

**DEVOLUTION AND ITS EFFECT ON THE COMMUNITY: A CROSS SECTIONAL  
STUDY OF GITHUNGURI CONSTITUENCY IN KIAMBU COUNTY "**

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## DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has not been presented for the award of a degree in any other university.

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Date ..... 25/11/2016 .....

This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the University Supervisor.

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this project to my lovely family far and wide and to future generations who should live a more fulfilling life enjoying the fruits of the hard labor, blood and sweat of our forefathers.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

<b>CBF:</b>	<b>Constituency Bursary Fund</b>
<b>CDF:</b>	<b>Constituency Development Fund</b>
<b>LA:</b>	<b>Local Authorities</b>
<b>SPSS:</b>	<b>Statistical Packages for Social Sciences</b>

## **OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS**

**Community development:** It is a process where local people can not only create more jobs, income and infrastructure, but also help their community become fundamentally better able to manage change.

**Devolution:** the transfer or delegation of power to a lower level, especially by central government to local or regional administration.

**Devolved funds:** funds transferred to a lower level especially by a Central Government.

**Decentralization:** is the process of redistributing or dispersing functions, powers, people or things away from a central location or authority.

## **ABSTRACT**

The 2010 Constitution of Kenya set a pace for the process of devolution with wide ranging consequences on the nature of local governance and service delivery to the community. In Kenya devolution involves transfer of finances and power to County governments with an aim of bringing services and development close to its citizens in view of vision 2030. Despite this initiative, there is little evidence indicating the effect of devolution on the many communities in Kenya. This study therefore sought to examine the influence of devolution on community development with reference to Githunguri constituency.

The study used a cross sectional study design and utilized both qualitative and quantitative data. The target population was 39350 house hold heads in Githunguri constituency. Fisher's fomula was used in the determination of the sample size. Stratified random sampling to select a sample size of 384 household heads from the target population. The strata were the five locations in Githunguri constituency. In addition, purposive sampling to select on 5 chiefs from the five locations in Githunguri Constituency as the key informants. The study used primary data that was collected by use of structured questionnaires and interview guides. The research instruments generated both qualitative and quantitative data. Quantitative data analyzed by use of percentages, frequency distribution and measures of central tendencies (mean). The data was then presented in tables and graphs. Qualitative data was analyzed by use of content analysis.

The study found that the social and economic projects initiated after devolution in Githunguri Constituency had yielded some benefits. Devolution had led to improved accessibility to the market due to improved roads and feeder roads, improved availability of medicine in healthcare facilities, improved lighting in the streets, increased accessibility to water. However, factors such

as poor administrative capacity, embezzlement of revenues, evasion, lack of capacity, use of traditional service delivery methods, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management were negatively influencing devolution.

This study recommends that the national government as well as the county governments should formulate and implement policies to separate powers and authority so as to ensure that there are no overlapping of powers and authority. In addition, County Governments should ensure an increased use of modern technology in service delivery and in procurement. This will help to improve efficiency of service delivery and reduce collusion and corruption in public procurement.

## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

Devolution is a central initiative by Governments that wish to take economic resources and political powers to the lower community level thereby bringing services and development close to its citizens. It is one among several forms of decentralization characteristic of many governments globally (Rodriguez-Pose and Gill, 2003). Devolution involves the transfer of powers from a higher or central order of government to a regional or local order of government. It occurs when a local government, such as county government, formally receives broad powers over a specific territory. It also involves devolving of functions, like decision making, finance and management, from the national government to the County governments (Simiyu & Mweru, 2014).

Among the most important arguments on devolution and decentralization, is the issue of economic efficiency, that is the expectation that decentralizing functions to the lowest feasible level of decision making will optimize information flow, bring public services closer to the people and reduce development costs. Devolution has been a political response to the ills plaguing fragile and plural societies, such as, conflicts, inequalities, rent seeking, economic stagnation, corruption and inefficient use of public resources. Thus, a decision to devolve services is often based on the failure of central government to deliver various services efficiently to the community (Kodras, 2007). Devolution has further been seen as an avenue for democratic deepening within an institution of governance, creating constitutional or legal boundaries that reduces friction with the center that could otherwise undermine the institution (Deweese, Lobao & Swanson, 2003).



Devolution affects governance in several ways. First, by distributing authority over public goods and revenues devolution makes it difficult for individuals or groups of official actors to collude and engage in corrupt practices. Second, where devolution of authority takes place along territorial and communal lines, it can foster effective cooperation within the devolved units. As a result, local communities are able to mobilize social pressure against rent seeking and corruption (Ndung'u, 2014).

Devolution has been practiced in many countries worldwide with each country having its own story of this form of government. For example, in the United Kingdom, devolution of power did not involve the community, which changed the emphasis on governance and reduced the local authority access to funds (Willett & Giovannini, 2014). Therefore, political support for community involvement in public service provision and decision-making has appeared prominently on the agenda of the UK's main political parties (Labour and the Conservatives) (Birrell & Gray, 2014). Other most notable successful experiences with devolution are federalism in the United States of America, with two centuries of experience, and India, with 60 years' experience.

In the case of Africa, gaining independence in the 1960s and 1970s, many African countries justified their one party 'democracies' as an extension of the consensus that had underlain decision making in traditional society. In practice, one-partyism and the centralized state fed off each other, allowing those in power to monopolize the delivery of development (Haughton, Counsell & Vigar, 2008). This in turn threatened the equitable delivery of services as those holding the purse strings could use the budget to reward support and punish opposition. Even as competitive party politics took hold on the continent, the desire for absolute control by

incumbents undermined effective decentralization. Thus, federation is a rare phenomenon in Africa, among the few instances being Comoros, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Nigeria (Mitullah, 2013).

Even so, there is extensive decentralization to varied degrees on the continent. Ndegwa's (2002) decade-old 30-country study of decentralization provides insights into the nature of choices of governance on the continent. In Africa, decentralization is progressing but unevenly both in terms of regional spread and the aspects of decentralization that are installed.

The 2010 Constitution of Kenya enacted a process of devolution with wide ranging consequences on the nature of local governance and service delivery. The constitution led to the creation of 47 counties that are managed by political leaders such as governors and Member of County Assemblies (Khaunya, Wawire & Chepng'eno, 2015). The constitution provides for relevant governance institutions; checks and balances on the exercise of executive power; facilitative legislation; enhancing public participation in governance as a bulwark against abuse of power and tightening the process of recruitment, and retention of critical public officers (Ndung'u, 2014).

In various parts of Kenya, devolution has been found to impact on community members in various ways. According to Simiyu and Mweru (2014) devolution has a positive influence on socio-economic welfare and economic empowerment and the of the people of Kimilili constituency. In addition, Ndung'u (2014) argues that devolution influences economic development potentialities in various parts of Kenya.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The concept of devolution has in the recent past become quite widespread in some political and academic debates. A large literature argues that Kenya has undergone fundamental shifts in the state institutions regulating economic development and redistribution. Governments at all levels are more subject to market influences, the scope of the national government is reduced, and greater authority is devolved to counties and communities (Rummery & Greener, 2012).

According to Othieno (2012), devolution has been advocated as a political response to the ills plaguing fragile and plural societies such as conflicts, inequalities, rent seeking, economic stagnation, corruption and inefficient use of public resources. Besides, devolution is also implemented as a reaction to external pressure from organized groups (or separatists). For devolution to be effective, however, the criteria of consensus must be observed. There are several ways in which devolution impacts governance. First, by distributing authority over public goods and revenues devolution makes it difficult for individuals of groups of official actors to collude and engage in corrupt practices (Ndegwa, 2002). Second, where devolution of authority takes place along territorial and communal lines, it can foster effective cooperation within the devolved units. As a result, local communities are able to mobilize social pressure against rent seeking and corruption. indeed, a growing number of countries have over the last three decades further decentralized administrative, fiscal and political functions of government to sub-national governments. These countries include the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain. In many cases, devolution has also been driven by the need to bring government closer to the people (Mitullah, 2013).

Devolution including other forms of decentralization, however, may not always lead to improved governance and economic performance (Rodriguez-Pose & Gill, 2003). For example, devolution may reduce the ability of the national government to redistribute resources and therefore the ability to assist the less developed sub-units. In addition, devolution may lead to the capture of local governments by the political elites, especially if devolution rules and systems are not well designed, and hence allow the local politicians to use the local resources to consolidate their hold on to political power through patronage (Deweese, Lobao & Swanson, 2003).

Since devolution is in its early stages in Kenya and has been facing various challenges, studies on the influence of devolution on community development are very important. So far, several studies have been conducted in relation to devolution in Kenya. For instance, Kivuva (2011) did a study on devolution and the politics of marginalization in Kenya; Ager (2012) did a study on devolution in Kenya: A critique of the concept of constitutionalism; and Mitullah (2013) conducted a study on development ideals and reality: bridging the Kenya gap through devolution. However, there is little empirical evidence on the effect of devolution on community development. This study therefore sought to answer the question: What is the effect of devolution on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County?

### **1.3 Research Questions**

- i. What is the level of participation by the people in the projects funded by the devolved funds in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County?
- ii. What are factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County?
- iii. What is devolved funding effect on the socio-economic welfare in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County?

## **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

### **1.4.1 Main Objective**

The main objective of this study is to establish the effect of devolution on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

### **1.4.2 Specific objectives**

The specific Objectives of this study were;

1. To examine the level of participation by the people in the projects funded by the devolved funds in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.
2. To identify the factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.
3. To evaluate the effects of devolved funding on the socio-economic welfare in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

## **1.5 Justification of the Study**

The findings of this study are of importance to various groups, which include academicians and researchers, county governments the national government and policy makers.

The national government, county government and policy makers could use the findings of this study to evaluate the effect of devolution on community development, which could help to improve on existing research policies.

To the general public in Kenya the findings of this study provide information on their role in the implementation of devolution. The study also educates the general public on the positive and negative effects of devolution on community development.

It is expected that the study contributes to the existing literature in addressing future research problems. The study adds to the existing knowledge on devolution and its effect on development. The study also forms a base upon which other studies can be conducted on the effect of devolution on community development.

### **1.6 Scope and Limitations of the Study**

This study was limited to Githunguri constituency, Kiambu County. The study used qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection. Primary data was collected using questionnaires and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). The target populations comprised female and male youths Githunguri Constituency, local leaders, technical officers from both government and non-government organizations, and political leaders at the constituency level. The study determined how economic development and social service responses in Githunguri constituency match up with the implementation of general principles of devolution by identifying the factors that affect the full implementation of devolution in the Constituency. The study also sought to establish the link between devolution and community development in the Constituency. The study faced a number of limitations. First, the interpretations of the questionnaires was subjected to the respondents' understandings and perceptions on the subject matter and the honesty in responding to all the questions. The respondents' background and different knowledge and exposure may have influenced their interpretation of the questionnaires. The researcher overcame this by administering both open ended and closed questions as well as by using interview schedules for the community members.

## **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents a review of literature in relation to the objectives of this study. The chapter begins with empirical literature followed by an identification of research gaps, theoretical framework, and conceptual framework.

### **2.2 The concept of devolution**

Devolution is seen as one of the appropriate ways through which people's participation in governance is attainable. Further, devolution is perceived as the transfer of public authority and resources including personnel from national to sub-national jurisdictions (Jiwaji, 2014).

As a governance tool, devolution herein also called decentralization is based on the principle of subsidiarity, which assigns specific functions hitherto conducted by the centre (of an entity) to the lowest feasible subcentres on the periphery. In government, such distribution of responsibilities could involve any one or more (among many) responsibilities, including problem identification, policy making, planning, revenue generation, budget execution, accounting and auditing, and monitoring and evaluation (Williams & Mooney, 2008). An underlying logic behind decentralization is that it enlarges subnational participation in decision making over interventions, and consequently enhances their local relevance and citizen participation in implementation. These measures should then expand the scope for efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

Decentralization has three fundamental dimensions, which may occur independently or jointly: the administrative, the political and the fiscal. Administrative decentralization transfers responsibility of functions from a central agency to one or more of its lower levels internally, or

to peripheral agencies, such as a state corporation – which may itself also transfer responsibilities to subordinate agencies. Political decentralization separates powers and responsibilities horizontally or vertically (Willett & Giovannini, 2014). In these instances, decentralization is between or among agencies of comparable status, such as the executive, legislature and judiciary, or vertically to agencies that relate hierarchically, such as local authorities. Finally, fiscal decentralization involves changing the locus of revenue generation, primarily, but also offers expenditure autonomy. Through this dimension, the central agency assigns some revenue generation responsibilities to subnational agencies, whether the product enters the central kitty or is retained at the collecting agency for local spending.

