FACTORS INFLUENCING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT-CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUNDED PROJECTS; A CASE OF MWINGI CENTRAL CONSTITUENCY, KITUI COUNTY, KENYA.

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A Research Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Award of Master of Arts Degree in Project Planning and Management of the University of Nairobi

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DECLARATION

This research Project report is my original work and has never been submitted or presented for award of Diploma or Degree, either in part or as a whole to this or any other University.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my husband Samuel Mutisya, and my lovely children Lewis Muthangya and Troy Muusya, for their support love, encouragement and understanding they offered me throughout my study period and especially during research of this project.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CDF: Constituency Development Fund

CID: Centre for International Development

CIDP: County Integrated Development Plan

CRC: Citizen Report Card

DFRD: District Focus for Rural Development

FGDs: Focused Group Discussions

FY: Financial Year

GK: Government of Kenya

IDP: Integrated Development Plan

IEA: Institute for Economic affaires

IEBC: Independent Electoral and Boundaries' Commission

KHRC: Kenya Human Rights Commission

LASDAP: Local Authorities' Development Programme

LATF: Local Authority Transfer Fund

LRF: Legal Resources Foundation Trust

MP: Member of Parliament

NARC: National Alliance Rainbow Coalition

NCST: National Council of Science and Technology.

NG-CDF; National Government-Constituency Development Fund

NTA: National Taxpayers Association

PFM: Public Financial Management Act 2012

PMC: Project Management Committee

QRR: Questionnaire return rate

SDFRD: Special District Focus for Rural Development

SPAN: Social and Public Accountability Network

SPSS Statistical Package for Social Sciences

TISA: The Institute of Social Accountability

TQM: Total Quality Management

UK: United Kingdom

USA: United States of America

USD: United States of America Dollars

ABSTRACT

This study aimed at investigating the factors influencing community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency. The study was based on four objectives; to establish the extent to which demographic characteristics of the people influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency, to find out the extent to which cultural beliefs influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency, to establish the extent to which the level of awareness influence the community participation in the NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency and to determine the extent to which accountability influence the community participation in NG-CDF projects. The target population included all NG-CDF stakeholders which was the 63,305 Adult residents of Mwingi central constituency which comprises of six wards. Stratified random sampling technique was used to arrive at the sample. The sample population for this study was 366 respondents who were composed of 300 community members, 60 PMC committee members, five top NG-CDF committee officials and the NG-CDF manager. In order to get the sample size, the researcher used Krejcie and Morgan (1970) table which translated to a sample size of 366 respondents. Piloting of the instruments was done in Mwingi west Constituency which was not be part of the main study. Descriptive survey design was used largely in this study. The data was then analysed using central tendency analysis with statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). The research findings were documented as a research project report**.** The findings revealed that demographic characteristics of the participants significantly influenced community participation in NG-CDF projects. The findings generally revealed that culture does not affect community participation to a great extent. It was further revealed that the level of awareness greatly influenced the community participation in NG-CDF projects. The study further revealed that accountability influenced the community participation because NG-CDF was associated with very high levels of corruption, which was discouraging and causing apathy among the constituents. The researcher recommends that; Cultural values such as respect for communal work, obedience to elders and those in leadership should be integrated in projects to strengthen them while those that impact negatively on participation such as denying women leadership positions be eradicated tactfully. The study further recommends that the government should make strategies which will enable each village and ward administrator to have copies of the NG-CDF Act, which will make it possible for them to avail it to people to read/understand the contents. It is suggested that similar studies should be done in other constituencies to compare results. Studies should also be done in other counties with aim of coming up with a policy framework on community participation in NG-CDF projects country wide.

CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Community participation in project initiation, implementation and management, apart from creating a sense of ownership and responsibility within communities, is an important factor in developing an effective and long-lasting project (Kaliba, 2002). Community participation is an open process in which the rights of the community to be informed, to provide comments to the government and to receive a response from the government are met through a full opportunity to be involved and to express needs and goals. It is the process which provides private individuals an opportunity to influence public decisions and is a component of democratic decision making process. It can as well be viewed from the perspective of benefits to be gained and costs to be borne. Implicit in this "penchant for getting involved" is the notion of the relationship between self and society (Bellah et al., 1985).

Democracy is a political system based on representative government; community participation in the political process; freedom (in the wide sense; basic freedoms of citizens); transparency of political acts and process in general. The emerging literature on collaborative governance in public administration has emphasized that citizens should be considered as collaborative partners in a governance era for building democratic and effective governance (O'Leary and Bingham 2008; O'Leary, Van Slyke, and Kim 2010).

According to Katorobo (2007) service delivery to citizens may be considered from the standpoint of two types of decentralization – that guided by the principle of subsidiarity; and that guided by the principle of management by results. Some services are best delivered at the national level; others at the regional level; and many at the grass-roots level where the consumers of those services are located. It is therefore notable that for the service to be delivered citizen must participate as consumers of those services. Effective community participation ensures that government decisions and policies reflect the public interest. It enhances transparency and accountability, project ownership, proper utilization of resources, and also necessary in decreasing citizens' doubts and mistrust towards the government. Cogan and Sharpe (1986) identifies five benefits of citizen in the planning process which

include: Information and ideas on public issues, public support for planning decisions, avoidance of protracted conflicts and costly delays, reservoir of good will which can carry over to future decisions and spirit of cooperation and trust between the government and the public.

During the last decade, the winds of democratic movements and reforms have blown around the world, and democratic decentralization has spread globally. In every continent, most governments have embraced decentralization programmes. “Some 95 percent of democracies now have elected sub national governments, and countries everywhere – large and small, rich and poor – are devolving political, fiscal, and administrative powers to sub national tiers of government” (United Nations, 2007).

Globally, many countries have made efforts through legislations to foster citizen participation or public involvement in state affairs; that is in policy formulation and implementation of projects. For instance, in the ancient Greece and Colonial New England, the term community participation can be traced back to the 1960s when governmental processes and procedures were designed to facilitate "external" participation. Citizen participation was institutionalized in the mid-1960s with President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programmes (Cogan & Sharpe, 1986).

In the United Kingdom (U.K) and United States of America (USA), for example, the current debate has been focusing on parental participation in terms of choice of schools and school governance, while in developing countries the debate centres on community participation in school construction, financing and management (Bray, 1996; Suzuki, 2000). In Switzerland, direct participatory democracy has thrived through the communities; larger regional units have been formed for achieving economies of scale. The critical point is that the communities remain the foundations on which the larger units are based for effective service delivery (Katorobo, 2007).

Equally many Latin American countries have undergone democratic reforms and most of them have carried out democratic decentralization programmes, from large countries such as Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, to smaller states such as Bolivia and Venezuela (United Nations, 2007). Regionally, Africa has not been left behind; democratic decentralization has been undertaken in Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Togo,

South Africa, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, among other countries (United Nations, 2007). In South Africa for instance, the Municipal Systems Act (2000) and the Municipal Structures Act (1998) stipulates that all the municipalities should develop an Integrated Development Plan (IDP) in consultation with local people, that is, there should be full and active participation of the people in each ward in the development of an IDP (United Nations, 2007).

In Tanzania, participatory development has had a long history. Since independence the focus of the government has been in enhancing people participation in various development projects. Effort to promote citizen participation was reflected in various policies and projects that were adopted during that time. These include establishment of Local Government system and abolition of the non - elected native authorities in 1972; a situation which at one stage turned people to passive recipients of government orders instead of key players in social-economic development. (United Nations, 2007).

In Uganda, its current decentralization was born from both the exigencies of a guerrilla war and ideological conviction. First, in Luwero District which was the initial area occupied by Museveni's guerrilla force, a political local people-based infrastructure, named the Resistance Councils, which aimed at cultivating and sustaining support for the National Resistance Army (NRA) was secretly organized in the areas which the guerrilla army occupied (United Nations, 2007).

In Rwanda, after the 1994 genocide the leadership sought to decentralize governance and let people have a strong say in determining their socio-politico-economic destiny. The leadership had a legal basis on this in the Arusha agreements which, without mentioning decentralization, had committed government to creating a governance system that passes power to the people. In the decentralization document it is stated that one of the legal foundations of decentralization in the country is the "principle of power sharing as expressed in the Accord de Paix d'Arusha entre le Gouvernment de la République Rwandaise et le Front Patriotique Rwandais. Up to now power sharing has only been seen among the political elite at parliament and executive levels. The decentralization policy was to reinforce power sharing by ensuring that the Rwandese

people themselves are empowered to shape their political, economic, and social destiny" (Government of Rwanda, 2000).

Locally, the Kenyan government has made many efforts over the years to enhance community participation right from the constitution of District Focus for Rural Development (DFRD), Special District Focus for Rural Development (SDFRD), Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF) and finally the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) which was founded with a very clear mission: to encourage development and ensure community participation in development at the constituency level. In other words, the constituents are to be involved in project identification, designing, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (CDF Act, 2003). Further, the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and a number of legislations such as the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act 2012, County Government Act and Devolution Act clearly provides for people's involvement at all levels of governance and management of public resources. Despite this legislative requirement, most people including the leaders "do not have the knowledge and information of the options and the implications of the options they can use to participate meaningfully in local government affairs" (Brynard, 1996). More so, in the recent county budget making processes in the country, formulation of county legislations such as the finance bills among many other bills, and the development of County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) clearly demonstrated noninvolvement of the people; a situation that has left electorates with mixed feelings and disappointment. The researcher therefore saw it useful to consider and investigate factors that influence community participation in Mwingi central constituency, Kitui county, Kenya.

1.2 Statement of the problem.

Over the years, Kenya has progressively shifted from a centralized to a decentralized form of governance through a number of policies and legislations in an effort of enhancing effective community participation in the country. The establishment of CDF through an Act of parliament "Constituencies Development Fund Act, 2003" was meant to facilitate development which is people responsive. In other words, the constituents are to be involved in project identification, designing, planning and implementation and at the same time in monitoring and evaluation of their development (CDF Act, 2003).

Since its inception, the CDF has received both national and international recognition for its attempt to address growing citizen legitimacy concerns and to remedy the deeply rooted patronage in governing African states. To date, the Kenyan government has disbursed to a tune of 956 USD million as CDF to constituencies (National Taxpayers Association [NTA], 2013). CDF was a noble idea whose effects have been felt at the grassroots level in every corner of Kenya but has been be deviled by myriad problems largely due to weak legislation, institutional and oversight mechanisms coupled with lack of information by citizens (NTA, 2013).

There has been a lot of criticism, from various quarters, on the way the CDF is managed and implemented. The shortfalls include administrative bureaucracies and inefficiencies, misappropriation of public resources and the marginalization of local communities in development processes (Legal Resources Foundation Trust [LRF], 2009). The systems and structures have lacked a coherent or coordinating framework. They have thus been marred by overlaps, duplication, and despite their multiplicity, there has been low citizen involvement (Kenya Human Rights Commission [KHRC] and Social and Public Accountability Network [SPAN], 2010). Equally the process has been marred by repeated accusation of abuse of funds, putting up projects that are not of priority to the members of the community and patronage due to excessive powers of the Member of Parliament (MP) (TISA, 2009). A citizen's report card (CRC); a research in 149 constituencies done by the NTA in 2017, rated Mwingi central Constituency as one of the poorly performed constituency in terms of fund utilization in Financial Year (FY) 2015 / 2016. The key points were: Out of the Kshs. 40,948,277 that was allocated to the constituency, Kshs. 22,726293.735 was spent on poorly implemented projects which is 55.5% of the amount allocated during that period (NTA, 2017), and Kshs. 655172.432 was unaccounted for i.e. 1.6%. The report further classified the projects into three categories; completed and in use projects which were rated at 75% in terms of technical performance, ongoing projects rated at 63% and incomplete projects at 48% (NTA, 2017). From the above analysis, it is clear that CDF projects' performance in FY 2015 / 2016 was 62%. That means 38% of the money meant to benefit the people of Mwingi central Constituency was wasted in terms of technical performance, 55.5% on badly implemented projects, 1.6% unaccounted for totaling to 57.1% which translates to Kshs. 23,381466.167.

Noting that this is only one constituency in one financial year, one can imagine if this was replicated in the 490 constituencies and all avenues of devolution like the counties, then Kenya will lose billions and billions of shillings; a situation that might lead to apathy among the electorates, community unrests, lack of development, and poor infrastructure with no investors, increased levels of poverty coupled with unemployment, emerging culture of militia and high crime rates. This worrying revelation clearly prompted the need for this study to find out the factors that influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency, Kitui County, Kenya.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to establish the factors influencing community participation in National Government Constituency Development Fund projects. The study focused on NG- CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency, Kitui county, Kenya. It was purposed to come up with recommendations on how to improve community participation in NG-CDF projects.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The study was based on the following objectives:

1. To establish the extent to which demographic characteristics of the people influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency.
2. To find out the extent to which cultural beliefs influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency.
3. To examine the extent to which the level of awareness and empowerment influence the community participation in the NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency.
4. To determine the extent to which accountability influence the community participation in NG-CDF projects.

1.5 Research Questions

This study was guided by the following research questions**;**

1. How does demographic characteristics of the people influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency?
2. To what extent does cultural beliefs influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency?

3. To what extent does the level of awareness influence the community participation in the NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency?
4. To what extent does accountability influence the community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency?

