

Migration and Provision of Support to Left-behind Parents in Rural Cambodia

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Outline presentation

- ❖ Background
- ❖ Purpose of study
- ❖ Data & Methodology
- ❖ Result
- ❖ Conclusion
- ❖ Limitation

Background

- ▶ Similar to other developing countries, Cambodia is a country where labor migration has been consistently high.
- ▶ Cambodia is unique in that it experienced very high fertility in the 1980s and 1990s post Khmer Rouge rule and civil war. This resulted in large populations in rural areas now in ages where migration is common.
- ▶ Migration rates remain high, which is resulting in rapid urban growth, especially in Phnom Penh, which is the main destination for migrants (UNESCAP, 2016).

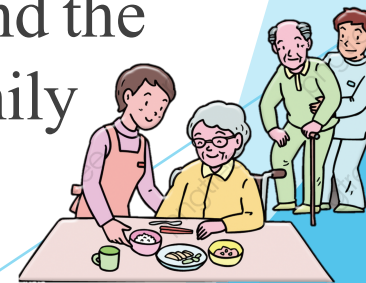
Purpose of study

- ▶ This study examines the extent to which **destination of migrants** and **location of nearest sibling** in relation to their parents who lives in rural Cambodia associates with the **provision of either or both of two types of support**—monetary and instrumental.

- ▶ Monetary >> giving money



- ▶ Instrumental >> helping with tasks around the home or tasks related to work on the family farm or other business.



A perspective on provision of support to left-behind parents

▶ Family Solidarity

- Family solidarity theory comes out of the work by Bengtson and others. Families work together for the maintenance of all members.
- ▶ The determinants of support depend on a variety of factors that relate to characteristics of providers and receivers and their individual abilities to provide support, their need for support, and the sources of support already in place (Greenwell & Bengtson, 1997).
- ▶ The support already in place suggests that the residential location of nearest sibling is important. Parents living near siblings are likely to be obtaining support from others and this takes some of the obligation away from the migrant (Piotrowski, 2007; Zimmer et al., 2014).
- ▶ None of this has been tested in Cambodia, where migration is among the most rapid in the world.

Conceptual framework

Destination of migrant

- Rural
- Urban
- Other countries

Location of sibling nearest parent

- In parent household
- In same locality as parent
- Other areas
- No sibling
- Number of sibling

Characteristics of migrant

- Age
- Sex
- Education
- Marital status
- Employment
- Having children in origin household

Characteristics of parent

- Age
- Sex & Living with a spouse
- Education
- Health status

Provision of support

- Non money and instrumental support
- Money only
- Instrumental support only
- Both types of support



Data & Methodology

- ▶ Secondary data come from the 2011 **Cambodian Rural Urban Migration Project (CRUMP)**.
- ▶ The total sample size covered 4,500 households, involved 4,499 migrants and **3,713** migrants which have one or both parents left-behind (CRUMP, 2015).
- ▶ The variable we examine is whether an **individual migrant** provided support to their parent; **a migrant being the unit of analysis**.
- ▶ **Multinomial logit** was used to analyze the factors association since our dependent variable is nominal with more than two levels.

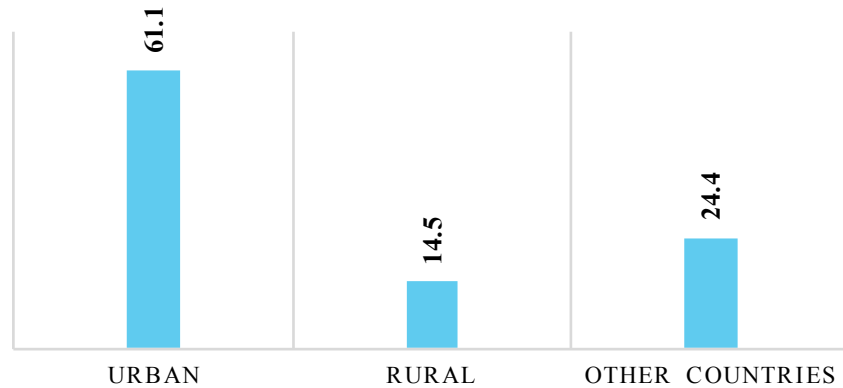
Provision of support

- Non money and instrumental support
- Money only
- Instrumental help only
- Both types of support

