

**INFLUENCE OF YOUTH ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT FUND ON
LIVELIHOODS OF YOUTH IN MANDERA EAST DISTRICT, KENYA**

BY

ABDIRAHMAN MOHAMED ADAN

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
EAST AFRICANA COLLECTION

**A RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
FOR THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER
OF ARTS IN PROJECT PLANNING AND MANGEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF
NAIROBI**

2010

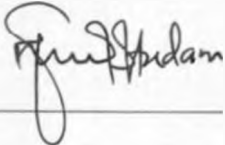
University of NAIROBI Library



0478201 7

DECLARATION

This is my original work and has not been presented for the award of a degree in this university or any other institution of higher learning.



ABDIRAHMAN MOHAMED ADAN
L50/72512/2008

03/09/2010

Date

This research project report has been submitted for examination with my approval as the university supervisor.



Dr. Lillian Otieno Omutoko
Lecturer, Department of Extra Mural Studies
University of Nairobi

3/9/2010

Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this research project report to my loving wife Asha and wonderful son Sudheys.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

There are many great people who assisted me in the completion of this project. Firstly, my special gratitude goes to my supervisor, Dr. Lillian Otieno, Lecturer Department of Extra-Mural studies, for her encouraging words, guidance, and critical feedback on my research project.

I must thank the University of Nairobi for giving me the opportunity to undertake this research project.

My sincere thanks go to all my lecturers and classmates for their continued discussions, advice and encouragement before and throughout the project period.

This study would not be complete without the invaluable assistance accorded to me by the staff of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in Mandera District. I am very grateful to them. Thank you all.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
DECLARATION	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	x
ABSTRACT	xi
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	6
1.3 Purpose of the Study	7
1.4 Objectives of the Study	8
1.5 Research Questions	8
1.6 Significance of the study	8
1.7 Limitations of the study	9
1.8 Delimitations of the Study	9
1.9 Assumptions of the study	10
1.10 Definition of significant terms	11
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	12
2.1 Introduction	12
2.2 Challenges Facing Youth in the World	12
2.3 Stimulation of Development through devolved funds	15
2.4 Youth Enterprise Development Fund	16
2.5 Challenges Facing Devolved Funds Initiative	18
2.6 Unemployment in Kenya	20
2.7 Encouraging and Supporting Entrepreneurship	21
2.8 Livelihood Strategies	23
2.8.1 Building Human Capital	23
2.8.2 Building Social Capital	24
2.8.3 Building Financial Capital	25

2.8.4 Building Physical Capital.....	26
2.8.5 Building Cross-Cutting Positive Youth Development Assets And Programs	27
2.8.6 Building Capacity of local Service Providers	27
2.9 Sustainable Livelihoods	28
2.10 Livelihood Outcomes	30
2.11 Capacity Building	31
2.12 Market Linkages	31
2.13 Micro Finance and Livelihoods	32
2.14 Microcredit from a theoretical perspective	34
2.15 Analysis of major criticisms on Microcredit.....	34
2.16 Skills and Literacy Training.....	37
2.17 Enterprise and sustainable livelihoods.....	37
2.18 Education and livelihood outcomes	38
2.19 Principles of Effective Practice.....	39
2.20 Gender and livelihoods	40
2.21 Role of international agencies in livelihood development.....	42
2.22 Livelihood Development Programs	43
2.23 Conceptual Framework.....	45
2.24 Summary of the Literature Reviewed.....	47

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY..... 48

3.1 Introduction.....	48
3.2 Research Design.....	48
3.3 Target Population.....	48
3.4 Sample and Sampling Procedure	48
3.4.1 Sampling Procedure	49
3.4.2 Sample Size.....	49
3.5 Data Collection Instruments.....	50
3.6 Validity and reliability of research Instrument	50
3.6.1 Validity the research Instrument	50
3.6.2 Reliability of the research Instruments.	50
3.7 Data Collection Methods	51
3.8 Data Analysis Techniques.....	51
3.9 Operational Definitions of variables	52
3.10 Data analysis and Presentation.....	52
3.11 Summary	53

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, AND INTERPRETATION

..... 54

4.1 Introduction 54

4.2 Questionnaire return rate 54

4.3 Analysis of General Information..... 54

4.4 Youth Enterprise Development Fund 56

4.5 Capacity Building 58

4.6 Gender Issues 59

4.7 Incomes 60

4.8 Summary 61

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS

AND RECOMMENDATIONS 62

5.1 Introduction 62

5.2 Summary of findings..... 62

5.3 Discussion 64

5.4 Conclusion 67

5.5 Recommendation 68

5.6 Suggestions for Further Research 69

REFERENCES 70

APPENDICES 73

Appendix i: Letter of Introduction 73

Appendix ii: Questionnaire for Youth in Mandera East District..... 74

Appendix iii: Table of Mandera East District Divisions And Population As Per The 1999
Census 78

Appendix iv: Map Of Mandera East District 79

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Disbursements through the Constituency Youth Enterprise Scheme	17
Table 2: Disbursement through Financial intermediaries	17
Table 3: Sample Frame	49
Table 4: Operational Definition of Variables.....	52
Table 5: Distribution of Respondents by Gender.....	54
Table 6 Distribution of Respondents by Level of Education	55
Table 7: Respondent's Length of Time in Their Current Location	55
Table 8: Level of Awareness	56
Table 9: Granting Of Loan.....	56
Table 10: Capacity Building	58
Table 11: Assistance by Youth Enterprise Development Fund initiative.....	58
Table 12: Rating possible strategies of ensuring Gender mainstreaming.....	59

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Population by Age and Sex for Developed and Less Developed Nations (1998).	21
Figure 2: Sustainable Livelihoods Framework	29
Figure 3: The relationship between youth livelihoods and the Youth Enterprise development Fund.....	46

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACCION	American for Community Cooperation in Other Nations
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
C –YES	Constituency Youth Enterprise Scheme
CARE	Cooperative for Assistant and Relief Everywhere
CDF	Constituency Development Fund/Goals
CDFC	Constituency Development Fund Committee
CIPAC	Cities in Partnership with Communities
DFID	UK’s Department for International Development
DPC	District Development committee
DSO	District Statistics Office
IDSODI	Institute of Development Studies & Overseas Development Institute
KNYP	Kenya National Youth Policy
KPIA	Kenya Poverty and Inequality Assessment
LDC	Local Development Committee
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOYA	Ministry of youth affairs
MSYA	Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
OXFAM	Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
RAs	Research Assistants
SL	Sustainable Development
WDC	World Development Committees
YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund

ABSTRACT

This study was guided by the following objectives: to establish the extent to which capacity building through the Youth Enterprise Development Fund promotes youth livelihoods in Mandera East District, to determine the extent to which increased income levels influenced youth livelihoods in Mandera East, To determine the factors that contribute to the low utilization of the Youth Fund in Mandera East District and To establish the extent to which gender mainstreaming in the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) promotes youth livelihoods. The Youth Enterprise Development Fund came legally into operation on 8th December 2006 and was transformed into a state corporation on 11th May 2007. The fund focuses on enterprise development as a key strategy that will increase economic opportunities for, and participation by Kenyan youth in nation building. The mandate of the Fund is not only increasing access to capital by young entrepreneurs but also provides business development services, facilitates linkages in supply chains, create market opportunities locally and abroad for products and services of youth enterprises, and facilitates creation of commercial infrastructure to support growth of youth enterprises. The study used both Qualitative and Quantitative research paradigms. The population of this study was the youth of Mandera district. The researcher sampled 50 youths in Mandera through simple random sampling. The researcher developed questionnaires that were used to obtain important information about the population. Qualitative and Quantitative data analysis techniques were used to analyze the data. From the findings the study revealed that a majority of the youth in Mandera East District were not aware of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. The study also found that majority of youth in Mandera have not benefited from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund and the Youth Enterprise Development Fund has not improved livelihoods of youth in Mandera. The study further found that the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) does not promote gender mainstreaming in development. The study recommends that awareness of the Youth Fund be increased, financial intermediaries be introduced in the region, amounts of loans be increased and systematic approaches to gender mainstreaming be adopted in the programme.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

I.1 Background of the Study

Poverty and unemployment are two of the major global challenges facing mankind today, especially in Developing and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). According to the ILO's Global Employment Trend Brief, unemployment has risen over the last decade. It is estimated that the number of unemployed worldwide reaches nearly 192 million people and the underemployment remains pervasive. Furthermore, the estimates indicate that about 35 percent of the world unemployed is the youth. The causes that are more often associated with the rising rate of unemployment are globalization, development in information and communication technology as well as advanced technology that is capital intensive (Asha, 2007)

The magnitude of unemployment and poverty for instance, in Tanzania, is a fundamental problem. The economic growth that is currently taking place in the country has not been able to generate adequate employment and income generating opportunities to absorb net increases to the labour force and reduce the proportion of the labour force that is unemployed and underemployed. (Asha, 2007)

Youth unemployment and underemployment, particularly in rural areas are central social and economic problem facing most of African countries. The key challenge therefore lies on how employment opportunities for both urban and rural youth can be increased and livelihood options promoted and developed. Creating job opportunities for the rural youth is however a long and arduous process, requiring the interplay between different institutions and partners, both local and international. Resources and efforts therefore need

to be harmonized and goals set have to be achievable and measurable, in order to ensure progress in solving the rampant problem of rural youth unemployment. (Asha, 2007)

The World Bank estimates that by 2015 there will be three billion people in the world under the age of 25. The quality and their level of education and employment will play a crucial role in the world's ability to meet the challenges of the 21st century. However, despite this being the world's most educated generation ever, statistics from the International Labour Organization (ILO) show a continued rise in the proportion of unemployed youth. The United Nations (UN, 2008) report on *Global Employment Trends for Youth* estimates youth make up as much as 40 percent of the world's total unemployed, and are almost three times as likely to be unemployed as adults – a situation that will be exacerbated by the current global economic crisis. This situation represents a growing challenge; however, it can also be an opportunity for a fundamental shift in society if policies and resources are intelligently targeted towards this demographic group. (Youth Business International, 2008).

Kenya's population is largely youthful, according to Kenya National Youth Policy (KNYP 2006). Kenyans who are under 30 years constitute 75 percent of the population, forming the largest human resource (KNYP, 2006:1). However, despite their numeric strength, Kenyan youth have been marginalized at all levels of decision-making and access to economic and political opportunities. According to the Kenya National Youth Policy, the Kenyan youth face many challenges. The identifiable challenges include unemployment, restricted access to opportunities and services such as quality education, health care, training and recreation, and peer pressure that sometimes pushes them to engage in criminal behaviour. Since independence, the country has been operating without

comprehensive institutions, systematic and coherent policies targeting the rapidly emerging youth population. The creation of the Ministry of Youth Affairs (MOYA) in 2005 and subsequent articulation of the first Kenya National Youth Policy in 2006 are steps in the right direction. KNYP laid down the policy framework for affirmative action in favour of Kenyan youth while the MOYA resulted in the creation of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) which is the subject of this study.

The above mentioned policy attempts to address issues affecting young people by providing broad-based strategies that can be used to give the youth meaningful opportunities to reach their maximum Potential (*KNYP, 2006*). The policy was developed by the government in collaboration with other stakeholders, that is, the private sector and civil society organizations to “promote youth participation in democratic processes as well as community affairs” (*KNYP, 2006 Page. 5*). The policy is intended to ensure that sizable national programs are youth-centered. As a follow-up to the youth policy, in 2007, the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs (MSYA) formulated a strategic plan covering the period 2007 to 2012.

The plan (*MSYA, 2007*) identifies the following strategic themes to focus on in the development of the youth sector: Youth and employment, Youth empowerment and participation, Youth education and training, Youth and information communication technology, Youth and health, Youth crime and drugs, Youth and environment, Youth, leisure, recreation and community service. The strategic plan has outlined specific measures for tackling each of the 8 youth-related concerns (*MSYA, 2007:3*). While I appreciate the government’s efforts in addressing the challenges faced by the Kenyan youth, to date, concrete actions are lacking and the youth problem is turning into a crisis.

To contain the impending youth crisis, more efforts, particularly from government will be required to address the youth problems. This study will assess how the Youth Enterprise Development Fund contributes to reducing the youth problems mentioned above.

The Youth Enterprise Development Fund came legally into operation on 8th December 2006 and was transformed into a state corporation on 11th May 2007. The fund focuses on enterprise development as a key strategy that will increase economic opportunities for, and participation by Kenyan youth in nation building. The mandate of the Fund is not only increasing access to capital by young entrepreneurs but also provides business development services, facilitates linkages in supply chains, create market opportunities locally and abroad for products and services of youth enterprises, and facilitates creation of commercial infrastructure to support growth of youth enterprises (MOYA, 2009)

Mandera East district is one of the twelve districts of North-Eastern Province of Kenya and is located on the North-Eastern tip of the country bordering Ethiopia on the North and Somalia on the East. The district and the entire region are settled by Somali ethnic communities that are predominantly Muslims. The district has one parliamentary constituency, two local authorities, seven administrative divisions and 37 administrative locations with a total population of 114,498 persons according to 1999 census projections. The table in Appendix 5.1 illustrates administrative divisions, locations and their population.

With low and unreliable rainfall that averages less than 225mm annually and evaporation that far exceeds precipitation estimated at 2600mm/year, Mandera East district is classified as one of the arid districts of Kenya. Temperatures are high, ranging between

28°C to 38°C, reaching peak levels in March and September. Water sources consist of boreholes, shallow wells, earth pans, infiltration galleries, roof catchments, water trucking and direct abstractions from river daua. Unlike other parts of the district which have low ground water potential, Lafey division is endowed with fresh water aquifers of the Marehaan series geological formations with varying yield of 5m³/hr to 15m³/hr. Being one of the poorest districts in the country, Mandera East district has food poverty standing of 84% according to multiple cluster survey 2007 by Unicef and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and poverty prevalence rate of 65% according KNBS survey 2005.

