# INFLUENCE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS ON EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN REFUGEE YOUTHS IN NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA

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

# **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that this Research Project Report is my o	own work and has not been submitted
anywhere for any Award.	
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# **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this Research Project Report to my father Samuel K. Warari, my mother Stella M. Mutisya and my brother David W. Kamau. Your encouragement and support played a great role in this achievement and you understood the change of routine at home due to my studies and never complained.

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#### ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

**CFR** Council on Foreign Relations

**COVID 19** Corona Virus Disease 19

**GOK** Government of Kenya

**HIAS** Hebrew Immigrants Aid Society

**ILO** International Labor Organization

MOH Ministry of Health

NACOSTI National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation

NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations

**ODK** Open Data Kit

RAS Refugee Affairs Secretariat

**RCK** Refugee Consortium of Kenya

SPSS Statistical Package for Social Sciences

**TUSA** Tushirikiane Afrika Trust

**UNHCR** United Nations High Commission for Refugees

WIK Windle International Kenya

WHO World Health Organization

WRC Women Refugee Commission

#### **ABSTRACT**

The ever-increasing rate of urbanization has led to a surge in the number of refugees and asylum seekers in the urban areas in the twenty first century. Although there are wellwishers who ensure that rights of refugees living in urban areas across the globe including Kenya are protected and that they easily access their basic needs, much is not known whether these individuals can become self-empowered in coming years and avoid overreliance on humanitarian aid initiated through different projects. The purpose of this study was to establish the influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. The objectives of this study were: to examine the influence of human capital development factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths, to assess the influence of financial capital development factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths, to assess the extent to which social capital development factors influence the empowerment of urban refugee youths and finally to establish the influence of advocacy support on the empowerment of urban refugee youths. All this was done in Nairobi County, Kenya. Descriptive Survey Design is what this study confided itself on. The research targeted 2972 urban refugee youths aged between 18-36 years and had to be registered by UNHCR and RAS in Nairobi County. 297 respondents were used as the sample size for this study and were selected through proportionate stratified sampling. Furthermore, quantitative and qualitative data was collected by use of research questionnaires. The data was analyzed by both descriptive analysis and inferential analysis so as to determine the extent to which the variables were related. Data was further analyzed through use of standard deviations, means, percentiles and Pearson Correlations and also presented in form of frequency tables, as well as in prose form. The study's key findings indicated that human, financial, social capital development as well as advocacy support positively influenced empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County and they all yielded strong positive Pearson Correlation Coefficients of r=0.896; r=0.868; r=0.787 and r=0.912 respectively. Overall, composite mean and standard deviations that were yielded by the four objectives were M=4.03; SD=0.966; M=3.72; SD=1.127; M=3.18; SD=1.050 and M=3.97; SD=.0997 respectively. The study recommended support organizations to engage more professionals to ensure that urban refugee youths are equipped with more relevant and numerous skills that can ensure that human capital development is steadily increased. The target groups should be trained by the support agencies more on entrepreneurial skills and further more increase the funds that support the urban refugee youths in starting their businesses in order to achieve financial capital development. The urban refugee youths should be involved in decision making concerning matters to do with their wellbeing and support in order to achieve social capital development. Finally, agencies should create awareness to ensure that advocacy support reach all urban refugee youths in Nairobi County.

#### **CHAPTER ONE**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background to the Study

Humanitarian organizations, governments, well-wishers together with UNHCR have been working together through various projects either initiated collectively or individually to improve the general wellbeing of the refugees, offer required protection and access to refugee rights but the funding levels have in most cases been insufficient to reach the enormity of their needs across the globe (Campbel et al., 2014). Although several state and non state projects have been geared towards ensuring that the refugees are empowered, the refugee empowerment has been a major challenge to both developed and developing nations across the globe with United Nations expressing that the numbers of people who were refugees or asylum seekers across the world in 2019 was 72.5 million with the largest percentage of them (5 million) from Syria who have fled the civil war (CFR, 2019).

Majority of these refugees find their way in European nations such as Germany, seeking asylum and among them are almost 26 million refugees who are youths of age between 18-36 years (UNHCR, 2018). When these refugees are not given an opportunity for becoming economically empowered, then sustainable solutions are never achieved (Betts, 2018). Africa has also witnessed an increase in the number of refugees as many nations such as Libya, Somalia, DRC, Egypt, Eritrea and South Sudan have been experiencing political crisis. Some of these refugees come with skills from their countries but end up in camps in the host nations hence adding strain to the limited resources from the support organizations and groups. When the refugees lack opportunities in the camps that can make them achieve some form of socio-economic empowerment, they get themselves in urban areas through corrupt or illegal means with hope of getting employment and fulfilling their needs (Carrier, 2016).

There has been a huge migration of refugees in Kenya with a majority running away from political conflict and other humanitarian crisis in the adjacent and neighboring countries. The relative stability in Kenya, its booming economy in the region and porous borders with the

neighbors have been the major contributors to Kenya being a host to many refugees from the region since 1960s (Sorcha & Georgina, 2018).

Kenya is today a refuge to some 485,000 registered refugees mainly from (the horn of Africa) Somalia(54.5%), South Sudan (24.4%), Congolese(8.8%), Ethiopia (5.9%), Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi Eritrea and other (6.4%), ranking it in the leagues of top ten nations that host large number of refugees in the world (UNHCR, 2019; Campbell et al, 2014).

In Nairobi, the urban fabric has absorbed large number of the refugees. They are also very mobile and are dispersed across the city. The data from UNCHR in 2019 revealed that the number of refugees who call the capital their home and are officially registered was 32,000. As we speak now, the number has risen to 73,829 though the real figure could be more than 120,000 (UNHCR Nairobi, 2019).

Despite of Kenya being a home to very many individuals seeking protections in the East African region such as refugees and asylum seekers, the nation has not developed clear policies and guidelines on how to deal with the refugees unlike its neighbors such as Ethiopia, Uganda and Tanzania. The only humanitarian agency that seems to have a clear role that is consistent is the UNHCR, which has consistently suffered the agony of how to deal with the bureaucratic red tape that is presented by the government organs that govern the refugees (UNHCR, 2019).

Apart from UNHCR, several non-governmental organizations work towards making the life of refugees in Nairobi better. Among them are Windle International Kenya (WIK) for tertiary education, Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) and *Kituo cha Sheria* for legal matters, GTZ for health care, Hebrew Immigrants Aid Society (HIAS), FARAJA Trust, Tushirikiane Afrika (TUSA) Trust, Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) among others (Ayinkamiye, 2015). Local partnership with other humanitarian agencies play a very important role in UNHCR's protection and outreach strategy in Nairobi (Campbell, 2016).

The local government especially the county government of Nairobi has been able to provide a good working relations with humanitarian bodies. This has enabled UNHCR to expand its involvement with the urban refugee population. The local authorities also provide necessary information in identifying the persons that are refugees but not officially registered as refugees for the fear of one reason or another. (PEDS, 2015).

Several factors make the refugees to avoid or leave the camps that are supposed to host them such as insecurity, very few job opportunities in camps, limited medical and educational services in camps and to some extent peer pressure from their relatives already settled in urban areas. The refugees also migrate to urban areas hoping to get opportunities to immigrate to western countries mostly in Europe and the USA legally through resettlement or crossing such international boarders illegally using the sea (Campbell and Crisp, 2014).

The urban refugee youths live in a growing city of around 4.5 million people in Nairobi. Almost 40% of this citizen population is unemployed; around 50% live below poverty line with around 60% of this population dwelling in slums (UNHCR, 2016). These young refugee men and women find themselves in these harsh conditions when they move into the city.

Large populations of unemployed youth can be a threat to security of a country. However, if proper education and training, health services and employment are availed to them, these young urban refugee men and women can be a very good asset for all societies by being able to rejuvenate the economy of a host country and its institutions. (Carrier, 2016).

#### 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Although UNHCR advocates for the urban refugee rights, these group of refugees who are in the urban setting still find themselves in very difficult settings due to high youth unemployment rates (ILO, 2018). They have to cope with urban setting challenges that present barriers that are very unique to their economic success and empowerment. Living in livelihoods that are thriving, taking poverty to very low levels and improving peoples wellbeing despite of their current status and ensuring they have access to education, employment, housing, health services and reducing inequalities that exists between them are some ways of attaining sustainable production and consumption as stated in Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG1) and Kenya Vision 2030.

Despite several projects being initiated by the state and non-state actors to support urban refugee youths to become empowered and gain access to refugee rights, very large gaps exist in ensuring that they are able to sustain their lives without over-reliance on the donors and

other agencies especially in their adulthood (Ayinkamiye, 2015; UNHCR, 2018). By not addressing refugee youth empowerment issues or shifting from the traditional approach of seeing refugee youths as vulnerable groups to paradigm approach (recognizing refugee youths capacities and empowering them) then no sustainable solution is being achieved (CFR, 2019).

Several researchers identified several factors; refugee education, financial literacy, capital, market linkages and forming solidarity (Ayankike, 2015; Nyale, 2018) and training on entrepreneurship (Koech, 2014) as having a positive influence on empowerment. However, no study has been done regarding how socio-economic factors contribute to empowerment of urban refugee youths. Having said that, this study intended to fill a gap by answering to the question; what is the influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya?

## 1.3 Purpose of the Study

This study's main purpose was to establish the influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.

## 1.4 Objectives of the Study

- i. To examine the influence of human capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.
- ii. To assess the influence of financial capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya
- iii. To assess the extent to which social capital development influence empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.
- iv. To establish the influence of advocacy support on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.

#### 1.5 Research questions

- i. What is the influence of human capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya?
- ii. What is the influence of financial capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya?

- iii. To what extent do social capital development influence empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya?
- iv. What is the influence of advocacy support on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya?

## 1.6 Significance of the study

The outcome gotten from this study may be very beneficial to different groups such as national and county governments of Kenya, rotary action groups, volunteer workers, urban refugee youths, scholars among others. The financial donors and humanitarian bodies such as UNHCR and World Bank may be able to use the results of this study to establish if they are giving the urban refugee youths appropriate services through various projects that they have initiated in different capacities. Urban refugee youths being empowered means that the donors financial support becomes less strained and can be pumped to other different projects or humanitarian crisis that occur often and demand equal if not more attention.

NGOs who support urban refugee youths in Nairobi may also be able to establish if they are providing them with better services and whether their different projects can be able to make these young men and women become economically and socially independent so that in case of successful repatriation, these are individuals who can participate in decision making, leadership and running the economy of their mother countries. The national and county government may also benefit since the empowerment of the urban refugee youths may lead to their employment rates in the city and entire country climb higher. Once this is done, these individuals become busy and their chances of committing crime will be significantly reduced leading to a booming Nairobi County and to a great larger extent Kenyan economy.

The urban refugees who are mainly the youth for the case of this study may be able to find out the appropriate programs offered by different support groups that are best suited to make them self-reliant and empowered to support themselves and their families in future. Finally yet importantly, the results and recommendations from this study can add knowledge to current gaps identified in the area of managing projects on the influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment urban refugee youth in Nairobi County, Kenya.

