

**INFLUENCE OF WOMEN PARTICIPATION ON NON-
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED
PROJECTS SUSTAINABILITY IN RONGAI SUB COUNTY,
NAKURU COUNTY, KENYA**

BY

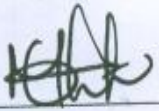
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**A RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
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DECLARATION

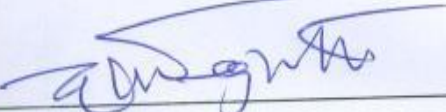
This research proposal is my original work and has not been submitted for a degree in any other University.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my husband, Luchetu Likaka for his constant support and encouragement during the entire study period and our Children Michelle, Ryan and Terrence.

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This far I have reached is Jehovah's will. I extend my acknowledgement to all those who's spiritual support, advice and encouragement led to the successful completion of this work.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

JICA	-	Japan International Co-operation Agency
NGO	-	Non Governmental Organisation
NRCSP	-	New Rongai Constituency Strategic Plan
UN	-	United Nations
UNDP	-	United Nations Development programme
MASAF	-	Malawi Social Action Fund
UNHCR	-	United Nations Human Rights Commission
ICRW	-	International Centre for Research on Women

ABSTRACT

In the wake of clamour for women empowerment, gender equity campaigns and gender mainstreaming discourse many studies have been conducted on the various aspects of women participation. NGOs claim has been that development projects they support use participatory approach and involve active participation of the female gender especially in the identification, implementation and the monitoring and evaluation stages. Conversely, in as much as the above may be true on the side of NGOs, the reality on the ground speaks otherwise. The main focus of the study was to explore the influence of women participation on the NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub County, particularly trying to examine the effectiveness of the current influence women participation, analyze the perception of women and the key informants towards the influence women's participation, ascertain the determinants that influence the level of women participation in Non Governmental Organization supported projects. The proposed study used descriptive survey design with both quantitative and qualitative approaches. The target population for the study constituted 70,213 women from the four administrative divisions of Ngata, Kampi Moto, Rongai and Solai in Rongai Sub-county and 10 NGO Project officers. The sample size for the study was 382 women at a confidence level of 95% and a margin error of 5.0%. The study used stratified sampling on the administrative divisions in the area to obtain a representative sample of the target population and balance of information to be gathered. Proportionate allocation of the sample size was based on the population of each Division and each respondent picked through simple random sampling. The study utilized closed ended questionnaire and interview schedules for key informants to collect primary data. The questionnaire was pre tested on a sample of 25 women not part of the sample to help ascertain the reliability of the instruments using Cronbach's alpha coefficient where $\alpha=0.73$ was obtained. The validity of the instruments was determined through expert judgement by the supervisor and other research experts from the University of Nairobi. Data was analyzed using SPSS (ver. 21) where both quantitative and qualitative data analysis approaches were applied appropriately. Descriptive statistics helped in explaining the findings of the study by use of mode, frequency tables, means, percentages and Pearson's Product Moment Correlation analysis was done to determine the relationship between women participation and project sustainability. The study established that with regards current influence of women participation in NGO support projects sustainability, men tended to participate more at 45% in the NGO supported projects than women whose participation was 35%. Concurrently, 69% of the women were not in any leadership positions in the NGO supported projects that they were benefiting from. This however is despite the finding that the NGO supported projects in the sub-county targeted women at 27%. The study further revealed that 74% of the women perceived the projects viewed them as mere beneficiaries of the projects and not as partners who would help run the projects, the study established that positive relationships ($r=0.47$) existed between the women perception on project monitoring and project sustainability. Determinants influencing women participation had a positive relationship with project sustainability ($r=0.36$). The study also established that positive relationships existed between level of education and women participation ($r=0.49$). This implies that level of education strongly influences women participation in NGO supported. The study recommended the need for NGO supported projects, to incorporate women more during the entire project cycle of the initiated Non Governmental Organization supported projects within their communities.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Women participation is identified as one of the key constituent elements of poverty reduction and as a primary development assistance goal. Yet women participation in formal political structures and processes, where decisions regarding the use of societal resources generated by both men and women are made, remains insignificant. Throughout the world, women have less opportunity to participate either in development or leadership role (United Nations [UN] 2010) This is despite people having a right to development through participation according to United Nations Commission for Human Rights[UNCHR,2010] which states that, the right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized.

Globally, there has been transformation about the role of women in society. More awareness is being created with regard to incorporating gender perspectives in policy making and the adoption of gender inclusive approaches in the implementation of development related goals in order to empower women. The achievement of this goal is seen as the attainment of peace, justice and sustainable development. Women empowerment is measured by five dimensions that may be considered to represent the expansion of choice and freedom of women to make decisions as well as to take the actions that are necessary to influence their life outcomes. The five dimensions are: economic decision making, household decision making, ownership of property and political and social awareness.

The marginalized position of Africa in the global context has blurred the influence of women participation in developmental projects with women in rural areas where most development projects take place, preferring not to have equal status with their husbands or men either in information sharing, consultation, decision making and initialization of projects.

This is seen by (Boserup, 2007) as a consequence of the disruptive effect of colonization and modernization of division of labour, and further concludes that the economic survival and development of the Third World would depend heavily on efforts to reverse this trend and to more fully integrate women into the development process.

NGO supported Projects are initiated within communities with the aim of improving the living conditions of the poor, but the initiated projects cannot be effective and sustainable, unless women participate in these projects in formulation and implementation, as contributors as well as beneficiaries. In many parts of Kenya, women are the main providers of basic services such as housing, education for their children, clothing and food where homes are headed by single mothers and widows. Although women do all these, and their role remains largely unrecognized.

Together with this they are faced with many constraints in trying to participate in development activities such as NGO supported projects initiated which are largely dominated by their male counterparts. Being the principle labourers in many societies, women should also have a share in decision making, implementing, sharing benefits and in evaluation. This is what (Bergdall, 1993) calls, "active participation". This is because women's participation would help bring about equity in resource distribution and sustainability to initiated development projects.

Globally, societies are patriarchal, The subordinate position of women, hence subjects them to various acts of gender based discrimination mostly in public and private institutions existing within the community. Very few women occupy leadership positions and participate equitably with their male counterparts in decision making. This is caused by the nonchalant attitude of women, discriminatory cultures, the society and the governing institutions within the community.

According to (Burkey,1993), important participatory development course call for development facilitators or change agents to go to the people, live with them, learn from them, start with what they know, and build on what they know. Thus, it is critical to note that it is important to involve women as integral community members to control the course and implementation of community development projects in contrast to women merely being consulted and receiving project benefits.

As (Nyerere, 1973) affirms, people will only develop themselves by what they do; by making their own decisions, which increases their own knowledge and by full participation as equals. NGOs thus need to involve women in the projects they support so that they can recognize more efficient and effective community projects.

According to (JICA,2007), minimal participation in development activities has led to lack of ownership of most projects by the communities they were suppose to serve. The fact that there exists little engagement of women in development activities deny most NGOs initiated projects full participation which is paramount to projects success. Empirical observation indicate that community projects often collapse due to various factors, the most critical of which is proving to be low or non-participation of the community in decision making (Mulwa, 2010). In most cases, there is a tendency for core planning teams not to involve certain stakeholders such as marginalized groups, poor rural women, minorities and others often left out because planners assume that these groups are not well informed or educated enough to contribute to the planning process (UNDP, 2009).

Data from around the world shows that increased education is associated with empowerment of women and increased participation consequently (Malhotra, Pande and Grown, 2003). Educated women are more effective at improving their own wellbeing and that of their family. They are better equipped to extract the most benefit from existing services and opportunities and to generate alternative opportunities, roles and support structures. The empowering effects of a womens' education are manifested in a variety of ways including increased income earning potential, ability to bargain for resources within the household, decision making autonomy, control over their own fertility and participation on public life such as in NGO supported projects within their communities.

As the clamour for women empowerment, gender equity campaigns and gender mainstreaming discourse continue, many studies have been conducted on the various aspects of women participation. NGOs claim has been that development projects they support use participatory approach and involve active participation of the female gender especially in the identification, implementation and the monitoring and evaluation stages.

In as much as NGO officials consult widely with women in the community before initiating the project, there have been some disparities between present project activities and those that women would have wanted to be initiated. As (Ukpong, 1993) noted, these disparities could be explained by the fact that people are not consulted with regard to activities of their choice. He further confirms that disparities in development activities are a source of failure for many NGO and other institutional community development initiatives.

Rongai Sub County is one area that has had a large number of NGOs carrying out various developmental projects. It also has both an urban and rural set-up which is typical of many areas targeted by NGO supported projects. The study therefore sought to research on the influence of women participation on NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub County, given the role women play in successful reception and joint partnership for both community and NGOs in the projects they support and understand their level of participation, a gap the study purposed to bridge.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Women participation in developmental projects is an indispensable tool for advancing development and reducing poverty. Women will only participate if they are empowered to do so. There is no doubt that an empowered woman will participate and thus contribute to the health and productivity of whole families and in developmental projects that are established to help address their needs. A critical aspect of gender equality is the equal participation of women and men in decision making about societal priorities and development directions. Thus successful development depends on the involvement and commitment of members of the society. Every group regardless of creed class or sex ought to have a role to play in society. The degree of cooperation and extent of participation depends largely on their level of awareness of their needs and how they are empowered to address those needs. Every member of the society including women and girls need to be equipped with the knowledge skills and habits to make vital contribution in Non Governmental Organizations funded projects. Despite recent development with respect to gender issues acknowledging that an empowered and participating woman will improve their status generally and enable them to actively and effectively participate in key decision making processes at all levels of human development, women are frequently neglected

in economic, trade, development and planning because of socio-historical patterns with regards to gender based inequalities and division of household roles. This is despite the numerous national and international efforts to empower women economically, socio-culturally, legally and politically. Notwithstanding women's contribution to the fabric of the household are commonly underestimated and ignored in community development strategies and key decision making processes especially in developmental activities initiated by Non Governmental Organisations. Lack of frameworks within NGO supported projects on participation, means that extent and level to which women participate in developmental projects within communities is poorly understood. This study therefore sought to bridge the gap by examining the influence of women participation on Non Governmental organizations supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub county Nakuru.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to explore the influence of women participation on NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County

1.4 Objectives of the Study

This study was guided by the following objectives:

- a) To examine the effectiveness of the current influence of women participation on NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County.
- b) To analyze the extent to which the perceptions of the women and the key informants influence women's participation by current services delivery on NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County.
- c) To ascertain the determinants that influence the level of women participation on NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County.

1.5 Research Questions

This study was guided by the following research questions:

- a) How effective is the current influence of women participation on NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub County?

- b) What are the perceptions of women and the key informants towards the influence of womens' participation by current services delivery on NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub County?
- c) What are the determinants that influence the level of women participation on NGO supported projects sustainability

1.6 Significance of the Study

Given the high rate at which NGO initiated projects collapse in Kenya, it was justified to explore the influence of women participation in such projects. This is attributed to the reality that participatory development if made use of early in projects can lead to their success and the eventual continuity.

First, the findings of the study may help policy makers review development policies more so among NGOs given that ascertaining the link between the influence of women participation and the uptake of NGOs projects would help in devising and implementation of appropriate strategies that will enhance service provision by NGOs.

Secondly, it is expected that discovering how women participate in NGOs development projects would enlighten the women to stand up and claim for their participatory roles in development initiatives that affect their lives. This would ensure women identify the right projects based on priority of needs, implement, own and continue with such projects.

Thirdly, the study is conducted at a time when the set time frame for the Third Millennium Development goal (MDG 3). "To promote equality and empower women," should have been attained. According to UNDP (2009), achieving the goals may be impossible without closing the gaps between women and men in terms of capacities, access to resources and opportunities, and vulnerability. The study helped understand the local communities in terms of the influence of women participation on the development projects at the grass root level. This is accredited to the reality that the devolved system of the Kenyan government has brought resources closer to the people hence the need to understand participatory development.

