

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN ORGANISATIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION IN NANDI COUNTY**

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I declare that this is my original work. It has not been submitted to any university or institution of higher learning for examination or any other purposes to the best of my knowledge.

Eva Chebet Sawe

M10/2448/2018

Signature



Date Date 27 November 2020

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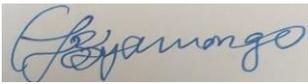
Supervisors

This research project has been submitted for examination with our approval as the university Supervisors.

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Signature

Date



..... Date 27 November 2020 ...

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Signature

Date



..... Date 27 November 2020

DEDICATION

This Research Project is dedicated to my husband Duncan and my two daughters
Ayanda and Zeina.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere thanks to a number of people whose assistance and contributions made this study possible.

I am most grateful to my supervisor Dr.Grace Nyamongo for her encouragement and guidance throughout the study. I am also very much indebted to my lecturers for the knowledge they imparted in me; I am more informed than when I joined the institute.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ERC	Energy Regulatory Commission
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
NACOSTI	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme

ABSTRACT

In many regions within third world countries, women have formed organizations in response to their common problems. Though other groups came into being due to external initiatives like the church and non-governmental organizations, they all aimed at enabling women to achieve/attain advancement and improve on environmental conservation. This is a cross-sectional descriptive study on the role of women organizations in environmental conservation. Specifically, the study set out to establish influence of culture, gender policy, resource mobilisation and socio-economic factors on environmental conservation. Guided by the ecofeminism theory, data was collected through a questionnaire and analysed through descriptive statistics using SPSS. The findings indicate that culture, gender policy, resource mobilisation and socio-economic factors influence environmental conservation. The study concludes that socioeconomic factors influence environmental conservation most. The study recommends environmental advocacy bodies and non-government organizations (NGOs) should promote and enable this conversation. Different religious denomination should be motivated to develop common policies on environmental values benefiting every denomination; even including deeply-preserved traditions and respect for sacred sites of every denomination even the indigenous ones.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

The need for a fair and gender sensitive in terms of giving advantage to women to environmental management is of great significance. The notion of disadvantaging women with regards to environmental conservation reinforces the need for a fair and gender sensitive policy. The female gender has shown significant desire to engage in conservation matters, a role that has often been ignored. Conservation efforts and eliminating reducing destruction of biodiversity lately has attracted attention, as indicated in the increase of conserved areas (Chape et al., 2005).

Despite this development conflict, arising from utilization of land other human economic activities have led to resistance of this conservation efforts. Instilling a tradition of environmental and gender centred approach remains the responsibility of the state, and the need for proper inclusion of every stakeholder, and definitely the involvement of women (Chape et al., 2005).

Environmental gains remain the major goal of any conservation efforts, although they may be visible immediately, leading to neglecting at times during inflation (Korhonen-Kurki, 2013). as a result, awareness on the contribution of conservation efforts socio-economically, and further providing a platform for future programs aimed at benefitting the economy

evaluation of the socio-economic effects of environmental conservation reveal that the plans advantage benefit both the local and international markets (Korhoen-Kurki, 2013) benefits of biodiversity conservation has been published, especially regarding improvements in the delivery of ecosystem services (Korhonen-Kurki, 2013). Therefore, this study sought to determine the

impact of socio-economic factors, gender policies, resource mobilization and culture of environmental organization on environmental organization.

1.1 Background of the Study

In environmental management effort, the parameter towards a fair gender approach is critical since there exists a perception of gender bias regarding environmental conservation within the society(Truner, 2003). However, existing publications point to a new development in increased knowledge on the environmental impact of existing structural policies on both genders. With regard to environmental conservation, the female gender has shown being frontrunners; a responsibility that they traditionally shunned. Globally, the female gender is embracing conservation and community management efforts as well as advocating for better environment management(Truner, 2003).

With time, conservational efforts and managing improved biodiversity have increasingly gained attention and is reflected the increase in the size of protected localities and natural resource conservation efforts (Chape et al., 2005). This developments however don't arise without challenges as; overutilization of land prevailing, low poverty index have posed serious threat to this efforts. Based on this, a number of scholars have advocated for a comprehensive evaluation of the efficiency of environmental conservation efforts, increasing scope from the conservation results to further include their socio-economic effect towards the localities the projects are being implemented (Ferraro & Pressey, 2015).

Women as a critical component in direction and changing of culture, schooling, natural resources, and the component ensuring passage of the moral heritage and environmental awareness, and as

part of marginalized community and environmental so cities, environmental dissemination of culture in a community may be advanced by female gender in societies(Ghanian et al., 2008).

The inspiration of conservation efforts stems from the environmental gains envisioned although they may be realized after a prolonged period, giving rise to negligence during stages of reduced economic growth(Ferraro &Pressey, 2015).. Through comprehensive analysis and strategic planning as well as execution of conservation initiatives, the state and other non-governmental entities may redistribute economic utilities to areas previously marginalized or poorly allocated resources. As a result, knowledge on socio-economic influence of restoration efforts contribute greatly in enhancing national and community affinity to initiatives, giving rise to opportunities to direct conceived ideas on increasing sure gains to local or regional markets.

The issue of gender and the environment initially was mentioned in the 1972 Conference on Human Environment in Stockholm-Sweden (United Nations, 2006); which saw the creation of a gender framework in 2000 aiming at enhancing gender equity involvement across development platforms and initiatives. The framework mandated that all socio-economic doctrines, schedules, strategy, initiatives and financial allocation be gender-sensitive (World Bank, 2002).

Evaluation of the socio-economic influence of conservation efforts may indicate the measures advantage both the natural capital and local and regional markets. Despite publications on the socio-economic gains as a result of biodiversity conservation efforts with regard to delivery of ecosystem services (Korhonen-Kurki, 2013), few publication have captured the immediate financial influence of the initiatives. Evidentially, the socio-economic influence arising from conservation efforts is often disregarded for initiatives in small, marginalized societies.

In Africa, interest has been drawn to issues of ecological concern ranging from clearing and removal of forest cover, obliteration of water sources, pollution and a host of other actions that cause environmental degradation (Boafo, 2013; UNEP, 2011). Factors responsible for the accelerated environmental destruction include excess use of natural resources occasioned by population growth, destroying of traditional shared land application systems, laxity in observing sustainable environmental conservation and conflict of economic activities with ideals of sustainable environmental conservation as observed by the (Republic of Kenya, 2010; Nyaga, 2009; & UNEP, 2011). Consequently, agricultural activities have continued to get depressed while environmental hazards such as floods, landslides, mudslides and droughts, among others, have become common thereby adversely affecting the livelihoods of those relying on the natural resources for survival.