#### 1.7Assumptions of the Study

Since targeted urban refugee youths in Nairobi do not have a common pattern or characteristics, the researcher presumed that the sample population that was relied upon represented the real population and the respondents (refugee youths) would endeavor, be ready and willing to give appropriate information required to facilitate the study.

#### 1.8 Limitations of the Study

Since these urban refugee youths were widely spread across Nairobi County and did not have a common pattern like in refugee camps, the researcher relied on various organizations based in Nairobi that support this unique group of refugees to help in identifying their locations and areas of residence. The global COVID19 pandemic that struck Kenya in March 2020 when the study was underway also posed a challenge during data collection. To solve this, the researcher used Open Data Kit (ODK) mobile application software to send online questionnaires to majority of the respondents. This helped the researcher ensure that social distance is met as recommended by the Ministry of Health (MOH) and abide by the dawn to dusk curfew hours that were set by the government of Kenya (GOK) to fight the virus. When it was necessary for the researcher to interact with respondents physically, all MOH, WHO and GOK guidelines such as wearing of face masks, maintaining social distance of 1 or 2 meters and frequent washing of hands or use of hand sanitizers were followed to help fight the virus pandemic. Some political urban refugee youths were very suspicious and feared to provide important information but the study therefore focused only on urban refugee youths who were willing and ready to give the information required.

## 1.9 Delimitations of the Study

The study was delimited to the following:

No guarantee was there that Nairobi County was the most ideal area of this study: however, its high rates of urban refugee youth influx and high population made it more suitable for the study. The study only involved Nairobi County and not other counties but the results can be generalized to other regions.

#### 1.10 Definition of significant terms

- **Advocacy Support:** Mobilizing the community and motivating them through small group of people who hold similar concerns about a distinct problem and are prepared to dedicate time, their resources and expertise available to ensure that such communities know their rights and can be able to access legal policies and are aware about the laws of their land.
- **Financial Capital Development:** Providing necessary information regarding possible investments through community capacity building, civic or social entrepreneurship rollouts, coming up with business development strategies and also how to accumulate wealth for future advancement.
- **Human Capital Development:** It is the process of improving an individual's capability, wellbeing, resources and performance, by offering him or her an enabling and supporting environment such as access to education and skills development, together with emotional resilience, physical health and self-esteem strengthening among others.
- **Refugee Youth Empowerment:** Process by which young men and women aged 18 26 who are refugees gain easy access to knowledge and resources, which enable them to gain self confidence in taking active roles in decision making on issues that are of importance to their lives, increase their control over the environment, being able to cater upon their needs and needs of their families without relying on support from humanitarian bodies or well-wishers.
- **Social Capital Development:** Providing the networks of relationships among the individuals who live in particular society so that the society in which they live can function well and that the individuals can be able to participate in decision making, and feel their lives are safeguarded therefore creating a sense of belonging in societies they live in.
- **Urban Refugee Youths:** These are individuals between 18-36 years who have crossed an international border line because of political or humanitarian crisis, are asylum seekers and have decided or obliged to settle in the urban areas instead of refugee camps.

#### 1.11 Organization of the Study

This study was arranged into five chapters. Chapter one introduced the study where various areas were discussed among them being background of the study highlighting how things are in relation to urban refugee youths, a statement detailing where the problem facing urban refugee youths was, together with why it was important to conduct this study or purpose. Furthermore, the chapter listed 4 objectives of why this study was being conducted and also covered questions of research, significance of this study, assumptions that were made during the study, limitations of the study, the delimitations of the study, definition of significant terms and last but not least how the study was organized.

Chapter two covered literature review where theoretical and empirical literature was reviewed. Furthermore, theoretical framework together with conceptual framework was discussed, a summary of the literature review was been done, and lastly knowledge gap matrix was identified and discussed. Chapter three handled research methodology in that introduction, research design, target population, sample size and sampling procedure, data collection instruments, validity and reliability of the research instruments, data collection, data analysis techniques and ethical considerations and last but not least operationalization of variables were discussed.

Chapter four comprised of data analysis and presentation where data was presented through the use of tables and charts and discussed. Lastly, the study ended at chapter five where the summary of the study, conclusions based on the study objectives and recommendations of the study were discussed.

#### **CHAPTER TWO**

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1Introduction

This chapter reviewed the literature behind socio-economic-projects and empowerment with focus on the urban youths who live as refugees or asylum seekers. In regards to identifying the research gaps and appropriate measures to be taken, the literature review focused on empirical review, theoretical as well as conceptual framework, a summary of chapter two and knowledge gap matrix.

#### 2.2 Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

In a report done by UNHCR (2010) it advocates for refugee organizations and networks support because the two are very important strategies in building local capacity and promoting empowerment of urban refugees. International actors together with local actors through various financial, moral and technical means via initiated projects and programs may play a vital and key role in making sure that there is socio- economic empowerment of the refugees at different group levels such as women, men, girls, youths and other special groups. This can greatly be enhanced by inter- agency coordination around the particular groups. Empowerment ensures that a particular group is capable of participating in UNHCR planning, implementation and evaluation by providing awareness.

A study by Ayinkamiye (2015) argues that the programmes and projects aimed at empowerment of refugees should come up with connections that are explicit between theories, policies, best practices and research from empowerment point of view. In order to ensure there is high percent of empowerment among the refugee groups, programme planners, policy makers and researcher have to ensure that proper attention is given to particular models of empowerment and find out at what settings and which populations greater results are found and why. By determining appropriate measures of developing human capital and financial capital, it means the refugees are able to meet some needs that may have not or are unable to be met by state and non- state support groups. Human capital and financial capital development cannot therefore be compromised when striving to ensure various groups are empowered. Social networks are also a key for ensuring that the refugees living in urban areas may get accessed to different social

groups and advocacy support may help in ensuring that they are able access various services (UNHCR, 2019; WRC, 2018; WRC, 2013).

#### 2.3 Human Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

A study by Hartina et al (2018) on fishing communities in Indonesia argue that the effect on human capital on social empowerment can be very great since they are knowledge increasing hence leading to improved fishing methods and also fish processing. Human capital can greatly be improved through education and training of individuals. When there is improvement in knowledge, the communities could more likely face indirect improvements in their social welfare and better community, which can also imply that they have acquired empowerment through the aspect of human capital. Most communities or members of those communities can become more innovative and more adaptive in running their daily lives if proper knowledge and training is imparted upon them, which may further enable them move out of poverty. Thompson (2015) also points out that with welfare of communities improving through gender based social empowerments set within human capital, may be the main determinant in accelerating the communities' self-reliance both socially and economically hence having a huge impact on the communities overall socio-economic empowerment.

The study by Munjiri and Obonyo (2015) contradicts with the findings and recommendations from Thompson (2015) and Hartina et al. (2018). In their study, Munnjiri and Obonyo (2015) argue that the interaction between human capital, empowerment and performance may be very insignificant when the non-financial measures are put into consideration regardless of a statistically significant model, when financial measures are being considered, the model may be statistically insignificant. Although the later further argue that human capital development may lead to employee empowerment, but the results on performance may be regarded to beat a very minimal extent. Skills and knowledge possessed by individuals greatly depicts their empowerment since it determines the quality of the decisions that they have to make. When human capital is built, the highly skilled individuals may end up being empowered so that they may be able to come up with decisions that they are able to handle well. According to Yamoah (2014) building human capital development through training on skills may significantly increase the empowerment on individuals.

A study by Abigail and Emma (2016), on women economic empowerment argue that human capital development through education, training and skill development may have great influence on breaking poverty cycles at the same time improving the labour market outcomes. Educating young populations especially girls in primary schools means increasing their economic outcomes in future while adult training on different skills may help families to be economically empowered at different capacities and be able to meet the needs that may not be met by state and non-state agencies. A study by ILO (2018) argue that improving the youth skills may lead to greater human capital development which may have a positive influence on economic development. Although the skills must be matched with society or the companies needs. This implies that the programs in training must be aligned with the current needs and also project the future need of the society if possible.

In a study by Hartina et al (2018), it did not put into consideration on several aspects on how human capital development can be achieved. On top of that, the study put more focus on fishing communities in Indonesia, creating knowledge gaps that this study sought to fill since no effort was directed towards urban refugee youth empowerment. The study's findings and recommendations also depicted some contradictions with Munjiri and Obonyo (2015), though the studies were conducted on very different populations. A study by Abigail and Emma (2016) put more effort on addressing women empowerment, which was very different from the address of this study which aimed to address the plight of urban refugee youth empowerment.

#### 2.4 Financial Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

A study by Haque and Zulfiqar (2016), demonstrate that financial attitude, financial literacy, and financial wellbeing is of more importance when considering the economic empowerment of women or any other vulnerable groups. A common generalization is that level of education and financial knowledge among these groups plays very significant role in ensuring that they come up with right financial decisions hence has a direct contribution towards their economic empowerment. Financial attitude may also have a direct contribution towards empowerment since it is linked directly with financial knowledge. The study further found that economic empowerment may also result from financial wellbeing of the individuals.

All processes and forms of financial incorporation may have the potential to produce a positive experience on the social empowerment (Chatterjee at al., 2018). Similarly, (Bhattacharyya, 2019;

Datta &Sahu,2017) also argue that financial capital development may have a positive impact on political empowerment in the case of women. This implies that the power to bargain in the society increases, meaning, there is increased freedom for political affiliation, greater negotiations, freedom to engage in political choices, proper family decision making and hence higher empowerment. Although Shivangi and Seema (2019) note that there may be a positive linkage between financial capital development and the several dimension of empowerment, the long term sustainability of these dimensions depend on the involvement of the target group in the economic activity generation through supportive mechanisms and also come up with systems that are superior and also easier interactions on platforms among the stakeholders involved.

Focusing on ways of promoting financial services and products access may help in transforming lives of targeted people and hence their empowerment, although access alone may not show positive results (IDRC, 2019). Financial access may play a very important role in improving on financial capital development hence ensuring equitability. Sarah (2019) also notes that digital financial services can help in promoting economic empowerment and foster broader positive effects.

The study done by Haque and Zulfiqar (2016), only put into consideration the aspect of economic empowerment living other aspects of empowerment that this study sought to address while considering the urban refugee youths. The study done by Shivangi and Seema (2019), came very close with this study as they focused on empowerment of women refugee in urban slums but their study did not come up with sustainable solutions since empowering the urban youth refugees does not only solve the current situation but also ensures that amicable solution is arrived at and ensure that the problem of empowerment is well taken care of in the decades to come.

#### 2.5 Social Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Hartina et al. (2018) argue that social capital development effect on the socio-economic empowerment on the communities may not be taken for compromise as it may actually lead to significant influence on empowerment. Social capital development may see networks and believes in a community made stronger and increase their abilities in planning for their businesses, product marketing, capital management and coming up with grater and positive choices that may have huge impacts in the societies economic empowerment. They further

explain that social capital can be considered to be resources inherent in a social organization and the relationship in a family and can be of very high impact in contributing towards socio-economic empowerment of a certain population. A similar aspect is noted by Thompson (2015) who notes that trust, networks and norms which are components of social capital may have high determination in accelerating community empowerment, both socially and economically.