Livelihood is derived principally from three food economy zones namely irrigation cropping along the riverine zone, pastoral and urban livelihoods. The irrigation cropping is practiced along the alluvial belt of the river daua which flows for nine months annually. The pastoral livelihood covers the entire divisions of Lafey, Waranqara, Fino and Libehiya. The pastoralists keep camels, cattle, sheep, goat and donkeys. The urban livelihoods are confined to Mandera central division where there are a variety of petty trade and some formal employment. Over 80% of the local population depend on livestock and livestock products for their livelihoods and therefore highly vulnerable to the effects of environmental shocks.

The principle objective of the Youth Enterprise Development is to uplift the living standards of the Kenyan youth. This in my opinion can largely be achieved by putting in place efforts to improve the livelihood situation of the youth through initiatives such as availing credit facilities, building capacity to self reliance, marketing local products and providing information on job opportunities both from within and without the country. This study precisely seeks to find out whether this ambitious project of the Youth Enterprise

Development Fund was able to provide the desired services such as the aforementioned effectively.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The Government of Kenya through the Environmental and Social Management Policy Framework (ESMF) states that youth represent approximately 30 percent of Kenya's population and their unemployment is twice the country's average. Almost one third of Kenyans are between 15 and 29 years, and the total reached almost 11 million people in 2006 says the report.

According to the Kenya Poverty and Inequality Assessment (KPIA, 2006) this age cohort is now at a historical high. Youth in Kenya face serious challenges, including high rates of unemployment and underemployment. The overall unemployment rates for youth is double that of the adult, at about 21 percent (KPIA, 2006). Statistics on joblessness suggest that the magnitude of the unemployment problem is larger for youth with 38 percent of youth neither in school nor work (KPIA, 2006)

The violence in early 2008 highlighted the critical importance of addressing the problem of poverty and inequality, and in particular the increasing problem of idle youth. Significant change in the population of the young people is a challenge to the nation at large as it is likely to result in increased crime, drug and substance abuse, and other symptoms of social disorder due to unfulfilled needs. Minimal involvement of young people in gainful employment and economic participation as well as their exclusion and marginalization from decision making process and policies is a threat to the stability of the country. In addition, the lack of action on the challenges that affect youth will escalate both social and economic costs of development in Kenya.

In the face of all these social plights of the youth, the government of Kenya has made some attempts to address the youth problem. Key among them is conception of The Youth Enterprise Development in 2006 and was transformed into a state corporation on 11th May 2007. The fund focuses on enterprise development as a key strategy that will increase economic opportunities for, and participation by Kenyan youth in nation building. The mandate of the Fund is not only increasing access to capital by young entrepreneurs but also provides business development services, facilitates linkages in supply chains, create market opportunities locally and abroad for products and services of youth enterprises, and facilitates creation of commercial infrastructure to support growth of youth enterprises (MOYA, 2009)

The youth problem is even worse*in North Eastern Province where ironically, the Youth Enterprise Development Fund is least utilized. Only 5 percent of the funds disbursed through the C –YES and only 1 percent of funds disbursed through financial Intermediaries have been utilized in this province at least according to the Funds Status Report of 30 October 2009. This study attempts to assess the influence of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) particularly on the livelihoods of youth in Mandera East district of North Eastern Province of Kenya. The study investigates how the Youth Enterprise Development Fund influenced the income levels and capacity to self-reliance of the youth in Mandera East District.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The study is intended to assess the influence of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund on Livelihoods of Youth in Mandera East District in terms of increased incomes and capacity to self-reliance.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

This study will be guided by the following objectives:

1. To establish the extent to which Capacity building through the Youth Enterprise Development Fund promotes youth livelihoods in Mandera East District.
2. To determine the extent to which increased income levels influenced youth livelihoods in Mandera East District.
3. To determine the factors that contribute to the low utilization of the Youth Fund in Mandera East District
4. To establish the extent to which gender mainstreaming in the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) promotes youth livelihoods in Mandera East District.

1.5 Research Questions

1. What is the extent to which Capacity building through the Youth Enterprise Development Fund promotes youth livelihoods?
2. What is the extent to which increased income levels influenced youth livelihoods in Mandera?
3. Which are the factors that contribute to the low utilization of the Youth Fund in Mandera East District?
4. What is the extent to which gender mainstreaming in the Youth Enterprise Development Fund promotes youth livelihoods?

1.6 Significance of the study

This study is important because it reveals the perceptions of the youth as the major stakeholders of the fund, regarding the role this programme has played in their lives over the years. The study is expected to show the role The Youth Enterprise Development Fund played in promoting capacity of youth to self reliance in Mandera East District. This will

help in the formulation of policies to improve the situation. The study has also explained the influence of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund in the annual incomes of youth. The study explains why there is poor utilization of the fund in the Mandera East District and suggests measures that can be taken to improve the situation. Lastly the study establishes the level of gender mainstreaming within the programme, all the above being important inputs to improve the strategies used to implement the YEDF programme and if possible customize the programme design by regions. This study is expected to form a basis for future and further research in the field of youth programmes.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

The major limitation of this study may be that the researcher is a student at the same time an employee with a limited time span to carry out research activity. Other limiting factors included budget constraints, long distance to cover in a wide geographical terrain, poor road network, insecurity and poor communication network in the region. Despite the limitations the researcher put in place a good work-plan way before the study began and recruited research assistants locally who had vast knowledge of the research area.

1.8 Delimitation of the study

The theoretical perspective adopted in this study is largely that of the Sustainable Livelihood Framework where the concept of livelihood includes increased incomes, reduced vulnerability, increased capacity to self-reliance, increased food security, increased wellbeing and sustainable use of natural resources among others. However, in this study only two of the aforementioned components were used limiting the scope of the study to the only two variables. The study was limited to Mandera East District. The limitations were necessitated because of the limited capacity of the researcher to undertake a comprehensive survey owing to limited funding.

1.9 Assumptions of the study

It has been assumed that the respondents gave facts and were honest. The study also assumed that youths who were in the selected sites in Mandera during the interviews were a good representative of the youths from the District.

1.10 Definition of significant terms

Livelihood: refers to the capabilities, assets and strategies that people use to make a living;

that is, to achieve food and income security through a variety of economic activities.

Vulnerability: is susceptibility to physical or emotional distress due to the lack of Sustainable livelihoods.

Income: refers to monetary gains to individuals or groups of individuals mainly from business supported in one way or another by the YEDF project.

Capacity to self reliance: is the ability to achieve economic independence particularly that of the capacity to generate income.

Unemployment: in the context of this study means a situation where youth are available and willing to work but are currently without work.

Underemployment: means a situation where a youth is employed but not in the capacity desired. Capacity whether in terms of compensation, hours, or level of skill and experience. While not technically unemployed, the under employed are often competing for available jobs

Youth: persons aged between 18 to 35 years of age.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter identifies the youth fund as among the many devolved funds of the government of Kenya. Also in the chapter is literature about the dangers of the unprecedented global phenomenon of the increasing population of young people who are affected by the equally increasing unemployment rates. The chapter presents the literature reviewed into the following sub-topics.

2.2 Challenges Facing Youth in the World

According to a report released by the United Nations in October 2006, Young people represent one-fourth of the world's six billion people, of which 86 percent live in developing countries. The report estimates that one in five youth live on less than \$1 a day and that as many as 45% live on less than \$2 per day. These statistics take on an added significance when they are considered against the many dimensions of poverty, as reflected in the Millennium Development Goals: hunger and malnutrition; lack of access to education and other basic services; high exposure to diseases; unsafe environment and lack of participation in decision-making.

Although only one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) specifically mentions youth, a closer look will reveal the fact that young people are at the core of every goal.

The majority of the world's young people with support from family, school, community and peers eventually find a meaningful place in society as young adults, having managed the transition from protected childhood to independent adulthood. However, the report notes that the stage of youth for every generation is also a stage of transitional risk

behavior, delinquency, sexual experimentation, and experimentation with harmful substances and various forms of peer pressure.

As young people are a generally healthy segment of the population, their health needs have been overlooked. The HIV and AIDS pandemic have radically changed this, affecting young people more than any other segment of the world's population. Early pregnancy in most part of the globe has declined, with young people reaching puberty at earlier stages and marrying later. However, teenage parenthood remains a major concern, because of the health risk for both mother and child, and the impact on girls' education and prospects.

The report argues that taxation may be an effective means to reduce youth alcohol consumption, since young drinkers tend to have more limited budgets. "Statistically young people constitute the most criminally active segment of the population, although eventually most will desist from criminal and deviant activity. In most cases the offenders are males acting in groups (Semboja, 2005).

Most of the problems facing today's youth are not restricted to any one ethnic or religious group, but affect young people globally. Most discussions on youth have focussed on issues such as drug abuse, crime, violence, sexuality and poverty. In addition to these, today's youth are afflicted by new challenges. These include: An Identity Crisis; Lack of self confidence and low self esteem; A sense of hopelessness; Confusion and ambiguity concerning moral issues; The negative impact of the electronic media and Competitiveness in education: the uneven playing field.

In most African countries, including the three East African countries, unemployment, under-employment and poverty levels have continued to increase and have remained at

extremely high levels despite considerable efforts to promote sustainable development by national governments and international development agencies, (Economic Commission for Africa-ECA, 2002). In recent years, there has been increased concern over the tragic waste of human potential, particularly for the youth. Most of the youth are either unemployed or underemployed. On the other hand they can also be overworked in conditions lacking in the core labour standards. The proportion of young women in poverty is still greater than that of men, although they assume the major role in maintaining the family. They work more in the agriculture and informal economy, occupying jobs in low profitability activities and earning low incomes. This is one of the main economic reasons for the feminization of poverty in Africa. The challenge therefore is to design integrated employment-generating macroeconomic policies that create decent opportunities for young women and men, who represent a majority of the population and in the labour force (Semboja, 2005).

Young people in Kenya today live in complex and challenging times. The political and social turmoil of the 1990s left scars that today are being borne disproportionately by young people. Despite this gloomy picture however, developments in more recent years have given grounds for optimism. One such development has been the creation of a Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports whose strategic themes include:-Youth and Employment; Youth Empowerment and participation; Youth Education and Training; Youth and Information Communication Technology; Youth and Health; Youth Crime and Drugs; Youth and Environment; and Leisure, Recreation and Community service (Semboja, 2005).

The Government has attempted to address youth unemployment in several policy documents such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper which extensively elaborates on youth employment strategies through youth entrepreneurial training, micro credit schemes, vocational training and career guidance service development, youth leadership training, and ICT skills training. For the purpose of my research we will focus on the Youth Enterprise Development Fund but first let us introduce some of the other devolved funds.

2.3 Stimulation of Development through Devolved Funds

The government of Kenya has made deliberate efforts to decentralize most of its development projects over the past five years, key among them are the projects aimed at meeting the MDGs. for example. More precisely, in the year 2007-2008 budgetary allocations, more than Ksh 58 Billion went to devolved structures cording to a report published by Peace and Collaborative Network in 2008. One of the devolved fund regimes instituted under this period was Constituency Development Fund through the CDF Act, which was later changed to CDF amendment act of 2007. The fund comprised of an annual budgetary allocation equivalent to 2.5% of all the government ordinary revenue collected in every financial year. Constituency development fund is managed at the national and the grass root levels. At the national level there are constituency development fund boards and the constituency fund committees, while at the grass roots the fund is mainstreamed in the provincial administration structure under the District development Committee (DPC), Constituency Development Fund Committee (CDFC), Location Development Committees (LDC), and the Ward Development Committees (WDC) (World Bank, 2008).

Other decentralized projects that enjoy this synonymous resource distribution in Kenya include The Local Authority Transfer Fund, Constituency Bursary Fund, Free Primary Education Fund, Constituency HIV/AIDS Fund, The Roads Maintenance Levy Fund, Rural Electrification Levy Fund, The Water Service Trust Fund, The Women Enterprise Fund, The National Development Fund For Persons With Disability, The Poverty Eradication Fund And Youth Fund among others says the report by Peace and Collaborative Network (World Bank, 2008). But the question is whether Kenyans are well informed about these opportunities. My view is that majority of Kenyans are either unaware or lack the motivation to pursue recent opportunities such as the Youth Enterprise development Fund simply because of unnecessary bottlenecks posed by multiple bureaucracies. Other youth lack sufficient information on how to access the fund.

2.4 Youth Enterprise Development Fund

The Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) was conceived by the government in June 2006 as one of the strategies to address youth unemployment. The fund was officially launched by His Excellency president Mwai Kibaki on 1st February 2007. The Fund was then transformed into State Corporation on 11th May 2007. The fund was established mainly to uplift the living standards of the millions of youth who form the highest percentage of any age group in Kenya, estimated at 75% according to the Kenya National Youth Policy paper 2006.

Fund status report as at 30th October 2009 presents statistics demonstrating alarming situation in North Eastern province where the Youth Enterprise development Fund has been severely underutilized. The following tables show the disbursement report of the fund as of end of October 2009.

Table 1: Disbursements through the Constituency Youth Enterprise Scheme (C-YES)

Province	No. of Youth	Total Disbursements (Kshs)	Percentages
Central	1107	49,412,796.00	13.11
Coast	802	37,946,127.00	10.07
Eastern	1503	68,666,887.00	18.22
N/Eastern	469	18,845,000.00	5.00
Rift Valley	1981	86,257,529.00	22.88
Western	1094	42,746,865.00	11.34
Nyanza	1299	58,649,607.40	15.56
Nairobi	331	14,398,999.50	3.82
TOTAL	8586	376,923,810.90	100.00

Table 2.1 above shows the amount of money paid out to youth through the C-YES media in each of the eight regions of Kenya. C-YES is one of the two methods the government uses to disburse the youth fund. It involves a revolving fund of Kenya shillings two million for each individual constituency. North Eastern region has the second lowest percentage of 5% after Nairobi which has 3.8% but Nairobi has only 8 constituencies while North Eastern has 11 constituencies.

