INFLUENCE OF COMMUNITY MOBILIZATIONON SUSTAINABILITY OF COMMUNITY-BASED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN URIRI CONTITUENCY MIGORI COUNTY, KENYA.

BY

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2015.

DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has never been presented for the award of any degree in any other University

Signature…….. Date: ……...

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L50/63522/2013

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

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DEDICATION

It is my sincere wish to dedicate this research project report to my dear parents, Mr. Nehemiah Ogama and Mrs. Penina Ogama. My children Cidy, Segron, Gladys Bulimu and their father Fredrick.

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It is gratifying to heartily identify specific individuals for appreciation: persons whose efforts in different forms have made enormous contributions to the accomplishment of this study. I particularly owe a lot of acknowledgement to my supervisor, Mr. Stephen Okello for his invaluable guidance, unwavering commitment and selfless determination to ensure the success of my studies.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

FAO : Food and Agriculture Organization

IFAD : International Forum for Agricultural Development

CDF : Constituency Development Fund

CSO : Civil Society Organization

CKDAP: Central Kenya Dry Area Development Program

LATF : Local Authority Transfer Fund

YEDF : Youth Enterprise Development Fund

WEF : Women Enterprise Fund

KNCHR : Kenya National Commission for Human Rights

AGOA : African Growth and Opportunity Act

ECOWAS: Economic Organization of West African States

EAC : East African Community

DFRD : District Focus for Rural Development

NGO : Non-Governmental Organization

NIDP : Narok integrated development program

OM : Operational Mobilization

SIS : Small holder Irrigation Schemes

MDG : Millennium Development Goals

CCD : Community Driven Development Project

UNDP : United Nation Development Program me

WWAP : World Water Assessment Programme

UNESCO: United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization

USAID : United States Agency for International Development

ABSTRACT

The study sought to investigate influence of community mobilization on the sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri constituency Migori county Kenya. The background of the research is based on Operational Mobilization in Europe and India that led to the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In Africa, Ghana and Angola have been captured on how mobilization reduced slave trade. In Kenya Narok county and Homabay County have been put on the spot on how to take control of their development. The study therefore sought to achieve the following objectives. To investigate the influence of community awareness creation on the sustainability of community based development projects, to establish the influence of community participation on the sustainability of community based development projects, to investigate the extent to which empowerment influences the sustainability of community based development projects, to assess the contribution that identification of resources would have on the sustainability of community based development projects and to investigate the extent to which community leadership would have on sustainability of community based development projects. The study captured significance of the study, limitations of the study, delimitations of the study, basic assumptions of the study, and definitions of significant terms. The study reviewed literature on the concept of community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, community leadership and identification of resources. The study employed as its research methodology, a descriptive survey research design. The method of data collection was survey and the data collection instrument that was used in the study was the questionnaire which was pre-tested through a pilot study to establish its validity and reliability. The study targeted 3030 members of community based development projects in the constituency and 10%of this population will form the study sample size of 303 respondents. Probability sampling design involving stratified random sampling procedure was used in which the projects were stratified on the basis of project types such as youth group projects, women group projects, self-help group projects and community based group (CBO) projects. Chapter four captured, data presentation, analysis, interpretation and discussion. Data was analyzed using quantitative techniques such as measures of central tendencies and measures of spread with the help of Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Data was presented using frequency distribution tables and percentages. The first part of chapter four covered the demographic characteristics of the respondents while the second part contained analysis of influence of community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, community leadership and identification of resources on the sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri constituency Migori county Kenya. Chapter five contained introduction on the chapter, summary of the findings, conclusion, contribution of the study to the body of knowledge, recommendation for policy action and suggestions for further research.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Community mobilization is a process through which action is stimulated by a community itself or by others that is planned, carried out and evaluated by a community, individuals, groups, and organization on a participatory and a sustained basis to improve the health, hygiene and education levels so as to enhance the overall standards of living in the community (Randall, 2008). A group of people transcend their differences to meet on equal terms in order to facilitate a participatory decision- making process. In other words it can be viewed as a process which begins a dialogue among members of the community to determine who, what, and how issues are decided, and also to provide an avenue for everyone to participate in decisions that affect their lives. Community mobilization needs many analytical and supportive resources which are internal and external as well. Several of the resources are as follows. Leadership, organizational capacity, communication channels, assessments, problem solving, resource mobilization, administrative and operational management. Recently, community mobilization has proved to be a valuable and effective concept which has various implications in dealing with basic problems like health and hygiene, population, pollution and gender bias (Randall, 2008).

Community-based development projects are local interventions that are meant to address specific needs of given community members. Such initiatives are packaged, either in the collective efforts of community members through community - based groups or external support programs. These community based groups include self help groups, youth groups, women groups and community based organizations. Owing to scarcity of resources and several economic challenges as result of current world economic melt- down, collective community activities are preferred to isolated individual endeavors. Key among the projects culminating from such organized community outfits are local health centers, education centers, small scale agriculture, small and medium scale enterprises, community social welfare, environmental management, water and sanitation and local crafts as well as the popular merry-go- round (IFAD, 2009).

In Europe Operational Mobilization (OP) was an evangelical Christian organization founded by George Verwer to mobilize young people to live and share the gospel of Jesus. OP started in 1957 when Walter Borchard, Dale Rhoton and George Verwer travelled to Mexico to distribute Christian literature and Gospels. By 1960 the men turned their attention to Europe focusing on mobilizing the National churches to global missions. Verwer's vision for global mission was that leadership would come from the local Christian community, wherever possible and not led by foreigners (Randall 2008). In Summer 1962 the first short term missions teams moved to Europe coming from UK, Spain, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, the USA and elsewhere. In the Summer of 1963, over 2000 people blanketed Europe to encourage Christians and to carry God's word throughout the continent and to find creative ways of getting it behind the Iron Curtain. Teams were also starting in India and the Middle East in 1963, but getting to those countries over land was becoming more expensive and slower due to border closings and holdups and mechanical problems among different problems (Randall, 2008). OM and Verwer's vision for spreading the gospel expanded to the seas and a ship with the purchase of the MV Lagos in October 1970. Currently it has more than 6100 people working in more than 110 countries around the world, seeking to demonstrate and proclaim the love of God. In every situation operational mobilization attempts to adapt to local culture and situation endeavoring to find the best ways to share the gospel using literature, the creative arts, friendship, Bible studies, video and cassette tapes, correspondence courses, relief and development work as well as other methods. The people working for operational mobilization tell people how their lives have changed and how others can also come to personal faith in God through Jesus. Wherever possible it works in partnership with the local church encouraging and supporting local communities. Where there is no church they seek to establish one (Randall, 2008).

Ghana is one of Africa's diverse and beautiful countries. It is a country not only rich in scenery and wildlife but also in natural resources including gold. In this country OM focused to reduce the numbers of those who are trafficked primarily in Northern Ghana.in this part of the country many children were trafficked to the south before they reach age of 12 once trafficked they can be forced into fishing, farming, domestic work, and some of the girls were made to be head porters (transporting items on their heads). Some were trafficked to bordering countries for labor and sexual exploitation. The goal of OM is to raise awareness of child trafficking as well as usher in education and advocacy. The following mobilization measures were put in place.

Raising awareness in schools, communities and churches, law enforcement and advocacy training, skills training in sewing, hairdressing and catering. In Angola there was political instability recently ravaged by decades of war. OM sought to transform the lives of the Angolan people. Due to over 25 years of civil war Angola is disparate for education for her children, a stable economy to thrive business and political reform. OP begun working in capital Luanda in February 2002 and in 2005, OP started a second base in Merongue part of Angola. Through discipleship training, spiritual development, HIV/Aids training among Christian youth, activities for children in schools, Christian clubs, and children centers, Angola has been equipped to a radical change (Randall, 2008).

In parts of Kenya local communities have been empowered to take control of their own development. The success of projects rests on community involvement and mobilization of local resources (IFAD, 2011). Narok county of Kenya has shown a great improvement in the lifestyles of people through community mobilization. (IFAD, 2011). This is a community that was caught up with old cultural practices such as female genital mutilation that led to high poverty levels in the county. The ACK church developed Narok Integrated Development Program (NIDP) whose vision is to empower communities in the county capable of uplifting the living standards of the people. The mission was to enhance church commitment in sustainable development among poor and marginalized communities through advocacy, capacity building and promoting physical, economic, social and spiritual wellbeing of the people. Currently NIDP projects include health projects funded by DFID. In the dry regions of central Kenya the scarce availability of water represents a major concern for rural communities affecting their health, sanitation, agriculture and food security through an inclusive and participatory approach the central Kenya Dry Area smallholder and community services Development Project (CKDAP) provided assistance to establish new health care facilities, irrigation and domestic water supply schemes and to promote farming technologies. An innovative structure made up of representatives from the communities, the Focal Development Committee (FDAC) was put in place to coordinate the implementation of community action plans. Community resource mobilization has been crucial in promoting local ownership of services provided and ensuring the sustainability of the projects initiatives.

In Nyanza, like other regions, mortality of community based development projects is startlingly high. In his report depicting his experiences with projects in the six districts of Nyanza, Eremie (2011) said that these districts are among the poorest in the relatively high- potential agricultural area around Lake Victoria. He further observed that the communities in these districts have strong socio- cultural traditions, poverty levels are high and institutional and policy infrastructures are weak leading to failure of projects. Suggestive of these encounters with community projects is the need to emphasize, before initiating a project, on community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, identification of resources and community leadership being integral components of community mobilization. This study therefore sought to investigate the influence of community mobilization on the sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri Constituency, Migori County

1.2.Statement of the problem:

Uriri District Gender and Children Affairs Annual Report on performance of community based groups (2006/ 2007), displayed striking statistics that provide strong basis for studying the activities of such groups. The report indicated that some community- based groups had been registered in Uriri by the same period. Out of this number, some had bank accounts with majority operating at minimum balance; others had their registrations renewed regularly and only a paltry a few presented their annual financial records. Of the number that renewed their registration, it was hard to tell if elections were being conducted periodically as portrayed by their constitutions, for the same old officials consistently made the face of such groups, added the report.

Uriri District Infrastructure and Laboratory Equipment Funds Survey (2007-2009) revealed that out of thirty projects initiated in different schools within three years, only three projects were completed and the rest remained incomplete. Similarly, the Uriri Constituency Project Monitoring Committee Report (2010) on the performance of the CDF funded community based development projects in the constituency gave a catalogue of failed projects that included Soya Beans collection project at Oyani center, the project was abandoned at the initial stages, yet it was supposed to serve the community of that area; Oyani Community Alliance one Tobacco

Project with its doors shut leaving members stranded with their Tobacco; and several home-based care projects that had promised hope to people affected and infected by HIV/AIDS.

On account of this reality, it wasclear that sustainability of community –based development projects is often sacrificed long even before such projects take off. It is worth noting that the battle for sustainability is either won or lost at the level of identification or prioritization of felt needs common to all members. Therefore, this study seeks to investigate the influence of community mobilization on sustainability of community based- development projects in Uriri constituency.

1.3: The purpose of the study:

The purpose of this study was to investigate the influence of community mobilization on sustainability of community –based development projects in Uriri constituency.

1.4: Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study were:-

1. To establish the extent to which community awareness creation influence the sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri Constituency.
2. To establish the influence of community participation on sustainability of community-based development projects in Uriri Constituency.
3. To investigate the extent to which community empowerment influence sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri Constituency.
4. To assess the contribution of identification of resources in Uriri Constituency would have on sustainability of community based development projects.
5. To investigate the extent to which community leadership influences sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri Constituency.

1.5: Research questions:

This study was guided by the following research questions:

1. To what extent does community awareness creation influence sustainability of community- based development projects in Uriri Constituency?
2. Does community participation influence sustainability of community- based development projects in Uriri Constituency?
3. To what extent does community empowerment influence sustainability of community - based development projects in Uriri Constituency?
4. What influence does identification of resources have on sustainability of community-based development projects in Uriri Constituency?
5. To what extent does community leadership influence sustainability of community- based development projects in Uriri Constituency?

1.6: Significance of the study:

The fundamental significance of this study is to sensitize the local communities in Uriri Constituency and elsewhere, on the potential for self-development that each community has. It also underscored that this development potential is anchored on the primacy of effective community mobilization and rarely on over-reliance on external support. Whereas the individual effort of each community member may be encouraged, despite being negligible in isolation, collective efforts of each community member, in organized groups provide incentives to achieving enormous gains for the entire community well-being. This is precisely the principle of the analogy 'a journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.' In this respect, one step in isolation is negligible, but its contribution in the entire journey is significant.

On more or less similar note, this study sought to inform the community members, the donors, the government agencies such as The National Board of CDF, departments of Social Development among others, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and any other interested groups that the secret to achieving sustainable development does not just depend on the provision of more and more funds, but on the degree of networking in which all stakeholders are brought on board. In view of this demand, key stakeholders must be involved at all stages of project life cycle: Involvement and participation in the identification and prioritization of felt needs; implementation of the project, administration, and monitoring and evaluation. To achieve this end, techniques of community mobilization through capacity building in education and training must be emphasized, for these are crucial to sustainability of community-based development projects.

In addition, the study contributed to bridging the gaps that had been the greatest pre- occupation of the previous scholars and provide a baseline for further research on sustainability of community-based projects in other areas. It also noted with concern that other studies be conducted to investigate factors influencing viability of brick- making and local jiko making projects in Uriri Division.

1.7: Limitations of the study:

Limitations of the study that were experienced include insufficient availability of resources in terms of finance, acquisition and development of data collection instruments, up to and

including, but not limited to inadequate time for conducting the study. Since it was hardly easy to obtain enough financial resources for the study, this problem was overcome by operating within the constraints of the budget besides ensuring that the sample sizes remain relatively manageable while still representative of the target population.

Owing to the characteristics reception of averagely high amount of rainfall annually, coupled with the fact that the study coincided with the peak period of the heavy downpour, Uriri constituency offered troublesome opportunity for conducting the study in three major ways: inaccessibility of the project locations as a result of bad roads; unfavorable weather conditions allowing less time to conduct the study; and low probability of getting respondents as most of them will be busy in their farms.

Poor weather conditions and inaccessibility was overcome by timing visits to the project areas at noon and thereabouts, just when ground conditions were stable and before afternoon downpours. Similarly, that was also the only suitable duration within which respondents who were away in their farms returned home. Nonetheless, questionnaire schedules were developed and sent to respondents who may prove difficult to be met.

Some respondents were suspicious and hence fail to cooperate with the researcher for reasons undisclosed. This was overcome by clearly explaining to them the purpose of the study and how important their participation is, for they were to benefit.

