

**INFLUENCE OF COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION ON
SUSTAINABILITY OF COMMUNITY BASED
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN KASIPUL-KABONDO
CONSTITUENCY: HOMA-BAY COUNTY, KENYA**

BY:

ONUONGA GEORGE ODHIAMBO

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF ARTS IN PROJECT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT,**

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI.

2011

ASBTRACT

The research project was prompted by the frequent failure of community based development projects in Kasipul-Kabondo constituency. Of much interest to this work was observation of a lot of activities by the donors, government agencies, NGOs and local community based groups in the constituency with little to show on the ground in terms of development. The study therefore sought to investigate the influence of community mobilization on the sustainability of community based development projects in Kasipul-Kabondo constituency.

The research objectives that informed the study included the influence of community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, identification of resources and community leadership, on sustainability of community based development projects. Since these projects were distributed over a wide geographical area in the entire constituency, and that measures of sustainability could also be captured numerically, the study employed as its research methodology, a descriptive survey research design. The method of data collection was survey and the data collection instrument used in the study was questionnaire which was pre-tested through a pilot study to establish its validity and reliability.

The study targeted 3030 members of community based development projects in the constituency and 10% of this population formed the study sample size of 303 respondents. Probability sampling design involving stratified random sampling procedure was used in which the projects were stratified on the basis of project types such as youth group projects, women group projects, self-help group projects and community based group (CBO) projects. Data was analysed using quantitative techniques such as measures of central tendencies and measures of spread with the help of Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Data was presented using frequency distribution tables and percentages.

The study established that the community members engaged in community based development projects for purposes of obtaining their livelihood, and that majority of these members did not proceed beyond primary school level (50.17%). It was also revealed that more women (53.46%) than men (46.53%). Moreover, it was also observed that interest in community development initiatives diminished with the rise in level of education. The study concluded that emphasis should be placed on effective community mobilisation, for sustainability of projects was found to be either won or lost at the initial stages of project prioritization. The study recommended that supportive policies be formulated, both in public and private sectors to provide suitable environment for community development.