

## Research Findings on Impacts of Material Wastage of Building Construction Project

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**Abstract:** All over the world, the development of construction related industries depend on the natural and artificial resources. The generation of wastes from the construction industries and its management is a big task for the proponents and stake holders of the industry. The quantity of waste generation from the construction industry is highly related to the construction methods, improper management, the onsite sorting and recycling abilities for construction waste, the levels of education and trainings given to workers and the design concepts. The current research focuses to identify the contributory factors that influences the generation of construction material wastage. In addition, the study aims to deeply analyze the impact of construction material waste on cost at building construction project and recommends the strategies to minimize the construction material wastage. Data collection was done through questionnaire survey and interviews among the different stake holders in building construction (Clients, Consultants, Contractors and other Professionals) in Addis Ababa. Stratified Sampling technique was considered as a tool to opt for the Sites with regards to all the civil engineering professionals, stakeholders like contractors, consultants, and clients. The current study focuses in identifying and analyzing the major impacts of the construction material wastage at building construction site in Kolfe Keranio sub city, Addis Ababa. The outcome of the result would bring strong information to clients, consultants and contractors and other stakeholders in minimizing the overall cost due to material wastage.

**Keywords:** *Contributory factors, Questionnaire survey, Spearman's rank correlation coefficients, Validity and Reliability test.*

### 1. Introduction

The growth of construction industry, especially in Addis) is mainly due to the growth of Ethiopian economy and population Ababa (Mahilet Reta et.al., 2020. More complex type of buildings arises and the numbers are gradually increasing, now-a-days. The demand for the construction materials are increasing dramatically day by day. The demand for the material resources is increasing day by day due to the growth of construction industries (Subash Thanappan et.al., 2021), [7,8]. On contrary, there are various reasons for the wastage of a fairly major fraction of the construction material at building sites (Getachew Araya Kassa, November, 2009).

Although the construction industry rely on both natural and artificial resources and responsible for large quantities of construction wastes, it takes a major role for the economical

growth of any country and thus promoting the comfortable enjoyment of living with the promoted infrastructure of highways, health centers, educational institutions, and other fundamental facilities.

In spite of losing large amounts of money, time and other resource, there is a lack of the current construction management. Waste generation on construction sites might mostly be related to selection of construction methods, selection of construction materials, the accessibility of onsite sorting and recycling facilities of construction wastes, the levels of education and training given to workers, design concepts, and others. The pioneer research found that material wastes from construction industries signify a comparatively larger fraction of production cost.

## 2. Material and Methods

The main expansion area of Addis Ababa is considered as the study area, located within the diverse economic activities taking place, and a place for different kinds of real estate projects under construction. The total population lived in this sub-city is estimated about 546,219 from this 220,859 are male and the rest (235,360) are females.

In the current study, a wide range of construction parties are involved in construction of projects were targeted in order to evaluate and assess the current situation of wastage of construction materials on selected building projects.

Both the primary and secondary data collection methods are done and the selected samples include contracting and consulting companies of all grade category's that have a valid registration by Ministry of Urban Development and Construction in Addis Ababa. Both open and close ended format questions are designed to obtain information on Construction material wastage of building.

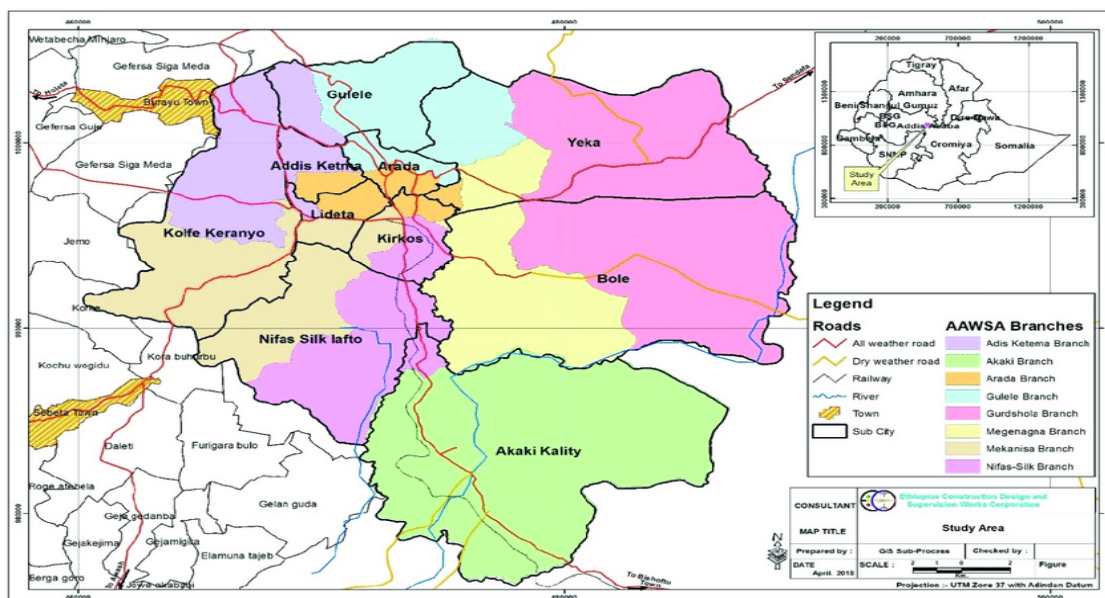


Figure 1: Study Area

The collected data (waste volume) was used to find the contribution of material wastes to the produced quantity of cost overruns.