1.8: Delimitation of the study:

The study targeted community based development projects in Uriri constituency. The constituency is located in Migori County. It boarders Migori East constituency to the West, Awendo constituency to the North and Nyatike constituency to the East. According to the 2009 population census, the constituency has a population of 185,256. The target population was 3030 people. The study only focused on the projects initiated by local community groupings, youth groups, women groups and self- help groups in Uriri constituency.

1.9: Basic assumptions of the study:

The study was grounded on the assumptions that samples were drown objectively thereby guarding against the possibility of biasness and sample of 10% would be as representative to the target population as much as possible, data collection instruments would be reliable and valid in measuring the intended outcomes, and that the respondents would be able to give information expected from them correctly, honestly and objectively.

Other assumption of the study is that the targeted respondents were reached expeditiously, and that all the questionnaire schedules administered to the respondents were received.

1.10: Definitions of Significant Terms:

Community- based development projects:	These are developed interventions initiated at the community grass roots, either through the efforts of community members themselves or supported by external agencies in which local community members are the direct beneficiaries.
Community Mobilization:	A process of creating awareness and motivating a group of people to solicit their voluntary support and involvement of maximum returns towards a programme.
Empowerment:	People's capacity to make decisions and assume responsibility for their own lives.
Capacity building:	A process of empowering people to decide and take active responsibility over their lives through training to acquire knowledge, skills and attitude which will enable them to mobilize and utilize the available resources effectively.
Community Awareness	A sensitization process that raises community consciousness in understanding oneself and inherent problems in order to seek remedial measures to address such conditions.

Creation: Means that a project will continue in a community even long after support from outside agencies has been withdrawn.

Sustainability: The state or position of being a leader. It entails a display of vision and integrity, perseverance and courage, hunger for innovation and willingness to take risks

Leadership: Taking an active part in an activity or event that involves a great number of the community members.

Community Participation: A supply of something that a community or an organization or an individual has and can use to increase wealth and wellbeing.

Marshaling of the resources**.**

Resource: A process involving community participation in critically identifying people's needs and problems, prioritizing them, setting goals and making decisions on sustainable use of available resources to improve quality of their lives.

Identification of resources:

Community Development:

1.11: Organization of the Study:

The study was arranged in five chapters as outlined below:

Chapter one contains background of the study; statement of the problem; purpose and objectives of the study. Moreover; it also contains the research questions, significance, limitations and

delimitations of the study. Besides, basic assumptions as well as definitions of significant terms as used in the context of this study was also be highlighted.

Chapter two contains in-depth discussion of literature on the basis of studies that were related to this area of study. It prominently featured the variables of the study, community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, identification of resources and community leadership against the backdrop of the findings of notable research studies. Besides the variables of the study, this section also put to focus both, the conceptual framework and the theoretical framework informing this study.

In chapter three, research methodology that the study embraced was be outlined. Quantitative research paradigm involving a survey research design will be captured. The components of this section included the target population, sampling design and sampling procedures. Included also was data collection instruments, centered on instruments validity and reliability, procedures for data collection as well as those of data analysis.

Captured in chapter four was comprehensive data analysis and interpretation of research findings while chapter five entailed the founded study's summary and conclusions. In addition, this chapter also depicts the recommendations and suggestions for further research against the prism of study findings.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1: Introduction

This section put to perspective the influence of community mobilization on sustainability of community - based development projects, in which major variables of the study have highlighted against the prism of what other studies have established. It identified a gap in the existing literature thereby providing a justification of the study. Elements of community mobilization that are primary to the sustainability of community-based development projects includes: community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, identification of resources and prudent community leadership.

This chapter also incorporates discussion of the relationship among the variables of the study using a conceptual framework. It also featured on the major theories informing the study and a summary of the literature reviewed.

2.2: Concept of Community Mobilization on Community Awareness Creation:

Awareness creation is the fundamental phase in community mobilization that sets the tempo for engaging a community into sustainable action. It is a process of raising people's consciousness. That is, the quest for self awareness and critical awareness. Self awareness entails the examination and understanding of personal state of an individual on the basis of needs and problems while critical awareness demands suitable actions that address such conditions. Community based development projects therefore provide impetus for addressing people's development needs.

Development is a process by which members of a society inspire themselves and the institutions in ways that enhance their ability to mobilize and manage resources sustainably to produce sustainable and justify improvements in their quality of life consistent with their aims and aspirations (Kabanda, 2007).

In Kabanda's view, sustainable development is attained majorly through a people's inspiration process in the mobilization and management of resources, but rarely on external interventions. Responding to the UN 2010 report on poverty index that placed Nyanza second last after North Eastern, Patrick Ajwang observed, "It is high time Nyanza awake from its slumber, to make full use of its vast natural resources and technical expertise in order to move from a food- deficit to a food- surplus region, with better incomes and livelihoods for her people."

It is worth noting, though amazingly, that a visit to Nyanza reveals a lot of actions in the form of development projects and availability of vast natural resources, with little change in the people's lives. It is therefore incumbent upon the community stakeholders to be aware of such opportunities to be exploited, for sustainable development hardly depends on external interventions but on home grown initiatives. Awareness creation should be regarded as a crucial undertaking in the sustainability of community based development projects since it does not only enable the community members to identify community felt needs and promote community interests, but it also facilitates good leadership and democratic decision- making. It has emerged that many Kenyans have little or no information on the existence and management of devolved funds, giving corrupt officials the leeway to line their pockets (Oywa, 2010).

Oywa (2010) further indicates, while responding to a survey that revealed massive wastage of devolved funds, that most tax payers do not know most local authorities spend the LATIF funds. The budget days they conduct are mere publicity shows with no details on how the funds were spent. If sustainability of community based development projects were to be attained, awareness creation must be pre-requisite and all those with varied stakes are sensitized to recognize their roles and mandates in such projects. On a similar note, the draft national policy on community development, (2010) reiterated that members of a community must be aware of their needs or problems and be motivated to take actions to solve them. This draft equally emphasizes that solution to community problems are effective and sustainable if they emanate within the community and championed through the efforts of community members, and that this reality is achievable by way of awareness creation.

Awareness creation leads to fostering commitment of the community members to embrace ownership and sustainability of the community based development projects by assessing suitability of local resources in conducting community activities; while at the same time seek

external supplements. Sustainability of rural development projects must include the promotion of indigenous knowledge systems and practices, rural resource management and enhancement, and the use of natural resources in production systems, Richard Cardwell (2008). He adds that the concepts have to be introduced early through creation of awareness in a manner that will ensure participation in resource management in the long term. In occurrence with Cardwell, the need for awareness creation is also echoed by Colletta Suda (2010) on the dissemination of the draft training manual on community development, urging the District Gender and Social development Committees to ensure sustainability of community based development projects by first mobilizing and sensitizing the community on social development programs.

Further building on the need for awareness creation on the sustainability of community based development projects, the National Draft policy on community development (2010) indicated that most of the devolved funds such as the Constituency Development Funds (CDF), the Local Authority Transfer Funds (LATF), the Youth Enterprise Development Funds (YEDF), the Women Enterprise Funds (WEF) among others are issued as loans to groups, but there has been a challenge in repayment as communities have the perception that no one can hold them accountable for funds provided by the government. In other situations, communities are not aware of the existence of these devolved funds, adds the draft. Such revelations put to doubt the sustainability of community based development projects, consequent to lack of emphasis on the need for awareness creation.

Aid isn't working in Kenya, but the Aid lobby pretends it is. They do so by treating Kenya as one vast Potemkin village. Africa's Potemkin village has been erected by well-meaning-outsiders. Reality is either distorted or hidden behind false assumptions, phony statistics and misleading language due to lack of awareness by local communities, Michael (2008/2009). It is evident that external intervention in total disregard of raising awareness of local communities on their development roles only builds outside agencies at the expense of community members. In this context, sustainability of community based development projects remain a dream that will never be operationalized.

Owiti (2008) commenting on partnership to empower communities in Africa, between Microsoft and Aghakan foundation, indicated that in order to promote rural economic development, the two organizations plan to expand access to information and technology

through Aghakan's foundation existing rural support program me. Owing to the fact that every organization is concerned with the impact of its programs in the society, and to ascertain that such initiatives are effective, awareness creation is considered a mandatory undertaking.

On its report based on the assessment on Kenya's implementation of relief food programme, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), (2006) alluded to the significance of awareness creation on the sustainability of community based development projects. It observes that during humanitarian emergencies, lack of knowledge by beneficiaries, particularly women and children, about humanitarian assistance process and their rights to it contributes towards increasing their vulnerability to abuse and exploitation.

2.3: Concept of Community Mobilization on Community Participation:

In the light of the need to attain social, economic and political development of the people, this reality features a fundamental dilemma which can only be unlocked by extensive engagement of the efforts of the local communities to take actions through community based development projects. Across the world today, common challenges are approached through collective efforts and several such outfits include: European Union, African Union, and AGOA, IGAD, ECOWAS, EAC as well as grass root groupings. However, a nagging perception on the sustainability of these initiatives in addressing the needs of the people ought to be subjected to second opinion.

The degree to which community- based development projects could be sustained depends, among other factors, on the extent to which group members are involved and participate in decision making**.** Participation involves people taking part in decision making relating to their development and welfare, *Draft of the national policy on community development* (2010). It added that participation enables people to manage affairs of their communities including controlling institutions that serve them. It permits people to take initiatives; mobilize local resources for use in development; and increase a sense of belonging to the community.

Shaeffer (2005) provided some specific activities that involve a high degree of participation in wider development context including: collecting and analyzing information; defining priorities and setting goals; assessing available resources; deciding on planning programs; designing

strategies to implement these programs and dividing responsibilities among the participants; managing programs; monitoring progress of the program; and evaluating results and impacts.

It is vital to observe that where participation is low, people are rarely consulted, nor given information; they are merely told what to do. The agency plans and implements its programs which reduces people identification with it as well as poor maintenance and high mortality of projects. Where it is high, people gain control of the process, they are guided by an agency to identify their problems and make key decisions. Otieno (2007) argued that the District Focus for rural Development (DFRD) strategy could not achieve much as most projects were identified, implemented and monitored by the government while local people were only used as "rubber stamps" by assembling them and informing them of their problems.

It does not escape the attention of any keen observer to notice that failure to involve the people in community based development projects has been manifested in negative attitudes in which people become reluctant and even vandalize development projects such as community water pumps for lack of ownership. Harvey and Reed (2006) observed that participation can take different forms, including the initial expression of the demand for water, the selection of the technology and its sitting, the provision of labour and local materials, cash contribution to project cost, selection of management type and even the water tariffs to levy. In concurrence with this view, Ouma (2009) found out that grass root participation encourages the community to learn and make informed decisions on the implementation of the projects. He further observes that involvement enhances ownership and hence empowerment of the community. He recommends that community based development organization's internal structures be strengthened to be accommodative of the efforts of as many stakeholders as possible. In his study, Ogutu (2010) notes that community involvement and participation in the NGO water projects is fundamental at different stages of the project cycle. He points out that community participation facilitates capacity building for sound management of water projects by the community members on sustainable manner.

Jean P. and Gasparf G. (2008) noted that largely as a response to critiques of top-down development and of growing awareness of low effectiveness of aid absorption in poor countries, the international donor community has recently adopted the community- based development approach. They observe that such an abrupt shift in aid strategies is questionable, not because

the approach is wrong, but because of the entry into the field of numerous agencies with little or no experience in participatory development.

Cardwell (2008) in his case study of Philippines, based on sustainability of rural development projects pointed out that such projects are demand- driven based on perceived needs of participating communities with involvement and support from local government and other key service providers. In these projects communities are to take charge of their developments with improved access to knowledge, technologies and resources.

The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights Report (2006) about the assessment of the Kenya's implementation of the relief food programme attributed lack of effectiveness of relief food interventions in Kenya to the collapse of local structures in which community is not involved in identification, delivery and monitoring of the aid provided.

There is need to expand opportunities for local communities in the management of local resources. This will ensure that communities are able to make informed decisions that may have an impact on their livelihood, *The Kenya Law Alliance Report* (2009). The report of a case study of Hunter-Gatherer communities in Kenya acknowledged that integrationist – community – centered approach should be used to advance, not only the community user rights to forest resources, but it should also involve them in the management of these resources for sustainability.

Munro (2009) indicated that a main challenge to those in development is the hard realization that any program working in isolation only delivers up to a certain level. Those on the other hand, who manage to weave together partnerships or programs that are able to work in conjunction with other organizations end up delivering much more and eventually end up with broader ownership among the communities being developed. Such programs are the ones that are sustainable in the long run.

In a manner that appears to qualify Munro's view, the Ministry of Planning and National Development Strategic Plan (2004/05-2008/09) recognized that involvement of the stake holders in the past has been minimal owing to absence of national policy framework to guide the effective participation of all the stake holders in the formulation of the development agenda; the legal frame work does not provide for an inclusive consultative process in the national

planning , monitoring and reporting; and that the District Focus for Rural Development (DFRD) strategy that was designed to facilitate the participation by the grass roots in development process is largely ineffective and hence unsustainability of such initiatives.

In a recent survey showing massive wastage of devolved funds, Ochanda (2010) blamed the poor handling of devolved fund kitties on incoherent synergy among stake holders, less community participation, ambiguous governance structures and failure to respect basic constitutional principles of checks and balances. As a rejoinder to Ochanda's observation, Katula (2010) in the same report warns that 'the mess in handling of the devolved kitties is a pointer to what should be expected from the counties.'

Antony Gitonga reporting for The Standard on 11th of February, 2011, featured the theme: "Leaders Problem Stalled Projects in the area" indicated that the civil leaders in Naivasha called on CDF national board to inspect stalled projects in the area. While addressing the press in Naivasha, the civil leaders observed that the CDF office had become a 'one-man-run show' leaving locals and stake holders in the dark, added the report. Gitonga's report is a replica of common experiences in several parts of the country typical of people complaining of the dissatisfying project outcomes.

The sustainability of any particular project will depend on its overall impact on participating households, rather than simply on the outcomes of individual activities. Implied is that the way a project is implemented can have magnified influence on its long term sustainability. By fostering participatory approaches, remaining flexible in the face of inevitable setbacks and strengthening the capacity of the stakeholders to plan and manage future actions, ensures a lasting impact on the vulnerable communities, IFAD (2007). Participation of community members in community based development interventions is thus considered crucial, for it creates a sense of project ownership. Nihanya (2004) giving her encounters with women of BeitShemash, a town near Jerusalem notes that participation of community members in development initiatives should be emphasized, without which meaningful success will remain a mirage. She highlights how several community and health organizations formed a project that drew on the guiding principles and strategies of empowerment, participation, multidisciplinary collaboration and equity thereby enhancing the attainment of project goals.