### **2.3 Devolution in Kenya**

Kenyatta's dislike of the *Majimbo* system provided for in the independence constitution meant that his government dithered in financing the operation of regional assemblies and governments, as it lobbied KADU politicians to abandon the devolved approach to national development (Gardner, 2010). The successful lobbying led to the disbandment of elected regional assemblies and their complementary regional governments by the launch of the independence development blueprint, Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1965. The mid 1960s saw the transfer of the delivery of core social services from local authorities to central government ministries. The core agenda of Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1965 at the subnational level – eradicating poverty, disease and ignorance – would be coordinated by the ubiquitous Provincial Administration composed of civil servants employed on permanent and pensionable terms. Within LAs with a diminished service delivery role, elected politicians (chairs and mayors) would preside over civil servants (such as town clerks, treasurers, education and health officers, and physical planners) who constituted the respective LA executives (Indeche and Ayuma, 2015),



Kenya's short-lived devolution experience, provided for in the 1963 Constitution, had lacked a substantive founding in the philosophies of either its sponsor KADU or the victorious KANU, which subsequently had the responsibility of implementing it. Conversely, the 2010 Constitution including its Chapter 11 on devolution was the product of an extensively consultative, decade-long process (Wehner, 2000).

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 upon promulgation and enactment changed the Governance structure from a centralized unit to devolved sub-units known as the County Governments. It was expected that the onset of these devolved governments after the 2013 Elections and enactment of subsidiary laws would address development challenges of the centralized governance that Kenya has faced since independence (Khaunya, Wawire & Chepng'eno, 2015). Indeed currently, there is a deliberate effort by the National Government to equitably distribute resources through County Government quota disbursements. There is evidence of increased accountability arising from efforts of relevant 'watchdog' institutions and also community participation in development matters through appropriate institutional frameworks.

However, despite these apparent positive realizations through County Governments' establishments in Kenya, they to a larger extent seem to have been overshadowed and threatened by a number of challenges, four years after the enactment of the Constitution and a year into their decentralized functionality after the 2013 General Elections (Simiyu & Mweru, 2014). Currently, most media houses in Kenya are awash with negative reports about the County Governments that the impression given is that this form of decentralization in Kenya could be a false start if not a total failure. For example, there has been several attempts to impeach several governors due to impropriety. These include the Embu County governor, Kitui County governor, Nyeri County governor and Murang'a County governor. The recently released Auditor General's report

screams of massive impropriety in many Counties, a section of Governors have been summoned by the Senate to account for some specified allegations, striking citizens in some Counties over one issue or another, boycotts due to 'irregular' appointments by respective County Public Service Boards, the list is endless (Ndung'u, 2014).

## **2.4 Empirical Literature**

This section presents an empirical review of literature on the objectives of the study. It comprise of literature on the level of participation by the people in the projects funded by the devolved funds, factors affecting the implementation of devolution and effects of devolved funding on the socio-economic welfare.

### **2.4.1 Community Participation in the Projects Funded by the Devolved Funds**

In Kenya, public participation is both a key promise and provision of the Constitution of Kenya. It is instilled in the national values and principles of governance stipulated in article 10. The Legislature and Executive at both national and county levels are required to engage the public in the processes of policy making, monitoring and implementation (Jesuit Hakimani Centre, 2013). Even though the Constitution has expressly provided for public participation in governance processes at both national and county levels of government, there has been very minimal citizen participation and/or involvement since the promulgation of the constitution (Wamalwa, 2013). In the devolved system of governance, where planning, coordination, budgeting, execution, monitoring and evaluation are done at county level, enhanced citizen participation is critical in order to ensure transparency and accountability thereby facilitating optimal application of resources to address such social ills as poverty, illiteracy, corruption and insecurity (Transparency International, 2016).

According to a study conducted by Transparency International (2016) only 15% of Kenyans have participated in citizen consultation forums at the county level in the last 12 months. In addition, only 38% of Kenyans had heard about the forums, demonstrating that county governments have not done enough to broaden channels of communication to publicize such forums and engage with the public. On the other hand, members of the public should be proactive in claiming their space to actualize the objects of devolution.

In a study on the community participation in the management of development projects in Kilgoris Constituency, Kwena (2013) found that there was very low community participation and limited awareness in development projects. The study also found that in order for the government to achieve maximum community participation in development projects, the County governments are obliged to create an enabling environment for community participation, which includes amongst others addressing the institutional obstacles and the capacity gaps within the community. In another study on women's participation in devolved funds in Bungoma County, Wamalwa (2013) found that there was more uptake of roles at all levels of development projects, and the barriers that had characterized lack or minimalist participation were slowly being tamed. Women are now participating in county development projects at all levels right from decision making to implementation, constraints to participation such as retrogressive beliefs are slowly losing face, more women are enrolling in schools to get educationally empowered so as to compete at par with men, as well as acquainting themselves with the legal guidelines touching on their roles in development activities.

#### **2.4.2 Factors Affecting the Implementation of Devolution**

The implementation of devolution cannot be conducted completely alienated from the forces of politics. Thus, according to Tadlock et al. (2005), in the U.S., devolution has so often been the

cause for major inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances etc. Such inequalities can only be reduced by fiscal equalization and a major guarantee for equal distribution of good public services within the entire federation. Many states also fear that autonomy will become the first step for the final secession. Autonomous units may build up a proper identity and thus compete with the identity of the federal state. Such development may create loyalty conflicts of different citizens.

Federal units, which built up on the diversity of their majority, may on the other hand discriminate minorities, which may even belong on federal level to the majority. In this case majorities might strongly oppose any real devolution. Thus too much autonomy especially with regard to security of minorities may endanger the weak minorities in certain federal units.

There are many factors affecting devolution on a global scale. First, the central provision of public goods and services may be more efficient if economies of scale and/or economies of scope exist. Critics of devolution such as Birrell (2008) contend that there appears to be a critical mass of income, population, and activities that are necessary before the benefits of decentralization can be realized. Since this mass is more easily achievable at the national than at the subnational level, central government may be the most cost-efficient provider of some public goods and services. In particular, if the administrative units in a decentralized system are too small, they will incur diseconomies of scale and thereby larger per unit costs.

Another factor confronting devolved systems is related to the difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way (Sheely, 2012). If, as is often the case, ambiguity exists regarding the responsibilities and functions of different tiers of government, complexity increases and the possible benefits of greater transparency and accountability disappear. Under

such circumstances, citizens are unable to distinguish between responsibilities of each level of government and are thus less likely to exert pressures for a more efficient delivery of services. Consequently a devolved system would imply greater costs of coordination among government tiers to avoid duplication or undersupply of public goods and services, and may also imply greater incentives for revenue maximization at all levels of government (Ansari et al., 2011).

A third point is that devolution entails a transfer of powers from national to local elites, raising the possibility of exacerbating corruption through the enhancement of relations based on proximity between officials and private individuals or local interest groups (Kim & Fording, 2008). In cases of limited local accountability or weak civil society, local officials who have greater discretion and opportunity in a devolved system may be subservient to the needs of local elites particularly when under direct pressure. Several authors (e.g Heintze, 2002; Kim & Fording, 2008; Sheely, 2012) have noted that since central governments generally offer higher salaries and promotion opportunities, they are better at attracting skilled personnel. Hence their capacity to monitor corruption as a means to reduce malfeasance is generally greater than at the regional or local government level. Moreover central government officers more often lack the relations of proximity with those governed and thus may, in theory, be less prone to corruption than local or regional government officials.

Finally, as Dewees, Lobao & Swanson (2003) indicate, the tendency of devolved systems to operate under 'soft budget constraints' – i.e. the tendency of subnational governments to run large fiscal deficits with little fear of sanction (Burch, et al., 2005) – leads to medium and long-term economic inefficiency. The frequent perception by lower tiers of government that central government will provide a bailout in the case of excessive spending or debt encourages

'reckless' expenditure and, in many cases, an inefficient (over) supply of goods and services (Haughton, Counsell & Vigar, 2008).

### **2.4.3 Role of Devolution in Community Development**

#### **2.4.3.1 Devolution of Structures**

According to Mitchell (2001), devolution creates variation in governance. Variation in the relationships between central government, local government and community agents is considerable (Danson & Lloyd, 2012).

For example, in China devolution has been a success. China has focused on fiscal devolution and has experienced improved community development. Devolution began with a shift of the tax collection duty from central government to sub-national governments in the early 1980s. As a result, some sub-national authorities were conferred with the rights for their own budgets and to manage their own finance (Condor, 2010). In 1994, China got its fiscal reform to correct some errors in the early stage of fiscal decentralization, mainly the abolition of the traditional formula of central to province fiscal transfers to a gradual negotiation based contracting (Ciobotaru, 2013).

China is a huge country in terms of both its geographical and population scale. It comprises of many different levels of governments. According to Bockmeyer (2003), the sub-national governments totaled around 50 thousand units, viz. 31sheng (provinces)/zizhiqu/zhixiashi (direct-ruled municipalities), 333 prefectures, 2148 counties and 48697 townships and a unique hierarchical administrative structure. In addition, there are 56 different ethnics concentrated or spread across provinces in China. The central government by no means could not deliver efficient policy to meet the local needs in this perspective, even without considering satisfying

local needs when designing policies. In this perspective, devolution was expected to bring a significant opportunity for Chinese citizenship to raise their voice, and participate in development decision making. This has been the case in china evidenced by the vast developments witnessed (Connelly, 2010).

Another instance is South Africa, a country that has a devolved system of government having regional governments headed by a premier. The national government retains supervisory and oversight roles. However, the national congress has representation from the regional (provincial) governments both in the cabinet and assembly. Gauteng is one of the nine provinces of South Africa experiencing high population growth rate, but is considered the economic hub of South Africa, which contributes heavily in the financial, manufacturing, transport and telecommunication (Bartley et al., 2008). What made this province successful is zoning and proper use of local resources within the various devolution levels. It has also identified key, unique municipal strengths and their use and has had a strategy for municipalities to align development plans, avoid competitive behavior, share resources and encourage idea generation to reduce poverty (Bardhan & Mookherjee 2006).

#### **2.4.3.2 Decentralization of Funds**

In Brazil, economic development has been achieved through devolution. Brazil has a long history of federalism going back to the nineteenth century, when a federal republic was established in 1889 (Bockmeyer, 2003). Since then, devolutionary trends in Brazil have largely followed political cycles, with authoritarian spells favoring a greater centralization of power and democratization being closely associated with devolution. Thus, today Brazil is one of the most decentralized democracies in the developing world, with subnational governments accounting for about half of public expenditure (Bockmeyer, 2003). The country consists of 26 states plus the

Federal District of Brasilia, which are represented in the Chamber of Deputies based on population and in the Senate on an equal basis of three senators per state. Brazilian states are responsible for a wide and expanding range of taxation, expenditure and investment functions, and are the only known subnational units along with Canadian provinces to administer their own value-added tax, called the ICMS.

In Brazil, the pursuit of economic development strategies at the local level did indeed coincide with the country's recent devolutionary trend. Subnational governments' participation in the promotion of local economic development has surged dramatically over the last decade. A survey reveals that by 2001, 35 percent of the country's municipalities had implemented some type of fiscal incentive program and 52 percent had implemented some type of employment or income generation program (Biderman & Barberia, 2005). Most importantly, studies have shown that this new trend of the growing presence of decentralized development initiatives can largely be attributed to Brazil being one of the countries to give the most autonomy to municipal governments (Biderman & Barberia, 2005).

Thus, in the context of empowering local development strategies, devolution has, arguably, made a positive contribution to economic development in Brazil.

In Uganda, fiscal transfers have increased nearly sevenfold over the decade. However, in the 2005/2006 fiscal year, the Graduated Tax (g-tax), which was almost the only independent source of revenues for local authorities, was abolished. It undermined the form of accountability that was about to emerge between tax payers and service providers. Furthermore, although the central government promised to compensate for the loss of the g-tax, only less than half of it has been compensated for (Ansari et al., 2011).