**2.1.Data Processing and Analysis**

Through the site investigation and the collection of data from office records, the collection of primary data was accomplished, and those primary data were helped to identify on material waste and cost overruns in building construction industries. In the current study, both descriptive data and inferential data were used. With the help of measuring instruments (on-site measurement), the total quantity of material wastes on-site were noted to correlate it to estimate the amount of cost overruns.

**2.2. Software and Instrument**

As discussed before data is collected through different methods like interview, site visit and questionnaires survey therefore need to use different instrument se.g. Instruments like camera (during site visit) ,paper, Copy machine, Printer, Computer etc. (during Questionnaires Survey). Collected data are extracted and analyzed using different software like excel, MS Word etc. All gathered data are feed in excel and give out put in the form of graphs and tables. MS Word is also used throughout the research for Typing and drawing purposes.

**2.3. Validity and Reliability Tests**

The foremost data collection mechanisms to be engaged in this research are questionnaire and interview that are verified for validity and reliability by testing the questionnaire initially with particular sample respondents and later altering the questionnaire and interview questions based on the feedbacks.

**Table 1:** Questionnaire survey and its Response rate

No	Stakeholder	Dispersed numbers		Outcome numbers		Botched numbers		Analyzed numbers	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No	%
1	<b>Supervisor</b>	27	28.42	20	21.05	3	3.16	17	17.89
2	<b>Contractor</b>	52	54.74	48	50.53	4	4.21	44	46.32
3	<b>Client</b>	16	16.84	13	13.68	1	1.05	12	12.63

It found that the perception among the contractors and consultants about its effect are similar. The level of client material supply by two groups of respondents is shown in Figure 2. It has been observed that 83.72% of contracting companies and 75% of the consultants has agreed to supply the client materials, and in turn, increase the quantity of wastage.



**Figure 2:** Impact on the supply of client materials

**Table 2:** Reason for the material wastage

Reasons for material wastage	Rank and Percentiles			
	Rank	Clients	Consultants	Contractors
No proper control	1	86.21	74.31	43.16
Client doesn't deliver good quality material	2	12.78	17.01	49.25
Client supplies material in unplanned way	3	1.01	8.68	7.59

Spearman rank correlation coefficients were employed to check if there any disparity in ranking amid two groups of respondents.

**Table 3:** Spearman's rank correlation coefficients for causes of waste

Items	$Rho = 1 - \frac{6(\sum d_i^2)}{N(N^2 - 1)}$	Critical r value
Concrete waste	0.20	0.410
Mortar waste	0.85	0.410
Reinforcement waste	0.65	0.410
HC block waste	0.89	0.410

For both group of respondents, the relative mean and ranking of each category of waste for concrete is shown in Table 4.

**Table 4:** Relative weight and ranking of concrete waste

Items	Contractor		Consultant		Clients	
	R.W	Assigned Rank	R.W	Assigned Rank	R.W	Assigned Rank
Design category	4.0	1	3.20	4	3.12	5
Procurement category	2.90	6	3.10	5	2.87	6
Handling and storage category	3.40	5	3.80	3	3.92	2
Operation category	3.50	4	4.31	1	4.08	1
Management category	3.62	3	3.90	2	3.41	4
Supervision category	3.83	2	2.86	6	3.66	3

The finding shows that discordant opinions on the category of concrete waste among three different groups of respondents.

**2.4. Level of contribution of the waste causes for the generation of waste**

The mean and rank of each cause of the concrete waste conferring to the contractors, consultant's and client's perception are displayed in the Tables 5 and 6 respectively.