A key lesson from the global studies on the sustainability of community-based development projects is the necessity of people involvement in development initiatives. Menlo (2011) suggested that if beneficiaries are able to express their views and set up projects that meet their needs, they are more likely to work and even pay to sustain the system. This explains why external support agencies around the world rely upon community level organizations to respond to community demands and assist in planning, construction and maintenance of projects. People's participation in project work contributes to the attainment of project objectives that meets the needs of the implementing community based group.

Participation of people in community based development projects is equally considered a vital component of sustainability by Clinica Verde (2010). Providing health and hope for women and children living in poverty in Nicaragua observed that it always come to that, the people, whether in mature and wealthy democracies, those of more recent vintage, or countries struggling to create representative government, the people themselves ultimately must take responsibility for their own affairs. She further pointed out that the people themselves must fashion and determine their density.

From the discussion, project's success is depicted as dependent on the level of participation of the people in key project activities, and to facilitate people's participation, empowerment mechanisms must never be ignored. This is important as a people whose capacities are low will surely have little to contribute to a development intervention.

2.4: Concept of Community Mobilization on Community Empowerment:

Among other variables, this study focused on community empowerment as being a critical success factor on the sustainability of community based development projects. According to Annina (2006), in her studies in West Africa initiated by community based organizations, empowerment entails capacity and confidence building measures to empower people who traditionally have less voice and power, and to encourage them to participate more actively in planning, decision- making and project activities. She observed in her studies in India that a strong focus on pro-poor institution building is key in achieving targeted objectives.

Similarly, Atera (2009) in her presentations on Gender issues for a workshop held at Asumbi teachers Training College, noted that to achieve the third Millennium Development Goal, there

is need to promote gender equity and empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and diseases and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable. She further observed that investment in human capital, especially female education and health raises productivity as educated and healthy women are more able to engage in productive community initiatives, find formal employment, earn higher incomes and enjoy greater returns to schooling. Educated women also give greater emphasis to schooling their own children thereby improving productivity of the next generation. Being keen on the sustainability of community based development projects, measures of community empowerment are considered necessary undertakings.

Suda (2010) in her attempt to disseminate *The Draft Training Manual on community development for comments by stakeholder's* noted that the objective of developing a community development training manual is to have a tool that standardizes training on community development. In her views, a standard training manual will ensure efficient and effective leadership, management and implementation of community development initiatives that would promote sustainable livelihoods among communities and in the long term contribute to the overall national development.

In a manner that strongly outlines the influence of community empowerment on the sustainability of community based development projects, the draft of the national policy on community development, by the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development identified empowerment as people's capacity to make decisions and assume responsibility for their own lives. It enables them to acquire the know- how and skills as well as social capital, that is, forming and managing organization as legal entities, especially the poor and the vulnerable as means for their working together. The draft added that the empowerment approach entails 'action- reflection learning' and leads to people's access to information and resources, involvement in decision making, formation and working through organizations and networks, strengthening their economic base and improved living standard right from the family level.

Community empowerment may strike readers of this study as most effective tool to achieving sustainability of community based development projects. Coincidentally as in affirmative, Munro (2009) highlighting Jamii Bora's approach to conducting sustainable business with the

poor has learned that stand alone programs are limited in delivery of change. In this respect, Jamii Bora seems to understand the connectivity between being healthy, being economically active, being socially stable, and possessing the right skills for entrepreneurship and the value of education in helping the poor free themselves from the cycle of poverty. As a result she discloses that Jamii Bora has developed a holistic approach to business with the poor, delivering a balanced package of initiatives that embrace health, skills training, education, rehabilitation, housing as well as making them work harmoniously to eventually produce a free and liberal person.

A considerable body of evidence has shown the benefits of educating a girl are manifested in economic and social outcomes; her life time health, labour force participation and income, her future children's health and nation, her community and productivity. Female participation in the formal labour markets consistently increases with educational attainment, as it does for males. Levine (2009) asserted that to ensure that community based development interventions are implemented effectively and sustained; training of community members- a special form of empowerment will need to be undertaken at various levels (Njoroge, 2008).

Having access to the structures of the governance is perceived as the primary challenge of empowerment. This is what IFAD's community- driven development projects (CCD) have attempted to promote in many countries in developing world with varying degrees of success. Empowerment in this context, packages the freedom of choice and action, of assets and capabilities to participate in and negotiate with accountable institutions that affect their lives without which sustainable development cannot be attained, Accosta (2009).

Business post (2010) featured Barclays bank's empowering community program showing how the bank has continued to dedicate a substantial amount of resource towards supporting several areas central to community well-being. These include social initiatives focusing on financial inclusions, environment sustainability and youth empowerment. It also reported that the bank donated Ksh.1 billion towards empowering the neighboring Huruma village slum residents by facilitating training which is expected to play an instrumental role in both securing and rehabilitating the forest.

Qualifying the influence of community empowerment on the sustainability of community based development projects, the government of Kenya in her popular version of vision 2030 (2007) whose aim is transforming Kenya into a newly industrializing, middle-income country providing a high quality of life to all its citizens by 2030, outlined key empowerment strategies to achieve this dream. These include: increasing opportunities all- around women, youth and all disadvantaged groups. Specific strategies will include participation of women in all economic, social and political decision- making process; improving access to disadvantaged groups such as business opportunities, health and education services, for example, housing and justice, minimizing vulnerabilities through prohibition of retrogressive practices, for example, female genital mutilation and child labor and by up- scaling the training for people with disabilities and special needs.

Influence of community empowerment on the success of developmental initiatives tends to a major pre-occupation of scholars in community development across the globe. Perret (2008) in his study of local empowerment in small holder irrigation schemes in South Africa contends that the process of irrigation management transfer including state withdrawal, promotion of water user's participation, development of local management institutions and transfer of ownership and management, become successful only with people's empowerment.

IFAD (2010) acknowledged that given the dependence of most rural communities on a limited resource base, environmental sustainability is found vital to the maintenance of household income and asset stream. It is hence critical to address the structural dimensions of poverty that perpetuate social inequality which is still not receiving enough attention in practice. This structural dimension of sustainability can be tackled by empowering poor individuals and marginalized rural households to overcome poverty through the use of marketable skills and access to social services. In other words, this is a capacity- building initiative in which individuals are prepared to make key decisions on issues affecting the society. Failure to empower the rural poor is more often blamed for the wanton destruction of natural resources such as public forests, since the poor, having no capacity to attain livelihood resort to illegal logging making such projects unsustainable.

A best project practice across the world reveals that pre-requisite to achieving project sustainability is building individual capacities. One of the goals in community based

development projects is for community members to cultivate their capacity to lead productive, healthy, meaningful, and self-reliant life and be able to contribute to the development of their communities autonomously, Magee (2011). Community empowerment, on this account, helps to develop community ownership, which is cornerstone in community sustainable project development. Engaging community members in a committee where they learn leadership, decision making skills, organizational management and a sound understanding of the tools and activities included in the development projects promise substantial sustainability.

Christine Nguli (2010), of Lima Self Help Group in Kwale district while working with UNDP Kenya observed, 'as a result of UNDP's capacity building inputs and support, through the Wild Life Fund, women of Lima self- help group have been empowered to create economically sustainable projects within their self-help groups.' She reports that UNDP's adopted self-help group approach is successful instrument for combating poverty in a sustainable way. She further pointed that UNDP does this by empowering the poor, majorly women, economically, socially and even politically in order to live a life of greater hope and dignity with their children and families within the community.

Kenya recognizes that education and training of all Kenyans, being capacity building initiative, is fundamental to the success of the vision 2030. Education equips citizens with understanding and knowledge that enables them to make informed choices about their lives and those facing Kenyan society; Kenyan vision, 2030 (2007).Unequal development increases the extent and depth of poverty. Low levels of health and education make it more difficult to translate any additional income into improved well-being, preventing people from settling problems or reaching personal goals, Thorayo (2008). In his encounters with projects in six districts of Nyanza: Homa- bay, Kuria, Migori, Nyamira, Rachuonyo and Suba, Eremie (2007) reported that his project focused on empowering rural communities by strengthening local institutions and community driven development activities, heightening community awareness of social behaviours and their consequences. Communities are assisted to articulate their needs and priorities through a community action process.

Community empowerment, as revealed from the literature discussed is a key ingredient in the sustainability of community-based development projects and this study seeks to establish the extent to which this supposition holds.

2.5: Concept of Community Mobilization on Identification of Resources:

In order to sustain a community development initiative, resources must be identified; both locally and externally to ensure that project's operations are not grounded to a premature halt. There is a common belief among most communities in developing countries to the effect that resources that are put in development initiatives are limited to funds, and that such funds must be provided by some external agency- a dependency syndrome-kind of feeling. This notion could be pre-emptive of the reasons for failure of projects, yet any locality is in possession of some resources, except that little attempt has been made at their identification for use in development projects. Resources are identified in a continuum, ranging from locally available natural materials, human resources all through to funds, if sustainability of community based development projects have to be attained .Orengo (2010) while commenting on the new look youth project that got a financial boost by the World Bank to the tune of Ksh. 6 billion quoted the project innovative manager, Michael Mugo saying that the new face of 'kazikwavijana,' the government would ensure increased community participation in sub- projects, leading to greater ownership and stronger sustainability.

In agreement with Mugo's views, Otouma (2010) notes that in three and a half years, the Youth Enterprise Development Fund had been able to positively transform the lives of thousands of Kenyans by disbursing over Ksh. 2.8 billion to 86,000 youth enterprise across the country and trained over 150,000 young entrepreneurs. He hoped that the year 2010 would provide a great opportunity to rally support among key stake holders including: governments, NGO's, youth organizations and youths themselves in drawing much needed for youth participation and development in national and international arena, in addition to providing partnerships.

In his study focusing on the challenges facing local NGO's in Kisumu city, Orondo (2010) showed that the challenges of finance, poor networking among local NGO's, and in turn affect the quality of life of the Kisumu people. According to his observation, availability of resources is critical to the sustainability of projects as resources propel to motion other key project activities.

Further exploring the extent to which resources influence the sustainability of community based development projects, investigating factors influencing management of CDF projects in Ainamoi constituency, Owuor (2009) suggested that most CDF projects should be funded to the

maximum in one financial year as opposed to funding in bits for several years. Because CDF is a highly politicized fund, more often politicians engage in trade-offs between completing projects and struggling to maintain fairness in its distribution leading to several scattered incomplete projects that are some times ignored should an opponent win the next election.

Having stressed on the influence of funds on sustainability of community - based development projects, it should not escape the attention that locally available resources, if identified and utilized sustainably, provide long lasting impacts. On the flipside, the Draft National Policy on Community development (2009) recommended that a community should, as far as possible, rely on its own resources and supplement them with those obtained from outside resources. In the same draft policy, the government admits responsibility to provide adequate resources and incentives to build the capacities of institutions promoting and undertaking community development initiatives.

Project sustainability does not just depend on the financial resources, but rather on the extent to which various local resources are identified and put to the mainstream of project activities. Questions are a bound on how local resources in entire diversity are tapped for use in community based development projects in an attempt to ensure project sustainability. Joyce Mulama (2005) citing her findings of her study on how sustainability collides with poverty painted a bleak picture revealing the degree to which local resources have been over exploited in Mbeere district making it difficult to sustain such environmental projects.

Mulama noted that visitors to Mbeere district in Kenya's central province could hardly miss them: bags of charcoal lay on either side of the road. Those who sell the bags are normally far less visible, for they hide in the surrounding dense vegetation only resurfacing to make hurried sales. She expresses her fears that tree felling may decimate the 2700 square kilometer forest which serves as catchment area for not less than 60 rivers. She blames the dwindling tree cover for massive erosion in the area, said to lose four million tons of soil annually to the Indian Ocean.

On similar note, Yiva Berglund (2008) recommended that to continue a project or expand or build one, it is often necessary to apply additional funding. He adds that, although funding organizations may fund the enhancement of the existing resource to make it more usable, they

are unlikely to support a bid that derives from a need to re- do what the project has just done because they did not follow the appropriate standards in the original project. In this case, failure to address crucial issues related to project reusability and sustainability does not inspire confidence. It is therefore incumbent upon the community- based development projects initiators to ensure that diverse resources are identified so that projects get sustained when external funding has ceased.

In a sarcastic undertone, Patrick Ajwang (2011) responding to the recent *United Nations Development Program Report* (2010) observed that Nyanza Province was ranked second last after North Eastern Province in poverty incidence. He emphatically pointed out that Nyanza must wake up and make good use of vast natural resources. He observed that Nyanza receives relatively good amount of rainfall in a year and has fresh water body and fertile agricultural land. Interestingly, many engineers, scientist and doctors have their origins in Nyanza, but they mostly live in towns, and have noticeably increased the value of land and building in cities. This phenomenon is disturbing, but can't this wealth of resources be identified and aligned to different projects at the community level in a sustainable manner in order to address this: false or real poverty situation in Nyanza?

Having recognized the need to identify local resources for use to sustain community based development projects, at times these resources must be sought to avert such situations. This demands heavy financial support so as to sustain such projects. HarmaArbaDiallo, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification said, during the conference held in Nairobi (2010) that, 'the fight against desertification was fundamentally a fight against poverty that required massive resources.' During the conference, African States development Agencies, Donors and other groups launched an initiative called 'TerrAfrica' to enhance effort of preventing land degradation and to promote sustainable land use on the continent. The hope was that about four billion dollars would be sourced for the plan, reportedly the largest of its kind, which is to be managed by the World Bank. Related studies on sustainability of community based development projects tend to underscore the need to identify diverse resources before initiating projects. It is learned that even for effective community empowerment and awareness creation, meaningful participation and prudent community leadership to be realized, sound resource base is mandatory.

2.6: Concept of Community Mobilization on Community Leadership:

There seems a relationship between the nature of community leadership and the sustainability of community- based development projects. In the light of this possibility, it might be tempting to believe that the extent to which awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment and identification of resources influence the sustainability of community based development projects will be determined by the degree to which adequate community leadership is provided.

Leadership entails a display of vision and integrity, perseverance and courage, hunger for innovation and willingness to take risks. Effective leaders have the ability to read the forces that shaped their times and seize on the resulting opportunities, Mayo (2005). In the views of Bwisa (2009), good governance must be a priority as it is the single most important factor which will determine the rate at which the country will eradicate poverty. There is need to identify and remove institutions and regulatory obstacles that hamper the participation of citizens in the process of formulation and implementation of economic policies.

Leadership, as enshrined by the guiding principles of leadership and integrity in the new Kenyan Constitution (2010, 2c) entails selfless service based solely on the public interest demonstrated by: honesty in the execution of public duties; accountability to the public for decisions and actions; and discipline and commitment in service to the people. On account of such leadership perceptions, it is apparent that adequate community leadership is pivotal to the sustainability of community based development projects.