1.6 Significance of the Study

This research was expected to establish factors influencing community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency. As a result, identify challenges facing community participation in the implementation process of the NG-CDF projects; hence come up with some workable solutions to overcome those challenges. The research was anticipated to inform policy on NG-CDFs, the structure of decision making on the use of the funds at all stages of implementation; oversight of NG-CDF operations; and the relative influence of different individuals and groups in making policy. The study also aimed at documenting effectiveness of NG-CDFs as a tool of decentralized development, including pitfalls in implementation; the relationship between operations of NG-CDFs and other local development projects and administration; and reporting, transparency and accountability of NG-CDF-initiated projects.

Results of this study might not only be resourceful to the leaders and constituents of Mwingi central, but also to other constituencies in the republic of Kenya, whose constituents face similar challenges. It was hoped that the study would also be useful to institutions and structures that call for people's input, involvement and participation especially in county governance. This study may as well trigger further discussions and research on how we as Kenyan citizens can take part right from the grassroots level to a national stage, in improving and developing our country for the good of all of us.

1.7 Assumptions of the Study

This study was based on the assumption that respondents gave truthful responses and the NG-CDF management team was as well going to avail necessary information about the programme. At the same time, it was believed that the findings of this study were to be generalized to bring to light and address similar concerns in the rest of the other constituencies in the county governments as well as in Kenya as a country.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

The main limitation of this study was resource constraints such as time and funds, and due to this, the study was conducted in one constituency in Kitui County. The findings might therefore not be perfectly generalized to the whole country. However, the findings of this study may be useful to any researcher interested in people's participation in public affairs. Also securing appointments with study respondents especially the NG-CDF manager, the NG-CDF committee members and the PMC members was another challenge since majority of them had busy schedules, while others were committed elsewhere. However, the researcher booked appointments in time and in some cases dropped the questionnaires at the NG-CDF office and pick them up after two days. Equally the researcher faced difficulties in respondents opening up on the subject matter, and in getting honest and impartial responses due to fear of victimization but, efforts were made to ensure that respondents' confidentiality was assured.

1.9 Delimitations of the Study

The study covered NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency, one because of the limited resources and time. Secondly, the constituency is messo-politan in nature and had both urban and rural setting which gave a wide scope of input into the study. Also the variables that influence community participation in government sponsored projects are vast since human resource management and leadership as a socially complex process is intertwined with an array of organizational factors. But, the study focused only on demographic characteristics, cultural beliefs, the level of awareness and empowerment of the community,as well as transparency and accountability and how each of them influenced community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency in Kitui County, which for the purpose of this study was deemed to the major factors influencing community participation. The study targeted adult residents, PMC members, NG-CDF committee members and the NG-CDF manger in Mwingi central Constituency for data collection.

1.10 Definitions of Significant Terms

Community participation:	Refers to people's involvement in identification of most preferred projects, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as sustainability of the completed projects.
Ownership:	Refers to a sense or feeling of belonging and having a say and control over one's development.
NG-CDF sponsored projects:	All ventures, activities, projects, initiatives and processes that are supported by public resources.
Target:	The intended beneficiaries of a given government intervention; can be individuals, groups of a community.
Constituents:	The people who reside in Mwingi central Constituency.
Demographic Characteristics:	Basic information about a person and it includes age, gender, marital status, education and level of exposure.
Culture:	Believes, practices and way of life over a period of time, for instance, perception to marital status by society, the culture of silence, impunity and corruption.
Structural NG-CDF Shortcomings:	All institutional challenges facing NG-CDF processes, procedures and working mechanism such as reinforcement of the law.
Transparency-	Refers to a situation where there is lack of hidden agendas and conditions, accompanied by the availability of full information required for collaboration, cooperation and collective decision-making.
Empowerment-	Refers to the measures designed to increase the degree of autonomy and self –determination in people and in communities in order to enable them to represent their interest in a responsible and self-determined way, acting on their own.
Accountability-	Refers to the obligation of an individual or organization to account for all its activities, accept responsibility for them and to disclose the results in a transparent manner, including money and other entrusted property.

1.11 Organization of the Study

This study has five chapters. Chapter one is the introduction and it entails: the background to the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, study objectives, research questions, significance of the study, assumptions of the study, limitations of the study, delimitations of the study, definition of significant terms as used in the study and the organization of the study.

Chapter two is the Literature Review and it looks at related literatures on community participation and ownership of projects; demographic character and community participation in government .projects; civic culture and participation in National Government Constituency Development Fund projects; structural shortcomings that hinder citizen participation in government development projects; alternative models that can enhance citizen in government development projects; and knowledge gaps in the research area.

Chapter three presents the Research Methodology. It focuses on the different methodologies used in the study including the research design, the target population, sample size and sampling procedure, the research instruments, data collection and analysis techniques and ethical considerations to ensure that reliable data is collected to achieve the desired results at the end of the study.

Chapter four highlights on data analysis, presentation and interpretation of the study findings. Finally, chapter five gives a summary of the study findings, discussion, conclusion and recommendations of the report as well as suggestions for further studies.

CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the concept of community participation in National government sponsored projects as viewed by different scholars with a view to have an in-depth understanding of the concept. The literature on how demographic characteristics, culture and structural NG- CDF shortcomings and their influence on participation and ownership of NG-CDF sponsored projects and the level awareness that can enhance community involvement have been explored. The theoretical and conceptual framework that forms the basis of the study has equally been discussed.

2.2 Community Participation and National Government-Constituency Development Funded projects

Community participation creates an enabling environment for sustainability by allowing users not only to select the level of services for which they are willing to pay, but also to make choices and commit resources in support of the choices made by the community (Sara and Katz, 1998). Community involvement ranges from participation in activities defined by outsiders to the management and ownership of activities developed primarily by community members themselves (Aubel and Samba, 1996). The cornerstone of community-based development initiatives is the active involvement of members of a defined community in at least some aspects of project design and implementation (Mansuri and Rao, 2004). Colletta and Perkins (1995) illustrate various forms of community participation as research and data collection, dialogue with policymakers, school management, curriculum design, development of learning materials and school construction.

The concept of democratic ownership and participation gained extensive attention among political scientists, psychologists and sociologists, working at national or cross-national level. In this respect many studies that focused on civic engagement, citizenship, political and social participation, community involvement, social service, non-governmental organizations have been carried out up to date. There is an abundant literature on local democratization experiments in Latin America, where interesting community participation in political processes began in the 1980s with the rise of Left leaning governments. Scholars who have been studying citizen

participation in local political processes in Latin America refer to the phenomenon as 'deepening democracy.'

(Goldfrank, 2011). Goldfrank contends that the concept of deepening democracy involves moving from the usual regular elections and taking further steps in strengthening citizenship and democratizing the state. He defines "strengthening citizenship" as the process of transforming residents from passive subjects in dependent relationships with particular politicians or parties into active citizens who know that they have political rights, that they can legitimately make demands on the government for public services and that they can make their voices heard in political debates (Goldfrank, 2011). Goldfrank's conceptualization of deepening democracy and strengthening citizenship reflects the thoughts of this research on factors influencing citizen participation and ownership of government sponsored projects; in particular, by the Constituency Development Fund.

It is believed that participation ensures success as people get involved when they have a sense of ownership of project and feels that the project meets their needs. This makes them willingly oversee implementation and then take care of the facilities to ensure their sustainability (Tacconi and Tisdell, 1992; Narayan, 1995). In addition, it is suggested that participation can lead to greater community empowerment in the form of strengthened local organizations, a greater sense of pride and the undertaking of new activities (Oakley, 1991). A study carried out by Theresia Leonard Mnaranara in Tanzania in 2010 on the roles of local community participation in ongoing construction of primary schools reviled that participation for material contribution was observed when communities in Mzumbe and Mlali wards in Mvomero Districts were required to contribute labour in terms of fetching water, collecting stones and sand, assisting masonry during the construction of classrooms, teachers' houses and school toilets. The advantage of material contribution as a form of participation is that it incorporates local knowledge regarding quality of materials needed for the construction of primary schools (Mnaranara, 2010). Mnaranara found out that in the sample of 150 villagers the overall findings show that 30 (20%) of the villagers contributed in cash, 90(60%) did not contribute in cash but rather they contributed in terms of materials and 30 (20%) respondents did not respond to the questions.

The findings indicate that participation of communities in terms of contribution in cash was not encouraging because many villagers did not contribute in cash. The majority of the villagers were economically poor, but they were strong and had different skills through which they could participate in the building of schools. The form of participation demonstrated here contained elements of collaborative participation; in this case both parties participated in the same manner in diagnosing the problem, analyzing data, designing solution and implementing. Basing on Pretty ‘s (1995) this form of participation is regarded as highly active. Collaborative participation contributes to commitment on the part of the villagers in the implementation of ongoing primary school construction.

It is now widely accepted that community participation contributes a lot to the development of projects. Specifically, community participation in government sponsored projects can improve the quality of service delivery and enhance sustainability. Extensive literature search has identified the importance of community participation and 12 Lancaster (2002) points out the importance of community participation as follows: the approach helps the project to be sustainable as communities themselves learn how to adopt and correct changes resulting from the project; partnership or participation helps to protect interest of the people concerned; it enhances dignity and self-reliance among , that is, they are enabled to obtain and do things by themselves; communities become aware of the project implementation as they have a great store of wisdom and skills. They understand their local needs and the nature of their environment better than outsiders; participation makes local people to act as multiplier of new project which they achieve. They can easily transmit the new knowledge they acquired to other communities, thus cause a rapid increase in growth of the new idea; participation promotes a sense of ownership among the community of equipment used in the project, and even projects itself. For example, they will protect and maintain the project through their own means e.g. school buildings; it also enhances empowerment to community members by building their capacity to identify, define, solve and implement various social an economic issue that affect their lives; and participation creates sense and attitude of self-reliance; this especially happens when the project developer leaves the project to the indigenous community.

Community participation in project initiation, implementation and management, apart from creating a sense of ownership and responsibility within communities, is an important factor in developing an effective and long-lasting project (Kaliba, 2002). As a means to an end, community participation in education is seen as way to increase resources, improve accountability of schools to the community they serve, ensure the most cost-effective use of resources and importantly be responsive to local needs (Rose, 2003).

2.3 Demographic Characteristics and Community Participation in NG-CDF Projects

It is widely documented that community participation depends on many factors amongst them being their demographic characteristics which include level of education and exposure on the subject matter, gender and age. Education has been promoted as a tool for the creation of social outcomes, such as social cohesion and democracy, ever since compulsory education was first developed (Dewey, 1916). Over the years the role of education as a contributory factor in the development and sustainability of democracy has been underlined by political sciences (Lipset, 1959; Putnam, 2000). Nevertheless, recently, several papers have put into question the relationship between education and participation without being able to conclude in favour of a strong positive effect (Milligan et al, 2004; Dee, 2004).

Previous research over the last forty years has shown a positive effect from formal education and different forms of Active Citizenship mostly in the domain of Representative Democracy, in particular voting (Dee, 2004; Milligan, et al. 2003; Campbell, 2006), some research in the domain of civic competence including attitudes (Almond and Verba, 1989) and political knowledge (Milligan et al., 2003), some in the domain of community life on associational involvement and volunteering (Putnam, 2000; Campbell, 2006; Dee, 2004) and in the domain of Protest and Social Change (Campbell, 2006). The conclusions from those studies are mixed. On one hand, Dee (2004) shows that in the USA educational attainment has a large and significant causal effect on voter participation and attitudes towards free speech. In order to control for any possible unobservable variables that affect both schooling and civic attitudes, Dee (2004) uses supply-side sources of variation in schooling - geographic availability of colleges and teen exposure to the variation in child labour

laws - to instrument the level of education of the respondent. Similarly, Milligan et al (2003), using changes in compulsory schooling legislation and child labour laws across states as exogenous variations in schooling confirms that education has a positive and significant effect on the probability to vote in USA. On the other hand, using 14 waves of the German Social General Survey, Siedler (2007) examines in West Germany the impact of education on a wide set of civic engagement indicators. His results suggest that education is positively associated with all political outcomes. Education and level of exposure influences attitude, personal attributes and leadership qualities. The term attitude is frequently used in describing people and explaining their behaviour. More precisely according to Luthans (2005), an attitude can be defined as a persistent tendency to feel and behave in a particular way toward some object. Attitudes are evaluative statements either favorable or unfavorable concerning objects, people or events (Robbins, 2005). Luthans (2005) provides three components of attitude as emotional, informational and behavioural. The emotional component involves the persons' feelings or affect- positive, neutral, or negative about an object. The informational component consists of beliefs and information an individual has about the object. It makes no difference whether or not this information is empirically real or correct. He proceeds by saying that the third component of attitude is behavioural, which consists of persons' tendencies to behave in a particular way toward an object. Of the three components of attitude, only the behavioural component can be directly observed.

It is assumed that if you want to know someone 's beliefs, feelings, and behavioural tendencies toward an object, all you need to do is measure his or her attitude. In this study, therefore, the third component of attitude which is behavioural component was studied specifically on the individual attitude towards community participation. Jain and Saakshi (2005) define leadership as a process of influencing subordinates so that they cooperate enthusiastically in the achievement of group goals. Yet another definition says leadership is the ability to influence through communication, the activities of others, individually or as a group toward the accomplishment of worthwhile meaningful and challenging goals (Ivancevich et al., 2003).

