name wants to remain anonymous, November 16-18, 2020.

⁴ An interview made with Kedija Ali, Zeneba Mohammed, and Beriso Ali, *et al.*, internally displaced at Batu and Adama collective centers, and

competent authorities failed their responsibility to take steps to improve IDPs access to housing in ways that are sensitive to the needs of the broader non-displaced community in the area. The competent authorities ignored their duties of providing IDPs with incremental tenure, or legal rights to the housing they are allocated that serve to protect them from forced evictions at all times and that become stronger with length of residence, affording IDPs in protracted displacement situations with the possibility to seek full ownership. IDPs denied their rights to access information and effective and rapid legal remedies in situations when their inaccessible housing conditions exposed them to civilians attack and forced evictions.

The discussion made with focus groups and personal observation disclosed that the location and design of emergency shelter are not suitable to ensure safety and health of IDPs. For instance, the emergency shelter for IDPs at Bishaan Gurraachaa is very far from local towns with relevant administrative and law enforcement functions, employment markets, educational and vocational training institutions, and health care facilities. The IDPs in the study area were not consulted in the design, layout, construction, and administration of emergency shelter.

4.2 Internally Displaced Persons' Right to Health, Employment, Education, and Social Security

Every person has the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health without discrimination (Article 12 of ICESCR, Article 5 (e) (iv) of CERD, Article 11 (1) (f) of CEDAW, and Article 24 of CRC). The right to health encompasses not only access to timely and

an interview made with local authorities Dereje Hailu and Tola Bayissa from Adama city, December 14-16, 2020.

appropriate health care but also the "underlying determinants of health" (CESCR, General Comment 14, Paragraph 4, 200), such as access to an adequate supply of safe and nutritious food, safe and potable water and adequate sanitation, and housing, as well as other human rights standards including healthy occupational conditions and access to health-related education and information (Article 25 (1) of UDHR, Article 11 (1) of ICESCR, CESCR, General Comment 14, Paragraph 11, 2000). Priority in humanitarian provision of health facilities, goods, and services should be given to those most vulnerable to their deprivation, including IDPs, in general, and particularly subgroups with special needs such as children, pregnant or lactating women, person with HIV/AIDS, and the elderly (CESCR, General Comment 14, Paragraph 40, 2000). In the study areas where IDPs settled, there was an increased utilization of medicines and medical supplies, which indicates that a local arrangement to facilitate access to service may have been found. But it was not sustainable. Medicine shortages and disruption of essential routine services were widespread in the study area, due to high service utilization rates in IDP areas and the need to establish temporary clinics. The discussion made with the focus groups disclosed those health facilities, goods, services, clinics, and other health-related facilities were not culturally, scientifically, and medically appropriate. These health facilities, goods, services, clinics, and other health-related facilities were not accessible equally, especially to children's, pregnant women's, elders and other vulnerable groups.5 In the course of

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⁵ An interview made with Rahima Hassen (Pregnant), Momina Mohammed (Pregnant) and Ziyad Ali (elder) internally displaced at Shashamanne, Bishaan Gurraachaa, Adama collective centers respectively, and an interview made with health professionals

protracted displacement situations, IDPs were charged for the use of health facilities, goods, services, clinics, and other health-related facilities. But the costs for the use of health facilities, goods, services, clinics, and other health-related facilities were disproportional vis-à-vis others who are better off.⁶ There is lack of functioning health information system that allows for the rapid identification of problems and emerging threats, contributing to continuous improvement of health service. Lack of adequate IDPs health policies that encourage the establishment of complaints procedures helps to address individuals' concerns about eligibility criteria or the adequacy of services.