In Kenya, despite environmental challenges being more severe in regions that experience arid and semi-arid conditions, medium and high potential agricultural areas such as Teso district are equally affected. In spite of environmental degradation having existed in Kenya since the pre-colonial and colonial times, its pace and rate seems to have been accelerated by the evolution of socio-economic activities such as commercialization of agriculture, industrialization and expansion of trade in natural resources products adopted by the post-independent regime; that is to say 1963 to date. This is attributed to the post-colonial government being pre-occupied with how to achieve a steady increase in their Gross Domestic Products (GDPs) through maximum exploitation of available resources at the expense of environmental conservation (Orodho, 2008).

Currently the Kenyan rural areas appear to be facing several environmental challenges brought about by land-use practices that seem to disregard the need to conserve soil and renew its fertility. Likewise, high population growth, rising poverty levels and the desire to open up new land for agriculture appear to have led to the destruction of biodiversity and water catchment areas (Republic of Kenya 2010). Again, there appears to be evidence of pollution in major urban centres due to unplanned and indiscriminate dumping of garbage and sewage waste (Republic of Kenya 2010, NEMA,2013).To attain sustainability in environmental management and enhanced livelihoods, the agenda 21 of the UNCED conference reinforced the need for states to embraceintegratingtraditional environmental management practices with the modern socio-economic growth plans(Burgess et al., 2009, UNEP, 2011)

1.2 Problem Statement

In reviews conducted by World Bank Sustainable Development (2012)findings revealwomen as being critical component in attaining economic sustainability, with their potential in saving and investing in family settings already documented. Womengrapple with hunger and poor nutrition to ensure the family never sleeps without food. Women organisations contributions to agriculture enable survival of families within marginalized areas. Still, their contribution in planning at any level is still overlooked even when their daily endeavors is the cornerstone of daily living. It is common knowledge that women organisations are from time identified as inactive players in the human evolution process.

In many parts of the developing countries, like Kenya, women have formed organizations in response to their common problems. Though other groups came into being due to external initiatives like the church and non-governmental organizations, they all aimed at enabling

women to achieve/attain advancement and improve in environmental conservation(Hunter *et al.*, 2004). Apart from viewing environmental concerns distinctly, women have shown ability to procure positiveenvironmental measures compared to their male counterparts. The genderbiasgrows since challenges emerge from dailyactivities (Zelezny *et al.*, 2000, Hunter *et al.*, 2004). With this in mind, theinvestigatorsought to determine the role of women organizations in environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

This study was guided by the following objectives:

- i)To establish the degree to which culture influence environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya.
- ii. To determine how the gender policies by women’s organizations influence environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya.
- iii. Determine the impact of socio-economic activities by women’s organizations on environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya.
- iv. To establish the extent to which women’s organizations mobilize resources to conserve environment in Nandi County, Kenya.

1.3.1 Research Questions

This study was guided by the following research questions:

- i. How does culture influence environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya?

ii. In what ways does gender policies by women's organizations influence environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya?

iii. To what extent does socio-economic activities influence women's organizations in environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya?

iv. How does women's organizations mobilization of resources influence environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya?

1.4 Justification and Significance of the Study

Findings deduced from this analysis may offer policy makers within government of Kenya with insights on the role played by County governments in environmental conservation and this may them in formulating policies meant to encourage women organisations in environmental conservation.

A common revelation dominating majority of study outcomes indicate that the female gender exhibit increased awareness levels and positive reaction to environmental issues compared to the male gender (McCright, 2010; World Bank, 2010). Sex difference has overtime been encountered in dealing with environmental friendly perceptions, environmental concern, awareness levels pertaining to climate change and ability to be proactive in tackling conservation issues (Bord& O'Connor; 1997; Semenza et al., 2011; Zelezny, Chua, & Aldrich, 2000). How can we understand these and related differences? Understanding present reactions to existing environmental concerns, together with gender policies, culture, and socio-economic distinctions within the measures, neglecting the influence of social and mental processes is impossible.

1.5 Scope, Limitations and Delimitations of the study

Scope of the research defines the study boundaries in terms of the context that the study would cover to generate conclusions that are logical (Leedy&Ormord, 2010). This study was conducted in County government of Nandi. Limitations are challenges that the researcher is likely to encounter in the field and how the researcher will address them (Kothari, 2012). The study projects that most of the respondents are likely to be engaged and may not have time to engage in the research.

1.6 Definition of Terms

Culture

In this study Culture is conceptualized as a general word entailing existing social behavior and norms common in communal settings, together with knowledge, faiths, statutes, traditions, skills and lifestyle trends of humanity within these settings.

Gender Policies

Procedures and practices which will accelerate the achievement of sustainable environmental conservation.

Socio-economic activities

In this study, Socio-economic factors are conceptualized as variables including: earning, schooling, job creation, security, attitude, nutritive value and social enhancements may greatly impact environmental conservation.

Recourse Mobilization

Entails every endeavor that aims at procuring advanced and increased utilities for environmental conservation.

Environmental Conservation Refers to the tradition of securing the natural ecosystem and biodiversity by persons, groups or states. The aim is to ensure natural utilities are maintained together with fauna and flora and if possible avoid destruction.

1.7 Organization of the Study

The organization of this study was by division into five chapters. The first chapter introduces background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, justification and significance of the study, scope, limitations and delimitations of the study, and definition of the key terms. Chapter two gives a review of literature review based on study variables, a summary of literature, theoretical framework and the conceptual framework. Chapter three describes the Research Methodology covering research design, target population, sampling design and research instruments. Chapter four details data presentation, interpretation and discussion of findings. Chapter five covers summary of the study, conclusion and proposals. Suggestions for further study are also presented.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

Focus here is on the existing knowledge or information the literature review which underpins the relevance of this analysis. It further details the theoretical framework and empirical literature. A conceptual framework is drawn later in the chapter followed by a summary and research gaps identified during the review.

2.2 Empirical Review

It's a common practice globally for the female gender to be concerned with agricultural chores and local food production. Recently, an emerging trend is developing where women are embracing and increasing participation in farming, although the gender roles in relation to reproductive work haven't changed. Ester Bose up examined agricultural practices of both gender in Africa and revealed that in majority of African communities food production is dominated by the female gender (Schultz et al., 2001).

According to Schultz et al.,(2001), 90% of the women population in smaller economies, where majority of the planet's natural resource potential exists, rely on land owned for livelihood. In third world nations, women control 30% of family settings, while 80% of food production activities in Africa is conducted by the female gender. Asia and Latin America have 60% and 50% of the female gender managing food production respectively. Despite the female gender dominating farming activities, land ownership is dominated by their male counterparts hence influencing the female's input on the land.

