

DJIBOUTI Labour Market Analysis with a focus on MW in the IGAD region

Labour market context

- ▶ Shortage of labour market information
- ▶ Exceptionally low labour force participation rate
- ▶ Informal employment relatively low
- ▶ Unemployment and underemployment rife
- ▶ Major youth challenges

Labour force

Labour force (aged 15 years and over) is estimated at around **112,000** people in 2017; **73 %** youth unemployment rate - the unemployment rate is estimated at **26.3%** in 2017, for which the rate for women was recorded at 36.4% compared to 22.1% for men.

Migration characteristics

- ▶ Largely a country of destination and transit
- ▶ Mixed migration flows
- ▶ Large concentrations of migrants
- ▶ Trafficking risks

Meet Sarah, refugee from Eritrea



I am based in AL-Sabieh in a refugee camp. We came here to seek assistance from UNHCR and will stay here until relocated. I am able to make small amounts of money by selling parts of my UNHCR provisions, however I lack the capital to do anything more

Many of my male counterparts head into Djibouti City to obtain work informally, but for women it is more difficult. I have secondary levels of education

Meet Ismael, migrant worker from Ethiopia



I have been in Djibouti for now 6 months. Originally came here as part of my route to Yemen towards Saudi Arabia. Will stay in the country in order to earn money to pay for onward travel. Then I will move towards Yemen and then Saudi Arabia

I work informally in Djibouti city doing manual labour. I have secondary levels of education

Meet Aisha, migrant worker from Ethiopia



I am a migrant worker from Ethiopia. I live in Djibouti for two years mainly working as a housekeeper / domestic worker.

I work for two households since the pay from one household is not sufficient to sustain my life. I speak Amharic, Somali and Afar. Nobody ever asks me for any paperwork either on the street or to get a job here. I feel at home here and may stay longer

Meet David, migrant worker from South Sudan



I am a medium skilled worker in the service and sales industry.

I also run business and operate between Djibouti and Ethiopia. I hire Ethiopian migrant workers and sometimes Djiboutian workers as well. My business is not registered here in Djibouti as it is easiest to do this informally

I have secondary levels of education

Governance of migrant workers

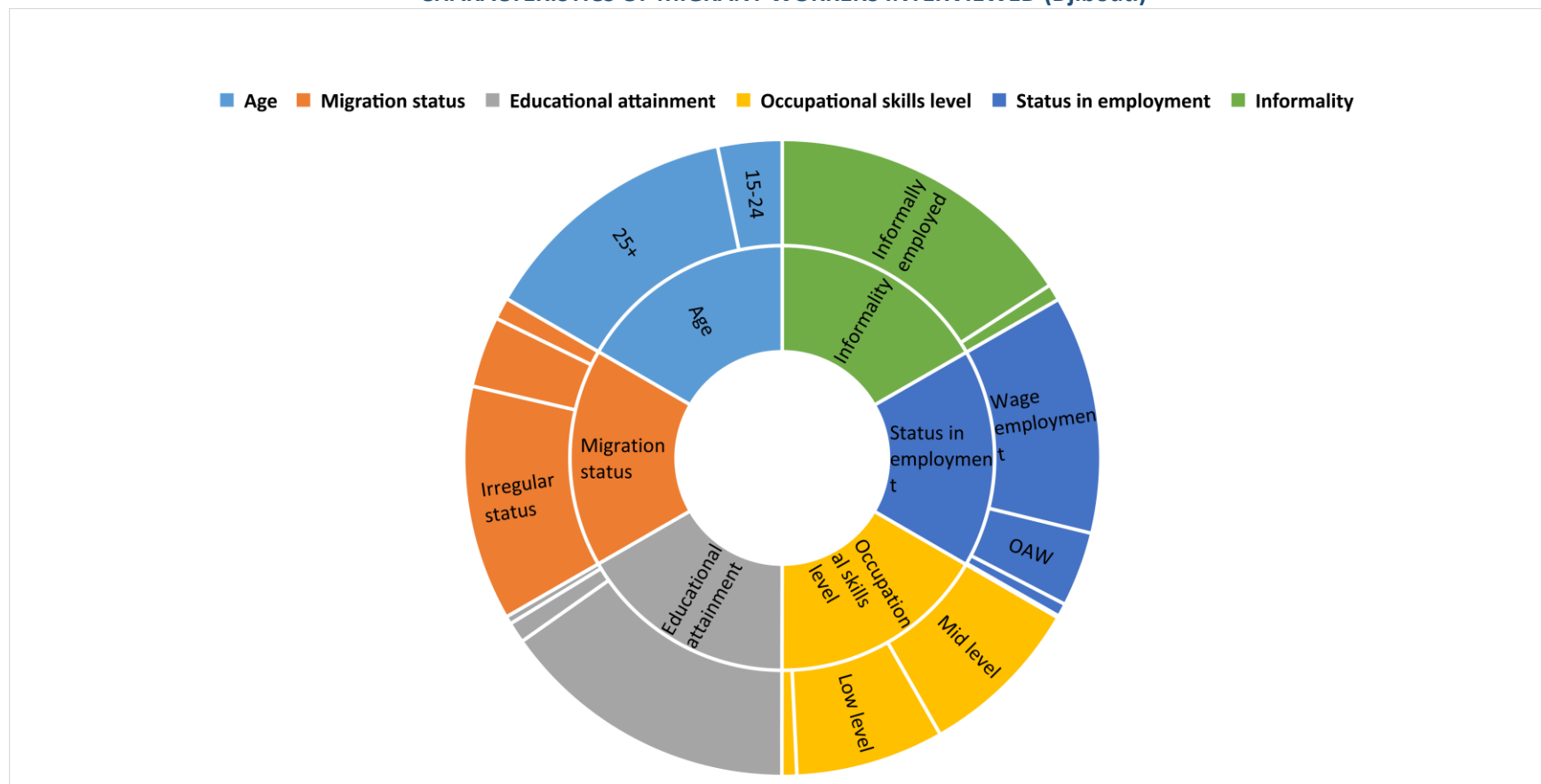
Employment policy? **Yes**

Labour Migration Policy? : **No**
Migration policy? : **No**

The Labour Code 2006: *only covers regular migrant workers,*

Djibouti facilitates access to services for irregular migrants, including *healthcare*

CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRANT WORKERS INTERVIEWED (Djibouti)



Recommendation 1

Adjust the National Employment Policy and job creation strategy to better incorporate migrant workers in Djibouti, especially in the informal sector

- ✘ Revise NEP in alignment with a labour migration policy
- ✘ Recognise potential of informal sector
- ✘ Ease work permit process

Recommendation 2

Support data collection on migrant workers within a wider labour statistics framework :

- ✘ Prioritise a population census
- ✘ Align with international definitions
- ✘ Establish a labour statistics framework

Recommendation 3

Adjust and redesign labour market governance mechanisms to better incorporate migrant workers:

- ✘ Embed integration and protection into national development agenda
- ✘ Ratify C097 and C143
- ✘ Resources for labour inspection

