



# Informal Sector Dynamics and Psychological Well-being in Ethiopian Urban Areas,

Tsegaye Asgede<sup>1,2</sup>, Selim Negusse<sup>3</sup>, Mulugeta Aberra<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Advanced Studies, Mekelle University

<sup>2</sup> Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Addis Ababa University

<sup>3</sup> Jimma University

<sup>4</sup> Addis Ababa University

**Published:** 05 March 2002 | **Received:** 22 October 2001 | **Accepted:** 28 January 2002

**Correspondence:** [tasgede@yahoo.com](mailto:tasgede@yahoo.com)

**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18753850](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18753850)

## Author notes

*Tsegaye Asgede is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Mekelle University and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.*

*Selim Negusse is affiliated with Jimma University and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.*

*Mulugeta Aberra is affiliated with Addis Ababa University and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Informal sector dynamics in urban areas of Ethiopia have been a subject of interest for researchers examining economic resilience and social well-being. The study employed mixed-methods research design including surveys and focus group discussions. Data from 200 informal sector workers in Addis Ababa were analysed using thematic analysis for qualitative data and descriptive statistics for quantitative data. Findings revealed a significant positive correlation between the level of psychological well-being and participation in informal economic activities, with participants reporting higher satisfaction levels compared to those not involved in the informal economy. The study underscores that involvement in informal sector work can enhance psychological health by providing social support networks and income stability, which are critical for mental health outcomes. Policy recommendations include fostering supportive policies for the informal sector workforce to mitigate stressors and promote better psychological well-being among urban dwellers.

**Keywords:** *African urbanism, qualitative methods, psychological resilience, social cohesion, informal economy, neoliberal policies, urban poverty*

## ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

**Email:** [info@parj.africa](mailto:info@parj.africa)

Request your copy of the full paper today!

## SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

**Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!**

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

**Submit at:** [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)



Scan to visit [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)

**Open Access Scholarship from PARJ**

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge