

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

THE PARTICIPATORY PRINCIPLE IN DEVELOPMENT:

**A CASE STUDY OF THE CONSTITUENCY
DEVELOPMENT FUND WAJIR DISTRICT**

By:

**HUSSEIN OSMAN ADAN
REG. NO.C/50/P/7796/03**

**A PROJECT PAPER SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTERS IN SOCIOLOGY
(COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

University of Nairobi Library



0472497 2

Declaration

This project paper is my original work and it has not been presented for award of a degree to any other university.

Name **Hussein Osman Adan**  Date **11/11/2020**

Admission number **C/50/P/7796/03**

This project paper has been submitted with my approval as the University of Nairobi supervisor.

Dr. Robinson Mose Ocharo Date **12/11/20** Signature 

Dedication

This project paper is dedicated to the people of Wajir District.

Table of contents

	Page
CONTENTS	
Declaration	i
Dedication.....	ii
Table of Content	iii
Acknowledgements	v
Acronyms.....	vi
Abstract	vii
CHAPTER ONE:	
Introduction	1
Participatory Development	4
Problem Statement	8
Research Questions	11
Scope and Limitations of Study	12
CHAPTER TWO:	
Literature Review	13
Participatory Development	13
Participatory Rural Appraisal	15
A Critique on Participation	16
Decentralized Planning in Kenya	17
Structure and Committees in the CDI	20
Why Participation	26
Modes of Participation	27
Types and Levels of Participation	29
Theoretical framework	33
CHAPTER THREE:	
Research Methodology	38
Research Design	38
Data Collection Methods and Instruments	39
CHAPTER FOUR	
Data Presentation and Discussions	42
CHAPTER FIVE:	
Summary of Findings.....	62
Recommendation	66
Conclusion	67
REFERENCES	68

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Socio economic characteristics of respondents	42
Table 2: Knowledge on who qualifies for CDI	43
Table 3: Knowledge in project funded by CDF	44
Table 4: Knowledge on who should monitor CDF	44
Table 5: Areas of participation by members in management of CDF	45
Table 6: Perception of members on the roles they play in the CDI	47
Table 7: Perception of members on External influence of CDF Projects	48
Table 8: Perception of members on the capacity of locals to maage CDF Projects	49
Table 9: Perception of members on the collaboration with Professionals in the Management of CDF Project	49
Table 10: The role of Community leaders in CDF Projects	50
Table 11: Partners in CDF	51
Table 12: Challenges facing CDF	52
Table 13: CDF achievements	53
Table 14: Suggestions for Improvement	54

LIST OF FIGURES

Components of authentic Participation	32
Levels of Participation on a continuum	32
Reflective Practice Model elements	36
Situational Continuum	37

Acknowledgements

Foremost, I must acknowledge that without the grace of God I would not have been able to accomplish this work. Secondly, I am profoundly grateful to the Ministry of Education who sponsored me to pursue this course.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Robinson Mose Ocharo, for his insightful comments, guidance, suggestions and above all the one to one tutoring that guided me throughout the process of concluding this project paper.

Special thanks also goes to my lecturers from the department of sociology in the University for their support, I pay special tribute to my brother Abdi and sister Asha for their encouragement. To my parents; Osman and Habiba for their prayers. My spouse Shindes and children; Leisal, Fahim, Khalid, Zahra and Zamzam for their patience and encouragement.

Lastly, I wish to sincerely thank all the field work research participants back in Wajir District of North Eastern Province, for their time which gave me the opportunity to conduct the research.

Acronyms

ASAL	ARID AND Semi Arid Lands
CBO	Community Based Organizations
CDC	Constituency Development Fund
CDD	Community Driven Development
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CIDA	Canadian Development Agency
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IRDP	International Relief Development Project
KIPPRA	Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
MP	Member of Parliament
NARC	National Rainbow Coalition
NGO	Non Government Organizations
OTI	Office of Transitional Initiatives
PPA	Participatory Poverty Assessment
PPO	Provincial Planning Officer
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
RRA	Rapid Rural Appraisal
SRDP	Special Rural Development Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia & Pacific
USAID/OTI	United States Agency for International Development Office of Transition Initiatives
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Abstract

The focus of this research is in the area of participatory development; a case study of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), Wajir District. It takes particular interest on how the CDF is being implemented and assesses the level of participation of the local community and their influence on the development agenda. The study takes cognizance of the Government's ingenious innovation to channel funds to the local levels. The fund provides an opportunity for individuals at the grassroots level to make expenditure choices in line with their needs and preferences.

This research project was guided by the reflective practice model which advances the need to blend the local and expert knowledge with field experiences. It is a model that enhances community participation. A total of 138 respondents and 17 key informants were interviewed using structured questionnaires, opinion scales and focus group discussion guide. The findings underline that community participation in the CDF is low and communities are only drawn to implement pre-determined programs. The CDF plans and decisions are externally conceptualized and projects are drawn by experts and handed down to the community. It also established that power brokers form the link between communities and the CDF patrons. The local leaders also appear to disregard the capacity of the local leaders to comprehend development agenda or make choices. The leaders decide for the community and coerce them into accepting their views.

The study also observed the supremacy of the elites on the management of the funds; the locals seek guidance from the elites who basically decide for them. The Members of Parliament use the fund to meet political pledges and use the fund to reward their cronies through contracts. In conclusion it was evident that the fund offers opportunity for the community to participate and get involved in all its stages and is appreciated all by the local community at large. Nevertheless the challenge lies with the implementers who adopt unorthodox means to individually gain at the expense of the majority. As a recommendation the government should involve the communities in totality and communities should promote community participation and more importantly link peoples' felt needs with the CDF project goal.

CHAPTER ONE: BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1.0 Introduction

The Government of Kenya like many other nations of the world realized, central planning as developmental bottleneck and embraced gradual devolution of decision making power to the local level. Recent efforts to National planning in Kenya have sought to identify development priority through consultations. The preparation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) used broad stakeholder consultations across the entire country to elicit concerns and community priorities. Likewise the Economic Recovery Strategy for Employment and Wealth Creation took into account stakeholder's priorities through consultations, though not as intensive as the PRSP.

The most innovative product of this decision was the initiation of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF). The approach introduced decentralizing development planning to enhance participation of the local communities in the development agenda. The fund was a consequence of the Constituency Development Act of 2003, which is the governance operational framework for the fund

The Constituency Development Fund (CDF) was established in 2003 through the CDF Act in The Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 107 (Act No. 11) of 9th January 2004. The fund aims to control imbalances in regional development brought about by partisan politics. It targets all constituency-level development projects, particularly those aiming to combat poverty at the grassroots. The fund comprises an annual budgetary allocation equivalent to 2.5% of the government's ordinary revenue. A motion seeking to increase this allocation to 7.5% of government's revenue was recently passed in parliament. 75% of the fund is allocated equally amongst all 210 constituencies. The remaining 25% is allocated as per constituency poverty

levels. A maximum 10% of each constituency's annual allocation may be used for an education bursary scheme. CDF is managed through 4 committees 2 of which are at the national level and 2 at the grassroots level.

The CDF was established with a mission to ensure that a specific proportion of the annual Government ordinary revenue is devoted to the constituencies for the purpose of development and in particular the creation of wealth at the grass root level is spent prudently and in a transparent and accountable manner. The vision behind the fund was to be the most effective and efficient institution in the delivery and utilization of public resources.

Kenya's Constituency Development Fund (CDF) is one of the ingenious innovations of the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC) Government of Kenya. Unlike other development funds that filter from the central government through larger and more layers of administrative organs and bureaucracies, funds under this program go directly to local levels and thus provide people at the grassroots the opportunity to make expenditure decisions that maximize their welfare consistent with the theoretical predictions of decentralization theory. Increasingly, however, concerns about the utilization of funds under this program are emerging. Most of the concerns revolve around issues of allocative efficiency. (Kimenyi, 2005)

The CDF provides individuals at the grassroots the opportunity to make expenditure choices that maximize their welfare in line with their needs and preferences. To the extent that the local population is better informed about their priorities, the choices made can be expected to be more aligned to their problems and circumstances. The CDF can therefore be considered a decentralization scheme that provides communities with the opportunity to make spending decisions that maximize social welfare. The CDF is an example of what is generally referred to

as Community Driven Development (CDD) initiatives that empower local communities by providing fungible funds (often from the central government but sometimes from donor sources).

Although the CDF takes a relatively small amount of national resources- 2.5 percent of government's ordinary revenue collected every year, its impact can be significant if the funds are efficiently utilized. Because the Fund benefits communities directly, it stimulates local involvement in development projects and as a result constituents have more information about projects funded under this program. This is evidenced by regular commentaries in the media and reports by members of parliament on the status of the CDF projects. As a result of the involvement of communities in decision making and monitoring resource use, theory predicts that programs such as CDF would result in high levels of efficiency and that the selection of the projects would vary across jurisdictions in line with development priorities.

These efficiency outcomes largely arise from the role that communities play in decision making and monitoring the use of funds. But constituencies are not created equal. Constituencies vary widely in various aspects that may impact on the efficiency of CDF. Some of these aspects include size of the jurisdictions, population size, density and diversity, scope of economic activities, degree of urbanization, levels of education and poverty.

According to the CDD Act, expenses for running constituency project offices should not exceed 3% of annual constituency allocations. Each constituency is required to keep aside 5% as an emergency reserve. The CDF is not to be used to support political bodies/activities or personal award projects. A sitting MP is not a signatory to the CDF bank account but convenes the CDF Committee in her/his constituency. The penalty for misappropriation of the Funds is a prison term of up to 5 years, a Kshs. 200,000 fine or both. CDF project proposals are submitted to MPs

who in turn forward them to the Clerk of the National Assembly. The approved project list is reviewed by the National CDF committee, which presents final recommendation to the Finance Minister.

1.1 Participatory Development

Participation refers to involvement by local populations in the creation, content and conduct of a program or policy designed to change their lives. Participation requires recognition and use of local capacities and avoids the imposition of priorities from the outside. It increases the odds that a program will be on target and its results will more likely be sustainable. Ultimately, participatory development is driven by a belief in the importance of entrusting local communities with the responsibility to shape their own future (<http://www.usaid.gov>:1999)¹

Participatory development is a broadly empowering experience, with different groups of people gaining different types of power. First, there is 'the community', 'local people', 'the poor', 'beneficiaries', 'primary stakeholders', a group or perhaps characterized by as many conflicts of interests and inequities of powers as by commonalities that bind them to these group labels. Then there is the range of institutions within the policy process that make up 'secondary' (or institutional) stakeholders. They include CBOs, NGOs, local –level service providers, district level line ministry managers, local government, donor agencies and national government (Holland & Blackburn: 1998)²

According to participation theory one of the most important contributions of primary stakeholders' participation is to improve the effectiveness of development efforts. Indeed a major

¹ The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), *Participation at USAID: Stories, Lessons and Challenges*. USAID Participation Forum Summaries, 1999

² Holland, J and Blackburn, J (1998) *Whose Voice? Participatory Research and Policy Change*. U.K. Bath Press

reason why many projects/program have not been effective is because local people are not involved. It is believed that development interventions will more likely achieve their objectives if they have been identified, designed, implemented and evaluated with the participation of the people most affected by them (Karl, 2000).¹ If local people participate actively in project/program planning and implementation, they are committed to its success. Furthermore there is a synergetic relationship between promoting empowerment and effectiveness objectives (The World Bank, 2002a).⁴

Participation makes projects and programs more effective as instruments of development in many ways. Firstly, participation assures better targeting of benefits to the poor, increasing the impact and ensuring more equitable distribution of development gains (Karl, 2000). Participatory methods help to find and select poor people for a project/program and deselect the less poor (Chambers, 1994a).⁴ Participation can also extend the coverage of projects/programmes, bringing more poor people within the direct influence of development activities, increasing the number of people who can benefit from development (Oakley, 1991).⁶ Participatory development promotes equity and accepts that the exercise of decision making power at the local level is as legitimate as it is at the national level. Like an important political technology of our time called democracy, it champions the sovereignty of people over the sovereignty of a state. It is not just about meeting a people's needs, it is about helping to create an environment where people can more effectively identify and address their own needs. It explicitly recognizes the

¹ Karl, M. (2000) Monitoring and Evaluating Stakeholder Participation in Agriculture and Rural Development Projects. A Literature Review. (<http://www.iao.org/rd/Ppdirect/Ppre0071.htm>)

² The World Bank (2000a) Empowerment and Poverty Reduction: a Sourcebook (<http://www.worldbank.org/poverty/empowerment/sourcebook/draft.pdf>)

³ Chambers, R. (1994a) The Origins and Practice of Participatory Rural Appraisal. World Development, Volume 22, n. 7, pp. 953-969. Oxford: Elsevier Science Ltd.

⁶ Oakley, P. (1991) Projects with People. The Practice of Participation in Rural Development. Geneva: International Labour Office

significance of political and social context in an effort to determine the roots of an enduring problem and to avoid harming those who should benefit.

Secondly, participation can increase effectiveness of development activities by ensuring that they are based on indigenous knowledge and are more relevant to local needs (Karl, 2000). Local people have a wide variety of skills and resources that can be used to find more flexible and tailored solutions to their problems, adopting development interventions to local circumstances and accommodating broader perspectives and more creative approaches to problem-solving. Sustainable changes in poor people's lives can take place if development efforts take account of local values and priorities (Oakley et.al, 1998).

Thirdly, primary stakeholders' participation in project/program monitoring helps to detect more quickly problems before they develop into major sources of conflict and wastefulness (Rudqvist and Woodford-Berger, 1996)⁸. Furthermore, their involvement in the evaluation of development interventions enriches the learning process of development agencies. Local people's judgments of what constitutes success give a more realistic view about what works and what does not work (Karl, 2000) More effective development interventions will be achieved when poor people have a voice in determining their objectives, to support their implementation, to evaluate their outcomes and to make indigenous knowledge available. Effectiveness equals the successful completion of objectives, and participation can help to ensure this (Oakley, 1991).

Some organizations tasked with political development, such as the United States Agency for International Development's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI), openly advocate

⁸ Oakley, P., Pratt, H., Clayton, A. (1998). *Outcomes and Impact: Evaluating Change in Social Development*. Intrac Ngo Management and Policy Series No. 6. Oxford: Intrac

⁹ Rudqvist, A. and Woodford-Berger, P. (1996) *Evaluation and Participation: Some Lessons*. SIDA studies in Evaluation 96/1. Stockholm: SIDA

participatory methods precisely because they promote self-determination and predispose a people toward more democratic behavior. As Rick Barton, OII's first director puts it, "if you are ever going to get to a system of the people, by the people, and for the people then you'd better engage the people as early as you can." In Haiti and Kosovo, OII implemented programs with that in mind, making the means and ends of the program to develop a participatory ethic within populations unused to being asked what they thought. And while concrete assistance was delivered to meet the real priorities these local citizens identified and implemented, OII emphasized the "how" of the process as the schools, water systems and electrical upgrades it funded were completed. Admittedly, this is unusual. Most organizations remain extremely wary of what they fear is "political" aid. To an astonishing degree, most traditional professionals believe their programs are "politically-neutral". The truth is that humanitarian and development interventions, regardless of whether participatory methods are employed or not, are highly political. Local power relationships and the psychology of expectations are revised each time organizations determine their interlocutors and distribution systems and as resources from salaries to food parcels and reconstruction material are delivered. With no awareness of social or political context it is never certain if an intervention is warranted at all. And when there is blind engagement, ignorance of context makes each choice a round of roulette, potentially explosive and liable to overrun the self-development potential of the target population while undermining the effectiveness of assistance delivery in the first place (<http://www.usaid.gov>).

Participatory methodologies, as part of political development programs or not, increase awareness of the social and political context. Therefore, to believe in and promote participatory development is to believe in the intrinsic importance of self-determination

1.2 Problem statement

The Acts of Parliament that have created some of the funds give immense power to the local Member of Parliament (MP). Corruption cases have been witnessed in the use of the funds, such as some councilors/MPs demanding that beneficiaries make advance contributions before receiving a fraction of the benefits due. CDF is seen as the most abused in this aspect, followed by the HIV/AIDS and bursary funds, in that order. Political loyalties have led to unfair sharing of resources across constituencies/wards. In addition, there is a general lack of transparency and accountability probably due to the blending of supervisory and implementing roles⁹.

Poor awareness by community members and fund managers of their roles and responsibilities in the governance of funds has contributed to poor performance and in some cases a complete failure of the funds. Poor participation, particularly for marginalized groups, results in poor prioritization of projects and exclusion. The criteria for allocating secondary education bursary fund, for example has been found to be unfair to orphans, whose multiple roles undermine their academic performance. No mechanisms exist to deal with projects such as roads, water systems, and schools that may cut across constituencies entailing shared benefits. No clear mechanisms exist to avert duplication of functions. Both CDF and the Ministry of Education offer education bursaries. There are also reported instances of a single project claiming support from different funds, with no checks to prevent 'double' accounting. There are also challenges to ensuring that all decentralized funds reach all parts of the district or constituency in adequate quantities, and that all funds allocated are actually utilized instead of being returned to the source.

⁹ <http://www.kippra.org/Constituency.asp>

There is a lack of professional and technical supervision, which has led to poor project quality. In addition, there is low community participation in monitoring and evaluation due to the inadequacy of data and general information about the funds. There is general misconception by community members that funds are 'free' or are the personal gifts from the political leaders. Poor monitoring and evaluation has led to abuse of funds and fostered a sense of impunity amongst the perpetrators.

Allocations from the various funds are inadequate. In addition, tension between fund managers and technocrats over money management and remuneration has led to delays in the release of funds. Inappropriate professional and/or technical support, especially from Government ministries, has prevented funds from reaching their full potential, while lack of transparency in procurement systems has affected the cost-effectiveness of projects. Lastly, there has been increased dependency on these funds, especially in education. For example, free primary education has created a demand for more teachers, classrooms and other school equipment, and it has been difficult to meet this increased demand.

One can't help but ask whether Kenyans know much about the Decentralized funds. It is clear that, while some funds enjoy a reasonable profile in the target districts. This is of critical significance to the aims of the pilot programme, as awareness and information must by nature be a precursor to effective public participation.

Research done by Kipru on Participation of the populace or involvement of the public in the management of decentralised funds and the following was the result. Respondents indicated that while 32.8% of them were involved to the extent of receiving information or listening at barazas, less than 10% attended meetings to discuss specific issues and less than 5% felt that they were

involved in decision-making. Over 90% of respondents indicated that they were not involved in the setting of the development agendas for their areas. This underlines the appropriateness of efforts aimed at increasing public participation. Generally, it was discovered that involvement of the public was very low.

On accountability and performance, Kippra's research also discovered that awareness regarding whether decisions taken are within the mandates of the respective funds is relatively low for all the funds with most of the respondents stating that they do not know. This is consistent with the generally low levels of awareness about the funds. At 53%, free primary education has the highest number of respondents indicating that they agree with the statement

Significantly, amongst all the other funds only a maximum of 15% of respondents rate accountability as good. More than double the number of respondents disagrees than agree that the various funds operate within their mandate, indicating the generally high levels of distrust in fund managers, with more than 30% of respondents indicating a lack of accountability within management. For all the funds, except for free primary education, few respondents agree that decisions taken are well justified. Those who agree that decisions were justified were less than 10% for the Rural Electrification Fund, Local

Authority Transfer Fund, and the Road Maintenance funds. CDF, HIV/AIDS and the Secondary School Bursary funds scored only slightly better at around 15%. With the exception of the Free Primary Education Fund where over 50% agree that fund decisions are sufficiently justified, the data shows large dissatisfaction in the probity of decision-making, with CDF drawing the strongest opinions (46% indicating that fund decisions are not sufficiently justified).

Kenya's seven operational decentralized funds face a number of challenges that have prevented them from reaching their full potential. Generally community awareness and involvement has been low, and the funds are seen to have had little impact on the quality of life of the population, partly due to inadequate allocations. Communities have questioned the various processes in identification and implementation of projects, as well as the monitoring and evaluation of projects and funds, and have expressed concerns about accountability and transparency.

There is a great deal of work to be done to educate communities on the role and of the various funds. There is need to provide general education and information about the funds and the procedures for application and use of the allocated funds. There is need to train the managers of the fund managers and community organizations on the procedures for utilization of the funds. New regulations and restructuring of the current funds are necessary to ensure that the funds meet the needs of the targeted beneficiaries. Development of a better legal and institutional framework is necessary for improved administration of the decentralized funds. In addition, there is a need to mitigate barriers to effective implementation of projects, such as the interruptions that may occur with changes in government or the 'privatization' of funds by certain fund managers.

1.3 Research questions

- 1 What is the level of the community's participation in C.D.F projects?
- 2 What are the factors inhibiting participation in CDF?

1.4 Research Objectives

The overall objective of this study was to assess the perception of the community on participation in the CDF.

The study was guided by the following specific objectives

1. To investigate the level of community participation in C.D.F projects.
2. Ascertain the perception of the community on their participation at different levels of the CDF projects.
3. Ascertain the role of external factors in the management of the CDF.
4. Discuss challenges facing community participation in the CDF.
5. Ascertain perception of the community on the strengths and weaknesses of the CDF.

1.5 Scope and limitations of the study

The study focused on how the constituency fund is being implemented and assessed the level of participation of the local community and their influence on the development agenda. Specifically, the study sought to know whether members are aware of who qualifies for the fund. As for participation, the focus was on the members' role in decision making and actual management of the fund. The study was limited to members' perception on representation in the CDF management systems, nature and level of participation and needs identification by leaders. Finally, the study sought to know the partners in the CDF projects and members' views on how the CDF projects can be improved

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Participatory Development

Many development theorists and practitioners, including those in key agencies like the World Bank and UNDP, see participation as critical to successful project implementation (Brett, 1996). "People centered" principles have influenced the course of western culture over the last thirty years, these principles required organizations that were serious about adopting a "people first" orientation. (Ray, 2000) A wide range of organizations, with very different ideological agendas, has started involving local people in their own development (Peter and Watts, 1996) According to the strongest advocates of Participatory Development, 'Normal' Development is characterized by biases which are disempowering (Peter and Watts, 1996). These biases are positivism, and top-downism (Chambers, 1997). The overarching tendency is to equate development with Modernity as achieved by western societies (Schuurman, 1993). Hence development meant copying these advanced countries through rational planning by experts. The flip side is that 'non-expert', local people were sidelined and their only role was as the objects of grandiose, national schemes (Mohan, Giles, 2001).

The meaning of "participation" is often a rendition of the organization culture defining it. Participation has been described as a means and an end. It is an empowering process necessary to correct power imbalances between rich and poor. It has been broadly conceived to embrace the idea that all stakeholders should take part in decision making and it has been narrowly described as the extraction of local knowledge to design programs off site. "Participation is involvement by a local population and, at times additional stakeholders in the creation, content and conduct of a program or policy designed to change their lives. Built on a belief that citizens can be trusted to shape their own future, participatory development uses local decision making and capacities to

street and define the nature of an intervention". (Ray 2000) Although there are differences in definitions, there is a common agreement concerning what constitutes authentic "participation". Participation refers to involvement by local populations in the creations, content and conduct of a program or policy designed to change their lives. Participation requires recognition and use of local capacities and avoids imposition of priorities from the outside. Ultimately, participatory development is driven by a belief in the importance of entrusting citizens with the responsibility to shape their own future (ibid)

According to (Mayo and Craig, 1995), participation increases the efficiency and cost effectiveness of 'formal' development programmes. It could also be viewed as part of a more transformative agenda (Esteve and Prakash1998) which might be anti-developmental. The process of participatory development is fundamentally about power (Mayo and Craig1995). Participation involves political struggle whereby the powerful fight to retain their privileges. Participation is also seen as a conflictual and, sometimes, violent process whereby the less powerful must struggle for increased control over their lives. (Mohan, Giles (2001).

Other benefits of employing participatory methodologies as appraised and examined by the World Bank and the Canadian Development Agency (CIDA), USAID and the International Relief/Development Project (IRDP) concluded that while participatory methodologies may require greater upfront investment in staff training and operations expenditures (up to 15% on average, according to World Bank study), throughout the life of programs overall costs are lower than in programs that do not rely on local capacities. The study concluded that participatory development programs are invariably more relevant and effective at addressing local needs.

Gains made during an intervention are more often sustained using participatory methods (Ray 2000).

Participatory Rural Appraisal

The past decade has witnessed more shifts in the rhetoric of rural development than in its practice. These shifts include the now familiar reversals from top down to bottom up, from centralized standardization to local diversity, and from blue print to learning process. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) describes a growing family of approaches and methods to enable people to share enhance and analyze their knowledge of life and conditions, to plan and to act. PRA has been labeled to refer to several meanings. It has been called "an approach and methods for learning about rural life and conditions from, with and by rural people" It is also seen as a process which extends into analysis, planning and action. PRA is a "family of approaches and methods to enable rural people to share, enhance, and analyze their knowledge of life and conditions, to plan and to act. The approach is more shared and owned by the local people. (Chambers, 1994). PRA is a step towards a process of consciousness-awakening or conscientization of people through their own analysis of and reflection on the causes of their poverty and on the socio-economic structures and processes, which affect their lives. No development activity can be successful until this process is well underway.

PRA entails groups of local people analyzing their own conditions and choosing their own means of improving them. It is often referred as a community self survey. The community or group of local people may use a variety of tools such as maps, diagram and the support of a trained facilitator.

The viability and success of PRA was concluded in a participatory study that was carried out in Kenya in April-May 1993, (Pretty and Thomson,1993) cited in (Chambers,2004). Six areas of Catchment Approach Program of the soil and water conservation branch of the Ministry of Agriculture were studied. Performance indicators included maize yields, diversity of crops, reappearance of springs and/or increase in surface water flows continuing activity by a catchment committee, and awareness and adoption in neighbouring communities. The study showed that performance had been worst in a show case catchment where the approach had not been participatory. The impact were generally higher where catchment committees were freely elected, and where farmers had participated in planning and layout and they were consistently best in the catchment where program had begun with an interdepartmental PRA.

A Critique on Participation

Reviews and critiques of the approach have emerged (Cooke and Kothari,2001) The criticism of participatory approach holds that the majority of projects fail in the aim of reversing top-down power hierarchies. It is argued that rather than empowering people 'participatory' approaches in many instances are used merely as legitimizing device that 'serve(s) to represent external interests as local needs, dominant interests as community concerns' (Mose 2001). PRA is also seen as a site for 'conservatism, convenience, and risk aversion'-where the real complexities of people's problems are ignored (Kothari 2001). The critiques base the argument on the 'the tyranny of the group' that creates overrepresentation of the already powerful in PRA-groups as well as strong inequalities in bargaining power. In this perspective, the appreciation of local culture inherent in the participation ideal may actually serve as an alibi for inequality and exploitation,(Mohan 2001)

These plans however put plan primary emphasis of infrastructural development and inadequately treated direct production activities. Two SRDP plans, subsequently prepared by the district based planning officers with close collaboration of district staff, were for second-phase areas in Taita-Taveta and Kisii, but were not implemented when it was not to expand the program. ¹³

According to research findings, the SRDP got its organizational innovations from the project committee; the area coordinator, direct grants to the district; and the system of programming, operational control, reporting, and evaluations which were introduced in four of the six SRDP areas. The area coordinator became the model for the post of District Development Officer. The direct grants to the district which started in 1971 became the Rural Development Fund in 1975, with the initiation of a Rural Works Program ¹⁴

Whether SRDP failed or succeeded may not be easily measurable at the moment. What was certainly achieved by this program was getting the Nairobi planners out to the field and precipitate the decision to move district level planning which 14 years later came to be known as the District Focus for rural development. ¹⁵

The Constituency Development Fund Act, 2003 makes provisions for community based projects. It states that "projects shall be community based in order to ensure that the prospective benefits are available to a wide spread cross-section of the inhabitants of a particular area. The act further states that any funding under this act shall be for a complete project or a defined phase, unit or element of a project and may include the acquisition of land and buildings. The act further states

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Ibid

¹⁵ Ibid

that all projects shall be development projects and may include costs related to studies, planning and design or other technical input for the project".¹⁶

The act has also made provisions for the participation of the local people in the community based projects. It states that "A community shall maintain an elected committee to represent the interests of that community during and after the implementation of the project and such a committee shall conform to established Government regulations in the discharge of its functions. Where a community initiates a project and a project committee is maintained by the community, the departmental head of the government ministry under whose docket the project falls shall be an ex-officio member of such a committee and may appoint a representative to the committee from among Government officers in the constituency. If a community requests, it shall be given a chance to nominate representatives to represent their interests in any project being undertaken in their area".¹⁷

The CDF was established with a mission to ensure that a specific proportion of the annual Government ordinary revenue is devoted to the constituencies for the purpose of development and in particular the creation of wealth at the grass root level is spent prudently and in a transparent and accountable manner. The vision behind the fund was to be the most effective and efficient institution in the delivery and utilization of public resources.

2.2 Structures and Committees in the CDF

Constituency Development Fund was established in 2002 through a private members motion and became effective in 2003. The 210 constituencies received the first CDF disbursement in the 2003/4 Government budget. The fund was established by an act of parliament, Constituency

¹⁶ The Constituencies Development Fund (Act, 2003)

¹⁷ Ibid

development act 2003 and was run managed by a national committee. The act was amended in 2007 to place the fund under a management board. All the constituency development funds at district levels were established in 2002. The structure is prescribed in the act and is expected to be adhered to.

2.3 Structure and Mode of Disbursement:

There are four management structures of the CDF,

1. The Constituencies Fund Committee
2. The National Management Committee
3. The District Project Committees.
4. The Constituencies Development Committees

2.4 Composition of the Constituency Development Committee (CDC)

1. The area M.P.
2. Two Councilors from the Constituency
3. One District Officer from the Constituency
4. Two persons representing Religious Organization
5. Two men representatives from the constituency
6. Two women representatives from the constituency
7. One youth representative
8. One person nominated from the NGO
9. Three other members.

The CDF committee's functions include the following:

1. To consider project proposals submitted from various constituents in accordance with the act and make appropriate recommendations to the clerk of the national Assembly.
2. To consider and report to Parliament, with recommendations, names of persons required to be approved by Parliament under this Act;
3. To consider and recommend to parliament matters requiring action by the national assembly pursuant to the provisions of this act.
4. To oversee the implementation of this Act;
5. To oversee the policy framework and legislative matters that arises in relation to the fund.
6. To continually review the framework set out for the efficient delivery of development programmes financed through the Fund; and
7. To carry out any other functions relevant to the work of the Fund

The CDF is also made up of a National Management Committee whose functions include:

1. To ensure allocation and disbursement of funds to every constituency.
2. To receive and discuss annual reports and returns from the constituencies
3. To ensure prudent management of the Fund
4. To ensure the compilation of proper records, returns and reports from the constituencies

5. To ensure timely submission to Parliament of various returns, reports and information as required under the Act
6. To perform such other duties as the National Management Committee, in consultation with the Minister of Finance, may deem necessary from time to time for the proper management of the Fund

We also have the National Management committee Sub-committees and under this, we have the following:

1. Publicity Committee

- (a) Create CDF awareness to the public.
- (b) Respond to issues raised by the public
- (c) Training and capacity building for all CDF stakeholders
- (d) Documentation of CDF programmes e.g. project reports, success stories, constraints, visit calendar and diaries
- (e) Draw the programme of work/visit for National Management Committee, Subcommittee and carry out such other duties as assigned by the National Management Committee.

2. Project Technical Sub-Committee

- a) To provide policy guidance on Technical aspects relating to CDF projects.
- b) To advise NMC on choice of projects by CDCs.
- c) To advise NMC and CDCs on actual execution of projects
(implementation) as pertains technical matters.
- d) To advice on supervision of projects and the indicators to look for during
supervision
- e) To undertake technical audit services on projects as directed by NMC.
- f) Provide guidance on projects that are co-funded by several donors.
- g) Any other technical matter referred to the Technical Projects Sub-committee by NMC.

3. Finance and Administration Sub-Committee

- a) Preparation of budget for the National Management Committee
- b) Preparation of annual financial, reports of National Management Committee.
- c) Consideration of National Management Committee and Staff Welfare
- d) Consideration and approval of National Management Committee tenders.
- e) Human Resource management

4. Complaints Sub-Committee

- a) Arbitrate on complaints raised by the public, media and others CDF stakeholders.
- b) Ensure that constituencies Development Fund Act, 2003 and its regulations are adhered to
the latter.
- c) Resolves emerging disputes from the constituencies.

- d) Advise the members of the public, and other stakeholders on the best practices while implementing the CDF programmes.

5 Audit Sub-Committee

- 1 Assist the National Management Committee in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities
2. Report to the National Management Committee about Committee activities, emerging issues and their recommendations.
3. Provide an open avenue of communication between Internal Audit, the External Auditors and National Management Committee.
- 4 Consider the effectiveness of the Constituency Development Fund Secretariat's internal control system.
5. Conduct or authorize investigations into any matter within its scope of responsibility.
6. Perform any others duty as mandated

2.5 CDF Allocations

In as far as the CDF allocations go; the formula for allocations is as follows, 2.5% of all the Government ordinary revenue collected every year is paid into the fund. Three quarters of the 2.5% is divided equally among all the constituencies, a quarter of the 2.5% is divided by the National Poverty Index multiplied by the constituencies poverty index. The allocations are done

iv National Management Committee, which ensures the disbursement of funds to all constituencies

2.6 Accountability

The CDF is regulated by an act of parliament and in order to ensure accountability; under this act.

- All disbursements from the Fund shall be approved by the Disbursement from the national Committee and shall be made through the constituency bank Fund. Account opened and maintained for every constituency in accordance with section 45 of the Act.
- Auditing is done by the Internal Auditors from the Fund and external auditors from the controller and auditor general.

Monitoring is done by the Wananchi, the Locational Development Committees, Constituencies Development Committee, the District Project Committees, the Constituencies Fund committees, the National Management Committee, the Departmental heads the and all the stakeholder

2.7 Why participation?

The benefits of participation can be considerable. These include the improved performance and sustainability of policies, programs, and projects, as well as enhanced capacity and skills of stakeholders. Participation in the formulation of fundamental goals of an activity empowers stakeholders and fosters a sense of local ownership. These facilitate effective project implementation, conscientious monitoring of activities, and substantial outcomes. When people involved feel that their participation is meaningful, the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of

development initiatives improve. When people have influence over decisions that affect their lives and the resources involved, the sense of ownership developed motivates their sustained commitment (<http://adb.org/Documents/Policies>).¹³

Participation smoothens the transitions: from activity conceptualization → Poverty assessment → Design → Capacity Building → Implementation → Monitoring and Evaluation (<http://www.adb.org>).

Participation enhances the social capital, promote sound governance, result to higher quality data, increase the probability of project success, and minimize external criticism. A consensus has emerged over the past decade or more that those affected by development initiatives have a right to participate in them.

2.8 Modes of Participation

Participation ranges from superficial to deep – from passive exchange of information to full engagement. Stakeholders may be engaged in many ways, from merely that ‘development’ is happening to taking part in projects that serve to help them take charge of their own development. (UNESCAP, 2003)¹⁴ has identified the following four modes of participation:

Information sharing (or gathering) is at the passive or shallow end of the participation scale. This may involve disseminating information about an intended program or asking stakeholders to give information that will be used by others to help plan or evaluate a project or other activity. In both cases, communication is one-way rather than interactive.

¹³ (<http://adb.org/Documents/Policies>)

¹⁴ UNESCAP, *Guidelines on Participatory Planning and Management for Flood Mitigation and Preparedness*, Water Resources Series No. 82, 2003

Consultation refers to people being asked for their opinion about something while development professionals listen to their views. Typically, the people involved exercised no responsibility in formulating the original plan or the decisions that went into it, and the development professionals are under no obligation to incorporate their view. Yet consultation can be more or less participatory and can evolve into collaboration or shared control. On one hand, if people are involved in defining a desired change, or in identifying a problem and its solution, consultation can lead to greater networking and a sense of ownership. On the other hand, many consultative processes focus solely on

obtaining 'buy in' for the already planned activity, or prescribed policy or program. Consultation processes that primarily seek feedback to a predefined plan or strategy fall near the shallow end of the depth of participation continuum.

Collaboration/joint decision-making and **empowerment/shared control** represent what most participatory development practitioners consider to be genuine participation. In each of these stages, stakeholders are actively engaged and sustained results are achieved. In collaboration, for example, people are invited by outsiders to meet a pre-determined objective; the development professional or organization identifies the problem or issues to be discussed and calls a group together to collaborate on that topic. The stakeholders may not have initiated the collaboration, but they significantly influence the results. Groups or sub-groups are formed that build networks and improve structures or practices. People themselves and the projects on which they work change as a result of their interaction. The stakeholders' ideas change the project design or implementation plan, or contribute to a new policy or strategy. Most importantly, the development professional or organization that solicited stakeholder involvement takes the people's perspectives seriously and acts on them.

shared control involves deeper participation than collaboration. People become empowered by accepting increasing responsibility for developing and implementing action plans that are accountable to group members and for either creating or strengthening local institutions. The development professionals become facilitators of a locally-driven process. Stakeholders assume control and ownership of their component of the project or program, and make decisions accordingly. At this level, local participation is most sustainable because the people concerned have a stake in maintaining structures or practices. Participatory monitoring – in which groups or organizations assess their own actions using procedures and performance indicators they selected when finalizing their plans – reinforces empowerment and sustainability. Participation should not be maximized – that is, incorporated everywhere at the same depth and breadth – but rather, optimized. The type of participation chosen should be based on the context and task. What may be needed is strong and broad stakeholder participation at strategic and appropriate times, and focused participation at other times.

Types and levels of participation.

There are different types and levels of participation in community development (Mulwa 2004)

1) Participation as an element in a top-down development framework

The three levels under the top-down development framework have been identified as:

- a) **'Extractionist' Participation** – This is reminiscent with central government development planning where blueprint plans are handed down for execution through government extension networks. In extractionist participation¹⁰ is seen as a process of drawing in people into the implementation of pre-determined development goals and people are seen as a resource that needs to be mobilized to provide financial and material contribution towards

¹⁰ Mulwa F. W. (2004, 110) *Demystifying participatory community development* Kijabe Printing Press

public projects. This approach assumes that people do not know their development needs and priorities and that development organizations should plan to decide their destiny. Success is associated with the project staff while failure is blamed on the rural poor.

b) Vertical participation

In this kind of participation community power brokers develop beneficial relations with the government officials as the basis for people's mobilization for participation. The power brokers have direct alliance with government officials and politicians and benefit individually from such relationships. The benefit to the people they represent is minimal. In vertical participation the representatives become compromised by the powers in the government.

c) Handout induced participation

This approach tends to maintain the supremacy of professional knowledge and expertise that leads to bureaucratization of services. The approach inhibits community initiatives as people have to seek approval before making any progress. Poverty is blamed on laziness and ignorance of the people. The model brings development to the people through deliveries of expertise from outside.

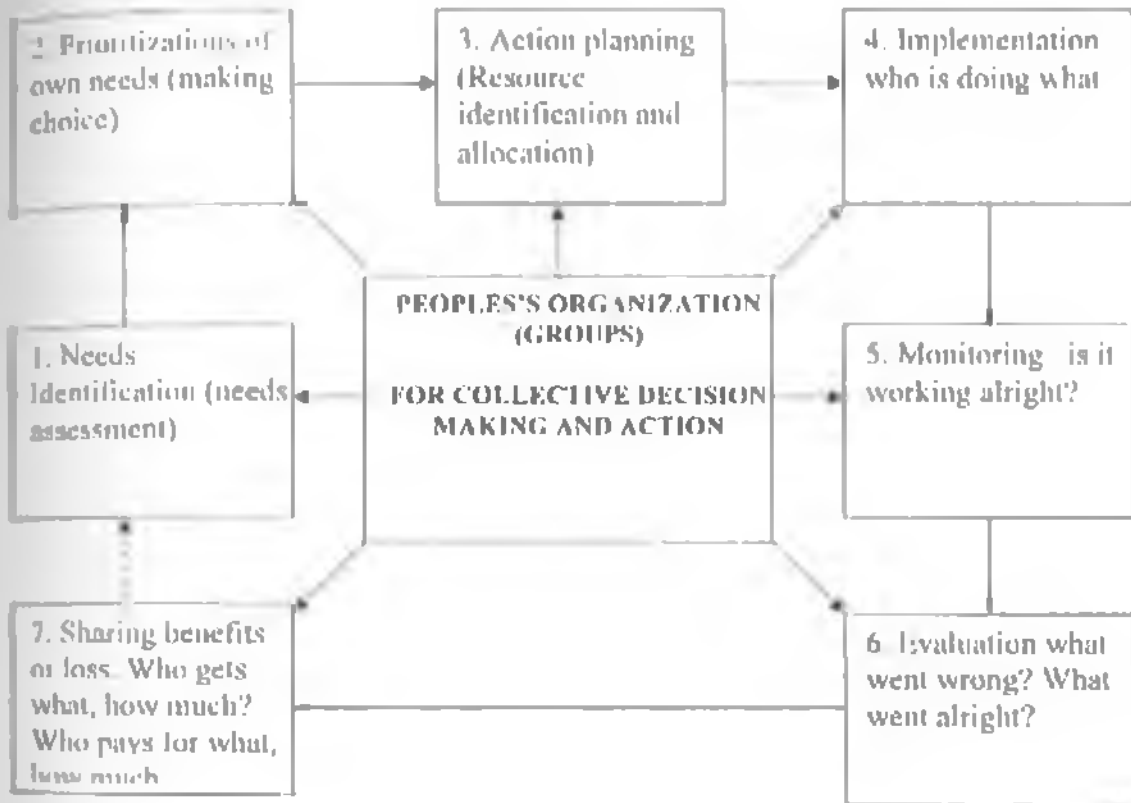
2) Participation as a bottom-up development approach

Authentic participation

This approach is the most ideal model that seeks to empower the powerless to assume their desired destiny. The model sees poverty as a structural product whose blame cannot be apportioned to the poor people's behavior but to the structural forces of local and global society. Genuine participation is seen to seek to involve the beneficiary

communities in project design and implementation. It tends to link peoples felt needs with the project goals and objectives to ensure ownership and sustainability of projects.

The components of authentic participation (source Mulwa 2004 119) The process illustrated below is not linear progressing from 1-7. It may overlap or interplay



Levels of participation on a continuum

Mulwa (2004; 121) categorized levels of participation as follows;



Passive participation

Level 1-2: decisions and plans are made from above, people are not consulted and experts carry their own needs assessment from secondary sources or file study on the profile of the area. Experts use the national development priorities as a guide. Local contribution may not be required and people may only see contractors and machineries in site. Leaders inform the people in public meetings about the project and its benefit to them.

Level 3-4 Same as level 1-2 but in this category community contribution is requirement. This is in form of labour, local materials and sometimes financial resources. People are consulted through public meetings, interviews in a baseline survey. People are asked to express their views about the proposed intervention. Their views may or may not be incorporated in the final project design.

Active participation

Level 6-7 Development interventions are based on baseline surveys made to establish local priorities and needs; the survey is biased towards sectoral orientation of the intervening organization. People are required to contribute in terms of labour, materials and finances. There is heavy dependency on donors' for direction, financial and technical support. The community participates only when the project is winding up through formation of management committees to take charge as the donors prepare to exit.

Level 8-9: The formation of committees is a requirement from the donors' right from the early stages. People are expected to make own decisions which they cannot implement

without the donors approval. There is heavy dependence on the donor for financial and technical support.

Level 10 People make own decisions and donors abide by it. Population assume responsibility for own decision. Project committees are formed in their own violation without external influence to steer the project development. The project funds are transferred to the local project account. Local capacity building through training and institution building is done. There is relationship of equals characterized by respect, trust and responsibility.

2.9 Theoretical Framework

The study is based on the reflective practice model which incorporates genuine experiences gained by development practioners with local knowledge. The theory is open to ideas and accommodates multiple development theories in its approach. The blending and the synthesis involved make the model appropriate for the study. It is intended to measure the extent of flexibility of the Constituency development Fund managers to accommodate experiences and local knowledge to direct their activities.

2.10 The Reflective Practice Model

The model is based on theories developed and used in daily work in community and the idea that practitioners have the ability to work back and forth along a continuum of practice ranging from practitioners collaborating with local knowledge to imposing outside expertise, depending on the situation.

According to Bright, (1996, p. 167), Reflective Practice "is an active, proactive, reactive and action-based process defining a set of skills concerned with understanding and dealing with real, complex and difficult situations: Elements of the reflective practice model are:

Implicit practice-based theory: In the course of doing their work, practitioners tend to develop personalized and practice-based theories based on their filed experiences. They formulate strategies and theories that have been labeled implicit because they were not articulated prior to the practice but end up influencing the practitioners' actions.

Beliefs about community: This element is based on the belief that practitioners must assess how capable a community is to chart its own course and how to assist them. In this case, community development practitioners struggle with the appropriate blend of local knowledge, involvement of outside experts, accepting directions from local leaders, and when to call upon their own knowledge in community development activities. They are challenged about when and how to bring in outside knowledge such as new government regulations or activities in neighboring communities.

Talking/working together/observing: In this case, the practitioners learn by working with each other and community residents, working together on projects, visiting other communities, and soliciting ideas and suggestions from their peers

Literature-Based Theories: In this case participants are encouraged to seek more information in other areas such as business, environment, policy studies, law, psychology, agriculture, and adult education. It is believed that a synthesis of multiple theories will guide them better rather than a single theory derived from community development literature.

Field experience and Practice: This is the central component in reflective practice. It is through experience and ongoing practice, in which a practitioner attempts to assist communities, that a practitioner reflects on his/her work and formulates his/her implicit practice-based theories.

While each element of the model is described separately, they do not exist in isolation.

Practitioners should be guided by a synthesis of these elements to address needs in the community. What links the different elements is constant reflection.

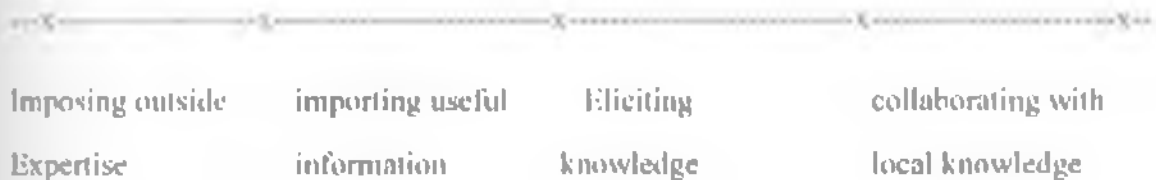


Each of the elements is represented by a circle and curved arrows illustrate dynamic interactions between the elements of the model. The term reflect is used to capture the many activities, ideas

and thoughts practitioners develop over time about community development. The model also emphasizes the idea that practitioners have the ability to work back and forth along a continuum of practice ranging from practitioners collaborating with local knowledge to imposing outside expertise, depending on the situation. This can be explained along a Situational Continuum ranging from;

- 1) Imposing expert knowledge
- 2) Imposing useful information
- 3) Eliciting knowledge
- 4) Collaborating with local knowledge

Situational continuum



These points are not designed to suggest that these are the only choices a practitioner may make. A practitioner may alter his/her position as circumstances and needs change. The situational continuum describes a major decision community development practitioners make when faced with particular set of circumstances and participants. These decisions are heavily influenced by the elements described as follows.

Implicit practice-based theories, field experience, beliefs about community, current literature, and their communications with other practitioners. Choosing whether to approach a project by imposing outside expertise, by working exclusively with local knowledge, or any position in

between the endpoints of the continuum is a crucial decision that states the tone for a practitioner's involvement with their community

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This section explores the actual procedures of conducting the research through the discussion of the methodology, methods of data collection, the sample and sampling procedures and data analysis.

3.1 The Research design

This is an exploratory study which aimed at investigating the level of community participation in the CDF projects; ascertain the community's perception on participation at the different levels of CDF projects. Respondents were members of the CDF in Wajir District. The Committee members were useful participants because they were the people who approve and apportion CDF projects within the constituency. The local leaders that include the chiefs and councilors were also targets of the study because they contribute towards and influence development projects. Other respondents included the local community of Wajir whose perception on their participation in the CDF was critical.

3.2 Sampling Procedure

Random sampling was used to select a sample of 138 respondents from the CDF beneficiaries in the district. Of these 138, only 136 participated in the opinion poll. Purposive sampling was used to select 17 community leaders comprising of youth leaders, women's group leaders and local elders as key informants.

1.1 Data Collection Methods and Instruments

The study made use of the Interview and focus group discussions methods to collect primary data

Interview

The questionnaires were preferred due to their sustainability for the study as suggested by Mugenda (1999, 71) who denotes that questionnaires are commonly used to obtain important information about a population. Questionnaires are among the most widely used data gathering instruments. This included an opinion scale which sought to ascertain members' perception on their inclusion in the CDI structures.

Focus Group Discussions

The Focus Group Discussion was used to generate the communities' general view of the CDF; it was meant to ascertain their representation, participation, involvement, observation, challenges faced and weaknesses of the CDF. The focus group discussion provided the opportunity to discuss in depth issues regarding the management of the fund and was the basis for which the community opinion was sought.

Data Collection Procedure

After obtaining a research permit for collecting data, the researcher visited each selected audience in the constituency, administered the questionnaire to the expected respondents. The interviews and Focus Group Discussions were held at planned times found convenient to both the sampled respondents and the researcher. Validation of instruments was ensured through pilot testing which was carried out to help the researcher eliminate items in the research instruments that could be ambiguous. Modifications were made where necessary.

Data Analysis Plan

After the questionnaire and other tools were administered, the raw data collected was systematically organized through coding for ease of descriptive analysis. After coding, the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used in the analysis. In the process the data was keyed into the computer in order to group variables and patterns in the responses given by the respondents. Simple descriptive statistics generated indices were qualitatively interpreted by the historical method of corroboration of facts and evidence provided.

3.4 Site Description

Wajir lies within the Sahelian climate region. It is characterized by long dry spells and short rainy season. The area is 100% ASAL with an annual precipitation of 300mm or less. The long rains occur in March to May while the short rains occur in October to December. The rains experienced are hardly enough to support agricultural activities. Sometimes, some pastoralist plant sorghum and maize during the long rains but the yields are often insignificant because of the low moisture retention capacity of the soil occasioned by high temperatures. The main pre-occupation of the community (over 70%) is nomadic pastoralism. Less than 10% of the population engages in trade.

Wajir district is one of the four districts of North Eastern Province and covers an area of 56,698 sq km. The district is the second largest in Kenya after Turkana district. The region is hot and dry for the most part of the year and the main economic activity is pastoralism. Due to the frequent droughts and famine coupled currently with the Rift Valley fever diseases, most livestock have been wiped out resulting into high level of poverty.

Wajir being an arid district, crops do not do well. In few areas, when the rains are good, sorghum and maize is grown by villages as supplementary food. Ninety per cent of the population however is dependent on livestock (goats, sheep, cattle, camel and donkeys). The animals are a source of milk, meat and are also sold off for income which is used to buy food and other basic necessities. Donkeys and camel are mainly used as carrier animals. The biggest threat to livestock is drought and diseases. Wajir Township has many people who are living as Internally Displaced People after losing their herds of livestock. In the IDPs villages, the people live under extreme poverty and mostly depend on relief food from Government and NGOs.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Socio-economic characteristics of the respondents

Going by data in table one below, it is evident that CDF membership in Wajir is composed of majority male members (69.56%). This could be as a result of the community being rooted in a traditional patriarchal system where development matters were seen as matters of the male. However, there is a bit of encouragement given that up to 30.44 percent membership is female. It is also evident that most members are age 40 and above, a factor that can be attributed to the fact that the young are still in school. Wajir is predominantly a Muslim community (84.78%). Finally, it is evident that majority of the CDF membership (60.86%) have had education up to primary level. Only 39 percent have education of KCSE level and above.

Table 1 showing the socio-economic characteristics of the respondents.

Variable		Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	96	69.56
	Female	42	30.44
Age	< 20	2	1.5
	20-39	25	18.1
	40 and above	111	80.1
Religion	Islam	117	84.78
	Christian	21	15.22
	Other	0	0
Academic qualification	No formal education	5	3.60
	KCPE	84	60.86
	KCSE	47	34.04
	Above KCSE	2	1.5

4.1 Knowledge on CDF

For there to be participation and ownership of a project, the participants need to be well informed about that project. As an intervention the CDF project aims at improving the welfare of the constituency members. It is therefore imperative that they have some knowledge of the project, its structures and role distribution for them to actively participate in it and finally own it. The respondents were asked to indicate as to who qualifies for the fund, which projects are funded through the fund and who is accountable for the fund and below are their responses.

Table 2: Knowledge on who qualifies for the fund

Category of the qualifying member	Frequency	Percentage
Every member of the constituency	121	87.7
Only the poor of the poorest	12	8.7
Only those with capital	5	3.6
Total	138	100

It is evident from table 2 above that 87.7 percent respondents are fully aware that the CDF is meant for the development of all in the constituency. However, there are those (8.7%) who were of the view that the CDF was meant for the poorest of the poor and 5 percent who were of the view that the fund was for those who already have capital. Further probing indicated that those who were of the view that only the poorest of the poor should benefit from the fund based their argument not on the CDF provisions but on the argument that the poor should be assisted first. Those who argued that the fund should be given to those with capital, were of the view that this category had already shown a sense of entrepreneurship and therefore, they can put the fund into good use

Table 3: Knowledge on the project to be funded by CDF

Projects to be funded by CDF	Frequency	Percentage
New projects	120	87
On going projects	135	98
Stalled projects	106	77
Total	138	100

It is evident from table 3 above that members were of the view that new, on going and stalled projects should get the support of the fund. However a good number (98%) were of the view that on going projects should be supported by the fund followed by new projects (89%) and stalled projects (77%).

Table 4: Knowledge on who should monitor the CDF

Who should monitor	Frequency	Percentage
All constituency members	112	81
Only the beneficiaries of the fund	7	5
Only the local leaders	15	11
Only the top management of the fund	4	3
Total	138	100

From table 4 above, it is clear that 81 percent of members are aware that the CDF should be monitored by all members in the constituency. A few members are of the view that monitoring is done by the local leaders (11%), only by the beneficiaries of the fund (5%) and only by the local leaders (3%).

It can be concluded that the respondents understand CDF, as a fund managed by the community, meant to benefit the community members irrespective of ethnicity or religion. It is a forum for the community to discuss the development agenda of the constituency. CDF provides facilities where resources are scarce to minimize conflicts. It is moving away from the central planning to community planning and empowers the communities to make decisions. The communities view it as constituency planning that incorporates the development needs of the society. It is the equal distribution of resources to all the constituencies.

4.2.1 Participation in CDF

At the same time the study sought to find out from members the levels and extent of their participation in the CDF. The study specifically sought to find out whether the constituency members attended all CDF meetings, received meeting agenda as way of informing them well in advance of what was to be discussed in meetings, whether they were fully involved in the identification and prioritizing of CDF projects and whether they have been educated on CDF matters. The results are shown in table 5 below.

Table 5. Indicating areas of participation by members in the management of CDF

Participation	Yes		No		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	F	%
Attending all meetings	129	95	7	5	136	100
Receiving meeting agenda	12	9	124	91	136	100
Identification and prioritizing of projects	129	95	7	5	136	100
Educated on CDF procedures	100	74	36	28	136	100

The findings on participation were that majority of members participated in project identification and prioritization (98%), attended all meeting (94%) and had received education on CDF matters (73%). It was also evident the 91 percent of the members did not receive meeting agenda before meetings. The obvious implication is that members could be participating in meetings for which they are not adequately prepared to participate in. Though their attendance of meetings and participating in project identification and prioritizing could enhance ownership, this could be negatively affected when members discover that they do not own the project agenda. The communities are consulted through public meetings to discuss the proposed intervention. However, their views may not be incorporated in the final project design. According to Mulwa: (2004). This is passive participation and falls on the lower side of the participation continuum.

4.2.2 Perception of members on their participation

Given that members participate in one way or the other in the CDF projects, the researcher wanted to find out their actual perception on their involvement in the CDF project. This is in a way wanting to find out whether the members are satisfied with the extent to which they are involved in the CDF projects. A total of six statements on participation were put to the respondents to indicate their level of satisfaction by stating whether they agree or not agree with the statement. The findings are indicated in table 6 below.

Table 6: Indicating the perception of members on the roles they play in the CDF

Variables	Rating cells					Total
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
Community members actively participate in decision making of the CDF	15	12	2	50	57	136
Community members actively participate in CDF design and delivery	13	22	10	45	46	136
The community members contribute free labor in total and other resources to facilitate the effectiveness of CDF	10	14	8	69	35	136
Brokers or/and friends associated with powerful individuals and MPs are the ones who make decisions on behalf of the community on CDF matters	68	31	6	17	14	136
Community representatives are compromised when it comes to deciding on CDF matters	38	40	12	28	18	136
There is a huge misrepresentation of CDF beneficiaries in our community	57	42	10	16	11	136
Total	201	151	48	225	181	
Cell representative	24.6%	18.5%	5.9%	27.6%	22.2%	

What is coming out overall is that there is low satisfaction by members on the way they are involved in the CDF projects. Actually community members did not actively participate in the

decision making process or in the CDF design and delivery. It is also clear that there is interference from outside in the way the projects are run. Brokers and individuals associated with powerful individuals or members of parliament make decisions on behalf of the community. They also were of the opinion that their representatives are compromised and misrepresent their interest. Though there is satisfaction in the members' representation, they could be there to rubberstamp decisions and projects imposed on them. The CDF funds projects in totality and does not require communities to contribute to subsidize development budgets. Beneficiaries are not required to cost share or contribute labour or capital to maintain the project. This could be the reason where they (community members) disagreed with the statement. Generally there is low community participation.

Tables 7: perception of members on external influence of CDF projects

Variable	Rating					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Proposal stage	105	26	2	1	2	136
Project design	115	5	6	3	7	136
Implementation	112	16	1	2	5	136
Evaluation	98	25	3	6	4	136
Total	430	72	12	13	18	136
Cell Rep	79%	13%	2%	2.5%	3.5%	

Asked to agree or disagree with the statement that the CDF projects components are externally induced and blue prints plans drawn from outside, there was a general consensus that this was true as indicated in table 7 above where agreement with the statement stands at 92 percent. The communities are drawn into implementing pre determined development programs. The approach

observed in the study, is the top down developmental approach that assumes people do not know their development needs and priorities

Table 8: Perception of members on the capacity of locals to manage CDF projects

Variable	Rating					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Proposal stage	3	4	11	23	95	136
Project design	7	1	7	38	83	136
Implementation	5	2	3	12	116	136
Evaluation	2	5	2	48	79	136
Total	17	12	23	121	373	136
Cell Rep.	3%	2%	4%	22%	69%	

Another statement put to the respondents was that locals have no capacity to handle the following project components. The respondents were of the view that that the locals have capacity (91%)

Table 9: Perception of members on the collaboration with professionals in the management of CDF projects

Variable	Rating					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Proposal stage	33	89	9	4	1	136
Project design	45	71	11	7	2	136
Implementation	67	56	10	2	1	136
Evaluation	65	64	5	1	1	136
Total	210	280	35	14	5	
Cell Rep.	39%	52%	6%	3%	1%	

Finally there was the statement that local leaders should work with professionals in the following project components, a statement that was not contested. This means that the locals are willing to work with the professional.

4.3 Key Informants' Role in Determining Projects of the Community

The study sought to find out the role played by leaders in determining projects for the community

Table 10: The role of community leaders in the CDF projects

Role	Frequency	Percentage
Decision making	17	100
Enhancement of Gender equality	7	41
Supervision of projects	17	100
Creating project awareness	15	88
Formulation of plans	17	100
Advisory roles	10	59
Solicitation of Funds	5	29
Project identification	17	100

According to table 10 above, 100 percent key informants confirmed that their roles were to make decisions, supervise projects, formulate plans and identify projects. On the other hand, 88 percent of them confirmed that their role was to create project awareness while 59 percent confirmed that they played the advisory role. Interestingly enough, only 41 percent played the role of enhancing gender equality and 29 percent played that role of soliciting funds. The finding maintains the supremacy of the leaders and inhibits community participation as they have to seek

the approval of the local leaders who seem to decide for them. It assumes the communities do not understand their needs and are only resources to be mobilized.

4.4 Partnership with other development partners

Of the total respondents, 30% agreed that they do work with other development partners, while the remaining 70% admitted that they did not work with other development partners. It implies that the CDF operated independently and did not collaborate with other development partners. Many of the partners admitted that projects were duplicated and that made monitoring difficult

Partners working in collaboration with CDF

Table 11: Partners in CDF

PARTNERS			NATURE OF COLLABORATION
ALDEF Kenya			Building schools/sanitation
MERLIN			Sensitizing locals/medical
RED CROSS			Providing food/emergency response
ARIDLANDS	RESOURCE	MNGT	Schools/Health/Community programs
PROJECT			
USAID			Sanitary programmes in schools
OXFAM			Schools/pastoralists programs/water
GTZ			Water and sanitation
FAWE			Women support
UNICEF			Support needy students/water and sanitation

The development partners are well coordinated through the district steering group who coordinate the organizations to minimize duplication. All development issues are discussed at the forum and each organization is expected to report their intervention and area of operation. The DSG has the mandate to apportion areas of operation and advise on the needy areas.

4.5 Challenges Facing CDF in the Constituency

The study went on further to find out the major challenges facing the CDF in the constituency.

Table12: Challenges facing CDF

Challenges	frequency	Percentage
Inadequate funds	128	93
Inadequate forums and meetings	121	88
Misuse of funds	98	71
Corruption	120	87
Poor management	109	79
Political interference	130	94
Tribalism and nepotism	125	91
Lack of awareness	105	76
Project delays	122	88
Delay in disbursement of funds	131	95

From table 12 above, it is clearly manifested that respondents indicated that the CDF suffered from major challenges ranging from delayed funds, political interference, inadequate funds to tribalism scoring at 95 percent, 94 percent, 93 percent and 91 percent respectively. Other challenges such as project delays (88%), inadequate meetings (88%), corruption (87%), poor management (79%), lack of awareness ((76%) and misuse of funds (71%) were equally serious. The respondents quoted that some of the areas have been neglected by successive regimes and the areas are vast. On the other hand, political interference has been seen where politicians have been favoring their clansmen in project allocation

4.6 Major CDF Achievements

The research went further to find out the major achievements that CDF has accomplished

Table 13: CDF achievements

Achievement	frequency	Percentage
Construction of Schools	124	90
Building of health centers	122	88
Improvement of transport and infrastructure	98	71
Employment opportunities	105	76
Construction of water sites	120	87
Bursaries to needy students	117	85
Electrification	45	33
Improved hygiene and sanitation	71	51

According to the findings above, a massive 90 percent attributed construction of schools as a major achievement of the CDF. This has been seen in the building and fencing of schools. In addition, furniture and appropriate books have been purchased using the CDF fund while some of the learning institutions have been supplied with water tanks, solar panels and construction of science laboratories. Health facilities have been identified by 88 percent who have seen growth of health dispensaries. On the other hand, 87 percent see provision of water through construction of dams and water pans, sinking of bore holes and shallow wells and roof water harvesting as a major CDF achievement. The other revelation is that 85 percent have seen bursaries to needy students as a major CDF achievement. Improvement of infrastructure was rated by 51 percent of the respondents. Another achievement of the CDF is the improved sanitation and hygiene in the

area which was rated by 33 percent of the respondents. Electrification of the area was noted as an achievement of the CDF in the area. As a whole the CDF has had a major impact and is generally being appreciated despite the challenges.