Finally, findings of this study would also benefit other researchers by providing them with a spur for further research in this area of women participation in development projects. In addition, the findings are expected to provide more information needed to bridge the knowledge gap currently in existence on the influence of women participation.

1.7 Delimitations of the Study

The proposed study focused on women in Rongai Sub County, Nakuru County. The research boundaries were the four administrative divisions of Ngata, Rongai, Solai and Kampi Moto. Despite the fact that Rongai Sub County has both urban and rural communities, this study focused on the rural parts of the Sub County because most NGO supported projects are found in the rural parts of the sub county.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

Rongai Sub County is a new demarcation as a result of the constitution that was promulgated in 2010. Most information required, were still being drawn from the County office in Nakuru as the new Sub County headquarter at Kampi Moto was being put in place. The distance covered transversing the sub county to reach beneficiaries of the NGO projects was very wide. This was addressed through strict adherence to the scope or delimitation. Language barrier was also a limitation where some respondents were only able to communicate in their mother tongue. However the limitation was solved by engaging research assistants from the localities who understood the local languages. The respondents were generally suspicious by nature due to mistrust and suspicion. Some potential respondents refused fill in the questionnaires which would have hampered data collection. The problem was addressed by adding more respondents so that the sample size remained the same.

1.9 Assumptions of the Study

An assumption during this study was that the sample taken was representative of the whole population and that the responses would provide the necessary data for a conclusive and informed outcome. The other assumption was that the respondents were true, honest and transparent in their responses. It was also assumed that the research instruments had a high degree of reliability and data collected give a greater degree of validity.

1.10 Definition of Significant Terms

Development This refers to the process involving Women. participation in critically identifying and analyzing their needs and problems, setting goals and making their own decisions on sustainable use of available resources to improve their quality of life.

Participation Women This refers to an active process through which women are involved in the management of NGOs projects that directly or indirectly affect their lives in a way that can make them accept and continue with the projects even after the NGOs have withdrawn their support.

Non Governmental Organization This refers to private and non-profit organizations that pursue development activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, provide basic social services, or undertake development projects.

Participation According to the proposed study, participation is a process through which women influence and share control over development activities, decision making and resources that affect them. Therefore the main aim of participation in development is to actively involve the women in identifying problems, formulating plans and implementing decisions on projects that affect their lives.

Project Refers to a set of interrelated activities that are undertaken using resources to achieve specific objectives for a target group within a given period of time. For the sake of stability, projects need to be sustained to ensure continued benefits.

Project Management This refers to the art of matching goals of a project, tasks and resources to accomplish a goal as needed. It actually involves the task of getting the activities done on time, within budget and according to specification.

Sustainability This refers to the continuation of benefits by the women for an extended period of time after financial, managerial and technical assistance from NGOs has been withdrawn.

1.11 Organization of the Study

This research proposal project report contains five chapters. Chapter one is the introduction and includes the background to the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, the research objectives and questions. It also includes the significance of the study, delimitations and limitations of the study as well as the basic assumptions of the study and finally definition of significant terms as used in the study.

Chapter two is the literature review of relevant works done related to Women participation in development .This section sought to explain the relationship between women participation and Non Governmental organization Supported projects while elaborating on the indicators of women participation. It also sought to identify the gaps in research on women participation in the country. This section also contains the conceptual framework that links the independent and dependent variables of this study.

Chapter three is a description of the research methodology that the study sought to use. The research design and target population are also explained. The chapter further explains the sample size and sample selection. A description of the research instruments used, their reliability and validity also included. An elaboration of the data collection procedures and operational definition of variables are provided.

Chapter four contains the findings of the study based on the analysis of data collected using the research instruments as described in chapter three. The findings were organized as per the objectives of the study and also included interpretation of the findings and discussions related to reviewed literature.

Chapter five summarizes the findings of the study, concludes and gives recommendations based on the findings in chapter four. The chapter also provides suggestions on areas of further study in the field of women participation and Non Governmental Organization supported projects and summarizes further the contribution of the study to the body of knowledge

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This section presented a review of literature on the influence of women participation in NGO development projects in Kenya and elsewhere around the world. The literature has been reviewed as per the objectives namely; the effectiveness of the current influence of women's participation in NGOs supported projects in Rongai Sub County, the perception of women and the key informants towards the influence of women's participation and the determinants of the influence of women participation. The objective of the section was to identify knowledge gaps in literature on the influence of women participation on NGO supported projects sustainability. The chapter ended with theoretical and conceptual frameworks of the study.

2.2 Effectiveness of the influence of women participation in NGO Supported Projects

The concept of NGO came into use in 1945 following the establishment of the United Nations Organizations which recognized the need to give a consultative role to organizations which were classified as neither Government or members states (Willet 2002). Their distinct feature is that they are formed to complement, supplement and offer alternative to government development efforts.

Non-government organizations (NGOs) commonly function as intermediary parties, using funds from donors to provide various forms of support to deprived communities. As such, NGOs are responsible to several stakeholders, including donors, beneficiaries, staff, and those within the wider communities in which they work (Valentinov, 2011). The number and size of NGOs have increased noticeably throughout the last three decades and attracted substantial funds in Africa largely due to worldwide recession, political instability, increasing national debt, poverty and disease, natural disasters and environmental degradation. (Jordan & Tuijl, 2006). In Kenya the NGO growth has moved from 250 registered NGOs in 1993 to 2,232 in 2005 (Vanessa, 2008). However, their effectiveness and efficiency in reducing deficiency in underprivileged communities is being questioned (Schweigert, 2006).

In particular, concerns have been raised regarding the extent of participation by beneficiaries and especially women influence in NGO supported projects (Brett, 2003; O'Dwyer & Unerman, 2010). Arguably, active participation by clients is not formally required in many NGO projects, but is dependent on individual NGO values and mission (Hyndman & McDonnell, 2009). Thus, NGOs projects repeatedly apply external values instead of adapting to local conditions and cultural values, and adopting local knowledge.

Gender is a social and cultural construct. It implies that society the meaning and perception that society inputs on the relation between men and women (Pietila 2007). Since relations between sexes are socially constructed; gender perceptions in turn influence social and economic arrangements between the sexes. This implies that, society allocates work, roles and status through its norms and practices which are all enforced by perceived gender relations. Furthermore, the allocation of resources and responsibilities based on gender relations in turn affects institutional arrangements and practices such as decision making, political power and enjoyment of rights and entitlements within the family. These gender arrangements influence men and womens experiences in diverse ways. Bullock has further established that gender structures social, political and economic relations and shapes values and attributes throughout society (Bullock 1994). He argues that women are specifically limited by a number of factors determined by gender which include cultural norms and stereotypes about specific roles of women (Bullock 1994).

World Bank (1996) describes participation as the process through which household influence and share control over development initiatives, decisions and resources which affect them. It further contends that participation involves information sharing and consultation method to mechanisms for collaboration and empowerment that gives stakeholders more influence and control. (Bhartnagar and Williams, 1992) conceptualization on participation tends to concur with (World Bank, 1996) definition when they define participation as the process by which people, especially disadvantaged, influence decisions that affect them. To them, participation means influence on development decisions, not simply involvement in implementation or enjoying benefits of developments projects.

Women are therefore not supposed to be seen as beneficiaries who should enjoy the benefits of implementation, but those who influence development decisions affecting them.

Literature reviewed highlight that the term participation can be modified to mean different things in different circumstances. In order to situate participation it is important to discern who participates, how they participate, at what level and stages and the motivation determining participation (Cornwall, 2000:8). In this study, to avoid any confusion, the term participation will be conceived from women decision making ability in identifying problems, involvement in implementation of NGO supported projects and evaluation of NGO initiated projects to give appropriate feedback.

Wolfe (1989) viewed participation as the well thought-out efforts to increase control over resources and groups and movements hitherto excluded from such control. These differing views on participation thus presents a gap that the study seeks to fill up by establishing the real conceptualization on women participation according to various stakeholders and then came up with a harmonized view on the same as outlined in research objective.

Over the past two decades significant commitments to women participation have been made at the international level. The Beijing Platform for Action (1995) called on governments to take measures to ensure womens' equal access to and full participation in power structures and decision making. The outcome document of the twenty third special session of the general assembly (2000) reiterates the need to increase the representation of women. In 2006, the 50th session of the commission on the status of Women adopted agreed on conclusions on the equal participation of women and men in decision making.

Women participation is not only advantageous for women themselves, but for development and democracy in general. Without active participation of women and incorporation of their perspectives at all levels developmental projects the goal of equality, development and peace cannot achieved and that womens' equal participation is a necessary condition for women and girls interest to be taken into account and id needed to strengthen and provide sustainability to NGO supported project.

Women inability to participate as argued by (Orubuloye, 1997) is manifested largely by their inability to make decisions even on matters that affect them. In sub Saharan Africa for instance women are the greatest producers and are responsible for the greater part of labour in farming yet certain aspects of the culture have traditionally suppress them. This is also evident with regards to their participation in NGO supported projects, most interventions initiated are aimed at addressing issue that affect them within their communities yet, they are hardly involved planning implementation and monitoring of the said projects.

In supporting the need for women participation, (Karl 1995) argues that there cannot be true democracy, no true peoples' participation in governance and development without equal participation of men and women in all spheres of life and levels of decision making. Enhancing women participation in development is essential not only for Nation building and a just society, but also a prerequisite for achieving political security (Awumbila 1994 cited in Tsikata 2007).

According to (Wallace 1991:331) sees that woman although the poorest, and most powerless, may hold the key to our common future. They command our attention not simply out of a sense of justice or expedience, but because unless their values views and visions serve as central focus for our policy making, we cannot achieve the ultimate goal of peace. This is also practical with regards to NGO supported projects sustainability. Women involvement would go a long way in ensuring the do not collapse if they are involved at every level of decision making.

It has been observed that additional emphasis has been placed on women involvement in planning, decision making and evaluation of development projects (Mitchell, 1999; Sharma and Deepak, 2001). It can therefore be argued that every woman, regardless of their socioeconomic status, should be encouraged to provide opinions, make decisions and assist in the planning and the implementation of an action. While seeking to establish the determinants of the level of women participation in NGO projects, this study will ascertain that the level of education of a women participant in NGO development projects and its influences on the level of participation to a greater extent.

Women participation will therefore be seen as an active process in which participants take initiative and action that is stimulated by their own thinking and deliberation and over which they can exert effective control. Such an approach instils a sense of ownership and responsibility towards projects. This current study therefore will to find out how the local population can be receptive to such interventions in a way that will make them adopt the proposed development projects. On the other hand, Brown (2000), observe household participation as the active process by which beneficiaries influence the direction and the execution of the project rather than merely being consulted or receiving the share of the benefits. Household participation is strongly enhanced by women participations and thus need to focus on the influence of women participation in development projects in Rongai Sub County.

Chambers, one of the chief proponents of the current participatory development model in operation in the development discourse, while tackling the concept participation tries to define the concept. In his view, he completely opposes the top-down approach that is used by most development agencies He advocates for bottom-up approach in which the emphasis is on women as active participants in development projects. In his argument, Chambers (1983, 1997) contends that women participation empowers the poor, the marginalized and the disenfranchised in societies in the design and implementation of programmes without external influence. He maintained that the agencies should only come in to facilitate not to influence decision in the life of women development initiatives. By arguing so, Chambers wants to propose that women should be given the first position in the development process rather than viewing them as the last and fit to receive development as opposed to initiating it. While this idea seems to be ideal, in practice, most development projects usually come to the women from outside, thus making it difficult for the women to take an independent initial active role because they may not know how to act. This is usually the case of NGO development projects which need some preliminary participatory component with women before they fully own the projects.

Accordingly, (Mansuri and Rao 2004) admit that women participation has the potential to improve the outcomes of development projects. However, they also hold a contrary view that there is not much systematic and scientific evidence on its track record and they have concluded that little is known about the impact of women participation on NGO projects.

They add that strong evidence regarding the influence of women participation is needed urgently given that participation is a practice that is best put on paper but not in practice as the idealized textbook benefits do not always materialize. This creates a knowledge gap, thus making this research study a viable one aimed at probing for the missing link to bridge the said gap.