2.2.1 Influence of Culture on Environmental Conservation

Sustainable management of natural resources calls for community involvement in their management and conservation (Kellert et al., 2000). This is widely indicated as Community Based Natural Resource Management and it demands for community participation and integration of indigenous values and knowledge in modern ways of natural resource conservation (Kellert et al., 2000). Thus, sustainable Community Based Natural Resource Management recognizes the inherent role of culture in environmental conservation.

The importance of incorporating culture in environmental management is also founded on the principle of sustainability, which intends to enhance the standards of life, avoiding environment degradation or rather protecting the environment while upholding social values; one of which is culture of people (Mensah & Castro, 2004). Mensah and Castro, (2004), continue to elaborate that sustainable development aims at achieving economic development while considering culture as an important aspect of people as well as ensuring that the environment is conserved. According to Spies (2003), there is a close interdependence of biologic and social systems which is basically a relationship between the environment and the culture of people.

In addition, Becker (2002) argues that in order for sustainability to be achieved there is need to acknowledge environmental and cultural diversities of communities. In this regard, sustainable development entails utilization of natural resources at local, regional, national and even international levels with regard to cultural and environmental preservation. Culture defines the perception of nature by a society and determines how a society interacts with environment (Brink et al., 2012; Kanaka'ole, 2009). Culture is historically transmitted from one generation to the other and it provides environmental conservation cultural practices and perspectives which are

vital determinants of how various generations associate, use and manage natural resources (Milfont et al., 2006). This is evidenced in various ways.

Within the United States, cultural shifts remain personal embodying mastery values. Citizens here show tendencies in: severing ties with individuals outside the nuclear setting, establishing immediate gains and reflection fair distribution of power. Schwartz (1999) reinforces these perceptions, in reflecting on mastery/harmony perspective. Milfont et al. (2006) reviewed and advanced that Swartz's culture value dimension of harmony/mastery better reflects environmental concern. Schultz (2002), advanced that American citizens pay attention to local concerns, increasing attainment of immediate gains.

For instance, cultures of most African communities forbid members from destroying and killing of animal and plant species that is of cultural importance to them, which leads to species' conservation and enhanced genetic diversity (Harmon, 2002; Venkataraman, 2000). Some African communities also believe in ancestral spirits usually symbolized in environmental components which are forbidden from being destroyed (Smith & Wishnie, 2000). They have superstitions that killing some animal species (such as owl) or cutting some plant species which are of cultural importance result in a curse on either the individual or community (Silori & Badola, 2000). These superstitions defined and regulated environmental values, behavior and attitudes ensuring conservation (Tilman, 2000).

Religion provides communities with codes of conduct and ethics that guide their relationship and even use of environmental elements that are of religious importance (Shastri, et al., 2002). These elements are believed to be the dwelling places for gods and ancestors and are protected and preserved by the communities. The elders ensure that the environmental ethics are passed from

one generation to the other and those who destroy them are punished (Karume 2010; Shastri, et al., 2002). According to Venkataraman (2000), taboos and customary laws which act as cultural conservation perspectives are also common in African communities which define the Do's and the Don'ts of societies.

They define moral principles and regulations to be upheld even with regard to management and conservation of natural resources (Venkataraman, 2000). They control wasteful use of resources since they act as environmental regulations in the communities. In addition, indigenous knowledge is also useful in environmental conservation (Harmon (2002; Gunderson & Holling, 2002). The relevance of biodiversity may not be reinforced as it's openly demonstrated by its characteristic value, application to humanity, contribution to economies and attainable growth (Hassan et al., 2005; Geser et al., 2009).

The principle of culture is described by Hofstede (1991) as a manner of psychological modeling instilled in individuals at birth, continuing throughout the entire life. Further, Schultz (2002) analyzed cultural values being perceived as principles and objectives viewed as leading ethos. Kahn (1979) indicated that nations have certain traditions impossible to amend over time, although they may be reformed gradually. Culture is commonly applied to communes, although it can also be applied in the context of other associations like an institution, a tribe or a family settings as a group or even individually (McCarty et al., 2001).

Cultural models provide knowledge on consumption bias touching on environmental concerns (Hofstede, 1991). Haniffa et al. (2000) outlined that differences may occur in a cultural setting dependent on existing norms. Further, Ignatow (2006) established that culture at the national level may greatly impact environmental conservation concerns, with Hofstede (1984) and

Tompensaars(1998) advancing that it has the ability to manipulate individual behavior and thinking on environmental issues. According to (Wallace, 2001, p. 34) culture impacts far more than the inquisitiveness of individuals in a community, going further to indicate their tolerance change, creativity and advancements. As a result, individuals with shared ambitions in varied cultures act differently towards attaining their objectives. Indications by Schultz (2002) revealed environmental concern is inspired by varied reasons with different individuals. This research pays attention to Hofstede's "individualism/collectivism" dimension and Schwartz (1999) "mastery/harmony" dimension.

Cultural diversity translates to environmental mannerism in different ways (Thogersen et. al., 2015; Cho et. al., 2013). Hofstede (1984, 2001) in their analysis supported this position within sights on cultural influences. Cultural impacts in India remain collectivistic promising harmonious relations. Here, communities are impacted by societal norms, reflect ability to share utilities, prefer prolonged gains beneficial to a large group (McCarty et al., 2001). The Indian community further demonstrates acceptance of government structures and a preference to developing rapport with the leadership. Lindenberg (2007), equally analyzed hedonic objectives. Schultz (2002) explored his study finding on collectivistic cultures posting that such cultures show preference to participate in pro-environmental practices, observing different participants' perception within cultures.

2.2.2 Influence of Gender Policies on Environmental Conservation

Explorations on natural utilities globally has driven by commercialization ambitions, with existing publication indicating dominance by men in exploiting the natural utilities as compared to the female gender. The over utilization of natural resources is as result of livestock keeping,

deforestation, fishing, quarrying, among others Radda, (1991). Radda, (1991) maintains that the male gender has all along viewed natural resources from commercialization point of view even as the females consider the natural environment as a utility enhancing their basic needs.

Radda (1991) position is reinforced by a case study of female gender in rural India observed to collecting dead tree branches cut by storm for fuel wood to use instead of cutting live trees. The birth of environmental advocacy group 'Chipko movement' was a result of Indian women protesting against logging in forests. It was established men were lured from the community to a false monetary compensation claim even as the logging continued Menon (1991).

The male emigration in Nepal indicated increased physical burden with the common male roles reporting reduced attendance (IFAD, 2001). Male migration therefore has been established to not only impact gender activities, but equally impacts the environment. This is noted whenever food production becomes limited leading to hunger driving the female to over utilize existing natural resources for food safety. Male migration to town settings doesn't promise job certainty hence informal settlements arise, exerting pressure and over utilization of existing scarce resources.