According to Paulo Freire, the founder of psycho-social analysis, development means a balanced growth in the economic and social fields, and that development should be much more quality of life as seen by an individual, a community or a country at large. This principle is based on the premise that the core of any chosen community development intervention should emanate from distinct people's needs. This felt need must be seen to cut across majority of community members, thus through adequate leadership the community will be sensitized to set own goals and initiate sound actions that address such needs according to their experiences and local resources.

In the words of Kimutai (2006) a good leader listens and takes into consideration team member's views. The leader should be able to allow people to contribute, never overbearing and always motivating. For community based development projects to be sustained, it is incumbent upon the leaders to steer the process of setting the community goals. These goals must be agreed on by the majority and should be congruent with the aspirations, desires and expectations of the people. This can only be attained by involving the community members in decision making, planning, and design of the projects, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in addition to future sustainability of the projects.

Lulu (2006) noted that a firm's public relations can only be good if the staff are motivated and are willing to go to great length to protect its image. Social service activities involving all staff will help boost the organization's image and while this does not always translate into direct profit, it provides an opportunity for staff to interact in a social setting and build the team spirit. The staffs involved in planning and execution of such projects are likely to feel important part of the organization and will thus be motivated, develop project ownership and become innovative.

Onyango (2010) in his study on the implementation of projects in primary schools in Kisumu noted that one of the major causes of stalling of projects was mismanagement of funds. He indicated that as a result of disagreement between the school committees and the head teachers on the management of such funds, several buildings stalled. Effective community leadership must confront attitude and practices that lead to all forms of discrimination against different groups of people including the marginalized, minority and those challenged. This task may remain a mirage if community leadership is wanting, and an effective leader must recognize that co operation with other constituents, government agencies and other professionals will have far reading consequences on the sustainability of community based development initiatives. Given that community leadership aligns all parameters that influence sustainability of community based development interventions, and in concurrence, Larson (2008) observes that of the key qualities of being an effective project manager is building a cooperative relationship among different groups of people to complete projects. He believes that project's failure or success often depends on the performance of the project team, rather success or failure often heavily depends on the contributions of the top management, financial managers, customers, suppliers

and contractors among other stake holders. Should a leader reflect a good sense of value, courage and utilization of various inherent leadership capabilities of the group members, the community leadership is established and maintained even in the absence of the pioneering leader. This means that delegations and mentoring are considered vital elements of the process of nurturing community leadership which is very crucial to the sustainability of community based development initiatives. Martha Karua (2005) preparing ground for UNESCs World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) organized a workshop meant to assemble together and sensitize players and stake holders and solicit their commitment to provide data and the information for the water project according to the existing political, legal, administrative and functional requirements. She notes that the Ministry of Irrigation and Water took the lead as the sector leader. The workshop also identified project requirements, challenge areas, key performance indicators, strategies, goals and objectives and harmonization of standards. In this context the leader notes that sustainability of a project depends on how far all stake holders are involved and hence social entrepreneur developing a social capital to boost productivity.

2.7: Theoretical Frame work:

Theoretical framework refers to collection of ideas that are related based on theories and principles that offer to explain the existence of phenomena as captured by the theories, Kombo and Tromp (2006). In many fields, theories and propositions about concepts and relationships have been formulated. In such fields, the researcher may be interested in ascertaining or testing a particular theory, Mugenda and Mugenda (2003)

This study was grounded on the theory of social action, also referred to as Social Action Model of Community Development. This theory is anchored on several models, each of which can be used by community workers to establish and sustain community development initiatives. Of critical consideration among others include: Induced Social Action Model, Quasi Stationery Equilibrium Model, Social Advocacy Model and diffusions of Innovations Model.

The theory of social action has been subjected to a lot of studies, lining up findings of several proponents whose contributions must be acknowledged: Slocum (1962:513), defines social action as an effort that involves two or more members of a social system and can be positive or negative; Rothman (1968:22) views social action as that which implies a disadvantaged segment

of a population that needs to be organized so as to make demands on the large community for resources and treatment according to social justice and democracy; Tropman and Erlich (1970:170) perceive social action as taking place in situations where force is used. They add that social action usually attempts to build up pressure through massive large numbers of people in united and dramatic activity.

Other proponents include Kotler (1972:172) who defines social action as an undertaking of collective action to mitigate or resolve a social problem. He argues that social action rests on the recognition that people can improve their society through organized collective effort; Rogers and Shoemaker (1971), Lion Berger and Gwin (1982), Schonherr and Mbugua (1973) whose remarkable inputs have helped to shape the Diffusion of Innovation Model that provides a platform upon which this study rests must not be ignored. Given that all social action models derive more or less similar principles of community development; I find Diffusion of Innovations striking and effective if sustainability of community based development projects is the goal to be attained.

2.7.1: Components of Diffusion Innovations Model:

This theory shows the way social change could be brought about in a given community through adoption of innovations by members of the community. The choice of the model justified in view of the fact that effective community development is attained through collective efforts of several stakeholders, and that individual contribution is very significant. According to Schonherr and Mbugua (1973) innovation could be introduced to a few members of a social unit and from these few members, innovations could diffuse, trickle down or be communicated to other members of the social unit, Rogers and Shoemaker (1971), and Lion Berger and Gwin (1982) identify factors that influence diffusions as highlighted below:

Innovation- decision process

This refers to a series of mental stages through which an individual passes from becoming aware of a new idea to time it is adopted. These stages are: ‘awareness’ during which an individual has heard of a new idea; ‘interest’ stages during which an individual seeks more

information about the new idea; 'persuasion' stage during which an individual compares the pros and cons of the idea based on the information collected; 'trial' stage during which one tries the new idea on a small scale where possible and 'adoption' stage during which individual tries to use the new idea as part and parcel of their ongoing operations. An idea that is adopted can also be discontinued.

Personal characteristics of adopters:

These influence adoption as some individuals are found to adopt innovations faster than others. They may be willing to take risks and are more open to new ideas. The following scale displays a continuum within which a new idea is adopted: 'Innovators' (2.5%) are anxious to try new ideas, often willing to take risks and have resources that enable them to adopt new ideas; 'Early adopters (12.5%) who usually have more education and resources to enable them adopt new ideas introduced; 'Laggards' (13%) who are at the end of the scale, last members of the community to adopt new ideas and are usually less educated with few resources; and in between these popular categories are the 'Early Majority' (34%) and the 'Late Majority' (34%).

Attributes of an Innovation:

These are 'relative advantage' which is the degree by which an idea is perceived as being better than the old idea it replaces; 'compatibility' which is to do with the extent to which the innovation is consistent with old idea; 'Divisibility' which is the degree to which a new idea can be split into smaller packages that can easily be tried; and 'observability' which refers to the extent to which the results of an innovation can be easier to demonstrate. Rogers and Shoemaker (1971) indicate that innovations which are perceived as relatively advantageous, are compatible with known practices, are divisible and whose results can be observed embody a high likelihood of adoption.

The Process of Communication:

This process involves transmission of a new idea from an individual adopter to community members. This process is affected by factors such as: the type of media used; targeted population; opinion leadership; channels used; language used and outlook of the agent. Roling and Ascroft (1971) observe that communication process is the transmission of information from

a given source to a receiver and the 'effect' that message attains on the receiver may be followed by a 'feedback'.

2.7.2: Strengths of the Theory:

The social action theory acknowledges that effective community development must be people-focused, geared towards the improvement of the well-being of the entire community members rather than targeting an individual. Should several community members in various community based organizations be empowered, sustainability of such development interventions will much more likely to attained in stark contrast to efforts directed at individuals.

Moreover, the diffusion of innovations model recognizes that an innovation originating from individual community member is relatively more effective in addressing community needs than if such innovations were to be superimposed by an external innovator. In this case, an innovation that is homegrown is considered more relevant, for its origin is a community member who is privy to the experiences of the community and is therefore better placed to provide suitable remedies in handling societal problems.

Besides, the theory also appreciates the uniqueness of individuals in terms of the rate at which new ideas can be adopted (Adopters- Laggards). In the light of this view, the diffusion of innovations model is suggestive that the process of introducing changes must be gradual taking into consideration individual differences in learning, without which an innovation will fail sustainability test.

Finally, the diffusion of innovations model also holds that the effectiveness with which the new idea can be adopted depends on the effectiveness of the communication process. This means that there should be shared characteristics between the innovator and the community members on the basis of common needs and problems that the new idea seeks to address. More often superior innovative ideas have met resistance not because of their unsuitability in meeting needs of the people, but because of the ineffectiveness of the communication process

2.7.3: Weaknesses of the theory:

Since empowering several community members to adopt innovations is fairly difficult owing to its financial implications, this model though commonly used in developing countries, fails to

involve people in programmes. Innovations rarely diffuse to the rest of the members of the community. There are high chances that relying on this model will lead to concentration of an innovation to a few literate and economically 'well-off' members of communities. In such a scenario, the adoption normally tends to be directive, yet they could involve more people in the programmes if they worked non-directive.

On the adoption stage of innovation, it is held that adopted idea can also be discontinued depending on individual experiences with it in total disregard of the effort already invested in the innovation. The model therefore fails to be particular on circumstances that could prompt the discontinuance of the innovation, which may also deal a double blow to both innovators and adopters, for individuals will be reluctant to invent new ideas for fear of discontinuance.

At times people may fail to appreciate an innovative idea from a person perceived to be operating in lower echelon of the social class in the community. On account of this possibility, a superior innovative idea may be evaluated on the grounds of personal integrity with which the innovator is held in the community rather than on merit of such ideas in tackling common social problems.

Vested interests may hamper innovation and subsequent adoption of new ideas. This case can be viewed in different dimensions depending on how the innovator and the innovation are perceived, either as championing personal whims or manifest of the influence of some persons on matters of the community. Certain leaders, both opinion shapers and political in nature may, as result of jealousy may frustrate the adoption of an innovation in suspicion that such credits are likely to be attributed to political opponents.

2.7.4: Justification of the theory for this Study:

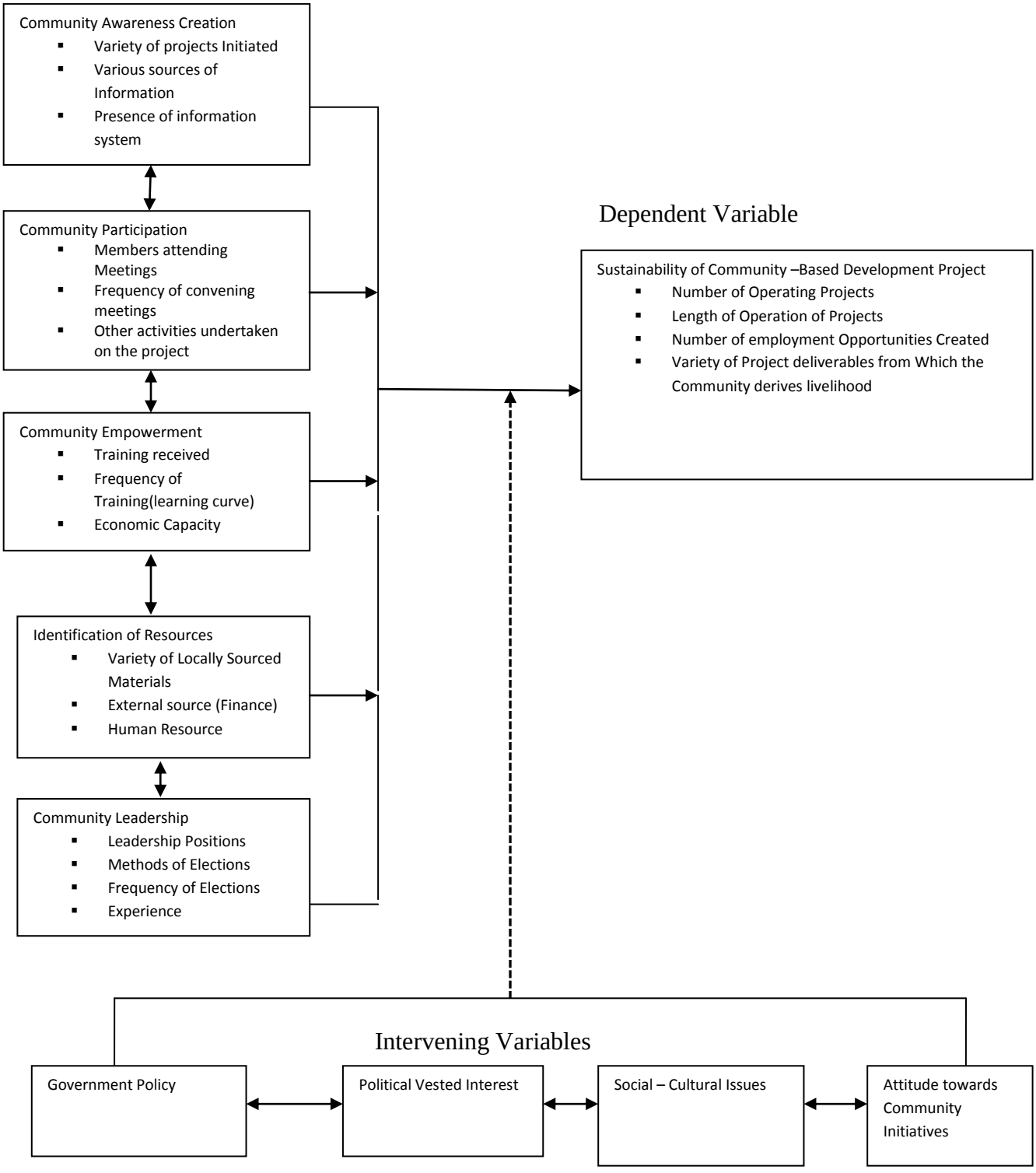
Despite the identified weaknesses of the Diffusion of Innovations Model, it was still appropriate to this study due to the effective provision of interventions, that is, variables of the study. Awareness creation must be mounted to ensure that individuals become conscious of their conditions and initiate actions that will suitably address such conditions. In effective community development, involvement of as many stakeholders as possible in community-based initiatives must be encouraged in such areas such as identification of felt needs, prioritization of such needs, decision making, as well as active participation.

Empowerment of group members through formal and non- formal education and training is crucial to enable innovations to trickle down to all members. Moreover, identification of community resources, both locally and elsewhere, should be considered since invention and adoption of innovations require resources. Finally, conflicts arising through oppositions due to suspicions developed by local leadership can be minimized by recognizing the roles of the local leaders and local structures so that innovations follow such channels. This can be strengthened through putting in place effective communication measures that recognize the principle of the people- involvement.

