YANGON UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS MASTER OF ECONOMICS

A STUDY ON YANGON CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE'S RELOCATION ACTIVITIES ON STREET VENDORS (CASE STUDY: KYUN TAW MARKET IN THINGANGYUN TOWNSHIP)

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Economics (M.Econ) Degree

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YANGON UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS MASTER OF ECONOMICS

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ABSTRACT

Municipal governance is important to the country's development and political transition especially in urban area. According to YCDC, street vending activities in Yangon cause negative externalities to traffic, parking congestion and pedestrian movement in urbanized area. The study aims to explore the current situation of YCDC and to examine the perception of street vendors on YCDC's relocation activities. Applying descriptive method based on both secondary and primary survey data, this study found that 64% of total respondents have knowledge on YCDC's rules and regulations. The significant numbers of street vendor have favorable attitude on the relocation activities of YCDC. The vast majority of interviewees satisfied the rules and regulations of YCDC. It could be suggested that Markets and Commodities Center Department of YCDC provides the demands and requests of the relocated vendors. The long-term plan for the relocation of street vendors should be sustained for urban living standards.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DAO - Development Affairs Organization

GAD - General Administration Department

ILO - International Labor Organization

LDC - Least Developed Countries

NASVI - National Association of Street Vendors of India

OECD - Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development

SLORC - State Law and Order Restoration Council

SSVA - Special Street Vending Areas

TDAC - Township Development Affairs Committee

UNDP - United Nations Development Program

WIEGO - Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing

YCDC - Yangon City Development Committee

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Rationale of the Study

Urbanization shifts population spatial distribution from rural to urban areas, resulting in changes in dominant occupations, lifestyles, culture, and behavior, furthermore, transforming the demographic and socioeconomic structure of both urban and countryside areas. The expansion in the number, size, and land area of urban settlements, also the proportion of urban residents relative to rural dwellers, are all significant repercussions of urbanization.

In developed countries, the informal sector accounts for slightly 4 to 6 percent of overall GDP, and in low-income developing countries, it accounts for greater than 50 percent (Islam & Alam, 2019). For instance, Laos, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Cambodia, the vast majority of economic outcomes are driven by informal sectors, which provide significant revenue to residents. Migrants from rural (traditional) sectors confront several hurdles when seeking employment in urban (modern) industries as a result of a scarcity of advanced skills, knowledge, and education. Consequently, many unemployed rural dwellers move to the urban informal sector to find work.

Nevertheless, governments in respective countries intervene the street vending and street vendors to varying degrees. Across Asia, governments are eager to modernize thriving cities, and street vendors are viewed as a barrier and usurper of public places designated for established enterprises and wealthy inhabitants. In Thailand, authorities are relocating street vendors to alternate sites such as indoor markets and prohibiting street vendors from selling on the roadside. In Singapore, the government began registering all hawkers in 1910, and by 1980, they had been taken off the roadside and relocated into a properly supervised area. The city's street vendor population increased rapidly after the 1998 monetary crisis, which hit the Asian Tigers, namely Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan. Many people who lost their employment due to the crisis, and others who were unable to find work turned to street vending as their source of livelihood.

Urbanization in Myanmar is currently in its early stages. As stated by the United Nations World Urbanization Prospects 2018, the proportion of Myanmar's population living in cities is predicted to increase by 31.14 percent in 2020. As job opportunities become available in the manufacturing sector, the enlargement of industrial zones and the creation of new special economic zones in urban areas attract many young people from rural areas. In Myanmar, unofficial employment is the most prevalent sort of job, accounting for roughly three-quarters of all non-agricultural employment. A huge informal sector can have an impact on a variety of concerns, including low productivity, low tax collection, and inadequate social security. As stated by the Department of Labor's annual labor survey 2017, the informal sector accounted for 83 percent of employment at the national level, while job in the informal sector was 60.2 percent in Myanmar.

Municipal governance is becoming more essential in the country's development and political transformation. All Myanmar townships now have Development Affairs Organizations (DAOs) (si-bin tha-ya-ye apwe in Myanmar), which are key urban institutions responsible for offering a broad variety of social services and overseeing local economic governance. The Development Affairs Department was reorganized as a development affairs organization (DAO) for each of the 14 new state and regional administrations, with an emphasis on urban governance.

In 2016, the government of Yangon Region imposed a bunch of policy changes in many sectors including policy related to street vendors. The policy regulating street vendors is to systematically relocate them from their current location to another designated location. The Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) is in charge of overseeing street vending activities. In June 2018, the new municipal law was enacted. The new law imposes sanctions on municipal employees who are proven to be negligent or make serious violations. Furthermore, it imposes harsher penalties for unregulated street vendors, squatters, trash, betel juice spitting, and the destruction of public property and heritage buildings, and more stringent regulations for enterprises, construction, and urban planning in the city.

According to the YCDC, street vending is regarded as a low-income economic activity with environmental costs such as traffic and parking congestion, particularly in urbanized areas, and pedestrian movement. As a result, The YCDC relocated four downtown townships' street vendors (Latha, Lanmadaw, Pabedan, and Kyauktada) to the Strand Road Night Market in 2016. YCDC is relocating street

vendors into high-rise market buildings and indoor marketplaces in four districts' designated townships.

In the study, Kyun Taw (temporary) Market was selected as a study area, which is located in Thingangyun Township, Eastern District of Yangon. Thingangyun Township is an economically developed township, located at an intersection and has convenient transportation links with nearby Townships. There are five prominent markets and one temporary market in Thingangyun Township. They are (a) Thingangyun market, (b) Sanpya-Nga Moe Yeik market, (c) Thuwana market, (d) Yay Nant Thar market, (e) Yadanar market and (f) Kyun Taw (temporary) market. There is little transfer of street vendors into these prominent markets. However, YCDC has implemented systematic relocation of street vendors into the Kyun Taw market since 2015. Thus, the research focused on the relocation activities of the Yangon City Development Committee on street vendors in Kyun Taw (temporary) Market, Thingangyun Township.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are

- 1. To explore the current situation of the Yangon City Development Committee's activities in the Yangon Region.
- 2. To examine the perception of street vendors who sell goods and services in the Kyun Taw (temporary) Market of Thingangyun Township, on the Yangon City Development Committee's relocation activities.

1.3 Method of Study

In this study, descriptive method is used, which based on both primary and secondary data. Primary data is collected through survey questionnaires by conducting interviews with 200 vendors at Kyun Taw Market, Thingangyun Township. The study used convenience sampling method. Secondary data is gathered from the Market and Commodities Center Department of YCDC, other reliable websites, relevant books, news, and journals.

1.4 Scope and Limitations of the Study

Yangon Region has four districts (namely, Eastern, Western, Northern, and Southern). The Market and Commodities Center Department of YCDC is implementing the relocation of street vendors in the selected townships of these four districts. The Eastern District was chosen for the study since it is more convenient in terms of data availability than other districts. According to YCDC, there are 752 shops in Kyun Taw (temporary) Market, most of which sell clothes, cosmetics, food, raw materials, meat, fish, fruits, and vegetables. The research studied 200 shops out of a total of 752 shops. The survey focused on 200 street vendors at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market who were relocated by the YCDC. Thus, street vendors from other townships will not be included. The survey was carried out from September 2021 to November 2021.

Some street vendors were hesitant to answer survey questions, and others had insufficient time to complete the entire questionnaire due to the high volume of customers during the data collection period. In the early 2021s, relocated street vendors in the Kyun Taw (temporary) Market were bustling, but now street vendors are illegally attempting to sell their wares back on the street again.

1.5 Organization of the Study

This paper consists of five chapters. Chapter (1) is the introduction chapter, including the rationale, objectives, method, scope and limitations, and organization of the study. Chapter (2) reveals a literature review of the street vendors. Chapter (3) explains an overview of municipal governance in Myanmar. Chapter (4) analyzes the survey data of vendors in the Kyun Taw (temporary) market, and Chapter (5) describes the findings and suggestions.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Concept of the Informal Sector

The informal sector is a problem to governments since it has an impact on a country's economic system's efficiency. The lack of available information and the desire of practitioners to stay anonymous, however, overshadow the attempt to manage this sector (Schneider, 2003). Because of the absence of trustworthy information, governments have been unable to establish and implement effective measures to regulate informality. As it is a new field, creating an effective policy can be difficult. Employment (production or trade) in an unregistered business is classified as the informal sector. Informal employment is defined as work that is not governed by "labor regulation, taxation, social protection, or the right to certain employment benefits" (Hussmanns, 2004). The International Labor Office defines as informal employment the following types of jobs:

- -Owners and employers of informal/unregistered enterprises
- -Housekeepers who work in their own or someone else's home are examples of family workers.
- -Employees who work for an unregistered enterprise or are domestic workers. According to Schneider (2003), there are four major elements that determine the shape and scale of the informal economy, (i) Tax and Social Security contributions, (ii) The Strength of Regulations, (iii) Public sector services, (iv) Public Opinion.

2.1.1 Urban Informal Sector

During the beginning of the industrial revolution, there was a significant increase in the growth of urban areas, and the linkage between industrialization, urbanization, and economic development became closer and more direct. When the expansion of the urban population surpasses that of the rural population, urbanization rates rise. Even in nations with just minimal industrialization, urbanization has continued in practically all developing countries. Furthermore, the flow of migrants

into the city is unprecedented as enormous expansion in the population in most regions of the developing countries. The dualistic nature of developing countries' national economies separates the urban labor market into two sectors, the urban formal sector and the urban informal sector, as the city becomes more urbanized (Chen et al., 2018).

A contemporary economy is one that is organized using advanced technology and employs both capital and labor, whereas a rudimentary economy is one that includes the self-employed and employs primarily labor. Any economic activity that occurs outside of the official institutional framework is identified as informal economy. The informal sector is a component of the developing world's urban economy characterized by tiny, competitive individual or family businesses, petty retail trade and services, labor-intensive methods, free entry and market-determined factors and product pricing. Rural-urban migration has boosted population growth and concentration in developing countries' cities. Most of the migrant workers from rural areas seek jobs in the urban informal sector to supplement their income, and they also struggle to get jobs in the formal sector due to scarcity of skills and education (Benjamin et al., 2014).

The informal sector's self-employed workers have inferior level of education and skill, and absence of financial capital. As a consequence, worker productivity and income in the informal sector will be lower than in the formal sector. The formal and informal sectors are intertwined; for example, the formal sector relies on the informal sector for some of its goods and service, including such low-cost labor and the informal sector relies on the formal sector for income and source of income generation activities. According to some research, the informal sector generates almost one-third of urban income. As stated by the ILO, approximately one-fifth to one-quarter of urban adults is unemployed in emerging countries. To solve the issue, the UNDP has aided in the establishment of income-generating programs aimed at integrating informal businesses into the mainstream economy, strengthening local businesses, and encouraging producers and exporters in tailoring items for lucrative markets. The predominance of self-employment, the absence of long contractual relationships, the inadequacy of official protection and regulation, the lack of minimum wage legislation, and the scarcity of a social security system are part of the distinctive characteristics of the urban informal sector with regard to employment. The assumption is that an ordinary worker in the informal sector will experience

considerable underemployment. In the informal sector, the lack of long-term contractual agreements indicates that labor turnover is rather significant. This is the aspects that encouraged the sector's ease of entrance. Some job seekers who are unable to find regular jobs in the formal sector participate in the informal sector rather than being completely unemployed. Much of the economic activity in the informal sector is both productive and profitable. It is able to provide a variety of skills needed for a wide segment of the urban poor to provide commodities and basic needs. Because of its labor absorption capacities, it can support a lot of people while yet consuming very little. It is a major source of goods and services for individuals who cannot meet their needs through the formal economy. The informal sector is diverse and dynamic, constantly rearranging itself to capitalize on changing circumstances and resources in the formal sector, as well as to meet the needs of the urban poor (Harris, 2019).