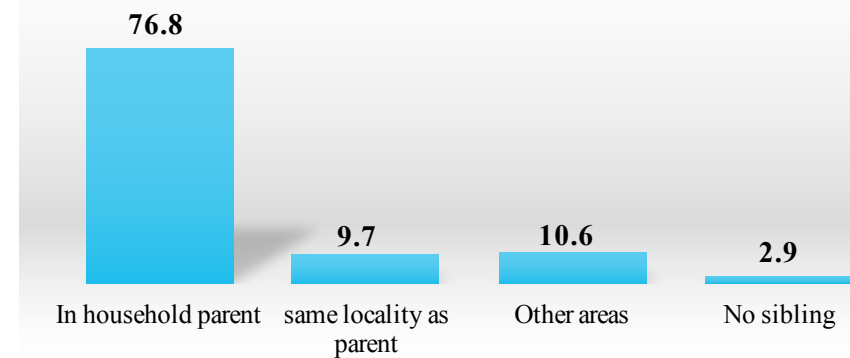


Results (descriptive)

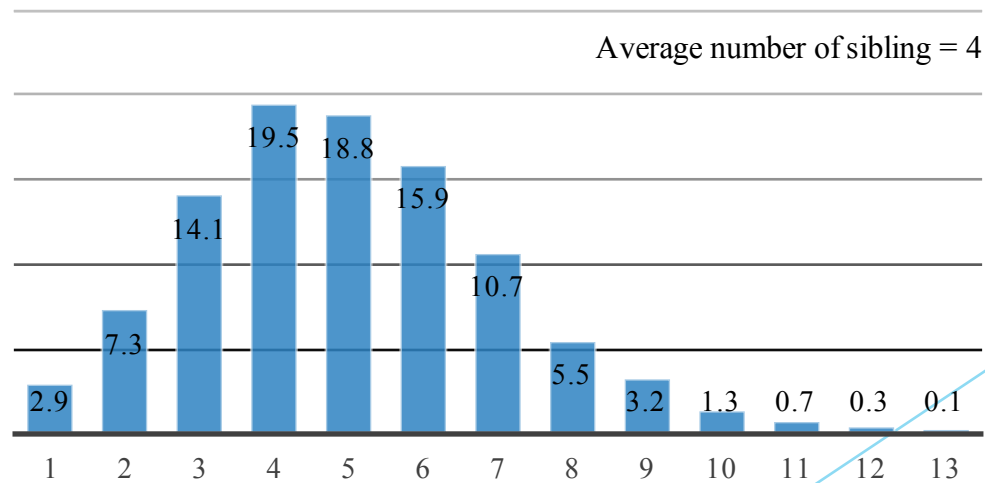
DESTINATION OF MIGRANTS



Location of Sibling Nearest Parent



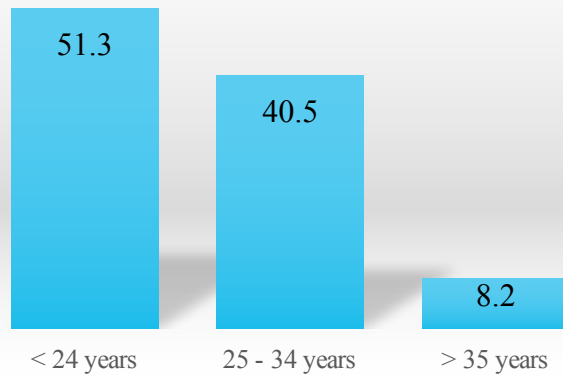
Number of Sibling



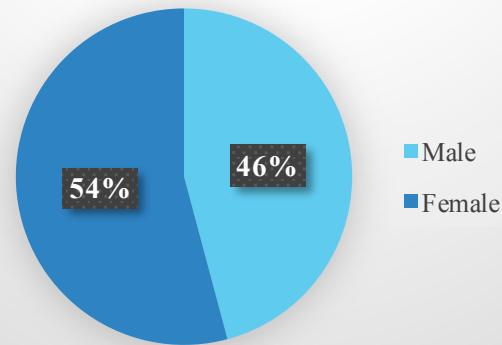
Results (descriptive)