It is important to note that these opposing views on women participation on development projects a dangerous precedence in development thought. The current study seeks to establish how the concept women participation is understood and how it can be applied in NGO development projects so that projects, targeted beneficiaries may own and eventually adopt such projects for sustainability. It can therefore be argued that this state of disagreement among development agencies, scholars and other key players on participatory development may be one of the explanations for non participation of the women in NGO supported projects in Rongai Sub County.

2.3 Perceptions on Women Participation in NGO Supported Projects

One of the most important focal points of this study was to demonstrate how participation is perceived among different stakeholders in NGOs development projects in Rongai Sub County. (JICA 2007) indicated that majority of household members have no shared meaning as to what it exactly means or is expected of them as far as participation in development projects is concerned.

Another study by (Guijt and Shah 1998) also came up with findings that criticize how the term participation is defined in many development projects especially when they observe that participation is ill defined and meaningless when it comes to implementation. What comes out clear from this study is that if participation is not well defined, then it may be perceived in a way that can hinder the implementation and the eventual uptake of development interventions. In spite of this hard reality, there is also the need to understand that in every social setting, there must be varied opinions and interests, hence the need to harmonize these views to have a compromised position.

Similarly, the study by (JICA, 2007) also found out that there exists an attitude by the women that development is supposed to be free and that they are not supposed to contribute towards the projects costs. Whether this observation is true still leaves a lot to be confirmed but as at present, it may be a likely account for the inactive participation by women in most NGOs development projects. It is thus within the scope of the proposed study to verify whether the findings by (JICA 2007) still hold.

Similarly the attitude of the development agencies towards the women ability may also affect implementation of the development activities especially the perceived idea that women should be recipients of development rather than initiators or implementers. In spite of these findings by (JICA, 2007), with promising recommendations, not much has changed in the way NGOs and the women view each other while jointly undertaking development projects. This study is motivated to probe further on which perceptions held by both the NGO and the women on participatory development and the effects they have on the women participation in NGO initiated projects in Rongai Sub County, Nakuru.

The major risk of enhancing participation is the potential of a vocal minority to hijack the programme for their own short term benefits rather than to fulfil the intended beneficiaries (Maya and Thomas, 2009). Additionally, critics of community participation note that the relationship between NGO and women may be such that NGO staffs only hear what they want to hear from women but remain with the power to make crucial decision on the projects (Najam, 1996). When such scenario occurs, the women (the majority) may cease participation and leave the project to the perceived owners who may be few selected leaders and who by themselves cannot uphold the projects.

The current study therefore seeks to explore further the perception of different stakeholders on women participation especially in NGO supported projects. Unlike the study by (JICA 2007), this study did not only focus on the varied conceptualization of the concept participation, but also went further to suggest ways in which these perceptions whether right or wrong could be changed for better so that women participation in development projects can be enhanced in Rongai Sub County.

2.4 Determinants that influence the level of Women participation in NGO supported projects

The extent to which women participate in development activities may to a greater extent dictate how well they get integrated into the project management system. On one extreme side participation may be merely viewed as the passive consumer response of receiving services from developmental programs. On the other hand, it may be perceived as the complete ownership of the project or program by the community.

A study by (Maya and Thomas, 2009), found out that there exists five levels of participation in development projects. In the first level the women are just mere recipients of the projects benefits. In the second level, the women participate by providing some personal, financial or material contribution but are not involved in decision making. The third level is where the women participate in lower level management decision making. Level four involves participation that goes beyond lower level decision making to monitoring and policy making. The final and the most advanced level is where projects are entirely run by the women, except for some external financial and technical assistance. These levels as advanced by Maya and Thomas (2009) seem to capture a typical participatory development situation.

However, while coming up with these levels, these scholars fail to recognize the fact that there exist different categories of stakeholders in any development project. In most cases, there are those women who are directly involved in the management of the project with the agencies and the beneficiaries of the project proceeds who according to the current participatory model should have a differing level of participation. The current study will attempt to determine how various stakeholders participate, levels of their participation and the determinants of their levels of involvement in NGO development project and eventually explore how all these affect the performance of the said projects. Even though these levels may be simple to understand, most development agents find it difficult to apply them in practical terms, thus making development difficult for no proper reason.

According to (Chambers, 2007), levels of participation have been a hotly debated dimension in development practices ever since the advent of participatory methodologies.

It is being argued that the extent to which women should participate has been an issue; when some advocate for the need to have as many women as possible taking part in every level of project management, still others are contented with participation through representation. In fact, many argue that as long as representatives are included in some relevant stages of the process, then the exercise is deemed participatory. Amidst this hot debate on the levels of participation, the current research will utilize these levels with close reference to NGO supported project to help bridge the knowledge gap in existence. It is hoped that the proposed research will not only focus on levels of participation but also on the determinants of the level of women participation on the NGO projects in Rongai Sub County.

Furthermore, (Bretty 2003) also conceptualized these levels of participation with regard to weak and strong participation. According to his view, weak participation involves informing and consulting while strong participation means partnership and control. From this view, it can be understood that one way to manage development is by having partnership with the women as the control remains in the hands of the women if a strong participation level is adopted. (Wilcox 1994) on his part asserted that information giving and consultation are often provided as participation leading to disappointment among women. The major challenge with levels of participation is that most development agencies have their own definitions of participation and distinct levels of participation especially by different actors in development (stakeholders).

A study by (Dulani, 2003), on Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF) projects found out that the level of women participation was limited to being informed on what had been decided by key players which implied passive participation by consultation. (Dulani, 2003) also found out that the above mentioned level of participation hampered the successful implementation and the adoption of the most projects in Malawi. It is thus a prudent idea to carry out the same study in Rongai Sub County, to help in ascertaining whether the lack of acceptance of NGO supported projects could be as a result of the varied interpretation on which level the women should participate in such development interventions.

Participation has become a critical concept in development such that governments, donors, and NGO among other development agencies internationally are encouraging its use in needs

assessment and implementing programmes.(Chambers 1997) came up with a new approach which starts with the people's knowledge as the basis for planning and change. He argues that the increased emphasis on the importance of participatory approach in development directly contributes to the growing recognition that project design, monitoring and evaluation and other community based initiatives should be participatory. However, the level at which each stakeholder participates is likely to be determined by a number of factors.

Literature review by the International centre for Research on women(ICRW) shows that education is a necessary but not sufficient investment to achieve women participation(ICRW,2005).In most cases only secondary or higher levels of schooling lead to improved options, opportunities and outcomes for women. Investments area also needed that address the social and economic constraints that can impede education benefits.ICRW research shows that women are more likely to control their own destinies and effect change in their own communities when they have a higher level of education For all these, it is expected that development projects will be more likely to occur in situation where women have attained some level of education given that education improves ones understanding of certain aspects of a project.

With reference to NGO projects, there is a tendency for core planning teams not to involve certain stakeholders in planning; that is, the marginalized groups, poor rural women, minorities and others are often left out because planners assume that these groups are not well informed or educated enough to contribute to the planning process (UNDP, 2009). This study hopes to ascertain that educational factors affect the level of participation of women in NGOs projects and is probably the ultimate influence on the adoption some of these projects and eventually recommend what ought to be done to improve the situation as it is.

Ajayi and Otuya (2006), also observe that majority of women are socially, culturally and politically barred from participating in community development planning and decision-making processes. Similarly, in Kenya it has been observed that very few women sit in any of the district development committees involved in identifying programmes that affect their livelihood (Republic of Kenya, 2009). This low participation of women could be one of the likely causes of

the collapse of most projects especially those targeting women as they do not have the women priority needs in practical terms. As Guijt and Shah (1998), note, in most cases, what is referred to as the household actually means male household. It will also establish other determinants affecting the level of women participation and further came up with strategies that are vital in improving women participation in NGOs supported projects.

It is emerging from the literature review that women participation in NGO supported projects is key to their success. Basing on the views of Chambers (1989, 1994, 1997), Mulwa (2010), and other proponents of participatory development model, they hold the view that genuine household participation has the potential of promoting efficiency, effectiveness, self-reliance, courage as well as stability of development projects and should be made use of in any development intervention. On the contrary, there are scholars who are opposed to above school of thought where participation is being taken as indisputably good for development programmes.

Cooke and Kothari (2001), (Mansuri and Rao 2004), for example, do not believe that women participation can play any significant role in NGO supported projects, however, they do not proposed any development methodology in place of Participatory model. These conflicting views therefore created a knowledge gap that needs to be bridged by harmonizing this differing view on participatory development. This study therefore in the first objective tackled the effectiveness of women participation on the uptake of NGO supported projects sustainability and thus called for an urgent need to address to challenges posed by the low participation as was purposed by the study.

Literature review further reveals that in as much as participation in development interventions is vital, there has been relatively minimal women participation in NGO supported projects in Rongai Sub County. Similarly, where participation has been allowed, there have been restrictions on the level of involvement of the women in the management of the projects. The question that follows this revelation is what determines the level of participation of women in NGO supported projects and how does this affect such projects The current study answered this question by establishing the determinants of the level of women participation in NGO projects sustainability. Generally, this study explored the link between women participation and how it influenced the implementation of the NGO supported projects by the targeted beneficiaries.

2.5 Review of Policies on Women Participation

Over the past two decades, significant commitments to women's participation have been made at the international and National level. Some of the commitments with regards to women participation are discussed below.

2.5.1 Convention of Elimination of forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The Convention defines discrimination against women as "...any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field." States parties also agree to respond appropriately against all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of women. Countries that have ratified or acceded to the Convention are legally bound to put its provisions into practice. They are also committed to submit national reports, at least every four years, on measures they have taken to comply with their treaty obligations. Therefore, it can be said that empowerment means a process to establish control over resources and means to acquire ability and opportunity to participate in decision-making process and its implementation. However, if we review the practices in Kenya as per CEDAW convention is not followed and sometimes avoided as a masculine practice.

2.5.2 Beijing Platform of Action

The objective of the Platform for Action, which is in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, is the empowerment of all women. The full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all women is essential for the empowerment of women.

While the Platform of Action is of significance at national and regional level, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms. The implementation of this Platform, in Kenya has been through formulation National laws in the Constitution, strategies, policies, programmes and development priorities. However worth noting is the fact that the Platform is well stipulated on

paper, but it would be worthwhile to establish during the study if it is in practice implemented at the grassroot level.

2.5.3 Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

MDG report shows progress in some areas, but the potential to achieve the third goal (MDG-3) on gender equality and women's empowerment is judged low. MDG-3 in Kenya includes targets for increased female participation and reduced gender disparity in education, economics, politics, and justice. Though progress toward achieving MDG targets has generally been slow, efforts made by the Kenyan Government (GoK) to use the MDGs as a basis for national development planning through the NGO supported projects and other instruments is commendable (2011 report). Participation in the global MDG agenda offers a means of holding the GoK accountable for its commitment to its female citizens and to the international community. The study on women participation in NGO supported projects is timely as the set timeline for the implementation of the MDGs by 2015 should have been realized.

2.5.4 The Kenyan Constitution

The constitution of Kenya (2010) promotes gender equality and empowerment of women by providing articles that promote participation of women in political leadership and decision making. Kenya's constitution pushed through promised women at least one third of seats in elected bodies. Forty seven women's representative seats were created to reserve legislative positions for women in the national assembly. In theory, this election should have opened the floodgates for women wishing to enter politics. In practice, little has changed. The expectation is that with a considerable number of women at the helm of decision making, notable changes in women participation in development projects should also be witnessed at the grass root levels.

Despite measurable progress over the last decade in building a sound legal and policy framework for the protection of women's rights as far as participation is concerned, further work is needed. The existing legal and policy framework has not been sufficient so far in supporting significant shifts in the realization of women's rights and gender equality as far as enhanced participation is concerned. There are a range of reasons for this, related to challenges in translating national policies and legal frameworks into practice at the County and local levels, and low political will

related to the reality of competing pressures from the international community and domestic powerbrokers regarding the place of women's rights and gender equality.