In their study, Padmaja and Cynthia (2019) note that participating in multiple networks such as religious groups, vocational training and mutual finance may have significant effect on individuals empowerment, and further enable the individuals to make grater decisions that have positive influence not only to them but also to the communities where they belong. The study found out that social capital development may be developed through social networks by kinship, formal organizations, work groups, neighborhoods or informal interactions. When social capital is mobilized through participation, it assists in successful adoption and diffusion of technologies.

A study by Badaruddin, et al. (2016) points out that the village owned enterprise is one form of economic institutions in villages, which should ideally grow by proper utilization of the social capital which is found within those villages. If this is done, then economic institutions sustainability can be assured. Zubaedi (2014) also emphasizes that social capital makes use of the assumption of the importance of economic affairs relationships. Badaruddin, et al. (2016) further notes that durable social capital is attained in the form of associations in community, trusts, networks and norms at different levels. Badaruddin, et al (2017) also points out that in order to ensure that the communities in villages get empowered, proper community empowerment programs must be prioritized. The social capital aspect that exist in the villages has to be utilized in order to make it easy to achieve empowerment among the individuals in the villages and also utilized in order to achieve better results for the welfare (cultural, social and economic).

The study by Hartina et al (2018) did not point to various methods that may be used so as to ensure that social empowerment is being achieved on the respective populace although they agreed that social capital development may have a great effect on one's empowerment. Badaruddin (2017) assumes that social capital already exists in the populace and has to be made use of, however it may not be true and there may be need to strategize on different programs that have to ensure that social capital is developed among the respective population.

#### 2.6 Advocacy Support and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

A study by Toby (2018) points out that advocacy support can be convened for advocacy and disseminating necessary information to the local target groups networks. During the forums, pertinent issues and policies may be discussed especially the policies that may have direct impact in the championing the empowerment, and come up with a detailed policy recommendations communiqué from the forum. From these forums, the challenges hindering a particular populace from getting empowered may be raised and possible solution measures put into consideration. Namati (2018) also note that advocacy forums have to come up with programs that are best designed to give the youth the skills that are needed so as to enable them thrive and ensure healthy living in a society.

Furthermore, a study by Ayinkamiye (2015) argue that the refugee empowerment process may be a very complex process especially in cases where the refugees are not aware of their rights or their rights are limited. Through advocacy, the constraints in their rights can be recognized and enable them have an access to decision making policies which can later be placed in policy development and implementation. Local, national and international actors have to come up with proper strategies to ensure that the refugees are aware of their rights, consortium rights according to 1951 Convention principles.

A study by Jacobsen (2015) shows that it is not easy for a majority of refugees to create or sustain their livelihoods since it is very difficult for them to exercise their rights as christened to them under refugee law, humanitarian law or international human rights. Being barred from social, civil and economic rights among them being right of movement and residence, right of assembly and speech, fair trial, being self-employed and conclusion of valid contracts, property rights, credit access, access to education, protection against sexual and physical abuse, unlawful detention, harassment and deportation have been the main causes of refugee sufferance. Although these studies give a good guideline on advocacy support and its benefits, several gaps can be identified while addressing the urban refugee youth empowerment.

In his study, Tobby (2018) fails to explain the effect of advocacy forums on the empowerment, Namati (2018) does not attempt to determine the effectiveness of advocacy forums and also the extent to which they influence the refugee youth empowerment especially in urban settings. Ayinkamiye (2015) admits that refugee empowerment process may be a very complex process

especially when the refugees are not aware of their rights or their rights are limited, however, the researcher does not examine which initiatives have been created in order to aid in empowering the refugees and ensue they become self-reliant and responsible adults in future.

#### 2.7 Theoretical Framework

# 2.7.1 Empowerment Theory

This research study borrowed from empowerment theory model in order to link between influence of socio-economic factors on the empowerment of the urban refugee youths. Empowerment can be considered as a value orientation for working in the society and also as a theoretical model for helping to understand the consequences and process of effort to impact control and affect the decisions which have an effect in personal life, functioning of organization and also the community life quality (Zimmerman & Warschausky, 1988, Perkins & Zimmerman, 1995). Empowerment theory is very useful to help in distinguishing between the values which matter on empowerment approach to social change. Empowerment theory gives principles and framework that help to organize knowledge and also advance the concept beyond political manipulation and passing fad.

Construct can be measured in different contexts by applying the empowerment theory so as to ensure studying empowerment process and differentiate empowerment from other concepts, among them being, loss of control, self-efficacy or self —esteem. Mechanic (1991) provides a version of empowerment as a process where persons learn to come up with a closer correspondence between their goals and sense on how to attain them and the link between their life outcomes and their efforts.

According to this theory, different approaches of interventions are suggested in order to create social change. Attention towards health, competence, natural helping systems and adaption is diverted. According to this perspective, unequal distribution of resources may very likely result to social problems. Serving individuals with mutual help or working towards their rights instead of fulfilling their needs can really put a positive impact in their empowerment process (Gallant, Cohen & Wolf ,1985). Empowerment means coming up with a distinct language to enable understand several measures that help in coping with stress, adapting to change and influencing our community. It is empowerment that redefines our professional helpers. The role of a

professional becomes that of collaborating and facilitating instead of being an expert and counselor.

## 2.7.2 Assimilation Theory

Assimilation theory segmented by Portes and Zhou (1993) portrays the three aspects of which refugees adapt to a new environment and society. The straight line theory of upward mobility notes that vast majority of immigrants assimilate into the Caucasians who may be the majority middle class, ethnic solidarity of upward mobility which is in successful ethnic entity that establishes itself through social and government policies and lastly an unsuccessful pattern which consists of a downward spiral which results in assimilation into poverty, more often in an underclass inner city. Due to the refugees racial and ethnic origins, the refugees find it not easy to blend compared to their predecessors. By not accessing adequate economic and social support, the children of refugees and the youth refugees end up being more vulnerable to this unsuccessful acculturation pattern. Later on Portes and Rambut (2001) further explained three contextual factors by which depend on segmented assimilation patterns. They are namely, the rate at which parents and their children acculturate, economic and cultural barriers that the immigrant youth confront, and the available resources (community and family) in managing the barriers.

Factors that affect these desperate outcomes are further explained by Portes and Rumbaut (2001). They come up with different methods of incorporation into the host community, human capital and structure of the family as the important aspects that outline the experience of the first generation. This further ends up affecting the relationship that may exist between the acculturation type experienced by the parents of the immigrants and the one that their children experience. They further view this relationship as key to determining the outcomes of the second generation. At times, parents and children may acculturate at a similar pace and also in similar ways leading to what is known as consonant acculturation. They further suggest that if this last type of acculturation occur, it may end up leading to parent and children conflict and also communication breakdown between the generations. Since the ability of parent to guide and give support to their children is diminished, dissonant acculturation is seen as the main risk factor for downward assimilation among the second generation. The relationship between children's and parent's acculturation might be very important because it ends up influencing the family and

community resources that may be availed to support children who end up with very many challenges in order to adopt to refugee life.

# 2.8 Conceptual Framework

This study aimed at investigating the influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. A conceptual frame work has been defined as a hypothetical model that explains how the independent and dependent variables are related by identifying the model which is under the study (Mugenda &Mugenda, 2008). A variable is defined by Kothari (2003) as a concept that can utilize both qualitative data aspects and those aspects of quantitative data. The outcome of the study was the dependent variable while the one giving an explanation became the independent variable. The independent variables that this study used were the projects/programs that were geared towards achieving human capital development, financial capital development, socio-capital development and advocacy support whereas the empowerment of the urban refugee youths was the dependent variable as further demonstrated in figure 1

## **Independent Variables**

## **Dependent Variable**

(Socio-economic factors)

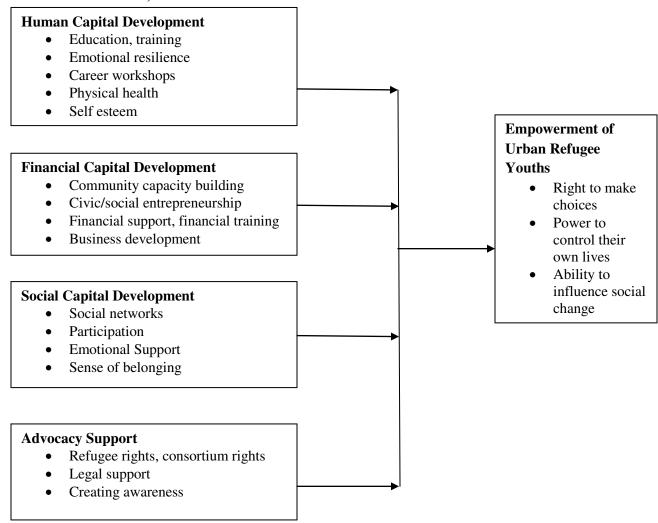


Fig 1: Conceptual framework

## 2.9 Summary of Literature Review

This chapter presented the review in literature putting more emphasis upon empirical review, theoretical framework, conceptual framework and later the knowledge gaps identified from the various forms of literature material reviewed. This study was linked with empowerment theory which was very important in distinguishing between the values which matter on empowerment approach to social change. The empowerment theory gave principles and framework that guides

in organizing knowledge and also advancing the concept beyond political manipulation and passing fad.

The study examined the literature from various scholars and researchers in empirical literature under each variable and later came up with the knowledge gaps matrix which this study filled. The knowledge gaps that arose were put in a summary in the table 2.2 in this chapter.