Individuals in the urban informal sector have been identified to be mostly engaged in small-scale trading and manufacturing activities. Although the amount of people involved in the informal sector varies according to the type of economic activity, the vast majorities of informal economic units operates within households and are not recognized in national revenue statistics. The informal sector is mostly comprised of very poor individuals, most of whom are landless and without property, and the most of them are involved in supplying basic essentials including food, clothing, accommodation, transportation, and catering to the poor, primarily but not solely. Regardless of the fact that the industry encompasses a broad range of operations, it tends to focus on the trade and service sectors, with manufacturing receiving less attention because of higher capital requirements and skill intensity (Rothenberg et al., 2016).

As stated by the World Bank, there was a predominance of women in the informal sector due to the inclusion of domestic servants. Even excluding domestics, women make up one-third of the informal sector labor force and two-thirds of the self-employed. Prostitution, domestic service, petty trading, and other activities are among the most typical activities conducted by women in the informal sector. The socioeconomic background of these women reveals those most of them have dependents or are accountable for paying a part of their salaries to assist their family in the countryside, or that their salaries are comparable to their husbands' poor wages.

The different occupations performed by women in the informal sector vary greatly based on their age, marital status, and immigration status (Otoo et al., 2011).

In the informal sector, there are no official labor and wage rules, taxes, registration, licensing, or property rights. However, in certain LDC countries, informal enterprises are usually paid significant licensing and registration fees, and also sales tax and customs charges on various inputs. The government frequently ignores the informal sector, which it supports in some cases and harasses in others. The majority of the economic agents in this market are operating illegally. Easy entry, reliance on indigenous resources, family ownership of businesses, small-scale operations, labor-intensive, unregulated, and competitive markets are some of the informal sector's most common activities (Kraemer-Mbula & Wunsch-Vincent, 2016).

2.2 The Municipal Responses towards Street Vending

There are some locations where street vendors are uncommon and few locals notice how many there are; then there are other areas where there are simply no street vendors. Regardless of the fact that the "hot spots" only make up a small part of the city, they are the source of the majority of urban problems associated with street vending. The first were government-registered street vendors who rented government-subsidized market booths in government-managed Special Street Vending Areas (SSVA) or off-street public marketplaces. The second group was government-approved street vendors, who rented booths at market rates in "temporary SSVAs" run by a government-approved street vendor association. Undocumented street vendors were the third type, who may or may not be required to pay fees (e.g. booth rent, protection charge, or cleaning fee) under the table to a shady entity to conduct business on the sidewalk (Weng, 2013).

(i) The Government-Registered Street Vendors

Registered street vendors have rent stabilization and the permanent right to vend in government-managed SSVAs where they register and establish business. To conduct their business, they employ large stalls or kiosks (or, makeshift structures). When registered street vendors die, their descendants might inherit their status and work at the exact location on the same street as their parents. In other words, when the city government grants a registered street vendor the right to "lawfully sell on the

street," the street vendor also gains ownership of his or her market booth. Although this approach appears to perform the task of street vendor management easier at first, it has major long-term urban renewal and development issues. How could the local government rebuild land in downtown places where there were hundreds of lawful street vendors selling their wares? By the late 1990s, the downtown area had only one government-managed SSVA, with roughly 200 government-registered street vendors. The majority of the remaining government-registered street vendors were transferred to off-street public markets, although a few preferred to return to the street as unauthorized street vendors (Weng, 2013).

(ii) The Government-Condoned Street Vendor

In some downtown areas where street vendors are too stubborn or intractable to be relocated right away, the city government will declare the area a "temporary SSVA," and a street vendor organization will be established to manage the street vendors on behalf of the city government until a long-term solution is found. These temporary SSVAs are often positioned in high-demand urban areas with plenty of foot traffic. The designated street vendor organization is in responsibility of garbage collection, street cleaning, and maintaining the SSVA's order. Because operating certain "temporary SSVAs" can be profitable, competing street vendor organizations frequently battle for the right to expand "their territories." It was not uncommon for a temporary SSVA to become a "permanent" SSVA as a result of the difficulty in identifying a suitable relocation site. For instance, one of the city's largest temporary SSVAs had been overseen by a street vendor organization, the Zong Zan Night Market Zone, for over forty years, while the municipal government was still puzzled. "Government-condoned" street vendors are those who are managed by a governmentrecognized street vendor association. By outsourcing street vendor management to a street vendor association, the city government avoids having to deal with hundreds of street vendors individually. It can only work with one entity at a time. The local government has given the street vendor group the authority to set booth rental costs, cleaning fees, and administration fees. It can levy a fee on any street vendor who does business on its property, allowing the group to generate a profit. In exchange, the street vendor association is responsible for resolving vendor disputes, collecting trash, controlling pollution, restoring social order, and maintaining traffic flow on its territory. The street vendor organization may be obliged to pay a minor annual

concession charge to the municipal government, depending on the conditions. The primary distinction between a government-registered and a government-condoned street vendor is that the latter's property rights and interests are safeguarded by the street vendor association rather than by legislation. As a consequence, government-approved vendors are more cooperative under the regulations of the street vendor association to which they belonged. Even though government-registered and government-condoned street vendors have some common benefits (such as being consulted by the city government when new off-street markets are built or new urban renewal schemes are planned, no police harassment, guaranteed access to vending booths, and so on), these benefits are all location-specific. These benefits are only available to street vendors who live in the SSVA where they sell their wares. Once they leave their headquarters, they are treated the same as any other illegal street vendor, with no protection from the city authority and forced to survive for themselves on the streets (Weng, 2013).

(iii) The Undocumented Street Vendors

Undocumented street vendors are the most mobile type of street vendor in the city, as they travel around the most but have the least formal business approval. They are tolerated by the city government as long as they do not obstruct traffic or create undue nuisance to residents or business owners. Some undocumented street sellers use pickup trucks or mobile stalls to conduct their enterprises; others just lay down their merchandise on the street; and still others push carts, carrying their goods with them and selling to passers-by. These street sellers may work full-time or part-time, on a regular basis or on a sporadic one. They may stay in one spot for a while, and then move to another; on the other hand, they may be ambulant all of the time, vending at all hours of the day and night. Undocumented street vendors are notoriously difficult to supervise because the city administration has no clear information regarding their numbers, locations, vending schedules, or other associated qualities (Weng, 2013).

2.3 Municipal Governance Activities on Street Vending

Many countries control street vending by establishing a clear legal framework and jurisdictional mandates, whilst others have overlapping jurisdictional mandates, resulting in uncertainty and conflict, and yet others consider street hawking to be unlawful (Roy, 2014). As globalization and urbanization escalated city-level tensions

between vendors and municipal authorities, street sellers began to unite internationally in the 1990s. The Bellagio International Declaration of Street Vendors, issued in November 1995, urged states to develop national street vending policies. The international declaration urged governments to implement national policies for hawkers and vendors, including giving them legal status, issuing permits, and establishing appropriate hawking zones in metropolitan areas, as part of broader structural policies intended at enhancing their living circumstances. The declaration also urged governments to integrate vendors in urban development plans. The global networks include the Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) with a secretariat at Harvard University, and Street Net International with headquarters in Durban, South Africa. Street Net has regional and local networks that have begun engaging municipal authorities in policy conversations, including concerns relating to the freedom to trade in urban space (Sinha & Roever, 2011).

Street vendors are a difficult problem to handle with regard to urban planning. The use of eviction as a quick fix is frequently criticized by a range of parties. This approach rejects the notion that street vendors are a symptom of a broader urban issue that needs to be tackled. Such a solution will not result in better urban planning. As a consequence, it is believed necessary to explore a new, more humanitarian option in which street vendors are regarded as economic assets of the nation. The informal sector is suspected of contributing to uncleanliness, disorganization, and environmental degradation due to its limited ability to participate in modern economic activities and its limited area for doing so. As a consequence, government intervention is essential to persuade people to develop pro-environmental attitudes. The intervention is viewed as a means of persuading people to act (Wijaya et al., 2021).

(i) National Policy for Street Vendors

The National Policy on Urban Vendors aims to ensure that urban street vendors are treated with dignity at the national, state, and local levels so that they can undertake economic activities without fear of harassment, while also earmarking places for such activity in zoning plans. Vending in urban centers is not only a source of income, but it also provides 'affordable' services to the majority of urban residents. The role of hawkers in the economy and society must be recognized, but they are considered as unlawful entities and are constantly harassed by local authorities. National and local development policies are not explicit in their policy direction

regarding street vending, and as the National Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper noted, the urban poor are assumed to be accountable for their own fate. Despite the fact that street vendors are considered illegal, they are compelled to pay taxes (Brickell & Springer, 2016).

(ii) Relocation and Rehabilitation on Street Vendors

Relocation is possibly the most challenging of all the responsibilities involved in urban planning, especially when it comes to job opportunities and the informal income of street vendors. Relocation as a "contract" between the government and the relocated focuses attention on the negotiation technique, resources, benefits and drawbacks, and a sense of "fair" for each party in connection to business survival. Relocating actually entails providing support and assistance that goes further than the physical realm. The evidence shows that infrastructures (land/business location) have a significant impact on micro-business income, particularly in large cities. Credit provision, business skill development, and technical science support are all involved in a relocation program's assistance. The law recognition that influences the prospect of income and investment opportunity is directly tied to both physical accommodation and geographic access in the suitable area. A decent location for a workplace is a fundamental necessity that can be used as a capital investment to improve the business climate (Warsono et al., 2016). To promote a more pleasant urban environment, almost all large towns with street vendor concerns have adopted a plan of shifting street vendors to a more suitable place. When the existence of trade operations on streets disrupts public space in metropolitan areas, the city administration takes action to relocate street vendors. Street vendors must be relocated so that public spaces like sidewalks, road bodies, and city parks can function properly. The regulation was implemented as a consequence of the regional government's attempt to be proactive in defining an orderly and comfortable site for the informal sector of street sellers. Except as defined and permitted by the mayor or appointed officials, citizens are barred from using public areas, public roads, walkways, and public channels as a location for street sellers. The local government's policy is relocation, which is depending on these restrictions (Wijaya et al., 2021).

Throughout the negotiations, the government made significant concessions, including the development of a new purpose-built market, the supply of stall ownership certificates, and access to business financing to assist them grow their

businesses. The government addressed vendors' concerns that the relocation site was too far out and far from the city by resurfacing roads, putting up signage, developing new bus lines to improve access, and marketing the new market through the media. Vendors decided to relocate after receiving promises from government authorities that the process would be inclusive and that the new location would be enhanced with necessary amenities (Taylor & Song, 2016).

2.4 The Main Barriers of the Relocation Process on Street Vendors

Concerning street vendor issues from a range of perspectives, such as property rights, relocation problems, and street vendor organizations.

(i) Property Right

Street vendors almost always have to claim the permit to space in the city before they can operate their vending businesses. Though street vendors are not the legal owners of these areas, they almost always claim to become the de facto owners of these metropolitan public areas after quietly occupying them for a long period of time. As a consequence, when requested to leave "their" lands, enraged street vendors frequently refuse unless they are adequately resettled, compensated, or rehabilitated. In certain literature, the concept of necessity is invoked to support street sellers' legal right to trespass on public spaces in cities. Jeremy Waldron (1993) advocated for a redistributive principle that no one should ever be permitted to use force to prevent another person from meeting individuals' basic requirements when there appears to be no other option. In this way, urban planners' and policymakers' harsh attitudes about street vendors may require to be changed and street vendors' rights as vital parts of urban development schemes should be recognized. Ray Bromley (2000) defines street vending as "the retail or wholesale trading of goods and services in streets and other related public axes such as alleyways, avenues, and boulevards" (Weng, 2013).

(ii) Relocation Problems

In many of these cases, street vending is related with poverty and underdevelopment, and its abolition is considered as a step toward a more prosperous and developed urban environment. Though the municipal authorities may have some success periodically, street vendors are quite resilient. Although the authorities may be able to eliminate street vendors in some areas of the city, street merchants may just

relocate to areas where enforcement is less severe and proactive. Relocating street vendors to approved vending zones or public markets has always been a time-consuming and challenging process. Indeed, forcefully relocating street vendors in densely populated areas nearly always leads to violent clashes involving police or, in the worst-case scenario, the army. According to John C. Cross (1998), the most typical problems leading to the failure of off-street market relocation processes were: ill-conceived market development schemes; inflexible market management regulations; and the difficult transition of the nature of commercialization from an open-air to an indoor market (Weng, 2013).