Table 2: Disbursement through Financial intermediaries

Province	No. of Beneficiaries	Total Disbursements	Percentages
Central	13912	408,627,971.00	20.28
Coast	6270	183,604,125.00	9.11
Eastern	10907	267,183,078.00	13.26
N/Eastern	475	28,325,002.00	1.41
Rift Valley	14185	466,510,472.00	23.15
Western	5240	111,695,857.00	5.54
Nyanza	7061	264,582,801.00	13.13
Nairobi	5510	284,385,563.00	14.11
Total	63560	2,014,914,869.00	100.00

Table 2.2b shows monies disbursed through financial intermediaries which is quite substantial as compared to the C-YES medium. A whopping two billion shillings was paid out to youth throughout the nation. Again North Eastern province is the region having received the least amount by far. Only 1.4% has been disbursed in North Eastern Province. (Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs report, 2009).

2.5 Challenges Facing Devolved Funds Initiative

Most people in Kenya are generally behind news or simply, lack interest on the government's new initiatives of spearheading development through the bottom-up approach of engaged governance holds the report the Peace and Collaborative Network (2008). This, in my opinion, is mainly due to failure on the part of the government in rising above board in building public confidence on the new institutions of development. Undemocratic appointments to the decentralised government structures render them white elephant projects for use and abuse by the serving political leaders, much to the chagrin of the public. For instance the appointment of the Constituency Development Fund Committee does not allow for community participation in a free and fair election. As such the members of parliament exercise their own discretion in the appointment of people to the committees says the report. Another failure on the part of the government, as was confirmed in the survey by CIPAC, is in creating awareness and capacity on the devolved funds at the community level. According to the survey, many people are unaware of the devolved funds let alone participating in the devolved projects, there is need to adequately empower communities on various aspects of their rights such as participation in local democratic structures, monitoring and evaluation of projects, civic engagements, political and economic development.

The use of unstable and incoherent social organizations is also a major challenge facing the success of community participation in national issues concludes the Peace and Collaboration Network (PCK, 2008). It further asserts that inept and corrupt government officials prefer to work with ghost organizations in the society at the expense of credible community led organizations, this has greatly shredded the confidence of the public in these new development initiatives. Nevertheless, I think that some members of the community are also very resistant to the new transformations hence are unwilling to participate in these community led initiatives. Abject poverty in most communities is also a course of concern to the initiatives as most people are perpetually tied to low income jobs hence their focus is skewed to meeting their immediate basic needs as opposed to the long term development projects targeted by devolution, such people usually have very limited time out of their income generating activities to participate in the new establishments.

Despite the shortcomings that plague devolved democratic structures of development in Kenya, asserts Anthony, in the Peace and Collaborative Network (2008), both the critics and the sympathisers of the government cannot ignore one fact; the bottom-up approach of development is a shared responsibility between the government and the citizens and its success or failure lies in the hands of all players in policy making including the citizenry. Since the inception of this approach of development in the country, more gains have been seen at the grass roots in terms of employment opportunities, schools enrolments and increased construction of local infrastructures than at any other time in the history of Kenya, but in order to make these initiatives last the test of time, serious checks and balances must be put in place to ensure that this holistic development approach of engaged

governance is watertight from abuse and easy manipulation by people with less regard for the wider society

2.6 Unemployment in Kenya

Unemployment is one of the most daunting economic challenges facing Kenya. The government has consequently placed job creation at the top of its policy agenda. The Youth account for 61% of the unemployed. 92% of the unemployed Youth have no job training other than formal schooling according to the report by peace and Collaborative Network (2008). The economic growth rate has not been sufficient to create enough employment opportunities to absorb the increasing labour force, hence the great challenge to find ways and means of providing the young men and women an opportunity to participate in nation building. This study will find out how the youth fund has contributed in addressing the youth unemployment crises particularly in Mandera East District.

To economists and social scientists, the unemployment statistics perhaps is a figure to be manipulated, reduced or elevated in social discourse. However to the millions of unemployed youth across the globe, this status is a reality. Their situation disallows them from reaching their dreams: a phenomenon, according to Olubusayo (2010), that places unusual burdens on their families, friends and relatives. However, to the society where the millions of unemployed youth live, eat and sleep, their condition is a real danger and surely a destabilizing force as it grows.

An unemployed youth is a frustrated young lady or man, who seeing the struggles of his or her parents is placed in the unusual circumstances of not being able to help. Some feel inadequate; others feel unappreciated. After years of toiling in schools and colleges, a profound realization of unemployment is mentally crippling and emotionally

demoralizing. In the throes of unemployment, some youths turn to various dangerous anti-social behaviors that do more harm than good. In the final analysis, the answer is inside of them. For youths to free themselves from the throes of unemployment, we have to search for the answer inside rather than the outside.

Unemployment around the world is rising; in these economically uncertain times, their numbers are rising at a faster clip. Even in countries that have had historically low unemployment figures, the number of youths dislocated by the recent global financial crisis is overwhelming the social nets in place to accommodate the unemployed. Below is a figure showing the distribution of population by age across the world.

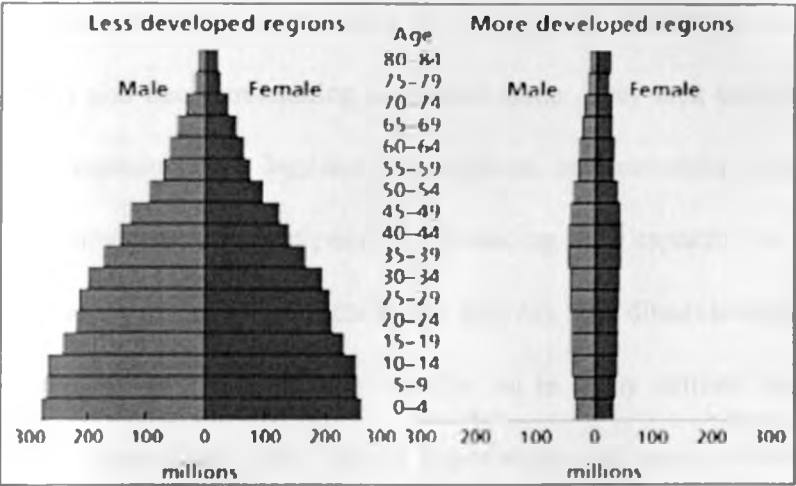


Figure 1: Population by Age and Sex for Developed and Less Developed Nations (1998).

Adopted from Youth Employment Summit Secretariat – May 2002

2.7 Encouraging and Supporting Entrepreneurship

A main factor behind the high rate of youth underemployment in Africa is the lack of productive jobs to meet the supply of youth. An alternative to reducing the underemployment is encouraging entrepreneurship, a driving force for initiating business ideas, mobilizing human, financial and physical resources, and for establishing and

expanding enterprises. Entrepreneurship is not youth specific, but can unleash the economic potential of young people and provide living alternatives for them. An enterprise and entrepreneurial culture is of primary importance. Societies that appreciate entrepreneurship and promote its values and norms can create a dynamic and vibrant class of young entrepreneurs. (World Bank, 2010)

According to a World bank report, Empirical evidence shows that educating young minds in enterprising behaviour, thus boosting confidence for calculated risk taking, increases incidence of adopting entrepreneurship as a career option. Young people, and in particular young women in rural areas, face particular challenges. They have less capital in the form of skills, knowledge and experience, savings and credit, and more difficult access to business networks and sources of information. Weak representation of young people in policy and decision-making is another issue. They lack the influence and the connection with representative business associations and networks that generally work with the government on relevant policies. Enhancing their capacity for participation in association building and policy advocacy can address this disadvantaged position. Young women entrepreneurs face additional hurdles, as in many cultures their roles in the family and society keep them from tapping opportunities in business development. Because of this, they are more likely to be in the informal economy, in self-employment activities, and are less likely to be entrepreneurs employing others.

Youth entrepreneurship can be maximized through programs and strategies that address the barriers to doing business identify youth with entrepreneurial drive and talent to be nurtured, build the appropriate skills, and help new entrepreneurs develop their businesses. Successful development of youth business hinges upon good access to well integrated

services such as management training, business mentoring programs, financial services, support in gaining access markets, and networking opportunities (World bank, 2010).

2.8 Livelihood Strategies

Livelihood development ought to incorporate the ideas and insights of a wide range of stakeholders. The design package would contain ways to acquire human, social, financial, and physical capital, to integrate youth livelihood development with programs in other sectors, and to build the capacity of local service providers. David J.W in a youth development programme suggested the following strategies.

2.8.1 Building Human Capital

This is best achieved by a combination of skills training (usually nonformal education), mentoring, and guidance, combined with helping credit-ready young entrepreneurs gain access to financial capital. Skills training programs should: Provide youth with opportunities to master core literacy and numeracy skills, basic employability and life skills, and vocational skills. They can be designed as a second chance pathway to a primary or secondary school degree, an opportunity to gain the skills needed to return to formal education, or a vehicle to acquire the skills needed to get a job or start a business.

Skills training should build upon the existing knowledge and experience of participating youth and relate these to the predominant household livelihood strategies. Allow participants to make educational gains or earn achievement certifications in manageable blocks, offering flexibility (in pacing classes and allowing students to easily enter and leave programs) to youth and their families who must often defer or interrupt educational pursuits to address day-to-day survival needs. Have schedules and locations that are compatible with the participants' livelihood and family demands and security concerns.

Any Skills training Programme should enable even the most marginalized ..(illiterate or semi-literate) groups to participate. Recover some costs, if feasible, via user fees, which encourage program staff and their sponsors to continually maintain and improve program quality, while reminding participants and their households that they should invest their scarce resources only in programs that are beneficial. Further guidance on how to design nonformal basic education programs for out-of-school youth is provided by a companion document, the *Guide to Developing Literacy Programs for Out-of-School-Youth*.¹ (David , 2008).

2.8.2 Building Social Capital

Young people frequently rank access to mentors, peer support, new ideas, and a sense of self confidence or courage as being far more important to livelihood success than access to financial capital or skills training. For example, youth consistently rank mentoring and constructive advice as important to starting, improving, and growing a small business or informal service sector activity. The key, though, is that there be a fit between the knowledge base of the mentor and the needs of the young person. Despite their good intentions, businessmen and women in the formal sector may have little practical advice to offer a young person operating in the informal sector.

Context is also important when building social capital through peer networks. Encouraging young people to join groups of only extremely poor or unskilled individuals is not nearly as effective as joining groups with members from diverse backgrounds. One promising vehicle for social capital development is service learning, whereby youth combine community service work with a form of human capital development (literacy, life, or work skills development). Service learning engages and retains youth not by

emphasizing their deficits, but by inviting them to make a positive contribution to their communities.

Another promising catalyst for the development of social capital is the use of sports-based interventions. The convening and mobilizing power of sports is well known. Some pilot projects have linked sports with health and education outcomes; others have begun to make the connections between sports and livelihood preparation. One powerful advantage of sports-for-development programming is its ability to attract private-sector funding.

2.8.3 Building Financial Capital

Failures are most often due to inexperienced youth development organizations that lack the technical capacity to manage microfinance products. Better results occur when youth development providers build alliances with community microfinance providers. In these alliances each group plays a more specialized role, and both respect the essential technical skills of the other. Such efforts do not have to be large to be effective. Adding a savings and financial literacy component to a short-term youth employment scheme, like those often found in post-conflict or post-natural disaster countries, can open new doors to project completers and can serve to build in a measure of sustainability to project outcomes.

Another lesson is to substantially invest in market research and development. Best practices in adult microfinance do not necessarily work with youth. One outcome of research is that youth, perhaps more than adults, need to be part of a solidarity group that enforces discipline in using loans wisely and in repaying them. Recent microfinance research also shows that savings products may be more appropriate for youth than loans in many contexts. Savings is a precursor to a loan, and teaches youth about financial management

without becoming indebted. Savings can be used for business purposes, or more broadly, for school or consumption, which are also important to young people. Savings (from family members or friends) are often utilized for start-up businesses more so than grants or loans.

Finally, research is showing that youth livelihood programs should not expect youth to become fully independent breadwinners. In fact, relatively small changes in income can lead youth to build or strengthen ties to their extended families, thus limiting the need to create their own households. One recent project found that street children would often return to extended family households if they could develop relatively stable incomes through street vending or other low-barrier-to-entry livelihood pursuits.

2.8.4 Building Physical Capital

Outright grants to help youth sustain their livelihood activities are sometimes necessary. For example, USAID and other donor agencies frequently help youth in rural areas or in fishing communities get back on their feet by providing them with equipment or supplies after an armed conflict or natural disaster. It is important to not overlook women's potential to use infusions of physical capital, and not exclusively support the bigger, commercial activities of the men.

Sometimes helping youth acquire physical capital is a good strategy to reward positive behavior. For example, vocational training schools sometimes reward new graduates with a set of tools or special work clothing. Sometimes it is a good strategy to reward positive group behavior, for example, providing farming or sewing cooperatives with laptops and access to the Internet after they achieve a certain level of group savings. Such tools could

help them get weather reports, technical assistance to help increase production efficiency, literacy lessons, etc.

2.8.5 Building Cross-Cutting Positive Youth Development Assets And Programs

The “40 positive assets” for youth development elaborated by the Minneapolis-based Search Institute (SI) should be built into youth livelihood programs (SI, 2006). A research base of now over 3 million youth has shown that regardless of race, gender, ethnic heritage, economic status, or geographic location, these assets promote four positive behaviors—leadership, good health, valuing diversity, and success in school—and protect youth from four high-risk behaviors—alcohol abuse, violence, drug abuse and premature sexual activity. Examples of the 40 assets include achievement motivation, reading for pleasure, adult support, establishing boundaries and expectations, constructive use of time, commitment to learning, and positive identity. Acquiring these assets helps youth thrive and serves as the foundation for their eventual contribution to family and community life as prepared and engaged adults. Research is also beginning to show that blending livelihood development with sector-specific programs in basic education, economic growth and workforce development, agriculture, public health, humanitarian assistance, or social stability in post-conflict settings is more cost-effective than investments in stand alone prevention or mitigation efforts.