It is further said that leadership occurs whenever one person attempts to influence the behaviour of an individual or group. Holt (1993) sees leadership as a process whereby other people are influenced to behave in preferred ways to accomplish organizational objectives. According to Chandan (2003) leadership can be formal or informal. Formal leadership occurs when a person is appointed or elected as an authority figure while informal leadership emerges when a person uses interpersonal influence in a group without designated authority or power. These leaders emerge in certain situations, because of their charm, intelligence, skills or other people turn for advice, direction and guidance.

On the basis of the above definitions of leadership, it shows that leadership has features of influence process, presence of followers and having common goals. In this study, the concept of leadership is used to refer to the influence of village leaders on the behaviour of villagers so that village objectives are achieved. This study refers to formal rather than informal leadership in the sampled villages. Effective and efficient leaders are always endowed with good leadership qualities. Without having the qualities of a good leader he/she may find difficulty to direct the activities of subordinates for achieving organizational goals. Jain and Saakshi (2005) emphasize that the success or failure of an organization to a great extent depends on the quality of leadership. Nirmal (2002) asserts that there are three broad categories of the qualities of successful leadership namely personality traits, knowledge and ability and lastly skills.

Personality traits cover issues of good character, intelligence, will power, judgment, fellow feeling, faith mental and physical energy, enthusiasm and drive, emotional stability and tact, and humour. Knowledge and ability is the second category which covers aspects of good educational background, technical competence that is, ability to plan, organize, delegate, analyze, make decisions and capacity to control and coordinate the group efforts; ability to appraise and evaluate employees' performance as well as self-appraisement. Leaders' possession of skills is the third category of leadership qualities that focus on the following skills: problem-solving and decision making skills, communication skills, human relations skills, conceptual skills, social skills and administrative skills. The above literature review shows that there are several qualities which need to be possessed by leaders.

It is widely accepted that households' participation depends on the characteristics of the household. Education has been reported to influence farmers' participation and stimulates social participation (Lise, 2001). Education is a significant instrument to stimulate local participation in a variety of development management initiatives. Heads of households with primary education are more willing to participate in economic activities than illiterate farmers (Dolisca et al., 2006). However, Godquin and Quisumbing (2006) have different views regarding relationship between level of education and community participation. They argue that people with less education are less likely to participate in community projects.

Age of a head of household is another attribute influencing participation in the participatory projects. Age has a negative impact in explaining the level of participation (Dolisca et al., 2006). This means that younger people are more willing to participate than older ones. Thatcher et al. (1997) found that age has no influence on participation of households. A study done by Batwel (2008) showed that there was relationship between age of the people and their participation in communal projects whereby younger people participated more than older ones.

Gender of the head of household can also influence participation of the households. A study done in Malawi indicated that there were gender inequalities in community contribution within households especially in providing non-monetary contributions whereby females provided most of the labour than males (Rose, 2003). Salami and Kpamegan (2002) cited in Rose (2003) argue that women have been found to be involved in providing human contributions, while men contribute more in financial and material terms. On the other hand, Agrawal et al. (2006) found that females participate more in participatory projects than men regardless of their triple role they perform in community. Dresbach (1992) argues that occupation is one of the factors which can influence individuals' propensity towards participating in any communal projects. Although it is now generally accepted that gender inequalities can undermine the effectiveness of development policies in fundamental ways, this fact has often been downplayed or ignored, and continues to be addressed only at the periphery of policy dialogue and decision-making (World Bank, 2001). This section examines the concepts of gender inequality and role in participating in government development project.

The concept of 'gender', by definition, counters the notion of biologically determined roles for males and females. Such roles are now understood to be created by a given society at a given time, and reinforced by the society's religious, cultural and legal institutions as well as ethnic and class-based structures (Moser, 1993). The roles do not necessarily define the power relations between the genders, but rather the identities that attach to them, conferring certain acceptable behaviours upon each. Acceptable feminine behaviour, on the one hand, has tended to be defined by nurturance, interdependence, sensitivity and emotionality.

Acceptable masculine behaviour, on the other hand, has been described as controlling, non-emotional, assertive and individual. These behaviours have served to reinforce the roles that males and females have played, as well as the power dynamics between the genders. Gender hierarchies are manifested in the gendered division of labour (Society for International Development, 2007). Girls and will be women, for example, expected to be responsible for the domestic chores in the house such as fetching water, collecting firewood, cooking, cleaning and taking care of the children and relatives. Men and boys, on the other hand, are perceived to be responsible for providing leadership and security, and generally providing for the household. The differential engagement of males and females in domestic work and the differences in the values that have attached to their different roles have translated into inequalities in the distribution of resources and opportunities. 'Gender equality' is, therefore, defined in this study as, "equality under the law, equality of opportunity (including rewards for work and access to human capital resources and other productive resources that enable opportunity), and equality of voice (the ability to influence and contribute to development processes) (World Bank, 2001).

2.4 Cultural beliefs and Community Participation in NG-CDF Projects

The importance of community participation, especially the poor who oftentimes are disproportionately disadvantaged in terms of access to political power, cannot be understated. Valenzuela (2002) argues that if given the opportunity, the poor and marginalized people can build strong and sustainable organizations, build enormous generosity and solidarity, successfully improve their quality of life, generate participation and accountability mechanisms, and stimulate the emergence of democratic leadership. Diamond (1999) underscores the critical role of meaningful,

representative, local government to democratic vitality in five broad overlapping ways. First, it helps foster democratic values and skills among citizens. Second, it increases accountability and responsiveness to local interests and concerns. Third, it provides additional channels of access to power for historically marginalized groups and thus improves the representativeness of democracy. Fourth, it enhances checks and balances vis-à-vis power at the centre. Fifth, it provides opportunities for parties and factions in opposition at the centre to exercise some measure of political power. Diamond further argues that each of these functions enhance the legitimacy and stability of democracy. Valenzuela's and Diamond's assertions about the potential of the poor and marginalized and importance of participation can be further bolstered by the argument advanced by sociologists on the concept of social capital. Evolving from Marx's conceptualization of capital within economic realms and later into human capital (skills, education, talents et cetra.) social capital has become a central focus of political analysis today. Lin (2001) defines social capital as a resource that individuals could gain by working with others. It essentially implies involvement beyond the self. Through working with others, Lin observes, human beings develop social networks and resources which the networks bring to individuals (personal connections, enhanced knowledge and wherewithal etc.) Social capital includes economic goods too. This research is interested in the concept of social capital as a contribution of a deepened democracy to a polity.

It is notable from some experience of community participation in liberal societies that not all participatory processes work successfully. Each usually experiences its own challenges. What then should help a successful or working participatory program? An effective participatory process has certain prerequisites, such as pre-existing strong civic organizations or culture that favours participation. Where they are absent, it takes time to build them (Abers, 1998). According to Abers there can be initial conflicts in the process of establishing a functioning local participatory citizenship, which can take up to 4-5 years for strong civic groups to emerge. Abers' research examined the transition from clientelism to cooperation in Porto Alegre, Brazil, specifically how participatory policy led to the emergence of a culture of civic organizaion. The research observed initial skepticism among residents, which changed gradually due to encouragement from the government and because of noticeable benefits to groups which participated. Neighbourhood associations started

holding large and regular meetings and thereafter started to promote activities that went beyond the budget discussion. Abers observed that the motive of obtaining localized benefits broadened and the people started thinking about the whole district and about how neighbourhood groups could work together to realize their potential. Abers sums up the civic organizing as having reflected not only in the way people voted but also the way they perceived the process of deliberation. The presence of local organizing groups at the launch and promotion of a participatory process also matters (Font & Galais, 2011). The authors' research sought to examine how ideology, external support and civil society influence the quality of local participation.

Regarding civil society their study points to three positive effects of the presence of civil society at the launch and promotion of local participatory programs. The first is the partnership effect in which the presence of two or more promoters results in scrupulous procedures due to increased scrutiny. Second, the presence of local organizing groups will normally mean a greater degree of cooperation from organized civil society. Finally, the same presence also acts as a guarantee of the significance of the experience because local groups usually will not waste time in poorly planned processes with uncertain effects. If Font & Galais' findings are anything to go by, then genuine participation needs the role of local organizing civil groups.

The quality of deliberation also matters. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions. Savini (2011) identifies the nature of participants, the political environment, previous experiences of local participation and individual preferences of participants as contextual factors on which outcomes of deliberations depend. Participants should have some degree of readiness to engage authorities; such prerequisites basically are found in civic skills, political consciousness, and education. Participation can only thrive where some political goodwill for it exists, so the political environment is crucial.

Savini(2011) further discusses the concepts of empowerment and endowment as central elements of participation. Empowerment is a measure of the significance of the role of the citizen in public decision making. The term is used to assess the functioning of democratic institutions by determining community's access to social

power, political power and psychological power. Social power refers to access to social organizations, financial resources and information. Political power is defined in terms of access to decision while psychological power has to do with an individual's sense of effective potency. Community members are considered empowered if they have the effective capacity to access political arenas and to influence decisions that affect them. Savini, however, faults the perspective in assessing citizen participation on three grounds. First, calculating empowerment does not say much on modalities under which it is created (Savini, 2011). Second, the concept is multidimensional thus there is a need for a rigorous examination of the various indicators of empowerment. Finally, the empowerment approach may mislead especially due to its focus on decisions and not processes.

Another important question to worry about while discussing the possibility of deepening democracy through local citizen participation is how the process (of deepening democracy) really works. For citizen participation to be feasible, some level of civic about the citizens' political environment is necessary. Does democracy make citizens acquire civic virtues or is it the other way round? Earlier researches largely acknowledged existence of competing explanations to this question; Inglehart (1988) for example terms the relationship between civic culture and the presence or absence of modern social structures as chicken-versus-egg question. Almond and Verba's work of 1963 is perhaps the starting point in grasping the concept of civic culture in relation to participation. Traditional understanding of civic culture (Almond and Verba, 1963), social capital (Putnam, 1993) and an autonomous civic sphere (Tocqueville, 1988) assumes civics as independent of, not caused by, and usually existing prior to the state.

The prior existence of civil characteristics thus becomes an anchor upon which the state may establish a democratic society. Clearly, these scholars' position conflicts with the general belief among political sociologists, who do not see much participation among regular citizens, especially those of the lower socioeconomic status. Almond and Verba (1963) were concerned with the question of "the political culture of democracy and the social structures and processes that sustain it". The authors had predicted a pattern in which large groups of people, who have been marginalized politically, would increasingly demand their involvement and the

political elite would commit to include these groups. They term this phenomenon as "participation explosion". It is against this background that their work opens with the contention that a democratic form of participatory political system entails a political culture consistent with it. In an attempt to analyze the spread of Western democracy elsewhere, the authors identify two obstacles faced by the process. The first factor was the nature of the democratic culture itself and, second, the "archaic" technologies and social systems in the receiving policies.

The second obstacle implies the importance of preconditions, a favourable cultural orientation in the recipient polities which sustain democracy. The argument of a political culture consistent with a democratic form of participation is not clear on cause-effect mechanism. Perhaps one interpretation is that the culture is required both as a prerequisite and as a concomitant condition. Almond and Verba therefore define political culture as "the specifically political orientations- attitudes toward the political system and its various parts, and attitudes toward the role of the self in the system". Almond and Verba then sum up civic culture as, "a participant political culture in which the political culture and political structure are congruent." This definition of civic culture introduces another important term-- political structure. By political structure, Almond and Verba refer to legislative bodies, executive and government bureaucracies.

The structural functioning involves inputs and outputs in which the former means the flow of demands from the society to the polity while the latter implies the conversion of these demands into authoritative policies. When citizens are involved in both the input and the output stages within a political structure, Almond and Verba terms the culture a participant political culture. Although the term "involved" here is rather vague and needs operationalization, my study on community participation in the NG-CDF programme clearly aims at creating a participant political culture as defined by these authors. The CDF program creates the opportunity for local community to develop certain attitude about the political system and how they view their roles within that system.

2.5 Level of Awareness and empowerment and community participation in NG-CDF projects

The purpose of CDF is to initiate development projects for communities at grass root levels within the shortest time possible (Oyugi, 2007). The introduction of CDF was a response to the implementation of the normal government projects and therefore it was meant to allow the flow of funds from the exchequer to the community directly without the impediment posed by bureaucracies. CDF funds projects of public interests and benefits only. However, in the case of educational bursaries, it is individuals that benefit, since it is in the interest of the community that poor children amongst it access education. Inanga and Osei-Wasu (2004) postulate that the philosophy guiding the CDF financing is informed by benefits that accrue to the citizens as a result of fiscal decentralization. Fiscal decentralization is justified on the basis of failure of economic planning by the central government to provide adequate development. Under the CDF framework, lower levels units of governance by virtue of being closer to the citizens are seen to be in a better position to identify citizens' needs and therefore provide them with an appropriate form and level of public participation. These lower levels of units manage the planning and budgeting of the funds. The projects are supposed to be proposed by citizens so that they capture their needs adequately. This kind of decentralization planning and budget management is aimed at allowing transparency in the utilization of resources.