In South Africa, financial decentralization has remained strong. The fact that negotiations about grants often take place between fellow technical experts rather than politicians also plays a role in preventing interference with party political motivations. This is partly because South Africa's large cities are mainly self-financing (Bartley et al. 2008). In fact Johannesburg relies on grants for only fifteen per cent of its budget, and Cape Town for just eight per cent. Consequently major cities in South Africa can by and large make their own spending decisions.

In Kenya, some devolved funds have enhanced service delivery, and more devolved funds have been introduced such as the Youth Enterprise Fund and the Women's' Enterprise Fund in budget 2007/08. With regard to social services, each County government has faced the need to create socially, economically and environmentally sustainable frameworks for service delivery with increased revenue raised by the counties themselves. According to the World Bank's estimates, devolution will see Counties been responsible for functions that cost about 30% of total revenues—more than what they are guaranteed by the Constitution. Some of the gap will be filled by revenues raised directly by Counties themselves.

#### **2.4.4 Effect of Devolution on Social Economic Welfare**

Socio-economic development is a concept whereby the development stakeholders envision helping in improving quality of life, to support empowerment of the local ordinary people, to develop or preserve the local assets, to overcome market failures, to strengthen cohesion, and to define and deliver grass-root development projects (Nyakiongora, 2013). The initiatives touted in such a direction are usually area-specific integrated strategies that help to mobilize a big number of local stakeholders. This means that devolution is an important tool to achieve socio-economic development.

Simiyu, Mweru and Omete (2015) conducted a study on the effects of devolved funding on socio-economic welfare of Kenyans Kimilili Constituency. A descriptive survey design was used. A total of 98 respondents were selected through the census approach. The results of the study show that CDF plays an important role in social economic aspects of the lives of the locals and calls for policy makers to improve on management of the devolved funds. In a strive to provide access to clean water; Kimilili constituency through CDF has supported various water projects which include piped water, digging of bore holes, springs protection, dams' rehabilitation and erection of water tanks in schools. In addition, employment has been created to the locals though in a smaller scale. Specific areas where employment has been created through CDF include: CDF office staffs, Supply of materials and services to CDF projects (mainly manual jobs which are temporary) and allowances for various CDFC members.

In Mbeere South Constituency, Ngiri and Nyaribo (2016) carried out a study on the effect of constituency development fund on socio-economic development. A quantitative descriptive design was adopted. The results indicated that education bursaries and direct employment interventions took the lead in effecting development. The study also found that job creation projects, social welfare projects and infrastructure development projects play a major role in improvement of socio-economic development in Mbeere South Constituency. In Kajiado North Constituency, Nyakiongora (2013) found that the variation of divisional growth in terms of education, health, water/sanitation, security, roads, financial support and electricity can influence the SMEs growth and returns. The improved road network has opened new regions that were initially inaccessible and also enabled the small scale farmers and pastoralist to deliver their produce to markets where they fetch better prices. In addition,. SMEs that are near the CDF

projects find it easier and cost-effective to operate in terms of access to goods/services and consumers.

## **2.5 Theoretical Framework**

This study was anchored on two theories, namely; theory of balanced growth and theory of unbalanced growth.

### **2.5.1 Theory of Balanced Growth**

The balanced growth theory is an economic theory pioneered by the economist Ragnar Nurkse (1907–1959). This theory perceives the main obstacles to development in the narrow market and, thus, in the limited market opportunities. Under these circumstances, only a bundle of complementary investments realized at the same time has the chance of creating mutual demand. The theory refers to Say's theorem and requests investments in such sectors which have a high relation between supply, purchasing power, and demand as in consumer goods industry, food production among others (Cypher & Dietz, 2008).

The real bottleneck in breaking the narrow market is seen in the shortage of capital, and, therefore, all potential sources have to be mobilized. If capital is available, investments will be made. However, in order to ensure the balanced growth, there is a need for investment planning by the governments (Merrifield, 2010).

Development is seen as expansion of market and an increase of production including agriculture. The possibility of structural hindrances is not included in the line of thinking, as are market dependencies (Meyer & Kirby, 2012). The emphasis is on capital investment, not on the ways and means of achieving capital formation. It is assumed that, in a traditional society, there is

ability and willingness for rational investment decisions along the requirements of the theory. As this will most likely be limited to small sectors of the society, it is not unlikely that this approach will lead to super-imposing a modern sector on the traditional economy, i.e., to economic dualism.

Fernando (2009) supports the theory of balanced growth by indicating that as a result of low demand for goods, the inducement for investment is less and capital equipment per capita (i.e., per worker) is small. Since the amount of capital per capita is small, productivity per worker is low. Low per capita productivity means low per capita income, that is, poverty. This completes the vicious circle of poverty. In a poor country, the size of the market for goods is small so that sufficient opportunities for profitable investment in industries are lacking.

This theory is pertinent to this study as it gives insight on how county governments should make their investment decision for the betterment of the community's well-being. Such investments can be done in sectors which have a high relation between supply, purchasing power, and demand as in consumer goods industry and food production (Whitworth & Whitworth, 2010).

### **2.5.2 Theory of Unbalanced Growth**

Contrary to the theory of balanced growth, in Hirschman's opinion, the real bottleneck is not the shortage of capital, but lack of entrepreneurial abilities (Gardiner et al., 2013). Potential entrepreneurs are hindered in their decision-making by institutional factors: either group considerations play a -great role and hinder the potential entrepreneur, or entrepreneurs aim at personal gains at the cost of others and are thus equally detrimental to development. In view of the lack of entrepreneurial abilities there is a need for a mechanism of incentive and pressure which will automatically result in the required decisions. According to Khakee (2014), not a

balanced growth should be aimed at, but rather existing imbalances— whose symptoms are profit and losses—must be maintained. Investments should not be spread evenly but concentrated in such projects in which they cause additional investments because of their backward and forward linkages without being too demanding on entrepreneurial abilities. Manufacturing industries and import substitutions are relevant examples. These first investments initiate further investments which are made by less qualified entrepreneurs. Thus, the strategy overcomes the bottleneck of entrepreneurial ability. The theory gives no hints as to how the attitude of entrepreneurs and their institutional influence will be changed in time (Batabyal & Nijkamp, 2013).

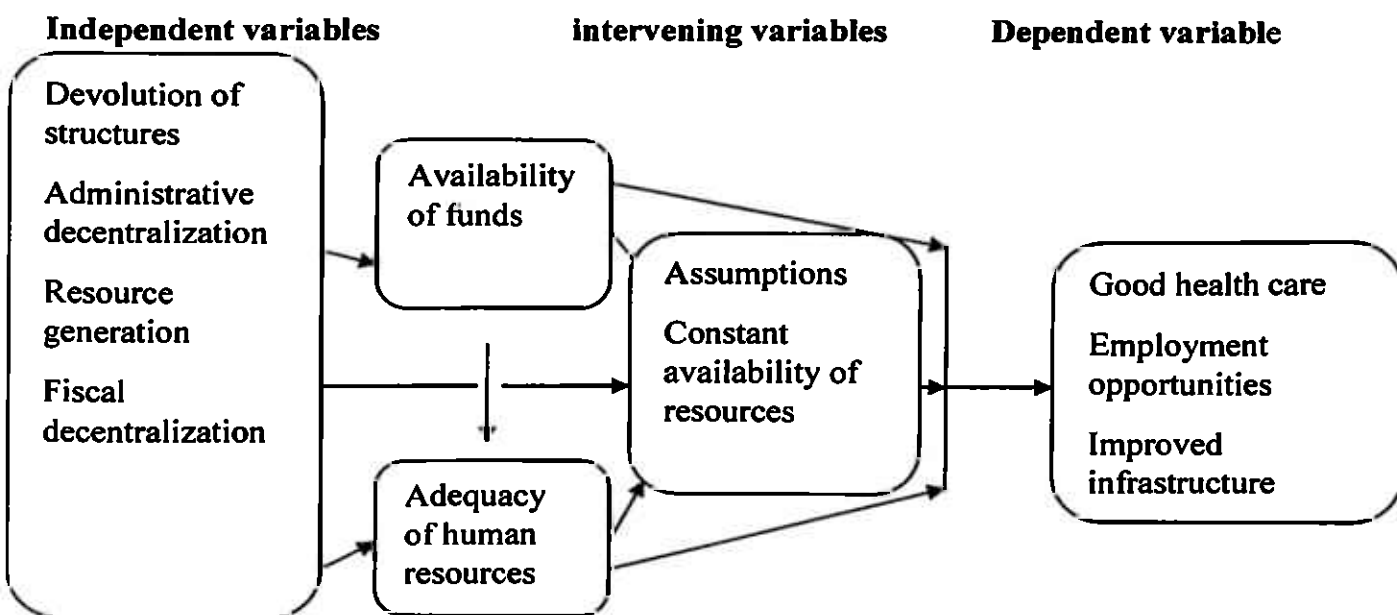
This theory is also significant and relevant as it is offering a completely different perspective on how to achieve balanced growth. It states that the most important and influential factor is the existence of entrepreneurial skills. The theory suggests that pressure should not be exerted on the available entrepreneurial abilities rather investments should be done on additional investments since their backward and forward linkages without being too demanding on entrepreneurial abilities.

## **2.6 Conceptual framework**

Kothari (2004) define conceptual framework as a structure that defines the interrelationship between variables deemed important in a study. He further explains that is expresses the researcher's views about the constructs deemed important in a study. In this study the researcher viewed community development as subject to facilitation by devolution. The independent variables, which include devolution structures, administrative decentralization, devolution policies, and fiscal decentralization influence availability of funds and adequacy of human

resources in county governments. As indicated in figure 2.1, the five independent variables have an influence on the dependent variable, which is community development. However, the success of the independent variables in influencing community development is influenced by the intervening variables like availability of funds and adequacy of human resources. In addition, availability of funds and adequacy of human resources can on their own influence role differentiations and performance, which in turn influences various aspects of community development.

**Figure 2. 1: Conceptual Framework**



**Source: Author (2016)**

## 2.7 Operationalization

Operationalization is the process of strictly defining variables into measurable factors. In this study, the independent variables included devolution structures, administrative decentralization, resource generation, fiscal decentralization, resource mobilization and community development. The indicators of devolution structures include development of county assemblies, county assemblies, senate and devolvement of services. In addition administrative decentralization was measured in terms of movement of power from national government to county governments, distribution of authority, decentralization of civil service and transfer of responsibility for the planning and management of certain public functions from the central government. The indicators of resource generation in county governments include new local taxation policies, funding by donors and borrowing. Further, fiscal decentralization was measured in terms of allocation of fund to county governments, change of responsibility over resources and fiscal Capacity and Trade-offs. Lastly, community development was measured in terms of poverty reduction, service delivery and infrastructure development like roads and electricity.

**Table 2. 1: Operationalization Table**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
Devolution structures	County assemblies services board
	County governments
	County assemblies
	Senate
	Devolvement of services
Administrative decentralization	Movement of power from national government to

	county governments
	Redistribution of authority
	Decentralization of civil service
	Transfer of responsibility for the planning and management of certain public functions from the central government
Resource generation	New local taxation policies
	Funding by donors
	Borrowing
Fiscal decentralization	Allocation of fund to county governments
	Change of responsibility over resources
	Fiscal Capacity and Trade-offs
Community development	Poverty reduction
	Service delivery
	Infrastructure development like roads and electricity



## **CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter provides a description of the methodology that will be used in the study. It focuses on the site description, research design, the target population, the sample size and sampling technique, data collection instruments pilot test, data collection procedures and data analysis.

### **3.2 Site Description**

Githunguri Constituency is an electoral constituency in Kenya. It is one of five constituencies in Kiambu County. The constituency was established for the 1963 elections. As per the 2009 census the constituency had a population of 154,891 and 39350 households. In addition, the constituency has five wards, namely; Githiga, Githunguri, Ikinu, Komothai and Ngewa. Githunguri Constituency is one of the most agriculturally productive regions in the Central Kenya region. Once under the larger Kiambu County, Githunguri is listed by the Kenya Dairy Board as the leading producer of milk. The district has agricultural-economic potential that can sustain its rural population. The district, too, is renowned for coffee and tea production.

### **3.3 Research Design**

It was a cross sectional study that utilized both qualitative and quantitative data. Cross-sectional studies are observational in nature and are known as descriptive research, not causal or relational (Kothari, 2004). Researchers record the information that is present in a population, but they do not manipulate variables. This type of research is used to describe characteristics that exist in a population. On the other hand, descriptive research design involves gathering data that describe events and then organizes, tabulates, depicts, and describes the data collection and often uses

visual aids such as graphs and charts to help the reader in understanding data distribution. In addition, according to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), descriptive research is designed to provide a picture of a situation as it naturally happens. For the purpose of this study, descriptive research was used to obtain a picture of the effect of devolution and neo-liberalism on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

### **3.4 Unit of Analysis and Unit of Observation**

#### **3.4.1 Unit of Analysis**

The unit of analysis is the major entity that is being analyzed in the study. It is the 'what' or 'whom' that is being studied. In social science research, typical units of analysis include individuals (most common), groups, social organizations and social artifacts. In this research study, the unit of analysis was the effect of devolution and neoliberalism on community development.

#### **3.4.1 Units Observation**

According to Creswell (2008), a unit of observation is an object about which information is collected. The unit of observation in this study was household heads and sub chiefs in Githunguri Constituency.

### **3.5 Target Population**

Cooper and Schindler, (2006), define target population as a group of interest from which the individual participants or objects from which the measurement is taken. Target population is therefore the entire population to whom the results of the study would be generalized. According to Ngechu (2004), a population is a well-defined or set of people, services, elements, events,

group of things or households that are being investigated. There are 39350 households in Githunguri Constituency. In this study the target population was therefore 39350 household heads.

**Table 3. 1: Households Distribution**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Population</b>
Githiga	6,979
Githunguri	9,721
Ikinu	6,532
Komothai	8,584
Ngewa	7,534
Sub-Total	39350

### **3.6 Sample Size and Sampling Technique**

Sampling is a process of selecting the object or cases to be included in the study as representatives of the target population. According to Creswell (2008) the sample size depends on the variables in the study, the type of research and methods of data analysis and the size of the accessible population. Sampling was done for households heads. However, since the number of MCAs (5) and sub-chiefs (20) is small they were all included in the study.

To determine the households heads sample size for study used Fisher (1998) sample size determination formula within  $\pm 5\%$  points with 95% confidence, with  $p = 0.5$  ( $q=1-p$ ),  $e=0.05$ ,  $\alpha =0.05$  and  $Z=1.96$

$$n = \frac{z^2 pq}{e^2}$$

Then

$$n = \frac{(1.96 \times 1.96) \times 0.5 \times 0.5}{0.05 \times 0.05}$$

$$n = 384.16$$

Hence  $n = 384$

The study then used stratified random sampling to select 384 household heads from the population. Stratified sampling is a probability sampling technique wherein the researcher divides the entire population into different subgroups or strata, then randomly selects the final subjects proportionally from the different strata. The sample size of this study was therefore 384 household heads.

**Table 3. 2: Sample Size**

Location	Population	Sample Size
Githiga	6,979	68
Githunguri	9,721	95
Ikinu	6,532	64
Komothai	8,584	84
Ngewa	7,534	73
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>39350</b>	<b>384</b>

The study also used purposive sampling to select on 5 chiefs from the five locations in Githunguri Constituency as Key Informants.

### **3.7 Data Collection Methods**

#### **3.7.1 Data Collection Instruments**

The study made use of mainly primary data. Primary data according to Creswell (2005) is the data collected for the first time. Thus, both semi-structured questionnaires and Key Informants Interview Guides were used in the collection of the primary data. According to Greener (2008), the structured questions is used in an effort to conserve time and money as well as to facilitate an easier analysis as they are in immediate usable form; while the unstructured questions are used as they encourage the respondent to give an in-depth and felt response without feeling held back in revealing of any information.

On the other hand, key informant interviews are qualitative in-depth interviews with people who know what is going on in the community in relation to a particular subject. The purpose of key informant interviews is to collect information from a wide range of people who have firsthand knowledge about the community. Key informants in this study were 5 chiefs from the five locations in Githunguri Constituency.

#### **3.7.2 Data collection procedures**

Before data collection, the researcher obtained a letter of introduction from the University of Nairobi Department of Sociology and Social Work, which was transmitted to respondents to communicate the identity of the researcher. In addition, the purpose, duration and potential use of the research results were clarified to the respondents . During the fieldwork interviews were carried out with only those who agree to participate in the study. Informants were also informed of their rights to withdraw at any stage of the study. The information that the researcher received

was treated with confidentiality and also names of the respondents were not used or mentioned in the study.

### **3.8 Pilot Test**

Pilot survey is a small scale replica and rehearsal of the main study. It assists in determining the suitability and ease of use of the research instruments and the operational aspects of administering the questionnaires. The study tool was pre-tested at Kiambu town constituency this was because it has similar characteristics with Githunguri constituency. This gave feedback to the researcher on whether all the areas required in the study were captured well and amendments were made on the study tools in readiness for the actual study.

#### **3.8.1 Research Instruments Validity**

According to Creswell (2005) validity is the degree to which results acquired from process of analysis of the data actually embodies the phenomenon under study. There were two types of validity used in this study: content validity and face validity. Face validity refers to probability that a question is misinterpreted or misunderstood. According to Cooper and Schindler (2006) pre-testing is a proper way to increase the possibility of face validity. On the other hand, content validity, also referred to as logical *validity*, refers to the degree to which a measure depicts all facets of a given social construct. In this study, the content validity was improved by seeking the opinions of experts in the field of study, particularly the supervisors. Also, the face validity of the research instrument was improved by carrying out a pilot test and changing any unclear and ambiguous question.

### **3.8.2 Research Instruments Reliability**

Reliability is the degree to which a research instrument produces stable and consistent results (Greener, 2008). In this study, a reliability test was used to establish the ability of the questionnaire to produce consistent result. The reliability of the questionnaires was measured by measuring the internal consistency technique. Internal consistency techniques were measured by use of Cronbach's Alpha. Coefficient of 0.6-0.7 is a commonly accepted rule of thumb that indicates acceptable reliability and 0.8 or higher indicated good reliability (Robinson, 2009)

### **3.9 Data Analysis**

Data analysis process entails the process of packaging the collected data, putting it in order and structuring its major elements in a way that the results can be easily and efficiently communicated (Cooper & Schindler, 2006). Quantitative data was obtained from the structured questions in the questionnaire while Qualitative data was obtained from the open ended questions in the questionnaire, and the interview guides.

Quantitative data in the structured questions was analyzed using the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS version 20). Prior to the analysis, a codebook for the various quantitative variables were prepared based on the numbering system of the questionnaires. All the questionnaires were numbered before data collection for ease of referencing. All the quantitative variables were chronologically arranged to ensure that the correct code is entered for each variable. By using the coded variable number and the questionnaire number, it is easy to identify and rectify mistakes performed during data entry. Data cleaning was then followed where unnecessary. After verifying that all data entered is correct, descriptive statistics were used to

analyze quantitative data. Descriptive statistics include percentages, frequency distribution and measures of central tendencies (mean). The data was then presented in tables and graphs. Descriptive statistics enable the researcher to meaningfully describe distribution of measurements and to also describe, organize and summarize data (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003).

On the other hand, qualitative data was coded accordingly and analyzed by use of content analysis. The results from the qualitative data were then be presented in a prose form.



## **CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION**

### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter focuses on data analysis, results presentation and interpretation. The general objective of this study was to establish the effect of devolution on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County. The study also sought to determine how economic development and social service responses in Githunguri constituency match up with the implementation of general principles of devolution; to identify the factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County; and to establish the link between devolution and community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County. The research findings were presented in form of tables, graphs and charts.

The calculated sample size for this study was 384 household heads in Githunguri Constituency, out of which 328 filled and returned their questionnaires, and 5 key informants interviews were carried out while 51 questionnaires were not returned. Overall, the response rate is about 86.7%. According to Babbie (2002) any response of 50% and above is adequate for analysis. Thus the response of 86.7% is very significant for the analysis.

### **4.2 General Information**

The general information of the respondents comprised of their location, gender, age bracket and their highest level of Education

#### **4.2.1 Respondents' Location**

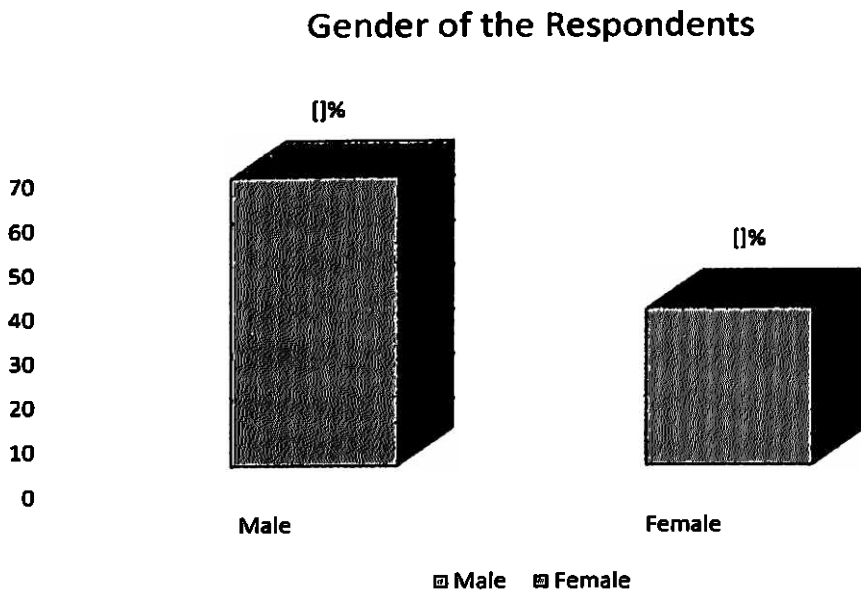
The community members were also requested to indicate their location. The results were as shown in the figure below. From the findings, 35.1% of the community members indicated that

they came from Ngewa location, 24.7% came from Githunguri location, 18.2% came from Ikinu location, 11.7% came from Githiga location and 10.4% came from Komothai location. This shows that most of the respondents came from Ngewa location.

#### 4.2.2 Gender of the Respondents

The community members were asked to indicate their gender. The results were as shown in figure 4.2 below. From the findings, 64.9% of the community members indicated that they were male while 35.1% indicated that they were female. This shows that most of the community members involved in thi study were male. According to Bardhan and Mookherjee (2006) men and women view development projects differently. Men will look at development in terms of infrastructures such as roads, businesses and electricity while women look at development from the perspective of water accessibility, healthcare facilities accessibility and schools.

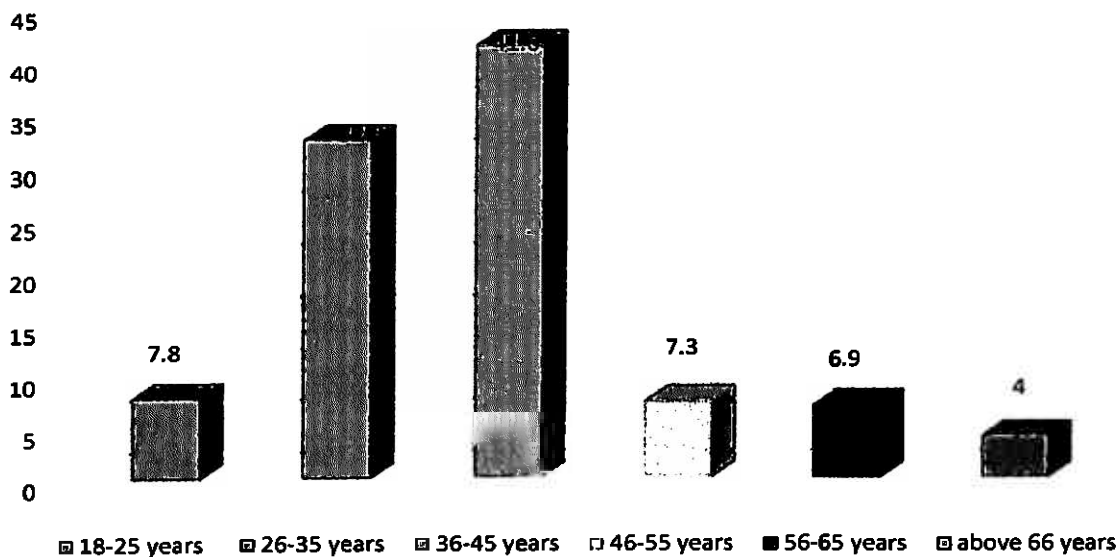
**Figure 4.1: Gender of the Respondents**



### 4.2.3 Respondents' age bracket

The community members were also asked to indicate their age bracket. The results were as shown in the figure below. According to the findings, 41.6% of the community members indicated that they were aged between 36 and 45 years, 32.5% indicated that they were aged between 25 and 35 years, 7.3% indicated that they were 46-55 years, 6.9% were 56-65 years, 4% were above 65 years and 7.8% indicated that they were below 25 years in age. These findings show that most of the community members were aged between 36 and 45 years. The age of community members influences their views on social and economic development projects. Young people will look at development in terms factors like ICT infrastructure while older people will focus on schools, healthcare facilities, market accessibility among others.

**Figure 4. 1: Respondents' age bracket**

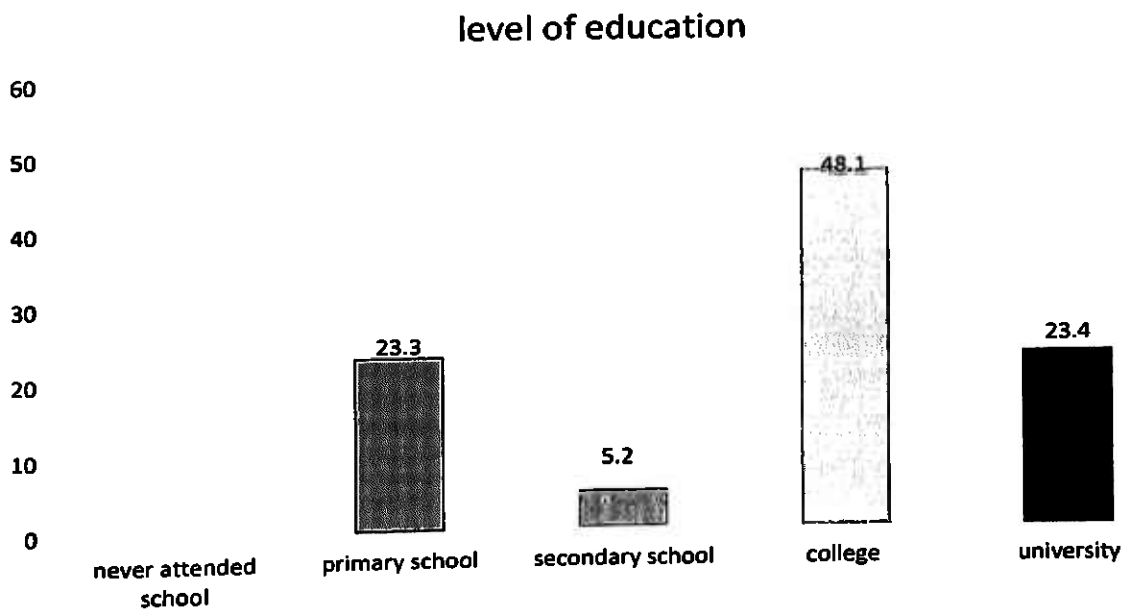


(N=328)

#### 4.2.4 Highest Level of Education

The community members were further asked to indicate their highest level of education. The results were as shown in figure 4.3 below. From the findings, 48.1% of the community members indicated that they had college education, 23.4% indicated that they had university education, 5.2 % had secondary school education, and 23.3 % only attained primary school education. More educated community members will have knowledge on development projects that will improve the quality of life and livelihood as compared to less educated community members.

**Figure 4. 2: Highest Level of Education**



(N=328)

### **4.3 The Influence of Devolved Funds on Community Development**

#### **4.3.1 Existing Funding Projects**

From the findings, 61.9% of the respondents indicated that the existing funding projects were constituency development funds, 31% indicated that they were bursary funds, 4.8% indicated that they were poverty eradication funds and 2.4% indicated that they were local authority funds.

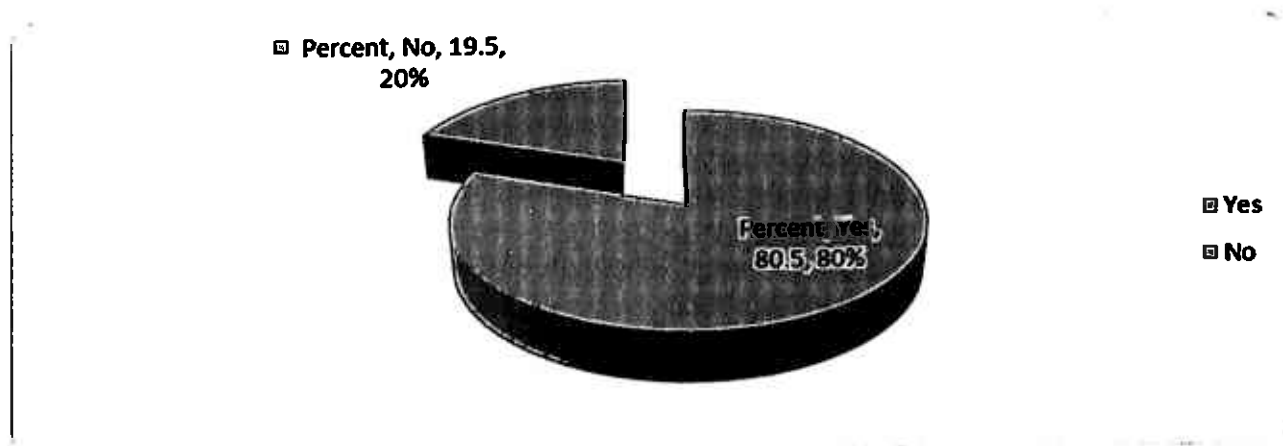
Table 4. 1: Existing Funding Projects

<b>Existing Devolved funds</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Constituency development funds	234	61.9
Bursary funds	78	31.0
Local authority fund	6	2.4
Poverty eradication funds	10	4.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

#### **4.3.2 Knowledge on Social and Economic Development Projects**

The community members were asked to indicate whether they knew of any social and economic development projects that have been initiated in their constituency since the onset of devolution. The results were as show in figure 4.4 below. From the findings, 80.5% of the community members indicated that they knew of social and economic development projects that have been initiated in their constituency since the onset of devolution while 19.5% disagreed. From these findings were can deduce that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution.

**Figure 4. 3: Knowledge on Social and Economic Development Projects**



(N=328)

#### **4.3.3 Demographic Information and Knowledge on Social and economic Development Projects**

From the findings, 80% of the male respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 20% of them disagreed. In addition, 81.5% of the female respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 18.5% disagreed.

From the findings, 66.7% of the respondents aged below 25 years indicated that they knew about social and economic development projects. the constituency since devolution while 33.3% of them disagreed. Further, 76% of the respondents aged between 25 and 35 indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the formation of county Governments, while 24% disagreed. In addition 90.6% of the respondents aged between 36 and 45 years indicated that there were also social and

economic development projects in the constituency while 24% disagreed. Finally, 71.4% of the respondents aged 46 years and above indicated there were developments in their constituency however, 28.6% disagreed on the same.

Further from the findings, 75% of the postgraduate respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since devolution while 25% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of Bachelor holders respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri Constituency since devolution. Further, 83.8% of the Diploma holder respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects in the constituency while 16.2% of them disagreed. Finally, 77.8% of the certificate graduants respondents indicated that there social economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

**Table 4. 2: Demographic Information and Knowledge on Social and economic Development Projects**

			Knowledge on Social and economic Development Projects(existence of projects initiated after devolution)		Total	
			Yes	No		
Gender	male	Count	160	40	200	
		Percent	80.0%	20.0%	100.0%	
	female	Count	88	20	108	
		Percent	81.5%	18.5%	100.0%	
Total		Count	248	60	328	
		Percent	80.5%	19.5%	100.0%	
Age Bracket	Below 25 Years	Count	16	8	24	
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%	
	25 to 35 Years	Count	76	24	100	
		Percent	76.0%	24.0%	100.0%	
	36 to 45Years	Count	116	12	128	
		Percent	90.6%	9.4%	100.0%	
	46 years and above	Count	40	16	56	
		Percent	71.4%	28.6%	100.0%	
	Total		Count	248	60	328
			Percent	80.5%	19.5%	100.0%

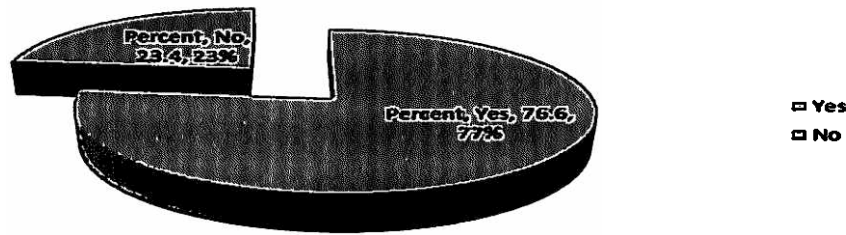


Level of Education	Postgraduate	Count	12	4	16
		Percent	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	Bachelors	Count	56	16	72
		count	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
	Diploma	Count	124	24	148
		Percent	83.8%	16.2%	100.0%
	Certificate	Count	56	16	72
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
Total		Count	248	60	328
		Percent	80.5%	19.5%	100.0%

#### 4.3.4 Benefits from the Projects

From the respondents who indicate that they knew of social and economic development projects that have been initiated in their constituency since the onset of devolution, the study also sought to establish whether the projects had yielded any benefits. From the findings, 76.6% of the community members indicated that the social and economic projects had yielded some benefits while 23.4% disagreed. From these findings we can deduce that the social and economic projects initiated after devolution in Githunguri Constituency had yielded some benefits.

**Figure 4. 4: Benefits from the Projects**



(N=328)

#### 4.3.5 Demographic Information and Benefits of the Projects

From the findings, 78% of the male respondents indicated that there were benefits derived from social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 22% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of the female respondents indicated that there were benefits of social and economic developments that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

Further from the findings, 66.7% of the respondents aged below 25 years indicated that they had benefited from social and economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 33.3% of them disagreed. Further, 68% of the respondents aged between 25 and 35 indicated that they benefited from social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the formation of county Governments, while 32% disagreed. In addition 90.6% of the respondents aged between 36 and 45 years indicated that there were also social and economic development projects in the constituency while 9.4% disagreed. Finally, 71.4% of the respondents aged 46 and 55 years indicated there were developments in their constituency however, 28.6% disagreed on the same.

Further from the findings, 75% of the university graduates respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since devolution while 25% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of college respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri Constituency since devolution. Further, 83.8% of those who have college education indicated that there were social and economic development projects in the constituency while 16.2% of them disagreed. Finally, 77.8% of primary and secondary school graduates respondents indicated that there social economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

**Table 4. 3: Demographic Information and Benefits of the Projects**

			Benefits of Projects initiated after devolution		Total
			Yes	No	
Gender	male	Count	156	44	200
		Percent	78.0%	22.0%	100.0%
	female	Count	84	24	108
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
Total		Count	240	68	328
		Percent	77.9%	22.1%	100.0%
Age Bracket	Below 25 Years	Count	16	8	24
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
	25 to 35	Count	68	32	100

	Years	Percent	68.0%	32.0%	100.0%
	36 to 45 Years	Count	116	12	128
		Percent	90.6%	9.4%	100.0%
Total		Count	240	68	328
		Percent	77.9%	22.1%	100.0%
Level of Education	University	Count	12	4	16
		Percent	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	College	Count	56	16	72
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
	Secondary school	Count	120	28	148
		Percent	81.1%	18.9%	100.0%
	Primary school	Count	52	20	72
		Percent	72.2%	27.8%	100.0%
Total		Count	240	68	328
		Percent	77.9%	22.1%	100.0%

#### 4.3.5 The influence of devolution on Community Development

In the assertions seeking to gauge the effects of d on Community Development, a question seeking opinion from respondents that Devolution has led to increase in numbers of schools in Githunguri Constituency, majority of the respondents' equivalent to 52.4% strongly agreed. Those who had agreeing opinion were 28 respondents represented by 34.1% while 11% were neutral. Only 2.4% disagreed strongly.