2.7.5: Conceptual Framework:

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) conceptual framework refers to a situation in which a researcher conceptualizes the relationships between the variables of the study and shows this relationship graphically or diagrammatically. In the views of Ramey and Reichel in Kombo and Tromp (2006) a conceptual frame work is perceived as a set of broad ideas and principles derived from a relevant field of inquiry to shape subsequent works. In this study, the conceptual framework was based on the perception that the independent variables; Community Awareness Creation; Community Participation; Community Empowerment; Identification of Resources; Community Leadership are crucial to sustainability of community based development projects. On the flipside, it is also conceived that the intervening variables such as government policies, vested political interests, socio-cultural issues, and community members' attitude towards community initiative have significant influence on sustainability of community based development projects. The study was therefore guided by the relationships among the variables as captured by the conceptual framework in figure 2.1 below:

Independent Variables



Key: ⟶ Represent relationship between variable

2.7.6: Summary of Literature Review:

This is the section that extensively reviewed the literature on the influence of community mobilization on sustainability of community based development projects. It brought to focus the justification of community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, identification of resources, and community leadership as key determinants of sustainability of community based development projects.

The section also highlighted the relationships among the variables of the study captured by use of a conceptual framework as well as a discussion of the Diffusion of Innovativeness Theory, the theory upon which the study was grounded.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1: Introduction:

This chapter outlines the general research design adopted by the study. Presented in this section included the target population, sample size and sampling procedure, data collection instruments together with validity and reliability of the research instruments. It also features data collection procedures, data processing and techniques of data analysis that were used.

3.2: Research Design:

In order to saliently address the research questions of the study, adopted was a descriptive survey research design. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), a survey is an attempt to collect data from members of a population in order to determine the current status of that population with respect to one or more variables. In the perception of Kothari (2005), the design that minimizes bias and maximizes the reliability of the data collected and analyzed is considered a good design.

3.3: Target Population:

The study targeted community based group members whose collective efforts have helped initiate different kinds of community based development projects in Uriri constituency. These community- based groups generally take four forms: youth groups, self-help groups, women groups and community- based organizations, but could also overlap into each other.

To arrive at the target population, registration records of community- based groups in Uriri District available at the Ministry of Gender and Children Affairs' Office fixed this number at 202, and that each group is comprised of 15 members, averaging this membership range, the target population from this arithmetic was (15 by 202) 3030 members.

3.4: Sample Size and Sample Selection

This study adopted probability sampling design involving assigning items into the sample using the random sampling procedures. This was done to ensure that each item from the target population would be accorded equal chance of being included in the final sample, thereby ascertaining objectivity by guarding against any possibility of biasness.

Gay in Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) suggests that for correlation research, 30 cases or more are required; for descriptive studies, ten percent of the accessible population is enough. The target population was stratified on project categories based on operating groups such as youth group projects, women group projects, self- help group projects and community based group projects. Proportionate stratified sampling was used in which 10% sample for each project category was drawn resulting into a final sample of 303 project members.

Table 3.1: Total Sample sizes of the target population:

Project Category	**Total Population**		**Sample Percentage**	**Sample Size**
Youth Group Projects	420	420	10%	42
Women Group Projects	1200	1200	10%	120
Self-help Group Projects	935	940	10%	94
Community–based Organizations Projects	464	470	10%	47
Total	**3030**	**3030**	**10%**	**303**

3.5.0: Data Collection Instruments:

As the study involved relatively large target population, dispersed over a wide geographical area in the entire Uriri Constituency, questionnaire was developed and administered as the main data collection instrument. The researcher preferred developing own questionnaire to adopting those already made. This choice was prompted by the principle that any data collection instrument must be tailor- made to suit give sets of conditions that are study-specific. The questionnaire was developed in such a manner that it contained both open closed – ended items administered to selected community based project members.

3.5.1: Pilot Testing

Copies of self-administered questionnaire were employed to collect data from community based development project members in Uriri Constituency. Piloting, being a 'mini' or a preliminary study conducted on a small scale, was initiated to test the effectiveness of the instruments and significance adjustments made as was required. The questionnaire was pretested to a selected sample which was similar to, but not the actual sample used in the study. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), a pretest sample should be between 1 percent and 10 percent depending on the sample size and in this study, ten percent was used as the pre-test sample size.

The pretesting conducted served to reveal vague items realized by diverse response obtained from the respondents that demanded such items be rephrased following respondent's comments. Moreover, a few copies of the questionnaire were also subjected to data analysis in order to examine the appropriateness and suitability of the methods of data analysis, Mugenda and Mugenda (2003). The instrument proved effective with the literate population.

In an attempt to ensure that the questionnaire solicited the desired response even among the illiterate respondents that is literacy diversity was put into consideration by engaging the research assistants who helped in completing the tool on a one-on-one basis with the respondents under the supervision of the investigator.

The questionnaire was preferred by the researcher as it provided instruments of what was expected from the respondents, in addition to giving a clear comprehension of the questions, induced the respondents to cooperate and to trust in confidentiality, Bush et al 2003 in Okello (2010).

3.5.2: Validity of Instruments:

Validity is a measure of the degree to which differences found with a measuring instrument depict true differences among the items being measured, Kothari (2005). In the view of Mugenda (1999), an instrument is validated by proving that its items are representative of skills and characteristics that it is purported to measure. To ascertain the validity of the research

instruments, adequate coverage of the research questions was emphasized as a matter of priority and this was confirmed through pilot survey in which content of the questionnaire was found representative.

The pilot survey was conducted before the actual study to strike a good rapport with the respondents while at the same time reveal ambivalence thereby exposing the weakness of the items, Borg and Gall, 1989 in Okello (2010). Lessons learned through the pilot survey done with 30 community –based project members were examined a provided a basis for making necessary adjustments to the items of the research instruments.

Validity of the instrument was also assured through randomization that helped to check the influence of the extraneous variables. This was done by randomly selecting items from the target population into the final sample. Randomization was found suitable by researcher for it is the best technique of ensuring that the sample drawn is representative to the target population as much as possible (Okello, 2010).

3.5.3: Reliability of Instruments:

Reliability of a test instrument is a measure of consistency with which a test instrument produces the same result when administered to the same group over time intervals, Kothari (2005). Mugenda and Mugenda (2005) hold that reliability is a measure of the degree to which a measure instrument yields a consistent result or data after repeated trials.

In this study, split-half method was used to measure reliability of the questionnaire in which the instrument was designed in such a way that it had two parts. The two halves were arrived at by grouping the questionnaire items into odd and even appearances and the Pearson's Coefficient of correlation (r) between the scores of the two halves was calculated.

30 community- based development project members to whom a questionnaire was administered were selected for a pilot study. Subsequently, the questionnaire items were divided into two comparable parts and the coefficient of correlation for the two halves computed. A correlation factor was therefore applied on the computed coefficient using the Spearman's- Brown Prophecy formula adjusting a computed coefficient to represent the reliability of the whole test.

Using the split- half method, reliability of the questionnaire was established by obtaining an Alpha Value of 0.8, proving the accuracy of the inference made in the study, Fraenkel and Wallen (2000). This method of ascertaining instrument reliability was preferred for it required only one testing session that was vital in eliminating chances of error.

3.6 Data Collection Procedure:

This procedure comprises of steps and actions necessary for conducting research effectively and the desired sequencing of these steps, Kothari (2005). By presenting two copies of the corrected research proposals duly certified by the University of Nairobi to the National Council for Science and Technology in the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, the research obtained a permit authorizing the study. This permit offered a splendid opportunity to develop a rapport with the respondents, securing dates for completing and receiving back the filled questionnaire.

3.7 Data Collection Techniques:

To increase the response rate, this study embraced steps in Wiseman and McDonald (1980). The steps involved preparing and attaching a cover letter to each copy of a questionnaire informing the respondents on the importance and significance of the study as well as commitment to confidentiality between the respondent and the researcher.

Since the researcher indicated the desire to ensure that expected responses were solicited, the respondents were encouraged to fill the questionnaire in the presence of the research assistants for purposes of addressing misunderstandings that might arise. In the event that the respondent was not prepared to complete the questionnaire due to commitment, arrangements were made and the copies of questionnaire collected later by the research assistant to ensure high questionnaire response rate. Examination of the research instruments collected from the field was done to ensure that these were completed, consistent, reliable and comprehensive.

3.8: Operationalization of the variables:

Objectives	Variables	Indicators	Measures	Scale	Data Collection	Data Analysis

1. Awareness creation	**Independent Variable** Awareness creation	(i) No. of people who participate in community projects i) No. of projects initiated	(i)Minutes of meetings (ii) Records of member ship (i)Existence of projects	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative
	Dependent Variable Sustainability of Community based Development Projects	(i)Variety of projects initiated (ii) No. of projects completed		Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative
2**.Community Participation**	**Independent Variable** Community Participation	(i) No. of members involving and participating in decision-making –	)Minutes of meetings (ii) Records of member ship	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative
	Dependent Variable Sustainability of Community based Development Projects	(i) No. of projects initiated ii)Variety of projects completed	(i)Existence of operating projects	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative
3.Community Empowerment	**Independent Variable** Community Empowerment	i)No of people depending on the project ii)No. of people involved in	(i).Employment opportunities generated (ii) Rise in living standards	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative

		decision making (iii) No of people making contributions				
	Dependent Variable Sustainability of Community based Development Projects	i)No. of projects completed ii)Variety of projects completed	(i)Existence of operating projects	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative
4.Identification of Resources	**Independent Variable** Identification of Resources	i) Types of resources ii)No and Variety of projects initiated	(I) Financial records of the groups	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative
	Dependent Variable Sustainability of Community based Development Projects	i)No. of projects completed ii)Variety of projects completed	(i)Existence of operating projects	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative

Community Leadership	**Independent Variable** Identification of Resources	(i)No. of people in leadership positions ii)Composition of leadership on the basis of age and gender	(i) Membership list of the groups (ii) Committee membership	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative
	Dependent Variable Sustainability of Community based Development Projects	(i)No. of projects completed ii)Variety of projects completed	i)Existence of operating projects	Nominal	Survey (Questionnaire)	Quantitative

In figure 3.1 above, the relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variables is depicted. Viewed from the perspective of the conceptual framework, community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, identification of resources and community leadership had strong influence on sustainability of community-based development projects. It was perceived that the five independent variables when factored in community development interventions would lead to increased number of operating systems, extension of the length of the operation of such projects, increased number of employment opportunities generated and realization of various project deliverables from which the community would derive livelihood.

It is worth noting that the intervening variables, government policy frameworks, vested interests, socio-cultural issues and the attitude of the community members towards public development initiatives were also perceived to have influence on sustainability of community based development projects, though this linkage was seen to be weak. Manipulation of these variables would trigger some influence on the development variable, for instance with

formulation of favorable government policies on community development, accelerated project outcomes would be attained. On vested interests that could culminate from political competition among key persons seeking different political leadership positions, socio-cultural issues and attitude of community members on community initiatives, community awareness creation and community empowerment were perceived as capable of blocking such influence. This was so viewed since when community members are sensitized on their rights and empowered, community emancipation is achieved setting people free to be critical of their conditions and relationships hence would initiate and sustain interventions that improve community well-being.

The variables were also viewed as acting interdependently, yet their interplay was perceived to strongly influence sustainability of community- based development projects much more than if such variables were to act independently.

Community awareness creation was measured on the basis of variety of projects in operation, various sources of information available to the project members and the presence or absence of an efficient and effective information system in place. This was perceived as critical for purposes of environmental scanning that would be helpful in embracing emerging changes in the project environment thereby making such projects consistently relevant to the changing needs of the community members.

Community participation was measured by the number of the members of the projects who consistently attended the various community meetings as indicated in the minutes of the proceedings, frequency of convening such meetings and the activities undertaken by different members in the project environment such as decision making, project identification, project implementation and project monitoring and evaluation. It was envisaged that with active participation of the project members in different aspects of the project work, ownership would be attained leading to sustainability of the projects.

Integral components of community empowerment such as the relevant training and education attained by the project members, how often the project members undertook continuous training to keep abreast with changes as well as economic capacities of the members were assumed to have remarkable influence on sustainability of the projects.

Identification of resources was measured on the basis of variety of local materials marshaled for use in the projects, amount of external resources injected into the projects and the type and caliber of skilled personnel and other persons with special exercises beyond what the ordinary members would offer. This was perceived on the premise that it is not funds and more funds that are required to sustain to sustain a project, but rather project sustainability depends on how far various resources are identified and put to proper use in the project.

It was also believed that prudent community leadership was essential to sustainability of community – based development projects. Of critical concern on this account was to ensure that not just specific individuals assumed leadership roles, but several community members ought to be prepared to take up leadership roles to avoid overreliance on the few. Community leadership was measured by the number of available leadership of conducting elections and the frequency of conducting such elections.

3.9: Data Analysis Techniques:

In this section, data analyses for the study are captured. Being a quantitative research in nature, employing a survey research design, the study adopted descriptive statistics as the major method of data analysis. However, analysis of qualitative data that involved making inferences from opinions of respondents was also factored to ensure that all graspable features of sustainability were considered. Such qualitative data collected were summarized, organized on the basis of research questions, ordered into motifs and presented in prose besides using tables depicting percentages and frequencies.

Data on quantitative aspects were collected, analyzed, organized, coded, standardized and descriptive statistics employed for analysis with the help of statistical packages for social sciences (SPSS) using computer, Robson (2002). Descriptive statistics are indices that describe a given sample, for example, measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion, distributions using percentages and frequencies and measures of relationships (correlations), Mugenda and Mugenda (2003).

The SPSS was used to establish factor correlation. Moreover, measures of central tendency were also incorporated and the report presented in the form of frequency distribution tables and

percentages. Data was analyzed to determine the influence of the independent variables on sustainability of community-based development projects.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter features findings of the study anchored on the major motif: influence of community mobilization on sustainability of community – based development projects. Key elements of community mobilization discussed include; community awareness creation; community participation; community empowerment; identification of resources; community leadership against the backdrop of their influence on sustainability of community-based development projects in Uriri Constituency.

4.2 Questionnaire Return Rate:

Copies of the questionnaire were administered to the respondents through the efforts of the research assistants with close supervision by the researcher and the following return rates were obtained as depicted in table 4.1

Table 4.1 Questionnaire Return Rate

Targeted Population	Sample	Return Rate		Total
		M	F	
3030	**303**	**141162**		**303**

Table 4.1 reveals that all copies of the questionnaire administered to the respondents were received back duly completed giving 100% response rate. Response rate refers to the percentage subjects that respond to the questionnaire. A response rate of 50% is deemed adequate for analysis and reporting, a response rate of 60% is good and a response rate of 70% and over is considered very good, Mugenda and Mugenda (2003).

In this respect, the study is therefore seen to have returned an excellent questionnaire response rate. This was copies of the questionnaire were administered and collected back by two well-trained motivated research assistants while closely being monitored by the researcher. The

research assistants distributed copies of the questionnaire consistently to the respondents in batches of ten until all were administered. The research assistants also emphasized to the respondents the need of filling the questionnaire as instructed besides assisting some in completing the questionnaire in cases of either commitment or other forms of incapacities.