Kimenyi (2005), argues that CDF is supposed to bring fast and relevant development to the grass root levels by enabling individuals at the grass root level make expenditure choices that benefit their welfare which is in line with their felt needs and preferences. The notion of participation is based on the understanding that communities and populations are better placed to manage their affairs namely; social, cultural, economic and political and in view of project management, inclusions of a wide range of interested parties in the decision making process gives development projects more legitimacy in the eyes of the beneficiaries, because such projects deals with real needs of the people (Odhiambo and Anyembe, 2009). Oyugi (2007) argues that the impact of participation can be significant if funds are effectively used because participation stimulates local involvement in development projects. Because of involvement, the benefitting community can also act as a monitoring agency thereby creating efficiency in resource utilization and management. In addition to advancing

the welfare of the people, CDF is expected to have an outstanding effect on participation which in itself is pivotal to the empowerment of citizens.

It is argued that most of the development decisions were made by the constituency development committees (CDC) as opposed to grass root decision making processes. The committees constituted to manage the projects were normally appointed by political leaders in the constituency, a phenomenon that reflects centralization. Since citizens' participation is central in the bottom-up approach in development, this study set out to investigate the factors influencing participation in CDF projects at the constituency level

There are many assumptions about the benefits that come as a result of citizens' involvement in any development process. In this connection, Conyers (2000) provides four broad categories to outline citizen participation objectives, they include; local empowerment, administrative efficiency and effectiveness, national cohesion and central control. For local empowerment to take place there must be local participation in the formulation and implementation of the development process (Bartle, 2005). Agreeing, (Andrea, 2006) recognizes that empowerment resides in a person or a group and can only be exploited when the persons/groups are allowed to participate in issues that affect them. However, the impact of participation and the ability of people to be empowered is influenced by the method used to have them participate.

Citizens participation in CDF is encouraged by the assumption that it will avail opportunities for decision making and address real development concerns among citizens. That people tend to resist new ideas if they are imposed on them, hence involving people in decisions, makes them own such decisions and by extension the projects. Participation strengthens local capacities by enhancing local skills and knowledge, which people can use for future activities. Participation also gives a voice to the poor and other disadvantaged and marginalized people to whom, lack of a say is a major factor contributing to their poverty and marginalization. Participation contributes to sustainability of projects implemented as a result of ownership and creates a condition of democratization of development, since it links development to the people

In many instances, it is the elites rather than the most vulnerable that capture participation powers, which is then used to suppress local minorities including women and other marginalized groups (Olowu, 2001). According to the World Bank (2002) report, it states that conceding power to local governments is no guarantee that all local interests groups will be represented. It may simply mean that power is transferred from national to local elites. Under the CDF procedures, projects are written and submitted to the area MP who then is supposed to hand them over to the Clerk of the national assembly. When a group of constituents is not politically correct with the area Member of Parliament, then its projects risk not being funded. Hence the elected leaders play a significant role in funding and disbursement of funds towards projects. The beneficiaries are meant to be major decision makers and directors of their own development.

The CDF Act of 2007, the public procurement and disposal act of 2005 and the CDF implementation guidelines of 2004 prepared by the National Management committee provides that CDF projects be implemented by the government departments under which they fall (Gikonyo, 2008). Communities in the respective constituencies are required to participate actively throughout the implementation stage to ensure that the objectives of the projects are adequately met while utilizing the allotted resources within the stipulated periods. The effectiveness of the implementation phase is determined by many factors, key among which, is the common understanding of the project mission. According to the Project Management Institute (2008), the project mission entails the identification of the general objectives of the project. The research also observed that the project mission is a critical factor of success as it guides the documentation of the project activities in line with the overall goal and intentions.

A study by Auya (2005) on the challenges undermining the CDF development programs in North Mugirango established that the implementation of these projects was faced by numerous factors. These include low community participation in the selection of CDF committee members as well as in the identification of the projects. Additionally, Katamei et.al, 2015 observed that the implementation of CDF projects in Marakwet West Constituency was undermined by the poor or no community receptivity, which includes the little understanding of the process of implementation, poor leadership skills by the project managers, poorly implemented values and belief

systems and lack of commitment to the implementation of the projects. The performance and effectiveness of the implementation process is evaluated on the basis of the cost, time and the overall quality of the project (Williamson et.al, 2014).

The engagement of the stakeholder is defined as a critical factor in ensuring the project success, as it helps the project members and all the participants to access and manage the project environment effectively (Llewellyn, 2009). It is also useful in bringing out the interests and roles of all the stakeholders clearly whilst identifying the probable causes of conflicts which may undermine the outcomes of the project. Llewellyn also points out that the engagement of the stakeholders allows the identification of the prevailing relationships between the participants and which can be leveraged to create useful partnerships and coalitions needed in building collaborations on the basis of mutual respect and trust.

Bourne (2009) outlines that active building and management of strong relationships with all the project stakeholders is necessary for ultimate success. Active interactions between the participants facilitates a comprehensive evaluation of the existing relationships, starting with a detailed discussion of the qualifications, and the necessary changes that the managers may have to institute as they exercise their executive roles. Additionally, it requires the recognition of the importance of purposeful and targeted communication that is needed to unite and support the work of the teams. Studies have identified that the active support of stakeholders, from the project coordinators, project sponsors to the targeted community is necessary for driving desirable results. Successful project managers do not only comprehend this necessity but they are equally ready to do all it takes to ensure that the stakeholders understand and actualize their required roles. The communication process is in determining the effectiveness of stakeholders' participation as it is essential in adjusting expectations and changing perceptions, making them more realistic, as well as in helping the acquisition of necessary support for the effective delivery of each role (Bourne, 2009).

This observation is also confirmed by Mille and Marsh (2014), who observed that the isolation of all the stakeholders is a major challenge in the accomplishment of the project objectives. Accordingly, projects where the stakeholders are ignored only

succeed to a certain level while in projects where the project managers build strong mutual relationships with all the identified stakeholders are completed successfully and end up with wider connections and ownership among the target communities. The involvement of stakeholders in decision making through participatory analysis in the case of community projects is according to Chikati (2009) a critical method of operation. Stakeholders may have varying interests, influence or level of involvement but it is very important to first, identify all stakeholders and them manage them properly since they can have positive and/or negative influence on the entire project. Creating a sense of project ownership is vital in ensuring long term sustainability of the project. Maritim (2013) notes that the participation of the community members in conjunction with the project developers should be insisted; otherwise the successful implementation of community-based projects will remain a dream

2.6 Transparency/ accountability and community participation in NG-CDF projects

The 2003 CDF Act that resulted in the CDF funds provides 2.5% of Gross Domestic Product for CDF. In this case, the CDF involve redistribution of decision-making responsibilities for project identification, planning, and implementation and monitoring from the Central Government to the constituencies (Namano, 2015). The CDF Act also outlines the policy guidelines to guide the implementation of CDF funded projects throughout the project phases, from the identification to completion, allocation of funds to the required projects, as well as the selection and management project teams and their designated responsibilities (National Council for Law, 2016).

The policy framework is essential in eliminating major setbacks that may undermine the implementation of community-based projects and especially as a result of political interferences. This implies that the success of a project throughout the different phases must ensure that the managers, implementers and the stakeholders must own the project throughout the project to facilitate the successful implementation. Public initiatives that recognize the involvement of the local people throughout the project's lifecycle enhanced the outcomes of the project as compared to the projects that ignored the people. This is since the involvement of the people facilitates the project ownership.

The principle objective of NG-CDF is facilitating economic transformation for the local communities through poverty eradication and social empowerment. Besides, it was hoped that fiscal decentralization would enhance the participation of the local communities in promoting decision making in community development, enhancing accountability and transparency and promote good governance (Bagaka, 2008).

In light of the NG-CDF projects, project managers should pay attention on those likely to be affected by a given policy or decision to ensure balanced interests and to enhance the quality of the implementation process through minimized conflicts and differences during implementation. When local communities are involved throughout the project activities, NG-CDF projects perform better. The involvement of the community ensures the full representation of community needs and thus the full acceptability of the projects.

Most Kenyans are not able to question their leaders on the procedures and processes of projects. There is no set out accountability mechanisms which has led to incomplete and poor quality projects in most constituencies in Kenya. Scholars have also raised concern lack of coherent strategy of stakeholder involvement in CDF project and failure to link projects to long-term national goals (Ongoya & Lumalla, 2005). This has been blamed for the disjointed developments that at times are not in line with the national development strategy. In Kenya low or non-participation of local communities and other stakeholder in project identification and selection is one of the challenges facing CDF. This is supported by data from (NACCSC, 2008). From the finding of the study nearly 60% of Kenyans are not involved in project selection or prioritization. Only a minimal 25% of the respondents in the study were involved in same CDF projects in some manner either in project identification, prioritization, project management, or in project monitoring. Is there need therefore to relook into how best public participation can improve NG-CDF projects success and sustainability? Is current level of public participation inclusive and empowering enough? Is current level of institutionalizing public participation empowering the constituents?

Research on public participation on NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency is quite young. There is little done if any to improve the role of the public (community) in NG-CDF projects given that the MP has the discretion and or influence to appoint the CDFC and also the fact that most of the populace are either uneducated or ignorant and may not be versed on how to participate. It is against this background that the researcher hopes to establish the influence of community participation in the successful implementation NG-CDF projects in Mwingi Central Constituency, Kenya.

More often, concerns have been raised with regard to the separation of powers, with MP doubling as legislators and implementers of the development projects. A case in point is where MP set the funds, chooses and approves projects and hence interfere with the process because of the power and influence they hold. The absence of adequate checks and balances due to lack of independent oversight authority have made CDF project more vulnerable to corruption and wastage of funds (Ongoya & Lumalla, 2005). The accountability component of public participation is the weakest in the development cycle of most decentralized structures in the country. It is actually difficult to hold anyone accountable for misappropriation of funds which lack legal backing (KHRC and SPAN, 2010).

2.7 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework that guides this study is heavily borrowed from the self-efficacy theory by Albert Bandura (1994), and according to him, self-efficacy is "the belief in one ‘s capabilities to organize and execute the courses of action required in managing prospective situations., it is a person ‘s belief in his or her ability to succeed in a particular situation. Bandura described these beliefs as determinants of how people think, behave, and feel. He points out that self-efficacy plays a major role in how goals, tasks, and challenges are approached. Albert Bandura’s concept of self-efficacy was developed as part of a larger theory, the social learning theory (Ashford & LeCroy, 2010), which has progressed into the social cognitive theory (Levin, Culkin, & Perrotto, 2001). Social cognitive theory was presented by Bandura in response to his dissatisfaction with the principles of behaviorism and psychoanalysis.

In these two theories, the role of cognition in motivation and the role of the situation are largely ignored (Bandura, 1977; as cited in Redmond, 2010). Nevid (2009)

explains that social cognitive theory illustrates the fact that individuals do not simply respond to environmental influences, but rather they actively seek and interpret information. Individuals “function as contributors to their own motivation, behavior, and development within a network of reciprocally interacting influences” (Bandura, 1999). According to Bandura (2005), social cognitive theory takes on an agentic perspective to change, development and adaptation. “In this view, people are self-organizing, proactive, self-regulating, and self-reflecting. They are contributors to their life circumstances not just products of them” (Bandura, 2005).

The self-efficacy theory lies at the center of Bandura’s social cognitive theory, which emphasizes the role of observational learning and social experience in the development of personality. Self-efficacy has a number of strengths; when faced with a difficult task, people who have high self-efficacy will face the challenge as something to be learned and mastered. Their interest and motivation in mastering the task will drive them to succeed in their difficult, yet approachable goal (Pajares & Schunk, 2001). Equally, high levels of self-efficacy enhance one's accomplishments and feelings of personal well-being, it helps one to remain calm when approaching challenging tasks (Pajares, 1996), it increases one's confidence in mastering new domains, increases one's willingness to experiment with new ideas, encourages one to set higher expectations for future performances and lastly it increases one's persistence and focus on a given task beyond previous levels (Ormrod, 2008). As challenges, high self-efficacy can sometimes lead to an individual applying less effort to a particular task. This is because high self-efficacy can sometimes lead to overconfidence in one's attitude, which creates a false sense of ability. The result is that they think they know more about the task than they really do and fail to apply the needed effort (Redmond, 2009). Equally high self-efficacy beliefs do not always guarantee positive outcome expectations and sometimes beliefs vary greatly between individuals, which makes them very difficult for researchers to assess (Pajares, 1996). Also basing one's self-efficacy for a new task on results of previous tasks may be misleading (Bandura, 1986). Personal factors and distorted memories of previous performance can distort one's self-efficacy (Bandura, 1986).

Despite the challenges discussed above, this research is still based on self-efficacy theory because it has had important implications for other agents in the instructional

process (Ashton, 1984; Ashton & Webb, 1986). For example, Gibson and Dembo (1984) have found that teachers who have a high sense of instructional efficacy devote more instructional time to academic learning, give students more and better help. Likewise, Woolfolk and Hoy (1990) have found that teachers with higher self-efficacy are more likely to employ strategies that support their students' intrinsic motivation and encourage the students to direct their own learning.

Finally, Bandura (1997) points out that those staff members in a school who collectively judge themselves as having high self-efficacy are likely to provide an environment that will promote similar feelings and high levels of productivity among their students. Hence by engaging the public in management of their affairs, by involving them in needs identification and coming up with solutions and by treating them as valued partners in government ventures will increase their self-efficacy thus, effective participation and ownership of state initiatives and processes.