2.6 Theoretical Framework

In an attempt to explain the influence of women participation in NGO supported development projects, the study was conceptualized using two theories, The Feminist Theory and the Rational (RCT) choice theory.

2.6.1 Feminist Theory

This study was be guided by the Feminist theory. The Feminist theory was an outgrowth of the general movement to empower women worldwide. Feminism can be defined as recognition and critique of male supremacy combined with efforts to change it. Feminist fight for the equality of women and argue that women should share equally in society's opportunities and scarce resources. Looking at the similarities between men and women, the feminist perspective concluded that women and men have equal potential for individual development. The theory focused on women and their ability to amass resources from a variety of sources in their individual lives (micro-level) and through social and political means (macro-level)

Practically therefore, feminist theory and its attention to diversify offered a sound framework for organizations working to change womens inferior social position and the social, political and economic discrimination that perpetuates it. Women participation is perceived as a means of liberating them from oppression. (Freire, 1973) presented three progressive steps of empowerment that would lead to participation as concietizing, inspiring and liberating. According to Freire, the oppressed or the disadvantaged can become empowered by learning about social inequality and encouraging

According to (Parpart *et al*,2003) he argued that empowerment must be understood as including both individual concientization(*power within*) and a ability to work collectively which leads to politicized *power with* others which provides *the power to* bring about change. Womens progressive steps to empowerment which lead to participation are identical to those of Freire. "Power within" is consistent with *concientizing*, "power with" is compatible with inspiring, and "power to" is in accord with liberating. These lead to greater participation in decision making by

women and consequently in Non Governmental organization supported projects within their localities that were hitherto oppressed from such.

2.6.2 Rational Choice Theory

Rational Choice Theory was an approach used by social scientists to understand human behaviour. The approach has long been the dominant paradigm in economics, but in recent decades it has become more widely used in other disciplines such as Sociology, Political Science, and Anthropology. This spread of the rational choice approach beyond conventional economic issues is discussed by Becker (1976), (Radnitzky and Bernholz 1987), and (Green and Shapiro 1996). Theories of rational choice are guided by the assumption that people are rational and base their actions on what they perceive to be the most effective means of their goal (Wallace, 1991).

It assumes that human beings are purposive and goal oriented. Every action taken is guided by a clearly identified goal or purpose. It is therefore true to note that in RCT, individuals are seen as motivated by the wants or goals that express their preferences. They act within specific, given constraints and on the basis of the information that they are acting upon. They must make choices in relation to both their goals and the means for attaining these goals. Rational choice theories hold that individuals must anticipate the outcomes of alternative courses of action and calculate that which will be best for them. It can therefore be argued that when Women are forced into action (relationship) by NGO before making rational decisions, then chances that they may fail to adopt the initiated course of action are higher.

2.7 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework illustrates the relationship between the independent and dependent variables of the study as shown in figure 2.1 below. As projected by the conceptual framework used to relate the variables, women participation is the independent variable while the NGO supported projects sustainability is the dependent variable. The independent variable was conceptualized as comprising womens' involvement in project identification, project planning, project implementation, project monitoring evaluation and feedback and project decision making. It was hypothesised that greater involvement in participation will result into projects sustainability.

Perception of both women towards NGOs and NGOs towards women had an influence on women participation. Perception of women was evaluated in terms of their feeling of whether NGOs are free and fair and whether they place restrictions on level of women participation while NGOs perception towards women was evaluated by their view that women had attitude that affected projects negatively, and they should be recipients within projects. The study hypothesized that where the same perceptions were held, there would be negative effects on women participation and hence projects initiated not sustainable finally. However if perceptions were changed by either parties, then participation of women would be enhanced resulting into sustainable projects.

Determinants of women participation were evaluated in terms of level of education of women, local community leadership, NGO restrictions, and socio-cultural factors. These would positively or negatively affect women participation and furthermore impact negatively or positively on projects. The interaction between women participation and project sustainability may be moderated by factors such as constitution, international treaties or conventions, Government policy and affirmative action which expressly demand gender equality and equity in social, economic and political spheres thus giving women equal opportunities to participate.

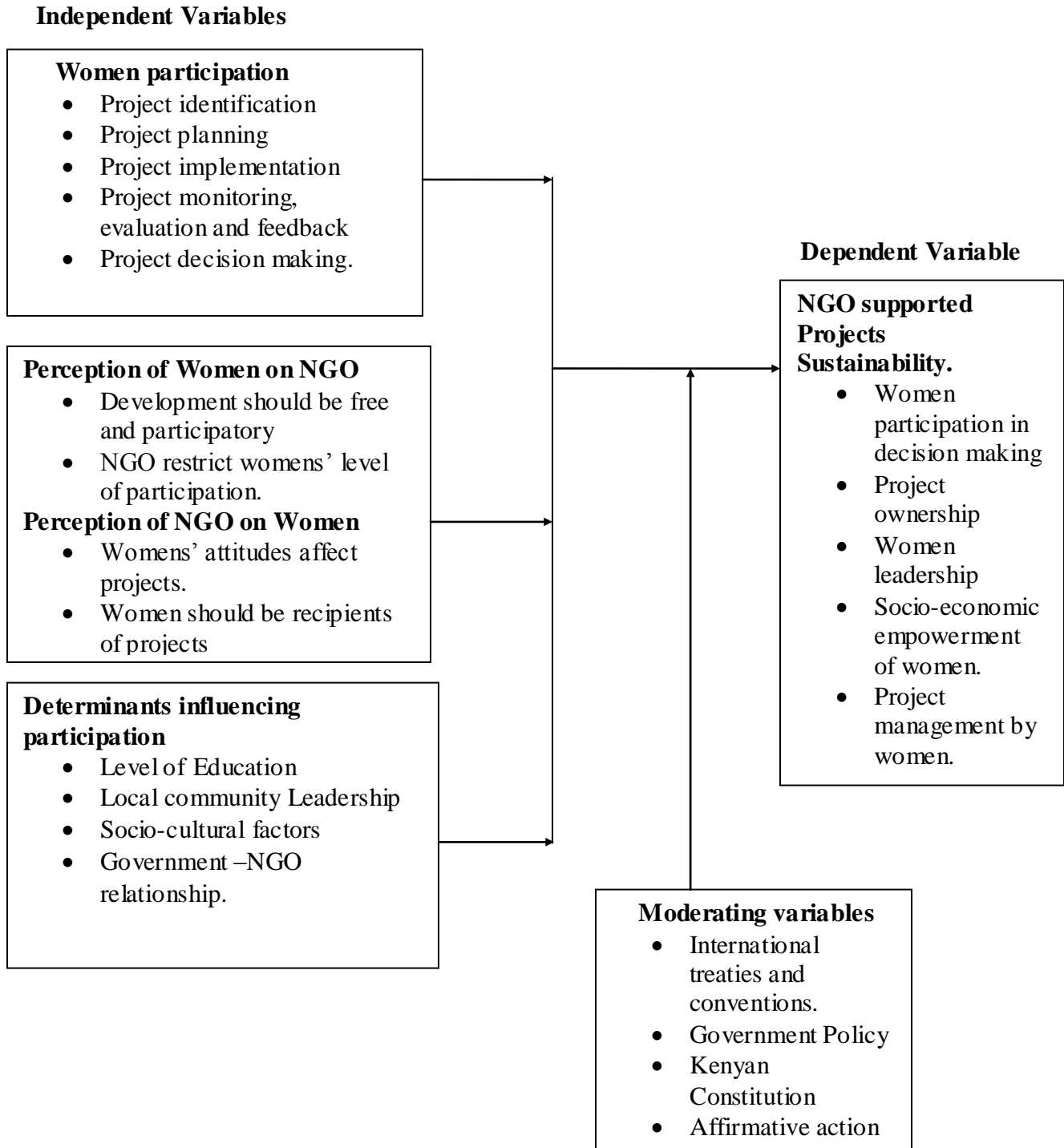


Figure 2.1 Conceptual Frame work on Influence women participation in NGO supported Projects, Source: Self

2.8 Summary of Literature Review and Research Gaps

The preceding sections of this chapter reviewed literature on effectiveness of women participation in Non Governmental Organization Supported projects, Perception of women and key stakeholders towards women participation and the determinants that influence the level of women participation in Non Governmental Organization Supported projects. For these reviews, a number of studies (World Bank 1989; Wolfe 1996; Chambers 1983; Mansuri and Rao 2004 among others) give different definitions of the concept women participation and what it entails and by extension how it enhances Non Governmental Organization supported projects sustainability. The current study examined the extent to which women participated in Non Governmental Organization supported projects and evaluate the relationship between their participation and projects sustainability.

Review of literature on perception of women and other key informants towards women participation showed that there was a negative attitude that women had towards Non Governmental organizations regarding them as being free and participatory in nature. This to a great extent hinders women from participating. Non Governmental Organizations equally view women as being beneficiaries and having attitudes that would go a long way in hindering proper performance on initiated projects. These perceptions by both the women and key informants would negatively affect effective participation in projects by women. The study assessed the extent to which perception of women and key informants influenced women participation in NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County.

Literature also showed that education equips women with the awareness and knowledge required to make beneficial life choices, increase their ability to access resources and services and enables them to become informed consumers and citizens. Literature reviewed also showed that majority of women are socially, culturally and politically barred from participating in community development planning and decision-making processes. This study therefore examined the determinants that influence women participation in NGO supported projects sustainability.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the research methods that were used in the study. It indicates the research design, target population, sampling procedures, methods of data collection validity and reliability, operational definition of variables and finally the proposed methods of data analysis and ethical considerations that were put into place during the study period.

3.2 Research Design

The proposed study used descriptive survey design. The design is preferred where subjects respond to a series of statements or questions in a questionnaire or an interview and where it is inexpensive to collect information from a large number of respondents (Jackson, 2003). The study area had an accessible population of 163,864 both men and women (Modern Rongai Strategic Plan, 2011), of which 70,213 (50.4%) are women and a sample of the study was drawn from here to help describe the phenomenon under study. According to Orodho and Kombo (2002), descriptive survey is ideal for gathering information about people's perceptions and attitudes, opinions, habits or any other of the variety of social issues. The design was very vital especially in exploring the perception of the community and NGO officials within the Sub County. The design is also preferred where standardized questions that elicit standardized responses are used (Lavine and Gelles, 1999). This is the case of the study. The use of the design thus helped in precise and fair understanding of the results.

3.3 Target Population

Target population refers to the population which the researcher used to generalize the results of the study, Mugenda and Mugenda, (2003). The target population for this study were women within the four administrative divisions of Ngata, Kampi Moto, Rongai and Solai in Rongai Sub-County, Nakuru County. The Kenya population and Housing census 2009 provided a total listing of 70,213 women in Rongai Sub County distributed as shown in Table 3.1. This was used as the sampling frame from which a sample of the women respondents was randomly selected for the study.

Table 3.1: Distribution of women per Administrative Divisions

Administrative Division	Population of Women
Ngata	20,512
Solai	15,040
Kampi Moto	13,202
Rongai	21,459
Total	70,213

Source: Kenya Population & Housing Census 2009

3.4 Sampling size and Sampling Procedure

This section describes how the sample size and the procedure that was used in picking the sampled subjects for the study.

3.4.1 Sample size

A sample size is a representative from a given population. Based on Krejcie and Morgan's (1970) table of determining sample size, a population of 70,213 women gave a sample size of 382 women at a confidence level of 95% and a margin error 5.0%. Krejcie and Morgan's Table is based on the formula:

$$S = \frac{X^2 NP (1-P)}{d^2 (N-1) + X^2 P (1-P)}$$

Where:

S= required sample

X^2 = the table value of chi-square for one degree of freedom at the desired confidence level (0.05) equal to 3.841 (1.96²)

N = Population

P= proportion of population assumed to be 0.50 since this would provide the maximum sample size.

$$S = \frac{3.841 \times 70213 \times 0.5 \times (1-0.5)}{0.05^2 \times 70212 + 3.841 \times 0.5 \times (1-0.5)} = \frac{67422.033}{176.490} = 382.01$$

Therefore the sample size of the study comprised 382 women subjects in the four Divisions of Solai, Kampi Moto, Rongai and Ngata.