(1) Ill-Conceived Location

The market's location is a critical component of a successful street vendor relocation procedure. Customers should be able to view the new off-street market and it should be conveniently accessible. Unfortunately, suitable places are often difficult to find - downtown residents or store owners sometimes object to their neighborhoods being designated as street vending zones or to the construction of a new public market. Because public markets were built on vacant lots or in locations with low land prices, they were not as conveniently located as the street markets they replaced, attracting fewer customers. Many suppliers left during this initial phase, despite the fact that new customer was built up over time" (Weng, 2013).

(2) Bureaucratic Regulation

Even if the city government succeeds in building new public markets in downtown areas to accommodate street vendors, other factors (such as lengthy application processes, high booth rents, strict market vending regulations, or old trading habits) may discourage street vendors from moving into the new market buildings. When street vendors move into an enclosed public market, they typically face many regulatory compliance obligations that they didn't have when they were out on the street (such as securing a leasing contract, obtaining public liability and property damage insurance, using booths that meet certain specifications, operating during regular hours, etc...). Most government relocation processes focus on creating a static system of providing fixed vending locations to vendors, overlooking the opportunity of bringing in new and diverse merchants as the market evolves. As a consequence, in most street vendor relocation operations, the advantage of flexibility is lost (Weng, 2013).

(3) Lack of Customer Drawing Power

Alternatively, while forcing street vendors into enclosed public markets is simple logistically, recruiting clients to these new marketplaces is more challenging. The capacity of a new public market to attract people and generate sales is one of the most crucial factors determining the success of the street vendor relocation procedure. The relocation of street sellers from the roadside to an off-street public market alters the essence of street vending and necessitates a shift in their traditional business practices. Unfortunately, many relocation methods overestimate street vendors' abilities to adapt to change while underestimating the challenges of sustaining customer support from those who still choose to buy on the street (Weng, 2013).

(iii) Street Vendor Organization

To guarantee access to public space livelihoods, street sellers in major cities worldwide have created their own social support networks/systems. These social networks come in a range of shapes and sizes, each with its own set of norms and laws that sometimes complement, compete with, or contradict the state's efforts. When municipal governments have the upper hand in managing the use and distribution of goods, urban street vendor groups provide a mechanism for merchants to avoid cumbersome bureaucracy. It assists its members in increasing their earning potential by providing a range of supportive services that make communication with the local administration easier. These include advocating for expanded street vending zones, new vending permits, relocation alternatives, and vendor and public policy stakeholder engagement. In this situation, the street vendor association is acting as an interest group aiming to publicize and profit its cause (Weng, 2013).

The street vendor organization operates as an informal social institution with the purpose of administering the land ownership rights of street sellers and resolving the issue of free riding. It reduces transaction costs, settles disputes, and forces its members to collaborate in order to protect their common interests. It creates an exclusive membership structure so that all members are aware of what is being managed for whom, and it ensures that all street vendors benefit when everyone works together. A range of practical issues limit a city's ability to enact and enforce formal regulations. Consequently, communities may find it desirable to delegate rulemaking to persons "on the street" and enable street vendors to self-organize on

occasion. In this circumstance, the street vendors developed durable and flexible conventions that benefitted subsequent waves of vendors (Weng, 2013).

However, in cases where the state agent is unable (or unwilling) to fill a power vacuum on the ground, street vendor associations may boldly "assume" the responsibilities and powers of city government. Leaders of street vendors become alternative public service providers, especially as enforcers of property rights who control access to and distribution of urban public places (in this scenario, vendor leaders are "mafia bosses") who protect their street vendor members' property rights (from third-party harassment) in exchange for a portion of the economic benefits generated by the urban territories under their control. As stated in the literature, developing a street vendor relocation policy and program necessitates a thorough understanding of the vendors' lives. It also indicates that institutional factors, notably interactions between existing street vendor organizations and local authority, may be critical to the intervention's success or failure (Weng, 2013).

2.5 Reviews on Previous Studies

Sergio Peña (1999) studied on "Informal Markets: street vendors in Mexico City". The main question of the study is what the functions of street vendor organization. The study showed that Vendor organizations primarily serve two purposes: Groups as negotiators or deal-makers, in which street vendors join these organizations to avoid red tape or complex bureaucracies, and organizations as administrators of social assets, in which organizations limit membership and access to informal marketplaces and handle vendor conflicts. According to the study, once it comes to acquiring access to stalls in the informal market, social capital, family, and friends, among other factors, all play a key role among street vendors. As stated in the study, future regulations must be devised to ensure that government and social organizations, such as street vendor groups, share responsibility for the smooth running of informal economies. The study revealed that social institutions may be an effective solution to issues facing people in developed countries, such as service delivery and others.

Lawrence and Castro (2006) studied on "Government Intervention in Street Vending Activities in Guayaquil, Ecuador: case study of vendors in the municipal markets". The objective of the study to explore the informal sector in Guayaquil, particularly individuals engaging in street vending, who the vendors in municipal

markets are, and how their income compared to the rest of the labor force. The study also focuses on the impact of Guayaquil's City Council's decision to build municipal markets for street vendors in order to clean up the city sidewalks and rehabilitate the vendors in a government-approved market. The research confirmed that the informal sector is very complex and it's difficult to make generalizations.

Deborah Potts (2008) studied on "The urban informal sector in sub-Saharan Africa". The study used theoretical conceptualizations and other methodologies to evaluate changes in attitudes on the role of the urban informal sector in Sub-Saharan Africa. It is also stated that the global economic and political conditions confronting postwar Africa, Asia, and Latin America differed from those encountered by industrialization in Europe and North America. The study offered a comparative perspective on current debates and policy pronouncements about the second economy in South Africa.

Jia Feng (2009) studied on "street vendors' situation and government's policy examination in Nanjing, China". The study focused on the night market vending and unlicensed roving business in Nanjing, China. Based on observation, interview, and survey methodologies, the study examined the conditions faced by informal vendors as well as government laws regarding to the informal vending business on the streets of Nanjing. The study investigated the relationship between internal migration in China and the meaning of informal vending marketplaces in the lives of vendors as well as in the government management process. According to the study's findings, informal street hawking should not be deemed a transitory job opportunity in Nanjing.

Pity Kalikuwa Ndhlovu (2011) studied on "Street vending in Zambia: a case of Lusaka District". The study analyzed why street vendors continue to trade on the streets despite the availability of formal market infrastructure. The study used informal economy theories to get insight into the difficulties of street vending. The objectives of the study are to better inform policymakers about the rationale for street vending, to understand the relationship between government and street vendors, and to investigate how traders choose trading places. According to the study, accessibility of clients is a crucial issue for street vendors, and they intentionally situate on the streets to avoid formalization fees such as rent, taxes, and licensing. The study stated that the policies of the informal economy should take into account the sector's nuances and heterogeneity, and the government should develop more inclusive

policies that accommodate all traders depended on their practical needs rather than perceived needs, such as building formal market infrastructure for all.

Dipak Bahadur Adhikari (2011) studied on "Income generation in the informal sector: a case study of the street vendors of Kathmandu Metropolitan City". The study stated that Some Nepalese citizens rely on street hawking to earn their living and alleviate poverty. According to the study, street trading not only provides jobs and income to the rural poor in metropolitan regions, but it also provides commodities at lower prices to the urban poor. The objective of the study is to examine the factors of street vendor income and to explore if the income of street vendors in Kathmandu metropolitan area increases at the same rate as investment, education, and labor supply grow, so does the income of street vendors. It also found that the street vending business is an informal type of entrepreneurship because its contribution to the national economy's GDP is not included and no taxes are paid to the government.

Dr. G. M. Bhat and Asif Hussain Negros (2013) studied on "Urban Informal Sector: A Case Study of Street Vendors in Kashmir". The study showed that most of responders who engage in street vending come from low-income, illiterate families and must work seven to ten hours every day. It is critical to note that there is no significant income disparity between men and women, and most of them are satisfied with their jobs. The objective of the study is to examine the socioeconomic characteristics of street vendors, to assess the causes of street vending, to investigate the price structure and level of earnings of street vendors, and to investigate job satisfaction and working conditions of the vendors. According to the findings of the study, vending can be considered a viable business that contributes significantly to the economy, in addition to being a kind of self-employment that reduces the number of unemployed people in the country.

Agus Dwidoso Warsono, Sony Heru Priyanto, and Guntur Riyanto (2016) studied on "the municipality's strategy of the street vendors relocation: a case study on the street vendors relocation from Monument 45 of Banjar sari to Ulithian Not Harjo Market, Surakarta". The study discussed the strategy of street vendors relocation conducted by Surakarta Municipality. The study stated that the relocation was done by displacing 989 street vendors from Monument 45 of Banjar sari to Ulithian Not Harjo Market, Surakarta. The objective of the study is to learn about the Surakarta Municipal Government's street vendor relocation strategy, which was

implemented through a case study of street vendors' transfer from Banjar sari to Not Harjo Market Surakarta. The research method applied is Phenomenological Paradigm with Qualitative Approach. The study pointed out that the municipal authorities performed socializing and communication during the process in a respectful manner, utilizing components of local traditions. The strategy performed by the municipal government was admitted by society as a successful program.

John Taylor and Lily Song (2016) studied on the potential factors and conditions underlying the return of informal vendors after "successful" relocation and upgrading policies and distill lessons for policy and planning improvements. It found that vendors return to the streets as a result of relocation attempts that fail to look beyond aesthetic improvements, relocation processes that fail to prepare vendors for the competitiveness of the free market, and longer-term relocation planning and administration that ignores emerging vendor needs. It suggested that the policy and planning implications should focuses on strategies for strengthening the long-term sustainability of relocation programs, as well as economic empowerment of the urban poor and their rights to urban space, accessibility, and mobility.

Dr. Phyu Phyu Ei and Myo Myint Aung (2016) studied on "Urban informal sector in Yangon: case study in street vendors". The study examined the factors which pushed people into street-based activities, as well as the public's opinions on it in Yangon. The research revealed that street vendors' activities are driven by a continuing stream of rural to urban migration caused by a lack of work possibilities in rural areas, and that many of those engaging in street vending are reasonably educated and are certainly not recent migrants. Finally, it came to the conclusion that the general public has an unfavorable attitude toward the practices of urban street vendors.

Nang Noom Kham (2019) studied on "The social and economic condition of night market street vendors at Hledan, Kamayut Township, Yangon". The primary purpose of the study is to examine the social and economic status of street vendors, to identify the driving factors of the rapidly increasing number of street vendors and to find out the difficulties and challenges of being in street vending business. The study also mentioned that due to ease of entry, self-dependence, unemployment and poverty, the majority of street vendors engage in this business. The study found that most of the people involved in the street vending sector were migrants from outside Yangon City and it can be concluded that street vending is not a side job but the main income source depending on many families.

CHAPTER III

OVERVIEW OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE IN MYANMAR

3.1 Historical Background of Municipal Governance

The first election for the Yangon Municipal Committee was held in 1949, and further elections for municipal committees in other cities were held in 1951. The Democracy Local Administration Act was enacted in 1953 with the aim of replacing colonial-era administration with greater citizen engagement. The 1953 Democracy Local Governance Act was repealed when the Burmese military seized power in 1962. However, the 1898 Municipal Act and the 1921 Myanmar Rural Self Government Act were maintained as the primary guides for both urban and rural administration. Municipal committees remained the administrative bodies for cities, while district councils were established in rural regions. In 1972, the Revolutionary Council government restructured the ministries, placing municipal committees and district councils under the preview of the General Administration Department (GAD) as part of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Religious Affairs. Municipal committees and district councils were merged into township development committees in 1974, which were responsible for both urban governance and rural development. Following the 1988 military coup and the formation of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) government, additional changes were made to local administration via the 1993 Development Committees Law.