At the family level, female are overburdened by domestic chores compared to the male gender (Agarwal, 1997), the time spent on this duties even differ greatly. An analysis undertaken in Côte d'Ivoire by (Levine, 2001) revealed the females had duties within and outside the homestead, as the males dominated only external roles. The males dominated harvesting and crop preservation, fishing and hunting as the females prepared meals, fetched firewood and water, and housekeeping duties.

Gendered awareness on proper resource utilization practices is influenced by social standing, age and tribal factors. An analysis by (Truner, 2003) in Brazil indicated midwives

being knowledgeable on specific flora that were distinct from those earlier used by healers. Truner(2003) advances that both gender have knowledge on ecological cycles, surroundings and life span of resources species. Subsequently, deciphering awareness by both genders in varied socio-economic situations largely influences the decision on the choice of protecting the ecosystem.

The United Nations has had a number of conferences, among them; the Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), Beijing women conference in 1995 acknowledging women's efforts towards environmental management, women's participation in environmental policy formulation: despite all this efforts, implementation is still stagnated across different levels, World Bank. (2002). Reduced involvement in decision making implies that women's views, demands, insights, and resolutions are frequently disregarded. Lack of incorporating both genders in decision making activities has the ability to generate ineffective guidelines that criminalizing the frequent roles and challenge environmental protection interventions adopted within the society (Truner, 2003).

The male and female duties and obligations impact the natural surrounding from their socio-economic processes, with a further health effect from the resulting changes. Even as the males take part in other chores, the female use more time and more energy compared to them. This development gives rise to gender differentiation; environmental safety being manipulated by gender relations; and them having both conflicting and supplementary roles in environmental conservation. Major distinctions exist between females and male's environmental change as a result of gender bias in accessing environmental utilities. Promoting gender fairness by reversing the existing socio-economic bottlenecks that make females, males and less privileged societies voiceless and powerless, remains a perfect choice in achieving environmental conservation.

2.2.3 Influence of Socio-economic Activities on Environmental Conservation

The determination on the types of activities in a community is largely influenced by the socio-economic standing of the immediate community and the influence on varied interactions toward existing natural resources. Knowledge on the social components impacting usage of natural utilities is a critical dimension in conserving the natural environment (Olawoye, 1996). Equally, knowledge on the local community's utilization of forests plays a greater role in enhancing management on land utilization and reducing conflicts (Meijaard, et al., 2013).

Wuver and Attuquayefio (2006); Agyeman, (2008); & Anku, (2006) are some of the investigators who have indicated that destruction of wetlands is as a resultant of human processes and poor waste disposal. The natural ecosystem in these wetlands is affected biochemically. An analysis on this respect has shown that the Azizanya community that was once wetland but eventually encountered land reclamation with red sand to enable human settlement. Same reclamation efforts have been noted within the society aimed at development purposes (Agyeman, 2008).

Dugan (1990) details the impact of such efforts on natural utilities and the impossible nature of conserving wetlands. Other studies also point to mankind application of chemicals and fertilizers in agricultural practices within farming, where the chemicals are absorbed into wetlands and in turn altering its biochemistry (Williams, 1993). Land acquisition has increasingly become easier leading to improper utilization of the area (Agyeman, 2008). Majority thereby link the cause of this menace to the waterways blockage, as another section links it to the low nature of the land.

Environmental management and socio-economic growth with have consistently formed the crux of empirical studies. Within third world nations, contradictions and conflict among ecological management and socio-economic activities continue to exist. The conflict between ecological

conservation and socio-economic enhancement forms the key principle in the biased nature and lack of growth there. Whenever economic growth is stagnated as a result of the demands of environmental management, it has the ability to cause inflation and influence the locals' inspiration towards conserving the environment; bias in economic growth without regard to natural ecosystems may impact and degrade environmental utilities. Managing achieving a balance and positive feedback between environmental conservation and economic growth remains an unresolved concern in China.

Koenig et al.,(2011),equally demonstrated that the socio-economic characteristics of people occupying land close to forests influenced logging activities in Central Arnhem Land, Australia. Bogale (2011), however established that age influenced participants decision in paying for forest use rights in Ethiopia. Adults occupying land nearby forests showed great willingness in paying for forest use rights compared to the youthful group. Family earning and closeness to forests however indicated a negative nexus with participants' willingness in paying for forest use rights. Additionally, Rodrigues et al., (2011) reinforced that community utilization and accessibility to forest lands remained the key components influencing perceptions on forests.

Within most third world nations, the state owns majority of the forests and through adoption of customary guidelines; private developers, local leadership and government initiatives are frequently licensed to operate in these government forest (Cleaver & Schrieber, 1990). The nature of land tenure here appears similar to the social stratification structure in a community (Olawoye, 1993).

Within local communities in Zambia, Emerton (1999) observed a greater reliability on forest conservation initiatives as well as guidelines enhancing or limiting forests usage; which is key to

the low income families to gain from nearby forestland, as the wealthier families are responsible for a larger percentage of logged forest products. Eventually, low income families bear the most burden from forest misuse and overutilization. Lundgren and Lundgren (1983) in a research established that socio-economic limitations, among them: local development initiatives, population growth and increase in size of cultivated land during farming led to forest degradation and interrupted forest conservation in Tanzania.

Various agricultural extension services have shown major contribution in reforming the human behaviors, for instance, Madumere (2000) believes proper adoption of educational training services is essential in increasing knowledge within the community on environmental concerns and they play a greater role towards attaining proper utilization and management of natural resources.

2.2.4 Influence of Resources Mobilization on Environmental Conservation

From studies, rural water supplies within sub-Saharan Africa have indicated reduced sustainability with the solution lying only with the adoption of a comprehensive approach in strategizing and execution Prokopy, (2005). A factor that could enhance consistent water supply is the use resource mobilization of the beneficiaries. This assertion is supported by in Mulwa (2010) who avers that a determinant factor for continuous rural water supply remains the community willingness to maintain the water project. The willingness is indicated in the form of individuals or groups offering valuable utilities in exchange for services. Mulwa further points out that a pre-execution component for rural water supply systems is demand responsive approach and water initiatives tend to be demand responsive to an extent beneficiaries procure decisions and marshal utilities crucial in supporting their decisions.

Engaging the local community in the strategizing, execution, management, safety and maintenance of water supply system enhances sustainability. This observation is in line with that of (Davis & Liyer, 2002) who asserted that sustainability has a positive association with local programmes supporting community involvement. Public involvement within resource mobilization is related closely to concerns on project ownership and sustainability (Isham & Kahkonen, 2009).

Community initiatives demand utilities critical in meeting the recurring costs of managing a system. Resource mobilization could take many forms depending on the different shades and capacity in different project stakeholders, this assertion is in line with the arguments of White, (2011) who maintains that relying on personal situations; it must not always be monetary, but could be other forms. Publications within the water supply sector have indicated Community members' aid vary from monetary, human labor, material, tools to involvement during decision-making (Davis & Liyer, 2002).