3.4.2 Sampling Procedure

Sampling refers to the selection of some part of an aggregate totality on the basis of which a judgement or inference of totality is made. It can be defined as the process of obtaining information about a population by examining part of it (Kothari 2004). Since the population drawn may not have been homogenous, stratified sampling based on the administrative divisions in the area of study was used to obtain a representative sample of the target population and ensure a balance of information gathered. Proportionate allocation of the sample size on the population of each division was done and women picked through simple random sampling. Further, a sample size of ten NGO official mainly Project Officers were purposively selected from the NGOs operating in the four administrative Divisions. The distribution of the sample size as per the Administrative Divisions is as shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2: Distribution of the Sample size per Administrative Division

Administrative Division	Number of women	sampling%	Sample size
1. Ngata	20,512	29.2	112
2. Solai	15,040	21.4	82
3. Kampi Moto	13,202	18.8	71
4. Rongai	21,459	30.5	117
Total	70,213	100	382

3.5 Methods of Data Collection

The proposed study used questionnaires and interview schedules to collect data from the sampled respondents and NGOs managers. Questionnaire schedules had closed ended questions constructed in line with the research specific objectives. There was also an interview schedule which was used to gather information from key informants. The main reason for involving key informants was to provide information that was less accessible without the interactions with such informed people. This is attributed to the reality that such interactions stimulate people in making explicit their views, perceptions, motives and reasons.

3.6 Data Collection Procedures

Permission to conduct research was sought from the University of Nairobi and a research permit obtained from the National Council for Science and Technology (NACOSTI). An exploratory visit was then made to the study area to meet with NGO officials and local leaders who assisted in mapping out the area and identify the potential respondents for the study. The next stage was the actual fieldwork which entailed collecting primary data from the female subjects who were randomly sampled from the sampling frame. In instances where the respondents were in a position to fill the questionnaires they were given to do so with the guidance of the research assistants. For the respondents who were not able to read and write were assisted to read the questions were translated into Swahili and responses recorded. This was followed by the key informant interviews from the NGO supported projects in order to gain a deeper understanding of the issues under investigation.

3.7 Reliability

The study provided an opportunity for testing the validity and reliability of research instruments which was crucial in a research process. “It is generally accepted that when a concept has been operationally defined, in that a measure of it has been proposed, the ensuring measurement device should be both valid and reliable” (Bryman and Cramer, 2001:76). This research combined both qualitative and quantitative techniques; therefore, caution was taken during the design of the research to ensure that validity and reliability are addressed appropriately during data collection and data analysis processes. Reliability is the degree of consistency that instruments or procedures demonstrated.

The instrument was tested in a pre-test study comprising a sample of 25 women from Nakuru East Sub County with similar characteristics was used for the study. The results of the pre test study were tested using the Cronbach's alpha coefficient and a reliability coefficient of $\alpha = 0.73$ was obtained. The results of the pre-test study were then used to add, as well as to remove a few items from the instrument to improve on its reliability. Similarly experts, peers and supervisors from the department of Extra Mural Studies, University of Nairobi also helped in the appraisal to ensure the instrument accurately measure the variables intended in this study.

3.8 Validity

The detail to validity is synonymous with accuracy or correctness and is an important measure of a survey instrument's accuracy (Litwin, 1995). In other words it reflects the characteristic that it is supposed to measure and is not distorted by other factors, either systematic or transitory. It tells us whether the question or item really measures what it is supposed to measure (Saunders *et al*, 2007) When a measure is valid, it is believed to be free from error. Interview schedules and questionnaires were pretested to check on the content, construct and face validity; simple English language was used while constructing the instruments so that the respondents easily understood the questions omitting any ambiguities. The instruments were also given to the supervisor and other research experts for expert judgement. Although it is difficult to identify whether a measurement is valid, it can be inferred.

3.9 Operational Definition of Variables

Table 3.3: Operational Definitions of Variables and Measuring Indicators

Specific Objective	Variables Indicators	Means of Measuring	Measurement Scale	Tools Analysis
To examine the effectiveness of the influence of current women participation in NGOs supported projects in Rongai Sub County	Women Participation in NGO Supported Projects	% of Women participating in NGO supported projects planning % of women involved in implementation % of women involved in monitoring/evaluating projects % of women sitting in board/leadership of NGO supported projects	Ordinal Ratio	Frequency Percentages PPMC
To analyze the perception of women and the key informants towards the influence of women participation by current services delivery by NGOs in Rongai Sub County.	Women and Key Informants perception	% of women having access to project information % of women involved in project Management % of consultative meetings attended	Ordinal Ratio	Frequency Percentages PPMC
To ascertain the determinants that influence the level of women participation in NGOs supported projects in Rongai Sub County.	Women participation in various developmental initiatives	Level of education of the women in the NGO projects No of further trainings/capacity building attended by the women.	Ordinal	Frequency Percentages PPMC

3.8 Methods of Data Analysis

The collected data was coded after validation and then entered into the computer. Data analysis was done using SPSS (ver. 21) where both quantitative and qualitative data analysis approaches was applied appropriately. Descriptive statistics helped in explaining the findings of the study by use of mode, frequency tables, means, percentages these were used to analyse the three objectives. Pearson's Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) was used to analyze the independent and dependent variables to determine the magnitude and direction of the relationship between women participation and projects sustainability. Qualitative data from key informants was extracted, common themes identified, organized and then discussed under the main objective areas of the study.

3.9 Ethical considerations

Ethical measures are principles which the researcher should bind himself with in conducting his/her research. In the study the requisite approvals for conducting the research before data collection was sought (Macmillan &Schumacher 1993).Initial approval was secured from the University of Nairobi. A research permit was then sought from National Council for Science and Technology, followed by an introductory visit to the area to brief the local leaders and NGO officials as an entry point to the communities. The respondents in the study were assured of confidentiality of the information they provide and they were not be asked to provide their names during data collection.

Summary

This chapter described the survey research design that was used in the proposed study. The study used an ex postto facto design where the researcher only collected information without varying the variables. The target population of the study were women who participated in NGO supported projects in Rongai Sub County. The study will used both purposive and quota sampling. On methods of data collection the proposed study employed questionnaires and interview schedules as they allow for probing and seeking clarity. The chapter ended with explanation on how validity and reliability was attained and an operational definition of variables and finally the proposed methods of data analysis for each study objective and ethical considerations that were put into consideration during the study.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter contains findings from the analysis of data collected from the study respondents using questionnaires and interview schedules as discussed in chapter three, interpretation of the findings and discussions based on the objectives as outlined in chapter one. The study sought to establish the influence of women participation in NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai sub- County. The chapter is divided into sub-headings namely; questionnaire return rate, background of the respondents, effectiveness of current influence of women participation, perception of women and key informants on the influence of women participation and the determinants that influence the level of women participation in NGO supported projects.

4.2 Response Rate

This section presents a summary of the number of women respondents who participated in the study in relation to the designed sample size of 382 that was described in chapter three. The questionnaires were administered however during the entry and cleaning stage, it was noted that eight questionnaires had some sections that were not completely filled, hence the cancellation of the affected questionnaires. In addition, ten of the planned interviews with the project officers of the NGOs working within the study location were successfully conducted.

Table 4.1: Response Rate

Target Group	Intended sample size	Number achieved	Response rate
Women	382	374	97.9%
Project Officers	10	10	100%
Total	392	384	97.9%

The table 4.1 indicates that the women response rate was 97.9% while for the project officers, the response rate was 100%. Overallly the study realized a response rate of 97.9% of the targeted

respondents. This response rate was made possible, since the researcher and his team of research assistants administered the questionnaires to the respondents and waited for them to fill their responses and collected them immediately. Those respondents with low literacy levels, had the questions translated into Swahili and their responses recorded in the respective questionnaires.

4.3 Background of the Respondents

This section presents findings on the women respondents, their age, marital status and level of education. These socio-demographic variables may influence the respondents participation in NGO supported projects thus have a bearing on the ability of the respondents to provide information that is valid, reliable and relevant to the study.

4.3.1 Distribution of the women Respondents by Age

The respondents, who were all females from the four administrative divisions, were asked to state their respective ages form the age categories that were given as choices.

Table 4.2: Distribution of Women Respondents by Age

Age category	Frequency	Percentage
18 to 24 Years	20	5.3%
25 to 29 Years	25	6.7%
30 to 34 Years	104	27.8%
35 to 39 Years	97	26.0%
40 to 44 Years	65	17.4%
Above 45 Years	63	16.8%
Total	374	100.0

These findings indicate that cumulatively majority of the respondents were in their youthful stages of between 30 to 34 years (28%) and 35 to 39 years (26%) respectively. This is the most productive and reproductive age that is likely to benefit from NGO supported projects if their sustainability is enhanced.

4.3.2 Marital Status of the women Respondents

The respondents were asked to state their marital status. Marital status influences women participation in NGO supported projects. Those married always tend to relegate the participating role to their husbands. Their responses were as shown in Table 4.3

Table 4.3: Distribution of Women Respondents by Marital Status

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage
Single	65	17.4%
Married	230	61.5%
Divorced/Separated	45	12.0%
Widowed	34	9.1%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents 62% were married, 17.4% were single, 12% divorced or separated and 9.1% widowed. Marital status has an influence on woman participation. The high percentage of married women shows a high level of family responsibility. This finding implies that the womens marital status could limit their time to actively participate in NGO supported projects within their communities.

4.3.3 Education Level of the Women Respondents

The respondents were asked to indicate their highest education level as shown in Table 4.4

Table 4.4 Respondents Level of Education

Level of Education	Frequency	Percentage
Non formal education	41	10.9%
Primary school	103	27.5%
Secondary school	141	37.8%
College	57	15.2%
Graduate	32	8.6%
Total	374	100.0

The highest percentage of respondents (38%) had secondary level education, primary level education had 28%, college level education was attained by 15% of the respondent, University level education 8.6% while had 11% of the respondents did not having any formal education. Education level plays a significant role in determining the level to which an individual participates within a community.

4.3.4 Respondent Religious Affiliation

The respondents were asked to state their religious affiliations and gave their responses as shown in Table 4.5

Table 4.5: Respondents Religious Affiliation

Religion	Frequency	Percentage
Traditional	23	6.1%
Roman Catholic	151	40.4%
Protestant	181	48.4%
Muslim	19	5.1%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that the majority of women respondents were Protestants who constituted 48%, followed by adherents of the Roman Catholic Church who constituted 40%. Traditional African Religion was 6% and Muslims constituted 5%. Religious doctrines can hinder or promote participation of women in NGO funded projects and therefore impact positively or negatively towards the initiated projects sustainability.

4.3.5 Respondents Occupation

The respondents were asked to state if they were involved in any occupation to help them acquire income. Their responses are as shown in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Respondents occupation

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Casual labourer	144	38.5%
Farmer (small scale)	59	15.8%
Housewife	87	23.2%
Business woman	67	18.0%
Employed	17	4.5%
Total	374	100.0

The findings of the study indicate that 39% of the respondents were casual labourers working in flower firms and sisal plantations. Housewives were 23.2% while 18% were business women involved in small scale trading, 16% were farmers of both crop and animal rearing though on a small scale, and only 4.5% of the women were engaged in employment. Engagement of the respondents in income generating ventures coupled with family responsibilities could be seen as a hindrance to women actively participating in NGO supported projects.

Table 4.7 Correlation of Level of Education and Women Participation

Chi-square Tests			
	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	3.411	4	.492
Likelihood Ratio	3.382	4	.496
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.960	1	.161
N of Valid Cases	374		

Chi-square=3.411, df=4, sig =0.492

The findings indicated that positive relationships existed between level of education and women participation ($r=0.492$). This implies that the level of education strongly influences women

participation in NGO supported projects, as education assists in general awareness of the need to own the project and enjoy the benefits.

4.4 Effectiveness of current influence of women participation in NGO supported projects sustainability

The first objective of the study was to examine the effectiveness of the current influence of women participation in NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County. Women participation was evaluated in terms of involvement in project identification, number of meetings attended to monitor developed projects, leadership positions held in any of the NGO projects. This section therefore presents findings organized on the basis of the mentioned sub themes.