Municipal government is a significant exception to the current framework, as these agencies are the only totally decentralized bodies in the country. They are unique in that they generate all of their revenue from their own township and have significant control over how these funds are spent, provide a diverse range of social services, and are in charge of overseeing local economic governance as part of a broader remit of local governance processes. To carry out municipal tasks for its residents, each township now has a development affairs organization, or DAO (si-bin tha-ya-ye apwe in Myanmar). Township DAOs are comprised of two parts: a township development affairs committee (TDAC) and a township DAO office. DAOs

are the only local government actors that are controlled by a specific local committee, the TDAC, which has decision-making authority and most of its members are elected by local communities.

3.2 Reform of Municipality in Myanmar

Municipalities in Myanmar's highly centralized governance system, known as Development Affairs Organizations (DAOs), are free to raise their own funds and experiment with how they provide urban services. DAOs, which were previously component of Ministry of Border Affairs, were decentralized and are now managed by state/regional administrations, as stipulated in the 2008 Constitution. This fact about DAOs is not widely recognized, but having more control over their finances and operations has enabled committed and determined municipal officials in some places to begin pushing the boundaries of what can be done to enhance how their municipalities run.

Municipal staff in Irrawaddy Region, Shan State, and Karen State are adopting mobile app technology to analyze and input tax and licensing data in real time, resulting in more transparent tax bills that residents can rely on. The data gathered is also being utilized to inform municipal tax reform. To reduce waste and increase revenue, some municipalities have installed water meters. Others use technology such as Facebook and Viber to improve communication with citizens and better understand their needs. However, the unusual freedom provided to DAOs has its own set of issues. In the absence of a union-level line ministry, DAOs receive limited guidance and have few opportunities to learn from one another. Reforming municipalities addressed specific difficulties encountered, such as those linked to improving waste management, responses, and lessons learned for others.

The Asia Foundation and the Renaissance Institute (RI) provided new data and research to help frame the workshop discussions. This comprised findings from the Foundation's 2018 City Life Survey, which provided fresh insights into how Myanmar urban inhabitants perceive taxation, along with RI's examination of Myanmar's property tax system. The analysis on Myanmar's property tax system indicates the country's severely low levels of property tax revenue collection. For instance, in Taunggyi, Shan State's capital city, the average household pays only Kyat 1,200 in property tax per year — not more than the price of four cups of tea. The rate is far less in Yangon. This is a municipal revenue stream that has not contributed as

much as it could to urban development. Municipalities are becoming aware of this issue and have started to change the system through which property taxes are computed and collected. Shan State's pioneering initiative to change the regressive business license system in the country, that typically uses auctions to issue a restricted number of licenses to businesses, caused the most disagreement at the workshop. This antiquated method is problematic for a multitude of reasons. Because only a few licenses available, competition is limited. When a company is the sole participant in its market, it can charge higher rates or provide lower-quality goods and services.

Myanmar's municipalities have intentionally created a situation in which enterprises can make more money from customers than they would otherwise, enabling the government to collect a percentage of this as revenue. This stems in part from the government's apparent incapacity to levy taxes on citizens directly. As a result, while residents pay almost nothing in property taxes, they pay for urban services through this hidden and regressive auction licensing system. Slaughterhouse licenses, which generate a significant amount of municipal funds, are among the most lucrative auction licenses managed by DAOs (up to 50 percent in some cities). In an unprecedented move in 2013, local authorities in Shan State initiated abandoning the practice of auctioning off a set number of permits in order to stimulate competition.

Almost any firm can seek for a permit under the new system, as long as they meet specified food safety standards. Fees for licenses are linked to livestock sales, so when sales rise, so does the amount paid to the DAO. Initially, this decision resulted in lower revenues. They used to account for 44 percent of Taunggyi's municipal revenue, but that amount is currently only 17.7 percent. They did, however, rise over time as more enterprises were permitted to get into the market. As stated by the Foundation's research on local economic governance in Myanmar, more investment in livestock and slaughterhouses has resulted from this rivalry. Cheaper meat prices help the general population as well, establishing an uncommon win-win situation.

Many municipal officials and state/region ministers in attendance at the conference were shocked and questioned whether such a result was accomplished. While the improvements are still in their early stages, early indications are promising. As a result, other state and regional administrations have approached the Shan State government, hoping to gain more knowledge from their experiences. This type of story demonstrate that reform and experimentation are possible in Myanmar, as creative strategies to increasing municipal revenues and improving urban service

delivery are tested. Municipalities, according to Chin State's Minister for Development Affairs, are lucky to be able to make faster decisions, discover their own answers to challenges, and be more attentive to local demands.

DAOs have already demonstrated that they can perform as idea laboratories, dispersed around the country, figuring out how to deal with urban issues. Some improvements will be successful, while others will not. To take advantage of the opportunity, the union, state, and regional governments must maintain the space for local level experimentation, lead experimentation toward worthwhile aims, and share lessons learned so that failed reforms in one city are not duplicated while good efforts can expand.

3.3 Urban Informal Sector in Myanmar

In most of the countries, informal or unregistered firms and workers exist. La Porta and Schleifer (2014) suggest that about 30 to 40 percent of economic activity occurs in the informal sector in poor countries. The informal sector in Myanmar is substantial and expected to persist, as it is in many developing nations. Understanding the sector is critical for raising individual wages who work in it and maximizing the sector's contribution to overall economic growth and dynamism. According to a 2018 report issued by the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Myanmar has one of the world's largest informal economies, accounting for more than half of economic activity between 1999 and 2006. The 2015 Myanmar Labor Force Survey defined the informal sector as (a) ownership of business in private and or not government/joint venture and (b) business/farm not registered under any ministry. It defined informal employment as workers who contribute to the family, others self-employed with an informal sector enterprise, employees with no employer contribution to social welfare system, employees with employer contributions to social welfare system but no paid annual leave, employees with employer contributions to social welfare system but no paid annual leave, and employees with employer contributions to social welfare system and paid annual leave but no paid sick leave. According to certain analyses, Myanmar's informal sector is substantial even by developing country standards. According to Schneider et al. (2010), Myanmar's share of the informal sector is less than that of only six other nations in a sample of 88 developing countries.

According to the Myanmar Statistical Yearbook 2019, 70 people lived in rural areas and 30 in metropolitan areas for every 100 people in Myanmar. Yangon has the

highest amount of internal migrants (48.2 percent), with over 20 percent migrating for work. Informal employment accounts for almost three-quarters of total non-agricultural employment in Myanmar and is the primary form of employment. In urban areas, the informal sector employs over 70% of the workforce. As stated by World Bank, the urban poverty rate in Myanmar was 34.6 percent in 2010. Myanmar's high urban poverty rates reflect high living costs and limited access to stable and well-paid jobs. The urban poor are unskilled and labor in the informal economy or as casual unskilled labor.

According to some studies, labor productivity levels in Myanmar do not differ much between women and men owned informal businesses. Labor productivity for women is substantially lower in the manufacturing sector than in the services sector. On an absolute level, roughly a quarter of informal firms in Myanmar report limited access to finance as a significant barrier to their business, out of a list of eight obstacles including access to finance, access to land, corruption, crime, electricity supply, water supply, access to technology, and a scarcity of skilled workers.

According to the World Bank's Enterprise Survey (2016), less than 5% of informal enterprises in Myanmar hold a bank account for business purposes, far less than in Guatemala (21%), Argentina (31%), Peru (33%), and Rwanda (78%), for which data is available. Micro businesses having bank accounts in Myanmar are likewise scarce (10 percent). However, informal enterprises in Myanmar are less likely to be credit-constrained than informal firms elsewhere. Firms that did not apply for a loan because of complex application procedures, high interest rates, high collateral requirements, insufficient loan amount or maturity, and the firm did not believe it would be approved are classified as credit-constrained firms; firms that did not apply for the loan because there was no need for a loan are classified as credit-unconstrained firms; and the remaining firms are those that applied but it is unclear if they were approved. Approximately 98 percent of Myanmar's informal enterprises use their own funds to finance working capital. Bank financing is essentially non-existent among informal enterprises in Myanmar, as it is in other countries.

Policies that encourage formalization need knowledge of the potential benefits to enterprises of registering as well as the reasons for not registering. Consequently, more effort is necessary to make formalization more profitable to enterprises. Firms are far more likely to cite gains from registering in Yangon than in other parts of Myanmar. One reason for this could be that large cities often have superior public

services, physical and financial infrastructure, and so more benefits from registration. This means that formalization efforts are more likely to be useful and successful in areas where public services and infrastructure are readily available, for example in Myanmar's relatively larger cities.

3.4 Brief of Yangon City Development Committee

Yangon City not only the architectural heritage and the way the town-plan is laid out is set out tied to the colonial period, but also the way Yangon City and, by extension, Yangon Region is organized that can be traced back to colonial legislation addressing urban development and city management. The British colonial government established Rangoon's first municipal government and the office of mayor in 1874. The municipal government's charter was amended by the Burma Act of 1898 and modified by the City of Rangoon Municipal Act of August 1922.

The Rangoon Municipal Act 1922 established the Rangoon City Municipal Corporation as an independent legal entity, a body corporate with all the characteristics of an urban local government, with a (largely) elected council as the supreme governance body presided by a mayor annually elected by the councilors from amongst their midst; an administration headed by a chief executive officer - to work, as per the act's amendment in 1958, under the direct instructions of the mayor; and a clear description of tasks and provision for tax collection to fund the implementation of those tasks. The content of tasks was lengthy but, predictably, focused primarily on municipal services such as town planning and building regulation, drainage system construction and maintenance, water supply, sewerage and solid waste management, road construction and street maintenance, street lighting, public space management, and, finally, public health (including disease control, food inspection, management of market places and slaughterhouses). These include permissive roles, functions for curative health and education. Taxes were limited to a vehicle tax and a property tax, the latter of which comprised components imposed on properties- to cover, in addition to general expenses for the city corporation to perform its tasks, the costs for sewerage, solid waste management, and water supply.

The City of Yangon Development Act, enacted by the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) in 1990, introduced significant important modifications to Yangon City's governing structure without legally deleting any section of the

Municipal Act. The Act specifically stated that the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) was to implement the terms of the Yangon Municipal Act - notwithstanding the fact that there were evident conflicts between the two sets of legislation.

The primary new features of the Law are that elected representatives from the four districts will serve on the committee, and the mayor, who is also the Region Minister for Development Affairs (Si-pin-thar-yar-yay), will be accountable to the Chief Minister and the Region Hluttaw. As a result, the YCDC is accountable to Region Hluttaw, and its funding is included in the region's budget. Although not particularly clearly articulated in the new act, since it reverts to the usual extensive listing of operations seen in many (urban) local government acts in former British controlled nations, the service delivery functions and mandates for YCDC are the fundamental municipal services.

3.4.1 Rules and Regulation for Street Vendors

Since the colonial era, several rules, regulations, and notices have been issued to street sellers. In 1989, under the rule of the SLORC government, the YCDC permitted street vending and collected charges for vending places. Nonetheless, new vendors increased and did not submit an application for registration. Thus, the amount of illegal vendors increased. In 2018, June 28, the new Yangon City Development law was adopted. The section 5 of this law, under the functions of the committee, deals directly with street vendors. As stated by the law, the committee shall set rules, supervise and act with regard to street vendors.

- The committee can, in compliance with the regulations, perform the relocation, closure, and removal of street vendors at appropriate locations in townships within the city limits.
- The committee may revoke any person who is allowed to sell under section 195 if he finds non-payment of fees and does not follow the regulations set by the committee. The health officer and the police officer, including the person in charge of the relevant township development administration office, shall regularly inspect and act against the street stalls that are open for sale.
- The Committee shall issue rules and regulations to be followed by the street vendors, hawkers, mobile stall vendors in case of roadblocks and issues of invasion.

- A fine of 10,000 kyats to 100,000 kyats shall be imposed if a roadside shop is found to be open for sale except at the time and place permitted by the committee within the city limits. If he continues to commit the offense, he will be sentenced to up to one month in prison.
- Advertising and selling by car or truck without the permission of the committee. If found selling, a fine of 10,000 kyats to 100,000 kyats shall be imposed. If he continues to commit the offense, he will be sentenced to up to one month in prison.

3.5 The Markets and Commodities Center Department Activities of YCDC

The Markets and Administration Departments are in charge of managing vending hours and locations, as well as establishing rules and regulations for street vending. Occasionally, YCDC can also put forth notifications and orders to manage street vendors. Some activities of Markets and Commodities Center Department of YCDC are presented as follow.