4.3 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

This section presents respondent's characteristics that were used on the study. Such demographic features highlighted include sex, age, marital status, love of education and the type of project engaged in by the respondents. The demographics of the respondents were dim significant, for such could predispose individuals to initiate certain actions relative to one's immediate and remote environments.

4.3.1 Characteristics of the respondents by ages

The researcher believed that the age characteristics of the respondents would be of great significance to the study with an underlying assumption that young respondents were relatively less prepared to sustain community- based development projects in contrast to old respondents. On this account, respondents were requested to indicate their ages and their responses reflected in table 4.2

Table 4.2 Age Characteristics of community- based development project members.

Age in years	**Frequency**		**Percentage**		**Total**
	Male	**Female**	**Male**	**Female**	**Percentage**
Under 20	4	9	2.84	5.55	4.29
20 - 29	8	21	5.67	12.96	9.57
30 – 39	86	82	60.99	50.62	55.45
40 – 49	30	34	21.28	20.98	21.12
50 – 59	13	16	9.22	9.89	9.57
Total	**141**	**162**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Table 4.2 indicates that of the 303 community based- development projects sampled for the study, 4(2.85%) male and 9(5.55%) female fell below 20 years of age, 8(5.67%) male and 21(12.96%) female fell between the age range of 20 – 29 years, 86(60.96%) male and

82(50.62%) female fell between the ages 30 -39 years, 30(9.22%) male and 16(9.89%) female fell between 50 – 59 years of age.

The above information implies that below the age of 21years, many young persons are still held up in school and therefore rarely participate in community – based development projects. Moreover, such young persons also tend to depend on their parents for their livelihood. Besides, the young people who do not depend on their parents are in turn not depended upon by others hence less likely to seek project interventions.

Seen on the basis of gender, more female 9(5.55%) than male 4(2.84%) participate in community- based development projects. This could be attributed to more females dropping out of school than males. Such female school drop-outs enter into early marriages such that the young mothers are forced to seek projects initiatives to fend for their families.

Between the ages 30 – 39, it is striking to note that men rated higher at 86(60.99%) than women at 82(50.62%). This implies that this is the prime age at which men became very aggressive in seeking ways of obtaining economic stability to cope up with additional desire to invest, provide for their families and pay school fees for their children.

4.3.2 Marital status of the Respondents

This characteristic was of great concern to the study as it revealed the extent to which marital status of the respondents influenced their engagement in community – based development projects in Uriri Constituency. Table 4.3 illustrates this phenomenon

Table 4.3: Marital Status of the respondents

Marital Status	Frequency		Percentage		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Unmarried	4	2	2.83	1.24	1.98
Married	129	50	91.49	30.86	59.08
Widowed	8	102	5.68	62.96	36.30
Divorced	0	5	0.00	3.08	1.65
Separated	0	3	0.00	1.86	0.99
Total	**141**	**162**	**100**	**100**	**100**

As depicted in table 4.3 above, 4(2.83%) male and 2(1.98%) female contacted in the study were unmarried, 129(91.49%) male and 50(30.86%) female were unmarried, 102(62.96%) female were widowed, 0(0.00%) male and 5(3.08%) female divorced, while 0(0.00%) male and 3(0.99%) female separated.

This implies that unmarried persons are less compelled to engage in community – based development projects owing to their characteristics dependency on their parents on one hand and not being depended upon on the other hand.

Generally, men tend to engage in community – based development projects more when married 129(91.49%) than when unmarried 12(8.51%). This is due to additional responsibilities they have at this stage. Such responsibilities include the desire to acquire wealth, providing for the family needs and educating children among others. On the contrary, widowed women102 (62.96%) rated higher than married ones 50(30.86%) on their engagement in community – based development projects. This implies that married women are under control of their husbands who also provide for them whereas widowed women have to fend for themselves and their dependants.

4.4 Community Awareness creation

Community awareness creation entails the extent to which community members become conscious of their problems and seek suitable remedies of addressing such community problems collectively, Sakala (2006). Measures of community awareness creation that informed this

study included the existence of a variety of projects initiated and operated by community members, availability of different sources of information to community members, and the presence of an information system put in place to be used by project members as need may be.

4.4.1 Variety of Projects operated

In order to ascertain the level of community awareness creation, the extent to which community members initiate and operate varied projects become very significant. In this respect, project members were asked to fill questionnaire and their responses were captured in table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Variety of Projects Initiated and Operated:

Project variety	Frequency	Percentage
Small- scale Farming Projects	73	24.09
Community Water Projects	34	11.22
Community Health Projects	68	22.44
Community Education Projects	46	15.16
Brick – making Projects	30	9.91
Environmental Conservation Projects	27	8.92
Merry-go-round Projects	25	8.26
Small scale business projects	0	0.00
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.6 indicates that the community members were able to initiate and operate several projects in which membership distributions were not extreme. 73(24.09%) of the 303 respondents reached stated being members of small scale farming projects, 34(11.22%) indicated water projects, 68(22.44%) identified with Community Health Projects, 46(15.16%) operated Community Education Projects, and 30(9.91%) stated operating brick-making projects. Other project operated at the community level included environmental conservation projects in which 27(8.91%) of the respondents stated as their projects, merry-go-round projects with 25(8.26%) of the respondents, yet non-indicated involvement in small scale business projects.

The implication of the statistics cited in table 4.6 was that the community members' level awareness on the basis of project variety was satisfactory. However, such projects were operated on small scale with competitive simple resources available to the community raising a red flag on their sustainability. This is also surprisingly striking to have noticed that none of the respondents embraced small scale business enterprises as their projects meaning that they failed to give their projects a business dimension. This was an indication that project sustainability would be hard to attain.

4.4.2 Availability of Different Sources of Information:

Availability of different sources of information to project members means that best management practices would be accessed by project members leading to sustained efforts to improve the projects by embracing changes in the projects environments, IFAD (2008). In the light of this, the respondents were requested to state how they obtained information about their projects and their responses are displayed in table 4.

Table 4.7 Availability of different sources of information

Information source	Frequency	Percentage
Print media	50	16.50
Verbal communication	142	46.87
Visits to other projects	25	8.25
Integrated media sources	0	0.00
Electronic media	86	28.38
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.7 captures the distribution of the responses of the community project members concerning the various media sources available for obtaining information about the projects. Of the 303 respondents, 50(16.50%) members stated obtaining information from print media, 86(28.38%) of the respondents indicated electronic media, 142(46.87%) mentioned verbal

communication, a paltry 25(8.25%) stated acquiring information from conducting visits to other projects and none identified with integrated media sources.

From the above table, vital deductions are made with a view to establishing the level of community awareness creation. 142(46.87%) indicated their main source of obtaining project information as verbal communication. This implies that the level of awareness creation was relatively low since verbal communication is replete with just ordinary information, non-formality, and fluctuations of emotions and hardly stored for future reference.

Besides, the quality of the information obtained also depends on interpersonal relationship between the source of information and the recipient; a feature that is rarely uniform among all the project members.

It is also worth observing that electronic media in the form of radio and television rated second at 50(16.50%) of the 303 respondents contacted, yet such media types accessed by the project members were used more for entertainment than for obtaining information about the projects. Normally, superior project information is in the form of print media, visits to other projects and integrated media sources that amazingly rated poorly among the respondents. This reality casts doubt that project members in Uriri Constituency have achieved high level of awareness on issues of obtaining information about the projects.

4.4.3 Presence of an Information System

Accessibility to information was held as key in determining the level of community awareness creation so much that the presence of an information system in a project environment would indicate efficiency and effectiveness of communication process. This would enhance continuous monitoring of the project environment for strengths and weakness on one hand and threats and opportunities on the other hand. The information obtained from extensive environment scanning would be significant in making decisions geared towards improving project status by factoring in new changes. The respondents were asked to complete questionnaire giving information on who in the project was responsible for giving information about the project and their responses presented in table 4.8

Table 4.8 Presence of an information system

Information source	Frequency	Percentage
Chairperson	86	28.38
Secretary	94	31.02
Treasurer	75	24.75
Project member	48	15.85
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.8 portrays the flow of information in various community based development project environments in which 86 (28.38%) of the 303 of the respondents stated the chairperson as responsible for giving information about the project, 94 (31.02%) indicated that information was being given by the secretary, 75 (24.75%) mentioned that it was the responsibility of the treasurer and 48 (15.85%) stated that any project member would be allowed to give information about the project.

In view of the cited statistics on the information flow, there seemed that 48(15.85%) of the 303 respondents did not embrace any recognized information system in place for different persons were responsible for giving information about the project. Such projects disregarded the importance of information processing in a project organization; an omission that would work negatively against sustainability of the projects.

On the flipside, 94(31.02%) of the respondents indicated that some pattern of information flow was recognized yet this percentage is relatively low to draw a conclusion that awareness level was substantial. It is therefore hard to draw a conclusion on the basis of such arrangements in the absence of a conventional wisdom that a system was available.

4.5 Community Participation

It is held that when participation of members in a project intervention is encouraged, impressive project outcomes are realized, Sakala (2006). In concurrence, Oywa (2011) suggested that projects which did not attract maximum participation of members were bound to fail.

The study sought to explore the influence that community participation would have on sustainability of community based development projects. This variable was therefore measured on the basis of the indicators: the number of members attending meetings consistently, frequency of convening meetings and activities that individual members perform in the projects.

4.5.1 The number of members attending meetings regularly

In order to establish the influence of community participation on sustainability of community – based development projects, the number of project members who consistently attend the meetings would be a pointer to the end. In view of this, copies of questionnaire were administered to the respondents in which they were asked to indicate their response about the number of members who constantly attend project meetings. Table 4.1.0 captures their responses relative to the membership compositions of their group

Table 4.9 Number of members attending meetings consistently

Meeting attendance	Frequency	Percentage
0 - 4	10	3.30
5 – 9	186	61.39
10 – 14	75	24.75
15 – 19	32	10.56
Above 19	0	0.00
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.0 indicates that 186(61.39%) of the respondents contacted stated that between 5 – 9 members consistently attend the project meetings. Given that membership range of those

projects was recognized to fall between 10 – 20 members, this attendance though rated the highest is suggestive of inadequate participation of members in the project activities. This could be attributed to the possibility of the project members' desire to seek alternative means of obtaining livelihood that the project could not satisfy.

Second in respondents, rating was the attendance range between 10 – 14 members. Notwithstanding the low response rate of this attendance rate 75(24.75%), it was held as the optimum attendance range that would indicate sufficient attendance of project meetings. This implied that participation of members in the projects was still low because these projects were only being viewed as subsidiary to other alternative income generating activities.

Also noted in table 4.10 is the high attendance range of between 15 – 19 members as stated by 32(10.56%) of the 303 respondents reached. This is suggestive of the existence of just few projects in which members were fully involved and from which consistent livelihood would be derived. However, this indicates that sustainability of community based development project remains a mirage to attain, as the existing projects did not fully address the needs of initiating groups.

4.5.2 Frequency of convening meetings

The frequency of convening meetings in a project organization was viewed as significant to the study for it would indicate the level of members' participation in the project interventions. Regular meetings in a project undertaking are crucial in addressing the changing needs of the project members as well as incorporating other changes in the project environment, Holman, (2010).

In this respect, respondents were asked to complete questionnaire indicating how often meetings were being convened in their project organization and their responses are as shown in table 4.1.0

Table 4.10 Frequency of convening meetings

Meetings intervals	Frequency	Percentage
Weekly	24	7.92
Fortnightly	40	13.20
Monthly	58	19.87
Quarterly	89	29.37
Yearly	92	30.36
Total	**303**	**100**

92(30.36%) of the 303 respondents sampled for study stated that the project meetings were duly conducted yearly. This is a long interval of time within which to effectively address issues of project; hence, an indication of insufficient members' participation in the project, yet this was the highest rating. This implied that these projects were never regarded as initiatives that would come first in the people's quest for obtaining daily needs.

Coming closely in respondents, rating to yearly interval is quarterly in which 89(29.37%) mentioned as the time lag of conducting project meetings. Just like the former, the period is also relatively long if project issues are to be held dearly by the initiating groups. Similarly, it implies that participation of members in the project interventions was low hence, those projects are bound to miss the benefits of community participation to sustainability of community based development projects.

It is also vital to mention that adequate community participation in the projects would be indicated by regular convention of meetings such as weekly 24(7.92%) fortnightly 40(13.20%) and monthly 58(19.87%) and this order is equally significant. This combined response rate of 122(52.94%) indicates that approximately half of the projects realized adequate meeting attendance, a pointer of sustainability of community based development projects with same margin.

4.5.3 Activities undertaken by members in the project

Community participation in project can be gauged by the variety of activities members perform in the project organization. Maximum project returns are achieved when involvement of

members in key activities is emphasized, Okello (2010). In this study, involvement of members was considered crucial, as it would guarantee project ownership leading to sustainability. In view of this, the respondents were requested to fill questionnaire stating the activities they perform in the project organization and their response are featured in table 4.1.2

Table 4.11 key activities undertaken in the project

Activity	Frequency	Percentage
Decision making	50	16.50
Project implementation	102	33.66
Monitoring and evaluation	51	16.83
Resource mobilization	86	28.39
Integrated activities	14	4.62
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.2 shows that the highest response rating concerning activities performed by members was on project implementation, 102(33.66%). Contrasted against the respondents' rating on integrated activities, 14(4.62%), this rating implies that most members were only engaged in ordinary operations of the project, but excluded in critical project activities. Effective participation would be realized if members are involved in integrated activities thereby developing project ownership; a success factor in attaining sustainability of community – based development projects.

Observable in the table is that only 50(16.83%) of the respondents stated being involved in decision making with almost a similar rating in monitoring and evaluation, 51(16.83%). This implies that these selected few are the ones who had the capacity to undertake key roles in the project owing to their high level of empowerment.

It striking to note that only 86(28.39%) of the respondents stated involvement in resource mobilization. Even when this rating is combined with that of integrated activities, 14(4.62%) just a total of 100 out of 303 respondents would be held as engaged in resource mobilization. This means unequal representation, which is a detriment to developing project ownership posing a challenge to sustaining the projects.

4.6 Community Empowerment

Empowerment is a capacity building initiative geared towards equipping project members with the requisite knowledge, skills and economic power to contribute meaningfully in a project intervention. An empowered community is self – motivated to select suitable priority project that address people's needs and undertake actions that sustain such endeavors, (Onyango 2010). Elements of community empowerment that were measured include training and education, frequency of conducting training and the economic capacity of the members to undertake project activities.