Age of Migrants and Percent Distribution

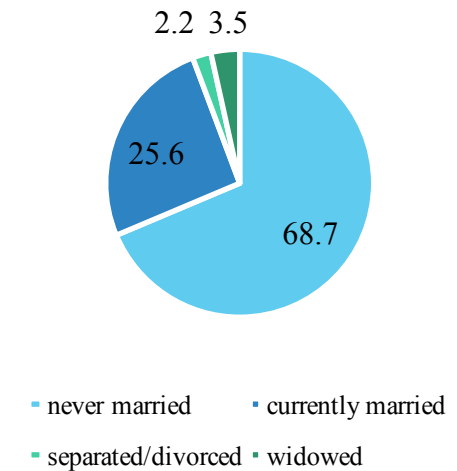
Average age = 25 years



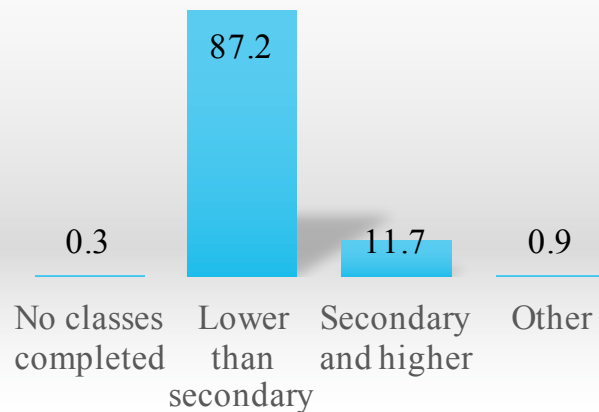
Sex of Migrants



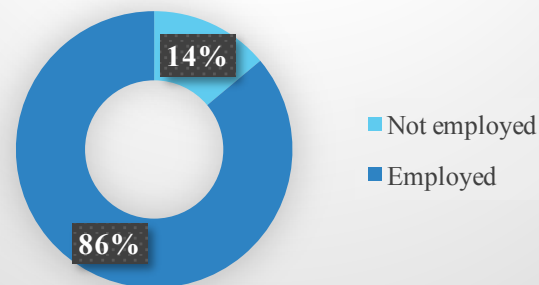
Marital Status of Migrants



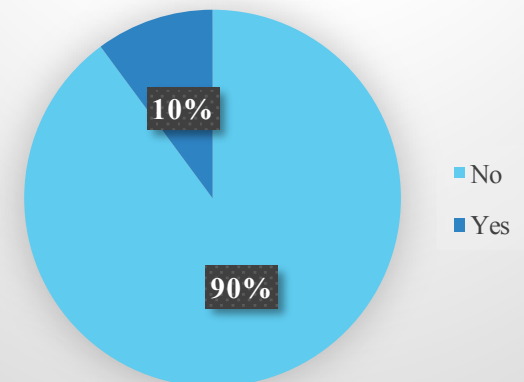
Education of Migrants



Employment Status of Migrants



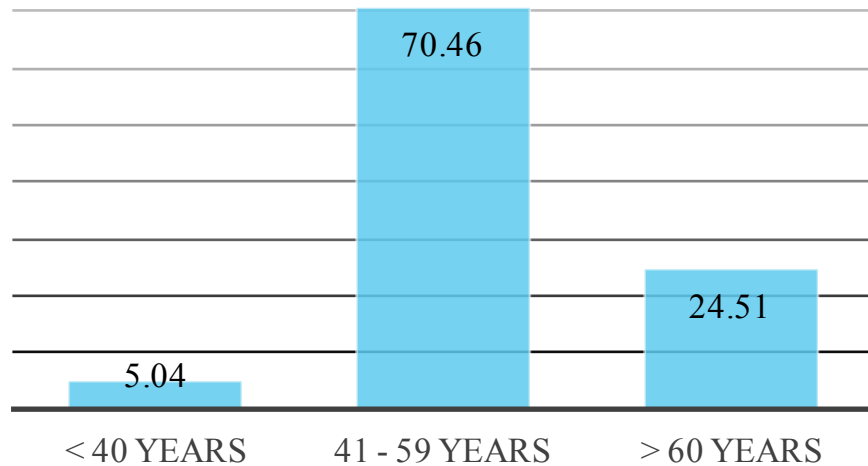
Having A Own Child in Origin Household



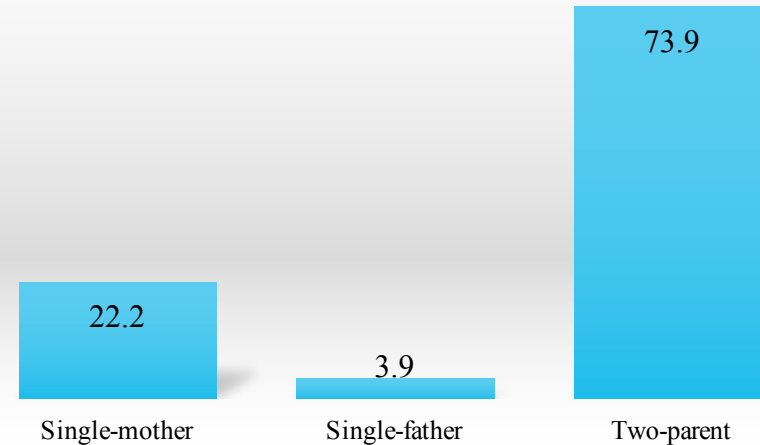
Results (descriptive)