In almost all cases, displacement leads to the loss of jobs and livelihoods for peoples from all social classes- whether subsistence farmers or skilled professionals and tends to separate them from the assets, resources and social networks they need to provide for themselves and their families(Brookings Institution, 2008). IDPs faced discriminatory barriers to employment opportunity in host communities. In addition, IDPs faced similar barriers in accessing

Tullu Bekan and Oliyad Badane serving those IDPs at Shashamanne and Adama town and city respectively, December 18-20, 2020.

existing social security benefits or joining social security programs; for those dependent on unemployment allowances, and child benefits,8 their lack of access to such benefits in many cases has left these extremely vulnerable categories destitute. The discussions made with focus groups corroborates in all study area the IDPs subjected to unsustainable, unpredictable assistance, unprotected work in the informal economy, as well as forced labour, forced prostitution, and underage recruitment. For instance, displaced children were vulnerable to exploitative forms of labour and recruitment, placed their physical and mental development in jeopardy and interfered with their right to education. In addition, women IDPs subjected to economic dependency and exploitation, because of traditional child-raising, domestic roles, and less access to education.

Every human being has the right to (in principle) free and compulsory education at primary level, (Article 26 (1) of UDHR, Article 13 (2) (a) of ICESCR, Article 28 (1) (a) of CRC, and Article 4 (a) of convention against discrimination in education) as well as to access to secondary education, including general and vocational education that is free or subject to financial assistance in case of need (Article 28 of CRC). Educational services and facilities within safe physical reach (CESCR, General Comment No. 13, Paragraph 6, 1999). States must ensure access to education to all, without discrimination of any kind (Article 2 (a) of convention against discrimination in education). In cases in which particular groups, such as women and girls or ethnic minorities, have suffered as a result of

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⁶ An interview made with Halima Jawar, Aman Ali, Kufa Adem, and Khalid Mohammed, *et al.*, internally displaced at Adama, Batu, Shashamanne and Bishaan Gurraachaa respectively; an interview made with health professionals from Adama, Batu, Bishaan Gurraachaa and Shashamanne health centers which their name wants to remain anonymous; and the discussion made with all focus groups in four study areas also corroborates the above mentioned information, December 18-21, 2020.

⁷ An interview made with Usman Mohammed, Busho Adem, Arabu Kelil, et al., internally displaced at Adama, Batu and Bishaan Gurraachaa respectively; and the discussion made with all focus groups in the four study areas also corroborates the above mentioned information, December 20-21, 2020.

⁸ An interview made with Sharif Mohammed (dependent on unemployment allowance), Kedija Chiri (her children's dependent on child benefit), et al., internally displaced at Batu and Bishaan Gurraachaa, December 22-24, 2020.

unequal access to education, temporary special measures to bring about de facto equality in access to education for such groups cannot be considered discrimination, so long as they do not lead to the maintenance of unequal or separate standard for different groups (UNCESCR, General Comment 13, Paragraph 32, 1999 & CRC General Comment No. 5, Paragraph 12, 2003). The right to education continues to apply in emergencies and armed conflicts. Because of the particular challenges faced by IDPs in accessing education, special measures should be taken to ensure that all IDPs and particularly displaced women and girls are able to exercise their right to education.

As a result of displacement, IDPs lose access to educational facilities and services. Schools and training facilities in places of origin are no longer safely accessible and may be destroyed, while teachers and administrators are often dispersed. There is access to local schools system for IDPs in the study area.¹⁰ The discussion made with focus groups

disclosed that IDPs suffered from discrimination because they do not belong to the local non-displaced community. Lack of personal documentation, lack of identification or records attesting to prior enrolment or the level of studies that displaced children have completed prevented them from registering locally for education. 11 Local residence requirements and other bureaucratic requirements prevented enrolment of IDPs in local educational facilities. 12 The discussion made with focus groups disclosed that displaced children's suffering from psychological trauma and interrupted their education in the course of displacement were not provided with bridging programs that allows them to catch up with their peers. Institutionalized consultation with IDPs and host communities were not used by the competent local authorities to identify practical issues that prevented some IDPs from accessing education.¹³ Educational facilities failed to take into account women and girls' particular safety needs like the provision of appropriate lighting, separate lavatories, and others.14

5. Conclusion

An interview made with competent local

educational authorities Gebevo Badane, Tullu

Deneko, Tuli Agonafir and Temesgen Bishaw from

Adama, Batu, Shashamanne and Bishaan Gurraachaa

respectively, and the discussion made with all focus

groups in four study areas also corroborates the above mentioned information, December 21-24, 2020.