# 2.10 Knowledge Gap Matrix

**Table 2.1: Summary of the Knowledge Gap Matrix.** 

Variable	Indicator	Author	Title of the	Findings	Knowledge
		(year)	study		gap
Human	-Education and	Hartina, et	The effect of	Human	Several other
capital	training	al (2018)	human	capital	aspects on
developmen	-Emotional		capital, social	development	how to
t	resilience		capital and	significantly	achieve
	-Career		competency	increased the	human capital
	workshops		on	socio-	development
	-Physical health		empowerment	economic	were not put
	-Self esteem		of Bajo Ethnic	empowerment	into
			Community in	of Bajo	consideration
			the Regency	Community	and more
			of Muna,:		focus is on
			Gender		fishing
			Perspective		communities.
		Munjiri and	Human	The	The study
		Obonyo	capital,	interaction	shows
		(2015)	employee	between	contradicting
			empowerment	human	results to the
			and	capital,	findings from
			performance	empowerment	Hartina et al
			of commercial	and	(2018).
			banks and	performance	
			insurance	may be very	
			firms in	insignificant	
			Kenya		

		Abigail and Emma (2016)	Women's economic empowerment	Human capital development through education, training and skill development may have a great influence in breaking poverty cycles.	The study places more focus on women development, the environment from which refugees operate and live can give very different results
Financial capital developmen t	-Community capacity building -Civic/social entrepreneurship -Financial support/Financia l training -Business development	Haque and Zulfiqar (2016)	Women's economic empowerment through financial literacy, financial attitude and financial wellbeing	Financial attitude, financial literacy and financial wellbeing is more important for economic empowerment	Empowermen t also involves social empowerment aspect and also political empowerment attribute
		Shivangi and Seema (2019)	Empowering women through financial inclusion: A study of urban slums	There may be positive linkage between financial capital development and several dimensions of empowerment	Ensuring that the urban youths refugees are empowered in both aspects does not only solve the current problems but also comes up with sustainable solutions to the mess
Social capital developmen t	-Social networks -Participations -Emotional Support - Sense of belonging	Hartina, et al. (2018)	The effect of human capital, social capital and competency on	Social capital development impact on the social empowerment may be great	Need to come up with various methods that can be used by relevant

		Badaruddin	empowerment of Bajo Ethnic Community in the Regency of Muna,: Gender Perspective Community	Social capital	organs to ensure that social empowerment is being achieved The main
		(2017)	empowerment based social capital and village business company (BUMDes)	that exists in communities has to be utilized to ensure the communities are fully empowered	assumption is that social capital already exists in communities. In real perspective there is need to come up with proper programs that are geared towards ensuring that the social capital is developed among the target population
Advocacy support	-Refugee rights -Legal support -Creating awareness	Toby (2018)	Policy and advocacy forum: Empowermen t of women in agriculture	Advocacy forums are key in disseminating necessary information to the local target groups networks	The effect of advocacy forums on the empowerment is not taken into consideration

Namati (2018)	Empowering youth via effective skills training and advocacy approaches	Advocacy forums have to come up with programs that are best designed to give youth	There is need to determine the effectiveness of advocacy forums and also establish
		skills that are	to what extent
		necessary	they may
			influence the
			refugee youth
			empowerment
Ayinkamiy		Empowermen	Examine
e (2015)		t process may	which
		be a very	programs
		complex	have been
		process	enacted in
		especially in	order to assist
		cases where	the refugees
		the refugees	become self-
		are not aware	reliant
		of their rights	
		or the rights	
		are limited	

#### **CHAPTER THREE**

#### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter contains a description of research design, target population as well as sample size and sampling procedure. It also contains the instrument used in data collection, pilot testing, validity of the research instrument as well as its reliability, data collection procedures, data analysis techniques that were used, ethical considerations that were adhered to and lastly, operationalization of variables.

#### 3.2 Research Design

In a study done by Lesage (2009) and Shuttlewoth (2008), they explain that a research design can be described as a plan, presentation, investigation approach or a structure which is meant to realize or answer particular questions raised when undertaking a research. A research design can also be explained to mean a conceptual structure that enables a research to take place as explained by Mugenda and Mugenda (2008). Therefore, descriptive survey design is that which was basically used in this study. Descriptive survey design according to Kothari (2005), gives accounts of the current events as they are whereas explanatory research design generates operational definitions especially for problems that have not been well researched. Best (2004) also highlights that descriptive survey design is very important to a research study since it considers all the aspects of an event while putting in use a unit study and investigation.

# 3.3 Target Population

Target population is a term that Borg and Gall (2009) explained to mean a group or set that can be considered to be universal and has an actual set of people or all members of imaginary, objects or events to which the result is hoped to be generalized during research. Cooper and Schindler (2013) illustrated target population to mean a total composition of events or elements from which an investigator hopes to come up with inference. Mugenda and Mugenda (2006) also confirm that target populations have to be derived using generalization of elements. This study targeted a population that constituted of urban refugee youths aged between 18 years and 36 years and were registered and received support from HIAS- Kenya in Nairobi County, Kenya. UNHCR data and statistics projected the number of urban asylum seekers and refugees who were

registered were 73,829 (UNHCR, 2019; RAS, 2019) of whom about 4 percent fell between the age –bracket of 18 years to 36 years and live in Nairobi County. This brought the total target population to approximately 2972 who were scattered in all the sub county clusters that are based Nairobi County as shown in table 3.1.

**Table 3.1: Target Population** 

<b>Urban Refugee Youths Cluster Zones</b>	Target Population
Nairobi East	754
Nairobi West	610
Nairobi South	860
Nairobi North	530
Nairobi Central	218
<b>Total Target Population</b>	2972

Source: UNHCR (2019); RAS (2019)

#### 3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

As described by Cooper and Schindler (2013) the term sample frame is as a catalogue of all units or population formed by people from which a sample is derived. It is a process that involves coming up with a set of number of targets from particular populations in order to represent the entire population.

#### 3.4.1 Sample Size

This study's sample size was formed through the use of stratified proportionate sampling technique to come up with the respondents. Stattrek (2009) points out that proportionate sampling allows the researcher to use a sampling fraction in each stratum hence giving an equal or better precision than other sampling approaches such as simple random sampling. In pursuance of coming up with a sample size, the researcher took 10 percent on each of the five clusters/ zones in Nairobi County as indicated in table 3.2, hence arriving at a sample population of 297 respondents. Kothari (2004), Kerlinger (2009) and also Stanley and Gregory (2001) agree that with a study of such target population, 10 percent of the population is considered generally acceptable in coming up with a sample size.

**Table 3.2: Sample Size** 

<b>Urban Refugee Cluster Zones</b>	Population	Sample size
Nairobi East	754	75
Nairobi West	610	61
Nairobi South	860	86
Nairobi North	530	53
Nairobi Central	218	22
Totals	2972	297

Source: UNHCR (2019); RAS (2019)

## 3.4.2 Sampling Procedure

The method of choosing the people to take part in a study is basically what sampling means. The persons picked during sampling should represent the whole population being studied. Sampling procedure is hence the method, technique or to an extent process of selecting sub-groups out of a target population so as to take part in the study (Statrek, 2009). Out of the possible 2972 target population, stratified proportionate sampling was incorporated and used to select a total sample size of 297 respondents.

#### 3.5: Data Collection Research Instruments

Questionnaires which were formed in a structured way were the main instruments used during gathering of primary data which was very key in facilitating this study. Use of questionnaires as argued by Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) gives researchers an opportunity to gather comprehensive data related to a wide range of factors and also is a fastest method of getting data in comparison to other instruments. The questionnaires were structured in two ways, that is open-ended questions that could not be answered by simple yes or no and closed-ended questions that required simple yes and no answers. When it came to closed ended questions, a five point Likert scale was used reason being that Brace (2004) points out that the statements represent aspects that are not a like but of the same attitude. The Likert scale is easy to construct and is easily understood by the respondents hence enhancing obtaining highly accurate results when analysis data.

#### 3.5.1 Pilot Testing of Research Instrument

Pre-testing questionnaires that would be used in the actual data collection was done using self-administration before they were distributed to the respondents so as to identify its significance and help in establishing weaknesses in the instrument and making necessary improvements and modifications. The questionnaires were assessed by the researchers' supervisor and other Lecturers in UoN before they were subjected to a small fraction pilot sample of 30 respondents who possessed same features with the respondents, as pointed out by Marezyk, Dematteo and Festinger (2005). Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) explains that the piloting sample size should encompass 10 percent of the study's sample size derived from the selection chosen. 30 respondents were randomly selected and were engaged during the pilot testing. Proposed suggestions for improving the questionnaires was collected and proper modifications was made so as to come up with polished research instruments.

#### 3.5.2 Validity of Research Instrument

Validity of a research instrument is the degree or proportion to which a research instrument represents the content that is planned to be determined as described by Mugenda and Mugenda (2008). Creswell (2003) emphasizes that validity can be said to have been achieved if a researcher is able to draw consequential and valuable inference from the instrument scores. This study adopted content validity which can be explained as the level to which a research instrument will provide enough reportage of the topic under the study. With a view to guarantee that content validity would be achieved, the researcher sought the assistance of UoN students in a similar field to review the instrument and also the assigned supervisor. Content validity of a research instrument as noted by Bordens and Abbot (2011) can be improved by expert's judgment when constructing the instrument. Simple language was used when constructing the instrument in order to ensure the respondents would comfortably comprehend the questionnaire content as well as use of side notes and instructions to guide the respondents.

#### 3.5.3 Reliability of Research Instruments

The calibration of how a chosen research instrument gives unchanging results after several trials is what characterizes a reliable research instrument as mentioned by (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2008). Therefore, a short pilot study was conducted in order to ensure the reliability of the research instrument. The sampled (30) respondents were involved in the pilot study. Cronbach's

Alpha Coefficient (2004) was used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire. Cronbach's Alpha is the measure of the internal consistency and it involves a single administration of the instrument and therefore might yield greater internal consistency. It has values in between 0 and 1 where zero indicates no consistency at all and 1 indicates a perfect consistency. Values that indicate 1 are rare in practical situations and therefore values close to 1 are preferred since they indicate internal consistency in studies. According to Orodho (2005), he points out that a coefficient value of 0.7 is acceptable reliability coefficient. Having said this, empowerment of urban refugee youth test in this study yielded a reliability value of 0.832 while human capital development yielded a reliability value of 0.826, financial capital development was at a reliability value of 0.874, social capital development was at a reliability value of 0.882 while advocacy support was at 0.821; this was good enough since all the values are nearer to 1 as further discussed in Chapter 4.

#### 3.6 Data Collection Procedures

Before embarking on the research study, a letter of authorization to conduct research that is normally prepared by University of Nairobi was sort by the researcher together with a research license from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). After receiving the permission letters from the university and NACOSTI, the researcher further sought clearance from other relevant authorities such as the office of County Commissioner and office of County Director of Education so as to conduct the study. The researcher made use of a research assistant who assisted when it came to data gathering. The research assistant was prior trained on the research instrument and the purpose of the study so that he would be clearly and in line with the research instrument. The questionnaires to be filled by respondents were administered through face to face as well as online through use of ODK due to the nature of the respondents' random distribution. Social distance and use facemasks was also incorporated in order to adhere to the Ministry of Health (MOH) guidelines of combating the deadly COVID 19 virus.

#### 3.7 Data Analysis Techniques

After the data collection was complete, various other steps were conducted such as sorting, organizing, categorizing, coding and later were keyed to the computer for the sole purpose of having the data analyzed through the use of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPPS)

version 21 and Microsoft excel. Descriptive statistics as well as inferential analysis methods were used to analyze the data. Descriptive statistics such as central tendency measures and measures of dispersion (means, standard deviations/variance and percentiles respectively) were adopted to analyze quantitative data.

Furthermore, inferential analysis was adopted so as to come up with Pearson correlation coefficients which helped in predicting the similarities between independent variables and dependent variables. Pearson correlation analysis therefore proved to be very useful in determining to what degree the independent variables were related to dependent variable.