**Table 4. 4: Respondents perception on whether devolution has led to increase in numbers of schools in Githunguri.**

<b>Level of agreement</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly Disagree	8	2.4%
Disagree	0	0%
Neutral	36	11.0%
Agree	112	34.1%
Strongly Agree	172	52.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

The community members were further asked to indicate whether devolution has led to more infrastructure development. The findings were as shown in figure 4.5 below. Most infrastructural framework has been laid down by devolution funding according to 172 and 52 respondents represented by 52.4% and 15.9% from those who agreed and strongly agreed. Response of 12.2% was neutral while 11% were on disagreeing opinion. A response of 12.2% represented those with neutral opinion while 11% disagreed and 8.5% strongly disagreed.

**Table 4. 5: Respondent’s perception on whether devolution has led to more infrastructural development.**

<b>Level of agreement</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly Disagree	28	8.5 %
Disagree	36	11%
Neutral	40	12.2%

Agree	172	52.4%
Strongly Agree	52	15.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

From the findings, 48.8% agreed that devolution projects have increased level of community participation in development while 35.4% strongly agreed. Those who had neutral opinion were 11% and those disagreed with the statement were 4.9%. More employment opportunities have been created through devolution projects as supported by 53.7% and 19.5% from those who agreed and strongly agreed. Neutral opinion was received by 18.3% while 4.9% and 3.7 % disagreed and strongly disagreed.

**Table 4. 6: Respondent’s perception on whether devolution Contribution to Increased Community Level Of Participation**

Level of agreement	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0%
Disagree	16	4.9%
Neutral	36	11 %
Agree	160	48.8%
Strongly Agree	116	35.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

The assertion that respondents hardly experience developmental changes as a result of devolution was opposed by majority of the respondents of 47.6% and 37.8% of those who disagreed and

strongly disagreed. Neutral view was supported by 8 respondents equivalent to 2.4% as 16 and 24 respondents represented by 4.9% who agreed and 7.3% strongly agreed.

**Table 4. 7: Respondent’s perception on whether development changes are as a result of devolution.**

<b>Level of agreement</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly Disagree	156	47.6%
Disagree	124	37.8%
Neutral	8	2.4 %
Agree	16	4.9 %
Strongly Agree	24	7.3 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

#### **4.3.6 Demographic Information and Improvement of Economic Development**

From the findings, 74% of the male respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic developments that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 26% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of the female respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

Further from the findings, 66.7% of the respondents aged below 25 years indicated that improvements in social and economic developments in the constituency since devolution while 33.3% of them disagreed. Further, 64% of the respondents aged between 25 and 35 indicated that

there were improvements in social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the formation of county Governments, while 36% disagreed. In addition 87.5% of the respondents aged between 36 and 45 years indicated that there were also social and economic development projects in the constituency while 12.5% disagreed. Finally, 71.4% of the respondents aged 46 years and above indicated there were improvements in developments in their constituency however, 28.6% disagreed on the same.

Further from the findings, 75% of the postgraduate respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since devolution while 25% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of Bachelor holders respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic developments that had been initiated in Githunguri Constituency since devolution. Further, 78.4% of the Diploma holder respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic developments in the constituency while 21.6% of them disagreed. Finally, 66.7% of the certificate graduants respondents indicated that there were improvements in social economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 33.3% disagreed.



**Table 4. 8: Demographic Information and Improvement of Economic Development**

		Improvement of Economic Development and Social Service Response			Total	
			Yes	No		
Gender	male	Count	148	52	200	
		Percent	74.00%	26.00%	100.00 %	
	female	Count	84	24	108	
		Percent	77.80%	22.20%	100.00 %	
Total		Count	232	76	328	
		Percent	75.30%	24.70%	100.00 %	
Age Bracket	Below 25 Years	Count	16	8	24	
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%	
	25 to 35 Years	Count	64	36	100	
		Percent	64.0%	36.0%	100.0%	
	36 to 45 Years	Count	112	16	128	
		Percent	87.5%	12.5%	100.0%	
	46 to 55 years	Count	40	16	56	
		Percent	71.4%	28.6%	100.0%	
	Total		Count	232	76	328

		Percent	75.3%	24.7%	100.0%
Level of Education	University	Count	12	4	16
		Percent	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	College	Count	56	16	72
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
	Secondary school	Count	116	32	148
		Percent	78.4%	21.6%	100.0%
	Primary school	Count	48	24	72
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
Total		Count	232	76	328
		Percent	75.3%	24.7%	100.0%

#### **4.3.7 Improvements in Social Service Response**

From the community members who indicated that there were economic development and social service response had improved since the implementation of devolution, the study also sought to establish the specific improvements. From the findings, the community members indicated that accessibility to the market had improved through improved roads and feeder roads e.g. Ikinu-Githiga road. The community members also indicated that there was availability of medicine in healthcare facilities. The community members also indicated that there was an improvement in street lights and several water projects and been completed e.g. Thuita Water Project. Further, the community members indicated that new markets had been opened to help the local people to buy and sell their products. The community members also indicated that the County Government was using technology in service delivery like in levies. It was also indicated by the community

members that public facilities such as toilets for the public had been built to help sanitation in bus terminals. The respondents also indicated that there was opening of polytechnics which train the youth with skill e.g Nyaga Polytechnic. The community members further indicated that security had been improved through the establishment of police posts in various areas such as Maringe police post. It was also indicated that pollution had been reduced through refuse removal and improved solid waste disposal

#### **4.3.8 Understanding of Devolution**

The community members were asked to indicate their understanding of devolution in terms of leadership/governance, generation of resources, decision making and sharing of resources. From the findings, 84.4% of the community members indicated that they understood devolution in terms of leadership/governance, 81.8% indicated that they understood devolution in terms of decision making, 80.5% indicated that they understood devolution in terms of generation of resources and 80.5% indicated that they understood devolution in terms of sharing of resources. This shows that the community members in Githunguri Constituency understood devolution in terms of leadership/governance, decision making, generation of resources and sharing of resources.

The community members further explained that there are public forums where the local people are involved in decision making like in the finance bill. The community members also indicated that devolution was bringing resources and service down to the common Mwananchi. In addition, through devolution water projects had been developed to generate income for the youth who were selling water in kiosks. In addition, the rehabilitation of public toilets was used as a

way of creating employment and generating income for the youth. The community members also indicated that there was public private partnership in financing of various projects.

**Table 4. 9: Understanding of Devolution**

	Frequency		Percent		Total	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Frequency	Percent
Leadership/governance	260	48	84.4	15.6	328	100
Generation of resources	248	60	80.5	19.5	328	100
Decision making	252	56	81.8	18.2	328	100
Sharing of resources	248	60	80.5	19.5	328	100

**4.3.9 Implementation of Devolution**

The community members were asked to indicate their level of agreement with various statements on the implementation of devolution. Where SD was strongly disagree, D was disagree, N was neutral, A was agree and SA was strongly agree. From the findings, the respondents agreed with a mean of 3.662 that with devolution resources and public facilities have moved closer to the people at the grassroots. In addition, the community members were neutral on whether devolution is an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people as shown by a mean of 3.298. Further, the respondents were neutral on whether devolution had led to decentralization of funds as shown by a mean of 3.286. The community members were also neutral on whether devolution promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power as shown by a mean of 3.285. In addition, the community members were neutral on whether devolution enhances citizen participation as shown by a mean of 3.246. Additionally, the community members were neutral on whether devolution has brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources as indicated by a mean of 3.155.

**Lastly, the community members were neutral on whether devolution has led to division of roles and responsibilities as shown by a mean of 3.039.**

**Table 4. 10: Implementation of Devolution**

<b>Factors in Implementation of Devolution</b>	<b>Level of Agreement (Percent)</b>					<b>Total</b>		<b>Mean</b>
	<b>SD</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>N</b>	
With devolution resources and public facilities have moved closer to the people at the grassroots	3.9	10.4	18.2	50.6	16.9	100.0	328	3.662
Devolution has brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources	3.9	18.2	40.3	33.8	3.9	100.0	328	3.155
Devolution is an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people	5.2	15.6	35.1	32.5	11.7	100.0	328	3.298
Devolution promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power	9.1	10.4	35.1	33.8	11.7	100.0	328	3.285
Devolution enhances citizen participation	6.5	13.0	41.6	27.3	11.7	100.0	328	3.246
Devolution has led to decentralization of funds	9.1	10.4	37.7	28.6	14.3	100.0	328	3.286

Devolution has led to division of roles and responsibilities	11.7	11.7	44.2	26.0	6.5	100.0	328	3.039
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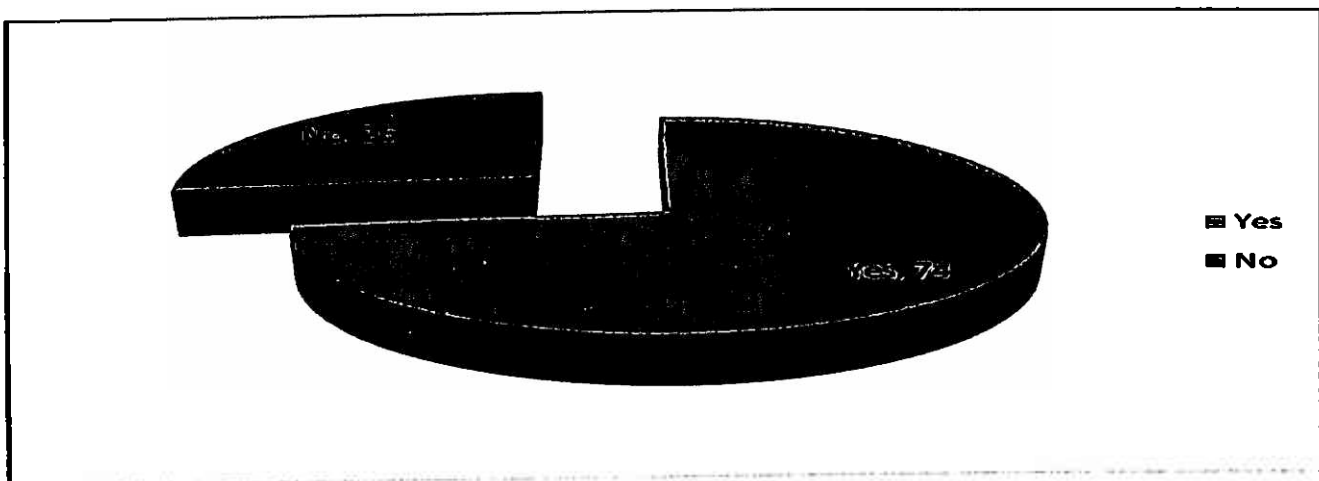
**4.4 Key factors that ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses**

The second objective of the study was to investigate on the key factors that ensure that counties race in the right direction social service responses and community well-being.

**4.4.1 Racing in the Right Direction Social Service Responses**

The community members were asked to indicate whether Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses. The results were as shown in figure 4.8 below. From the findings, 74% of the community members indicated that Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses while 26% disagreed. These findings clearly show that Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses.

**Figure 4. 5: Improved social service responses**



(N=328)



#### **4.4.2 Ways to ensure the Right Direction for Community Development**

The respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which various ways could be used to ensure counties race in the right direction in social service responses and community development. Where NA was no extent at all, LE was low extent, ME was moderate extent, GE was great extent and VGE was very great extent. From the findings, the respondents indicated that training of staff to enhance service delivery (Mean=3.883). This could be used to a great extent as way to ensure counties improve in social service responses and community development. The respondents also indicated that facilitating information sharing among all stakeholders could be used to a great extent as way to ensure counties improve in social service responses and community development (Mean=3.654). Further, the respondents indicated that enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances could be used to great extent to ensure improvement in social service responses and community development in County governments (Mean=3.545). In addition, the respondents indicated that enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds can be used as a way of improving social service responses and community development in Counties (Mean=3.532). The respondents also indicated that educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation can be used as a way of improving social service responses and community development (Mean=3.519). Further, the respondents indicated that supporting and developing programmes that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation could be used as a way of improving social service responses and community development (Mean= 3.519).