11 An interview made with Temam Bedilu Nasir

¹¹ An interview made with Temam Bedilu, Nasir Haji, Musa Mohammed, Suleman Juned, *et al.*, internally displaced from Adama, Batu, Shashamanne and Bishaan Gurraachaa respectively, and the discussion made with all focus groups in four study areas also corroborates the above mentioned information, December 21-24, 2020.

¹² Id

¹³ An interview made with Fetiya Hassen, Jemal Mohammed, Mekiya Ali, Faxe Umer, *et al.*, internally displaced from Adama, Batu, Shashamanne and Bishaan Gurraachaa respectively, and the discussion made with all focus groups in four study areas also corroborates the above mentioned information, December 21-24, 2020.

¹⁴ Id

⁹ In situations of internal armed conflict, children must "receive an education, including religious and moral education." See second additional protocol to the Geneva Convention, Articles 4 (3) (a) and 28 (2), A series of resolutions of the UN Security Council concerned with the "protection of children in armed conflict" have reiterated and reinforced the international norms prescribing continued education in the context of the armed conflict. See, for example, Resolution 1314 (2000), adopted by the Security Council as it is 4185th meeting, UN document S/RES/1314 (August 11, 2000); Resolution 1539 (2004), adopted by the Security Council as its 4948th meeting, UN document S/RES/1539 (April 22, 2004), paragraph 9; Resolution 1261(1999), adopted by the Security Council as its 4037th meeting, UN document S/RES/1261 (August 30, 1999) paragraph 2.

Following the border conflict between Oromia and Somali regions millions were internally displaced from Oromo and Somali nation. The focus area of this paper is internally displaced persons settled in major towns like Adama, Batu, Shashamanne, and Bishaan Gurraachaa, across Oromia region. The internally displaced persons (IDPs) settled in the study areas (i.e., Adama, Batu, Shashamanne, and Bishaan Gurraachaa) provided with emergency shelter- through the use of collective centers. Because the supports from the government were not sustainable these IDPs suffered a lot of problems. The IDPs after provided emergency shelter subjected to attack at different times by the non-displaced community. They were evicted forceful by the competent authorities without creating conditions for resettlement or return to their home. IDPs denied their rights to access information and effective and rapid legal remedies in situations when their inaccessible housing conditions exposed them to civilians attack and forced evictions. The location and design of emergency shelter are not suitable to ensure safety and health of IDPs. Health facilities, goods, services, clinics, and other health-related facilities were not accessible equally, especially to children's, pregnant women's, elders and other vulnerable groups. IDPs faced discriminatory barriers to employment opportunity, social security benefits and joining social security programs. Local residence requirements and other bureaucratic requirements prevented enrolment of IDPs in local educational facilities.

6. Recommendations

The concerns of those who are internally displaced have not been fully addressed by the government and non-state actors, despite efforts to address issues related to access to housing and other related human Government should protect and promote fundamental human rights of internally displaced persons and ensures IDPs access to housing and other related human rights without any form of discrimination. Interventions to address problems of internally displaced persons access to housing and other related human rights should be integrated with Ethiopia's development policies that require significant investment, active engagement of the actors involved, and an effective institutional structure. Integrated socio-economic packages are required that address internally displaced persons especially children's, pregnant women's, elders and other vulnerable groups equal access to health facilities, goods, services, clinics, and other health related facilities. The government is required to devise adequate policies, sufficient legal and institutional frameworks that protect IDPs from attack by non-displaced community, from forceful eviction by the concerned authorities, and that guarantees them equal employment opportunity, social security benefits and social security programs.

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