#### 3.8 Ethical Considerations

It was mandatory for the researcher to seek relevant permit letters from various authorities such as NACOSTI and the University before carrying out the study. The researcher moreover made the respondents be aware that the aim of the study was only for academic reasons and there would be no victimization. To show that the targeted respondents took part willingly in the study, a consent form was issued to them to sign as proof that they granted the researcher permission to collect data from them. To ensure there is anonymity, the respondents were made aware that it was not necessary to write their details particularly their names on the questionnaire unless they wanted to. Furthermore, the researcher ensured that the responses given were stored in a confidential manner and were only used for the study purposes of this research. Lastly, social distance, frequent washing of hands and use facemasks was also maintained in order to adhere to the Ministry of Health guidelines of combating the deadly COVID 19 virus.

#### 3.9 Operationalization of Variable

This section dealt with the generalization of the dependent variable and independent variables used in the conceptual framework. The independent variables in this study were human capital development, financial capital development, social capital development, and advocacy forums. The dependent variable was the empowerment of urban refugee youths. The variables were operationalized according to the objectives of the study as illustrated using table 3.3 below;

**Table3.3: Operationalization of Variables** 

Objective	Variable	Indicators	Scale of	Type of	Tool of
			measur	Data	Analysis

			ement	Analysis	
			Cincin	Technique	
To examine the influence of human capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.	Human capital developme nt	- Education and training - Emotional Resilience - Career workshops - Physical health - Self esteem	Ordinal Nominal Interval	Descriptive Inferential	Means Variance Standard deviation s Percentil es Pearson Correlati ons
To assess the influence of financial capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.	Financial Capital developme nt	- Community capacity building - Civic/social entrepreneurship - Financial support/Financial training - Business development	Nominal Ordinal Interval	Descriptive Inferential	Means Variance Standard deviation s Percentil es Pearson Correlati ons
To assess the extent to which social capital development influence empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.	Social capital developme nt	- Social networks - Participation - Emotional & security support - Sense of belonging	Ordinal Nominal	Descriptive Inferential	Means Variance Standard deviation s Percentil es Pearson Correlati ons
To establish the influence of advocacy support on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.	Advocacy Forums	- Refugee rights - Legal support - Creating awareness	Nominal Ordinal Interval	Descriptive Inferential	Means Variance Standard deviation s Percentil es Pearson Correlati ons

#### **CHAPTER FOUR**

#### DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

#### 4.1 Introduction

The data presented in this chapter was gathered in the form of questionnaires and was analyzed through the use of both descriptive statistics and also inferential analysis so as to establish whether socio-economic factors influenced empowerment of the urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. The data analyzed through descriptive statistics was presented in form of tables and in prose form by use of qualitative content analysis. With the view of predicting the degree to which the independent variables are related with the dependent variable, Pearson correlation coefficients were used.

#### **4.2 Questionnaire Return Rate**

Out of a total of two hundred and ninety seven questionnaires that were issued out to the respondents only one hundred and fifty one were returned duly filled. This accounts for 50.84 percent of the targeted sample. Mugenda and Mugenda (2012) states that a feedback rate of 50 percent is considered suitable to carry out an in-depth analysis. Mwajuma (2013) realized a response rate of 55 percent, Odenyo and Rosemary (2018) obtained a response rate of 53 percent while Cater and Pucko (2010) attained a return rate of 49 percent in their respective studies. Statistically, authors recommend a feedback rate of at least 30 percent to be sufficient for conducting analysis. The response rate of 151 dully filled questionnaires attained by this study was therefore considered to be sufficient for an in-depth analysis.

#### 4.3 Test of the Instrument

The reliability as well as validity of the research instrument used was based from the extent to which the responses from the field gave the reflection of previous theories and the empirical evidence of other researchers and scholars who have done similar studies on the same variables. Research questionnaire was the main research instrument for this study and was designed by use of a five point Likert scale. The questionnaire gave return rates of high scores of more than 0.8 as shown on table 4.1 below which is acceptable since Orodho (2005) points out more than 0.7 coefficient on the Cronbach's alpha is acceptable reliability coefficient.

Table 4.1: Test of Reliability and inter-correlations of the study variables

	Empowerment	Human Capital	Financial Capital	Social Capital	Advocacy Support
Mean	4.32	4.19	4.28	4.26	3.98
Standard deviation	0.97	0.78	0.87	0.53	0.41
Empowerment	0.832*				
Human capital development	0.567	0.826*			
Financial capital development	0.765	0.432	0.874*		
Social capital	0.087	0.117	0.154	0.882*	
Advocacy Support	0.014	0.352	0.132	0.531	0.821*

The diagonal numbers represent the alpha coefficients

The research instrument was therefore considered reliable for the study since it returned a very high Cronbach's alpha coefficient, of over 0.7, hence making reliable and is what was used as a data collection instrument in this study. Content validity of the research instrument improved further since much consulting was done between the research and the supervisor as well as other university dons when it was being constructed. Simple language was also incorporated when the construction of the research instrument was underway to enable the respondents have easy understanding of the questionnaire content as well as use of side notes and instructions to guide the respondents

#### 4.4 Demographic Information

The demographic information of the respondents among them being the distribution of the respondents by gender, age, number of years they have been residing in urban areas and the highest education level respondents possessed is explained in this section.

### 4.4.1 Distribution of Respondents by Gender

The desire of this study was to determine the gender distribution of the respondents and the results were shown in table 4.2

Table 4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percent	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Male	103	68.2%	68.2%
Female	48	31.8%	100%

This shows that most of the refugee youths who are living in urban areas are male, out of 151 who took part in the study,103 (68.2 percent) were male compared to their female counterparts who were 48(31.8 percent) which is almost a half of their male counterparts. The gender distribution was therefore considered to be appropriate for the study since the perspectives from both the gender on influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths were captured in this study.

#### 4.4.2 Distribution of Respondents by Age

The study also aimed to figure out age distribution of the urban refugee youths in Nairobi. The findings are illustrated in table 4.3

**Table 4.3: Age Distribution** 

Age Bracket (years)	Frequency	Percent
Below 19	37	24.5
19-23	49	32.5
23-36	65	43
Total	151	100

The results in table 4.3 point out that out of 151 respondents who participated in the study, 37(24.5 percent) fell in the age bracket of below 19 years, 49 (32.5 percent) fell between 19-23 age bracket while 65 (43 percent) were of the age between 23-36.

#### 4.4.3 Number of Years the Respondents has been living in Urban Areas

The study further planned to determine how long the respondents had been living as urban refugees in Nairobi. The results are shown in table 4.4.

Table 4.4: Years Respondents have been living in the Urban Areas

Years	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Less than 5 years	33	22	22
<b>5-10</b> years	86	21	43
More than 10 years	32	57	100

From the results, it was ascertained that majority of the respondents (57%) had been living as urban refugees for more than ten years while (21%) indicated that they have been living as urban refugees for five to ten years and (22%) indicated that they have been living as urban refugees for less than five years. Most pointed out that they were brought in the city by their parents who are also refugees, some by their friends while others traversed several channels to reach the city seeking for any job opportunity. Most of the urban refugee youths named Somalia, Rwanda, DRC, and Uganda as their countries of origin.

#### 4.4.4 Highest Education Level of the Respondents

The study further aimed to establish the highest level of education the respondents possessed so as to establish how well the respondents understood the matters to do with socio-economic factors affecting the urban refugee youth empowerment. The findings are shown in table 4.5

**Table 4.5 Highest Level of Education of the Respondents** 

Level of education	Frequency	Percent	
KCPE Certificate	33	21.8%	
KCSE Certificate	37	24.5%	
Vocational Training	61	40.4%	
College/Diploma	15	9.9%	
Degree	5	3.4%	
Post Graduate	0	0	
Total	151	100%	

From the findings in table 4.5, a broad proportion of the respondents 61 (40.4 percent) out of the 151 that took part in the study had at least attended a vocational /technical training. 37(24.5 percent) had attained Secondary education, 33 (21.8 percent) had gone up to primary level of education, 15 (9.9 percent) had attained a diploma qualification, and only 5 had a university degree. None of the respondents had post graduate qualifications. This points out that majority of the respondents had knowledge on what socio-economic empowerment involves, and could actively take part in productive socio-economic activities which are geared towards enabling them to get empowered.

#### 4.5 Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths in Nairobi County

This study sought to establish if the urban refugee youths had easy access to knowledge and resources, which enable them to gain self confidence in taking active roles in decision making on issues that are of importance to their lives, increase their control over the environment, and

enable them to fulfill their needs and the needs of their families without relying on support from humanitarian bodies or well-wishers. The findings are demonstrated in table 4.6

Table 4.6 Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths in Nairobi County

Statement	5	4	3	2	1	Mea n	Std. Deviatio n
Able to make decisions	38(25.2	92(60.9	13(8.6)	5(3.3)	3(2.0)	3.98	.812
Ability to control own life	61(40.4	59(39.1	17(11.3	10(6.6	4(2.6)	4.10	.936
Ability to influence social change in community	44(29.1	73(48.3	22(14.6	7(4.6)	5(3.3)	3.91	.938
Confidence to face life without major challenges	46(30.5	68(45)	25(16.6)	7(4.6)	5(3.3)	3.89	.994
Ability to participate in civic activities	57(37.8 )	60(39.8	20(13.2	10(6.6	4(2.6)	4.08	.983
Composite Mean and Standard Deviation						3.992	.933

From the findings which were generated, it was established that out of 151 respondents who took part in the study, 38(25.2%) strongly agreed, 92(60.9%) agreed, 13(8.6%) were neutral, 5(3.3%) disagreed while 3(2.0%) strongly disagreed that they were able to make good decisions that have positive impact in their lives without over-relying on other people. The line further had mean and standard deviation (M=3.98; SD=0.812) which was lower than the composite mean and standard deviation (M=3.992; SD=.933), but still implying that the respondents had attained some form of empowerment. Similarly, out of 151 of the respondents who took part in the study

61(40.4%) strongly agreed, 59(39.1%) agreed, 17(11.3%) were neutral, 10(6.6%) disagreed, while 4(2.6 %) with the statement that; based on knowledge and skills they had acquired were able to control their lives now and in future. The line further had mean and standard deviation (M= 4.10, SD=0.936) indicating majority of them became empowered.

Furthermore, on the line that they can influence social change 44(29.1%) strongly agreed, 73(48.3%) agreed, 22(14.6%) were neutral, 7(4.6%) disagreed while 5(3.3%) strongly disagreed with the statement. The line had a mean and standard deviation (M=3.91; SD=0.938),

Whether they can face life without major challenges 46(30.5%) strongly agreed, 68(45%) agreed, 25(16.6%) were neutral, 7(4.6%) disagreed while 5(3.3%) strongly disagreed with the statement. The line had a mean and standard deviation of (M=3.89; SD=0.994) and lastly 57(37.7%) strongly agreed, 60(39.8%) agreed, 20(13.2%) remained neutral, 10(6.6%) disagreed while 4(2.6%) strongly disagreed with the line that they were able to participate in civic activities for the benefit of the society. The line had a mean and standard deviation (M=4.08; SD=0.983) which was higher than the composite mean and lower than standard deviation, indicating that it was a major indicator in the empowerment of the urban refugee youths. The composite mean score of 3.992 and standard deviation of 0.933 showed that majority of the respondents had achieved some level of self-empowerment which can be attributed from a higher response of 127 out of 151 (84%) that agreed that as urban refugees, they had acquired some skills or help from relevant agencies that were able to make them believe that they had been empowered socially and economically.