4.4.1 Number of times Respondents have benefited from NGO supported projects

The respondents were asked to indicate the number of times they had benefitted from NGO supported projects. The responses were as shown in Table 4.8

Table 4.8 Number of Times benefited from NGO Projects

Number of times a Beneficiary	Frequency	Percentage
Once	183	48.9%
Twice	78	20.9%
Three times	64	17.1%
More than three times	49	13.1%
Total	374	100.0

The findings in the table indicate that majority of the respondents (49%) were beneficiaries in the NGO funded projects once. Respondents who had benefited more than twice were 20%, three times were 17% while more than three times were 13%. This brings out the serious concern of NGO supported projects sustainability. If projects are sustainable it implies that the number of those benefitting more than three times should be more than only one time beneficiaries in any project.

4.4.2 Type of Support Received

The respondents were asked to indicate the kind of support they had received from the NGO supported projects. And their responses were as follows as indicated in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9 Type of benefit received

Type of support	Frequency	Percentage
Livelihood support	149	40.0%
Child support	113	30.1%
Training and capacity building	41	11.0%
Health related	71	18.9%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that the majority of the respondents (40%) were given livelihood support which comprises of the basic necessities related to provision of Agricultural inputs, income generating activities, shelter and beddings. Respondents who comprised 30% also received support for their children, 19% received health related support and 11% of the respondents received trainings and capacity building opportunities. The findings imply that beneficiaries receive short term solutions to their problems through livelihood support. Despite training and capacity building as a benefit having the lowest percentage (11%) it is the most vital of all benefits, because it helps the beneficiaries learn new skills and have a better understanding of how to address problems facing them and getting effective and efficient solutions and at the same times enhances sustainability as knowledge learnt never gets obsolete.

4.4.3 Leadership position held in the NGO supported projects

The respondents were asked to indicate if they held any leadership position in the NGO supported projects. The findings are as indicated in Table 4.10

Table 4.10 Women in leadership positions

Leadership in NGO supported Project	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	115	30.7%
No	259	69.3%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents (69%) were not holding any leadership positions in the NGO supported projects despite being beneficiaries. While 31% held leadership positions in NGO supported projects. Holding leadership positions will help women know what is affecting them and what actions they need to take to solve their problems in a way that suits.

4.4.4 Prioritization of needs by NGO supported projects

The respondents were asked if they felt there were other needs that the various NGO supported projects they were beneficiaries in, should have prioritized in addressing apart from the current needs being addressed. The findings were as shown in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11: Prioritization of needs by the NGO supported projects

Addressed need was a priority	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	183	49%
No	191	51%
Total	374	100.0

From the findings, More than half of the respondents (51%) felt that there were more pressing needs that should have been prioritized other than the current interventions being implemented by the NGO supported projects. 49% of the other respondent however felt that the current interventions being addressed were the priority needs that they felt should have been addressed.

The findings imply that if women participated actively in the NGO supported projects, they would help identify their felt needs and suggesting how well they should be addressed and hence feel part and parcel of the whole process resulting into their commitment and in turn assured project sustainability. Respondents (51%) who felt that the projects did not address the most pressing needs in their community listed needs they felt should have been prioritized as follows in Table 4.11.1

Table 4.11.1.Prioritization of Community Needs

Priority of Needs	Frequency	Percentage
Training in skills	76	39.7%
Reliable water source	34	17.9%
Reducing crime	27	14.1%
Enhancing cohesion	13	6.9%
Education support at Secondary level	41	21.4%
Total	191	100.0

The findings from the respondents indicate that a majority (40%) would have preferred being trained in a particular skill, while 21% felt priority should have been support with secondary education, 17.9% felt a reliable water source would have been of greater benefit than the current interventions while 14% felt reducing crime would have been given priority and 6.9% felt that enhancing cohesion would have been given priority. The study therefore implies that women would prefer being empowered with skills that will be of help to them and change their socio-economic conditions positively. This will go a long way in ensuring that they are not dependent on constant support by the NGO supported projects in their localities.

4.4.5 Women Participation in Project Monitoring

The respondents were asked to indicate the number of times they attended meeting to know what the NGO supported projects were doing in a year. The findings are as indicated in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12: Women and Project Monitoring

Number of Monitoring sessions	Frequency	Percentage
Once	151	40.4%
Twice	107	28.6%
Several Times	42	11.3%
Never attended any meetings	74	19.7%
Total	374	100.0

From the findings, majority of the respondents attended meeting within the NGO supported projects only once, 28.6% attended meetings twice, 11% attended three times while 20% of the respondents never attended any meetings in the project. The findings therefore imply that regular monitoring in NGO supported projects is not undertaken by the project beneficiaries. 11% of the respondents however attended meeting in the projects several times which is good for project ownership. Participatory monitoring is a core element in NGO supported projects and is the only way women will feel their views are being taken into account and in turn see the need to be committed to the project which results in sustainability.

Table 4.13: Correlation of women perception and project monitoring

Chi-square Tests			
	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	1.512	2	.470
Likelihood Ratio	2.715	2	.257
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.381	1	.240
N of Valid Cases	230		

Chi-square=1.512, df=2, sig =0.470

Symmetric measures

		Value	Approx.Sig
Nominal by	Phi	.110	.470
Nominal	Cramer's V	.110	.470
N of valid Cases		130	

The findings indicated that positive relationships ($r=0.470$) existed between the women perception on project monitoring and project sustainability. The findings thus imply that Women perception about NGO supported projects and their monitoring has a strong implication on project sustainability.

4.4.6 Sustainability of Initiated Projects

The respondents were asked to indicate whether the initiated projects would be able to run long after the Donor exit. Their responses were as follows in Table 4.14

Table 4.14: Sustainability of Initiated projects

Sustainable Projects	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	122	32.6%
No	252	67.4%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that more than half of the respondents (67.4%) felt that the current initiated projects would not be sustainable if the donors were to exit. Those who felt he projects would be sustainable were 33%.This implies therefore that sustainability of projects is still a serious problem within NGO supported projects.

4.4.7 Contribution towards NGO Supported Projects

The respondents were asked to indicate if there was any kind of contribution that they made towards the projects in which they were beneficiaries. The findings were shown in Table 4.15.

Table 4.15: Contribution towards Projects

Contribution to the NGO projects	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	142	37.9%
No	232	62.1%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents (62%) made no contributions of any sort towards the NGO supported projects in which they were beneficiaries. Only 38% made contributions to NGO supported project. The findings imply there is very limited participation and is described as being weak since a good percentage of the women are recipients of project benefits yet they contribute nothing that instils in them a sense of ownership of the project.

4.4.8 Most Targeted Population

The respondents were asked to indicate which population sub-group was most targeted by NGO supported projects in Rongai Sub-County. The findings were as shown in Table 4.16

Table 4.16: Most Targeted Population

Target Group	Frequency	Percentage
Children	114	30.5%
Women	101	27.0%
Men	83	22.2%
Elderly	76	20.3%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that the most targeted population by NGO supported projects are the children at (30.5%), women as targets are at 27%, while men are at 22.2% and the elderly at 20.3%.The findings imply that children could be the most vulnerable group within the locality in need of support.

4.4.9 Most participating Gender in NGO Supported Projects

The participants were asked to indicate which gender participates more in NGO supported projects in the sub-county. The responses are as indicated in Table 4.17

Table 4.17: Most Participating Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Men	183	49.0%
Women	131	35.0%
Both Men and Women	60	16.0%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that the most participating gender in NGO supported projects are men at 49% while women’s participation is at 35% and both men and women at 16%.The findings therefore imply that men take a bigger role in leadership and consequently decision making in NGO supported projects, yet earlier findings indicated women as being the second largest targeted group by the NGO supported projects.

4.4.10 Presence of Influence of Women Participation in NGO Supported Projects

The respondents were asked to indicate what extent they would say there is influence of women participation in NGO supported projects in their locality. The findings were as shown in Table 4.18

Table 4.18: Presence of Women Participation

Women Participation	Frequency	Percentage
Not at all	82	21.9%
To a limited extent	142	38.0%
To a moderate extent	84	22.5%
To a great extent	43	11.5%
To a very great extent	23	6.1%
Total	374	100.0

The findings reveal that 38% of the respondents felt that the influence of women participation was only to a limited extent. Of the respondents, 23% felt women participation was to a moderate level, while 22% felt that there was no influence of women participation at all in NGO supported projects and only 6.1% felt that the influence of women participation was to a great extent felt within NGO supported project. The findings thus imply that there is still more that can be done to influence women participation in projects.

4.4.11 Trainings Conducted to Enhance Women Participation

The respondents were asked to indicate if they have ever attended any training that would enhance their influence in NGO supported projects. The findings were as shown in Table 4.19

Table 4.19: Trainings conducted for Women

Number of Trainings attended	Frequency	Percentage
Never attended any	177	47.0%
One to Two Trainings	152	41.0%
Three to Four Trainings	30	8.0%
Several Trainings	15	4.0%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents (47%) have never attended any training, while 41% have attended one to two trainings, three to four trainings have been attended by 8% of the respondents while only 4% have attended several trainings. The findings therefore imply that most women are not empowered with skills to enhance their participation.

4.5. Perception of Women towards NGO supported Projects

The second objective of the study was to analyze the perception of the women and the key informants towards the influence of womens' participation by current services delivery by NGOs in Rongai Sub-County. This section represents findings on Leadership, Decision making and partnership.

4.5.1 NGO Supported Projects Perception towards Women Leadership

The respondents were asked to indicate their perception of how NGO supported projects enhanced women participation through leadership in the projects. The responses were as shown in Table 4.20

Table 4.20: Perception towards Women Leadership

Support for Women Leaders	Frequency	Percentage
Not at all	89	24.0%
To a limited extent	153	41.0%
To a moderate extent	73	19.5%
To a great extent	48	12.8%
To a very great extent	11	2.7%
Total	374	100.0

The findings show that majority of the respondents (41%) had the perception that NGO supported projects did enhance their participation through leadership in projects to a limited extent. While 24% had the perception that NGO supported did not enhance their through leadership at all. The other respondents who were 20% felt that the support was to moderate extent while those who felt support was to a moderate extent were 13% and only 2.7% felt the support was to a very great extent. This implies that the number of women leaders within the NGO supported projects is limited with majority feeling the projects do very little to enhance their participation through leadership.

4.5.2 NGO Supported Projects perception towards Women Decision Making

The respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they felt that NGO supported Projects enhanced their participation in decision making. The findings are shown in Table 4.21

Table 4.21: NGO projects Perception towards Women Decision Making

Women Decision making	Frequency	Percentage
Not at all	203	54.3%
To a limited extent	121	32.4%
To a moderate extent	21	5.6%
To a great extent	18	4.8%
To a very great extent	11	2.9%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents (54%) felt that the NGO supported projects did not enhance their participation through decision making at all. While 32% felt that the support for participation through decision making was to a limited extent. The feeling that support was to a moderate extent was represented by 5.6% of the respondents, support for decision making being to a great extent was represented by 5% of the respondents ,while 3% had the feeling that support was to a very great extent.

4.5.3 Women Participation and NGO Supported Projects Ownership

The respondents were asked the extent to which they felt the NGO supported projects viewed them as recipients as opposed to partners. The responses were as indicated in Table 4.22.

Table 4.22: Women Ownership of projects

Women and Project Ownership	Frequency	Percentage
Not at all	7	1.9%
To a limited extent	17	4.5%
To a moderate extent	73	19.5%
To a great extent	101	27.0%
To a very great extent	176	47.1%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents (47%) feel that NGO supported projects view them as recipients other than partners to a very great extent while 27% of the respondents felt that the projects viewed them as recipients to a great extent and those who felt they were viewed as recipients to a moderate extent were represented by 20%. Those whose view was that NGO supported projects viewed them as recipients to a limited extent were represented by 5% while those who felt that the NGO supported projects did not view them at all as recipients but partners were 2%. The findings thus imply that women do not feel a sense of ownership for the initiated NGO supported projects within their communities.