4.6.1. Training and education of project members

Training and education entail acquisition of knowledge, skills and desirable attitudes necessary for preparing individuals to effectively face challenges of life in society. In confirmation of this assertion, Mumah (2010) stated that education and training impacts skills and instill confidence in the youth entrepreneurs as they engage in growth of their business. On this account, the study underscored the importance of training of project members in the belief that this would enhance their capacities to generate and sustain projects that would live up to the expectations of the community.

To solicit this information, the respondents were asked to fill questionnaire stating the type of training and education acquired and how such would influence sustainability of their projects. Table 4.1.3 captures their responses.

Table 4.12 Training and education of project members

Type of Training and Education	Frequency	Percentage
K. C. P. E	152	50.17
K. C. S. E.	54	17.82
Certificate	42	13.86
Diploma	38	12.54
Degree	13	4.29
Postgraduate	4	1.32
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.3 presents response rating with 152 (50.17%) of the 303 respondents contacted indicating not having gone beyond primary school level education. This being the highest rating implies that most community – based developments projects are comprised of members whose education level is relatively low. These individual project members lacking knowledge and skills in commutative discipline, record to community – based initiatives for their livelihood.

Worth noting in the table is that a pattern is developed depicting an inverse relationship between level of education and involvement in community development affairs. The trend is that as education level goes up, primary and below 152 (50.17%) up to postgraduate, 4 (1.32%) interests in community development imitative diminishes.

4.6.2. Frequency of training and education

Having emphasized the role that education and training play is equipping project members with knowledge, skills and desirable attitude appropriate in handling problems, such trainings should be continual to embrace emerging issues. Okeyo (2010) indicated that the project environment is subjected to consistent changes that can only be contained through continuous education.

The respondents were therefore asked to complete questionnaire indicating how often they train and their responses captured in table 4.1.4

Table 4.13 Frequency of education and training

Training Interval	Frequency	Percentage
Regularly	12	3.96
Intermittently	08	2.64
Occasionally	64	21.12
Not guaranteed	219	72.28
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.4 indicates that 219 (72.28%) of the respondent sampled for the study stated that trainings were not guaranteed in their projects. This being the highest rating implies that entry level of the project members were relatively low that less emphasis was put on education. Seen differently, these projects seem to have been raising little returns that were only being put to members' subsistence and other immediate pressing needs.

A paltry 12(3.96%) of the respondents indicated that they engaged in regular training implying that such could be the few informed officials that took the advantage of the less educated. Occasional trainings were also conducted as indicated by 64(21.12%) of the respondents. These comprise short trainings organized in the form of workshops and seminars, which are normally convened on the demands of the donors and the sponsors.

4.6.3 Economic empowerment of the project members

Empowerment through education and training alone may not guarantee project sustainability, economic capacities of the project members when boosted, promise more gains that would enrich a development intervention. A project on which members depend for their livelihood is more likely to be embraced fully than one that offers less benefit. Their level of dependence on the projects is shown in table 4.1.5

Table 4.14 Economic empowerment of the project members

Dependence level	Frequency	Percentage
Totally dependent	42	13.87
Partially dependent	144	47.52
Insignificant	68	22.44
Nil	49	16.17
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.5 shows that 144(47.52%) of the respondents stated that they partially depend on the projects were unable to address the people's needs fully hence were to be supplemented with some other alternative income generating activities. 68(22.44%) of the respondents indicated that benefits they attributed to the projects were insignificant. This means that should other initiatives promise more gains, project idea would be dropped.

49(16.17%) of the respondents did not acknowledge receipt of any benefits from the projects. This implies that such members would not be compelled to work hard in order to sustain the projects. On the contrary, just 42(13.87%) of the respondents indicated having totally depended on the projects. The implications that these projects have proved relevant in meeting the needs of members, is an indication that these projects can be sustained.

4.7 Identification of Resources

Availability of sufficient resources determines the degree to which a community based intervention could be sustained. In concurrence, Orondo (2010) indicated in his study on changes facing local NGOs in socio – economic development in Kisumu city that inadequate funding impacts negatively on the efforts of the local residents to attain socio – economic development

In the study, the researcher sought to establish the contribution of resources identification on the sustainability of the community based projects. Measures of resource identification pertinent to the variable include both locally sourced and externally sourced materials in addition to human resource aspect.

4.7.1 Identification of local resources

In a development intervention, identification of locally sourced materials is believed to bring a great deal to the project sustainability for these are rarely purchased from elsewhere and transported to the project site. Such locally sourced materials must be identified in varied forms and supplemented with other resources so that over reliance on external funding is minimized to enable project members develop ownership of the initiatives.

After completing questionnaire asking them to identify the locally sourced materials used in their projects, the respondents provided their responses as captured in table 4.1.6

Table 4.15 identification of local resources

Resource type	Frequency	Percentage
Land	74	24.42
Building stones/bricks	42	13.86
Sand	14	4.62
Timber	24	6.61
Members subscriptions	83	27.39
Seeds and vegetative parts	70	23.10
Total	**303**	**100**

In table 4.1.6, 83(27.39%) of the respondents stated that they use in their projects local contribution of finances from members subscription. This implies a percentage of the projects in which members either draw their livelihood from the projects or engage in other income generating activities from elsewhere. On the other hand, those project members may not have appreciated to contributing to their projects in kind believing a lot that their projects need funds and more funds.

Given that small scale farming projects formed the highest percentage of projects that many respondents identified with and that these projects also depend on land, 74(24.42%) of the respondents stated using land while 70(23.10%) projects are comprised of members whose

incomes are generally drawn from their projects and rarely from alternative income generating activities.

Moreover, these project members are able to identify the significance of aligning these locally serviced materials to project demands improving chances of sustaining the projects.

4.7.2 External resources

Resource mobilization strategies involve leaving nothing to chance provided it can generate a little more for a project. In this respect, the respondents were asked to provide information about the external sources of resources they use in their project. Their responses are as shown in table 4.1.7

Table 4.16 External resources

Source	Frequency	Percentage
Bank loans	14	4.62
Sponsorship	97	32.01
Donation	92	30.36
Harambee	78	25.74
Integrated sources	22	7.27
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.7 indicates the response ratings in which 97(32.02%) of the respondents stated that they externally sourced funds from sponsorship. This implies that should such funding be withdrawn for some reasons, such projects are bound to stall. Very close to this rating, 92(30.36%) of the respondents indicated sourcing funds from donations having similar implications as the former.

Besides, integrated sources that involve resource mobilization from different sources rated poor at 22(7.27%), yet it is the most promising strategy for raising resources to an organization. The

poor rating of bank loans as a means of sourcing funds for a project implies negative attitude project members have towards bank loans due to the procedure involved.

4.7.3 Human Resources

Sustainability of a development intervention does not only depend on accumulating more and more non – human resources, but often depends on the nature of human capital. In confirming to this belief, Orwa (2010) suggested that having a skilled and motivated personnel placed on a job for which one is effectively prepared, results never disappoint.

Viewed from this perspective, copies of questionnaire were administered to the respondents asking them to provide information on the type of human capital they offered to the projects. Table 4.18 displays that response.

Table 4.17 Human resources for the project

Description	Frequency	Percentage
Clerical	24	7.92
Operational	181	59.74
Technical	52	17.16
Sanitation	34	11.22
Management	12	3.96
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.8 indicates that 181(59.74%) of the respondents stated providing operational services implying that over half of the projects had members who lacked specialized skills and knowledge. 52(17.16%) of the respondents mentioned offering technical services. This means that those projects were generally technically based hence demanded people who were technically prepared for them.

Indicated in the table is that 34(11.22%) of the respondents who mentioned sanitation are involved in environmental conservation projects while the low rating, 24(7.92%) of the respondents stated clerical implying that those projects required a lot of record keeping.

Management rated the poorest at 12(3.96%) as it was a preserve of the few top officials of the projects and partly because many of the project members sampled for the study displayed humble education hence were not properly prepared up to take managerial role.

4.8 Community Leadership

Leadership entails the capacity to direct people's efforts towards attaining group objectives. Its key components include communication and motivation. Community leadership is therefore held as key determinant to sustainability of community based development projects. Confirming this, Kimutai (2006) holds that the greatest asset a leader has in human capital. She adds that a good leader must be able to combine the views (positive and negative) of his team and firmly come up with a decision.

The study measures of community leadership were, the number of leadership positions available, methods of conducting elections and the frequency of conducting elections.

4.8.1 Number of leadership positions

The number of leadership positions available in a project indicates the level of members' preparedness to take up leadership roles hence decision makers. It is noted that training the targets leaders showed be provided to all project members so that if a particular leader exits from project organization, other members will still be able to provide leadership.

In order to measure this indicator, copies of questionnaire were administered to the respondents asking them to indicate the number of leadership positions in their projects. Their response were featured in table 4.1.8

Table 4.18 Number of leadership positions

Position range	Frequency	Percentage
0 - 3	42	7.96
4 – 7	128	42.24
8 – 11	96	31.68
12 – 15	30	19.81
Above 15	7	2.31
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.8 indicates that 128(42.24%) of the respondents stated that there were between 4 -7 leadership positions in their projects. This being the highest rating implies that most projects did not emphasize preparing members to take up leadership roles. The few leaders in such projects tend to make decisions on behalf of the members putting to question the merit of such decisions. 96(31.68%) of the respondents indicated that leadership positions in their projects fell between the range of 8 – 11. This means that slightly more members were prepared to take up leadership roles in contrast to those who stated a range of 4 – 7. Decisions carried out by several members generally prove more reliable than those made by few individuals.

Many leadership positions were available in few projects as indicated by 30(19.81%) and 7(2.31%) of the respondents who stated presence of leadership ranges of 12 – 15 and above 15 respectively. This means that only far projects provided opportunities for members to assume leadership roles.

4.8.2 Election methods

Methods of conducting elections in a project organization are adequate indicators of the type of leadership styles being practiced. Election methods that allow members free hands in electing their officials ensure able leaders are identify to spear head project activities to effectively realize the group objectives. In contrast, election methods that tend to coerce members to accept certain leaders in the interest of few project members reflect dictatorship that is detrimental to project sustainability.

To asses this measure of leadership, respondents were requested to state election methods often adopted in their projects and their responses are captured in table 4.1.9

Table 4.19 Methods of conducting elections

Election method	Frequency	Percentage
Secret ballot	95	31.35
Consensus	85	28.38
Acclamation	64	21.13
Queuing	58	19.14
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.1.9 depicts that 95(31.35%) of the respondents indicates that they elect their officials by secret ballot. This implies that there is democratic leadership style practiced in such projects hence leadership is bound to be effective, second in rating is consensus method as stated by 85(28.38%) of the respondents reached. This means that those projects tend to manipulate members to accept some leaders who may not necessarily be competent enough to be entrusted with certain matters of the projects.

Acclamation and queuing methods rated last in that order. A combined response of 124 out of 303 respondents sampled for the study stated these in affirmative implying that a high percentage of the projects studied had failed to put in place effective leadership styles that would add value to these development initiatives.

4.8.3 Frequency of conducting elections

How often elections are conducted reflected the leadership styles embraces by a given entity. The higher the frequency of conducting elections, the more democratic the project organization becomes. In this respect, respondents were asked to fill questionnaire indicating the frequency of conducting elections.Table 4.2.0 captures their responses

Table 4.20 Frequency of conducting elections

Election interval	Frequency	Percentage
One year	78	25.74
Two years	64	21.12
Three years	70	23.10
Five years	62	20.47
Above five years	29	9.57
Total	**303**	**100**

Table 4.2.0 reveals that 78(25.75%) of the respondents indicated that elections were conducted yearly. This means that these projects exercise democratic leadership style in which members are given chance of either retaining capable leaders or replacing those whose services for the group prove unsatisfactory.

64(21.12%) of the respondents stated that elections were being held after two years which is still appropriate duration within which to conduct elections. However, elections that was being conducted after three years and above gave the officials chances of clinging on power hence each project is bound to develop idols who must be worshipped. Such long durations of conducting elections make officials complement thereby failing to work hard to attain group goals

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter features a summary of the key findings of the study in addition to presenting conclusions on the basis of the study findings. Besides, it also outlines certain contributions made by the study on this field of knowledge as well as putting forth a number of recommendations to be considered in order to effectively address sustainability challenges of community based development projects. The chapter finally offers suggestions for further research, for no one study in isolation can provide all answers to problems in a partial or field.

5.2 Summary of the findings of the study

The study was conducted in Uriri constituency targeting members of community based development projects. These projects were grouped in terms of youth group projects, women group projects, self help projects and community – based organization (CBOs) projects.

The research objectives provided for ground developing questionnaire that was used as the main data collection instruments and survey was used as the technique of data collection. Probability sampling design involving simple and stratified random sampling procedures was employed.

The study findings revealed that community members initiated these projects at the local levels as alternative income generating activities and also for provision of asserted services such as health care and education.

In this respect 24.22% of the project members engaged in small scale farming projects, 11.22% in community water projects, 22.44% in community health projects, 15.16% in community projects , 9.91% in brick making projects, 8.92% in environmental conservation projects, 8.26% in merry – go – round projects, but none was engaged in small scale projects.

The findings of the study depicted that majority of the project members at the community level were aged between 30 – 39 years. The study also acknowledged that more women (60.99%) than men (50.62%) at the same age group engaged in projects. This age group was found to be the period in life in which people became aggressive to stabilize economically for purposes of creating health, educating children and providing for the family up – keep. The high rating for

women against men was because women generally engage to activities closer to their homes as men seek lucrative employment opportunities elsewhere.

Worth observing from the findings of this study is the most of the community based development projects were dominated by members who did not proceed with education beyond primary level (33.66%) while school drop outs rated second highest (32.68%). This was found to be because those members were ill – prepared to seek alternative employment opportunities that proved very competitive. Furthermore, the study also revealed that project members who had gone through post secondary school education were less interested in community based initiatives; instead they resorted in seeking employment opportunities in both primary and private sectors.

Marital status was also found to influence engagement in community based development projects. It was discovered from the study that the highest percentage of men who engaged in projects were married (91.49%). However, the converse was true for women whose engagement in the projects was high among widows (62.96%). The study established that the high rating for married men was because they were bread winners of their families. Similarly, widowed women had also entered into the responsibility of fending for their families.

Concerning influences of community mobilization on sustainability of community development projects, the study revealed that community mobilization through community awareness creation, community participation, community empowerment, identification of resources and community leadership had very significant contribution to projects sustainability.

Viewed closely, community awareness creation was found by the study to be of significance to projects sustainability, yet the level of awareness among the project members was relatively low this meant that the project environment that is normally turbulent could not be motivated effectively thereby disregarding the benefits that accessibility to information would provide to the projects. Measures of community awareness creation that were assessed included availability of different source of information, variety of projects operated and presence an information system.

The study revealed that 46.87% of the project members were obtaining information through verbal communication, whereas 0.00% represented information obtained from various integrated sources. In this regard majority of the project members were generally accessible to

local information and less sensitive to other information sources, hence new knowledge could hardly be acquired for improving the projects.