The respondents were also asked to indicate which other ways could be used to ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses and community development. From the findings, the community members indicated that the County Governments should ensure and

increased use of modern technology in service delivery. The respondents also indicated that the adoption of Nyumba Kumi initiative and community policing would help to improve security. In addition, the community members indicated that it was necessary for the County Government to ensure an increased involvement of community members in decision making. Further, the County government should invite external investors to help in projects. Further, the community members indicated that another way of ensuring Counties are racing in the right direction is by prioritization of development projects to impact grater on communities other than use of funds for recurrent expenditure. It was also indicated that health care centres should have adequate supply of drugs. In addition, sanitation services should be made available in shopping centres as well as in sports facilities. The respondents also indicated that there should be cooperation and collaboration between County leaders in the implementation of projects.

**Table 4. 11: Ways to ensure the Right Direction for Community Development**

<b>Ways to ensure the right direction for community development</b>	<b>Extent of Agreement (Percent)</b>					<b>Total</b>	<b>Mean</b>	
	<b>NA</b>	<b>LE</b>	<b>ME</b>	<b>GE</b>	<b>VGE</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>N</b>	
Training of staff to enhance service delivery		9.1	11.7	61.0	18.2	100.0	328	3.883
Enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds	5.2	7.8	40.3	22.1	24.7	100.0	328	3.532
Enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances	6.5	7.8	35.1	26.0	24.7	100.0	328	3.545
Educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation	6.5	13.0	28.6	26.0	26.0	100.0	328	3.519
Supporting and developing programs that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation	5.2	13.0	29.9	28.6	23.4	100.0	328	3.519
Facilitate information sharing among all stakeholders	5.2	13.0	33.8	27.3	20.8	100.0	328	3.654

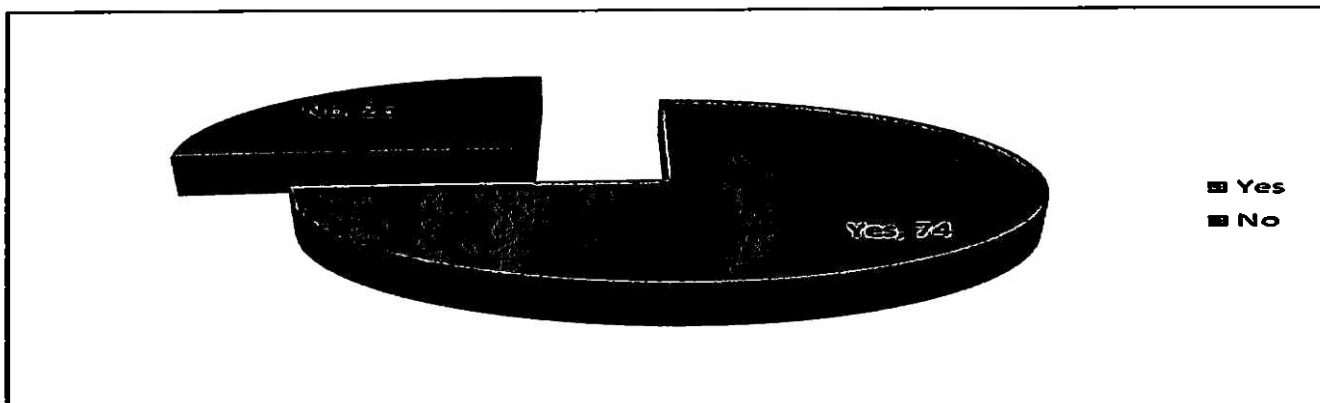
#### **4.5 Factors affecting the implementation of devolution**

The third objective was to determine factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County.

##### **4.5.1 Implementation of Devolution in the Right Way in Kiambu County**

The respondents were asked to indicate whether devolution is being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County. From the findings, 74% of the community members indicated that devolution was being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County while 26% disagreed. From these findings we can deduce that devolution was being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County.

**Figure 4. 6: Implementation of Devolution in the Right Way in Kiambu County**



(N=328)

#### **4.5.2 Challenges Facing the Implementation of Devolution in Kiambu County**

From the respondents who indicated that devolution was not being implemented in the right way in Kiambu County, the study also sought to establish the challenges facing the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County. From the findings the community members indicated that the challenges included lack of coordination among MCAs and MPs, corruption, illiteracy, inadequacy of funds, unqualified personnel in running the public sector, poor management of funds, misplaced priorities, lack of teamwork among leaders and lack of public participation in decision making. There was also lack of governance especially by some top officials hence leading to delay in some resources and facilities.

#### **4.5.3 Factors Affect the Implementation of Devolution in Kiambu County**

The respondents were also asked to indicate the extent to which various factors affect the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County. Where NA was no extent at all, LE was low extent, ME was moderate extent, GE was great extent and VGE was very great extent. From the findings, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.753 that inequalities with regard to

economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances affect the implementation of devolution to a great extent. The respondents also indicated with a mean of 3.737 that difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way affect the implementation of devolution to a great extent. The respondents further indicated with a mean of 3.711 that poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. In addition, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.646 that corruption, including embezzlement of revenues affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. The respondents further indicated with a mean of 3.642 that explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. In addition, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.516 that lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills affects implementation of devolution to a great extent.

The community members also indicated that other factors that affect the implementation of devolution include nepotism, lack of enough skills, lack of capacity building, illiteracy, ethnicity, use of traditional methods in delivering services, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management.

**Table 4. 12: Factors that affect implementation of devolution**

Factors that affect implementation of devolution	Extent of Agreement					Total	Mean
	(Percent)						
	NA	LE	ME	GE	VGE	Percent	N

Inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances	2.6	9.1	11.7	63.5	13.0	100.0	307	3.753
Difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way	3.9	10.5	41.8	35.9	7.8	100.0	306	3.737
Poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes	9.1	13.0	29.9	33.8	14.3	100.0	328	3.711
Explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers	6.5	15.3	43.0	27.4	7.8	100.0	307	3.642
Corruption, including embezzlement of revenues	9.2	14.1	31.4	33.7	11.8	100.0	306	3.646
Lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills	19.5	9.1	19.5	44.0	7.8	100.0	307	3.516

#### **4.6 The relationship between devolution and community development**

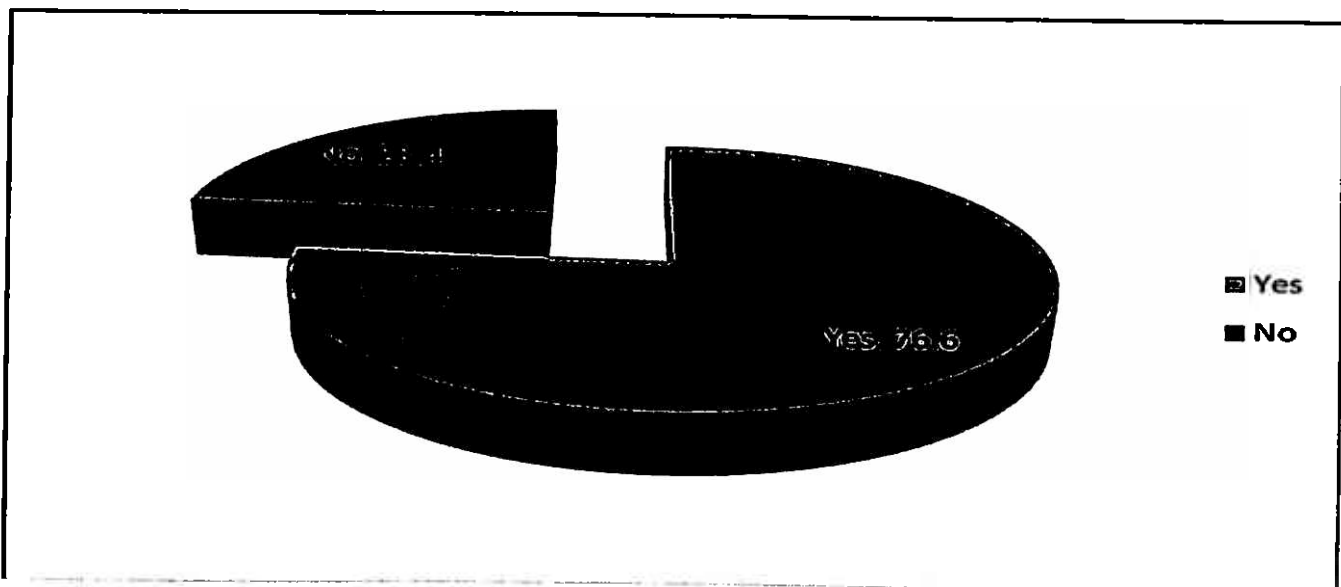
The fourth objective of this study was to determine the relationship between devolution and community development in Kiambu County.

##### **4.6.1 Influence of Devolution on Community Development**

The respondents were asked to indicate whether devolution influences community development. The results were as shown in figure 4.10 below. From the findings, 76.6% of the respondents

reported that devolution influences community development while 23.4% disagreed. From these findings we can deduce that devolution influences community development in Githunguri Constituency, Kiambu County. The community members also indicated that devolution enhances the good living of the people, it improves the accessibility of services such as schools, health facilities and water. In addition, devolution creates employment for the people and thus improving the living standards.

**Figure 4. 7: Influence of Devolution on Community Development**



(N=328)

#### **4.6.2 Elements of Devolution influencing Community Development**

The respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which the stated elements of devolution influence community development. Where NA was no extent at all, LE was low extent, ME was moderate extent, GE was great extent and VGE was very great extent. According to the findings, the respondents indicated with a mean of 4.298 and a standard deviation of 0.928 that decentralization of Funds influences community development to a great extent. The respondents



also indicated with a mean of 4.181 that decentralization of administrative roles influences community development to a great extent. The respondents further reported with a mean of 4.026 that devolution policies influence community development to a great extent. In addition, the respondents indicated with a mean of 4.000 that resources generation influence community development to a great extent. Lastly, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.766 that devolution structures influences community development to a great extent.

**Table 4. 13: Elements of devolution**

<b>Elements of devolution</b>	<b>Extent of Agreement (Percent)</b>					<b>Total</b>		
	<b>NA</b>	<b>LE</b>	<b>ME</b>	<b>GE</b>	<b>VGE</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>
Devolution Structures	2.6	6.5	18.2	57.0	15.6	100.0	307	3.7662
Decentralization of Funds	6.5	6.5	44.2	36.4	6.5	100.0	328	4.2987
Decentralization of administrative roles	5.2	23.5	30.0	31.3	10.1	100.0	307	4.1818
Devolution policies	7.8	21.9	39.2	21.9	9.2	100.0	306	4.0260
Resources Generation	11.4	24.8	29.7	19.6	14.4	100.0	306	4.0000

## **CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents a summary of the findings, conclusions and recommendations for practice and further research on the problem. This study aimed at establishing the effect of devolution on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County. The study also sought to determine how economic development and social service responses in Githunguri constituency match up with the implementation of general principles of devolution; to identify the factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency of Kiambu County; and to establish the link between devolution and community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

### **5.2 Discussion of the Findings**

#### **5.2.1 Economic development and social service responses**

The study established that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution. The study also revealed that the social and economic projects initiated after devolution in Githunguri Constituency had yielded some benefits. In addition, the study found that economic development and social service response had improved in Githunguri Constituency since the implementation of devolution. These findings agree with Condor (2010) findings that China has focused on fiscal devolution and has experienced improved community development.

Since the initiation of devolution accessibility to the market had improved through improved roads and feeder roads such as Ikinu-Githiga road. There was also an improvement in availability of medicine in healthcare facilities street lights and several water projects and been completed such as Thuita Water Project. Further, new markets had been opened to help the local people to buy and sell their products, the County Government was using technology in service delivery like in levies and public facilities such as toilets for the public had been built to help sanitation in bus terminals. After the initiation of devolution there was opening of polytechnics which train the youth with skill like Nyaga Polytechnic. In addition, security had been improved through the establishment of police posts in various areas such as Maringe police post. These findings agree with Adeniyi (2014) findings that directing resources towards various public services is seen as more detrimental to growth.

The study also revealed that community members in Githunguri Constituency understood devolution in terms of leadership/governance, decision making, generation of resources and sharing of resources. There were public forums where the local people are involved in decision making like in the finance bill. In addition, devolution was bringing resources and service down to the common *Mwananchi*. For instance, through devolution water projects had been developed to generate income for the youth who were selling water in kiosks. In addition, the rehabilitation of public toilets was used as a way of creating employment and generating income for the youth.