(i) Street Vendors Resist of YCDC's Market Plan

Despite the best efforts of local authorities to clean up Yangon's streets, vendors say they are uninterested to transfer to new purpose-made markets being established by the Yangon City Development Committee. Business is thriving along major routes and outside bazaars and supermarkets, with vendors selling everything from food to clothes to used electronics, books, and newspapers. As stated by YCDC, this growing activity is clogging traffic and causing litter issues. To tackle the problem, the local government has commissioned new markets with the intention of removing vendors from the streets. According to a senior officer from the YCDC's markets department, sellers will each be given a 4 square-foot location to sell their food or products in two-stored marketplaces all across the city. Vendors will be responsible for cleaning their space and storing equipment such as stalls, chairs, and other merchandise once they have completed selling for the day, according to the senior official. He claims that the markets are around 80% complete, and that spaces have already been reserved for individuals who sell within 300 square feet of each new market. YCDC has no intention of collecting payments.

While street vendors already pay fees to the municipal markets department, many believe they can earn a great living on the roadside and are hesitant to relocate.

As rental prices in Yangon climb, so does the quantity of street hawkers and mobile vendors. Some street vendors are hesitant to transfer to an indoor market for fear of losing customers. Other vendors are not responsible for traffic, which has accumulated in Yangon as a consequence of an excess of automobiles on the road, in the lack of a functional system. Vendors have been selling on the streets for many years, but traffic problems are relatively new phenomena. If YCDC tries to relocate vendors after the markets are complete, this way of life will alter. Local authorities are constructing six new markets and upgrading ten existing markets in the Ahlone, Kyeemyindaing, Hlaing, Thaketa, Insein, Mingalardon, Hlaing Tharyar, Mayangone, Shwe Pyi Thar, Seikgyi Kanaungto, and East Dagon Townships.

(ii) Street Vendors to be Housed in High-rises

Markets in Yangon will be moved into multi-story buildings in order to house street vendors, while an alternative solution to support the livelihoods of the street vendors is elusive, the government should handle the issue with care, while simultaneously acknowledging that illegal street peddling is an open challenge to the statute of law. The government prohibits street sellers from operating on main roads but allows them to operate on side streets on certain days. Another option is to extend the time vendors are permitted to operate stalls on major roads from 3-p.m. until after p.m., when rush hour traffic has lessened. Street vendors will be given space in high-rise markets that will be converted into extra room for them to operate. In 2014, 1,312 street vendors were assigned to 114 markets. According to the Yangon City Development Committee, the government used to generate approximately K380 million (\$380,000) per year from taxes imposed on street vendors in Yangon, however the taxation of the vendors was halted in 2011. The YCDC's relocation of street vendors in each district during the 2010 to 2018 years is shown in the following table.

Table (3.1) The Street Vendors Relocation Activities in Selected Township (2010-2018)

No	District	Township	Numbers of Street Vendors	Relocation of Street Vendors
		Dagon Myothit (Seikkan)	50	50
1	Eastam	Dagon Myothit (East)	100	100
1	Eastern	Dagon Myothit (North)	370	290
		Dagon Myothit (South)	369	369
2	Western	Ahlone	170	170
		Tamwe	128	100
3	Southern	Tharketa	200	200
		Dala	95	95
		Insein	800	120
		Hlaing Thar Yar	700	700
4	Northern	Hlaing	159	90
		Shwe Pyi Thar	682	682
		Kamaryut	200	200
	Total		4023	3166

Source: The Market and Commodities Center Department of YCDC

Above the table, in the total number of street vendors (4023), street vendors (3166) were relocated by YCDC. In Dagon Myothit (Seikkan Township) of the eastern district, they relocated 50 street vendors into No. (88) Municipal Market. In the Dagon Myothit (East Township), a total of 100 street vendors were relocated into the No (2) market. In Dagon Myothit (North Township), out of a total of 370 street vendors, 290 street vendors were relocated to No. (4) market. Concerning with the relocation of street vendors, a total of 369 street vendors on the streets of five wards in Dagon Myothit (South Township) were systematically relocated to No (1) market.

In western district, the relocation of street vendors in Ahlone Township was done within the market. A total of 170 street vendors were relocated to the top floor of a two-story building in Ahlone Market.

In the Northern District, Insein Township, out of total 800 street vendors, 120 street vendors were relocated Myothit market and Fokan market. Therefore, a total of 700 street vendors on the streets of four wards in Hlaing Thar Township were

systematically relocated Aung Thukha market and Tun Thiri Market. Of a total of 159 vendors on the streets of three wards in Hlaing Township, 90 street vendors were relocated to Hlaing Yandar Market and Oak Kyin Market. In the Shwe Pyi Yhar Township, a total of 682 street vendors on the streets of 11 wards were systematically relocated into Nawarat market, Ngamuk market and Hlaw Kar Nilar, Sanpya market. In Kamaryut townships, 200 street vendors in four wards were relocated within Sivanmalai Market.

In the Southern District, street vendors in Tamwe Township were relocated. Out of (128) street vendors, 100 street vendors were relocated within Tamwe temporary market. In Thaketa township, a total of 200 street vendors on the streets of three wards were systematically relocated to No. (2) markets and No. (7) market. In Dala townships, a total of 95 street vendors on the streets of four wards were relocated to Kamakasit market and Aung Zeya market.

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(iii) The Current Activities of Market and Commodities Center Department of YCDC

The market department is undertaking the construction of new, multi-story market buildings and the upgrading of old market structure in relevance with the budget allocation of fiscal years. They also enhance the market buildings, from the old compound market structure to steel structure in the crowded suburban area. Moreover, the market department of YCDC is gradually executing the relocation of vendors on the street into the updated multi-story market building. In addition, in collaboration with Myanmar Agro Exchange Company Limited on a 60-acre plot of land in Dhaing Kone, the project to build Dhaing Kone Wholesale Market was implemented.

Furthermore, for security purposes in the markets, efforts are being made to improve the flow of water near the market and the market environment during the rainy season. Fire drills will be conducted in collaboration with members of the Myanmar Fire Brigade. Fire extinguishers, the numbers of fire engines and fire ponds have all increased in recent years. In addition, debt collection and COVID-19 activities are being carried out. The COVID-19 period activities are being carried out in compliance with the government version. For example, hand sanitizer, hand basin, and temperature measuring devices are being provided at the (A) level markets.

The following are some current activities of YCDC in four districts of Yangon, namely East, West, South, and North.

Table (3.2) The Current Activities of Market and Commodities Center

Department of YCDC

No	District	Township	Activities of YCDC
1	Eastern	Thingangyun North Okkalapa	Constructing Thingangyun Market & Yadanar Thiri Wholesale Market.
2	Western	Alone Babae Tan	Constructing Sin Min Storeyed Market & New Bogyoke Storeyed Market
3	Southern	Mingalar Taung Nyunt Tamwe	Reconstructing Mingalar Wholesale and Retail Market and Tamwe Yar Pyae Market
4	Northern	Hlaing	Constructing Shwe Pi Tauk fish market

Source: The Market and Commodities Center Department of YCDC

The above table shows the current activities in each district. In Eastern district, YCDC are constructing Thingangyun market and Yadanar Thiri Wholesale Market. The new Sin Min storeyed market is being constructed in Alone Township and the new Bogyoke storeyed market in Babae Tan Township.

The market department is reconstructing Mingalar wholesale and retail market, which was recently damaged in fire accident situated in the Mingalar Taung Nyunt Township. Furthermore, the other two constructions are Tamwe Yar Pyae market in Tamwe Township and the new Shwe Pi Tauk fish market in Hlaing Township.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS ON SURVEY DATA

4.1 Survey Profile

Thingangyun Township is situated in Yangon's Eastern District. As stated by the township general administration department (2019), Thingangyun Township has 38 ward and a total population of 214,379. Thingangyun Township is an economically developed township, located at the crossroads and has good transportation links. There are five prominent markets and one temporary market in Thingangyun Township. They are (a) Thingangyun market, (b) Sanpya-Nga Moe Yeik market, (c) Thuwana market, (d) Yay Nant Thar market, (e) Yadanar market and (f) Kyun Taw (temporary) market. There has been little to no transfer of street vendors into these five major markets. However, YCDC has implemented systematic relocation of street vendors into the Kyun Taw market since 2015. Kyun Taw market is located at the corner of Lay Daung Kan Road and Thanthumar Road under the Pyi Htaung Su Bridge, Lay Daung Kan Ward. According to YCDC's data, there are 752 shops in Kyun Taw market, most of which sell clothes, cosmetics, food, raw materials, meat, fish, fruits and vegetables. The research studied 200 shops from a total numbers of 752 shops. Kyun Taw market opens from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm and it opens for 7 days a week. In the early 2021s, relocated street vendors in the Kyun Taw temporary market were bustling, but now street vendors are illegally selling their wares back on the roadside again. The survey focused only on street vendors at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market who were relocated by the YCDC.

4.2 Survey Design

According to information provided by the Kyun Taw Market officer of YCDC, there are 752 vendors in the Kyun Taw Market. Interviews were conducted with 200 vendors at Kyun Taw Market for this survey. Thus, the sample collections are 12% for clothes/cosmetics, 33% for fish/meat, 23% for vegetables/fruits, and 32% for grocery shops. The convenience sampling method is used to gather data from

respondents and the survey was conducted from September 2021 to November 2021. As a consequence, 27% out of a total of vendors in the Kyun Taw (temporary) market were surveyed as a sample size. The research used both quantitative and qualitative methods to analyze survey data. To accomplish the purpose of qualitative data collection, interviews were conducted with the two Deputy Officers from the Market Department and Administration Department of YCDC to observe the current activities of YCDC.

In order to carry out the quantitative survey to collect perception of street vendors on YCDC's relocation activities at Kyun Taw market, a questionnaire with four components was prepared. The first section of the questionnaire was to collect the general characteristics of street vendors such as gender, age, marital status, education level, family type, number of household members, and types of product sold at the market, etc. The second part contains information on personal experiences, daily activities, and employment arrangements. This section comprises questions such as the number of years making a living as a street vendor, where they came from, how long they have been in Yangon, their reasons for making a living as street vendors, the things they consider when they choose a vending site and any kinds of eviction experiences they have encountered. In the questionnaire's third section, general knowledge was asked about whether the street vendors know and understand the Yangon City Development Committee's laws and regulations. The final part of the questionnaire focused on street vendors' perceptions of relocation activities that were implemented by YCDC at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market in Thingangyun Township.

4.3 Survey Data Analysis

Data analysis is primarily based on the four components of the questionnaire data, namely social and demographic characteristics, information about personal experiences, daily activities and employment arrangements, general knowledge of YCDC laws and regulations, licensing, and bribes, and finally the vendor's perception on relocation activities.

4.3.1 Social and Demographic Characteristics of Vendors

This section analyzed the socio-demographic profile of vendors. According to surveyed data, the table (4.1) contains the above-mentioned data.

Table (4.1) Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Age Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage
20 to 30	23	11.00
30 to 40	51	26.00
40 to 50	92	46.00
50 to 60	24	12.00
Above 60	10	5.00
Total	200	100.00
Gender	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Male	65	33.00
Female	135	67.00
Total	200	100.00
Marital Status	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Single	44	22.00
Married	125	62.00
Divorced	7	4.00
Widow/Widower	24	12.00
Total	200	100.00
Education Level	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Primary School	21	10.00
Secondary School	72	36.00
High School	66	33.00
University Graduate	30	15.00
No Education	11	6.00
Total	200	100.00
Family Type	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Nuclear	176	88.00
Extended	24	12.00
Total Source: Survey Date 2021	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to the data analysis, the main age groups of respondents were those aged 40-50 and those aged 30-40, with percentages of 46 and 26, respectively. Only a small percentage of vendors are elderly, which corresponds to the age group of people over the age of 60 in the studied population. Gender distribution is as follows: 33% are male and 67% are female. There were 44 single people, 125 married people, 7 divorcees, and 24 widows and widowers among the 200 people who responded. To evaluate the respondents' educational level, the highest was the secondary level with 36% and the lowest was no education with 6%, the elementary school level was 10%, the high school level and university graduates were 33% and 15%, respectively. Thus, the majority of respondents had quite a low degree of education. In terms of family type, 88 percent or 176 respondents out of 200 vendors lived together with their family, while the remaining 12 percent or 24 respondents lived apart from their family.