#### 4.6 Human Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

The first objective of this study was to examine the influence of human capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. In order to achieve this objective, the respondents were first required to indicate if they had received any socio-economic support programs from any agencies or bodies that are geared towards helping them to become socio-economically empowered. Majority of the respondents 135 (89%) out of 151 agreed that they had at more than one time received support from various organizations or agencies that are geared towards helping the refugees to become self-empowered. The study further sought to find out to what extent human capital development had been achieved by various support organizations in empowering the urban refugee youths. The results of the findings are presented in table 4.7

**Table 4.7 Human Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths** 

Statement	5	4	3	2	1	Mean	Std Deviation
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Education and training from support organizations	42(27.8)	79(52.3)	13(8.6)	12(7.9)	5(3.4)	3.96	.965
Frequent career workshops targeting urban youths	43(28.5)	68(45.0)	23(15.2)	11(7.3)	6(4.0)	3.89	1.010
Support during stressful or crisis times	48(31.8)	63(41.7)	26(17.3)	10(6.6)	4(2.6)	3.98	.941
Programs geared towards improving physical health	48(31.8)	67(44.4)	19(12.6)	9(6.0)	8(5.2)	3.96	1.026
Programs geared towards improving self esteem	50(33.1)	69(45.7)	17(11.3)	11(7.3)	4(2.6)	4.03	.966
Composite mean and standard deviation						3.964	.982

The findings from table 4.6 showed that out of 151 respondents who took part in the study 42(27.8%) strongly agreed, 79(52.3%) agreed, 13(8.6%) remained neutral, 12(7.9%) disagreed, 5(3.4%) strongly disagreed with the line that they were able to access education and training from various support organizations. The line had a mean and standard deviation (M= 3.96; SD=0.965) which showed that education as well as training offered played a key role in ensuring that the urban refugee youths achieved empowerment. Secondly 43(28.5%) strongly supported the statement that there were frequent career workshops targeting urban refugee youths while 68(45%) agreed, 23(15.2%) remained neutral, 11(7.3%) disagreed and 6(4.0%) strongly disagreed with the statement. The statement further had a mean and standard deviation (M=3.89; SD=1.010) indicating that it had a strong influence on the empowerment.

Furthermore, of the respondents who took part in the study, 48(31.8%) strongly agreed, 63(41.7%) agreed, 26(17.3%) remained neutral, 10(6.6%) disagreed while 4(2.6%) strongly disagreed that they were able to get support that enabled them to adopt to stressful situations or crisis. The line had a mean and standard deviation (M=3.98; SD=0.941). On the statement that they had been offered programmes that were geared towards improving their physical health,48(31.8%) strongly agreed, 67(44.4%) agreed, 19(12.6%) were neutral, 9(6.0%) disagreed while 8(5.2%) strongly disagreed. The statement had mean and standard deviation (M=3.96; SD=1.026), implying that it had a contribution in ensuring that the urban refugee youths got the required empowerment. Lastly, out of 151 respondents who took part in the study, 50(33.1%)

strongly agreed, 69(45.7%) agreed, 17 (11.3%) remained neutral, 11(7.3%) disagreed while 4(2.6%) strongly disagreed with the line that there were programs geared towards improving their self-esteem. The line further had mean and standard (M=4.03; SD=0.966) which was higher than the composite mean indicating that it had a major influence in empowering the urban refugee youths. Overall, composite mean and standard deviation were 3.964 and 0.9816 respectively implying that the human capital development was being achieved by various organizations in ensuring that the urban refugee youths become empowered.

#### 4.7 Financial Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

The second objective of this study which was to assess the influence of financial capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya, and to achieve this objective, the respondents were requested to indicate various ways through which financial capital development among them had been supported by various organizations. Some of the responses indicated business ideas training, financial literacy training and some were able to access credit from several mobile platforms to put their skills into practical. The researcher further embarked on a mission to establish the extent to which financial capital development had been achieved by various support organizations in order to empower the urban refugee youth. The findings are as follows in table 4.8

Table 4.8: Financial Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Statement	5	4	3	2	1	Mea n	Std. Deviatio
Presence of community capacity	35(23.2 )	63(41.7	33(21.9	12(7.9)	8(5.3	3.70	<b>n</b> 1.070
building Programs for civic/social entrepreneurshi	36(23.8	57(37.7 )	36(23.8	13(8.7)	9(6)	3.65	1.115
p Financial support from various	38(25.2 )	68(45)	23(15.2	14(9.3)	8(5.3	3.75	1.095
organizations Subjected to ideas that are	56(37.1 )	44(29.1 )	24(15.9	18(11.9 )	9(6)	3.79	1.229

best for business		
development		
Composite	3.72	1.127
mean and		
standard		
deviation		

Out of 151 respondents who took part in the study, 35(23.2%) strongly agreed, 63(41.7%) agreed, 33(21.9%) remained neutral, 12(7.9%) disagreed while 8(5.3%) strongly disagreed when it came to the statement that there was community capacity building from various organizations that were supporting them. The line further had a mean and standard deviation (M=3.70; SD=1.070) indicating that it had a positive influence on empowerment of urban refugee youths. On the statement that there were various programs which were geared towards civic/social entrepreneurship, majority of the respondents 36(23.8%) agreed, 57 (37.7%) strongly agreed, 36(23.8%) were neutral, 13(8.7%) disagreed while 9(6%) strongly disagreed. The line had mean and standard deviation (M=3.65; SD=1.115).

The urban refugee youths attached to various organizations also agreed that they were also receiving financial support from those organizations with 38(25.2%) strongly agreeing,68(45%) agreed, 23(15.2%) remained neutral, 14(9.3%) disagreed while 8(5.3%) strongly disagreed. The statement had mean and standard deviation (M=3.75; SD=1.095), showing that it had positive influence on empowerment of the urban refugee youths. Lastly 56(37.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 44(29.1%) agreed, 24(15.9%) remained neutral, 18(11.9%) disagreed while 9(6%) disagreed that they had at more than one time been subjected to various ideas that were best for business development, with a mean and standard deviation (M=3.79; SD =1.229), implying that it was one of the major determinants of financial capitals influence on empowerment. The overall composite mean and standard deviation (M=3.72; SD=1.127) indicate that various support organizations and agencies had developed various strategies to ensure that there was financial development among the urban refugee youths which is a very critical aspect in seeing to it that they are empowered economically.

#### 4.8 Social Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

The third objective of this study aimed to assess the extent to which social capital development influence empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. Therefore, the study

wanted to establish the extent to which social capital development had been achieved by various agencies that support the refugee programs. Table 4.9 indicates the findings

Table 4.9 Social Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Statement	5	4	3	2	1	Mea n	Std. Deviatio n
Social networks developed by various agencies	8(5.3)	12(7.9)	56(37. 1)	45(29. 8)	30(19. 9)	2.49	1.064
Activities geared towards decision making	9(6)	26(17. 2)	60(39. 7)	27(17. 9)	29(19. 2)	2.48	1.101
Receive emotional and security support	48(31.8	68(45. 1)	23(15. 2)	8(5.3)	4(2.6)	3.98	.962
Programs help in acquiring sense of	39(25.8	64(42. 4)	32(21. 2)	7(4.6)	9(6)	3.77	1.072
belonging Composite mean and standard deviation						3.18	1.050

On the statement that various social networks had been developed by various agencies,8(5.3%) strongly agreed, 12(7.9%) agreed, 56(37.1%) were neutral, 45(29.8) disagreed while 30(19.9%) strongly disagreed, with a mean and standard deviation (M=2.49, SD=1.064) implying that very little had been done to ensure social networks had been achieved thereby causing a negative influence on the empowerment. Secondly, 9(6%) strongly agreed, 26 (17.2%) agreed, 60(39.7%) remained neutral, 27(17.9%) disagreed and 29(19.2%) strongly disagreed that there were activities geared towards enabling them participate in decision making with a mean and standard deviation (M=2.48; SD=1.101). This implies that the support groups have not developed sufficient proper channels to benefit the urban refugee youths through decision making and also they are not geared towards participating in decision making activities in the organizations that

offer them support. On the statement that the refugee youths received emotional and security support, 48(31.8%) strongly agreed, 68(45.1%) agreed, 23(15.2%) were neutral, 8(5.3%) disagreed and 4(2.6%) strongly disagreed. The line had a mean and standard deviation (M=3.98; SD=0.962), which was higher than the composite mean and lower than standard deviation indicating that it positively influenced the empowerment of urban refugee youths. Finally, on the statement; there were programs that enable them acquire sense of belonging,39(25.8%) strongly agreed, 64(42.4% agreed), 32(21.2%) were neutral 7(4.6%) disagreed while 9(6%) strongly disagreed. The line had a mean and standard deviations (M=3.77; SD=1.072), which was higher than the overall composite mean and standard deviation (M=3.18; SD=1.050) indicating further that social capital development positively influenced the empowerment of the urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.

#### 4.9 Advocacy Support and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

The fourth objective that formed this study was to establish the influence of advocacy support on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. In order to realize this objective, the respondents first were requested to indicate whether they had ever received any advocacy support as an urban refugee youth by any organization or agency. 107 (70.9%) accepted to have received an advocacy support from various refugee support organization. The researcher further wanted to know the extent to which advocacy support has been achieved to ensure the urban refugee youth were empowered. The findings are contained in table 4.10

Table 4.10: Advocacy Support and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Statement	5	4	3	2	1	Mean	Std. Deviation
Education on refugee rights	47(31.1)	65(43.1)	22(14.6)	10(6.6)	7(4.6)	3.89	1.066
Legal Support Aware of laws	58(38.4) 54(35.8)	62(41.1) 58(38.4)	20(13.2) 31(20.5)	8(5.3) 3(2)	3(2) 5(3.3)	4.01 4.01	.952 .973
and legalizations Composite mean and standard deviation	31(33.0)	30(30.1)	31(20.3)	3(2)	3(3.3)	3.97	.997

From the findings, from a total of 151 respondents who took part in the study,47(31.1%) strongly agreed, 65(43.1%) agreed, 22(14.6%) remained neutral, 10(6.6%0 disagreed while 7(4.6%)

strongly disagreed with the statement that the support agencies and organizations offered them education concerning their rights (M=3.89; SD= 1.066). This indicate that it had a major contribution towards empowerment of urban refugee youths. Furthermore, on the line that support organizations also gave the refugees the legal support when they were faced with challenges some of them being when faced with police enforcing laws, 58(38.4%) strongly agreed, 62(41.1%) agreed, 20(13.2%) were neutral, 8(5.3%) disagreed while 3(2%) strongly disagreed. The line had a mean and standard deviation (M= 4.01; SD=0.952). This shows the initiative has a major contribution towards the empowerment of the urban refugee youths.