Percent distribution of age of parents

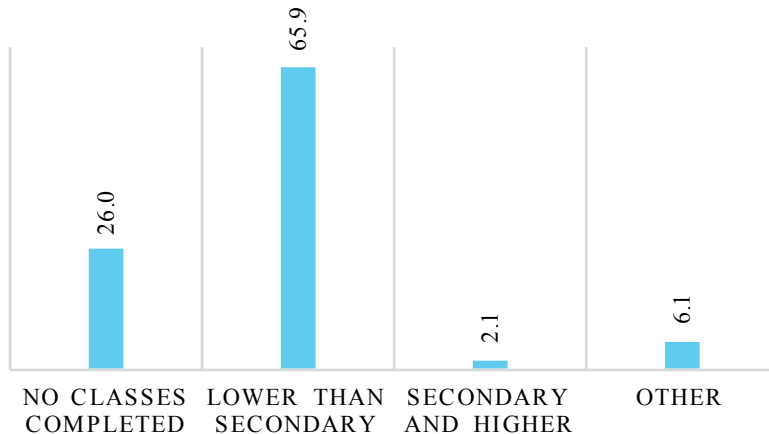
Average age = 50 years



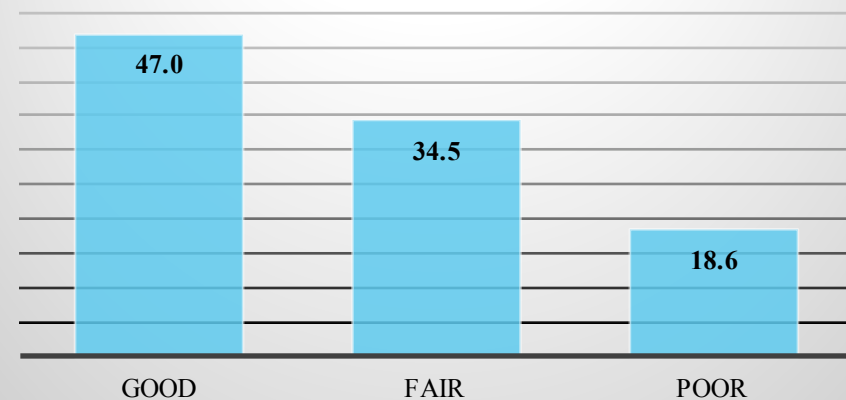
Percent distribution of parents living with spouse