Table (4.2) Native Town of Respondents at Kyun Taw Market

Native Town	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yangon	175	87.50
Bago	10	5.00
Monywa	1	0.50
Mandalay	5	2.50
Irrawaddy	8	4.00
Pakokku	1	0.50
Total	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to the survey data, only 12.5 percent of all respondents are not residents of Yangon City, whereas 87.5 percent are. Therefore, most of the vendors in Kyun Taw Market are native to Yangon. The other vendors are native from Bago, Irrawaddy, Mandalay, Monywa, Irrawaddy and Pokokku respectively.

Table (4.3) Street Vendor's Number of Years Living in Yangon

Number of Years	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Under 5 years	2	1.00
Between 5 and 10 years	14	7.00
Between 10 and 20 years	25	12.50
Between 20 and 30 years	57	28.50
Above 30 years	102	51.00
Total	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to the survey data, the majority of respondents (102 out of 200) had lived in Yangon for more than 30 years, accounting for 51 percent of the total. Thus, the majority of the vendors are native to Yangon according to the table (4.3), because the respondents lived for a couple of decades in Yangon. The second and third dominant number of years are between (20-30) and (10-20) years, accounting for 57 and 25 respondents respectively. The lowest numbers of respondents living under 5 years and between 5 and 10 years in Yangon are 2 and 14 respondents out of 200 respondents, respectively.

Table (4.4) Number of Years Working as Vendor in Yangon

Number of Years	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Less than 1 year	4	2.00
Between 1 and 5 years	45	22.50
Between 5 and 10 years	48	24.00
Above 10 years	103	51.50
Total	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

The research study revealed that the dominant years of working as a vendor is over 10 years, with 103 respondents out of 200 respondents, or 51%. The second majority of respondents chose between 5 and 10 years working as vendors are 48 respondents or 24%. The remaining percentages of vendors with less than one year of

experience and those with one to five years of experience are 2% and 22%, respectively.

4.3.2 Business Operation and Employment Arrangements of Street Vendors

The personal experiences of street vendors operating vending businesses, their everyday routines, and employment arrangements can be seen in the second section. The following table showed types of products sold in the Kyun Taw market.

Table (4.5) Types of Selling Products

Types of Goods Sold	Number of Shops	Percentage
Clothes/Cosmetics	24	12.00
Fish/Meat	66	33.00
Vegetables/Fruits	46	23.00
Grocery shop	64	32.00
Total	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to survey results, the majority of items sold in the Kyun Taw market were fish/meat and grocery stores, with respective percentages of 33 and 32. There were 23%, or 46 shops, out of 200 shops that sold vegetables and fruits. The least favorable types of selling goods are clothes and cosmetics, which only accounted for 12%, or 24 shops out of 200 shops.

Table (4.6) Number of Years Operating Business at Kyun Taw Market

Number of Years	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Less than 1 year	9	4.50
Between 1 and 3 years	117	58.50
Between 3 and 5 years	45	22.50
Above 5 years	29	14.50
Total	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to survey data, the dominant numbers of year operating business at Kyun Taw market are the group between 1-3 years and between 3-5 years with respective respondents of 117 and 45 out of 200 respondents. Since 2015, the relocation of street vendors into the Kyun Taw market has been performed. In the Kyun Taw market, 29 respondents have been in business for more than 5 years, while 9 respondents have been in business for less than 1 year.

Table (4.7) Original Place of Business Operation before Relocation into Kyun Taw Market

Original place	Frequency	Percentage
Lay Daung Kan Road	20	10.00
U Tin Oo Road	180	90.00
Total	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to survey data, it was found out that the significant numbers of the respondents are relocated from U Tin Oo road, Nga Moe Yeik ward, Thingangyun Township to Kyun Taw market accounting for 180 respondents out of 200 respondents, approximately 90%. There are a few respondents who were relocated from Lay Daung Kan road, Lay Daung Kan ward, Thingangyun Township, accounting for 20 respondents out of 200 respondents with a percentage of 10%.

Table (4.8) Reasons for Engaging in Street Vending

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Seasonal Vendor	1	0.50
Family Business	97	48.50
Livelihood	102	51.00
Total	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

Table (4.8) presented the reasons of respondents for engaging in the vending business. The data analysis revealed that the primary reasons for engaging in street vending were for their livelihood to fulfill their basic needs and have regular income

from it. According to survey data, it was found out that nearly all of the respondents stated that street vending is their major source of income. Thus, 102 respondents out of 200 respondents or 51% answered livelihood as their primary reason. There were 97 respondents, or 48%, who answered that their reasons for engaging in street vending were due to family business. Only one respondent answered "seasonal vendors" as their reason for engaging in street vending.

Table (4.9) Daily Activity and Employment Arrangement

Number of business operating days per week	Frequency	Percentage
5	12	6.00
6	13	6.50
7	175	87.50
Total	200	100.00
Number of holidays	Frequency	Percentage
Over 30 days	22	11.00
Over 60 days	5	2.50
Under 30 days	15	7.50
None	158	79.00
Total	200	100.00
Place of Raw material bought for operating business	Frequency	Percentage
Directly from producers	12	6.00
Wholesaler	140	70.00
Retailer	48	24.00
Total	200	100.00
Facilities preference for vending site	Frequency	Percentage
Shelter	35	17.50
Transportation	57	28.50
Customer	55	27.50
All of the above	53	26.50
Total Source: Survey Date 2021	200	100.00

Source: Survey Data, 2021

Table (4.9) presented daily activity and employment arrangement of vendors. According to the survey results, the vast majority of the respondents operate their vending business 7 days per week accounting for 175 out of 200 respondents or 87.5% of total respondents. The quantity of vendors operating vending businesses for 5 and 6 days was 12 and 13, respectively. In terms of vendors taking vacations last year, 158 out of 200 respondents, or roughly 79 percent, did not take vacations last year. Respondents who took vacations of more than 30 days and less than 30 days account for 22 and 15 respondents, respectively. It was discovered that the lowest number of respondents who took more than 60 vacation days was only 5 respondents. According to the data analysis, 140 respondents, or 70% of all respondents, purchased raw materials from wholesalers, whereas 48 respondents, or 24% of total respondents, purchased raw materials from retailers. Only 12 respondents, or around 6% of all respondents, purchased raw ingredients directly from the producers. When it comes to selecting a vending location, 57 respondents (or 28 percent) believe that transportation is the most crucial feature. The other preferences are client availability and shelters availability, which account for 55 and 35 respondents, or 27% and 17.5%, respectively. Respondents who believe that all of the mentioned preferences are important account for 53 out of 200 respondents, or 26% of total respondents.

Table (4.10) Personal Experiences of Relocated Vendors

Types of Situation Changes	Frequency	Percentage
Vending Place	53	26.50
Tax collection	70	35.00
Basic Facility	60	30.00
Other	17	8.50
Total	200	100.00
Terms of Agreement	Frequency	Percentage
Shop registration	16	8.00
Product registration	2	1.00
Owner registration	3	1.50
Pay tax	88	44.00
All of the above	91	45.50
Total	200	100.00

Table (4.10) Personal Experiences of Relocated Vendors (Continued)

Frequency	Percentage
178	89.00
22	11.00
200	100.00
Frequency	Percentage
9	4.50
58	29.00
53	26.50
80	40.00
200	100.00
Frequency	Percentage
181	90.50
-	-
-	-
19	9.50
200	100.00
	178 22 200 Frequency 9 58 53 80 200 Frequency 181 19

Source: Survey Data, 2021

Table (4.10) presented the personal experiences of relocated street vendors. According to survey data, every one of those 200 street vendors has experienced relocation. Thus, all respondents have encountered some changes after relocation from their original vending place. According to the data analysis of 200 respondents, the majority respondents assumed that tax collection at relocated locations was an obvious change, accounting for 70 respondents, or 35% of total respondents Some of the changes they encountered at the relocated place are, in terms of percentages, 30% for the basic facility, 26% for the vending place, and 17% for other changes, respectively. Regarding the agreement to be followed by respondents at the relocated location, 88 respondents, or 44 percent of total respondents, assumed that they had to pay tax on a regular basis in order to keep their vending site. In some of the agreements, such as shop registration, product registration, and owner registration, 10.5% of total respondents assumed that they had to register shops, products, and owners of the shop in order to keep their current relocated place. The respondents,

who assumed that all the mentioned agreements are important, account for 91 out of 200 respondents or 45% of total respondents.

According to survey data, at the relocation site, the majority of respondents believe that having access to water, electricity, and waste disposal services is sufficient. It was discovered that nearly all of the respondents had been evicted from their previous vending locations. Thus, the evictions may have varying impact on individual vending businesses. It is presented the data analysis of the impacts on the respondents' businesses. 60 percent of total respondents assumed that evictions caused property loss, income loss, and vending place loss, whereas 40 percent assumed that evictions caused all of the above impacts. Before relocation, the majority of street vendors had to be concerned about being confiscated by YCDC's staff, which accounted for 181 respondents, approximately 90.5%. Then, 9.5% of total respondents assumed that they had to be worried not only about confiscation but also about robbery and bullying.

4.3.3 General Knowledge of Street Vendor on YCDC Rules and Regulations, Licensing, and Bribery

This section focused on the vendors' general understanding of whether they are aware of and comprehend the Yangon City Development Committee's laws and regulations.

Table (4.11) General Knowledge of Street Vendor on YCDC Rules and Regulations, Licensing, and Bribery

General Knowledge of YCDC Rules and Regulation	Frequency	Percentage
Have general knowledge	128	64%
Do not have general knowledge	72	36%
Total	200	100.00
Registration	Frequency	Percentage
Registration Have identity card	Frequency 138	Percentage 69%
		9

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to survey data, the vast majority of respondents had a general understanding of the YCDC's rules and regulations, accounting for 128 respondents, or 64% of total respondents. There are 36% of total responders that lack general knowledge. In terms of registration, 69 percent of total respondents have a YCDC vendor's identification card or license card, while the remaining 31 percent do not have a vendor's identity card or license card. It was discovered that almost all of the respondents did not have to pay any additional fees (except for tax collection) at the relocated vending places. As a result, it is safe to presume that there are no issues with bribery. Furthermore, all respondents in the Kyun Taw Market adhere to the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 regulations.

4.3.4 Vendor's Perception on Relocation Activities of Yangon City Development Committee

The final section of the study analyzed street vendor's perception on relocation activities which was implemented by YCDC at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market of Thingangyun Township. According to Naw Moo Moo Hsoe (2019), likert score are calculated by using the following method to analyze the perception of vendors on the relocation activities of YCDC.

Number of statement x = (Most favorable response possible)

Number of statement x = (A neutral attitude)

Number of statement x 1 = (Most unfavorable attitude)

(i) Street Vendor's Attitude toward Relocation Activities (Advantages)

The table (4.12) presents the attitude of street vendors towards the relocation activities carried out by YCDC at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market of Thingangyun Township. The attitude of street vendors is measured using six statements. They are (a) YCDC's relocation activities can improve the status of vendors, (b) the relocation plan makes street vendors more legally secure than before, (c) the new relocating area provides basic facilities and infrastructure, (d) the traffic and pedestrian congestion decrease after relocation, (e) the new vending site is more competitive as customers can buy similar products at one place, (f) by implementing the relocation activity, vendors can be seen as a business with dignity by the surrounding environment. Based on the statement, the respondents have to respond their opinion in any one of the following ways: (i) strongly disagree, (ii) disagree, (iii) neither agree nor disagree,

(iv) agree, and (v) strongly agree. Response indicating the least unfavorable degree of agreement is given the least score (1) and the most favorable is given the highest score (5) in this section. The instrument consists of 6 statements, the following score value is revealing.