Table 14: Suggestions for improvement

Suggestions	frequency	Percentage
Need for Consultative forums	127	92
Proper monitoring ,evaluation and auditing	133	96
Prioritizing Community needs	119	86
Addition of funds	90	65
Appointing qualified project managers	98	71
Training on CDF projects	112	81

4.7 Suggestions on how the CDF projects can be improved.

The study also sought to find out on the suggestions on how the CDF projects can be improved. With the findings above, it was noted that monitoring, evaluation and auditing of the CDF projects was seen as the major suggestion to improve the management of CDF, scoring a total of 96 percent of the respondents. Another 92 percent noted that using consultative forums was a better way of CDF improvement, while 86 percent indicated prioritization of community needs and selection of good leaders to manage the CDF. Training on CDF projects was suggested by 81 percent while appointing qualified leaders had 71 percent of the respondents' views. Only 65 percent of the remaining respondents suggested there be additional funds as a major way of improving it. The findings emphasize the importance of participation and the need to hold consultative forums. When the community is empowered it fosters a sense of ownership. These in turn facilitate effective project implementation, conscientious monitoring of activities and

substantial outcome is achieved. According to Rudqist and Woodford Berger 1996, stakeholders participation in monitoring help to detect more quickly the problems before they develop into major sources of conflict.

4.8.1 Response from the Group Discussion

In this study the researcher opted to divide the group into men and women to solicit maximum results from the community in general, the groups comprised of respondents from the urban environment as well as rural areas and included representatives from highly mobile set ups. The responses summarized below represent the groups opinion of the CDF.

4.8.2 Benefits of CDF Funds to the Community

- The community has benefited from the funds, the major impact being in education, where poor children have managed to access education through bursary funds meant for the poor and needy children in secondary schools and tertiary institutions. It has provided learning institutions with essential facilities like classrooms, laboratories, generators, solar energy, water pumps, wells, water tanks, desks, dormitories and some schools fenced.
- The fund has also supported the Health sector with facilities, like dispensaries in most of the locations, maternity wards, Staff houses, hospital beds, solar energy and has accessed health facilities to the pastoralists. Immunization has been able to reach the village and manyattas and is anticipated to reduce child mortality.
- The fund has had a major impact in the transportation industry, where roads have been built and others renovated, access to towns have been made possible and bad roads made

passable. Communication is easier and roads no longer a problem even in the rainy season.

- In general, Cash flow has increased within the constituency, Business is booming especially for the hardware dealers, casual and skilled employment has been reported to be on the increase, the trickle down effects to the families purchasing power felt. The fund has an impact as a strategy to reduce poverty in the country and minimize the rural-urban migration.

4.8.3 Some of the Projects Being Supported by the CDF in the Locality

Some of the projects being supported by the CDF in the locality are like dispensaries that were built and developed, schools built and some renovated. Communities have also been provided with generators, boreholes drilled, wells capped, dams excavated and bursary provided for the needy in secondary schools, it has transformed the community to be a working people who plan and fend for themselves.

4.8.4 Ways of Identifying Projects in the Areas.

The CDF Act expects the community to identify the locations' needs, prepare a priority list of projects, and present it to the Constituency Development Fund Committee. The fund does not provide specific guidelines for the application process. The Constituency Development Fund Committee (CDFC) discusses and approves proposals and prioritizes the final list of projects. Although there are prescribed procedures in the CDF Act to allocate projects to the communities, other hidden rules come in play to influence funds allocation. The element of clanism, cannot be ignored. The clans usually demand for their share of the kitty and politicians are convinced to accept such schemes that usually influence the elections.

Political campaigners and sponsors are able to determine where the funds shall be allocated, the politicians rely on them to fund their campaigns and the CDF committees fall victim to such powers.

Campaign pledges equally influence project allocation. The commitment made during the campaigns cannot be reversed or questioned by the committee; in fact the committee themselves are appointed by the politician for the politician. The pledges become a commitment to be fulfilled by the CDF committee to prove their loyalty.

4.8.5 Conditions that are attached for the Approval of the Project

- The silent condition is that one must come from the constituency to benefit from the hursary kitty. The politically connected easily qualify and the correct clan equally matters. Business partners to the area Member of Parliament politely influenced approval. Members of parliament have the prerogative to approve or disapprove projects at pleasure. The communities are rewarded depending on their loyalty to the politician

4.8.6 Ways of Prioritizing the Projects

The CDF has no capacity to provide for all the constituency needs as the resources allocated are limited to meet the requests. The community requirements are usually essential but cannot be all met and the project committee has to balance the community requests against the constraints of the resources. The communities have high expectations and it is difficult to gain agreement among people of diverse expectations. The challenge observed was the priorities at times did not reflect the needs of the community; they have been someone else's priority. Situations have

occurred where the community sees a contractor on site erecting toilets without their knowledge. Power brokers and contractors are not ready to compromise their needs for the community and put their benefits before that of the society. However, the CDI provides for community considerations, the critical requirements take high priority and those that can wait assume medium priority to be met when resources permit. The act makes provisions for the participation of the local people to represent the interest of the community and the committees are bound to admit their priorities.

4.8.7 Monitoring and Evaluation of CDI Projects

Monitoring and evaluation of the CDI is done by the project committees and the CDI Manager. The Ministry of Public Works issues a completion certificate to signify satisfactory completion of the project. The evaluation is usually treated with secrecy and only the contractors discuss the findings in confidence with the experts. The information regarding evaluation is never shared with the community. The beneficiaries are kept at bay by the elites, most likely to secure their economic and political advantage.

4.8.8 Involvement of Women in the CDI

Women members in the CDI committees are scarce, there are no women appointed in the executive committee or leadership position. However a few have benefited from contracts, but not as much as the men. Men virtually dominate CDI activities. The clan assumes women have no muscle to fight for their share and would rather have men represent them.

4.8.9 Shortcomings of CDF

- Some of the shortcomings of CDF are like lack of prioritization, poor identification of projects, duplication of projects with estimates costs not based on facts, interference by the Member of Parliament at will, Communities' hostility to non locals. Most communities are illiterate and have no capacity to monitor or assess projects. Project identification is currently a big issue. The politically connected and power brokers seem to carry the day; projects are done to benefit individuals and particularly the campaigners of the area Member of Parliament. Those who oppose the area Member of Parliament are usually neglected, and their projects inadequately funded, while equality in fund distribution remains a great challenge.
- In some areas there are projects that don't meet the immediate needs of the community for example, the CDF committee might decide to approve a dormitory for schools which lacks classes, and the dormitory remains underutilized for a number of years and that amounts to misuse of public resources.
- Mushrooming of new settlements that are introduced to benefit individuals. Contractors and powerful individuals' seemed to influence development of new settlements. The demand for share of the CDF has heightened clanism. Consequently each family wants to establish their domain: have a chief recruited from the family, a school developed, contracts awarded to their kin and earn from their political loyalty

4.8.10 Major Strengths of CDF

- It brings development to the location level, hence making the community to benefit from some of the things they were unable to have or to achieve.
- It also distributes national income equally. This helps bridge the gap of unequal development, by improving social amenities such as schools, health facilities and access to water. Bursaries for university and tertiary students have improved access and retention in the learning institutions. Contracts have been awarded to the locals, thus creating employment and income.
- It has also empowered the local communities by being involved in decision making process and has improved their livelihoods.
- Members of the communities have gained the skills required in development like participating in infrastructure development, well capping, construction works, and road maintenance, dam desilting and casual jobs that were inaccessible before the introduction of the fund.

4.8.11 Improvement that should be done in future in CDF Funded Projects

- The CDF should place on notice boards the funds received and where disbursed, the projects undertaken and the contractors awarded. The project status should be circulated in the website for all and sundry to consume.
- The committee should implement projects which serve the interests of the community not the interest of the people who are the next of kin of politicians or campaigners.
- In order to enhance ownership, location committees should have a say in issuing of contracts in their own area. This should go with streamlining the tendering process and the committee members should be literate to understand the process. Even their selection should be done in

a democratic manner to improve on representation of all interested groups. The government should train the CDF committees on their roles and government procurement procedures to improve on the transparency.

- Proper auditing of CDF accounts be done periodically and shared with the constituents, while those contractors who have misappropriated funds or known for poor workmanship should be blacklisted. There is need to improve on monitoring and evaluation by encouraging community monitoring of projects.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

5.0 Introduction

This chapter concludes the research study and summarizes the findings and makes recommendations. Further to this, it highlights other areas of further research that can be explored related to the subject discussed.

5.1 Summary of Main Findings of the Study

The researcher set out to investigate whether the local communities are involved in the design and implementation of CDF in Wajir district. This was meant to establish the level of community participation and whether they participate in the initial design or implementation. From the results it was evident that the CDF planning is externally conceptualized and projects are drawn by the experts and handed to the community. The findings concord with Mulwa (2004: 110) masked/passive participation, where bureaucrats see participation as the process of drawing in people into the implementation of pre-determined development goals.

The findings concluded that it is not a requirement for the community to contribute free labour or resources as part of their contribution. The CDF funds projects in totality and does not subscribe to development approaches that require the community to contribute to subsidize development budgets. Beneficiaries are not required to cost share or contribute labour or capital to maintain the project

The research established that power brokers form the link between the communities and the CDF patrons'. The brokers pretend to speak for the community but have individual interests that prevail above the community's. The brokers have connections with the CDF and government

officials, politicians and serve their interest and that of their master. The benefit to the community is minimal. Mulwa (2004) terms this as vertical participation, where peoples chosen representatives turn out to be compromised and misrepresent the community

The local leaders appear to disregard the capacity of the local community to decide their needs. People are denied opportunity to make choices and are expected to abide by the leaders, who are assumed to understand their needs and priorities. According to the leaders, communities have no capacity to comprehend development matters and can only execute plans drawn by their leaders. Chiefs therefore, employ punitive measures to coerce communities to accommodate their views.