2.8 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual understanding of this study is that a number of factors combine to influence the community participation in NG-CDF funded projects in Mwingi central constituency. These factors include the demographic characteristics, cultural beliefs, level of awareness & empowerment and transparency & accountability. The interrelationships between these variables are as depicted in the following Figure 2.1 below

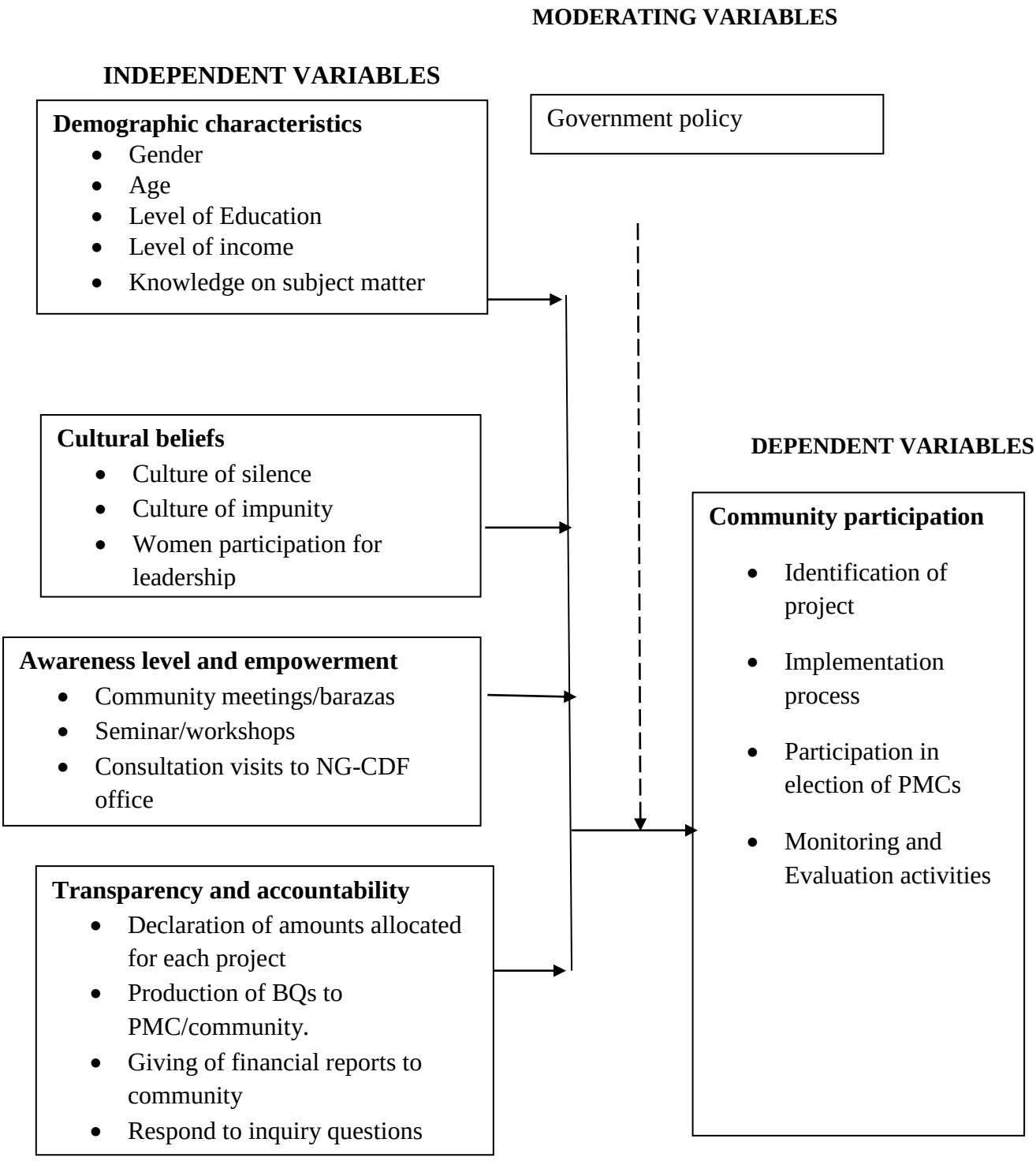

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

2.9 knowledge gaps identified in literature review

Specific variable	Source of literature review	Tittle of study	findings	Actual knowledge gap
Demographic data	Siedler, 2007	Schooling and citizenship: evidence from compulsory schooling reforms IZA DISCUSSION PAPER 2573	Education is positively associated with all political outcomes.	Education and community participation in NG-CDF projects in Kenya
Demographic data	Batwel, 2008	Factors affecting community participation in primary education development projects in Makete District of tanzania	There is a relationship between age and communal projects.	Age and community participation in Kenya.
Accountability	TISA, 2010&2012	A study on effective citizen participation	A right based approach to citizen participation requires modalities built on decision making processes	Accountability procedures by NG-CDF projects
Level of awareness	NTA, 2013	A report on citizen constituency development fund Report card	Only few constituents get the report	There is low of awareness among the community members

2.10 Summary of the Reviewed Literature

There is no clear evidence that emerge from the studies reviewed that outline the factors influencing community participation in NG-CDF projects. Mostly the studies concentrate more on the effects of community participation on performance of projects. Education is positively associated with all political outcomes (Siedler, 2007). This was revealed in a study carried out in West Germany on the impact of education on civic on engagement. Equally, Tocqueville (1988) and Putnam (1993) came to a conclusion that, there was relationship between gender and age of the people and their participation in communal projects. Traditional understanding of civic culture, social capital and an autonomous civic sphere assumes civics as independent of, not caused by, and usually existing prior to the state. The prior existence of civil characteristics thus becomes an anchor upon which the state may establish a democratic society

(Almond and Verba, 1963), (Tocqueville, 1988) and (Putnam, 1993). Also, people's traditions, way of life, customs, believes, religion and language heavily influence political life of society. Past experiences and practices such as impunity, corruption among others inform people's decisions and judgments. Fundi (2005), KHRC & SPAN (2010) and TISA (2012) came up with a conclusion that, because of inadequate structures, in most cases people are turned into passive recipient of government orders instead of being key players in social-economic development; poor systems, policy framework and procedures have adversely affected the level at which people are involved in CDF programmes. The weakness in the NG-CDF Act, the existence of multiple funds and the duplication of implementation jurisdictions have equally left communities more confused with no clear mechanisms for engagement (TISA, 2012).

The existing body of knowledge is not sufficient enough to explain the factors influencing community participation in NG-CDF funded projects in Mwingi central constituency. The quality of deliberation also matters. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions.

CHAPTER THREE
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the methodology that was used in conducting the study. And it is divided in the following sections; research design, target population, sample size and sampling procedure, research instruments, data collection procedure, data analysis techniques, ethical considerations in research and operational definitions of variables.

3.2 Research Design

Research design is an arrangement of conditions for collection and analysis of data in such a way that it aims to combine relevance with the research purpose with economy, or is a plan for doing a research Chamwali (2007). On the other hand, Orodho (2003) defined a research design as the, outline or plan that is used to generate answers to research problem. Research design is also defined by Kothari (1990) as the detailed blue print used to guide a research study towards its objectives. It is a detailed plan of work to be done to achieve the research objectives. In this study the research adopted descriptive survey design. Kothari, (2003) describes descriptive survey design as a method used to collect detailed description of existing phenomena with the view of employing data to justify current conditions and practices or to make more intelligent plans for improving them. It is concerned with finding out the who, what, where and how of a phenomenon which is the concern of the study (Orodho, 2003). The survey design is well suited to studies in which individuals are used as a unit of analysis in order to measure generalizations (Borg and Gall, 1999), and also the survey design was best suited for this study because the data that was required for analysis was collected from a large population, in which it was hard to observe the features of each individual. The participants were given questions administered through questionnaires with closed and open-ended questions using a Likert scale for easy statistical analysis (Jackson, 2009). This made it possible for the researcher to generate statistical information because it allowed the researcher to gather numerical and descriptive data to assess the relationship between the variables, at the same time provided a systematic way of looking at events, collecting data, analyzing information, and reporting the results. Data was collected by use of questionnaires and interviews guides.

3.3 Target Population

Target population is all the members of a real or hypothetical set of people, events or objects to which a researcher wishes to generalize the results of the research study (Borg & Gall, 1989). It is a target group to be studied; the total collection of elements about which we wish to make inferences. The target population for this study was the 63,305 adult residents (IEBC 2017) of the six wards (Central, Mui, Kivou, Nuu Nguni, and Waita) in Mwingi central Constituency of Kitui county, Kenya. This included 300 community members from 20 NG-CDF projects supported in FY 2016/2017 who managed development projects at community level, 15 NG- CDF committee members who were responsible for fund allocations and the CDF manager from which a sample was drawn. This helped in getting unbiased information from all the stakeholders.

3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999), sampling refers to the process of selecting a number of individuals for a study in such a way that the individuals selected represent a large group from which they are selected. Sample size is the process of selecting a sufficient number of elements from a population. And sampling procedure are the steps followed when picking elements or subjects which will be involved in the study. The chief aim of sampling is to make an inference about unknown parameters from a measurable sample statistic (Krishnaswami, 2002). Its main purpose is to obtain fairly accurately the characteristic of the population.

3.4.1 Sample Size

Sampling means selecting a given number of subjects from a defined population as representative of that population. Any statements made about the sample should also be true of the population (Orodho, 2002). Salant and Dillman (1994) states four factors to consider before determining the size of the sample as; how much sampling error can be tolerated, population size, how varied the population is with respect to the characteristics of interest and the smallest subgroup within the sample for which estimates are needed.

According to Krejcie and Morgan (1970), the size of the population and the amount of error the researcher is willing to tolerate is what determines the size of the sample. This study targeted 63,305 Adult residents of Mwingi central constituency which comprises of six wards. The sample population for this study was 366 respondents who were composed of 300 community members, 60 PMC committee members, five top NG-CDF committee officials and the NG-CDF manager. In order to get the sample size, the researcher used Krejcie and Morgan (1970) table which translated to a sample size of 366 respondents.

3.4.2 Sampling Procedure

The constituency was stratified into six wards and from the six, three wards were selected based on the number of NG-CDF projects implemented in them. The researcher purposively selected the NG- CDF manager, five top officials of the NG-CDF committee and three officials (chair person, secretary and treasurer) from PMCs of 20 NG-CDF projects that were supported in the FY 2016/2017. Further, the researcher employed stratified random sampling technique to ensure that the 29,359 adult residents of Mui, Nuu and Waitta wards were represented in the sample in proportion to their number in the population. With the help of four research assistants, the respondents will be selected randomly from within a radius of 1 Km of the 20 NG-CDF projects supported in the FY 2016/2017, where at least 15 adults from each project will be identified, given the questionnaires, have them fill in the questionnaire and collect them on the same day

The Researcher used this formula to arrive at a sample size of 366 respondents. Yamane (1967) sample size determination formula; n= equation (1)

n = Z squared times PqN divide by Z squared times PqN+Ne

Where; n= sample size N= Total population size with the Confidence level for this study was 95% and therefore $\alpha = 0.05$ and Z= 1.96 from the normal distribution tables. The Precision or error level = 0.5% and therefore, = 0.005. The estimated population proportion was 50%. Therefore, $\rho=0.5$ and $q = 0.5$.

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

The study involved questionnaires with closed and open-ended questions for data collection because they were relatively easy to administer and provided the investigator with easy accumulation of data. The researcher personally with the help of four research assistants collected primary data by administering the structured questionnaires to the sampled respondents. There were questionnaires for the Mwingi central residents who were the NG-CDF beneficiaries, PMCs, NG-CDF committee members and the NG-CDF manager. The questionnaires were divided into seven sections. Section A and B gave the background information about the respondent; more on demographic characteristics, section C and D solicited information related to the factors influencing community participation in NG- CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency, E was to examine the extent to which the level of awareness and empowerment influence the community participation in the NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency, F was to determine the extent to which transparency and accountability influence the community participation in NG-CDF projects.

3.5.1 Pilot Testing

Pilot testing is the process of subjecting the research instruments to a trial to determine its suitability in a given study area. This is done by administering the research instruments to a sample population with a characteristic similar to the study population so as to elicit desired responses. This helps the researcher to adjust the instruments in order to yield the desired response in the actual research.

Pilot testing of the research instruments was carried out to check on their validity and reliability. The pre-testing was carried out on randomly sampled adult residents in one locations other than the one under study in Mwingi west Constituency, where 38 respondents who were 10% of the study sample size was identified and had the questionnaires filled on that same day. The researcher carried out pilot testing so as to identify areas and questions in the instruments that needed modification. This also helped correct terminologies that could have been difficult for the respondents to understand. In addition, the pilot test also helped in assessing the appropriateness of the methods used for data analysis, and revealed adjustments that were necessary. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999), pilot testing ensures that research instruments are stated clearly and have the same meaning to all respondents. It helps

refine the instruments so that respondents can have no problem in answering the questions.

3.5.2 Validity of the Research Instruments

Validity refers to the degree to which an instrument measures what it purports to measure (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). This illustrates the degree to which results obtained from the analysis of data actually represent the phenomena under study. A content validity test was used to measure instrument validity. This type of validity measures the degree to which data collected using a particular instrument represented a specific domain of indicators or content of a particular concept (Mugenda and Mugenda, 1999). Expert assistance from my supervisor was handy in assessing the degree to which the questionnaire would measure and determine the content of the particular concept being measured. A pilot study was carried out to improve the validity of the instruments. For this research all the assessments of validity had subjective opinions based on the judgment of the researcher (Wiersman, 1995).