2.8.6 Building Capacity of local Service Providers

Youth development practitioners and their organizations should have opportunities to learn how to: Use market research-type appraisal and assessment tools. Develop cross-sectoral programs that equip youth with multiple types of capital. Collaborate with traditionally adult-serving micro-enterprise/microfinance providers and build on current programs. Ensure youth livelihood programs complement and do not supplant family

livelihood strategies. Develop youth development assets as part of livelihood development programs. Understand the legal framework that governs livelihood activities (licenses, control of savings, use of public spaces) and advocate for pro-social changes and resources to serve youth in the informal sector. (David , 2008)

Develop a program budget and revenue plan along the full continuum of livelihood investments—from governmental assistance to commercially-viable products and services (such as microfinance products and services and skills training) where households and youth co-invest by paying user fees or interest. Develop and use M&E tools that capture sector-specific and cross-sectoral outcomes at the individual and cohort levels. (David ,2008).

Youth livelihood programs must engage and support youth, most of whom are already economically active and focused on the immediate needs of their households, and who desire more sustainable and socially constructive livelihood pathways. The challenge is to determine how to encourage these youth and help them acquire the relevant competencies and resources necessary to enhance their livelihoods, and ultimately the livelihoods of others within their communities.

2.9 Sustainable Livelihoods

The Sustainable Livelihoods approach was developed within research institutes (such as the Institute of Development Studies and the Overseas Development Institute), NGOs (such as CARE and Oxfam) and donors (DFID and UNDP). In the UK, the Government White Paper on International Development made a commitment to work towards the International Development Target of eliminating poverty by 2015. This commitment and

renewed policy focus led to a rethinking of DFID strategies, which gave SL a central role as an approach, objective and analytical framework. The SL approach has since been subject to considerable scrutiny as questions are raised about how it can be operationalised in its various dimensions. (Lautze and Angela, 2003). Below is a figure of Sustainable Livelihood Framework.

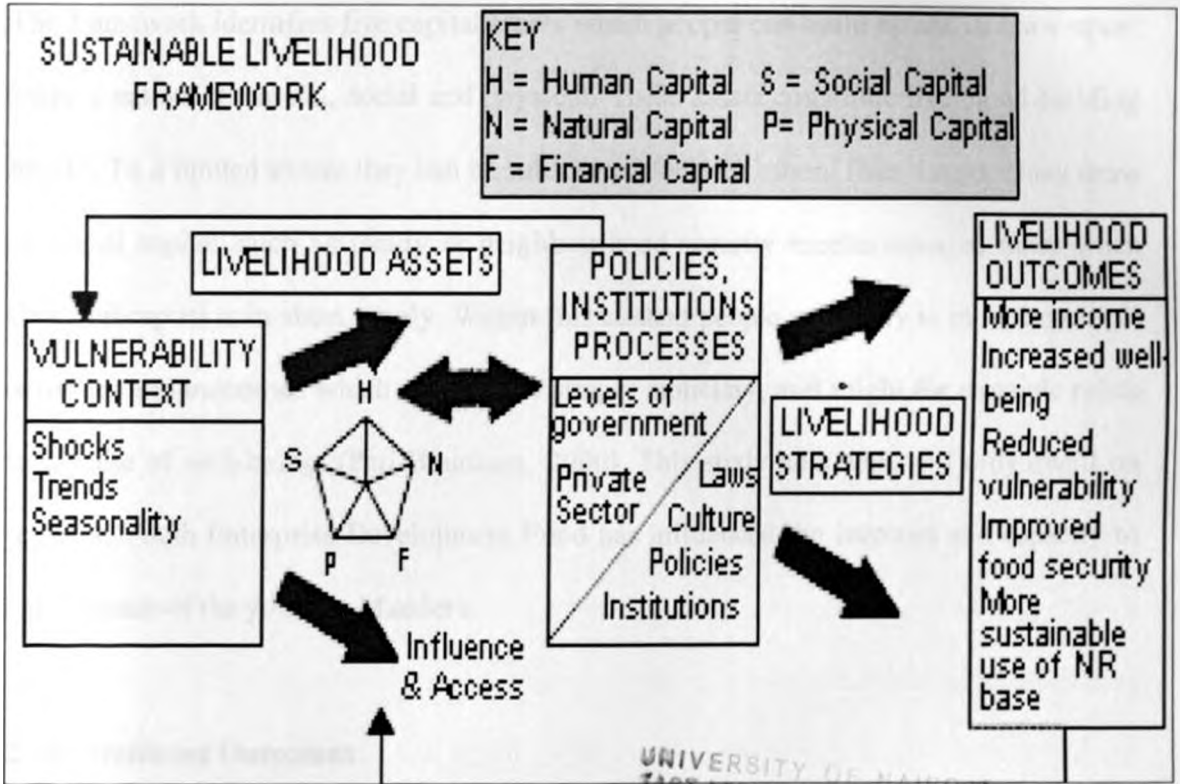


Figure 2: Sustainable Livelihoods Framework

Source. www.livelihoods.org (IDSODI, 2005)

The livelihoods framework is not intended to depict reality in any specific setting. Rather, it is intended as an analytical structure for coming to grips with the complexity of livelihoods, understanding influences on poverty and identifying where interventions can best be made. The assumption is that people pursue a range of livelihood outcomes (health, income, reduced vulnerability) by drawing on a range of assets to pursue a variety of activities. The activities they adopt and the way they reinvest in asset building is driven in part by their own preferences and priorities. However, types of vulnerability including

shocks, trends and seasonality also influence them. Options are further determined by policies, institutions and processes (such as the role of governments and the private sector and institutional, policy and cultural factors) which people face. In aggregate, these conditions determine their access to assets and livelihood opportunities and the way in which these can be converted into outcomes. (Pari Baumann, 2000)

The framework identifies five capital assets which people can build up and/or draw upon: human, natural, financial, social and physical. These assets constitute livelihood building blocks. To a limited extent they can be substituted for each other. Thus the poor may draw on social capital, such as family or neighbourhood security mechanisms, at times when financial capital is in short supply. Within this context people are likely to pursue multiple activities and outcomes which may not be simply monetary, and might for example relate to a sense of well-being. (Pari Baumann, 2000). This study however, will only dwell on how the Youth Enterprise Development Fund has influenced the incomes and capacity to self reliance of the youth in Mandera.

2.10 Livelihood Outcomes

The Sustainable Livelihoods Model, “Livelihood Outcomes” as listed in the right corner of the table above to include “more income, increased well-being, reduced vulnerability, improved food security, more sustainable use of natural resource base”. For populations living in conflict zones, these may be remote aspirations. Duffield has referred to this as the “myth of modernity”, that is, a staunch belief that conditions for society will improve over time. More often than not, however, the actual outcomes of livelihood systems in complex emergencies include starvation, poor health, mortality, destitution, shame and/or displacement. These outcomes, in turn, are mediated back to households through the lens

of society's policies, institutions and processes, a dynamic that translates these outcomes into assets but more frequently as liabilities for households, such as. the financial burden of caring for the sick in the absence of functioning health systems, the cost (social, productive, financial) of mourning the dead, or the encumbering impacts of social disgrace (Sue and Angela, 2003)

2.11 Capacity Building

Capacity Building is essential for the effective and meaningful participation of youth in realizing sustainable development. However, according to the Global Youth Coalition (2007), a large number of youth groups all over the world continue to disintegrate due to lack of capacity to sustain their operation and to develop second liners who will continue the work on a long term basis. Furthermore youth in general who compose a substantial number of the global population are forced by poverty and lack of opportunities particularly in rural communities to either move into urban center in quest for jobs, aggravating the urban social, ecological and economic problems or are forced to venture into non sustainable economic activities in the rural areas says the report. Setting up long term institutions for capacity building for youth involvement in sustainable development is thus necessary to provide ample opportunities for young people to choose sustainable economic & political options and lifestyles.

2.12 Market Linkages

One the mandates of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) is to facilitate marketing of products and services of youth owned enterprises in both domestic an international markets. Enterprise development works alongside market linkages to ensure that youth Enterprises receive complete market support based on their products and services, while improving on the skills of the youth entrepreneurs in terms of identifying

and targeting sustainable market opportunities globally and pursuing them completely (Ministry of Youth Affairs , 2006)

The Ministry of Youth affairs has also come up with Youth Enterprise (YE) mapping which is a key strategy that brings out the sum total of the existing and upcoming Youth Enterprises (YE's) to enable YEDF address their needs on sector by sector basis. YE is the baseline upon which training modules are designed and markets are explored with a product in mind. Eventually a combined effect of Enterprise Development and Market Linkages hopes to achieve a market driven production trend or culture among YE's such that no Youth Entrepreneur will engage in any production process for profits, being goods or services, without a planned and well analysed market.

2.13 Micro Finance and Livelihoods

By adopting microfinance as a central element in their development programmes, several development organisations, among them governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), aim to decrease global poverty while simultaneously enhancing the profile of women and other underprivileged communities (Hossain, 2002). Current literature has underscored the growing importance of microfinance as an essential poverty alleviation mechanism. (Farhad and Tonya, 2008).

This has been achieved by the creation of opportunities for entrepreneurship, which enable the poor to eliminate unemployment and poverty by fulfilling their creative potential (Yunus, 2001). CGAP (2003) defines microfinance as 'the supply of loans, savings, and other basic financial services to the poor'. Microcredit, a central theme of microfinance (Greene and Gangemi, 2006), is broadly recognised as 'the practice of offering small,

collateral-free loans to members of cooperatives who otherwise would not have access to the capital necessary to begin small businesses (Hossain, 2002). Successful adoption and implementation of microfinance programmes in development organisations such as ACCION in the United States, ASA and BRAC in Bangladesh and BRI in Indonesia has further increased the interest in microfinance phenomenon (ASA, 1997; Navajas *et al.*, 2000). Muhammad Yunus initially developed this innovative technique by the creation of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh. On experiencing several challenges in lending to the poor via the traditional banking system, Yunus established Grameen Bank in 1983, and this has been followed by subsequent adoption of microfinance by almost 70 countries worldwide.

The years 2005 and 2006 have recorded further successes in microfinance practice. The year 2005 was named the 'International Year of Microcredit' by the United Nations. In the following year, the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Muhammad Yunus and the Grameen Bank, marking microfinance's most prestigious accolade thus far. However, the success of microfinance has been contradicted by intense criticism in the current literature, particularly regarding loan repayment, high interest rates, exploitation of women borrowers, ineffective microfinance provision to target groups, unchanging levels of poverty and failure to cater effectively to the target groups. (Farhad and Tonya, 2008).

Based on recent field-research on microfinance institutions (MFIs) in Bangladesh and elsewhere in the world, this paper seeks to examine the efficacy of the YEDF project and analyse the role of microcredit in promoting rural livelihoods in the country. The study will be based on field-studies. I want to carry out in a District town of Mandera in Northern Kenya by applying Quantitative methodological techniques.

2.14 Microcredit from a theoretical perspective

It has been stated above that despite many accolades, arguments lauding the success of microfinance initiatives have been countered by heavy criticism regarding exploitation of women, inability to effectively cater to target groups, unchanging poverty levels, high interest rates and loan repayment (Holt, 1994; Dignard and Havet, 1995; Christen, 1997; Mallick, 2002; Brau and Woller, 2004). Chief among these issues is loan repayment. (Farhad and Tonya 2008).

2.15 Analysis of major criticisms on Microcredit

Very poor individuals are often described as high risk due to their lack of collateral and unstable sources of income and hence timely repayment of loans is often not anticipated. Holt (1994) and Christen (1997) cite loan repayment as one of the major challenges to microfinance, particularly in the Caribbean context, for example, given that a poor repayment culture has plagued numerous microfinance initiatives within the region (von Stauffenberg, 2000; Lashley, 2004).

Dignard and Havet (1995) and ASA (1997) propose several causes of default in microcredit, which can be divided into four main categories. These are organisational, household/financial, group dynamics and other factors such as geographical location and environmental degradation. Christen (1997) observes that initially between 1970s and 1980s, the latter three categories were held responsible for high delinquency rates in credit programmes for the poor. However, he suggests that contemporary microfinance programmes have countered this view by demonstrating that the responsibility essentially relies upon factors within the control of the lending institution, that is, organisational factors such as staff inefficiency and skill as well as clear communication of repayment

expectations. Despite the various factors influencing default in microcredit programmes, the current literature generally concedes that high repayment rates are a common feature of most microcredit programmes (Dignard and Havet, 1995; Brau and Woller, 2004). However, Deheija *et al.* (2005) observe that 'high repayment rates are insufficient to drive the microfinance revolution'. Consequently, they identify high interest rates as necessary for generation of profitability, in order to ensure reduced reliance of microfinance institutions (MFIs) on external funding.

In addition, studies by Deheija *et al.* (2005) emphasise that the poor are extremely sensitive to increases in interest rates which results in a reduced demand for financial services among this group. However, it is also acknowledged that, despite the detrimental effects of changes in interest rate, the actual rates themselves are substantially lower than those of the rural traditional money lender, which as confirmed by Hossain (2002) may range from 100 to 150 percent. This latter point is supported by Moll (2005) who expounds that the high rates are due to transaction costs incurred as a result of risk of lending to the poor, as well as information costs incurred in establishing the ability and the willingness of the borrower to repay. He concurs that despite the necessary additional cost, the rates are still competitive and therefore attractive to clients of MFIs. It is worth noting that in recent years many of the Bangladeshi MFIs (former NGOs) have been able to ensure their financial and operational sustainability and reduce their foreign-aid dependency with the relatively high interest rates they charge from their clients.