 $6 \times 5 = 30$ (Most favorable response possible)

 $6 \times 3 = 18$ (A neutral attitude)

 $6 \times 1 = 6$ (Most unfavorable attitude)

The score for any individual falls between 6 and 30. If the score is above 18, it shows favorable opinion to the given point of view, a score of below 18 means unfavorable opinion and a score of exactly 18 is suggestive of a neutral attitude.

Table (4.12) Street Vendor's Attitude toward Relocation Activities (Advantages)

Likert Score	Above 18	Exactly 18	Below 18
Summated Scale (Meaning)	Most favorable response possible	A neutral attitude	Most unfavorable attitude
(a) YCDC's relocation activities can improve the status of vendors.	187	7	9
(b) The relocation plan makes street vendors more legally secure than before.	194	3	3
(c) The new area of relocation provides basic facilities and infrastructure.	190	5	5
(d) The traffic and pedestrian congestion decrease after relocation.	189	3	6
(e) The new vending site is more competitive as customers can buy similar products at one place.	174	12	14
(f) By implementing the relocation activity, vendors can be regarded as a business with dignity by the surrounding environment.	195	2	3

Source: Survey Data, 2021

As indicated in the table (4.12), the vast majority of respondents favorably agree with the six statements. For statement (a), most of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 187 people who have the most favorable response possible, which is followed by 7 people with a neutral attitude and 9 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (b), most of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 194 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 3 people with a neutral attitude and 3 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (c), the great majority of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 190 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 5 people who have a neutral attitude and 5 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (d), the vast majority of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 189 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 3 people with a neutral attitude and 6 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (e), most of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 174 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 12 people who have a neutral attitude and 14 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (f), most of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 195 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 2 people who have a neutral attitude and 3 people who have the most unfavorable attitude.

It can be concluded that the vast majority of street vendors have a more favorable attitude towards the relocation activities carried out by the YCDC. Moreover, they expected that the relocation efforts would be beneficial in a variety of ways such as enhancement of their status, more legally secure, gaining basic facilities and infrastructure, and decreasing congestion problems.

(ii) Street Vendor's Attitude toward Relocation Activities (Disadvantages)

The table (4.13) presents the attitude of street vendors towards the relocation activities carried out by YCDC at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market of Thingangyun Township. The attitude of street vendors is measured using six statements. They are (a) vendors face a slow sales rate after relocating to a new designated location, (b) the relocating area causes an inconvenient location for communicating with regular customers, (c) the relocation site is far from public transportation, (d) there is an absence of shelter to protect against the sun or rain at the new vending site, (e) vendors have to be concerned about potential flooding when the monsoon season hits, (f) vendors who have been relocated are not allowed to sell alternative goods. Based

on the statement, the respondents have to respond their opinion in any one of the following ways: (i) strongly disagree, (ii) disagree, (iii) neither agree nor disagree, (iv) agree, and (v) strongly agree. Response indicating the least unfavorable degree of agreement is given the least score (1) and the most favorable is given the highest score (5) in this section. The instrument consists of 6 statements, the following score value is revealing.

 $6 \times 5 = 30$ (Most favorable response possible)

 $6 \times 3 = 18$ (A neutral attitude)

 $6 \times 1 = 6$ (Most unfavorable attitude)

The score for any individual falls between 6 and 30. If the score is above 18, it shows favorable opinion to the given point of view, a score of below 18 means unfavorable opinion and a score of exactly 18 is suggestive of a neutral attitude.

Table (4.13) Street Vendor's Attitude toward Relocation Activities (Disadvantages)

Likert Score	Above 18	Exactly 18	Below 18
Summated Scale (Meaning)	Most favorable response possible	A neutral attitude	Most unfavorable attitude
(a) Vendors face slow sales rate after moving to a new designated location.	143	23	34
(b) The area of relocation causes an inconvenient location for communicating with regular customers.	126	34	40
(c) The relocation site is far from public transportations.	70	17	113
(d) There is no shelter to protect against sun or rain in the new vending site.	87	25	88
(e) Vendors have to be concerned about potential flooding when the monsoon season hits.	89	31	80
(f) Vendors who have been relocated are not allowed to sell alternative goods.	132	39	29

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to the table (4.13), the vast majority of respondents favorably agree with the four statements except for statement (c) and statement (d). For statement (a), the bulk of responders scoring above 18 account for 143 people who have the most pleasant answer possible, followed by 23 people who have a neutral attitude and 34 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (b), most of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 126 people with the most favorable response possible which is followed by 34 people who have a neutral attitude and 40 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. However, in statement (c), the vast majority of the respondents disagree with the statement (c) account for 113 people out of 200 people, while there are 17 people expressing a neutral attitude and 70 people who agree with the statement. In statement (d), most of the respondents ranked themselves as scoring less than 18 on the likert score, accounting for 88 people out of 200 people while there are 24 people who show a neutral attitude and 87 people who agree with the statement. For statement (e), the vast majority of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 89 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 31 people who have a neutral attitude and 80 people with the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (f), most of the respondents scoring above 18 account for 132 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 39 people who have a neutral attitude and 29 people who have the most unfavorable attitude.

It can be concluded that the vast majority of respondents who agree with the statement (a), (b), (e), (f), thought that the relocation activities also have negative impacts on their vending business and they will face situations such as slow sale rate, an inconvenient location for communicating with regular customers, concerned about potential flooding during the rainy season, selling only registered products at the relocated place. Otherwise, the respondents who disagreed with statement (c) and (d) assumed that the relocation place is not much far from the public transportations, and then shelter and basic facilities are provided to protect against sun or rain at the new vending site.

(iii) Vendor's Perception on Rules and Regulations of YCDC with regard to Relocation Activities

The table (4.14) presents vendors' perceptions of YCDC rules and regulations regarding relocation activities at Thingangyun Township's Kyun Taw (temporary) market. The street vendors' perceptions of YCDC rules and regulations are measured using eight statements. They are (a) the YCDC's relocation plan makes Yangon cleaner and brings vendors under government control strategically, (b) the shops and goods registration process as stipulated by YCDC rule and law are systematic, (c) the vendors get the same shop area and space after relocation, (d) the vending hours and locations allowed for selling goods at the newly designated location are acceptable and suitable, (e) the tax collection rates are fair and reasonable, (f) the prescribed rules and regulations for managing the relocation activity are justified for vendors, (g) at the new relocated area, the supply of fundamental services (such as water, electricity, waste disposal, security) are sufficient and systematic, (h) Some employees and residents continue to engage in bribes. According to the statement, the respondents have to respond their opinion in any one of the following ways: (i) strongly disagree, (ii) disagree, (iii) neither agree nor disagree, (iv) agree, and (v) strongly agree. Response indicating the least unfavorable degree of agreement is given the least score (1) and the most favorable is given the highest score (5) in this section. The instrument consists of 8 statements, the following score value is revealing.

 $8 \times 5 = 40$ (Most favorable response possible)

 $8 \times 3 = 24$ (A neutral attitude)

 $8 \times 1 = 8$ (Most unfavorable attitude)

Any individual's score ranges from 8 to 40. A score of more than 24 indicates a favorable attitude toward the given point of view, a score of less than 24 indicates an unfavorable attitude, and a score of exactly 24 indicates a neutral attitude.

Table (4.14) Vendor's Perception on Rules and Regulations of YCDC with Regard to Relocation Activities

Likert Score	Above 24	Exactly 24	Below 24
Summated Scale (Meaning)	Most favorable response possible	A neutral attitude	Most unfavorable attitude
(a) The YCDC's relocation plan makes Yangon cleaner and brings vendors under government control strategically.	196	2	2
(b) The shops and goods registration process as stipulated by the YCDC rule and law are systematic.	188	6	6
(c) The vendors get the same shop area and space after relocation.	174	11	15
(d) The vending hours and locations allowed for selling goods at the newly designated location are acceptable and suitable.	191	5	4
(e) The tax collection rates are fair and reasonable.	190	6	4
(f) The prescribed rules and regulations for managing the relocation activity are justified for vendors.	189	5	6
(g) At new relocated area, the provisions of basic facilities (such as water, electricity, waste disposal, security) are sufficient and systematic.	186	10	4
(h) There are still bribery problems among some staff and residents.	49	48	103

Source: Survey Data, 2021

According to the table (4.14), the vast majority of respondents favorably agree with seven of the eight statements, with the exception of statement (h). For statement (a), most of the respondents scoring above 24 account for 196 people out of 200 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 2 people with a neutral attitude and 2 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (b), the majority of respondents scoring above 24 account for 188 people who have the most favorable response possible, followed by 6 people who have a neutral attitude and 6 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (c), The majority of respondents scoring above 24 account for 174 people who have the most favorable response possible, followed by 11 people who have a neutral attitude and 15 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (d), The majority of respondents scoring above 24 account for 191 people with the most favorable response possible, followed by 5 people with a neutral attitude and 4 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (e), the majority of the respondents scoring above 24 account for 190 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 6 people with a neutral attitude and 4 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (f), the majority of the respondents scoring above 24 account for 189 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 5 people who have a neutral attitude and 6 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. For statement (g), the majority of the respondents scoring above 24 account for 186 people who have the most favorable response possible which is followed by 10 people who have a neutral attitude and 4 people who have the most unfavorable attitude. However, in statement (h), the majority of respondents (103 out of 200) disagree with the statement (h), with 48 people having a neutral attitude and 49 people agreeing with the statement.

It can be concluded that most of respondents who agree with the statements (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) have favorable perceptions on the rules and regulations of YCDC with regard to relocation activities. Thus, the vast majority of the respondents think that the prescribed rules and regulations of YCDC for managing the relocated street vendors are systematic, suitable and acceptable for the situations such as vending business operation time, accessibility of fundamental facilities (such as water, electricity, waste disposal, security) and fair tax collection rates. Nevertheless, most of the respondents disagreed with the statement (h) and it may be concluded that the majority of them either hesitate to express or believe that bribery is not an issue among some staff and residents in practice.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

5.1 Findings

The informal sector represents a challenge for governments because it undermines the efficiency of a country's economic system. Understanding the sector is important both for raising incomes of those working in the sector, and to optimize the sector's contribution to overall economic growth and dynamism. The study emphasizes the current situation of YCDC's activities as well as street vendors' perceptions of YCDC's relocation initiatives. As stated by the Market and Commodities Center Department of YCDC, currently, they are either constructing new international standard markets or renovating existing market structures. Hence, they can enhance the market quality and provide convenient space for the street vendors in the indoors-storied market building. Thus, the task of relocating street vendors can be handled more professionally, disputes between YCDC staff and street vendors can be reduced, and the city's streets, pavements and public areas can become clean and tidy places for citizens.

Then, the following are the main findings: social and demographic characteristics of vendors; information about their personal experiences; daily activities and employment arrangements; general knowledge of YCDC laws and regulations; licensing and bribery; and finally, the vendor's perception of relocation activities of YCDC. As stated in the first section of the questionnaire, it was discovered that the vast majority of respondents were in their forties and fifties, with barely a number of persons in their sixties. Regarding gender, female respondents outnumber male respondents by twofold. The vast majority of the street vendors are married with children and families. When their educational status was investigated, it was discovered that a significant number of the street vendors were in middle school and high school, with only a few university graduates. As Myanmar's employment market currently cannot provide a quality job for non-graduated people without

professional skills, street vending appears to be a viable option for supporting the family. Furthermore, the vast majority of the vendors in Kyun Taw Market are Yangon natives. The other vendors are Bago, Irrawaddy, Mandalay, Monywa, and Pokokku natives, respectively. The significant number of respondents had lived in Yangon for over 30 years. The majority of the vending operators have been in business for more than ten years.

In the second part of questionnaire, it was discovered that the most popular sorts of items offered in the Kyun Taw market were fish/meat and grocery stores, followed by vegetables and fruits in second place, and clothes and cosmetics in third place. The vast majority of the respondents had relocated to Kyun Taw market from U Tin Oo road, Nga Moe Yeik ward, Thingangyun Township, while a few were relocated from Lay Daung Kan road, Lay Daung Kan ward, Thingangyun Township. The vast majority of respondents mentioned that street vending is their primary source of revenue since it allows them to meet their basic necessities while also providing a consistent stream of income. Regarding a vendor's daily activity and employment arrangement, a significant number of respondents run their vending businesses seven days a week, and they rarely take holidays. When it comes to choosing a vending location, most vendors consider transportation the most significant feature, followed by customer availability and shelters.