Participation of women in the CDF is very low compared to that of men, especially the pastoralist and those of low economic standing. Many rural women wait for the men to decide on their behalf. They are underrepresented in the CDF management committee and are not in any leadership position including the executive committee of the CDF. The project does not target the participation of women. Women have remained passive and surrendered to men. Communities accept that women cannot fight for them and have no capacity to undertake projects funded by the CDF. Men seem to benefit more than women.

The study observed that CDF, encourages the supremacy of the elites and the local leaders, the locals have to wait for guidance from elites who under rate the local capacity to comprehend. Leaders remain the greatest challenge to local participation and bar communities to assume their responsibilities. The elites prefer to decide for the community who, according to them, cannot grasp development matters

The communities understand what the CDI is all about and appreciate the government that created the fund. The fund has attracted great interest among the communities and for the first time they feel that they have a say on how the government money can be spent in their constituency. They appreciate the devolved mode of planning, away from centralized planning.

The study acknowledges the benefit of the fund and the major impact being in education. The bursary scheme has given the poor and needy access to education, learning institutions with basic learning and teaching materials, that include classrooms, laboratories, power generators, solar energy, desks, wells and other necessary materials. Many schools that used to operate under tree shades now have classrooms. Health facilities have greatly improved with dispensaries being provided.

The research also observes that despite the major success of the CDI, there are other challenges associated to it. The element of clanism seems to gain prominence. Each clan seems to demand their share of the CDI kitty. Some actually develop settlements of their own and demand contracts specifically for them. The communities appear to balkanize and fence their territory for the kin.

The CDI committees have limited authority over decisions made by the Member of Parliament. Political pledges influence the committee decisions; committees themselves are appointed by the politician for the politician and serve the political interest of the elected member.

The study also observed that the CDI has no capacity to provide for expensive projects. The resources allocated are limited and cannot meet the high community expectations. The challenge with the fund is that despite the constraints, the committees' distribution of resources, at times, does not reflect the needs of the community. They are someone else's priority. Situations have

occurred, where contractors are seen on site erecting toilets, without the knowledge of the community. The benefits of the contractor override that of the community.

There are reported instances, where projects have received support from different funds and the fund managers seem to enjoy that loophole. There are no checks in place to determine double allocation or misappropriation that may occur. It is possible to pay for a project funded differently. Some projects did not address the immediate needs of the community, for instance the CDF may decide to approve a dormitory for a school that lacks classrooms or desks.

Evaluation of the CDF is usually carried out by the project committee as stipulated. However, the evaluation is treated with secrecy and only contractors discuss details with the experts. Information on evaluation is never shared with the community; there is no room to secure their concerns. The elites keep them at bay, most likely to their advantage.

5.2 Recommendations

The government should involve the locals in the implementation of CDF projects as there are no communities that cannot identify and own development priorities. Communities are able to monitor and evaluate projects that they have initiated for their own purpose.

Communities should be informed on the avenues available for redress, clarify mechanisms to file disputes and opportunities for arbitration. It is important that they are educated on their right to demand from the CDF on how the fund was utilized and display of utilization on public notice boards.

Social audit process should be encouraged to evaluate how the funds are utilized. The social auditor should be drawn from the community, particularly volunteers, willing to uplift their social welfare. The audit will increase accountability, ensure projects are not left incomplete and prevent abuse of office by those entrusted with the fund.

A minimum education requirement for the Members of the committee should be set to eliminate appointment of illiterate persons to the committee. This will enhance transparency and quality discussions of the members. There should be a criterion to select members of the committee and the members of parliament should not have the prerogative to appoint their cronies or relatives.

Communities should be empowered and capacities built to enable them influence those in authority and represent people's specific and collective interests and aspirations. Empowering should entail; to encourage the community to take active responsibility over their destiny.

The fund should promote community participation, which will seek to involve the community in the project design and implementation, more importantly; it will seek to link people's felt needs with project goals. This will ensure ownership of the CDF projects and support sustainability, even when the funds are exhausted.

5.3 Conclusion

CDF is a participatory fund that provides opportunities for the communities to be involved in all its stages, the fund is appreciated by all and sundry, and for the first time communities are involved to decide how the government monies are used in the constituencies. Nevertheless, the challenge lies with the implementers, who have adopted unorthodox means to gain individually at the expense of the majority. The committees and members of parliament need to open up to allow communities to fully participate instead of executing predetermined plans drawn from outside. They should not assume that the communities have no capacity and isolate them from participation.

References

- Asian Development Bank (2009): A Review of Community Driven Development and its Application to the Asian Development Bank <http://adb.org/Documents/Policies>
- Brett, E. A. (1996). The participatory principle in development projects: the cost and benefits of cooperation, public administration and development, vol.16, 5-19. London School of Economics.
- Bright, B.(1996) Reflecting on Reflective Practice. Studies in the Education of Adults 28, no.2 (October 1996): 162-184
- Chambers R (1994a) The Origins and Practice of Participatory Rural Appraisal World Development. Volume 22, n. 7, pp. 953-969. Oxford: Elsevier Science Ltd.
- Chitere, P.O. (1994) Community Development: Its Conception and Practice with emphasis on Africa. Nairobi: Institute for Policy Analysis and Research.
- Chitete, P.O & Ileri, O.N (2004) District Focus for Rural Development in Kenya: Its Limitations as a Decentralization and Participatory Planning Strategy and Prospects for the Future. Nairobi Institute for Policy Analysis and Research
- Clever, Frances (2005): The Inequality of Social Capital and the Reproduction of Chronic Poverty in World Development 33(6), 893-906.
- Cooke, Bill and Uma Kothari (2001) The Case for Participation as Tyranny, Zed Books, London.
- Esteva, G. and Prakash, M. (1998) Grassroots Post-Modernism: Remaking the Soil of Cultures, Zed Books, London.
- Fals-Borda, O and Rahman, A M (1991) Action and Knowledge: New York. The Apex Press.
- Government of Kenya (2003),. The Constituencies Development Fund (Act, 2003).
- Holland, J and Blackburn, J (1998) Whose Voice? Participatory Research and Policy Change: U.K.Bath Press.
- Holland, J and Blackburn, J (1998) Whose Voice? Participatory Research and Policy change: UK. Bath Press.
- Karl, M. (2000) Monitoring and Evaluating Stakeholder Participation in Agriculture and Rural Development Projects: A Literature Review <http://www.fao.org/3d/Ppdirect/Ppre0074.htm>
- Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (2009) The Kenya Economic Report: The Democratic Governance Support Programme: <http://www.kippra.org/Constituency.asp>

- Kerlinger, I (1973). *Foundations of Behavioural Research*. New York Reinhardt and Winston Inc
- Killick Tony (Ed). *Papers on the Kenyan Economy: Performance, Problems and Policies*. Nairobi, Heinemann Educational Books. 1979
- Kimenyi S. M., (2005) *Efficiency and Efficacy of Kenya's Constituency Development Fund: Theory and Evidence*, working paper 2005-42, Department of Economics, University of Connecticut.
- Kothari Uma (2001): *Power Knowledge and Social Control in Participatory Development*, Zed Books, London.
- Makokha, J (1985). *The District Focus: Conceptual and Management Problems*. Nairobi East African Research Bureau.
- Makokha, Joseph (1991). *The District Focus: Conceptual and Management Problems*. Nairobi, JM Brain Power.
- Mupesa, B.M & Kibua T.N (2006) *An Assessment of the Management and Utilisation of the Constituency Development Fund in Kenya*. Nairobi: Institute for Policy Analysis and Research.
- Mayo, M and Craig, G. (1995) *Community Participation and Empowerment; The Human Face of Structural Adjustment or Tools for Democratic Transformation?*. In Craig, G. and Mayo, M, (eds) *Community Empowerment; A Reader in Participation and Development*, Zed Books, London, 1-11.
- Mohan, Giles (2001) *Beyond Participation: Strategies for Deeper Empowerment* in Bill Cooke and Uma Kothari (eds): *Participation: The New Tyranny?*, Zed Books, London
- Mosse, D. (1994) *Authority, Gender and Knowledge: Theoretical Reflections on the Practice of Participatory Rural Appraisal*, *Development and Change*, 25, 497-526.
- Musse, David (2001): *Peoples Knowledge, Participation and Patronage: Operations and Representations in Rural Development* in Bill Cooke and Uma Kothari (eds): *Participation: The New Tyranny?*, Zed Books, London.
- Mugenda, J (1999). *Research Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches*. Nairobi: Publishers Acts Press.
- Mulwa, F.W (2004) *Demystifying Participatory Community Development* Nasirobi. Kijabe Printing Press
- Oakley, P. (1991). *Projects with People: The Practice of Participation in Rural Development*. Geneva: International Labour Office.

Oakley, P., Pratt, B., Clayton, A. (1998). *Outcomes and Impact: Outcomes and Impact: Evaluating Change in Social Development*, Intra: Ngo Management and Policy Series No. 6 Oxford: Intra.

Peet, R. and M. Watts (1992) *Liberation Ecology: Development, Sustainability, and Environment in age of Market Triumphalism*, Routledge, London

Peter Delp. (1981). "District Planning in Kenya" in Killick, I. (Ed). *Papers on the Kenyan Economy. Performance, Problems and Policies*. Nairobi, Heinemann Educational Books,

Pretty, Jules N.(1995): *Participatory Learning for Sustainable Agriculture in World Development* 23(8), 1247-1263.

Pretty, Jules N. and John Thompson (1993) *Soil and Water Conservation Branch, Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya: Trip Report, 17 April-5 May 1993* (London: IFED, May 1993)

Robert Chambers (1994) *The Origins and Practice of Participatory Rural Appraisal*, *World Development*, Vol, 22, No 7, pp. 953-969, Institute of Development Studies, Elser Science Ltd, Great Britain.

Rudqvist, A. and Woodford-Berger, P. (1996) *Evaluation and Participation: Some Lessons*. SIDA studies in Evaluation 96/1. Stockholm: SIDA.

Schuurman, F. (1993) *Modernity, Post Modernity and the New Social Movements*, Zed Books, London.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID,1999). *Participation at USAID: Stories, Lessons and Challenges*. USAID, Participation Forum Summaries.

The World Bank (2000a). *Empowerment and Poverty Reduction: a Sourcebook*. (<http://www.worldbank.org/poverty/empowerment/sourcebook/draft.pdf>)

UNESCAP, *Guidelines on Participatory Planning and Management for Flood Mitigation and Preparedness*, Water Resources Series No. 82; 2003

United States Agency for International Development (1999). *Participation at USAID: Stories, Lessons and Challenges*. USAID Participation Forum Summaries, 1999

Van de Walle, Nicolas (2001): *African Economies and the Politics of Permanent Crisis, 1979-1999*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.