Failure to eliminate global poverty levels is another major criticism of microfinance. As stated by Morduch and Haley (2002), Moll (2005) and CGAP (2003b), microfinance is firmly associated with the Millennium Development Goals of poverty eradication. Mallick

(2002) questions the effectiveness of microfinance in this aspect and insists that poverty levels have not decreased in Bangladesh. Hossain (2002) refutes this claim by emphasising the fact that despite its various limitations like many other rural development models, the strength and success of microfinance cannot be ignored. This is confirmed by Yunus (2001) who reiterates that the Grameen borrower has 4 experienced increased income with one third of the very poor escaping poverty. Newaz's (2001) empirical research confirms that microcredit truly empowers disadvantaged rural women.

Therefore, Hossain (2002) suggests that rather than reduce the use of microfinance on the basis of the deficiencies outlined, these drawbacks of microfinance should instead be incorporated into its improvement. Although, as argued by Mallick (2002), poverty cannot be single-handedly alleviated by microfinance, it does play a large role in poverty reduction. In August 2005, an independent field research with the Grameen Bank borrowers in north-eastern Mymensingh district in Bangladesh we found that with Grameen microcredit, village women are making remarkable progress in their livelihoods. In a recent study on socio-economic impact of microfinance in South Africa, Hietalahti and Linden (2006) also reported that marginalised rural communities are greatly benefiting from microcredit. The Nobel Foundation (2006) advocates the use of microcredit in addition to all other initiatives, arguing that microcredit enhances their usefulness. As Potts (2002: 352) argues, 'it is unfortunate if a flexible and useful toolkit is completely discarded because some of the tools in the kit are difficult to use. What is needed is to use the appropriate tools at the right time and in the right places (Farhad H. & Tonya K. 2008).

2.16 Skills and Literacy Training

Discussions on Education for All tend to neglect the question of vocational education for illiterate adults, younger and older. Organizations that specialize in vocational training — FAO, ILO — recognize that literacy and numeracy are essential for workers to increase their productivity and incomes. This applies to people who have waged jobs, as well as to the large majorities of men and women in Africa, who farm and pursue varieties of self-employment.² Most of them have either not acquired the skills of literacy at all, or have mastered them insufficiently to be able to use them in daily life. They are among the poorest and some two thirds are women. In effect, the lack of literacy is not only a gap in Education for All, it is also obstructs the reduction of poverty. Many countries do have literacy programs and even skills training programs for poor people. Yet their institutions of vocational and technical education (VTE) tend not to be involved. Most require their entrants to have earned at least a primary school certificate, and are therefore not open to the unschooled. In effect, there is no policy for VTE for non-literate people. If this were to change, one key question would be whether people should become literate, before taking up VTE, or be enrolled in VTE programs that incorporate literacy and numeracy (John, 2002).

A sustainable livelihoods approach can provide a strategy for empowerment that aims to give young people the means for making informed decisions about their lives. It is compatible with a rights based approach to children's development as advocated by the 1998 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. One of the strengths of the approach is that it promotes inter-disciplinary collaboration (Nicole, 2001)

2.17 Enterprise and sustainable livelihoods

The issues of enterprise and entrepreneurship capabilities have been linked with the sustainable livelihoods approach due to the overlaps between the two. The Canadian

Institute for Enterprise Education defines enterprise as “the ability to take initiative to achieve a self-determined goal that is part of a future vision, in order to achieve one’s own meaning in life, while sharing achievements with others in the community” (cited in Grant *et al* 1999). Enterprise and sustainable livelihoods are relevant in light of the dynamism of the physical, social, and economic environments and relate directly to the ability of individuals to recognise, predict, and adapt to these developments in order to sustain economic returns from their livelihood practices (Nicole . 2001).

2.18 Education and livelihood outcomes

Education makes a general contribution to asset enhancement. A solid foundation provided by education enhances virtually all other efforts to build human capital. It also contributes to life skills, i.e., how to be a good citizen (Greirson, 2000). Education can also contribute directly to the development of marketable skills. This is so particularly in the case of technical and vocational education, which impart knowledge and skills that are directly transferable to a work environment. The inclusion of enterprise and entrepreneurial training as a key element of the educational process holds great potential for empowerment. It is akin to life skills in some respects, but also imparts practical knowledge, such as business management, accounting etc. (Nicole, 2001)

While the value of education is unquestioned, there are concerns about current forms of delivery and access, which relate specifically to adolescent livelihoods. In most countries of the South, formal educational programmes are not structured to allow adolescents to pursue livelihood strategies while in school. The reality is, however, that many adolescents must earn in order to learn, as their family budgets do not stretch to include school fees, supplies and uniforms. This situation is common in many countries where austerity

measures have led to decreased social spending and increased unemployment. The poor quality of available education in some areas. (Nicole, 2001)

2.19 Principles of Effective Practice

Principles of effective practice include: Creating developmentally appropriate opportunities for young women and men, considering that all youth are at different ages and stages of development, to develop skills and competencies they will need to become active contributors to their country's development, to provide young women and men a 'seat at the table' – engage them as full contributing partners in program and activity planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, to teach and use a dual approach of experiential 'hands –on-learning' and reflection whenever appropriate. This is one of the most effective learning and skill development techniques.

Others are to advocate for and provide internships, service learning, and mentoring as learning approaches, to provide opportunities for young men and women to develop a set of core skills that can be used in income generating activities, to enhance human capacity by building on the strengths of individual youth as opposed to providing quick and easy solutions to their immediate problems, to provide holistic programs that address the complex and varying needs of youth, and that offer individualized attention, life skills and hands on instruction to make a conscious effort to identify and engage existing and potential youth leaders and youth that have become disengaged, marginalized, or have been traditionally overlooked such as ethnic minorities, persons with special needs, and rural girls, and provide lasting positive mentoring relationships between youth and peers or competent caring adults, recognizing the unique challenges of finding appropriate mentors when many adults themselves lack good information about jobs, the skills needed

for earning a decent living in a market economy, or how to start a small business. Older youth and peers may be best suited as Mentors if they are screened to assure that they have appropriate knowledge and skills (USAID, 2005).

2.20 Gender and livelihoods

Livelihood strategies aim at developing self-reliance. Livelihood interventions should be designed and implemented to strengthen women's and men's productive capacity early on, when it matters most, and to promote longer-term self-sufficiency. (John ,1999)

A gender-sensitive approach to livelihood programmes entails an understanding of the different skill sets, needs, vulnerabilities and responsibilities of affected women and men and adolescent girls and boys. At the same time, a gender-sensitive approach also creates spaces to challenge gender inequality in access to and control of resources. Often, vocational training programmes for women build on their existing traditional skills without considering the potential for over-competition and market saturation within communities. Programmes that balance traditional employment promotion for women with building women's skills in nontraditional sectors that are in high demand because of post-crisis reconstruction needs (such as carpentry and plumbing) can offer more viable alternatives. (John, 1999)

To ensure equal participation of women, girls, boys and men in livelihoods programming, involve women and men in planning and implementing all livelihood programmes, if necessary convene meetings separately for women and men to capture their views and identify representatives for mixed group meetings, consult with women to identify potential obstacles to their participation (if there is a need for child care during meetings, time and place of meetings, time and mobility constraints, how socio-cultural factors, as

well as their roles and responsibilities, might affect their participation. etc.), include women's productive assets as well as men's in asset replacement and protection programmes. whether cash or in-kind.

Furthermore restore or provide financial services to meet the different needs of women and men. bearing in mind illiteracy issues, include marginalized populations in programme activities (the disabled, elderly persons, young married girls and victims of gender-based violence). For example, a useful strategy is to establish mutual referral systems among agencies to direct gender-based violence survivors to the right place for livelihood assistance, ensure the *meaningful* participation of women and girls rather than mere token representation. For example, supporting women's farming collectives or carrying out quick orientation programmes for women prior to skills training can be a useful strategy ensure that both women's and men's security concerns are addressed to enhance participation in decision-making, distribution, training and planning processes. For example, providing safe means of transportation, safe spaces for children, avoiding the promotion of livelihood activities that expose women to risks (for example fetching firewood unaccompanied) or social discredit (John,2003).

Gender is an integral and inseparable part of rural livelihoods. Men and women have different assets, access to resources, and opportunities. Women rarely own land, may have lower education due to discriminatory access as children, and their access to productive resources as well as decision-making tend to occur through the mediation of men. Women typically confront a narrower range of labour markets than men, and lower wage rates. In general, therefore, diversification is more of an option for rural men than for women. In

this sense, diversification can improve household livelihood security while at the same time trapping women in customary roles.

2.21 Role of international agencies in livelihood development

For several decades international agencies have been supporting education and training programs that prepare youth for the workforce and higher levels of education. Programs are based on the assumption that the private sector is growing and has jobs for qualified applicants. But this is not always the case. Jobs are scarce and employers may be reluctant to invest where literacy rates are low. In these situations where there are no jobs, workforce development programs may be of little significance. And workforce development can benefit only a small percentage of youth because of dire economic realities, efforts should be made to improve the well-being of the rest and give them hope. (David , 2008).

In response to this dilemma, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and other donor agencies have become increasingly interested in supplementing workforce development strategies with what is called “livelihood development,” especially for young people aged 15–24 from marginalized backgrounds. Donor agencies increasingly recognize that millions of young people working in the informal sector are finding ways to eke out a living and make something from very little—in some cases, something from almost nothing. And they take whatever paths are available to them, pro-social or otherwise. Acknowledging this reality, agencies are learning that successful strategies must help youth where they are until they can break into the formal economy and that interventions should assist and accelerate this process while improving the short-term well-being of youth and their households. (David, 2008).

Donor agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), host country governments, and civil society are also coming to realize that youth can and should be key actors in the strengthening, rebuilding, and transformation of their nations. When appropriately engaged and adequately prepared for roles in the worlds of work, family life, and civil society, youth can be definite assets for community development. However, when governments and communities disregard the huge numbers of youth with minimal attachment to the formal sector, youth can also become a profoundly de-stabilizing force. Specifically, the absence of livelihood development opportunities for youth can impede a nation's development in the form of increased crime, violence, poor health, disease, extremism, and both social and political instability. Thus, the presence of livelihood development (to complement workforce development) is a strategic necessity for national development, especially when delivered in careful coordination with traditional investments in health, education, democracy and governance, and economic growth activities (David, 2008)

2.22 Livelihood Development Programs

Successful livelihood development programs reflect actual youth realities and respond to the existing goals, plans and strategies of young people themselves and their community supporters (especially at the household and extended family levels). Perhaps the greatest misconception is that poor youth without jobs are idle and economically inactive. Still, research carried out by EQUIP3 with young people in countries as diverse as Uganda, Morocco, the Philippines, Haiti and the West Bank suggest that most contribute to household income through work in the informal sector, in household-based enterprises, or in family-based farming, fishing and petty trading activities (USAID 2005, USAID 2006, EQUIP3 2005). This mirrors the research of other youth development actors that indicate

that youth frequently use their work in the informal sector as a means of paying for continuing education and building informal peer networks linked to accessing start-up capital or introductions to employers (ILO 2004, ILO 2005, Population Council 2004, World Bank 2007, USAID 2005, USAID 2006, UNESCO 2001). (David , 2008)

Another misconception is that poor people are unable to train young people to make rational economic decisions. Research by EQUIP3 and others has shown that youth from marginalized backgrounds and their families are able to understand trade-offs and opportunity costs associated with participation in various interventions (EQUIP3, 2005, EQUIP3 2007, USAID 2005, USAID 2006, SC 2006, UNESCO 2001). Indeed, households are actively engaged in helping youth plan their futures and make practical decisions about continuing education, vocational training and the use of microfinance services and products. They deserve the consideration of those who design and implement programs intended to improve their livelihoods.

Other research suggests that many poor families do learn to save and build assets, and that effective livelihood interventions reflect marketplace opportunities, constraints, and barriers (Population Council 2004, Akkord 2006, ADB 2004, ILO 2005). The best interventions are “learning while earning” programs that represent a balance between meeting immediate household needs and accumulating sustainable livelihood capital and capabilities over the longer term. Most youth and their families do not choose between school and work, instead, they endeavor to blend and balance continuing education with short-term income generation and ongoing livelihood development demands. (David, 2008).