The respondents who agreed to take part in the study also supported the statement of being aware of laws and legalizations that has been put in place to safeguard the refugees with 54(35.8%) strongly agreeing, 58(38.4%) agreeing, 31(20.5 %) remaining neutral, 3(2%) disagreeing and 5(3.3%) strongly disagreeing. The statement had a mean and standard deviation (M=4.01; SD=0.973). The overall composite mean and standard deviation (M=3.97; SD=0.997) indicate that various support organizations and agencies had developed strategies such as education on refugee rights, legal support targeting urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya leading to their empowerment.

#### 4.10 Socio-economic Programs and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

The researcher sought as well to establish quantitatively the extent to which the independent variables (human capital development, financial capital development, social capital development and advocacy support) influenced the dependent variable (empowerment). This lead to computation of correlations between the variables as depicted using table 4.11

**Table 4.11: Correlation Analysis** 

#### **Correlations**

		Empower ment	Human capital developme nt	Financial capital developme nt	Social capital developme nt	Advocacy support
	Pearson Correlation	1	.896**	.868**	.787**	.912**
Empowerment	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.000	.000
	N	151	151	151	151	151
Human capital	Pearson Correlation	.896**	1	.877**	.790**	.949**
development	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000	.000
	N	151	151	151	151	151
Financial capital	Pearson Correlation	.868**	.877**	1	.867**	.874**
development	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.000	.000
	N	151	151	151	151	151
Social capital	Pearson Correlation	.787**	.790**	.867**	1	.800**
development	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000		.000
	N	151	151	151	151	151
A dyo op ov sums ant	Pearson Correlation	.912**	.949**	.874**	.800**	1
Advocacy support	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	
	N	151	151	151	151	151

<sup>\*\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Based on the analysis in table 4.10, human capital development has a strong positive correlation (Pearson Correlation Coefficient=0.896) influence on empowerment. In addition to that, financial capital development, social capital development and advocacy support also have positive correlation on empowerment (Pearson Correlation Coefficient=0.868, 0.787 and 0.912 respectively). The correlation matrix depicts therefore that coming up with different ways of developing the human capital among the urban refugee youths, developing their financial and social capital and also helping them through advocacy support can significantly improve their present and also future socio-economic empowerment. Achieving socio-economic empowerment on this special group will not only solve the current situation but also ensure that their future lives become better and they grow into individuals that are responsible to the society.

#### **CHAPTER FIVE**

## SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS, DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

The researcher in this chapter presents the summary of the key study findings, discussions of the study findings, conclusions from the study and the recommendations based on the study findings. Finally, suggestion for further areas of research is given at the end.

#### **5.2 Summary of the Findings**

This study had a purpose which was to establish the influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. The study was further spearheaded by the following specific objectives: To examine the influence of human capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths; to assess the influence of financial capital development on empowerment of urban refugee youths; to assess the extent to which social capital development influence empowerment of urban refugee youths; and to establish the influence of advocacy support on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.

#### 5.2.1 Human Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Findings from this study revealed that there existed a significant relationship between human capital development and empowerment of urban refugee youth with Pearson correlation coefficient (r= 0.896). This was in line with the majority of the respondents, 52.3%, who agreed to a great extent that they were able to receive education and training from various support groups and organizations (M=3.96; SD=0.965). The study also established that there were career workshops being organized by several agencies to empower the urban refugee youths with 45% of the respondents agreeing with the statement while 28% strongly agreeing with the statement. The refugees were also involved in programs that were driven towards improving their physical health (M= 3.96; SD=1.026) and improving their self-esteem (M= 4.03; SD= 0.996). With a strong positive correlation, human capital development was therefore established to play a very key role when dealing with empowerment of the refugee youths who stay in urban areas.

#### 5.2.2 Financial Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

The study established that there existed a positive relationship between financial capital development and urban refugee youth empowerment indicated by a strong positive Pearson correlation coefficient (r=0.868). Although the coefficient was lower than that of human capital development, it still played a very key role in urban refugee youth empowerment. Majority of the respondents who took part in this study agreed that they were subjected to programs that focused on community capacity building with 23.2% strongly agreeing and 41.7% agreeing. The respondents also supported the statement that they accessed civic/social entrepreneurship programs (M= 3.65; SD=1.115) and financial support from various organizations to help in starting small businesses that could aid them in sustaining their daily lives (M= 3.75; SD=1.095). Majority of the respondents also agreed that they had at more than one time been subjected to ideas that were best for business development (M= 3.79; SD= 1.229)

#### 5.2.3 Social Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Although the study findings depict that there was a positive Pearson correlation coefficient (r= 0.787), so much had not been put in place to ensure there was social capital development. Majority of the respondents who took part in this study disagreed with the responses that various agencies had developed social networks for the benefit of the urban refugee youths (M= 2.49; SD=1.064). Majority of the respondents also disagreed that they were involved in activities that were geared towards decision-making (M=2.48; SD=1.101). On the other hand, majority agreed that they received emotional and security support from various support organizations (M= 3.98; SD=0.962) and they were involved in programs that are geared towards enabling them acquire sense of belonging (M=3.77; SD=1.072). Having said that, a strong positive correlation indicated that social capital development played a very key role when dealing with empowerment of the refugee youths who stay in urban areas.

#### 5.2.4 Advocacy Support and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Advocacy support also played a key role in enabling urban refugee youth empowerment with a strong positive Pearson correlation coefficient (r= 0.912). The study further found out that majority of the respondents who were targeted had been offered more than once, education on refugee rights with 43.1% agreeing and 31.1% strongly agreeing (M=3.89; SD=1.066). Majority of the respondents also supported to a large extent that they were offered legal support by various

organizations when on the wrong side of the law (M=4.01; SD=0.952) and that they were aware of several laws and legalizations that they have to abide with when living as refugees (M=4.01; SD=0.973).

#### **5.3 Discussion of the Key Findings**

The variables captured under this study were key to discussions as follows

#### 5.3.1 Human Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Human capital development has played a very important role when empowering the urban refugee youths. Education and training is a very key aspect of human capital development and plays a very important role in empowerment. Most refugees were able to access education up to various levels and some had gone even past the diploma level and some had attained undergraduate degrees from various universities in the country through support from various organizations that were supporting the refugees who dwell in urban areas. Likewise, most of the refugees had been exposed to several career workshops that are very crucial when developing ones' career and ensuring that they have a wide view of careers that they can pursue to help them become empowered.

Technical and vocational training played a very important role in equipping the refugee youths with different skills that are very important in the current ever changing job market, which requires more of technical skills and artisans. This agrees with Hartina et al. (2018) that human capital can greatly be improved through education and training. It further agrees with Munjiri and Obonyo (2015) and Yamoah (2014) who argue that the skills and knowledge that individuals may possess may greatly depict their empowerment as they determine the quality of sound decisions that they make and also strengthening human capital through training on skills has a very significant effect on the empowerment on individuals.

#### 5.3.2 Financial Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

The role of financial capital development in ensuring that the urban refugee youths are empowered cannot be taken for compromise. Training on business skills, ideas, budgeting, financial literacy played a very key role in ensuring that there was financial capital development among the urban refugee youths. The young men and women were also able to get small source of funding and access to credit that they could use to run or start up small businesses that could

sustain them as they could not rely at all times on funds from the agencies. Presence of community capacity building and programs on civic/social entrepreneurship had a significant contribution on financial capital development. The urban refugee youths hugely relied on this aspect of financial capital development in order to attain self-empowerment among themselves. This supports the argument from Haque and Zulfiqar (2016) who pointed out financial attitude, financial literacy and financial wellbeing are of more importance when considering the economic empowerment. Chatterjee et al. (2018) also argues that there is a need for proper financial inclusion process to assist in producing a positive impact on the social empowerment.

Financial support from various organizations and agencies enables the urban refugee youths to start entrepreneurship and also become able to put into practice the technical skills that they may have acquired during human capital development process. By being able to access the credit and subjected to different business ideas, these urban refugee youths find it possible to start small businesses, become job creators and reduce overreliance on donors may in future be able to sustain their families even in the case of repatriation. This agrees with IDRC (2019) that financial products and services play a great role in transforming the target people hence leading to their socio-economic empowerment.

#### 5.3.3 Social Capital Development and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Despite social capital development being a very key aspect in ensuring there is empowerment among the urban refugee youths; its uptake faced several challenges. Most support organizations had not developed social networks that are key in ensuring the urban refugee youths could interact and exchange their entrepreneurial ideas with other people. Furthermore, most of the refugees were barely left out in decision making on matters that were meant to address the socio-economic empowerment plight. This may play negatively towards ensuring that the urban refugee youths are socio-economically empowered since Padmaja and Cyntia (2019) suggest that having multiple social networks such as religious groups, vocational training and mutual finance contributes significantly towards empowerment. On the positive side the refugee youths were able to receive emotional and security support and also access programs that were meant to ensure that they acquired some sense of belonging in the host community.

#### **5.3.4** Advocacy Support and Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths

Education on refugee rights played every key role as the urban refugee were able to be made to be aware of their rights and freedom as guided by international refugee rights while staying with the host community. Legal support is very crucial to ensure that the refuges are protected and also aware of the laws and legalizations that they should be abiding with. Advocacy support is a very key component to ensure that the target group is empowered as empowerment may not reach its expectations when the urban refugee youths are not given advocacy support. It is through this advocacy support that the challenges that hinder the target group from getting empowered are raised and possible mitigation measures put in place. The urban refugee youths by knowing their rights, were able to access decision making policies which could later be used in policy development and implementation. This is agreement with Toby (2018) who point out that advocacy forums can be convened for advocacy and disseminating necessary information to the local target groups networks.

#### **5.4 Conclusion of the Finding**

The findings that were generated as a result of this study affirmed that there existed a positive relationship between human capital development vis-à-vis empowerment of urban refugee youth in Nairobi County, Kenya. Human capital development played a very significant role when it came to empowering the urban refugee youths. The urban refugee youth were able to develop their human capital through education and training, participating in frequent career workshops, improving their physical health and their self-esteem. These activities not only improved their human capital but also ensured that they gained socio-economic empowerment.

The study secondly established that training on business skills, ideas, budgeting, financial literacy played a very key role in ensuring that there was financial capital development among the urban refugee youths. Through small source of funding and access to credit that they urban refugee youths were able to access, they were able to run or start up small businesses that could sustain them as they could not rely at all times on funds from the agencies. There was a strong positive relationship between financial capital development and empowerment of urban refugee youths.

Thirdly, the study discovered out that although social capital development plays very key role in empowerment of urban refugee youths as evidenced by strong positive relationship between it and empowerment, it had not been achieved to a proffered extent. The support groups had not developed sufficient social networks to benefit the urban refugee youths and also they were not geared towards participating in decision making activities in the organizations that offer them support. On the positive side, the urban refugee youths were able to receive emotional and security support and also access programs that were meant to ensure that they acquired some sense of belonging in the host community.