In the same vein Ostrom (2000) equally realized that in order to dismantle dependency patterns and passivity, it is essential for local community to offer human labor, skill, monetary help and equipments. Water is a shared resource and as such individual should cooperate in its exploitation, this view is also shared by Reed-Erichem, (2003) who reinforced that water being a universally shared resource and their services incurring development costs it is important for community leadership and members to collaboratively manage the resources. That notwithstanding they ought to participate in advocacy bodies and donors community to inspire present incentives for shared action or co-production the services.

Continued involvement of members of community projects in the aspects of maintenance and management of the water system and is an important indicator of project resource mobilization. This view is also held by Harvey Reed and Skinner, (2002) who argues that they demand collecting taxes and costing expenses to pay daily activities from local community. Need by household to water connectivity can be used to indicate willingness in embracing the initiative, a position reinforced by Reed-Erichem (2003) when they noted that the need for water connectivity influences how willing individuals are to pay for the services. In the same note Evans and Colin (2005) noted willingness level of locals to offer key utilities to keep operation ongoing including: time, monetary aid and human skill impact sustainability levels of rural water system.

The degree of the community to contribute project resources has bearing on its performance. This observation is supported by a study by (Haysom (2006) who examined the productivity of rural water supplies within 38 villages in Tanzania on local financing and cost recovery. It revealed a direct nexus between community assistance and its sustainability. The analysis revealed over 85% of projects where the neighborhood accrued savings in single water account showed regular operation as well as infrastructural repairs. Further, communities with failed systems were indicated by lack of a singular account. As a result, avoiding local contribution promised future system failures, maintaining the relevance of the critical role of local contributions in the sustenance of local initiatives.

Community project control and ownership may motivate the project members to take project responsibilities that may enhance sustainability. However, a study conducted by Harvey and Reed (2007) on studies of local water initiatives in some African nation (Ghana, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia) established that despite the common position that community principle motivated

locals in owning and taking the onus for current operation and maintenance (O&M) which promises sustainability; the analysis established that local community involvement and management does not promise or secure willingness in overseeing or financing water supply long-term since they collapsed immediately after installation.

A factual review evaluating local resource mobilization and sustainability of community water conducted by Okungu (2008) in Kisii District in Kenya, with the review observing the impact of locally inspired initiatives, involvement evaluation and resource mobilization on sustainability of donor funded projects. Findings revealed that local community involvement in these initiatives being high during execution but gradually faded with time. The review however failed to identify the impact of lack of locals' contribution towards project sustainability.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

This study used Eco-feminism theory. This theory was first coined by Francoise Eauborne in 1974, subsequently there has been ever increasing environmentalist interested in the between nature and women. Eco-feminism theory has sparked different version pertaining its meaning among ecofeminism scholars.

The fundamental pillar ecofeminism is that the female preference matches the nature domination and this mutual principle has contributed to environmental degradation by the male dominated society. A group of researchers in covering feminism posit that a traditional, symbolic, and imagined relationship exists among the domination of nature and women. The concept relies on four principles (Warren 1990): existence of major links between the oppression of nature and women; knowledge on these relations is key in to deciphering the two veins of oppression;

feminist theory must include an ecological perspective and environmental ought to include a female opinion.

The theory advances women and nature is both dominated and therefore stress the need for a balanced approach. Ecofeminists maintain every living organisms are necessary to the planet's wellbeing with humanity not being distinct or showing superiority. In case this viewpoint is adopted in ERC, the study goal could have taken another direction. Focus would have been on the contribution of consumers towards environmental degradation and the manner of changing the basic value structures in accordance with the principle of interdependence. This different vision is delineated in the sections that follow.

Ecofeminists argue that maturing and caring female traits developed by women through historical and biological connective explains women viability in managing environmental matters. Val Plumwood argued that replacement of feminism theory clearly explains the feminist environment perspective in relation of feminist theory. In Warren's views ecofeminism is defined in terms of oppressive theory; this is understood by ethical and ecological foundation. The answer can therefore be derived by considering ecofeminism perspective in relation to ethics of the environment. Ecofeminism was primarily associated with the nature and women in the view of moral significance. Ecofeminism reinforces the female gender close affinity to the natural environment compared to their male counterparts; making them more nurturing and caring towards the natural environment. It carries different views but pays attention to patriarchal oppression and the social structure concerning women and the natural environment (Demetriades & Esplen, 2009).

2.4 Conceptual Framework

A conceptual framework is an explanation of the connection between criterion and predictor variables. Predictor variable causes variations that influence the criterion variable (Kothari, 2004). Mugenda A. and Mugenda, O. (2003) advances that diagrams and graphs are used to represent the conceptual framework, to show the link among study variables. This presentation assists the research to quickly and easily see the relationship. Figure 1.1 is a diagrammatic presentation detailing the connection among criterion and predictor variables.