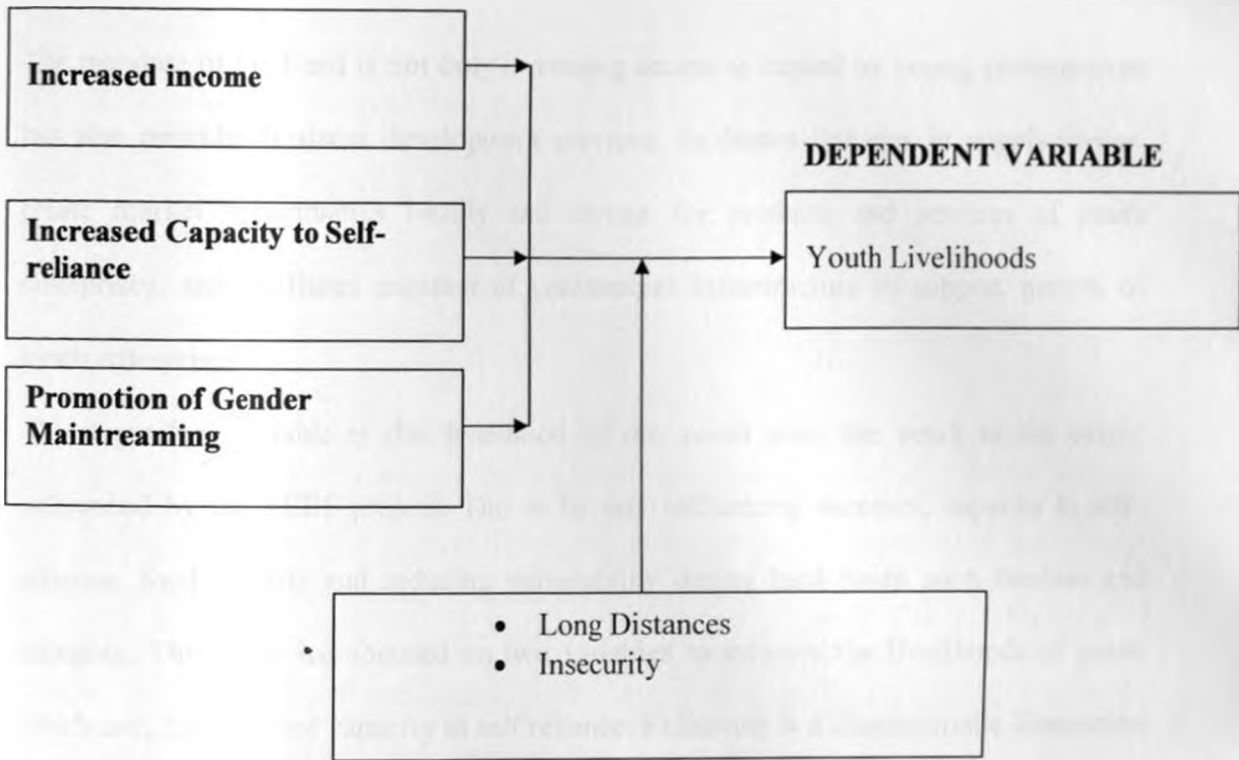
While one can talk in purely demographic terms about a single “youth cohort” (or in some countries a “youth bulge”), any meaningful appraisal of needs, aspirations, assets, and obstacles must disaggregate youth data. Gender, for instance, still plays a major role in how young people are socialized, and it can provide unique barriers and/or novel entry points into youth livelihood development. Data should be broken down by age, gender, ethnicity, rural vs. urban, household income, marital status, in school vs. out-of-school status, and developmental stage. (David , 2008)

Evidence also suggests that livelihood development is the core driver of positive youth outcomes in other areas, such as health (HIV/AIDS prevention), education, public safety, and democracy and governance (Population Council 2004, IRIN 2007, UN-DESA 2005, UNESCO 2001). These linkages, however, must be designed with specific sector outcomes in mind, along with carefully-planned and well-executed monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems (David. 2008)

2.23 Conceptual Framework

The independent variable under study here is the YEDF project offered by the government of Kenya whose focus is enterprise development as a key strategy that will increase economic opportunities for, and participation by Kenyan youth in nation building. It further consists of variables such as income through initiatives such as micro-credit, employment abroad, Capacity building, marketing of youth products. Further explanations of these variables are set out the following diagram and the paragraphs that follow.

INDEPENDENT VARIABLES



INTERVENING VARIABLES

UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
EAST AFRICANA COLLECTION

Figure 3. Conceptual Framework: the relationship between youth livelihoods and the Youth Enterprise development Fund

Micro-credit in the context of this study involves any form of micro-financing provided by the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) either through the C-YES or through financial intermediaries. Capacity Building involves life skill trainings, workshops, seminars and any other forms of training provided by the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) aimed at improving the capacity of youth to develop sustainable livelihood systems. Employment abroad include employment opportunities deliberately provided through the efforts of the Youth Employment Scheme abroad (YESA) and the Marketing of youth products mean any mechanism the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF)

employs to assist in marketing of goods and services produced by youth enterprises including giving out a quota of government tendering to youth enterprises.

The mandate of the Fund is not only increasing access to capital by young entrepreneurs but also provides business development services, facilitates linkages in supply chains, create market opportunities locally and abroad for products and services of youth enterprises, and facilitates creation of commercial infrastructure to support growth of youth enterprises.

The dependent variable is the livelihood of the youth over the years to the extent influenced by the YEDF project. This is by way influencing incomes, capacity to self-reliance, food security and reducing vulnerability during hard times such famines and droughts. This study has focused on two variables to measure the livelihoods of youth which are; Incomes and capacity to self reliance. Following is a diagrammatic illustration of the Conceptual Framework.

2.24 Summary of the Literature Reviewed

The chapter explores previous studies related in field of this study. It explains the Youth Enterprise Development Fund as the independent variable of the study and further highlights the components under the independent variable including income, capacity to self-reliance and gender issues in development. The chapter also details on youth livelihoods which is the dependent variable of the study and largely adopts the sustainable livelihoods framework.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter provides the methodology of the study. It gives the specific procedures that were followed in undertaking the study. The research design, population, sampling design, data collection methods and data analysis are described in this chapter.

3.2 Research Design

The research design that was employed in this study was a descriptive survey research design. The main purpose of descriptive survey research design was to describe the state of affairs as it is at present. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) a descriptive research is a process of collecting data in order to answer questions concerning the current status of the subjects in the study. The primary role of descriptive statistics was to describe information or data through the use of numbers. The characteristics of groups of numbers representing information or data are called descriptive statistics (Kay, 1997). According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) this type of research attempts to describe such things as possible behaviour, attitudes, values and characteristics.

3.3 Target Population

The target population of the study was the youth of Mandera East District estimated at 44,000 according to 1999 census results. The study targeted youth within selected public areas within Mandera East District. Mandera town being the headquarter city of the district, hosts the offices of all government ministries including the Ministry of Youth Affairs (MOYA).

3.4 Sample and Sampling Procedure

Here the samples and the sampling procedure which were used in the research process.

3.4.1 Sampling Procedure

The study worked with a sample population of youths in Mandera East District. The researcher sampled 50 youths in Mandera through simple random sampling. They were selected from sites which includes Mandera market, Mandera youth polytechnic, government offices' complex, the National Cereal and Produce Board, Miraa market and Mandera women group offices. These are sites that host a large number of employed and unemployed youths. Efforts were made to select youth from diverse grouping such as disabled and female youths.

3.4.2 Sample Size

The sampling frame was developed from youth in Mandera town: the sample size was 50 youths in Mandera town. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), a representative sample is one that is at least 10%-20% of the population. Mandera hosts approximately 54% of the population of the district (1999 National Census). The researcher developed a sample frame as shown in the table below.

Table 3: Sample frame

Site	Number of youth selected
Mandera market	10
Mandera youth polytechnic	8
Government offices' complex	8
National Cereal And Produce Board	8
Miraa market	8
Mandera women group	8
Total	50

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

A questionnaire was the only data collection instrument used in this study. The questionnaire contained questions which comprised of likert, open-ended and closed-ended questions. The questionnaire was divided into five parts: part (a) covered the personal information of the respondent, part (b) youth enterprise development fund, part (c) capacity building, part (d) gender issues , part (e) income. The researcher chose to use a questionnaire because it a cost effective method given that cost was a major limitation of this study. Questionnaires were used to ease of analysis.

3.6 Validity and reliability of research Instrument

These determined the soundness, accuracy, clarity and suitability of the research instrument.

3.6.1 Validity of the research Instrument

Validity is the accuracy or meaningfulness and technical soundness of a research instrument. It is the degree to which a test measures what it purports to measure. (Mugenda and Mugenda, 1999), (Borg and Gall, 1989) stated that, to enhance validity of a questionnaire, a Pilot population similar to the target population was conducted. The questionnaire was administered to a sample of 10 respondents. The questionnaire was then corrected before distribution in the final study.

3.6.2 Reliability of the research Instruments.

Reliability of instruments measures consistency of the instrument. Best and Khan (2001), consider reliability to be the degree of consistency that the instruments or procedure of measurement demonstrates. The questionnaire was administered to 10 respondents and

was repeated after an interval of a week. Data collected was subjected to analysis using cronbach alpha reliability. The cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient of three independent variables was obtained. The closer the reliability coefficient gets to 1.0 the better. For this study a cronbach's alpha reliability of 0.951 was obtained, meaning that there was high internal consistency.

3.7 Data Collection Methods

Primary data was collected using a structured questionnaire distributed to youth in Mandera town. The study used questionnaires primarily due to their practicability and applicability to the research problem. The questionnaire was administered by the researcher to the respondent through drop and pick method.

3.8 Data Analysis Techniques

For data collected to have a meaningful meaning, it was analyzed in a way that it is easy to be understood by the common man. This included analysis of data to summarize the essential features and relationships of data in order to generalise from the analysis to determine patterns of behaviour and particular outcomes. Before processing the responses, the completed questionnaires were edited for completeness and consistency. The researcher used qualitative and quantitative technique in analyzing the data. A content analysis and descriptive analysis were employed; this included mean, standard deviation, frequencies and percentages. The organised data was interpreted on account of concurrence and standard deviation to objectives using computer packages especially statistical package for social scientists (SPSS) to communicate research findings. Tables and charts were used for data presentation. Qualitative data was analysed using descriptive paragraphs.

3.9 Operational Definitions of variables

Table 4: Operational Definition of Variables

Objectives	Variables	Indicators	Measurement	Scale	Study design	Type of analysis
To establish the extent to which capacity building through the Youth Enterprise Development Fund promotes youth livelihoods in Mandera District	Independent Capacity to self-reliance Dependent Youth Livelihoods	No. of youth whose capacity is developed No. of trainings offered	Level perceived increase in capacity to self-reliance Trainings offered	ordinal	Descriptive Survey	Measure of Dispersion - Percentile
To determine the extent to which increased income levels of influenced youth livelihoods in Mandera.	Independent Annual incomes Dependent Youth Livelihoods	Increased income	Level of Income	ordinal	Descriptive Survey	Measure of Dispersion - Percentile
To determine the factors that contribute to the low utilization of the Youth Fund in Mandera East District	Independent Factors affecting utilization of YEDF Dependent Youth Livelihoods	No. of Financial intermediaries Fund accessibility	Availability of financial intermediaries Level of ease of access of fund	ordinal	Descriptive Survey	Measure of Dispersion - Percentile
To establish the extent to which gender mainstreaming in the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) promotes youth livelihoods	Independent Gender mainstreaming practices Independent Youth Livelihoods	No. of men and women in the programme Efforts give equal share of opportunities to men and women	Ratio of women to men in the programme Level of belief among youth that gender mainstreaming efforts are employed	ratio	Descriptive Survey	Measure of Central Tendency (Mean, Standard deviation and coefficient of variation.

3.10 Data analysis and Presentation

This involved data gathering, modeling and transforming of data with the goal of highlighting useful information, suggesting conclusions, and supporting decision making.

The data was first edited to inspect its completeness. It was then coded, tabulated and processed using data analysis software particularly SPSS and a simple computer spreadsheet to come up with statistical measures such as Frequency, percentages, Mean, Standard Deviation and Coefficient of variation. Tables were constructed that indicate the

result obtained. These were then explained in descriptive paragraphs. The data was presented in form of tables, percentages and bar graphs to give a substantial impression of the intended message.

3.11 Summary

The chapter outlined the research methodology to be employed in the study. The study employed a descriptive research design to capture the perceptions of the youth in selected public areas within Mandera town. The chapter covers the target population, sample and sampling procedure, data collection instruments, validity and reliability, operational definitions of variables and data analysis and presentation.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the data findings and analysis there-to on the study to assess the extent to which Youth in Mandera East District have utilized the rare opportunity availed to them by the government, the YEDF programme, by way of micro capital and/or otherwise in improving their living standards. Data analysis was done through Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Frequencies and percentages were used to display the results which were presented in tables, charts and graphs.

4.2 Questionnaire return rate

The study had targeted 50 respondents out of which 45 respondents filled and returned their questionnaires constituting 90% response rate.

4.3 Analysis of General Information

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	39	86.7
Female	6	13.3
Total	45	100

The results in the above table 4.4 show the respondents distribution in terms of their gender. From the findings majority 39 (86.7%) of the respondents were male whereas 6(13.3%) were female. This shows that a greater majority of youth in Mandera who actively involved in activities in the market places, government offices, National Cereals and Produce Board and the Women group offices are males. Since women are largely absent from the places where youth can access information and share ideas it may be difficult for many women to participate in government initiatives such as the Youth Enterprise Development Fund.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents by Level of Education

Level of education	Frequency	Percentage
Primary	15	33.30
Secondary	26	57.80
None	4	8.90
Total	45	100

The results in the above table 2 show the respondents distribution in terms of their level of education. From the findings majority 26(57.8%) of the respondents had secondary school education, 15(33.3%) of the respondents indicated that they had primary school education whereas 4(8.9%) had no education. This shows that most of the youth in Mandera had secondary education. The level of education among the youths of Mandera is low since the highest education level indicated was secondary school level. None of the respondents had university education. Because of the low level of education it may be difficult for the youth to conceptualize and write quality business proposals to enable them secure credit facilities.

Table 7: Respondents' Length of Time in Their Current Location

Years	Frequency	Percentage
3 to 4 years	10	22.20
More than 5 years	35	77.80
Total	45	100

On the length of time the respondents were in their current location, the study found that majority 77.8% of the respondent indicated that they had been in the Mandera for more than 5 years whereas 22.2% were in Mandera for 3 to 4 years. There was no respondent who had stayed in Mandera for 1 to 2 years. This shows that majority of the respondents had been living in Mandera for good time to understand the region very well. On the age

of the respondent the study found that all the respondents were aged between 18 to 35 years which is the required age by the government for one to acquire Youth Enterprise Development Fund, therefore they could give credible information for this study .

4.4 Youth Enterprise Development Fund

Table 8: Awareness of the Youth Fund

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Aware	34	75.60
Not aware	11	24.40
Total	45	100

The results in the above table 3 show the respondents' opinion on whether they have ever heard about Youth Enterprise Development Fund. the study found that majority of the respondents (75.6%) have-not heard about the youth enterprise development fund, whereas 24.4% indicated that they have heard about youth enterprise development fund. To those who indicated that they had heard about youth enterprise development fund, the study found that 90% of them hadn't benefited through loans/ grants and capacity building. The respondents further indicted that the youth enterprise development fund had not been major boost to their livelihoods. Given that investigating the level of awareness was a major objective of this study, it is worth noting that from the findings little efforts were in place to increase awareness among youth so that they can make maximum use of the Fund. In my opinion this is the major reason for the low utilization of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund in Mandera East District.