**Table 5:** Relative weight and ranking of concrete waste causes -views of contractors

Cause	RW	Rank
Changes and revision on design	4.36	1
Damage to work done	4.11	2
Rework	4.04	3
Delay in performing inspection and testing	3.86	4
Mistakes on drawings and specification	3.84	5
Cluttered construction site	3.82	6
Overloading of transport equipment	3.59	7
Poor coordination and communication	3.45	8
Poor qualification of employees	4.14	9
Slow response	3.36	10
Lack of attention	3.34	11
Poor qualification of subcontractor's	3.16	11

Using excessive quantity of materials than required	3.04	11
Double handling of materials	2.98	13
Mistakes in quantity surveys	2.93	16
Improper handling of materials	2.76	15
Poor workmanship	2.68	16
Scarcity of Equipment	2.45	17

**Table 6:**Concrete waste causes

Cause	R.W	Assigned Rank
Damagetoworkdonebyothertrade	4.35	3
Overloadingoftransportequipment	4.40	2
Poorworkmanship	4.53	1
Poorhandling ofmaterials	4.18	6
Rework	4.35	4
Use ofexcessivequantityofmaterials	4.29	5
LackofEquipments	4.10	7
Changesandrevision on design	3.93	8
Errorsinquantity survey	3.82	9
Double handling of materials	3.53	11
Untidy construction site	3.71	10
Low qualification of subcontractors	3.41	13
Use of wrong material	3.47	12
Theft	3.18	14
Lack of response from the consultant engineer	3.06	15

Research Findings on Impacts of Material Wastage of Building Construction Project

to contractor inquires		
Poor quality of materials	2.88	16
Delay in performing inspection	2.13	18
Mistakes, and inconsistencies on drawings and specification	2.18	17

**Table 7:**Relative weight and ranking of concrete wastage causes-view of clients

<b>Cause</b>	<b>R.W</b>	<b>Assigned Rank</b>
Poor workmanship	4.50	1
Damage to work done	3.75	9
Rework	4.33	2
Mistakes in quantity survey	4.25	3
Overloading of transport equipment	4.00	6
Improper handling of materials	4.16	4
Delay in performing inspection	3.25	14
Multiple handling of materials	3.92	7
Changes and revision on design	3.84	8
Cluttered site	3.67	10
Poor qualification of subcontractor's	3.50	11
Use of wrong material	3.42	12
Lack of Equipment	3.33	13
Mistakes, and inconsistencies in drawings and specification	3.08	15
Lack of response from the consultant engineer to contractor inquires	2.58	16

Use excessive quantity of material than required	4.08	5
Poor quality of materials	2.55	17
Theft	2.42	18



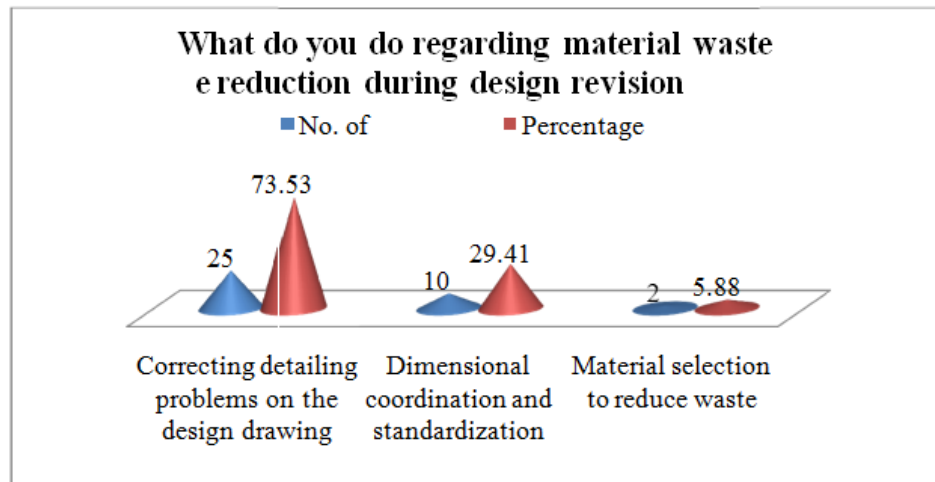
**Figure3:** Budgebeam



**Figure4:** Budgeshearwall

During the revision on design, the strategies implemented by respondents are shown in Figure 5. All of the respondents undergo at least correcting detailing problems on the design drawing during a design revision period. Nevertheless, the outcome indicates the lack of practice by the firm on the dimensional coordination, standardization and material selection to reduce the generation of wastages.





**Figure 5:** Strategies employed during design revision by consultants

### 3. Conclusions

The survey reveals that the level of material waste in construction projects is legitimately high. It also displays that the cost effect extent up to 10 % of the project cost. The supply of poor quality material has augmented the generation of material wastage. The rework and damage to the work done by other trade are amongst the top five major causes of concrete wastage in the sites is another major cause for wastages. Similarly, the use of excessive quantities of materials, multiple handling, rework, poor workmanship, damage to work done are the major portentous causes of mortar waste in the study area. The waste generation on site is directly related to the design process. The major causes for the wastage of hollow concrete block are mainly due to the low quality materials, improper storage of materials, poor workmanship, improper handling of materials and lack of attention. On the contrary, the poor performance of the construction supervisors in standardization and modularization of design during a design revision period is consequently increasing the generation of wastages in excess.

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