EDUCATION OF PARENTS



Health Status of Parent



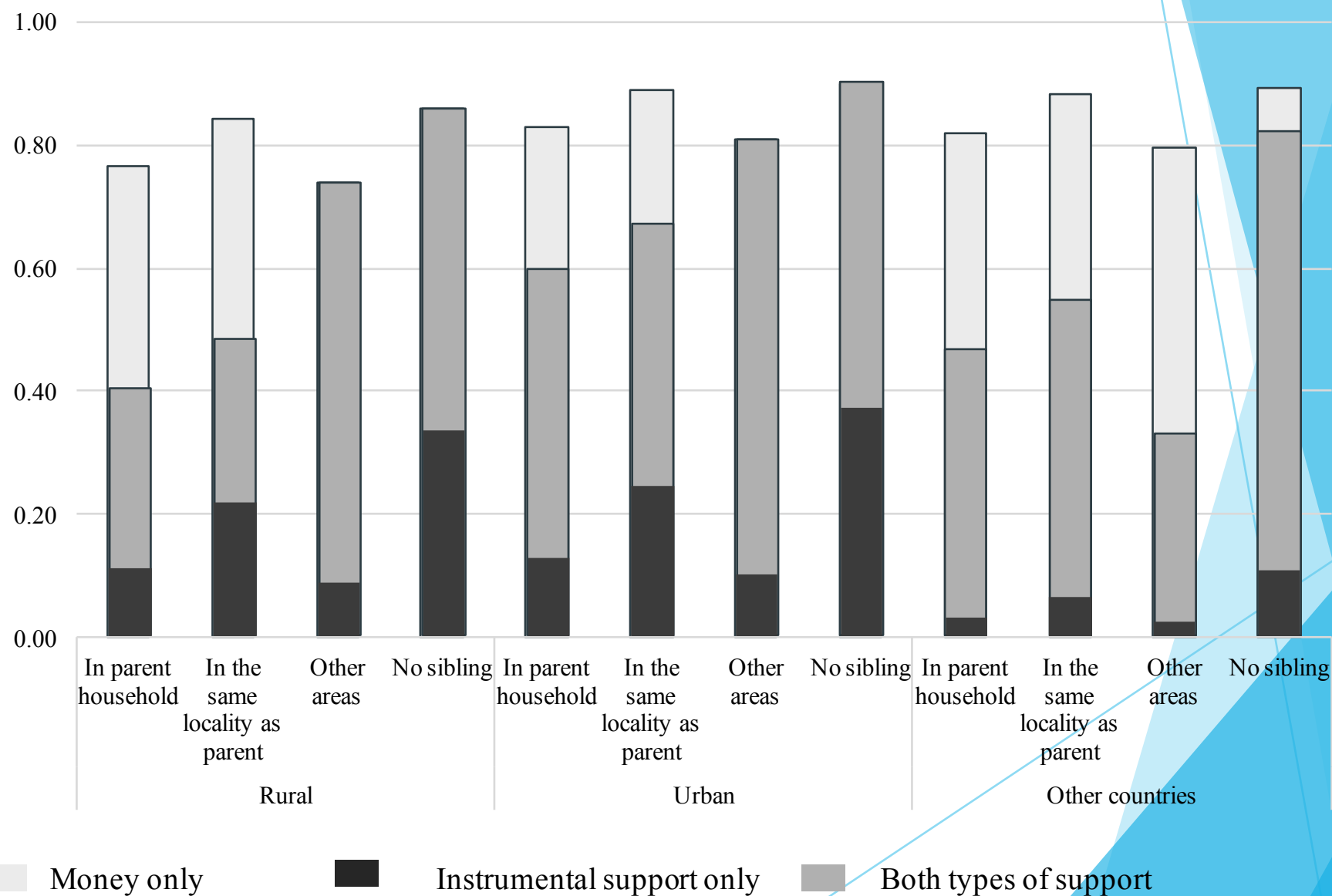
Results

Multilevel multinomial regression log odds ratios for predictors of money and instrumental support.

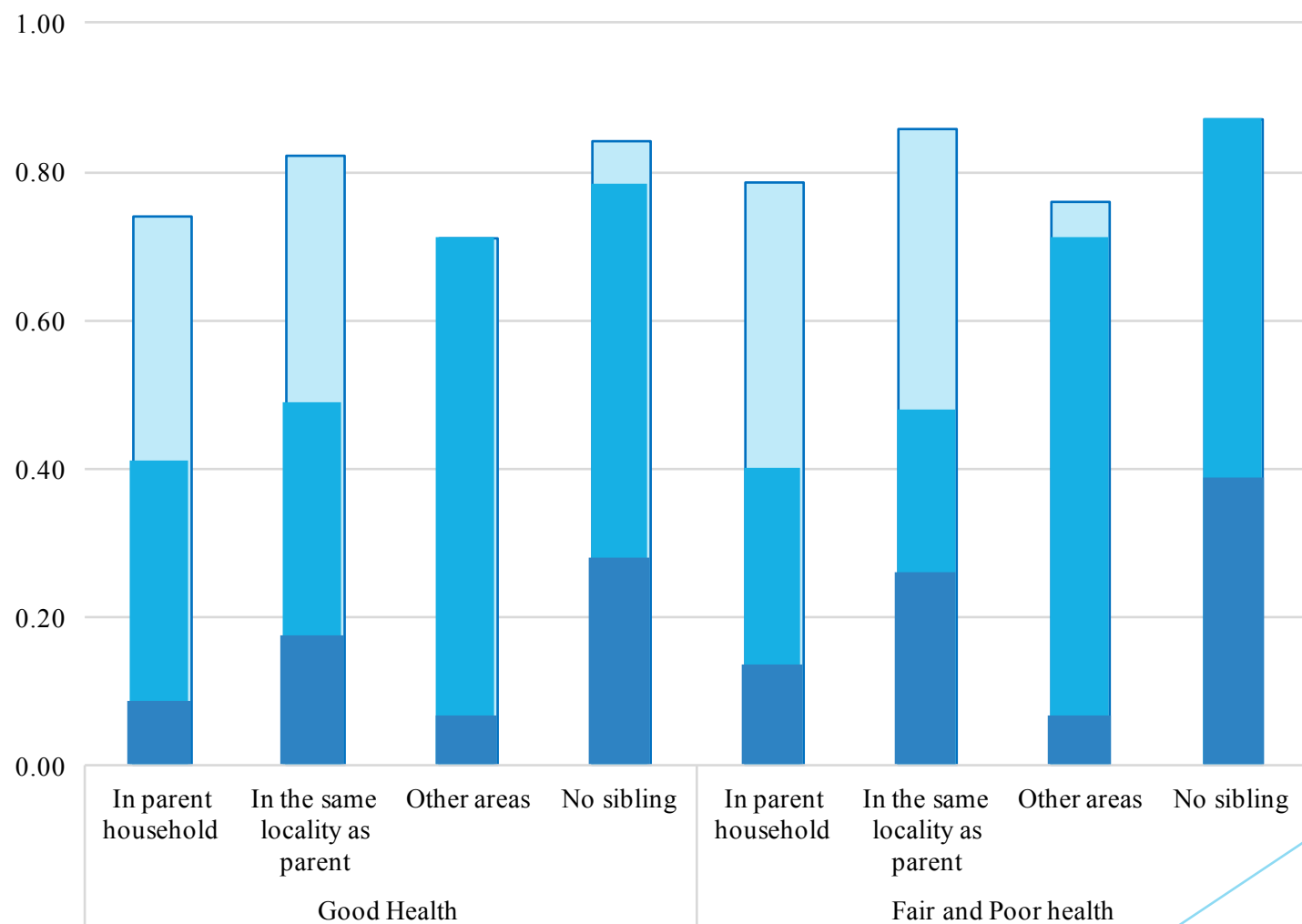
	Model 1			Model 2			Model 3		
	Provided...			Provided...			Provided...		
	Money	Instr. help	Both	Money	Instr. help	Both	Money	Instr. help	Both
Destination of migrant									
Rural Cambodia									
Urban Cambodia	0.623***	0.426	1.555***	0.681***	0.472	1.664***	1.021***	0.389	1.989***
Other counties	0.660***	-1.893***	0.446	0.676***	-1.896***	0.442	0.434*	-1.939***	0.340
Location of sibling nearest parent									
In parent household									
In same locality as parent				0.549**	0.464	0.43	0.548*	0.895*	0.358
Other areas				0.043	-0.424	-0.422	-0.159	-0.319	-0.643*
No sibling				0.980**	1.113	1.908***	0.639	1.445*	1.712***
Number of sibling				0.093**	-0.045	0.164***	0.025	-0.004	0.079*
Characteristics of migrant									
Age							0.066***	0.023	0.079***
Female							0.354**	0.722**	1.078***
Secondary or lower							0.965***	0.229	1.171***
Married							-0.072	-0.113	-0.095
Employed							2.539***	-0.645**	1.895***
Having children in origin household							0.302	1.057*	-0.150
Characteristics of parent									
Age							-0.036***	-0.043**	-0.024**
Single-mother							0.279	-0.566	0.488
Two-parent							0.544*	-0.006	0.840*
Lower than secondary							-0.564**	0.267	0.605*
Less than good health							0.252*	0.502*	-0.037
Constant	0.507	-1.761	-1.511	0.030	-1.655	-2.290	-2.909	-0.834	-7.257