Table 9: Granting of Loans

Loans	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	4	8.90
No	41	91.10
Total	45	100

On whether the respondents had been granted loans, the study found that majority of the respondents as shown by 91.1% had not been granted loans, whereas 8.9% of the

respondents indicated that they had been granted loans. This shows that majority of the youth in Mandera were not accessing the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. To those who had been granted loans they indicated that they used it in either starting up business, expanding their business and for domestic use. The study also revealed that the worth of the businesses of those who got loans and used it to start-up or expand businesses had increased significantly in the last two years although they attribute the significant increase in business not only to the Youth Enterprises Development Fund but also to the good business environment of the area. On whether there are other credit facilities available in Mandera that the respondent know of, the study revealed that the only other credit facilities in Mandera was one through a non-governmental organization called the Islamic relief. From the foregoing, it is evident that access to credit facilities is a major impediment to livelihood development in Mandera district. Increased awareness and education about opportunities such as the Youth Enterprise Development Fund will go along way in improving the situation.

On what the respondents' reasons for not benefiting from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund, the study revealed that reasons included; they weren't aware, they had tried but still waiting the response, its not easy to get the money, you must know some one in order to get the money, the amount was too low, it takes a lot of steps to acquire the fund, interest is charged on the amount obtained, many regulations and lack of financial intermediaries to distribute those funds. In summary, the reasons can be grouped as follows; lack of awareness, unfairness in selection, bureaucracy, limited access points and interest charged given that all the inhabitants of the research area are Muslims.

4.5 Capacity Building

Table 10: Capacity Building

Capacity Building skills Received	Frequency	Percentage
Leadership skills	1	33.30
Counselling and advice	1	33.30
Record keeping skills	1	33.30
Total	3	100

On the youth development skills the respondents had received from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund, the study revealed that these skills were leadership skills, counselling /advice and record keeping skills. Only 3(6.67%) out of the 45 respondents indicated they received capacity building trainings. This was an open ended question where the respondents were free to enter what they wanted. It means that the Youth Enterprise Development Fund provides limited capacity building sessions to the youth in Mandera East district. Capacity building efforts are requisite for any development to take place.

Table 11: Assistance by YEDF initiative in planning their livelihoods programmes

Assistance by YEDF	Percentage
I received information about livelihood opportunities	100
I was assisted in planning for development	100

On how the respondents had been assisted by youth enterprises development fund in preparation for their livelihoods, the study revealed that the youth had been assisted by receiving information about the existence of livelihood opportunities and assisted in planning for livelihoods development activities. This shows that there is little assistance given to the youth in the preparations for their livelihood projects which may result in youth spending their loans for domestic use making it difficult to repay loans in time.

4.6 Gender Issues

Table 12: Rating possible strategies of ensuring Gender mainstreaming

Measures ensuring gender mainstreaming in livelihood programmes	Mean	Standard deviation
Men, women, boys and girls are involved in planning and implementation of the programme.	1.514	0.588
there are deliberate efforts to identify representatives from mixed groups of men, women, boys and girls in decision making	1.859	0.576
Measures are taken to restore or provide financial services to meet the different needs of women and men, bearing in mind illiteracy issues, young married girls and victims of gender-based violence.	1.519	1.314
There are deliberate measures to ensure that there equal chances for men and women who want to participate in the programme	1.583	0.551
Sometimes separate meetings are convened for men and women, boys and girls, to capture their different views when separated.	1.526	0.718

From the findings in table 4 above, a Five point Likert scale was used to interpret the respondent rating the possible strategies of ensuring gender mainstreaming in livelihood programmes ranging from great extent to do not know. According to the scale those statements with don't know were awarded 1 while those with great extent were awarded 5. Within the continuum are 2 for not at all, 3 for little extent and 4 for to some extent. The weighted mean was used to analyze the data. According to the researcher those with a mean close to 5 were considered to great extent while those with a mean close to 1 were awarded do not know. In regard to this they rated the following to not at all extent, Men, women, boys and girls are involved in planning and implementation of the programme. As shown by mean of 1.514, measures are taken to restore or provide financial services to meet the different needs of women and men, bearing in mind illiteracy issues, young married girls and victims of gender-based violence as shown by mean of 1.519, Sometimes separate meetings are convened for men and women, boys and girls to capture

their different views when separated as indicated by mean of 1.526, there are deliberate measures to ensure that there are equal chances for men and women who want to participate in the programme as shown by mean of 1.583 and there are deliberate efforts to identify representatives from mixed groups of men, women, boys and girls in decision making as shown by mean of 1.859. This analysis shows that there is a very low rating for the Youth Enterprise Development Fund as far as gender mainstreaming is concerned. There are insignificant efforts to mainstream gender issues in development and this is worrying given that this is a program designed in the 21st century.

4.7 Incomes

On the respondents' annual income prior to benefiting from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund, the study revealed that the income levels were less than Kenya shillings 100,000 annually for all respondents 2 years ago. The study further revealed that the respondents' incomes remained in more or less the same level over the last two years with only one out of four respondents who borrowed loans from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund recording an increase of income level to over Kenya Shillings 300,000 annually over the last two years. The study also established that the respondents shunned from attributing the increase in their annual incomes to the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. The amount of money the respondents had borrowed from the youth fund ranged between 10,000 and 30,000 Kenyan shillings. The study also established that the respondents didn't pay back loans in time due to hard economic times in the region and the high poverty levels of the area. This study agrees with the conclusion Farhad and Tonya 2008 where they assert that very poor individuals are often described as high risk due to their unstable sources of income and hence timely repayment of loans is often not anticipated.

On the possible solution to the problem experienced by respondents when accessing the youth fund, the study revealed that the solutions were, increased awareness about the funds, increased education on the funds, reduction in the legal requirement and increased financial intermediaries to disburse the funds .the respondents suggestions to improve the Youth Enterprise Development Fund included increased awareness about the funds, increased education on the funds, reduction in the legal requirement and increased financial intermediaries to disburse the funds.

4.8 Summary

The chapter outlines a comprehensive analysis of the data collected gives an interpretation of the same. The chapter was guided by the objectives of the study where it determines that the Youth Enterprise Development Fund provides limited capacity to self reliance among the youth in Mandera East District, income levels of the youth has not been improved by the Youth Enterprise Development Fund, reasons for the low utilization of the Fund in Mandera East District included lack of financial intermediaries, corruption, low loan amounts, low level of awareness and bureaucracy. The study also revealed that there were limited efforts employed by the Youth Enterprise Development Fund to gender mainstreaming in development.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSIONS CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter summarizes the main research findings of the study. The main purpose of this study was to assess the extent to which Youth in Mandera East District have utilized the rare opportunity availed to them by the government of the YEDF programme by way of micro capital and/or otherwise in improving their living standards. The findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from a may be summarized as follows:

5.2 Summary of findings

The study had 4 major findings in line with and guided by the following objectives: to investigate the extent to which youth in Mandera East District are aware of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund and have benefited from it, to establish the extent to which the Youth Enterprise Development Fund improved the livelihoods of youth in Mandera, to examine the factors that contribute to the low utilization of the Youth Fund in N. Eastern Province as compared to other regions of the Country and to investigate the extent to which Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) promotes gender mainstreaming in development.

The first finding of the study was related extent to which youth in Mandera East District are aware of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund and have benefited from it. Majority of the respondents (75.5%) indicated that they haven't heard about the Youth enterprise Development Fund let alone benefiting from it. This finding supports the study by CIPAC, that the government failure was in creating awareness and capacity on the devolved funds

at the community level and very much in line with the Peace and Collaborative Network report authored by Anthony Ogolo which indicated that most people in Kenya are generally behind news or simply, lack interest on the government's new initiatives of spearheading development through the bottom-up approach of engaged governance.

The second finding was related to extent to which the Youth Enterprise Development Fund improved the livelihoods of youth in Mandera. The study found that Youth Enterprise Development Fund hasn't improved livelihoods of youth in Mandera whatsoever.

The third finding was related to the factors that contribute to the low utilization of the Youth Fund in N. Eastern Province as compared to other regions of the Country. The factors contributing to low utilization of Youth Enterprise Development Fund was lack of awareness, low level of education amongst the youth resulting in limited understanding of the initiative, the lack of financial intermediaries to help increase accessibility of the fund and the perception that the amounts offered were too little to make any significant impact in livelihoods.

The fourth finding was related to the extent the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) promotes gender mainstreaming in development. The study found that the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) doesn't promote gender mainstreaming in development. This is so apparent because none of the 4 respondents who said they participated in the programme were female.

Other findings of the study included that the only other assistance provided by the Youth

Enterprise Development was capacity building. None of the respondents benefited from employment abroad. The trainings provided by the fund included leadership skills, counselling /advice, business skills and record keeping skills while other services included provision of information about livelihood opportunities and skills in planning for a livelihood projects.

5.3 Discussions

The study revealed clearly that the level of awareness about the Youth Enterprise Development Fund was just too low for a programme that was up and running for the last 4 years. As to whether the respondents have ever heard about youth enterprise development fund, the study found that majority (91.1%) of the respondent weren't aware of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund; whereas 8.9% indicated that they have heard about Youth Enterprise Development Fund. According to the survey by CIPAC (2007), many people are unaware of the devolved funds let alone participating in the devolved projects, there is need to adequately empower communities on various aspects of their rights such as participation in local democratic structures, monitoring and evaluation of projects, civic engagements, political and economic development The study found that the few respondents (8.9%) who had benefited from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund did so only through loans/ grants and capacity building. The study revealed that the even those youth who benefited through loans believe that the Youth Enterprise Development Fund had not been major boost to their livelihoods. This finding calls for an evaluation of this whole programme as to whether it is making any impact in the persistent problem in this country of unemployment and by extension youth livelihoods.

On the issue of loans or micro-credit, the study found that the majority (91.1%) of the respondents were not loan beneficiaries, meaning that only 8.9% acquired loans from the Youth Fund. This shows that majority of the youth in Mandera were not accessing the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. This revelation undoubtedly confirms why millions of shillings are returned to treasury, in the form of the Youth Fund, every year from North Eastern province unutilized while some regions make maximum use of such funds. Another interesting finding of this study is where some respondents indicated that they used the loans granted for domestic use making it impossible for them to repay the loans. The finding concurs with the research by Holt (1994) and Christen (1997) where they said that very poor individuals are often described as high risk due to their lack of collateral and unstable sources of income and hence timely repayment of loans is often not anticipated. They cite loan repayment as one of the major challenges to microfinance.

An important finding worth noting is that beneficiaries of the Youth Fund do not attribute their successes to the largely to the Fund. The respondents who indicated that the worth of their business had increased significantly in the last two years attributed the significant increase in business to good business environment. The study also revealed the only other credit facility in Mandera was a non-governmental organization by the name Islamic relief meaning that the the country's mainstream micro-enterprise market is absent from Mandera.

As to what the respondents who had not benefited from Youth Enterprise Development Fund thought were the reasons, the study revealed that the reasons included: ignorance about the fund and/or insufficient information on how to access the fund, perceived and experienced difficulty in accessing the fund, perceived corruption and nepotism, amounts

insufficient to start up a sustainable livelihood project, fear of inability to repay loans, time consuming and the lack of a variety of access points such as financial intermediaries. The reasons above explain precisely why the Youth Enterprise is not doing well in North Eastern Province as outlined by the fund's status report (2009) where the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs reveal that only 1% of the Funds were disbursed in North Eastern region.

The study found that youth development skills the respondents had received from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund were only leadership skills, counselling /advice, business skill and record keeping skills. This is so inadequate to enable youth achieve the capacity to self-reliance. However, Respondents on the other hand indicated that the Youth Enterprises Development Fund assisted them in receiving information about livelihood opportunities and assisted them in planning for livelihood development activities.

On the possible strategies of ensuring gender mainstreaming in livelihood programmes, the study found that majority of the respondents indicated that men, women, boys and girls were not involved in planning and implementation of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund programme, no measures are taken to restore or provide financial services to meet the different needs of women and men, bearing in mind illiteracy issues, young married girls and victims of gender-based violence. They also stated that no separate meetings are convened for men and women, boys and girls, to capture their different views when separated. The study further revealed that there are no deliberate measures to ensure that there equal chances for men and women who want to participate in the programme and no

deliberate efforts are undertaken to identify representatives from mixed groups of men, women, boys and girls in decision making.

The study assessed the influence of Youth Enterprise Development Fund on the income levels of beneficiaries over the last two years study revealed that the income levels were less than Kenya shillings 100,000 for all respondents, the study further revealed that the respondents' incomes remained in more or less the same level over the last two years with only one out four respondents who borrowed loans from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund recording an increase of income level to over Kenya Shillings 300,000 annually over the last two years. Amounts borrowed from the Youth Enterprise Development Fund ranged from 10,000 to 30,000 Kenyan shillings.

On the possible solution to the problem experienced by respondents when accessing the youth fund, the study revealed that the solutions were, increased awareness of the funds, increased education on the funds, reduction in the legal requirement and increased financial intermediaries to disburse the funds. Suggestions to improve the Youth Enterprise Development Fund project included increased awareness of the funds, increased education on the funds, reduction in the legal requirement and increased financial intermediaries to disburse the funds.

5.4 Conclusions

From the findings above the study concludes that majority of the youth in Mandera East District are not aware of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund. The study also concludes that majority of youth in Mandera have not benefited from the Youth Enterprise

Development Fund and Youth Enterprise Development Fund hasn't improved livelihoods of youth in Mandera.

The factors leading to low utilization of the Youth Fund in N. Eastern Province as compared to other regions of the Country are lack of awareness, low level of education amongst the youth, lack of financial intermediaries to help in disbursement of these funds and the perception that the amounts offered were too little. The study further concludes that the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) doesn't promote gender mainstreaming in development.