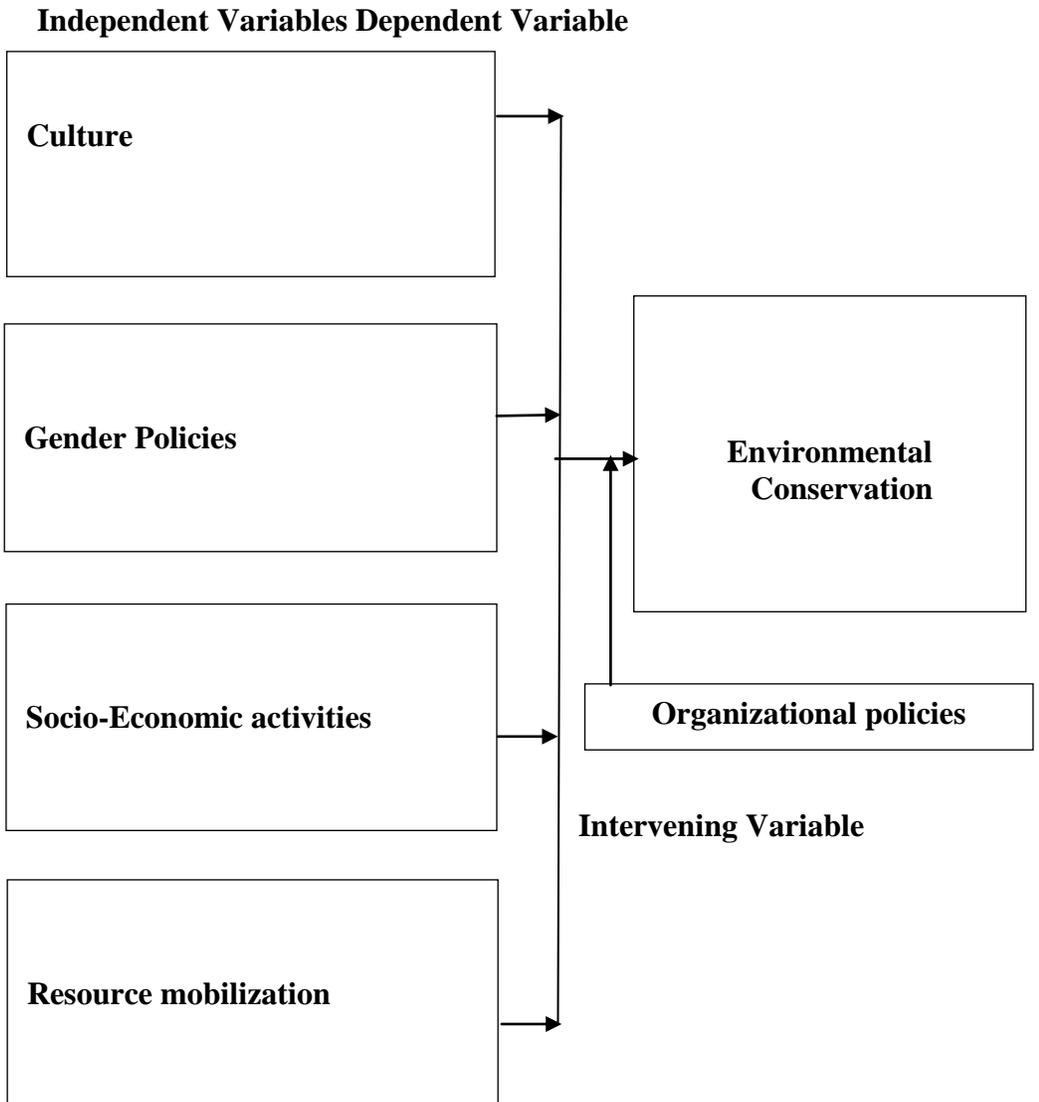


Figure 2. 1: Conceptual Framework.

Source: Researcher (2020).

Figure 2.1 presents a pictorial representation of the independent and dependent variables. From the diagram, dependent variable is environmentalconservation; Independent variables include, culture, gender policies, social-economic activities and resource mobilization while intervening variable include organizational policies.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Introduction

This chapter offers a description of the study approach that guided how the study was conducted; detailing the research design, data collection procedures, data analysis processes. Study population, sample and sampling procedures and ethical considerations are also presented.

3.2 Research Design

The design of a research deals with the plan integrating the conceptual problem and the empirical research (VanWyk, 2012). The research applied descriptive research design, with the decision being as a result of the purpose of the analysis being to explore the role played by women's organizations in environmental conservation. Best and Kahn (1990) observes that descriptive survey focuses on traditions that prevail, beliefs, viewpoints, attitudes instilled, ongoing processes, resultant effects, or emerging trends. This method can give statistical information about an event as well as give an idea about how people experience it.

3.3 Research Site/Location

This study was carried out in Nandi County. Nandi County is in the North Rift of Kenya, occupying an area of 2,884.4 square Kilometers. Its capital, Kapsabet, is the largest town in the county while other towns include Mosoriot, Kaiboi, Kibiyet and Nandi Hills (Appendix II). Nandi County constitutes 5 constituencies (Aldai, Nandi Hills, Chesumei, Emgwen and Mosop). Economic Activities; Agriculture is the main economic activity in the area with many households earning a living from this sector.

3. 4 Target Population

The study targeted population comprised offivewomen organizations in Nandi County(Ministry of Gender County Government of Nandi,2020). Cooper and Schindler (2006), target population is the group a researcher wishes to draw inferences from. Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), definition of population is being a whole group of objects, events or individuals exhibiting homogeneous characteristics that can be observed.

Table 3. 1 Target Population

Women Group	Members
Tuiyoluk women Group	15
Cheptarit Star Women Group	21
Joyful Women Organization	10
LaimawetGaa Women Group	9
Tankina Dairy Plant Group	18
Total	73

3. 5 Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

Kothari (2004) argues that the process of sampling permits selection of smaller numerical values of events,objects or individuals, for analysis purposes so that to establish something that respresnts the selected study population. Purposive sampling was employed in selecting seven respondents being the officials inevery each women organization this gave a sample size of 42 respondents. The respondents included chairpersons, vice chairpersons, secretaries, treasures and two opinion leaders from every group.

3.6 Data Collection Methods

Upon approval from the university faculty, a letter of authority to conduct research sought from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovations (NACOSTI). The gender Officer from County government of Nandi was contacted before data collection to grant permission to proceed to the respective women organizations. A letter was sent to the sampled women organizations to make prior arrangement and bookings for the data collection exercise. To cover the expansive study area, and for appropriate timing owing to the busy schedules (Techo, 2016) that is characterised of organisations, the researcher trained research assistants to help during collection of data. The investigator created rapport with the sampled participants to ensure that the purpose of the study is clearly understood. The questionnaires were administered on drop and pick later basis.

3.7 Data Analysis and Presentation

Standardized measures were used as control measures to aid checking consistency and completeness of the process used in data entry. Coding of the questionnaires through unique identification was done before data entry. Inconsistencies were verified using numbers. The data was also verified to ascertain internal inconsistency and completeness. The data analysis was done by the help of SPSS version 23 (Statistical package for social scientist). Mean and standard deviation was used to determine central tendency and dispersion in that order. After data analysis, descriptive analysis followed and data presentation was by using frequency tables and charts.

3.8 Ethical Consideration

Investigators consider ethical issues seriously when involving human input in their work (Bruce & Howard, 2014). Respondents' concerns remained of great interest over scientific or societal issues. Respondents were offered quality treatment and they were requested to participate in the research voluntarily and with adequate information (Monique, Hutter & Bailey, 2011). Saunders et al., (2007) maintain research ethics is relevant in relating to questions on the study topic, research design, research access, collection of data and data analysis. In this analysis, the research permit was granted from NACOSTI and letter of introduction from AWSU-University of Nairobi.

Within studies, ethics involves the norms directing behavior, distinguishing acceptable and unacceptable conduct during the study (Kothari 2004). As a result, during data analysis the participants were generalized as respondents, or through gender to maintain privacy for ethical considerations. Participants' names and identity were withheld.

The researcher conformed to the rules with voluntary consent advocating for willingness from respondents before engaging questioning. The consent was derived from information about the research, namely: purpose of the research, identification of the researcher and possible gains in case any. The investigator communicated this to the participants before commencing the research. In countering plagiarism, publications obtained scholarly works are referenced.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA INTERPRETATION ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

4.1 Introduction

The overall objective of this work was intended to examine the role of women organizations in environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya. Certainly, the research intended to identify the degree to which culture influence environmental conservation; to determine how the gender policies by women's organizations influence environmental conservation; to determine the influence of socio-economic activities by women's organizations on environmental conservation; to establish the extent to which women's organizations mobilize resources to conserve environment in Nandi County, Kenya.