3.5.3 Reliability of Research Instruments

Reliability refers to the consistency of data arising from the use of a particular research instrument. Mugenda (2003) states that reliability is the measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results after repeated trials over a period of time. This view is shared by Gay and Airasian (2000), who describe reliability as the degree to which a test consistently measures what it is measuring. The split – half technique was used, where the same data collection instrument was administered twice to the same respondents. The subjects were selected using simple random sampling method and interview guides and questionnaires administered to them. A correlation coefficient of 0.5 was considered reliable.

3.6 Data Collection Procedure

The researcher sought permission from the relevant authorities including an authorization letter from the University of Nairobi and approval from Mwingi central NG-CDF office. The researcher sought for a letter of permit from the National Commission of Science and Technology (NACOST). This was followed by the researcher arranging meetings with the key informants on how to reach out the sampled respondents. The interview schedules and the question sessions were set and

the target groups mobilized and informed about the interviews and the questionnaire sessions. The questionnaires were issued to the respondents at random and then collected on the same day. The participants were given questions administered through questionnaires with closed and open- ended questions using a five point Likert scale for easy statistical analysis (Jackson, 2009).

The researcher collected both primary and secondary data for purposes of making conclusion and recommendations. The researcher liaised with the NG-CDF manager, NG- CDF committees and PMCs to know when they could be available to have the questionnaires administered. Secondary data was collected from text books, economic surveys, Government reports, journal and periodicals.

3.7 Data Analysis Techniques

Data analysis refers to separation of data into constituent elements. Before processing the responses, the completed questionnaires were edited for completeness and consistency. The collected data was coded by the researcher for efficiency in order to reduce the replies given by the respondents to a small number of classes. After coding, the data was classified on the basis of common characteristics and attributes. The raw data was then assembled and tabulated inform of statistical tables to allow for further analysis. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the data by examining the general trend in data sets and of each variable at a time. Descriptive summaries like frequencies, mean, and percentages was determined. Content analysis was applied for the qualitative data in order to identify patterns, themes and biases. The results were presented using tables and in narrative form. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20 was used to aid the statistical analysis of the data. Data presentation was done by use of frequency distribution tables.

3.8 Ethical considerations

The study respects ethical requirements in data collection and processing. Permission to carry out the study was obtained from University of Nairobi and other relevant authorities including the Kitui County Government. The study was conducted with an assurance of keeping the information from the respondents confidential. The research team visited potential respondents in their workplaces and homes to ensure little or no time was wasted. In the write-up, anonymity was guaranteed. At completion, the

findings were shared with stakeholders through feedback sessions and through publications in journals for wider academic sharing.

3.9 Operational definition of Variables

This is a specification of the process by which a concept is measured. The researcher chose indicators and specific observations that were made in order to measure a particular concept.

Table 3: Operationalization Table Objectives Variable Indicators Measure Measurement Scale Tools of analysis Type of analysis

Table 3.1: Operationalization of the Variables

Objective	Variables	Indicators	Measurement	Measuring Scale	Research Approach	Type of Statistical Analysis	Tool of Analysis
1.To establish the extent to which demographic characteristics of the people influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency.	Dependent Variables: Identification of projects. Implementation process. Attending meetings. Monitoring and evaluation. Sustainability of projects.	• No. of each gender participating in the project implementation • Their age brackets. • Respondents level of education • Income level of respondents	Birth certificates ID cards Schooling leaving certificates	Ordinal &nominal	Quantitative	descriptive	Descriptive Analysis
	Independent Variable: Demographic characteristics. Gender Age Level of Education Level of income Knowledge on subject matter responsive	• No. of each gender participating in the project implementation • Their age brackets. • Respondents level of education • Income level of respondents	A composite index was obtained by calculating the average of the total sum of the responses of each respondent over the five scales in Column 3 measuring this variable.	Interval	Quantitative	Parametric	Pearson's Correlation and Linear Regression

2. To find out the extent to which cultural beliefs influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency.	Independent Variable: Culture of silence Culture of impunity Corrupt practices Women participation for leadership	• NG-CDF committee chosen by M.P personally • Projects allocated as per MPs wish • Areas of perceived opponents get no projects	A composite index will be obtained by calculating the average of the total sum of the responses of each respondent over the five scales in Column 3 measuring this variable.	Ordinal & nominal	Quantitative	descriptive	Descriptive analysis
		Allocation of projects.	Open-ended questions		Qualitative	Non-Parametric	Descriptive Analysis
3 To examine the extent to which the level of awareness and empowerment influences the community participation in the NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency. ..	Independent Variables: Community meetings/barazas Seminar/workshops Consultation visits to NGCDF office Participation in elections	• Efforts made to create awareness and empower community	A composite index was obtained by calculating the average of the total sum of the responses of each respondent over the four scales in Column 3 measuring this variable.	Interval	Quantitative	Parametric	Pearson's Correlation and Linear Regression

		• Suggestions on how to increase awareness and empowerment	Open-ended questions		Qualitative	Non-Parametric	Descriptive Analysis
4 To determine the extent to which accountability influence the community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency.	Independent Variables: Declaration of amounts allocated for each project Production of BQs to PMC/community. Giving of financial reports to community Respond to inquiry questions	• Responsive society • Better living conditions and standards • Better utilization of public resources. • Community-owned projects	A composite index will be obtained by calculating the average of the total sum of the responses of each respondent over the four scales in Column 3 measuring this variable.	Interval	Quantitative	Parametric	Multiple Regression

CHAPTER FOUR
DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION.

Introduction

This chapter gives a detailed information on the analysis of the study findings on; the factors influencing community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency. The findings on the four key objective areas of the study have been presented, analyzed and interpreted. The responses were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The data has been presented in tables.

4.2 Response Rate

The researcher targeted 366 respondents and issued that number of questionnaires out of which 354 were adequately filled and returned. The response rate was therefore 96.7% and it formed the majority of the target sample. Jack, E. F. (2008) states that a response rate of 60% or more is an adequate representation of the sample and the findings will be a reflection of the population in depth and breadth.

4.3 Demographic Data of the Respondents

The first objective of the study was to establish how demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of NG- CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency. The research sought to find out how demographic characteristics (gender, age, education and marital status) of the respondents influence their involvement in NG-CDF projects. This was done by comparing relationships between the gender of the respondents and their knowledge on the subject matter, age and level of education versus knowledge on the subject matter, gender and their participation in NG- CDF projects. The distribution of respondents according to gender was as shown in the table below;

Table 4.1 Distribution of respondents by gender

Gender	Frequency	%	Cum %
Male	128	35	35
Female	238	65	100
Total	366	100	

Majority of the respondents were female 65% (238) while male was only 35% (128). Some women change mind on decisions made earlier especially if they find that their husbands who were not in the meeting have a different opinion. This brings misunderstanding and delays in implementing projects.

The researcher wanted to establish the respondents age groups and the following data was generated as shown in the table 4.2 below;

Table 4.2 Distribution of respondents by age

Age bracket	Frequency	%	Cum %
Below 30 years	**28**	**8**	**8**
30-40 years	**125**	**34**	**42**
40-50 years	**176**	**48**	**90**
Over 50years	**37**	**10**	**100**

According to the Table 4.2, it was revealed that 48% (176) were aged between 40-50 years, 34% (125) were aged between 30-40 years. Those below 30 years composed the smallest number of respondents at 8% (28). This attests to the fact that the youth do not actively participation in community projects. Majority of the youth are either in colleges or in urban areas looking for jobs. The participation of those aged 40 years and above stands at 58% (213) meaning these are the majority among the participants.

The question on academic qualifications yielded the following results shown on the Table4.3 below;

Table 4.3 Distribution of respondents by academic qualification

Highest qualification	Frequency	%	Cum %
KCPEKCE/KCSE Certificate/below	**321**	**88**	**88**
Diploma	**27**	**7**	**95**
Bachelor	**13**	**4**	**99**
Master	**5**	**1**	**100**
Total	**366**	**100**	

The Table 4.3 shows that, a whopping 88% (321) of the participants have either KCPE Certificate or below. This low level of education affects their ability to articulate issues and even question when things go wrong. Degree holders form 5% (18) of all the respondents and this is the group that can effectively participate in identifying, prioritizing, planning and implementation of NG-CDF Funded projects. Education impacts skills and knowledge to the persons enabling them to perform better in their reasoning and duties

On the side of professional qualification, the results were as follows;

Table 4.4 Distribution of respondents by professional qualification

Highest professional qualification	Frequency	%	Cum
KCPE Certificate/below	**321**	**88**	**88**
Diploma	**27**	**7**	**95**
Degree	**18**	**5**	**100**
Total	**366**	**100**	

Table 4.4 shows the distribution of respondents by their professional qualification; the respondents with a diploma or degree were only 12% (45) while majority 88% (321) had no form of training except the KCPE Certificate. Lack of professional qualifications among participants affects their level of interaction with the issues been discussed hence they can be used as rubber stamp to pass decisions that ought not to be passed. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is

another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions. Savini (2011) identifies the nature of participants, the political environment, previous experiences of local participation and individual preferences of participants as contextual factors on which outcomes of deliberations depend. Participants should have some degree of readiness to engage authorities; such prerequisites basically are found in civic skills, political consciousness, and education. People expect education to go hand in hand with one's level of exposure and participation in public affairs. That's why the study did an analysis of the relationship between levels of education and knowledge of the subject matter

4.3.1 Influence of cultural beliefs on community participation as viewed by NG-CDF Manager.

The study analyzed how the culture of impunity in the country discourages many people from participating NG-CDF projects. This included things like an MP not being arrested in cases of law violation, disappearance of public funds without holding any one accountable and awarding NG-CDF projects without a clear criteria. The data generated was captured in the Table 4.5

Table 4.5 views of the manager on cultural beliefs

Statements	Strongly agree Freq.(%)	Agree Freq.(%)	Neutral Freq.(%)	Disagree Freq.(%)	Strongly disagree Freq.(%)
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community		1(100%)			
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents			1(100%)		
Most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate	1(100%)				
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves					1(100%)
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector				1(100%)	
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court					1(100%)
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game		1(100%)			

Table 4.5 tabulates the views of the manager as follows; The manager agrees that Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community though he remained neutral on whether many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents of the sitting M.P, but rather confirms that most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate. The manager disputes the suggestion that NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves. As to the question of whether many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector the manager strongly disagreed. This is not surprising considering his job position. Concerning the statement that, even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court, the manager was in disagreement. But he was in agreement that some

families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as it is perceived as a dirty game

4.3.2 Influence of cultural beliefs on community participation as viewed by NG-CDF committee members

The researcher investigated how cultural believes and the culture of impunity influenced community participation in NG-CDF funded projects. The results are as tabulated**;**

Table 4.6 NG-CDF Committee members' views

Statements	Strongly agree Freq. (%)	Agree Freq. (%)	Neutral Freq. (%)	Disagree Freq. (%)	Strongly disagree Freq. (%)
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community	1 (20%)	3 (60%)		1(20%)	
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents		4 (80%)	1 (20%)		
Most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate		1 (20%)		4 (80%)	
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves	5 (100%)				
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector		2 (40%)		3 (60%)	
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court		3 (60%)	2 (40%)		
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game		4 (80%)		1 (20%)	

The views of the NG-CDF Committee members were as tabulated in Table 4.6 above; (80%) agree that Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community while 20 % disagreed. Majority (80%) agreed that many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents of the sitting M.P. Surprisingly 80% of the committee members disagreed that most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate with only 20% admitting they were semi illiterate. There was a worrying revelation that 100% of the committee members agreed that, NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves. Majority (60%) disagreed that many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector but 40% had a contrary opinion. Concerning their views on misappropriation, 60% agreed that Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court while 40% disagreed and thought the M.P can be prosecuted. Most members (80%) agreed that some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game but 20% disagreed with this statement.

The views of the PMC officials on the influence of cultural beliefs and the culture of impunity were as shown in the Table 4.7**;**

Table 4.7 Influence of cultural beliefs on community participation as viewed by PMC officials

Statements	Strongly agree Freq.(%)	Agree Freq.(%)	Neutral Freq.(%)	Disagree Freq.(%)	Strongly disagree Freq.(%)
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community	16(27%)	20(33%)	3(5%)	16(27%)	5(8%)
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents	14(23%)	17(28%)	1(2%)	13(22%)	15(25%)
Most of the NG-CDF committee members are semi illiterate	6(10%)	8(13%)	5(8%)	30(50%)	12(20%)
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves	0(0%)	13(22%)	2(3%)	23(38%)	22(37%)
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector	6(10%)	11(18%)	0(0%)	31(52%)	12(20%)
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court	22(37%)	16(27%)	5(8%)	10(17%	7(12%)
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game	28(47%)	14(23%)	0(0%)	13(22%)	5(8%)

Table 4.7 reveals that, most of the PMC officials (60%) agreed that Culture hindered women from taking part in leadership positions in the community while 35 % disagreed. Majority (51%) agreed that many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents of the sitting M.P. Surprisingly 70% of the PMC Officials disagreed that most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate with only 23% admitting they were. Only 22% of the committee members agreed that, NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves. A great number (75%) disagreed with this statement. Majority (72%) disagreed that many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of

corruption in the sector but 28 % had a contrary opinion. Concerning their views on misappropriation, 64% agreed that Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court while 24% disagreed and thought the M.P can be prosecuted. Most PMC officials (70%) agreed that some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game but 30% disagreed with this statement.