5.5 Recommendations

The study recommends that there is need for the government to introduce new strategies of not only increasing awareness but also educating the youth on their rights regarding the Youth Enterprise Development Fund and other government initiatives targeting youth. This is a priority if the government wants to attain the Millennium Development Goals and the Vision 2030.

The study strongly recommends an independent and comprehensive evaluation of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund to establish the extent to which it is successful in meeting the goals for which it has been formed in the first place. This study presents reservations on the success of the Fund. The fund has seen large amounts of monies been disbursed across the country but the question is whether many Kenyans are today better off courtesy of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund.

The study revealed that bureaucracy, lack of financial intermediaries, lack of awareness, corruption and nepotism as among the major factors that lead to low utilization of the Youth Fund in N. Eastern Province as compared to other regions of the Country, the study therefore recommends that these factors be addressed systematically so as help the youth in the region make sufficient use of the youth fund.

This study further recommends that gender issues are mainstreamed systematically in the Youth Enterprise Development Fund so as to make progress in the achievement of millennium development goal 4: promote gender equality and empower women.

5.6 Suggestions for Further Research

This study focused on only two components of Sustainable Livelihoods, that is, income levels and capacity to self-reliance. The study therefore recommends further study on the other components of Sustainable Livelihoods Framework such as well being, vulnerability to disasters, security and sustainable use of available natural resources.

REFERENCES

- Asha J. (2007). "Promoting livelihood opportunities for rural Youth" *Some Lessons from Tanzania*, Arusha, Tanzania.
- CIPAC. (2007). "Devolved Funds in Kenya" *An assessment of the Constituency Development Fund*. Nairobi, Kenya
- Economic Commission for Africa (2004). "Employment in Africa" *a Focus on East and Central Africa*.
- Farhad H. & Tonya K. (2008). "Financing the Poor: Can Microcredit make a difference?" *Emperical observations from Bangladesh. BWPI Working Paper, School of Environment & Development*, University of Manchester, Manchester
- Global Youth Coalition on WSSD. (2007). "*Youth Coucus Discussion on Capacity Building*" an annual report. London, UK
- IDSODI (2005) "Sustainable Livelihoods" on www.livelihoods.org "retrieved on 20th March 2010, 15.30 hrs"
- ILO. (2005). "Livelihood and Employment Creation: Microfinance", Geneva, Switzerland.
- John F. (1999) "Gender and livelihoods in Emergencies" Overseas Development Institute, London, UK
- Kantor P. & Erna A. (2007) "Micro-credit, Informal Credit and Rural Livelihoods" *A Village Case Study in Kabul Province, Kabul*. Afghanistan
- Manor, J. (1999) "The Political Economy of Democratic Decentralization". A report for *International Bank for Reconstruction and Development*. Washington D.C.
- Mbatia P. & Mbugua C. (2008). "A review of Challenges Faced by Kenyan Youth: *Peace Agenda in Youth Development for NPI-Africa*." Nairobi, Kenya
- Ministry of Finance (GoK) (2004) "Implementation of Constituency Development Fund Projects" *A Ministry memo*. Nairobi.
- Ministry of Home Affairs, Heritage and Sports. (2002). "FINAL DRAFT: Kenya National Youth Policy." Nairobi, Kenya
- Ministry of Planning and National Development. (2006a) "Small Grain Amaranth Commercial Farming" *A rapid results initiative reduction, Bondo District pilot project, Poverty Eradication Commission*. Nairobi.

- Ministry of Planning and National Development. (2006b) *"The People can Do It" a report on the status of PEC Pilot Revolving Loan Fund. Poverty Eradication Commission. Final Draft, Nairobi.*
- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (2010). "Fund Status report as at 30th October 2009" *a report released quarterly by the Ministry. Nairobi.*
- Nicole A. (2001). "Promoting Adolescent Livelihoods Discussion paper prepared for Commonwealth Youth Programme and UNICEF." New York, USA.
- Olubusayo M. (2010). 'Youth Unemployment in Nigeria.' Lagos, Nigeria
- Pari Baumann. (2000) "Sustainable Livelihoods and Political Capital: Arguments and Evidence from Decentralization and Natural Resource Management in India." Overseas Development Institute, London, UK.
- Peace and Collaborative Network. (2008) "Devolved Funds Initiative in Kenya, A Blessing or a Curse." Nairobi, Kenya
- Rahman A. (1999) "Women and Micro-credit in Rural Bangladesh" *An Anthropological Study of Grameen Bank Lending.* Philadelphia, PA, USA: Perseus.
- Republic of Kenya. (2003) "Working with The Poor Communities" *a Focus on the Revolving Loan Funds, Poverty Eradication Commission, Nairobi*
- Republic of Kenya. (2004) "The Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation 2003-2007."
- Republic of Kenya (2005). "Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper" *a Strategic paper for development.* Nairobi, Kenya
- Republic of Kenya. (2010). "Environmental and Social Management Policy Framework (ESMF)" Nairobi, Kenya
- Semboja (2005) The "Youth Employment in East Africa" An integrated Labour Market Perspective
- Sue L. & Angela R. (2003), "Food security in Complex Emergencies: building policy Frameworks to address longer term programming challenges" Feinstein International Famine Center, Tufts University Tivoli
- The Global Development and Research Center. (2007) "Micro-credit and Microfinance Glossary." <http://www.gdrc.org/icm/glossary/> (accessed 9 February 2010).
- UNDP. (2008). "Global Employment Trends for Youth" *report on youth unemployment.* Nairobi, Kenya.

- United Nations (2006). "MDGs and Youth" *a report on the World Youth Summit in 2006* New York, USA
- USAID (2005), "Youth Livelihood Toolkit: Preparing Out-of-School for Livelihood" A publication of EQUIP3/Youth Trust, Washington, USA
- Wilson D. J.(2008). "Youth Livelihood Development Programme" EQUIP3 Educational Development Centre, USA/USAID.
- World bank. (2005). "World Development Report". Washington, D.C
- World Bank. (2008). "Skills and Literacy training for better Livelihoods" A World Bank report Published by Knowledge and Learning Centre, USA.
- World Bank. (2009)"The Role of Youth Skills Development in the Transition to Work" *A Global Review*, New York.
- World Bank. (2010). "Youth Employment in Africa: the potential, the Problem, the Promise", New York, USA.
- YBI -The Prince's Youth Business International (2008). "*Global Forum on Youth Entrepreneurship*", Edinburgh. UK.
- Youth Employment Summit Secretariat. (2002). "Youth Unemployment: The Current Scenario." An annual report, California, USA

APPENDICES

Appendix i: Letter of Introduction

Dear participant,

FILING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

My name is Abdirahman Mohamed Adan an MA student at the university of Nairobi am doing my research projects on Youth Enterprise Development Fund am kindly requesting for your assistance to fill this questionnaire .This questionnaire is designed to study the perceptions of the youth in Mandera East District regarding the (YEDF). The study will be carried out for an academic Research Project to be submitted in partial fulfilment for award of the degree of Master of Arts in Project Planning and Management at the School of continuing and distance education, department of extra-mural studies of the University of Nairobi.

Your responses will be used for academic purposes only and will be treated strictly confidential and in no instance will your name be mentioned in the report. Thank you very much for your assistance and time spent in responding to the questions. We truly appreciated the help provided in furthering the research.

Yours Sincerely,

Abdirahman

ABDIRAHMAN MOHAMED ADAN
M.A STUDENT.

Appendix ii: Questionnaire for Youth in Mandera East District

Questionnaire for Youths in Mandera

Kindly answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge.

SECTION A: BIO- DATA

1. Gender.

Male.

Female.

2. Level of education?

Primary. Secondary. College University None

3. Length of time in the current location?

1-2 year 3-4 year More than 5 year.

4. Age

Less than 18 18 to 35 More than 35

SECTION B. AWARENESS AND BENEFITS FROM YOUTH ENTERPRISE

DEVELOPMENT FUND (YEDF)

1. a) Have you heard about the YEDF Project and what it does?

YES NO

b) If yes:

i) How have you benefited from it?

Capacity Building Loans/Grants Employment abroad

All of the above Others (State) _____

ii) Do you think the YEDF Project has been a major boost to your livelihood?

YES NO

iii) If yes, how?

Achieved life skills Micro-Finance Reduced vulnerability to Disasters

Got assistance in marketing my products Employment abroad

All of the above Others _____

3. a) have you been granted a loan? YES NO

b) If yes, how have you made use of loans granted to you ?

Start up business Expand business Domestic use

Other (state) _____

c) Has the worth of your business increased significantly in the last two years?

YES NO

d) If yes, what do you attribute the significant increase in the worth of your business?

• YEDF good business other loans

Others (state) _____

e) Please tell us any other credit facilities available in Mandera that you know of?

.....
.....

f) Please state any of the credit facilities you mentioned above that you benefited from?

.....
.....

4. If you haven't benefited from the YEDF project what do you think is the(are) reason(s)?

I am not aware I tried but still waiting response the money is too Low

Because of the interest charged other(s) _____

SECTION C: CAPACITY BUILDING

1. Which youth development skills have you received from the YEDF project?

Leadership skills counseling/advice

Other(s).....

2. How were you assisted by the YEDF initiative in preparation for your livelihood programs?

I received information about livelihood opportunities

I was assisted in planning for development activities

I received work-based and/or school-based learning opportunities

I received generic skills (reading, writing, computing, listening, or speaking)

Other (s)

SECTION D: GENDER ISSUES

1. Below are possible strategies of ensuring gender mainstreaming in livelihood programs.

Tell us the extent to which you think they are applicable in the YEDF project in a scale of 1 to 5 where 5 is to great extent, 4 is to some extent, 3 is little extent, 2 is Not at all, and 1 you do not know

Measures ensuring gender mainstreaming in the Youth Enterprise Development Fund.	5	4	3	2	1
1. Men, women, boys and girls are involved in planning and implementation of the programme.					
2. there are deliberate efforts to identify representatives from mixed groups of men, women, boys and girls in decision making					
3. Measures are taken to restore or provide financial services to meet the different needs of women and men, bearing in mind illiteracy issues, young married girls and victims of gender-					

based violence.					
4. There are deliberate measures to ensure that there equal chances for men and women who want to participate in the programme					
5. Sometimes separate meetings are convened for men and women, boys and girls. to capture their different views when separated.					

SECTION E: INCOME (KSHS)

- What was your annual income before you benefited from the YEDF project?
 Less than 100,000 between 100,000 and 300,000 more than 300,000
- What is your current annual income?
 Less than 100,000 between 100,000 and 300,000 more than 300,000
- Do you attribute the increase, if any, to the YEDF initiative?
 YES NO
- How much have you borrowed from the Youth Fund, if any?.....
- Have you repaid the loan in the agreed timeframe?
 YES NO
 If no, explain?.....
- What are the possible solutions to the problem you experience when accessing these funds?.....
- Do you think you have suggestions as to how to improve the YEDF project?

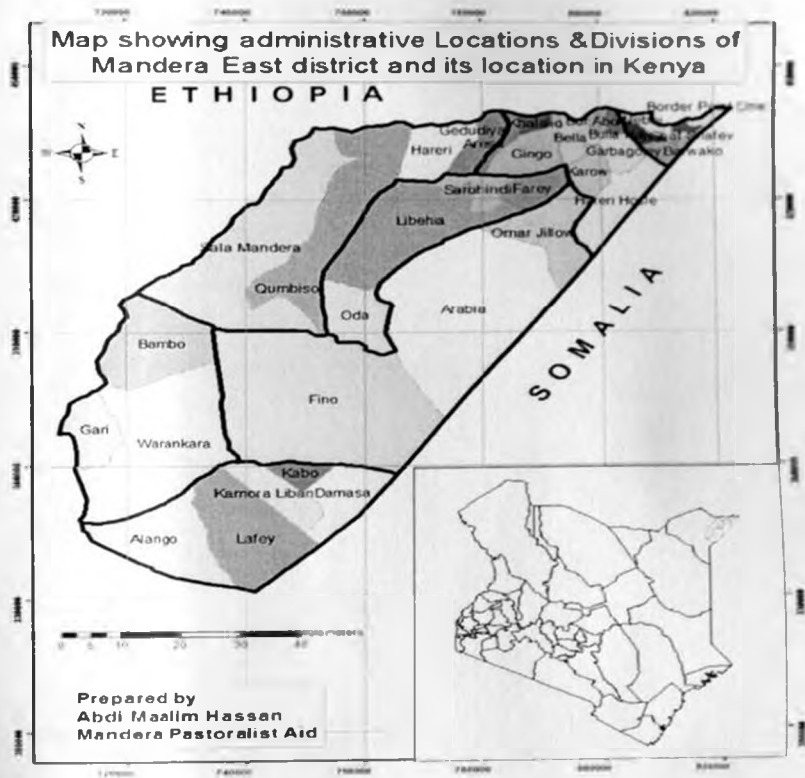
THANK YOU!

Appendix iii: Table of Mandera East District Divisions And Population As Per The 1999 Census.

Division	Locations within division	No of locations	Population
Central	Township, B/Mpya, B/Jamhuria, BP1, Kamor, Bawarko, Central, Neboi, Shafahafey	9	61,699
Khalaliyo	Karo, Garbaqole, Harerihosle, Gadudiya, Khalaliyo, dariqa, Bur-abor, Bulla haji, Bella	9	11,167
Libehiya *	Libehiya, Sarohindi, Faray, Odha	4	4,204
Hareri	Hareri, Qumbiso, Sala, Aresa	4	7,682
Waranqara	Waranqara, Gari, Bambo	3	4,274
Lafey	Lafey, Allango, Kabo, Damasa, Kamor-Libaan	5	11,049
Fino	Fino, Arabia, Omar Jilow	3	11,113
Total		37	111,188
	Lafey IDPs		3,310
Total population of the district			114,498

Source: DSO, Mandera East (2006)

Appendix iv: Map Of Mandera East District



UNIVERSITY OF EAST AFRICA LIBRARY COLLECTION