In relation to the implementation of devolution, the study found that with devolution resources and public facilities had moved closer to the people at the grassroots. These findings agree with Deadman (2011) argument that decentralization of resources and public facilities brings public services closer to the people. In addition, devolution was found to be an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people. Further, devolution had led to

decentralization of funds, promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power, enhances citizen participation had brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources and had led to division of roles and responsibilities.

### **5.2.2 Key factors that ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses**

The study found that Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses. In relation to ways to ensure counties improve in social service responses and community development, the study found that possible ways include training of staff to enhance service delivery, facilitating information sharing among all stakeholders, enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances, enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds, educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation and supporting and developing programmes that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation. These findings agree with Connelly (2010) argument that factors such as corruption, accountability and transparency hinder the implementation of devolution.

### **5.2.3 Factors affecting the implementation of devolution**

The third objective was to determine factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County. The study revealed that devolution was being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County but it was facing various challenges. The challenges include lack of coordination among MCAs and MPs, corruption, illiteracy, inadequacy of funds, unqualified personnel in running the public sector, poor management of funds, misplaced priorities, lack of teamwork among leaders and lack of public participation in decision making. There was also lack of governance especially by some top officials hence leading to delay in some resources and

facilities. These findings agree with Wehner (2000) argument that factors such as corruption, inadequacy of funds and poor management of funds influence the implementation of devolution negatively.

The study also revealed that inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances affect the implementation of devolution to a great extent. The study also found that difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way affect the implementation of devolution to a great extent. Poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes was also found to affect the implementation of devolution. In addition, the study revealed that corruption, including embezzlement of revenues affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. The study established that explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. In addition, lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. Other factors that affect the implementation of devolution include nepotism, lack of enough skills, lack of capacity building, illiteracy, ethnicity, use of traditional methods in delivering services, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management.

#### **5.2.4 The relationship between devolution and community development**

The study found that devolution influences community development in Githunguri Constituency, Kiambu County. Devolution was also found to enhance the good living of the people, improve the accessibility of services such as schools, health facilities and water. In addition, devolution was found to create employment for the people and thus improving the living standards. Elements of devolution that were found to influence devolution include decentralization of

funds, decentralization of administrative roles, devolution policies, resources generation and devolution structures.

The study also found that there is a positive significant association between devolution structures and community development. These findings agree Condor (2010) argument that devolution structures in China influence community development and delivery of services. In addition, the study found that decentralization of funds positively and significantly influence and community development. These findings concur with Ansari et al. (2011) argument that decentralization of funds to County governments led to community development in Uganda. Further, the study established that there is a positive relationship between decentralization of administrative roles and community development. Additionally, the study found that there is a positive relationship between devolution policies and community development. These findings agree with Davies (2012) argument that devolution policies influence community development in County governments. Lastly, the study established that there is a positive relationship between resources generation and community development. These findings concur with Bockmeyer (2003) argument that in Los Angeles County securing resources had led to an improvement in community development.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

The study concludes that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution and they had yielded various benefits. The benefits of devolution include improved accessibility to the market due to improved roads and feeder roads, improved availability of medicine in healthcare facilities, improved lighting in the streets, increased accessibility to water. Devolution had led to decentralization of funds, promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power, enhances

**citizen participation had brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources and had led to division of roles and responsibilities.**

**In relation to the key factors that ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses, the study concludes that these factors include training of staff to enhance service delivery, facilitating information sharing among all stakeholders, enhancing accountability, enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds, educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation and supporting and developing programmes that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation.**

**In relation to factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County, the study concludes that these factors include inequalities with regard to economic development, difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way, poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes, embezzlement of revenues, explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills, lack of capacity building, illiteracy, ethnicity, use of traditional methods in delivering services, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management.**

**In relation to the relationship between devolution and community development, the study concludes that devolution structures, decentralization of funds, decentralization of administrative roles, devolution policies and resources generation influences community development. Devolution was also found to enhance the good living of the people, improve the accessibility of services such as schools, health facilities and water. In addition, devolution was found to create employment for the people and thus improving the living standards.**

#### **5.4 Recommendations**

The study found that there are problems in cooperation and collaboration between County leaders in the implementation of projects. This study therefore recommends that leaders in the County government of Kiambu should come together to work as a team in the implementation of projects in Kiambu County.

The study found that difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way was affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County. This study therefore recommends that the National government as well as the county government should ensure that there are no overlapping powers and authority. This can be done by formulating more policies to separate powers and authority.

The study also found that there was poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes and explicit and intentional tax evasion was high. This study hence recommends that the county government should come up with citizen friendly ways of collecting taxes. In addition, the county government should take up the responsibility of informing the citizens on the importance of paying taxes. Further, the county government should ensure that the taxation system is automated so as to increase efficiency in tax collection.

This study recommends that County Governments should ensure an increased use of modern technology in service delivery and in procurement. This will help to improve efficiency of service delivery in County governments. This will also help to reduce collusion and corruption in public procurement in County governments.



The study also found that there was an issue of unqualified personnel in running the public sector and poor management of funds. This study therefore recommends that the County government of Kiambu should employ skilled staff so as to enhance devolution.

The study found that embezzlement of revenues was affecting the implementation of devolution. This study therefore recommends that the county government should ensure transparency and accountability of all the revenue collected.

The study also established that there was lack of capacity in requisite skills and lack of capacity building. The study therefore recommends that the county government should launch some training programs to ensure that all the staff have got the skills required to deliver services to the community members.

The study found that the county government was using traditional methods in delivering services. This study therefore recommends that the county government should automate its service delivery systems and use modern means of service delivery so as to ensure efficiency.

The study found that the adoption of *Nyumba Kumi* initiative and community policing would help to improve security. This study therefore recommends that the county government of Kiambu should emphasize and ensure the implementation of *Nyumba Kumi* initiative.

### **5.5 Areas for Further Research**

This research study was limited to Kiambu County and hence its findings cannot be generalized to other counties in Kenya. This study therefore recommends that further studies should be conducted in other counties in Kenya on the relationship between devolution and community development. The study also recommends further studies on the challenges facing the implementation of devolution in Kenya.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix I: Questionnaire for Household Heads

Please answer the questions below as precisely and truthful as possible. Any information provided will be held with strict confidentiality and anonymity. In addition, your answers will only be used for academic purposes only. Kindly tick your responses against each questions in the spaces provided.

#### General Information

1. Gender

Male [ ]

Female [ ]

2. Age bracket

Below 25 Years [...] 26 to 35 Years [ ]

36 to 45 Years [ ] 46 to 55 years [ ]

56 to 65 years [ ] 65 years and above [ ]

3. What is your highest level of Education?

Never attended school [ ] primary school [ ]

Secondary school [ ] College [ ]

University [ ]

4. Where do you come from in Githunguri constituency

Githiga [ ] Githunguri [ ]

Ikinu [ ] Komothai [ ]

Ngewa [ ]

**PART B:**

**The relationship between devolution and community development**

5. Do you think devolution influences community development?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

6. If yes, how?

.....  
.....  
.....

**Economic development and social service responses**

7. Do you know of any social and economic development projects that have been initiated in your constituency since the onset of devolution?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

8. If yes, have these projects yield any benefits?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

9. Has the economic development and social service response improved since the implementation of devolution?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

**Effects of devolved funds on community development**

10. Are there projects in your area facilitated through funding by any of the following

- a. Constituency development funds
- b. Bursary funds
- c. Local authority transfer fund
- d. Poverty eradication funds

11. The following statements are relating to community development and devolved funds

.Kindly indicate your agreement on the statements by ticking the column that best describes your opinion.; 5- Strongly agree (SA), 4- Agree (A) 3- Neutral (N), 2- Disagree (D), 1- Strongly Disagree (SD)

Statement	5-SA	4-A	3-N	2-D	1-SD
<b>Effects of Devolution on community development</b>					
Devolution has led to increase in numbers of schools Githunguri Constituency					
Most infrastructural framework has been laid down after devolution					
As a result of devolution , there has been more allocation for infrastructural development					
Projects after devolution have increased level of community participation in development					
More employment opportunities have been created through devolution.					

We hardly experience developmental changes as a result of devolution					
<b>Effects of funding through county representatives on development</b>					
Member of county assembly partners with the community to plan and develop projects					
Many of the projects within our area have been through combined input of different funding agencies					
We have adequate service delivery provided by the member of county assemble.					
Our member of county assembly does not have capacity to cater development needs					
<b>Effects of education funding on community development.</b>					
There has been increased level of school retention as a result of bursary financing					
The bursary allocation is a fair process and has increased access to education among poor students					
Community residents are aware of availability of bursary funds to finance financial needs					
There has been increased academic performance as result of bursary allocations					

Our area has no cases of school dropouts attributed to school fee payment.					
<b>Effects of poverty eradication efforts on community development</b>					
Most projects in Githunguri Constituency have increased the living standards for the residents					
We have formed investment groups funded by the local fund					
Poverty eradication fund provides favourable interest rates for small and medium enterprises					
The objective of poverty eradication fund has been marred by poor management					
Most self-employment programs at Githunguri Constituency were created through poverty eradication fund					
Through poverty eradication fund, we are normally trained on business development skill					
<b>Kindly indicate your rating the following kinds of devolved funds on community development</b>					
<b>Devolved funds</b>	<b>Very great</b>	<b>Great extent</b>	<b>Moderate extent</b>	<b>Small extent</b>	<b>Not at all</b>



	extent				
Constituency development fund					
Bursary funds					
Women funds					
Poverty Eradication fund					
Youth funds					

12. Do you understand devolution in form of the following?

	Yes	No
Leadership/governance	[ ]	[ ]
Generation of resources	[ ]	[ ]
Decision making	[ ]	[ ]
Sharing of resources	[ ]	[ ]

13. To what extent do you agree with the following in relation to implementation of devolution?

(Where: 5=strongly agree, 4=agree, 3=neutral, 2=disagree, 1=strongly disagree)

Factors in Implementation of Devolution	5	4	3	2	1
1. With devolution resources and public facilities have moved closer to the people at the grassroots					
2. Devolution has brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources					
3. Devolution is an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people					
4. Devolution promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power					
5. Devolution enhances citizen participation					

6. Devolution has led to decentralization of funds					
7. Devolution has led to division of roles and responsibilities					

14. To what extent do you think the following ways can be used to ensure counties race in the right direction in social service responses and community development? (Where: 5=very great extent, 4=great extent, 3=moderate extent, 2=low extent, 1=no extent at all)

Ways to ensure the right direction for community development	5	4	3	2	1
1. Training of staff to enhance service delivery					
2. Enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds					
3. Enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances					
4. Educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation					
5. Supporting and developing programs that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation					
6. Facilitate information sharing among all stakeholders					

**Factors affecting the implementation of devolution**

15. Do you think devolution is being implemented in the right way in Kiambu County?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

16. To what extent do the following factors affect the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County? (Where: 5=very great extent, 4=great extent, 3=moderate extent, 2=low extent, 1=no extent at all)

<b>Factors that affect implementation of devolution</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances					
Difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way					
Poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes					
Explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers					
Corruption, including embezzlement of revenues					
Lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills					

17. To what extent do the following elements of devolution influence community development?

(Where: 5=very great extent, 4=great extent, 3=moderate extent, 2=low extent, 1=no extent at all)

<b>Elements of devolution</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Devolution Structures					
Decentralization of Funds					
Decentralization of administrative roles					
Devolution policies					
Resources Generation					

***Appendix II: Interview Guide for Key Informants***

1. Who are the main stakeholders in the implementation of devolution Kiambu County?
2. What are the positive effects of devolution on economic development and social service response in Kiambu County?
3. What are the negative effects of devolution on economic development and social service response in Kiambu County?
4. What should be the basis for any allocation of funds and grants to county governments?
5. What procedures and practices should county governments apply to ensure sound budgeting and financial management?
6. What are some of the ways that can be used to ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses and community development?
7. What actions are needed to facilitate cooperation and consultation between County governments and between county governments and the National Government?
8. Which are the challenges facing the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County?
9. What procedures should be put in place to ensure public participation and influence in county governments' affairs?
10. What kind of oversight measures and checks should the public have to ensure performance and accountability by the county government?
11. What is the relationship between devolution and community development in Kiambu County?