Note: The contrast category is no support – that is, these coefficients are comparing money, instrumental and both versus no support.

PROBABILITY OF SUPPORT BY TYPE, MIGRANT STATUS AND LOCATION OF SIBLING LIVING NEAREST PARENT



PROBABILITY OF SUPPORT BY TYPE, LOCATION OF SIBLING, AND PARENT HEALTH STATUS



Money only

Instrumental support only

Both types of support

Conclusion

- ▶ Monetary support is likely to be provided by those with well-paying jobs and instrumental support is likely to be provided by those living nearby.
- ▶ Unsurprisingly, those living within the borders of Cambodia, are much more likely to provide instrumental support, while international migrants are much more likely to provide monetary support.
- ▶ Location of siblings works together with destination of migrant. Regardless of where an migrant is living, they are more likely to provide support if they have no siblings.
- ▶ Migrant are indeed more likely to provide help to parents that are more vulnerable, such as having poor health status.
- ▶ In conclusion, our results are suggestive of an integrative family framework that implies migrant are not abandoning their left-behind parents but, in contrast, are helping when help is needed as well as when they have ability to provide. This also supports the family solidarity framework.

Limitation of study

- ▶ Information about **support from adult children comes from interviews with the left-behind parent.** >> Interviews with migrant themselves could provide clearer insights into their motivation for providing support.
- ▶ Our study did **not delve into the intensity of support**, but instead examined whether or not any was provided. >> Future studies may benefit by gathering information that more carefully distinguishes the magnitude of support provided.

Thank you