Last but not least, the study revealed that advocacy support played a very crucial role in making sure that the urban refugee youths get empowered in various aspects. The urban refugee youths were able to be guided on their rights as refugees, laws and legalizations and important issues that could hinder them from getting empowered were addressed.

#### **5.5 Recommendation of the Study**

The conclusion from this study unveiled several suggestions as well as recommendations in line with influence of socio-economic factors on empowerment of urban refugee youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. The following as shown below are thus the recommendations from this study:

- Support organizations need to engage more professionals to ensure that the urban refugee
  youths are equipped with more relevant and numerous skills that can ensure that the
  human capital development is steadily increased. Furthermore, human capital
  development programs are supposed to be geared to ensure that more refugees are
  involved or engaged.
- 2. Though financial capital development had been achieved through financial training and literacy, the target group should be trained by the agencies more on entrepreneurial skills and further more increase the funds that support the urban refugee youths in starting their businesses.
- 3. The urban refugee youths should be involved in decision making concerning matters to do with their well-being and support in order to achieve self-empowerment.
- 4. The support groups should develop numerous social networks targeting the urban refugee youths.
- 5. Awareness should be created by relevant agencies and support groups to ensure that advocacy support reaches all the target groups as it plays an important role in establishing

and finding solutions to any problems that may be hindering the urban refugee youths from becoming socio-economically empowered.

#### **5.6 Suggestions for Further Research**

Urban refugee youths living in urban areas the case of Nairobi County were targeted in this study. A similar study can be focused on refugee youths who are in refugee camps far away from urban areas. There also existed a clear factor that urban refugee youths engage in economic activities to sustain their livelihoods in Nairobi County and this needs to be studied to know to what extent urban refugee youth economic activities generate revenue for the County. It was also clear from the report that urban refugee youths in Nairobi County do not feel consulted in decision making and it is important to research on whether social networks within Nairobi County ensure that urban refugee youths are empowered to make their own decisions.

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**APPENDICES** 

**Appendix I: Introduction Letter** 

Date: June 29, 2020

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam,

REQUEST FOR COLLECTION OF DATA

I (Kamau Duncan Mutisya, Reg. No. L50/5112/2017) am pursuing a Postgraduate degree at the

School of Continuing and Distance Learning Education at the University of Nairobi. I am

conducting a research titled "Influence of Socio-economic Factors on Empowerment of

Urban Refugee Youths in Nairobi County, Kenya."

Therefore, it is a pleasure to inform you that you have been selected to share your thoughts in

relation to this study. Please spare your valuable time and assist to fill in the given questionnaire.

Information that you shall willingly provide will be used while observing strict confidentiality

and for academic purposes only. Your name or contact information is not required anywhere on

the questionnaire.

In case you are interested in a final copy of this report, it will be made available to you upon

your request.

Any assistance that you shall provide will be highly appreciated.

Kind regards,

------

Kamau Duncan Mutisya,

(Student) L50/5112/2017

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Appendix III: Districts in the zones used

Cluster (Zones)	Districts
Nairobi East	Eastleigh, Kamukunji, Embakasi & Njiru
Nairobi West	Dagoretti & Westlands
Nairobi South	Madaraka & Langata
Nairobi North	Kasarani
Nairobi Central	Starehe

Source: GOOGLE MAPS (2020)



#### **UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

OPEN, DISTANCE AND e-LEARNING CAMPUS SCHOOL OF OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING DEPARTMENT OF OPEN LEARNING NAIROBI LEARNING CENTRE

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Telephone: 318262 Ext. 120

REF: UON/ODeL/NLC/31/162

Main Campus Gandhi Wing, Ground Floor P.O. Box 30197

NAIROBI

15th June, 2020

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

## RE: DUNCAN KAMAU - REG.NO. L50/5112/2017

The above named is a student at the University of Nairobi, Open Distance and e-Learning Campus, School of Open and Distance Learning, Department of Open Learning pursuing a Masters course in Project Planning and Management.

He is proceeding for research entitled "Influence of Socio Economic Factors on Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youth in Nairobi"

Any assistance accorded to him will be appreciated.

CAREN AWILLY
CENTRE ORGANIZER

NAIROBI LEARNING CENTRE

NAIROBI LEARNING CENTRE

## **Appendix IV: NACOSTI Research Permit**





NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Ref No: 142052

Date of Issue: 26/June/2020

#### RESEARCH LICENSE



This is to Certify that Mr.. Duncan Mutisya Kamau of University of Nairobi, has been licensed to conduct research in Nairobi on the topic: Influence of Socioeconomic Factors on Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths in Nairobi County, Kenya for the period ending: 26/June/2021.

License No: NACOSTI/P/20/5433

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Applicant Identification Number

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#### **Appendix V: Research Questionnaire**

Influence of Socio-economic factors on Empowerment of Urban Refugee Youths in Nairobi County, Kenya.

This questionnaire is framed to make enquiries regarding the influence of Socio-economic Factors on Empowerment of the Urban Refugee Youths in Nairobi County, Kenya. The responses obtained by use of this questionnaire shall be used with a lot of and secretiveness and only used for the basis of this study. It is not necessary to write your name.

#### **SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

Please indicate using a tick ( $\sqrt{\phantom{0}}$ ) appropriately on each of the question unless stated otherwise.

1.	What is your gender? Male[] Female[]
2.	Indicate your age bracket
	Below 19 years [ ] 19-23 years [ ] 23-36 years [ ]
3.	How many years have you been living in the city as a refugee
	Less than 5 years [ ] 5-10 years [ ] More than 10 years [ ]
4.	What made you not to stay in designated refugee camps set up in the country?
5.	What is your country of origin?
6.	What is your highest education qualifications?
	KCPE Certificate [ ] KCSE certificate [ ] Vocational Training [ ] College/Diploma [ ] Degree certificate [ ] Postgraduate [ ]. Others [ ] Please specify
7.	Kindly indicate which socio-economic support services you have ever received from the state or non –state organizations as a refugee

# SECTION B: EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN REFUGEE YOUTHS IN NAIROBI COUNTY

This study defines empowerment of refugee youth as a process by which young men and women aged 18-36 years who are refugees gain easy access to knowledge and resources, which enable them to gain self confidence in taking active roles in decision making on issues that are of importance to their lives, increase their control over the environment, and enable them to fulfill their needs and the needs of their families without relying on support from humanitarian bodies or well-wishers.

8.	By considering the way the study defines empowerment of refugee youth, as an urban
	refugee, have you acquired any skills or help from the relevant agencies that can make
	you believe you are empowered socially and economically? Yes[ ] No [ ]
9.	If the answer in 8 is Yes, which programs have you encountered as an urban refugee
	youth that have played a major role in ensuring you're
	empowered?
10.	If you project ten years from now, do you think you can be well to sustain your needs and
	the needs of your family without relying on relief from agencies? Yes [ ] No [ ]
11.	If the answer is No in 10 above, kindly state the reason behind

12. Kindly rate by placing a tick ( $\sqrt{}$ ) to what extent as an individual you have acquired the following measures of socio-economic empowerment where 1= no extent, 2= very small extent, 3= small extent, 4= great extent, 5= very great extent.

	Statement	5	4	3	2	1
12.1	Am able to make good decisions that have positive impact in my					
	life without overlying on other people.					
12.2	Based on knowledge and skills I have, I can now and in future					
	control my own life.					
12.3	I can influence social change within our community.					
12.4	I have confidence to face life without major challenges.					
12.5	Am able to participate in civic activities for the benefit of the					
	society.					

13	3. In your own opinion, what else are you able to do as a resul empowered?	t of be	eing so	ocio-e	econo:	mically
SEC'	ΓΙΟΝ C: SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMS					
	IAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FACTORS AND OF E UGEE YOUTH	MPO	WER	MEN	T UF	RBAN
1	4. Do you receive any socio-economic support programs from	any a	igenci	es or	bodie	s that
	are geared towards helping you to become socio-economica	ally en	npowe	ered?	Yes [	] No[ ]
1:	5. If the answer is yes kindly name some of them					
1	6. Kindly rate by placing a tick ( $$ ) to what extent the following	ig asp	ects of	f hum	an ca	pital
	development been achieved by various support organization	ns in e	mpow	ering	the u	ırban
	refugee youths?					
	Statement	5	4	3	2	1
16.1	We often get education and training from support organizations.					
16.2	Career workshops are frequently organized targeting urban					
	refugee youths.					
16.3	We have been given support that enables us to adapt to stressful					
	situations or crisis.					
16.4	We have been offered programs to improve our physical health.					
16.5	There are programs geared towards improving our self-esteem.					
FINA	ANCIALCAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FACTORS AND E	MPO	WER	MEN	T OF	י
URB	AN REFUGEE YOUTH					
1′	7. How has financial capital development among the urban rel	fugaa	wouth	a <b>b</b> oor	a cumr	portod
1	by various organizations?	lugee	youm	S UCCI	ı supț	orteu
1.	•		- c c:		.1	 :4-1
13	8. Kindly rate on a scale of 1-5, to what extent the following a	-		тапс18	ıı cap	ııaı
	development have been achieved by various support organi	zation	ıs.			
	Statement	5	4	3	2	1
18.1	There is community capacity building.					
					l	

18.2	Various programs are geared towards civic/social			
	entrepreneurship.			
18.3	We are offered financial support from various organizations.			
18.4	We have been subjected to ideas that are best for business			
	development.			

# SOCIAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FACTORS AND EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN REFUGEEYOUTH

19.	How has social capital development been achieved by various organizations?
20.	On the scale of 1-5, kindly rate how the following aspects of social capital development
	have been met by any organization giving support to the urban refugee youths.

	Statement	5	4	3	2	1
20.1	Various social networks have been developed by various					
	agencies.					
20.2	Were involved in activities that enable us participate in decision					
	making.					
20.3	We receive emotional & security support from various					
	organizations.					
10.4	Some programs are geared towards ensuring we acquire our					
	sense of belonging.					

#### ADVOCACY SUPPORT AND EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN REFUGEEYOUTH

21.	. Have you been offered any advocacy support as an urban refugee youth by any
	organization or agency? Yes [ ] No [ ]
22	If yes state which one

23. Kindly rate the level to which the following measure of advocacy support has been achieved to ensure you are empowered.

	Statement	5	4	3	2	1
23.1	Support groups educate us on our refugee rights.					
23.2	We are given legal support by organizations whenever we need					
	them.					
23.3	We are aware of laws and legalization that we should abide by					
	as refugees					

# SECTION D: SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS AND EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN REFUGEE YOUTH

24. Kindly rate by placing a tick ( $\sqrt{}$ ) how strongly you agree or disagree on how the following socio-economic factors can lead to empowerment of urban refugee youths, where 1= strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3= not sure, 4= agree, 5= strongly agree

	Statement	5	4	3	2	1
24.1	Human Capital Development					
24.2	Financial Capital Development					
24.3	Social Capital Development					
24.4	Advocacy Support					

END. THANKS!