4.6 Determinants Influencing the Level of Women Participation on NGO Supported Projects sustainability

The third and final objective was of the study was to ascertain the determinants that influence the level of women participation in NGO supported projects in Rongai Sub-County. This section presents findings of the factors that influence women participation in NGO supported projects such as educational level, cultural factors, type of community leadership and awareness of project existence, and finally possible recommendations that would help enhance the influence of women participation in projects.

4.6.1 Determinants influencing the level of women participation in NGO Supported Projects

The respondents were asked to indicate the determinants that influence their participation in NGO supported projects. The findings are as shown in Table 4.23.

Table 4.23: Determinants influencing level of Women Participation

Determinant	Frequency	Percentage
Education level	132	35.3%
Cultural factors	107	28.6%
Community leadership	55	14.7%
Awareness of project existence	24	6.4%
Motivation by the spouse	56	15.0%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents (35%) felt that education level was the greatest determinant for women participation, cultural factors as determinant was represented by 29% of the respondents, community leadership as determinant for women participation was represented by 15% of the respondents, awareness of project existence was represented by 6% of the respondents while motivation by their spouses as a determinant for participation was represented by 15% of the respondents. The findings thus imply educational level is the most

significant determinant that influences how women participate in NGO supported projects followed by cultural factors and motivation by spouses within households.

Table 4.24: Correlation of determinants of women participation and project sustainability

Chi-square Tests			
	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.168	4	0.36
Likelihood Ratio	4.628	4	0.328
Linear-by-Linear Association	2.774	1	0.416
N of Valid Cases	374		

Chi-square=3.568, df=4, sig=0.36

Symmetric measures

	Value	Approx.Sig
Nominal by Phi	.255	0.36
Nominal Cramer's V	.180	0.36
N of valid Cases	126	

The findings indicated that there was a significant positive relationship between determinants of women participation like educational level, cultural factors, community leadership, awareness and motivation by spouse($r=0.36$) had a direct bearing on project sustainability.

4.6.2 Recommendations for Enhanced Women Participation in NGO Supported Projects

The respondents were asked to indicate what recommendations they felt would help enhance the influence of women participation in NGO supported projects. The findings are as indicated in Table 4.25.

Table 4.25: Recommendations for enhancing women participation

Recommendation	Frequency	Percentage
Trainings	124	33.2%
Fair representation	93	24.9%
Educating the girl child	71	19.0%
Use of role models for leadership	32	8.5%
Awareness creation of NGOs	54	14.4%
Total	374	100.0

The findings indicate that majority of the respondents (33%) felt that that trainings would help build their capacity and enhance their participation and influence in NGO supported projects. Fair representation of women in NGO supported projects as a way of enhancing women participation in NGO supported projects was represented by 25% of the respondents, education of girls as a recommendation to help enhance women participation was represented by 19% of the respondents, while use of role models was at 8.5% of the respondents and awareness of NGO was represented by 14% of the respondents. The findings imply that cumulatively, trainings and fair representation were viewed as being the best ways to enhance the influence of women participation in NGO supported projects and in turn enhance sustainability of these projects.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations of the research study. The chapter further summarizes the contribution of the study to the existing body of knowledge and finally gives suggestion for further research.

5.2 Summary of Findings

The study utilized 374 respondents, which represented a response rate of 97.9%. Majority of the respondents were aged between 30-39 years at (53%), 18-29 years were 12% while 40 years and above were 34% cumulatively. Majority of the respondents (62%) were married, 17% single and 21% divorced, separated or widowed. As for their education levels, majority of the respondents (38%) had attained secondary education. Primary education had been attained by 27.5% of the respondents, college level education respondents were 15% and graduates were 9% of the sampled population. Majority of the respondents (39%) were casual workers working in flower firms and sisal plantations within the sub –county. Housewives were represented by 23% of the population, business women were 18%, farmers were 15% and those employed were represented by 4% of the respondents.

With regards to effectiveness of the current influence of women participation in NGO support projects sustainability, the study established that 69% of the women were not in any leadership positions in the NGO supported projects that they were benefiting from, only 31% of the women were in leadership positions. This however is despite the finding that the NGO supported projects in the sub-county targeted women at 27% while children as targets was at 31%, men at 22% and the elderly at 20%. The study also revealed that men tended to participate more (45%) in the NGO supported projects than women whose participation was 35%. Sustainability of the initiated projects was felt to be low at 33% and a majority 67% of the opinion projects would collapse with Donors exit. With reference to the influence of women in the NGO supported projects, the study revealed that 59% felt it was only to a limited extent or lacked completely in most of the projects. The study also revealed that 51% of the women, felt that the current needs

being addressed by the NGO supported projects were not the priority felt need that they wanted addressed, 49% however felt that the current interventions were addressing their most felt needs in the community. With regards to trainings, 47% of the women had not attended any trainings, 41% had attended one to two trainings and only 4% having attended several trainings organised by the NGO supported projects.

With respect to the perception of women and key informants towards the influence of women participation by current service delivery by NGO supported projects, the study established that cumulatively 65% of the women felt that the NGO supported projects did not enhance their participation through giving them leadership roles however, 25% felt their participation in the projects was being enhanced by being given leadership positions in the projects. The study further revealed that decision making was not made by the women with 87% cumulatively having the feeling that they made no decisions at all or very limited decisions with regards to the project, while 13% felt they moderately and to a great extent made decisions toward the projects. The study also revealed that with regards to project ownership, 74% perceived the projects as viewing them as mere beneficiaries of the projects and not as partners who should help run the projects, 20% felt that they were perceived as partners to a moderate extent, while 4.5% felt they were viewed to a very limited extent as partners while 1.9% felt they were viewed as partners and not recipients.

Finally in relation to determinants that influence the level of women participation in NGO supported projects, the study established that 35% of the women felt that education level was a key determinant that would help influence positively or negatively women participation in NGO supported projects. Cultural factors was also seen as determinant influencing women participation in NGO projects at 28%, community leadership as a determinant for women participation was at 15%, awareness of project existence at 6% and finally motivation by spouse to participate in projects at 15%. Further the study revealed that 33% of the women felt that trainings would help enhance their participation in the said projects, 25% felt fair representation in seats in the projects would enhance their participation, 19% saw the long term positive effect of educating the girl child, 8.5% felt using role models would enhance their participation while

14% felt that creating awareness on the existence of the NGO supported projects would help enhance their participation in the projects initiated.

5.3 Discussion of Findings

NGO supported projects within communities should serve as vehicle through which women are able to move from poverty to better living conditions, as the projects are supposed to address their most pressing and felt needs in a manner that is jointly acceptable to the project managers and the women beneficiaries. Women's confidence and commitment to these projects increases when they are made to participate more and this will in turn guarantee project ownership and sustainability. The findings of the study indicate that women participation is not effective by the current service delivery in NGO supported projects. This is largely due to the fact that very few women hold leadership positions and therefore they do not actively participate in decision making. Further the study revealed that NGO supported projects emphasise more on livelihood support as opposed to training which would go a long way in building the capacity of women to help identify their problems and establish the best way to address them on their own. Women, who are able to participate in projects, by and large have the opportunity to be empowered socio-economically and thus ensure initiated projects helping them, do not collapse when donors exit.

It is important to note that most NGO supported projects are continuously changing their implementation approaches to ensure gender balance in all their interventions. Representation as a strategy should not be used to imply voicing of the greater majority. The major risk of enhancing participation through representation is the potential of a vocal minority hijacking the programme for their own short term benefits rather than to fulfil those of the intended beneficiaries as validated by (Maya and Thomas, 2009). Additionally, the relationship between NGO and women may be such that NGO staffs only hear what they want to hear from women but remain with the power to make crucial decision on the projects (Najam, 1996). When such scenario occurs, the women may cease participation and leave the project to the perceived owners who may be few selected leaders and who by themselves cannot uphold the projects. This in turn results into NGO supported projects collapsing.

The study also found that the way women perceive projects to a good extent may help uphold it or lead to its definite collapse. Women perception that NGO supported projects view them as recipients may in the long run have very adverse effects on the initiated projects as validated by (JICA, 2007) report, that revealed that there exists an attitude by the women that development is supposed to be free and that they are not supposed to contribute towards the projects costs.

From the study 62% of the respondents made not contribution at all towards the NGO supported projects they were benefitting from. This could therefore account for their inactive participation in projects. The NGO projects should also change their perception about women as beneficiaries and give them the opportunity to jointly work with them as initiators and implementers for this will help create learning opportunities for the women and hence guarantee more sustainable NGO supported projects.

The study also established that the key determinant that influences women participation is one's education level. With a higher education level, a woman is likely to be accorded leadership position which is key in decision making. Where the majority have a lower education levels, then there is a likelihood of reduced or inactive participation. (ICRW, 2005) adds that education enhances women's well being and gives them a greater voice in household decision making, more autonomy in shaping their lives, and better opportunities in participating in the community as the findings of this study was able to find out.

Women felt that cultural factors also influenced to a great extent their participation in projects. Culture within a community dictates the kind of leadership the community is likely to have and to a good extent the kind of relationship women are likely to have with their husbands within homes. Where culture tends to shun women and look down upon them, leadership is likely to be dictatorial which translates to husbands who tend to control their wives with regards to participation in NGO supported projects. This finding is further harnessed by the study of (Ajayi and Otuya 2006), who also observed from their study that a majority of women were socially, culturally and politically barred from participating in community development planning and decision-making processes. However trainings and capacity building activities, fair representation can be used within projects to help enhance women participation in NGO supported projects as were the findings from the study.

5.4 Conclusion

NGO supported Project sustainability has been and will continue being a key concern to the Government, players within the NGO field and the community until a right approach to development is achieved. The influence of women participation in NGO supported projects has been overshadowed by the many roles women are involved in at household level. Women participation can only be effective once projects reach levels where women are at the forefront during decision making processes, are leaders within the NGO supported projects and are involved in the day to day management of the initiated projects within their communities. This will build the women's confidence to carry out projects, and also empower them socio-economically and thus result into project ownership and sustainability.

Perception of the NGO supported projects officials towards the women does in turn affect projects. Women should not be seen as recipients of project benefits alone which according to (Maya and Thomas 2009) is the lowest of the five levels of participation. This study revealed that 37% of the women were however in the second level of participation where they provided contributions both material and financial to the NGO projects they were benefiting from, though they were not involved in decision making processes. A paradigm shift into the current community development thought should be thoroughly looked into to ensure communities reach levels of making decisions in projects they are involved in.

The study finally concluded that higher levels of education were associated with greater participation in NGO supported projects. All the other determinants such as culture, type of leadership, awareness of existence of projects and motivation from the spouse are to a good extent determined by a woman's level of education. Education transcends beyond any borders and barriers and thus is the key driving force that will enhance women participation in NGO supported projects. This findings support (ICRW, 2005) research which showed that women were more likely to control their own destinies and effect change in their own communities when they had a higher level of education For it is expected that development projects would be more likely to occur in situation where women had attained some level of education given that education improves ones understanding of certain aspects of a project.

5.5 Recommendations

There is need for NGO supported projects, to incorporate women more during their planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation so that the community members themselves drive the wheel of sustainable development. There is need to put participatory approach to development by all community members into practice and not on paper alone especially during project identification for this creates a feeling of ownership.

The current constitution promulgated in 2010, stresses on the need for women participation and representation through the two third gender rule. There is need, to actualize the dream of a gender equitable society by ensuring both institutional and structural barriers to women participation in NGO supported projects are addressed to enable women take up their constitutional enshrined opportunities in all social and economic spheres with respect to participation. Retrogressive cultural practices such as early marriages should be thoroughly addressed to ensure that education is mandatory not only at the primary school level which is free in Kenya, but to higher levels that would help women acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to actively participate in developmental projects, thus improving the living standards within their households and to a large extent transforming the society.

5.6 Suggestion for Further Research

1. Similar studies could be conducted in other areas to validate the findings of this study while generalizing to the wider society.
2. Further studies could also explore NGO supported projects targeting specific groups such as children, youth, disabled and men to find out if they participate actively in the projects.