According to survey data, all of 200 street vendors have experienced relocation. Thus, all respondents have encountered some changes after relocation from their original vending place. According to the data analysis of 200 respondents, the majority of respondents thought that tax collection at the relocated locations would be an obvious change. In terms of the agreement that the respondents will follow at the relocated location, a considerable number of respondents believe that they must pay tax on a regular basis in order to keep their vending site. At the relocation site, the accessibility of water, electricity and waste disposal systems are sufficient for most of the respondents. It was discovered that almost all of the participants have experienced evictions from their original vending places. Thus, the evictions may have different impacts on their vending businesses. The major portion of respondents assumed that they experienced property loss, income loss, and vending place loss due to evictions. It was discovered that most of the street vendors had to be concerned about being confiscated by YCDC staff, while a minority felt they had to be cautious about robbery and bullying.

In the questionnaire's third section, the study discovered that the vast majority of the respondents have general knowledge about YCDC's rules and regulations which are prescribed in the market. Regarding registration, it was discovered that the vast majority of respondents have a vendor's identity card or license card issued by YCDC, while a few of them do not have one. It was observed that almost all respondents do not have to pay additional charges (except tax collection) at the relocated vending places. As a result, it's reasonable to assume that bribes aren't a concern. In addition, most of the respondents at Kyun Taw Market comply with the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 regulations.

In the final section of the questionnaire, the study analyzed street vendors' perception on relocation activities which was implemented by YCDC at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market of Thingangyun Township. The first segment discussed street vendors' positive attitudes regarding relocation initiatives. It may be argued that the majority of street vendors are more favorable to the YCDC's relocation initiatives. Moreover, they believed that relocation actions would provide numerous benefits such as enhancement of their status, more legally secure, gaining basic facilities and infrastructure, and decreasing congestion problems.

The negative attitudes of street vendors toward YCDC's relocation activities are described in the second section. It is possible to assume that the majority of respondents who agree with the statement (a) vendors face slow sales rate after moving to a new designated location, (b) the relocating area causes an inconvenient location for communicating with regular customers, (e) vendors must be concerned about potential flooding during the rainy season, (f) vendors who have been relocated are not permitted to sell alternative goods, thought that the relocation activities also have negative impacts on their vending business and they will face situations such as slow sale rate, an inconvenient location for communicating with regular customers, concerned about potential flooding when the monsoon season hits, selling only registered products at the relocated place. Otherwise, the respondents who disagree with the statement (c) the relocation site is far from public transportation, (d) there is a lack of shelter to protect against sun or rain in the new vending site, assumed that the relocation place is not much far from transportations, and then shelter and basic facilities are provided to protect against sun or rain at the new vending site.

The third section presented vendor's perspective of YCDC laws and regulations regarding relocation activities at the Kyun Taw (temporary) market of

Thingangyun Township. It can be concluded that most of the respondents have favorable perceptions on the laws and regulations of YCDC with regard to relocation activities. Thus, the vast majority of the respondents thought that the prescribed laws and regulations of YCDC for managing the relocated street vendors are systematic, suitable and acceptable for the situations such as vending business operation time, accessibility of fundamental services (such as water, electricity, waste disposal, security) and fair tax collection rates. Nevertheless, most of the respondents disagreed with the statement (h) and it may be concluded that the majority of them either hesitate to express or believe that bribery is not an issue among some staff and residents in practice.

5.2 Suggestions

Street vendors are an important component of the urban image and standard. The relocation activities of YCDC have significant advantages for street vendors. The government's systematic implementation of the relocation activities can improve street vendors' livelihoods and their standard of living. According to the survey data, Street vendors are more inclined to operate their vending businesses in areas that are not only legally secure, with no fear of confiscation or eviction, but also have access to basic facilities and infrastructure.

The Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) is gradually implementing the relocation of street vendors in the respective markets of four districts in the Yangon region. The study discovered that the vast majority of the relocated street vendors probably faced some challenges and difficulties, such as low demand for customer availability, which can cause a slow sales rate; being far from public transportation, which can be an inconvenient place for regular customers; worrying about potential flooding at some relocated places; and only registering items can be sold at the relocation site, which can be difficult for some seasonal vendors.

To conclude, the demands and needs of the relocated street vendors should be considered by the responsible government members during the street vendor relocation procedure. Moreover, the government should adopt a long-term plan for the relocation of street vendors because this could represent the country's economic status and standard of living for urban poor people.

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Appendix

Appendix (A): Socio-Economic Conditions of Thingangyun Township

 Table 1:
 Demographic Characteristics of Thingangyun Township

Male	100,029
Female	114,350
Total population	214,379
male / female ratio	87 males per 100 females
Percentage of urban population	100.0%
Area (square kilometer)	11.4
Population density (per square kilometer)	18,805.2
Total number of wards	38

 Table 2:
 Population by Broad Age Group, Thingangyun Township

Years	Number of Population	Percent
Under 18	38,901	18%
Over 18	175,478	82%
Total	214,379	100%

Table 3: Population by Age Group between 15 and 64 in Thingangyun
Township

Age Groups	Total	Male	Female	Male/Female Ratio
Total	152,813	71,058	81,755	86.92
15-19	20,900	10,561	10,339	102.15
20-24	21,594	10,610	10,984	96.59
25-29	18,914	8,954	9,960	89.89
30-34	17,438	8,267	9,171	90.14
35-39	15,345	7,086	8,259	85.79
40-44	15,176	6,834	8,342	81.92
45-49	14,572	6,377	8,195	77.81
50-54	12,104	5,236	6,868	76.23
55-59	9,408	3,946	5,462	72.24
60-64	7,362	3,187	4,175	76.33

Table 4: Labor Force Participation Rate and Unemployment Rate of the Population between the Age of 15 and 64 in Thingangyun Township

		Labor force participation rate Unemployment rate			nt rate	
Age groups	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
15-19	32.6	38.7	26.5	9.5	11.5	6.5
20-24	61.9	71.0	53.2	11.9	12.1	11.7
25-29	69.3	85.7	54.5	6.3	7.1	5.3
30-34	66.5	88.7	46.5	4.0	4.3	3.4
35-39	64.5	88.8	43.7	2.7	3.0	2.1
40-44	62.7	88.5	41.6	1.7	2.1	0.9
45-49	59.1	86.5	37.8	1.0	1.3	0.4
50-54	54.3	81.5	33.6	0.7	1.0	0.1
55-59	45.8	69.8	28.4	0.6	0.9	0.2
60-64	26.4	44.5	12.6	0.5	0.6	0.4

Appendix (B): Map of the Study Area



Appendix (C): Questionnaires

Thesis Questionnaire for Master of Economics, Survey on Perception of Vendors on YCDC's Relocation Activities at Kyun Taw (temporary) Market, Thingangyun Township, Yangon

I Socio-Demographic Characteristics of street vendors

- 1. Gender
 - Female
 - Male
- 2. Age
 - 20 to 30
 - 30 to 40
 - 40 to 50
 - 50 to 60
 - Above 60
- 3. Education level
 - · Primary school
 - Secondary school
 - High school
 - University graduate
 - No education
- 4. Marital status
 - Single
 - Married
 - Divorced/separated
 - Widowed
- 5. Family type
 - Nuclear
 - Extended

	• Fish/meat
	• Vegetables/fruits
	Grocery shop
II	Personal experiences, daily activities and employment arrangement
8.	How long have you been working as a vendor?
	• Less than 1 year
	• Between 1 and 5 years
	• Between 5 and 10 years
	• Above 10 years
9.	Are you from Yangon?
	• Yes
	• No (if no please answer where?)
10	. How long have you been in Yangon?
	• Under 5 years
	• Between 5 and 10 years
	• Between 10 and 20 years
	• Between 20 and 30 years
	Above 30 years
11.	. What are the reasons for engaging in street vending?
	Seasonal vendor
	 Family business
	• Livelihood
12	. Is this job your primary source of income?
	• Yes
	• No
	• Other

6. Number of household members living together?

7. What types of products do you sell?

• Clothes/cosmetics

•	Less than I year
•	Between 1 and 3 years
•	Between 3 and 5 years
•	Above 5 years
14. W	here did you operate your business before this place?
•	
15. Ho	ow many days do you work per week?
•	5 days
•	6 days
•	7 days
16. Ho	ow many holidays did you take last year?
•	Over 30 days
•	Over 60 days
•	Under 30 days
•	None
17. W	here do you buy raw materials or goods?
•	Directly from producers
•	Wholesaler
•	Retailer
18. W	hat are the things you looked for when you choose a vending site?
•	Shelter
•	Transportation
•	Customer
•	All of the above
19. Ha	ave you ever been relocated?
•	Yes
	No

13. How long have you been in this place?

Shop registration
• Pay tax
Product registration
Owner registration
All of the above
22. In the relocation site, what source of water do you use?
• Tap
Stored water
23. Do you have electricity/light at this site?
• Yes
• No
24. Is there a waste disposal system provided?
• Yes
• No
25. Have you ever been evicted before?
• Yes
• No
26. How did it affect your business? (if yes)
• Properties loss
Income loss
 Vending place loss
• All of the above

20. What changes have you experienced since relocation?

21. What are the terms you have to agree in order to keep this place?

• Vending place

Other

Tax collection

Basic facilities

•	Bully
•	Confiscated by YCDC staff
•	All of worries
III Kı	nowledge of YCDC laws and regulations, licensing, and bribes
28. Do	you have any knowledge of the YCDC laws and regulations?
•	Yes
•	No
29. Di	d you have a vendor identity card or license card?
•	Yes
•	No
30. Do	you have to pay any money for vending space?
•	Yes
•	No
31. Do	you follow the Covid-19 rules and regulations issued by the Ministry of Heal
in	the market?
•	Yes
	No

27. Do you have any concerns in your original workplace?

• Robbery

IV Vendor's perception on relocation activities

Section 1: Street vendor's attitude toward relocation activities (advantages)

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5

(a) YCDC's relocation activities can enhance the status of vendors.	1	2	3	4	5
(b) The relocation plan makes street vendors more legally secure than before.	1	2	3	4	5
(c) The new area of relocation provides basic facilities and infrastructure.	1	2	3	4	5
(d) The traffic and pedestrian congestion decrease after relocation.	1	2	3	4	5
(e) The new vending site is more competitive as customers can buy similar products at one place.	1	2	3	4	5
(f) By implementing the relocation activity, vendors can be regarded as a business with dignity by the surrounding environment.	1	2	3	4	5

Section 2: Street vendor's attitude toward relocation activities (disadvantages)

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5

(a) Vendors face slow sales rate after moving to a new designated location.	1	2	3	4	5
(b) The area of relocation causes an inconvenient location for communicating with regular customers.	1	2	3	4	5
(c) The relocation site is far from public transportations.	1	2	3	4	5
(d) There is no shelter to protect against sun or rain in the new vending site.	1	2	3	4	5
(e) Vendors have to be concerned about potential flooding when the monsoon season hits.	1	2	3	4	5
(f) Vendors who have been relocated are not allowed to sell alternative goods.	1	2	3	4	5

Section 3: Vendor's perception on rules and regulations of YCDC with regard to relocation activities

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5

(a) The YCDC's relocation plan makes Yangon cleaner and brings vendors under government control strategically.	1	2	3	4	5
(b) The shops and goods registration process which is prescribed in accordance with YCDC rule and law are systematic.	1	2	3	4	5
(c) The vendors get the same shop area and space after relocation.	1	2	3	4	5
(d)The vending hours and locations allowed for selling goods at the newly designated location are acceptable and suitable.	1	2	3	4	5
(e)The tax collection rates are fair and reasonable.	1	2	3	4	5
(f) The prescribed rules and regulations in order to manage the relocation activity are justified for vendors.	1	2	3	4	5
(g) At the new relocated area, the provision of basic facilities (such as water, electricity, waste disposal, security) are sufficient and systematic.	1	2	3	4	5
(h) There are still bribery problems among some staff and residents.	1	2	3	4	5