The chapter presents response rate, demographic data of participants, and analysis of data, discussion and presentation of the findings. Data collection was conducted by administering questionnaires to sampled participants in the women organizations. Collected data was analysed descriptively and presented in form of percentages and frequency tables and figures.

4.2 Influence of Culture on Environmental Conservation

The participants were asked to indicate personal levels of agreement with the statements regarding the impact of culture on environmental conservation. The results are as shown in table

4.1

Table 4. 1:Influence of Culture on Environmental Conservation

	SA		A		UD		D		SD	
Statements	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Communal natural resource management recognizes the inherent role of culture in environmental conservation.	13	42	4	13	2	6	12	39	-	-
There is a close interdependence of biological and social systems which is basically a relationship between the environment and the culture of people	21	68	3	8	-	-	22	-	-	-
Culture defines the perception of nature by a society and determines how a society interacts with environment	25	84	3	8	3	8	-	-	-	-
Religion provides communities with codes of conduct and ethics that guide their relationship and even use of environment.	18	58	1	3	-	-	12	39	-	-

Source:Research Data (2020)

The analysis in table 4.1 shows that the majority 28(92%) agreed that culture defines perception of nature by a society and determines how a society interacts with environment. Further more respondents agreed that there is a close interdependence of biological and social systems which is basically a relationship between the environment and the culture of people 24(76%) and religion provides communities with codes of conduct and ethics that guide their relationship and even use of environment 28(92%).The findings imply that culture defines the perception of

nature and interaction with environment. The lowest This was closely followed by communal natural resource management recognizes the inherent role of culture in environmental conservation 17(55%). Suggesting that, communal natural resource management has not taken central role in championing environmental conservation in Nandi County.

Moreover, in the open ended questions respondents were requested to list some of cultural aspects that promote environmental conservation. In response majority of the respondents stated that cultural beliefs, existing taboos and efforts linked with traditional natural resource management promote environmental conservation; rates cultural beliefs, 22 (71%) existing taboos 9(28%) etc.

The respondents were further requested to state ways in which culture affect environmental conservation. Majority 24(77%) indicated that, a larger percentage of the human population want increased resources which in return produce unsustainable waste that leads to environmental pollution. Further, agricultural practices influence the natural ecosystems, with comprehensive agricultural and industrial processes greatly increasing the human impact towards the environment.

Cultural models provide knowledge on consumption bias touching on environmental concerns (Hofstede, 1991). Haniffa et al. (2000) outlined that differences may occurring a cultural setting dependent on existing norms. Further, Ignatow (2006) established that culture at the national level may greatly impact environmental conservation concerns, with Hofstede (1984) and Tompenaars(1998) advancing that it has the ability to manipulate individual behavior and thinking on environmental issues. According to (Wallace, 2001, p. 34) culture impacts far more than the inquisitiveness of individuals in a community, going further to indicate their tolerance

change, creativity and advancements. As a result, individuals with shared ambitions in varied cultures act differently towards attaining their objectives. Indications by Schultz (2002) revealed environmental concern is inspired by varied reasons with different individuals.

The respondents were also requested to suggest ways in which hunting culture affect environmental conservation. In response the majority 17(55%) indicated that varied existing cultures report different impact on the ecosystem, where cultures promoting wildlife hunting and agricultural activities on a reduced scope, indicate reduced environmental damage. Town and industrial communities show significant impact on the environment, as they utilize greater resources in their production processes.

The study inquired whether incorporation of culture in environmental management improves sustainability of environmental conservation. Majority of the respondents 22 (73%) indicated that culture secures environmental control differentially: by the intrinsic links connecting cultural richness with biodiversity, by its impact on consumption patterns and finally by its role in productive environmental management practices arise from community awareness. Minority 9 (27%), suggested that there has been culture erosion over the years as compared to the previous year's culture has not played a significant role in environmental conservation.

With regards to sustainable environmental management, culture is fundamental since it forms individual's bond and perception on existing manmade and natural resources. This management practice is an essential component of the community and prevailing cultures is an integral part of the society and culture since it impacts many roles in processes in the manmade environment.

This finding agrees with sustainable management of natural resources calls for community involvement in their management and conservation (Kellert et al., 2000). This is widely known

as Community Based Natural Resource Management and it demands for community participation and integration of indigenous values and knowledge in modern ways of natural resource conservation (Kellert et al., 2000). Thus, sustainable Community Based Natural Resource Management recognizes the inherent role of culture in environmental conservation as demonstrated in this study.

The importance of incorporating culture in environmental management is also founded on the idea of sustainability, which focuses on enhancing human life standards without polluting the environment or rather protecting the environment while upholding social values; one of which is culture of people (Mensah & Castro, 2004). Mensah and Castro, (2004) points out that sustainable development aims at achieving economic development while considering culture as an important aspect of people as well as ensuring that the environment is conserved. It was therefore important to establish the influence of gender policy on environmental conservation.

4.3 Influence of Gender Policy on Environmental Conservation

The participants were asked to indicate individual levels of agreement with the statements regarding impact of gender policy on environmental conservation. The results are as presented in table 4.2.

Table 4. 2:Influence of Gender Policy on Environmental Conservation

	SA		A		UD		D		SD	
Statements	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
There is sufficient participation by women in decision making concerning environmental conservation.	12	39	4	13	-	-	15	48	-	-
The county government of Nandi has put sufficient gender policies to support environmental conservation.	18	58	5	16	-	-	-	-	8	36
Environmental security is mediated by gender relations	20	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	35
Promoting gender fairness, by reversing existing socio-economic obstacles in environmental conservation.	23	74	-	-	-	-	8	36	-	-
There is sufficient interventions for women to voice environmental conservation concerns	15	46	4	18	4	18	4	18	5	16

Source:Reseach Data (2020)

Participants were asked to indicate their responses on a likert scale of 1-5 where: 5= Strongly Agree; 4= Agree; 3= Undecided; 2= Disagree; 1=Strongly Disagree. Findings in table 4.2 below reveal all respondents 31(100%) agreed that environmental security is mediated by gender relations. This was closely followed by who agreed that promoting gender fairness, by reversing existing socio-economic obstacles in environmental conservation 23(74%). Further more

respondents strongly agreed that the county government of Nandi has put sufficient gender policies to support environmental conservation 18(58%), and there is sufficient participation by women in decision making concerning environmental conservation 19(64%). There is sufficient interventions for women to voice environmental conservation concerns 16(52%). Moreover, 18(58%), agreed that environmental security is mediated by gender relations, this means that gender policy is a significant determinant of environmental conservation. In the same vein the respondents agreed that there is sufficient interventions for women to voice environmental conservation concerns 20(64%), suggesting that there are limited interventions for women to voice environmental conservation concerns. This implies that there is need to promote interventions for women to voice environmental conservation concerns, as well as researching on factors that inhibit such voices.