Table 4.8 Influence of cultural beliefs on community participation as viewed by community members

Statements	Strongly agree Freq.(%)	Agree Freq.(%)	Neutral Freq.(%)	Disagree Freq.(%)	Strongly disagree Freq.(%)
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community	102(36%)	88(31%)	9(3%)	78(28%)	3(1%)
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents	67(24%)	153(55%)	6(2%)	34(12%)	20(7%)
Most of the NG-CDF committee members are semi illiterate	40(14%)	97(35%)	20(7%)	122(44%)	35(13%)
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves	202(72%)	56(20%)	4(1%)	10(4%)	8(3%)
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector	86(31%)	142(51%)	9(3%)	32(11%)	11(4%)
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court	196(70%)	46(16%)	10(4%)	19(7%)	9(3%)
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game	110(39%)	77(28%)	5(2%)	46(16%)	42(15%)

Regarding cultural beliefs, Table 4.8 above shows; (67%) agreed that Culture hindered women from taking part in leadership positions in the community while 29 % disagreed. A great majority (79%) agreed that many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents of the sitting M.P. Concerning educational background, 49% of the community members agreed that most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate with 57% disagreeing. About 7% remained neutral on this statement. A whopping 92% of the committee members agreed that, NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves. A very small number (7%) disagreed with this statement. Majority (82%) disagreed that many people did not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector but 15 % had a contrary opinion. Concerning their views on misappropriation, 86% agreed that even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court while only 10% disagreed and thought the M.P can be prosecuted. Most community officials (67%) agreed that some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game but 31% disagreed with this statement.

Table 4.9 Influence of level of awareness and empowerment on community participation as viewed by NG-CDF manager

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	occasionally Freq. (%)	neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Holding community meetings /barazas			1(100%)		
Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members				1(100%)	
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations				1(100%)	
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.				1(100%)	
Community members participating in identification of projects		1(100%)			
MP's opinion is never questioned				1(100%)	
Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected		1(100%)			

The NG- CDF manager was in agreement that holding community meetings /barazas was only done occasionally, and that holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders'/community members was rarely done. The manager also confirmed that the following were rarely done; Community members visiting NG-CDF offices for consultations, Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act and MP's opinion been questioned. Community members participating in identification of projects and semi-illiterate persons been elected as PMC and NG-CDF committee members were frequently done.

The study sought to establish the views of NG-CDF committee members and the results were as shown in the table below;

Table 4.10 Influence of awareness level and empowerment on community participation as viewed by NG-CDF Committee members

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	occasionally Freq. (%)	neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Holding community meetings /barazas			1 (20%)	4 (80%)	
Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members				5 (100%)	
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations			1 (20%)	4 (80%)	
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.					5 (100%)
Community members participating in identification of projects			5 (100%)		
MP's opinion is never questioned				1 (20%)	4 (80%)
Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected			5 (100%)		

Majority (80%) said holding community meetings /barazas was rarely done while 20% said they were occasionally done. Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders'/community members was 100% rarely done. Only a minority (20%)of the Community members visited NG-CDF offices for consultations while 80% never visited the office. Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act was never done (100%). Community members participating in identification of projects was occasionally done. On whether MP's opinion is never questioned (80%) said it was rarely questioned with only 20% saying it was. Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been occasionally elected

The views of the PMC officials were as tabulated;

Table 4.11: Influence of level of awareness and empowerment on community participation as viewed by PMC officials

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	Occasionally Freq. (%)	neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Holding community meetings /barazas			4 (7%)	56 (93%	
Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members			6 (10%)	50 (83%)	4 (7%)
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations			11 (18%)	46 (77%)	3 (5%)
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.				3 (5%)	57 (95%)
Community members participating in identification of projects		11 (18%)	36(60%)	13 (22%)	
MP's opinion is never questioned			6 (10%)	52 (87%)	2 (3%)
Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected		6 (10%)	11 (18%)	43 (72%)	

As far as holding community meetings /barazas was concerned 93% said they were rarely done. Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members was rarely done(83%). A good number (77%) revealed that Community members never visited NG-CDF offices for consultations. As to whether NG-CDF act was provided to community members (95%) said it was never provided. Community members participating in identification of projects was occasionally done (60%) though 18% said it was frequently done. MP's opinion was rarely questioned (87%),but 10% said it is occasionally questioned. Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected was confirmed by 72% of the PMC officials. 28% had a contrary opinion that semi-illiterate persons were rarely elected.

Concerning the level of awareness and empowerment of community members and their participation in NG-CDF funded project implementation, the following data was collected;

Table 4.12 Influence of level of awareness and empowerment on community participation as viewed by community members

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	occasionally Freq. (%)	neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Holding community meetings /barazas		10 (4%)	45 (16%)	182 (65%)	43 (15%)
Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members			118 (42%)	52 (19%)	10 (4%)
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations		10 (4%)	32 (11%)	230 (82%)	8 (3%)
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.				73 (26%)	207 (74%)
Community members participating in identification of projects	12 (4%)	31 (11%)	132 (47%)	5 (2%)	
MP's opinion is never questioned			7 (3%)	30 (11%)	243 (87%)

Majority of the community respondents (65%) revealed that Holding community meetings /barazas was rarely done. Another 94% of the respondents revealed that seminars/workshops for PMC leaders'/community members was occasionally or rarely held. As to whether Community members visited NG-CDF offices for consultations, 82% said that this was rarely done while only 4% said it was frequently done. When asked if they were provided with NG-CDF act, (74%) revealed that they were never given the Act, with 26% saying they were rarely provided with the Act.

On trying to establish whether Community members participated in identification of NG-CDF funded projects, the views were divided; 47% said occasionally, 11% said frequently,4% said always while 2% said never. 87% revealed that MP's opinion is never questioned.

Table 4.13 Influence of accountability and transparency on community participation in NG-CDF funded projects as viewed by NG-CDF manager

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	Occasionally Freq. (%)	neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Production of BQs to PMC/community		1 (100%)			
Giving of financial reports to community		1 (100%)			
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members			1 (100%)		
Community participation be regarded as a basic Human Right	1 (100%)				
Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	1 (100%)				

The NG-CDF manager stated that he frequently produced BQs to PMC/community as well as Giving of financial reports to the community. Community participation been regarded as a basic Human Right was always done. The manager said he always declared the amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.

Table 4.14 Influence of accountability and transparency on community participation in NG-CDF funded projects as viewed by NG-CDF committee members

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	occasionally Freq. (%)	Neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Production of BQs to PMC/community	4 (80%)	1 (20%)			
Giving of financial reports to community		4 (80)	1 (20%)		
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members		5 (100%)			
Community participation should be regarded as a basic Human Right	4 (80%)	1 (20%)			
Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	5 (100%)				

Majority of the NG-CDF committee members (80%) revealed that Production of BQs to PMC/community was always done. Only 20% said it was frequently done. Concerning NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from members of the community, all respondents agreed it was frequently done. 80% said Community participation should always be regarded as a basic Human Right. Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community was always done.

Table 4.15 Influence of accountability and transparency on community participation in NG-CDF funded projects as viewed by PMC Officials

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	occasionally Freq. (%)	Neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Production of BQs to PMC/community		1 (2%)	46 (77%)	8 (13%)	5 (8%)
Giving of financial reports to community			3 (5%)	50 (83%	7 (12%)
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members	4 (7%)	39 (65%)	10 (17%)	7 (12%)	
Community participation should be regarded as a basic Human Right	53 (88%)	7 (12%)			
Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	48 (80%)	10 (17%)	2 (3%)		

Table 4.15 reveals as follows; Many PMC officials (77%) agreed that Production of BQs to PMC/community was occasionally done while 21% said it was either rarely or never done. Giving of financial reports to community was rarely given (83%) while 12% said it was never given. As to whether NG-CDF responded to inquiry questions from community members,65% said it was frequently done, though 22% felt it was occasionally or rarely done. A whopping 88% said community participation should be regarded as a basic Human Right. On whether there was declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community 80% said it was always declared while 20% said it was occasionally declared.

Table 4.16 Influence of accountability and transparency on community participation in NG-CDF funded projects as viewed by community members

Statements	Always Freq. (%)	occasionally Freq. (%)	Neutral Freq. (%)	Rarely Freq. (%)	Never Freq. (%)
Production of BQs to PMC/community			60 (21%)	187 (67%)	33 (12%)
Giving of financial reports to community			3 (1%)	257 (92%)	20 (7%)
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members	30 (11%)	47 (17%)	165 (59%)	27 (10%)	11 (4%)
Community participation should be regarded as a basic Human Right	246 (88%)	30 (11%)	4 (1%)		
Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	150 (54%)	50 (18%)	26 (9%)	31 (11%)	23 (8%)

From Table 4.16 it was revealed as follows; On Production of BQs to PMC/community, 67% of the respondents said it was rarely done though 12% said it was never done. Majority (92%) said financial reports were rarely given to the community, but only 7% said they were never given. As far as NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members, 59% said this happened only occasionally, 11% said always while 10% said rarely. Concerning community participation been regarded as a basic Human Right, 88% recommended this should always be the case. Asked on declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community, 57% said this was always done while 18% said it was frequently done. 11% said it was rarely done.

CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION, RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter contains discussion of findings, summary of the findings, conclusion, recommendations and suggestions for further study. The findings are summaries in line with the objectives of the study which was to establish the factors influencing community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central constituency, Kitui County in Kenya.

5.2 Summary of the Findings

The study established factors influencing community participation in NG-CDF funded projects in Mwingi central constituency, Kitui County in Kenya by looking at the effect of demographic characteristics, cultural beliefs, accountability and transparency as well as the level of awareness and empowerment of the community.

The first objective of the study was to establish the extent to which demographic characteristics of the people influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency, Kitui County, Kenya. The study revealed that majority of the respondents were female 65% (238) while male was only 35% (128). Some women change mind on decisions made earlier especially if they find that their husbands who were not in the meeting have a different opinion. This brings misunderstanding and delays in implementing projects. It was revealed that 48% (176) were aged between 40-50years, 34% (125) were aged between 30-40 years. Those below 30 years composed the smallest number of respondents at 8% (28). This attests to the fact that the youth do not actively participate in community projects. Majority of the youth are either in colleges or in urban areas looking for jobs. The participation of those aged 40 years and above stands at 58% (213) meaning those were the majority among the participants.

On educational and professional qualification, it was revealed that a whopping 88% (321) of the participants have either KCPE Certificate or below. This low level of education affects their ability to articulate issues and even question when things go

wrong. Degree holders form 5% (18) of all the respondents and this is the group that can effectively participate in identifying, prioritizing, planning and implementation of NG-CDF Funded projects. Education imparts skills and knowledge to the persons enabling them to perform better in their reasoning and duties. The respondents with a diploma or degree were only 12% (45) while majority 88% (321) have no form of training except the KCPE Certificate. Lack of professional qualifications among participants affects their level of interaction with the issues been discussed hence they can be used as rubber stamp to pass decisions that ought not to be passed. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions. The findings reveal that demographic characteristics of the participants significantly affect community participation in NG-CDF projects.

The second objective of the study was to find out the extent to which cultural beliefs influence community participation in NG-CDF projects in Mwingi central Constituency. It was found that the manager agreed that Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community supported by the NG-CDF Committee members (80%), 60% of PMC officials, 67% of the community members all agreed that Culture hindered women from taking part in leadership positions in the community. The findings generally revealed that culture does not affect community participation to a great extent.

On the statement that leadership is never questioned by community, the manager was 1(100%) neutral, The NG-CDF Committee members 4 (80%) in agreement, the PMC officials (51%) agreed, and the community members 120(79%) agreed. Majority of the respondents agreed that, NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves where the manager 1(100%) strongly disagree, the NG-CDF Committee members 5(100%) in agreement, the PMC officials 15(25%) agreed while 45(75%) disagreed, and the community members 258(92%) agreed. The community agreed that many people did not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of the high corruption levels in the sector 228(82%) while the manager (100%), the PMC (72%) and NG-CDF community members (60%) disagreed.

As to whether, even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court, the manager was in disagreement. The NG-CDF committee members' 60% agreed, 64% of the PMC officials agreed and, 86% of the community respondents agreed that even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court.

The manager was in agreement that some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as it is perceived as a dirty game, most NG-CDF members (80%), most PMC officials (70%), most community officials (67%) agreed that some families did not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game

It was further revealed that holding community meetings /barazas was only done occasionally or rarely. The NG- CDF manager was in agreement, Majority (80%) of NG-CDF, 93% of the PMC officials, (65%) of community respondents revealed that holding community meetings /barazas was rarely done. It was also found that holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders'/community members was rarely done. PMC was 100% in support, NG-CDF officials (83%), and 94% of the community respondents was in support. The manager also confirmed that Community members visiting NG-CDF offices for consultations was rarely done. 80% of NG-CDF members never visited the office. A good number (77%) of the PMC officials revealed that Community members never visited NG-CDF offices for consultations, 82% of the NG-CDF committee members said that this was rarely done

It was discovered that providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act was never done as confirmed by the manager and the PMC officials, 95% NG-CDF committee members and 74% revealed that they were never given the Act. It was revealed that MP's opinion was never questioned, as confirmed by the manager, 80% of NG-CDF members, 87% of PMC officials, 87% of the community members all said it was rarely questioned. Community members participating in identification of projects was frequently done as supported by 60% of NG-CDF committee members, and 58% of the respondents from the community members.