Of great concern to the study was the variable, community participation. The study established that community participation had significance contribution to sustainability of community based development projects. This variable was measured on the basis of the number of members who attended the group meetings regularly in which 61.39% of between 5 -9 members were found to be consistent in meeting attendance. Other measure of community participation was the frequency of concerning group meetings depicting the highest percentage to be yearly conventions at 30.16%. The final measure of community participation was evaluated on the basis of the type of activities that project members performed and it was discovered that the highest percentage was realized with project implementation (33.66%). From these findings, it is vital to point out that despite the significance that community participation had on projects sustainability, the findings revealed that participation was still low in most of the project organizations.

Other than the variables already captured, the study also revealed that sustainability of community based development projects was influenced by community empowerment. Measure of this variable included both education and training, frequency of training and project members' economic activities. The study findings depicted that most of the project members did not proceed beyond primary level of education (50.17%) . equally notable by the findings was that a pattern was developed such that engagement in community based development project diminished with the ride in level of education.

On frequency of acquiring training; the study established that trainings were not generated in most of the projects (72.28%). It was also dissolved that majority of the project members partially depended on the projects (47.52%) since these were unable to fully address their needs.

Wrapping this discussion, identification of resources and community leadership were found to have major contributions to sustainability of community based development projects. Identification of resources was measured in terms of the variety of resources that were put to use in the projects such as locally sourced, externally sourced and human capital. Community leadership on the other hand was measured on the basis of the number of leadership positions created in the projects, methods of elections and the frequency of conducting such elections.

The study revealed that most of these projects lacked effective leadership styles posing sustainability challenges.

5.3 Conclusion

From the study, conclusions were made based on the findings. In concurrence with the previous studies conducted by different scholars in this field, it can be concluded that community awareness creation has great influence on sustainability of community based developments projects. However, most of the project members sampled for the study found this as a challenge for most of these members did not prove well informed.

In addition, the study also revealed that participation and involvement of as many stakeholders as possible was instrumental in sustaining community development initiatives, though most of the projects did not display high level of community participation. Community participation was therefore considered necessary for developing ownership among the project members.

On a similar note, community empowerment proved a bottleneck to most of the projects as it was ordered from the study findings that majority of the project members were not properly educated. This meant that projects which required technical skills could not be sustained through the efforts of such uneducated members.

Other findings of the study were that the extent to which a community development intervention would be sustained heavily relied on the intervention of both locally sourced materials and external funding, and that community leadership would also achieve the same goal. Those findings are therefore held as best project management practices that must be embraced to achieve project sustainability.

5.4 Recommendation

Recommendations based on the study were made on two dimensions that were found as critical to addressing the challenges experienced by the various community based development projects. These areas include policy formulation frameworks and further research.

5.4.1 Recommendation for policy formulation

Influence of community awareness creation on sustainability of community – based development projects in Uriri Constituency; the study revealed that most of the community based project members were ill informed hence were less equipped to sustain their projects. In this view, the study recommended that the Ministry of Gender and Children's affairs to embark on recruitment of more community development workers and post them to rural areas for purposes of creating awareness on measures of improving their well – being through project interventions.

On the contribution of the community participation on the sustainability of community – based development projects in Uriri constituency; the study established that the attitude of exclusion of some stakeholders in a community based development initiative was prevalent in several projects. This was found to be detrimental to sustainability of such projects because excluded members are bound to oppose them. The study also revealed that more often conflicts arise in several project organizations leading to accumulation of stalled projects. On this account, the study recommended that before any project is initiated, the initiating entity overseeing such projects should ensure a system of stakeholders involvement is put in place without which the project is prohibited by law to kick off.

Influence of community development on sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri constituency; the study established that the community empowerment; was considered influential to projects sustainability. It was underscored in the study that education equips the individuals with knowledge, skills and durable attitudes necessary for facing emerging life challenges. Despite this acknowledgement, many project members were found to be uneducated. In light of this, the study recommended that the Ministry of Education should strengthen adult education so that those out of school can still get the benefits of formal education, relevant particularly to their area of engagement.

Contribution of identification of resources on sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri constituency. The study discovered that the extent to which resources are identified, both locally sourced and externally sourced, has significant influence on community based development projects. Worth mentioning is that most of the projects did not operate with

sufficient resources, yet some resources were found to be locally available and remained unexploited. The study recommended that to avoid over – reliance on external resources and underutilization of local resources policy measures should be formulated so that the beneficiaries' contributions are only supplemented by external funding.

In evaluating the influence of community leadership on sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri constituency; the study revealed that community leadership has strong influence on sustainability of community based development projects. This notwithstanding, the study found out that most projects did not depict effective leadership styles, for over half of the projects rarely conducted regular elections. The study recommended that the department of Social development should strengthen regulatory measured to ensure that group elections were being conducted yearly. This would enable project members to replace ineffective leaders so that when elected in office, officials would strive to perform well in order to be re - elected

5.4.2Suggestions for further report

Study gaps were found in the following areas sin which other scholars would consider for conducting for the research.

1. To what extent do the factors influencing sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri constituency apply to other constituencies in Kenya?
2. What reasons are behind popularity of community – based development projects among widowed women?
3. Do the brick – making projects positively influence socio – economic status of brick makers?
4. What factors influence viability of merry – go – round projects in local communities?
5. What factors explain the effective implementation of CDF projects in Uriri constituency?

5.5 The study's contribution to the body of knowledge

Objectives	Contribution to knowledge
1. To investigate the influence of community awareness creation on sustainability of community based development projects	Community awareness creation is significant to sustainability of community based development projects through provision of opportunities for project members to access vital information necessary for project improvement
2. To establish the extent to which community participation influences sustainability of community based projects	Community participation is mandatory if projects are to be sustained. Participation in this case should target all stakeholders so that contributions to body of knowledge project members own the project. Through project ownership, the members will always strive to work hard and support the projects selflessly while at the same time minimizing oppositions that could cause conflicts.
3. To determine the contribution of community empowerment on sustainability of community based development projects	Community empowerment through education, training and economic enhancement has massive contributions to the projects sustainability. Education equips people with skills, knowledge and desirable attitudes so that challenges of life can easily be confronted
4. To explore the extent to which identification of resources influences sustainability of community based development projects	When resources are properly identified, both locally sourced and externally sourced resources need of a project are improved. This will lead to sustainability of the projects since sufficient resources will have been availed.
5. To evaluate the influence that	Community leadership is crucial in

community leadership would have on sustainability of community based development projects	determining the extent to which a project can be sustained. Community leadership in this respect entails putting in place democratic structures that give room for effective communication and motivation of the project members. Effective community leadership targets all project members rather than specific individuals

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI,

P.O BOX 30197 - 00200,

NAIROBI.

5TH MAY, 2014

Dear Respondent,

RE: REQUEST FOR QUESTIONNAIRE COMPLETION

I am a student of Masters of Arts in project planning and management at the University of Nairobi. I am conducting a research on influence of community mobilization on sustainability of community- based development project in Uriri constituency. This research project is purelyfor academic purposes and will not be used whatsoever for any other purpose. The answers you give will be important to my academic study. Please complete the questionnaire provided to the best of your ability following the instruction given after each item and return your completed questionnaire to the researcher. Your help and cooperation will be highly appreciated. The information provided will be treated with strict confidentiality.

Thanks for your cooperation

Yours faithfully,

Rose Ogama.

APPENDIX II

PROJECT MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is developed to obtain information about your self and you're your project for the use in the study of influence of community mobilization on sustainability of community based development projects in Uriri constituency. It has two sections: I and II.

SECTION I: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Please tick the appropriate choice and fill in the blanks accordingly.

1. Tick your gender
    a) Male { }
    b) Female { }
2. What is your age in years_____
3. Tick your marital status
    a) Married { }
    b) Unmarried { }
    c) Divorced { }
    d) Widowed { }
    e) Separated { }
4. Tick your level of education
    a) Primary { }
    b) Secondary { }
    c) Post- secondary { }
    d) Any other (specify)_____
    _____
5. Tick your highest professional qualification

a) Certificate { }
b) Diploma { }
c) Any other (specify)_____

_____

6. What is the type of project you engage in (e.g. water, project, and tree nursery project e.tc.)

_____

_____

SECTION II (PART A-E)

This section contains both closed and open ended questions focusing on the influence of: community awareness creation; community participation; community empowerment; identification of resources; and community leadership on sustainability of community - based development projects. Kindly respond to all questions.

PART A: COMMUNITY AWARENESS CREATION

Please tick the appropriate choice and fill in the blanks accordingly.

7. How the idea of the project you engage in was conceived?
   a) External innovator { }
   b) Local adopter { }
   c) Community problems { }
   d) Other (specify) _____

   _____
8. How do you obtain information about the project?
   a) Print media { }
   b) Electric media { }
   c) Verbal communication { }
   d) Visits to other projects v { }
   e) Other (specify)_____

   _____
9. Who is responsible for giving information about the project?
   a) Chairperson { }
   b) Secretary { }
   c) Project member { }
   d) Other (specify)_____

_____

10. How suitable is this project in meeting your needs?
    a) Very suitable { }
    b) Suitable { }
    c) Less suitable { }
    d) Other (specify) _____
    _____

11. Could there have been an alternative project with similar benefits?
    a) Yes { } b) No { }

12. If yes, state reasons for selecting this project?
    _____
    _____

13. Explain how your awareness creation leads to sustainability of the project?
    _____
    _____

PART B: COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Please tick the appropriate choice and fill in the blanks accordingly.

14. Which key activities do you undertake in this project?
    a) Decision Making { }
    b) Project implementation { }
    c) Monitoring and evaluation { }
    d) Other (
    specify)_____
    _____

15. How often do you engage in the activities mentioned?
    a. Frequently { }
    b. Less frequently { }
    c. Other (
    specify)_____
    _____

16. Apart from the activities identified above, hoe else do you participate in the project?
    _____
    _____

17. Do you participate in all meetings of the project?

a. Yes { } (b) No { }

18. If yes, how do you meet?

a) Weekly { }
b) Fortnightly { }
c) Monthly { }

d) Other (specify) _____

_____

19. How are the meetings conducted?

_____

_____

20. Explain how participation of members influences sustainability of the projects?

_____

_____

PART C: COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Please tick the appropriate choice and fill in the blanks accordingly.

21. Have you ever received any training on project work?

    a) Yes { } b) No { }

22. If yes, indicate the type of training you received.

    _____

    _____

23. Are you computer literate?

    a) Yes { } b) No { }

24. If yes, state the extent of your computer knowledge.

    _____

25. Explain how your training influences sustainability of the project?

    _____

    _____

26. How regular do you train to embrace changes in project environment?

    a) Regularly { }
    b) Occasionally { }
    c) Other (specify)

    _____

    _____

27. How dependent are you on this project for your livelihood?

    a) Totally { }
    b) Partially { }
    c) Other (specify)_____

    _____

28. Do you inject part of this earning into the project?

    a) Yes { }
    b) No { }

29. If yes, state the amount you plough back.

    _____

    _____

PART D: IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES

Please tick the appropriate choice and fill in the blanks accordingly.

30. Which resources do you use in the project?
    a) Financial resources { }
    b) Human resources { }
    c) Locally sourced materials { }
    d) Other (specify)_____

    _____

31. Which strategies do you use in identifying resources for your project?
    a) Donation { }
    b) Member's subscription { }
    c) Government support { }
    d) Other (specify) _____

    _____

32. Do you make personal contribution of resources to the project?
    a) Yes { } (b) No { }
33. If yes, state how much you contribute

    _____

    _____

34. How often do you make such contribution?
    a) More often { }
    b) Often { }
    c) Less often { }
    d) Other (specify)_____

    _____

35. Have you ever received any support for the project from any external interventions?
    a) Yes { } (b) No { }
36. If yes, state the difference it made on the project.

    _____

    _____

37. Explain the extent to which the identification of resources influences suitability of the project._____

    _____

PART E: COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Please tick the appropriate choice and fill in the blanks accordingly.

38. What is the communication structure of the project organization?
    a) Hierarchical { }
    b) Flat structure { }
    c) Other (specify)_____
    _____

39. Do you elect your office bearers?
    a) Yes { } (b) No { }

40. If yes, which method of election does your organization embrace?
    a) Secret ballot { }
    b) Acclamation { }
    c) Consensus { }
    d) Other (specify)_____
    _____

41. Which qualities do you consider before electing the officials?
    (a) Education { }
    (b) Experience { }
    (c) Wealth { }
    (d) Popularity { }
    (e) Other (specify)_____
    _____

42. How frequently do you conduct such election?
    (a) Yearly { }
    (b) After two years { }
    (c) After three years { }
    (d) Other (specify)_____
    _____

43. What leadership style does your organization practice?

a) Democratic { }

b) Laissez-fair { }

c) Autocratic { }

d) Other (specify) _____

_____

44. Do top officials delegate authority to other project members?

a) Yes { } (b) No { }

45. If yes, hoe often dot they delegate?

a. Normally { }

b. Occasionally { }

c. Rarely { }

d. Other (

specify)_____

_____

46. In case of conflict, which conflict resolution model does your organization apply?

a. External model { }

b. Internal model { }

c. Other (specify)_____

_____

47. Explain how community leadership influences sustainability of project?

_____

_____

_____

Thank you for your humble cooperation

APPENDIX III

Table for determining the sample size from a given population

DETERMINING THE NEEDED SIZE OF A RANDOMLY CHOSEN SAMPLE FROM A GIVEN FINITE POPULATION

Population	Sample	Population	Sample	Population	Sample
10	10	220	140	**1200**	**291**
15	14	230	144	1300	297
20	19	240	148	1400	302
25	24	250	152	1500	306
30	28	260	155	1600	310
35	32	270	159	1700	313
40	36	280	162	1800	317
45	40	290	165	1900	320
50	44	300	169	2000	322
55	48	320	175	2200	327
60	52	340	181	2400	331
65	56	360	186	2600	335
70	59	380	191	2800	338
75	63	400	196	3000	341
80	66	420	201	3500	346
85	70	440	205	4000	351
90	73	460	210	4500	354
95	76	480	214	5000	357
100	80	500	217	6000	361
110	86	550	226	7000	364
120	92	600	234	8000	367
130	97	650	242	9000	368
140	103	700	248	10 000	370
150	108	750	254	15 000	375
160	113	800	260	20 000	377
170	118	850	265	30 000	379
180	123	900	269	40 000	380
190	127	950	274	50 000	381
200	132	1000	278	75 000	382
210	136	1100	285	1 000 000	384

Source: Krejcie, R. V., & Morgan, D. W. (1970)

APPENDIX IV

MAP OF URIRI CONSTITUENCY