Table 5.1: Contribution of the Study to the Body of Knowledge

Objective	Contribution to Body of Knowledge
To examine the effectiveness of the current influence of women participation in NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County.	Influence of women participation in NGO projects can only be felt if women are incorporated in project planning implementation, monitoring evaluation for this allows the community members to own projects and enhance sustainability Participatory approach to development should be practiced right from project identification to project evaluation.
To analyze the extent to which the perceptions of the women and the key informants influence womens' participation by current services delivery in NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County.	Key players in the NGO field should change their perception of women as recipients of projects and view them more as initiators and implementers who have invaluable ideas of how to solve their own problems. If women are perceived as implementers, there is a feeling of ownership which translates to sustainability of the projects in the long run.
To ascertain the determinants that influence the level of women participation in NGO supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub-County.	Higher levels of education are associated with greater participation in NGO supported projects. Trainings can be used by NGO projects to enhance women participation.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Questionnaire for Women Respondents

Introduction

I am a post graduate student at the University of Nairobi, currently conducting a research on the **Influence of Women Participation in Non Governmental Organization supported projects Sustainability in Rongai Sub County, Nakuru County Kenya**. You have been selected to assist in providing the required information as your views are considered very important to this study.

My kind request is your cooperation in filling in this questionnaire. Please note that any information given will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will only be used for the purposes of this study.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics

1. How old are you?
 - a) 18 to 24 years
 - b) 25-29 years
 - c) 30 to 34 years
 - d) 35 to 39 years
 - e) 40 to 44 years
 - f) 45 Years and Above

2. What is your Marital Status?
 - a) Single
 - b) Married
 - c) Windowed
 - d) Divorced/separated

3. Education Level
 - a) Non formal education
 - b) Primary (KCPE)
 - c) Secondary (KCSE)
 - d) College
 - e) Graduate
4. What religion do you belong to
 - a) Traditional
 - b) Roman Catholic
 - c) Protestant
 - d) Muslim
5. Occupation you are involve in
 - a) Casual labourer
 - b) Farmer
 - c) Housewife
 - d) Business woman
 - e) Employed

Section Two: Respondents Effective participation

6. How many times have you benefited from NGO supported projects in your area
 - a) Once
 - b) Twice
 - c) Three times
 - d) More than thrice
7. What kind of benefit did you receive
 - a) Livelihood support
 - b) Child support
 - c) Trainings and capacity building
 - d) Health related support

8. Do you hold any leadership position in the project?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
9. Do you believe there are needs that are more serious the NGO supported projects should have addressed other than the current interventions, If yes which ones which would you choose among the listed
 - a) Training in skills.
 - b) Provision of reliable water
 - c) Reduce crime
 - d) Enhance cohesion
 - e) Support with secondary education
10. How many meeting have you ever attended on the invitation of the NGO supported projects you benefit from to know what they are doing throughout the year?
 - a) Once
 - b) Twice
 - c) Attended several meetings.
 - d) Never attended any
11. Do you think the initiated projects in your community would still operate if the Donors pull out ?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
12. Are there any kinds of contributions that you give towards the NGO supported project you benefit from?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
13. Who are the main beneficiaries of NGO development projects in Rongai Sub County?
 - a) Women
 - b) Men
 - c) Children
 - d) Elderly

14. Who participates more in NGO development projects in Rongai Sub County?
- a) Men
 - b) Women
 - c) Both men and women
15. To what extent would you say that there is influence of women participation in NGO supported projects in your locality
- a) Not at all
 - b) To a limited extent
 - c) To a moderate extent
 - d) To a great extent
 - e) To a very great extent
16. How many trainings have you attended that enhance women participation on NGO supported projects.
- a) Never attended any
 - b) One to two trainings
 - c) Three to four trainings
 - d) Several trainings

Section Three: Perception of women towards NGO supported projects

17. To what extent would you say NGO supported Projects enhance women participation in Leadership within their projects
- a) Not at all
 - b) To a limited extent
 - c) To a moderate extent
 - d) To a great extent
 - e) To a very great extent

18 To what extents do NGO supported Projects often view you as people in need with little information to offer of projects especially decision making?

- a) Not at all
- b) To a limited extent
- c) To a moderate extent
- d) To a great extent
- e) To a very great extents

19. To what extent do you feel you are involved in NGO support project not as a recipient but a partner?

- a) Not at all
- b) To a limited extent
- c) To a moderate extent
- d) To a great extent
- e) To a very great extent

Section Four Determinants that influence the level of Women

20. What in your understanding do you feel are the greatest hindrances to women participation in Rongai Sub County.(Please rank 1 being greatest and 5 being lowest)

- a) Education Level.
- b) Cultural factors
- c) Community leadership
- d) Lack of awareness of the projects
- e) Motivation by spouse

21. What would you the recommend to enhance the influence of women participation in NGO supported projects in Rongai Sub County. (Score on a scale of 1 to 5 one being the highest and 5 lowest)

- a) Trainings
- b) Fair representation
- c) Educating the girl child
- d) Use of role models for leadership
- e) Awareness creation

Appendix II: Interview Schedule for NGO Managers

I am a post graduate student at the University of Nairobi, currently conducting a research on the **Influence of Women Participation in Non Governmental Organization supported Sustainability in Rongai Sub County, Nakuru County Kenya**. You have been selected to assist in providing the required information and your views are considered very important to this study. My kind request is your cooperation in answering during the interview. Please note that any information given will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will only be used for the purposes of this study.

1. How long has your Organization worked in this community _____

2. What are your programmatic areas of focus

3. How does your Organization decide on projects to be undertaken?

- a) Baseline Surveys
- b) Line Ministries
- c) Review of existing Data
- d) Others

specify _____

4. In your own opinion do you think women and the local knowledge can play a significant role in the success of the projects you support presently and there after

5. Who monitor and evaluates the projects you fund in Rongai Sub county?

- a) Community members
- b) Government
- c) Other NGOs
- d) Donors

6. How effective is women participation in NGOs supported projects in Rongai Sub County?

7. What is the perception of women towards their need for participation by currently?

5. What are the factors that hinder women participation in NGOs supported projects in Rongai Sub County?

6. What do you consider are additional determinants that influence the level of women participation in NGOs supported projects in Rongai Sub County?

7. What recommendations would you give for enhancing women participation in NGO supported projects in Rongai Sub County?

Thank you very much for your co-operation

Appendix III: Krejcie and Morgan (1970) Table for Determining Sample Size

N-n	N-n	N-n	N-n	N-n
10-10	100-80	280-160	800-260	2800-338
15-14	110-86	290-165	850-265	3000-341
20-19	120-92	300-169	900-269	3500-346
25-24	130-97	320-175	950-274	4000-351
30-28	140-103	340-181	1000-278	4500-354
35-32	150-108	360-186	1100-285	5000-357
40-36	160-113	380-191	1200-291	6000-361
45-40	170-118	400-196	1300-297	7000-364
50-44	180-123	420-201	1400-302	8000-367
55-48	190-127	440-205	1500-306	9000-368
60-52	200-132	460-210	1600-310	10000-370
65-56	210-136	480-241	1700-313	15000-375
70-59	220-140	500-217	1800-317	20000-377
75-63	230-144	550-226	1900-320	30000-379
80-66	240-148	600-234	2000-322	40000-380
85-70	250-152	650-242	2200-327	50000-381
90-73	260-155	700-248	2400-331	75000-382
95-76	270-159	750-254	2600-335	100000-384

Source: Kathuri & Pal, 1973.

Appendix IV: Letter of Transmittal

Department of Extra Mural Studies
University of Nairobi
P.O Box 1120-20100
Nakuru

The County Commissioner
Nakuru County
Nakuru

Dear Sir,

Re: Research Study

I am a student of the University of Nairobi, pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Project planning and Management. Currently am in the process of undertaking a research on the Influence of women participation in Non Governmental Organization Supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub County.

The study will entail collecting data from 382 sampled women respondents in the four administrative Divisions of Rongai Sub County.

The purpose of the letter is to seek your consent to undertake the proposed study.

Yours Faithfully

Maureen O.Odawa

Department of Extra Mural Studies
University of Nairobi

Appendix V: Letter of Authorization for the University of Nairobi



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND EXTERNAL STUDIES
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTRA - MURAL STUDIES

Tel 051 - 2210863

P. O Box 1120, Nakuru
13th April 2015

Our Ref: UoN/CEES/NKUEMC/1/1 2

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: ODAWA MAUREEN ORLALE - L50/70013/2013

The above named is a student of the University of Nairobi Pursuing a Masters degree in Project Planning and Management.

Maureen has been trained, examined and passed in the course units listed below:

First semester

Research Methods
Statistical Methods
Fundamentals of Management
Social Change and Community Development
Project Planning, Design and Implementation

Second semester

Project Financing
Environmental Issues in Project Planning
Project Total Quality Management
Project Monitoring and Evaluation
Management of Information Systems

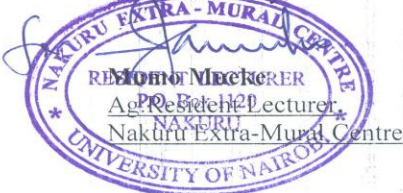
Third semester

Urban-Rural Social Planning
Conflict Analysis and Resolution
Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management
Gender Issues in Development

Currently, she is undertaking her research project.

Any assistance accorded to her will be highly appreciated.

Yours Faithfully,



Appendix VI: Letter of Authorization for the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation



**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

Telephone: +254-20-2213471,
2241349, 310571, 2219420
Fax: +254-20-318245, 318249
Email: secretary@nacosti.go.ke
Website: www.nacosti.go.ke
When replying please quote

9th Floor, Utalii House
Uhuru Highway
P.O. Box 30623-00100
NAIROBI-KENYA

Ref. No.

Date:

16th July, 2015

NACOSTI/P/15/9355/6678

Maureen Orlale Odawa
University of Nairobi
P.O Box 30197-00100
NAIROBI.

RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

Following your application for authority to carry out research on *"Influence of women participation in Non-Governmental Organizations supported projects sustainability in Rongai Sub County, Nakuru County, Kenya,"* I am pleased to inform you that you have been authorized to undertake research in **Nakuru County** for a period ending **27th November, 2015.**

You are advised to report to **the County Commissioner and the County Director of Education, Nakuru County** before embarking on the research project.

On completion of the research, you are expected to submit **two hard copies and one soft copy in pdf** of the research report/thesis to our office.


DR. M. K. RUGUTT, PhD, HSC.
DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO

Copy to:


The County Commissioner
Nakuru County.


The County Director of Education
Nakuru County.


Appendix VII: Research Permit

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:
MS. MAUREEN ORLALE ODAWA
of UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, 4495-20100
NAKURU, has been permitted to conduct
research in Nakuru County
on the topic: INFLUENCE OF WOMEN
PARTICIPATION IN NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED PROJECTS
SUSTAINABILITY IN RONGAI SUB
COUNTY, NAKURU COUNTY, KENYA
for the period ending:
27th November, 2015

Permit No : NACOSTI/P/15/9355/6678
Date Of Issue : 16th July, 2015
Fee Received :Ksh 1,000





Applicant's
Signature



Director General
National Commission for Science,
Technology & Innovation

CONDITIONS

- 1. You must report to the County Commissioner and the County Education Officer of the area before embarking on your research. Failure to do that may lead to the cancellation of your permit**
- 2. Government Officers will not be interviewed without prior appointment.**
- 3. No questionnaire will be used unless it has been approved.**
- 4. Excavation, filming and collection of biological specimens are subject to further permission from the relevant Government Ministries.**
- 5. You are required to submit at least two(2) hard copies and one(1) soft copy of your final report.**
- 6. The Government of Kenya reserves the right to modify the conditions of this permit including its cancellation without notice.**



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



NACOSTI
National Commission for Science,
Technology and Innovation

RESEARCH CLEARANCE
PERMIT

Serial No. A 5822

CONDITIONS: see back page