It was further established that Production of BQs to PMC/community was always done as confirmed by the manager, 80% of the NG-CDF committee members, 77% PMC officials agreed, but 67% of the respondents from community respondents said it was rarely done, meaning the BQs were never provided to the community members. The fund manager claimed that he gave financial reports to the community, but PMC officials (83%) said this was rarely given, Majority (92%) of the community members said financial reports were rarely given to the community. It was further discovered that Community participation need to be regarded as a basic Human Right, 80% of the NG-CDF committee members, a whopping 88% of PMC officials and, 88% of the community members all recommended this should always be the case. The manager said he always declared the amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community. It was supported by all NG-CDF respondents and 80% of the community respondents said it was always declared. As far as NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members, it was found that 59% of the respondents said this happened only occasionally.

5.3 Conclusions

The research sought to find out how demographic characteristics (gender, age, academic and professional qualifications) of the respondents influence their involvement in NG-CDF funded projects. The study revealed that majority of the respondents were female 65% (238) while male was only 35% (128). Some women change mind on decisions made earlier especially if they find that their husbands who were not in the meeting have a different opinion. This brings misunderstanding and delays in implementing projects. It was revealed that 48% (176) were aged between 40-50years, 34% (125) were aged between 30-40 years. Those below 30 years composed the smallest number of respondents at 8% (28). This attests to the fact that the youth do not actively participation in community projects. Majority of the youth are either in colleges or in urban areas looking for jobs. The participation of those aged 40 years and above stands at 58% (213) meaning those were the majority among the participants Contrary to a study done by Batwel (2008) which showed that there was relationship between age of the people and their participation in communal projects whereby younger people participated more than older ones, this study found that only a few young people participated.

Salami and Kpamegan (2002) cited in Rose (2003) argue that women have been found to be involved in providing human contributions, while men contribute more in financial and material terms. On the other hand, Agrawal et al. (2006) found that females participate more in participatory projects than men regardless of their triple role they perform in community. This was in agreement with the findings of this study it revealed that majority of the respondents were female 65% (238) while male was only 35% (128).

Concerning influence of Cultural beliefs on Community Participation, the quality of deliberation and participation matter. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions. Savini (2011) identifies the nature of participants, the political environment, previous experiences of community participants and individual preferences of the participants as contextual factors on which outcomes of deliberations depend. Participants should have some degree of readiness to engage authorities; such prerequisites basically are found in civic skills, political consciousness, and education.

Savini(2011) Further discusses the concepts of empowerment and endowment as central elements of participation. Empowerment is a measure of the significance of the role of the citizen in public decision making. The term is used to assess the functioning of democratic institutions by determining citizens' access to social power, political power and psychological power. Social power referring to access to social organizations, financial resources and information. Political power in terms of access to decision making while psychological power has to do with an individual's sense of effective potency.

This study realized that there were high levels of ignorance among populace in Mwingi central constituency; people strongly believe that NG-CDF projects are associated with MP's cronies, NG-CDF is the MP's monies and the MP had the powers to appoint the NG-CDF committee and the constituency officials. It was revealed that MP's opinion was never questioned, as confirmed by the manager, 80% of NG-CDF members, 87% of PMC officials, 87% of the community members all said it was rarely questioned. Community members participating in identification of

projects was frequently done as supported by 60% of NG-CDF committee members, and 58% of the respondents from the community members. This can be considered as a culture of impunity where NG-CDF Funds are seen as MPs personal monies. The respondents actually believed that an MP cannot be arrested at whatever cost, s/he can award NG-CDF monies as s/he pleases and NG-CDF is associated with very high levels of corruption, which was discouraging and causing apathy among the constituents.

5.4 Recommendations of the study

As a result of the study findings, the researcher recommends as follows:

1. Cultural values such as respect for communal work, obedience to elders and those in leadership should be integrated in projects to strengthen them while those that impact negatively on participation such as denying women leadership positions be eradicated tactfully.

2. The government has the responsibility to make sure that its people are well informed on the matters pertaining their daily lives which include people‘s rights and responsibilities, know their constitution and NG-CDF Act. This study recommends that the government should make strategies which will enable each village and ward administrator to have a copy of the NG-CDF Act, which will make it possible for them to avail it to people to read/understand the contents.

5.5 Suggestions for further studies

Similar studies should be done in other constituencies to compare results. Studies should also be done in other counties with aim of coming up with a policy framework on community participation in NG-CDF projects country wide.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Letter of Introduction to the Respondents

19.03.2019

Cathryne Munandi Muusya
University of Nairobi Machakos Extra Mural Centre
Department of Project Planning and Management
Machakos.

Dear Respondent

RE: **Factors influencing community participation in National Government Constituency Development Fund projects in Mwingi central constituency, Kenya.**

I am a postgraduate student at the University of Nairobi pursuing a Master of Arts degree in project planning and management conducting research on the above topic.

I am kindly requesting you to respond to the questions as honestly as possible. The questionnaires are meant for this research only and your responses will be treated confidentially.

Please do not write your name or telephone number on the questionnaire.

Thank you.

Cathryne Munandi Muusya

0721316542

Appendix II: Questionnaire For NG-CDF Manager
Dear Respondent,

Owing to your position in the NG-CDF as the Fund manager, you have been selected to participate in this academic study. Please cooperate and answer the following questions.

SECTION A1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Please indicate your gender
   (a) Male [ ] (a) Female [ ]

2. What is your highest academic qualification?
   (a) Masters [ ] (b) Bachelor [ ] (c) Diploma [ ] (d) Certificate [ ]

3. What is your highest professional qualification?
   (a) degree [ ] (b) Diploma [ ] (c) Certificate [ ]

4. Which is your age bracket?
   (a) Below 30 years [ ]
   (b) 30-40 years [ ]
   (c) 40-50 years [ ]
   (d) Over 50 years [ ]

5. How long have you been a Fund's manager?

(a) Below 5 years [ ] (b)5-10 years [ ] (c) Over 10 years

(b) **Section B. Questionnaire in relation to cultural beliefs**

(c) On a five-point Likert scale, indicate how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Key; strongly agree-5, agree-4, neutral-3, disagree-2, strongly disagree-1

Statements	Strongly agree 5	Agree 4	Neutral 3	Disagree 2	Strongly disagree 1
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community					
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents					
Most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate					
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves					
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector					
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court					
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game					

Section C. Awareness levels of community members.

Key; always- 5, occasionally-4, neutral-3, rarely-2, never-1

Indicate how frequently the NG-CDF under takes the below listed activities

Statements	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
Holding community meetings /barazas					
Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members					
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations					
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.					
Community members participating in identification of projects					
MP's opinion is never questioned					
Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected					

Section D. Accountability

How often have the following activities been undertaken in your constituency

Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
Production of BQs to PMC/community					
Giving of financial reports to community					
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members					
Community participation be regarded as a basic Human Right					

THANK YOU.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NG-CDF COMMITTEE MEMBER

Dear Respondent,

Owing to your position in the NG-CDF as a member of the committee, you have been selected to participate in this academic study. Please cooperate and answer the following questions.

SECTION A1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Please indicate your gender

   [ ] Male [ ] Female

2. Which is your age bracket?

   [ ] Below 30 years

   [ ] 30-40 years

   [ ] 40-50 years

   [ ] Over 50 years

3.What is your highest academic qualification?

   [ ] Masters [ ] Bachelor [ ]Diploma [ ] Certificate

4. What is your highest professional qualification?

   [ ] degree [ ]Diploma [ ] Certificate

5. How long have you been a PMC Official?

   [ ] Below 1 year [ ] 1-2 years [ ] 2-3 years [ ] 3-4 years [ ] over 4 years

Section B. Questionnaire in relation to cultural beliefs

On a five-point Likert scale, indicate how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Key; strongly agree-5, agree-4, neutral-3, disagree-2, strongly disagree-1

Statements	Strongly agree 5	Agree 4	Neutral 3	Disagree 2	Strongly disagree 1
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community					
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents					
Most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate					
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves					
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector					
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court					
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game					

Section C. Awareness levels of community members.

Key; always-5, occasionally-4, neutral-3, rarely-2, never-1

Indicate how frequently the NG-CDF under takes the below listed activities

Statements	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
Holding community meetings /barazas					
Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members					
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations					
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.					
Community members participating in identification of projects					
MP's opinion is never questioned					
Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected					

Section D. Accountability

How often have the following activities been undertaken in your constituency

Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
Production of BQs to PMC/community					
Giving of financial reports to community					
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members					
Community participation be regarded as a basic Human Right					

THANK YOU.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PMC OFFICIALS

Dear Respondent,

Owing to your position in the NG-CDF as a member of the PMC Officials, you have been selected to participate in this academic study. Please cooperate and answer the following questions.

SECTION A1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Please indicate your gender
   (a) [ ] Male (b) [ ] Female

2. Which is your age bracket?

[ ] Below 30 years

[ ] 30-40 years

[ ] 40-50 years

[ ] Over 50 years

3.What is your highest academic qualification?

[ ] Masters [ ] Bachelor [ ] Diploma [ ] Certificate

4. What is your highest professional qualification?

[ ] degree [ ]Diploma [ ] Certificate

5.How long have you been a PMC Official?

[ ] Below 1 year [ ] 1-2 years [ ] 2-3 years [ ] 3-4 years [ ] over 4 years

Section B. Questionnaire in relation to cultural beliefs

On a five-point Likert scale, indicate how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Key; strongly agree-5, agree-4, neutral-3, disagree-2 strongly disagree-1

Statements	Strongly agree 5	Agree 4	Neutral 3	Disagree 2	Strongly disagree 1
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community					
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents					
Most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate					
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves					
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector					
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court					
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game					

Section C. Awareness levels of community members.

Key; always-5, occasionally-4, neutral-3, rarely-2 never-1

Indicate how frequently the NG-CDF under takes the below listed activities

Statements	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
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Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members					
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations					
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.					
Community members participating in identification of projects					
MP's opinion is never questioned					
Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected					

Section D. Accountability

How often have the following activities been undertaken in your constituency

Key; always-5, occasionally-4, neutral-3, rarely-2, never-1

Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
Production of BQs to PMC/community					
Giving of financial reports to community					
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members					
Community participation be regarded as a basic Human Right					

THANK YOU.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS/PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

This study intends to establish the influence of community participation in implementation process on performance of constituency development fund projects in Mwingi central constituency, Kenya.

As a community member in Mwingi Central Constituency, your resourcefulness in this study is very important. Your responses will be treated with a lot of confidentiality. Kindly do not write your name or your telephone number.

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. Please indicate the gender of the respondent **(tick)**

(a). Male [ ] (b) Female [ ]

2. Which is your age bracket?

[ ] Below 30 years

[ ] 30-40 years

[ ] 40-50 years

[ ] Over 50 years

3.What is your highest academic qualification?

(a) Masters [ ] (b) Bachelor [ ] (c) Diploma [ ] (d) Certificate [ ]

4.What is your highest professional qualification?

(a) degree [ ] (b) Diploma [ ] (c) Certificate [ ]

Section B. Questionnaire in relation to cultural beliefs

On a five-point Likert scale, indicate how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Key; strongly agree-5, agree-4, neutral-3, disagree-2, strongly disagree-1

Statements	Strongly agree 5	Agree 4	Neutral 3	Disagree 2	Strongly disagree 1
Culture hinder women from taking part in leadership positions in the community					
Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents					
Most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate					
NG-CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves					
Many people do not want to be associated with NG-CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector					
Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court					
Some families do not allow ladies to be involved in NG-CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game					

Section C. Awareness levels of community members.

Indicate how frequently the NG-CDF under takes the below listed activities

Statements	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
Holding community meetings /baraszas					
Holding seminars/workshops for PMC leaders/community members					
Community members visit NG-CDF offices for consultations					
Providing PMC/community members with NG-CDF act.					
Community members participating in identification of projects					
MP's opinion is never questioned					
Most of the NG-CDF committee members who are semi illiterate have been elected					

Section D. Accountability

How often have the following activities been undertaken in your constituency

Declaration of amounts allocated for each project to PMC and community.	Always 5	Occasionally 4	Neutral 3	Rarely 2	Never 1
Production of BQs to PMC/community					
Giving of financial reports to community					
NG-CDF responding to inquiry questions from community members					
Community participation be regarded as a basic Human Right					

THANK YOU.

Appendix 3: Different Population Sizes

Population	Sample size
10	10
20	19
30	28
40	35
50	44
60	52
70	59
80	66
90	73
100	80
150	108
200	132
250	162
300	169
400	169
1500	306
2,000	322
3,000	341
4,000	351
5,000	357
10,000	370
20,000	377
50,000	381
100,000	384

Source: Krejcie and Morgan (1970) in Kasomo (2006).