The open ended questions required the respondents to list some of gender policies they are aware of that promote environmental conservation. Majority (64%) of the respondents indicated that promotion of shared power and control over resources and gender equality for environmental conservation. Some (36%) indicated gender equality and women's empowerment. (Your discussion must have a total of 100%). The respondents were also requested to suggest ways that can improve environmental security in Nandi County. Majority (64%) suggested, sustainable drainage systems. Some (16%) suggested becoming compliant with legislations, (10%) suggested the need for restriction of the use of certain hazardous materials while (10%) suggested the implementation of the policy of minimizing packaging.

The study inquired how gender policies can be improved to enhance environmental conservation. Majority(56%) of the respondents suggested that gender obviously plays a huge role in

environmental conservation hence should be included in decision-making in environmental organizations. The study also inquired whether roles and responsibilities of women affect the environmental conservation. Majority (62%) of the respondents suggested that routine and demanding domestic chores influence women in environmental conservation .The others (38%) indicated that domestic chores depends on the family size as well as the head of the family that in turn contributes to women availability in participation in environmental management programs.

The foregoing findings agrees with Truner(2003) who pointed out thatthe space of both gender impact the environment through from their community activities and subsequent results impact individual health. Traditionally, the male gender has conducted varied roles, despite this development; the female gender outshines them in terms of energy and time quality going in these activities. This gives rise to gender differentiation; environmental stability thereby is manipulated by gender dynamics and them showing conflicting and complementary plans towards environmentalconservation. Existence of major distinction among women’s and men’s environmental change due to gender bias in accessing environmental utilities. Promoting gender fairness, by reversing existing socio-economic obstacles in environmental conservation making both gender and marginalized sects ineffective, promises to a productive manner in securing environmental conservation gains. This led to the examination of the influence of socio-economic factors on environmental conservation.

4.3 Influence of Socio-economic factors on Environmental Conservation

The participants indicated their individual levels of agreement with the statements regarding the impact of socio-economic factors on environmental conservation. The results are indicated table 4.3.

Table 4. 3:Influence of Socio-economic Factors on Environmental Conservation

	SA		A		UD	D		SD	
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Statements	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
My household size has contributed to effective environmental conservation.	23	76	-	-	5	15	3	9	-	-
In order to participate in environmental conservation, my income level is a determinant	14	45	2	6	-	-	15	48	-	-
My housework activities affect my effectiveness in environmental conservation activities	12	39	4	13	-	-	15	48	-	-
The family members influence my decision making to run the environmental conservation projects.	19	61	4	13	-	-	8	26	-	-
Age is a major determinant in environmental conservation activities	12	39	4	13	-	-	15	48	-	-
Gender department officers have influenced me to participate in environmental activities.	14	45	2	6	-	-	15	48	-	-
My level of education affect my participation in environmental conservation activities	17	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	45
Our families do not support us in environmental conservation activities.	14	45	2	6	-	-	15	48	-	-

Source: Reseach Data (2020)

Participants indicated their answers on a likert scale of 1-5 where: 5= Strongly Agree; 4= Agree; 3= Undecided; 2= Disagree; 1=Strongly Disagree. The analysis in table 4.3below shows that the majority of the respondents agreed 23(76%) that their household size has contributed to effective environmental conservation. This was closely followed by the family members influences my

decision making to run the environmental conservation projects 23(76%), same as age is a major determinant in environmental conservation activities 23 (76%), and level of education affect my participation in environmental conservation activities 17(55%). In order to participate in environmental conservation, my income level is a determinant 16(45%). The response trend indicates that the size of the household size influence environmental conservation activities.

The determination on the types of activities in a community is largely influenced by the socio-economic standing of the immediate community and the influence on varied interactions toward existing natural resources. Knowledge on the social components impacting usage of natural utilities is a critical dimension in conserving the natural environment (Olawoye, 1996). Equally, knowledge on the local community's utilization of forests plays a greater role in enhancing management on land utilization and reducing conflicts (Meijaard, et al., 2013).

The respondents were required to state how education level influence environmental conservation activities. In response they indicated that schooling enables students irrespective of age develop capabilities as well as good ethical standards and values. Furthermore, as humanity becomes knowledgeable on the connection between hygiene and wellbeing, greater gains are seen in sanitation. With nations growing economically, their ability to develop technologically advanced clean water and treatment facilities and processes increases.

The respondents were required to state how their family size influenced environmental conservation activities. They responded as follows: Out of 11 (34%) respondents said that family settings over utilize the environment, 15 (48%) indicated that wastes and recycling processes, 5(16%) said that modes of transport caused pollution While % said choice of energy

use and domestic water applications. Specifically, respondents said that local use of energy in the rural homes (firewood, charcoal, kerosene) and mode of transport were seen to directly impact the environment posing challenges in combating climate change.

These findings agree with Koenig et al., (2011) who explained the socio-economic characteristics of the immediate community within forests and this influenced the processes of timber harvesting in Central Arnhem Land, Australia. However, Bogale (2011) argues that age impacted participant's choice in paying for forest use rights in Ethiopia. Bogale also points out that adults occupying areas near the forests greatly showed willingness in paying for the forest products use rights compared to youth. Family income and accessibility to forests indicated a negative connection with the participants' willingness in paying for forest products. Rodrigues et al., (2011) reinforced human usage and accessibility to forest areas remained the critical factors impacting people's perceptions on forests. It was therefore important to examine the influence of resource mobilization on environmental conservation.

4.4 Influence of Resource Mobilization on Environmental Conservation

The participants indicated individual level of agreement with the statements regarding the impact of resource mobilization on environmental conservation. The results are presented in table 4.4.

Table 4. 4le 4. 5: Influence of Resource Mobilization on Environmental Conservation

	SA		A		UD		D		SD	
Statements	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
The women organizations have enough resources to facilitate environmental projects.	12	39	4	13	-	-	15	48	-	-
Women organizations has the desired financial strength to complete projects	8	36	5	16	-	-	-	-	18	58
Gender ministry motivates its women to enhance performance environmental conservation project completion	15	46	4	18	4	18	4	18	5	16
Women organizations have several sources of funds for environmental conservation	17	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	45
The allocated resources are used optimally to achieve effective project completion	19	61	4	13	-	-	8	26	-	-
The human resource personnel at the organization are qualified to enhance resource mobilization	15	46	4	18	4	18	4	18	5	16

Source:Reseach Data (2020)

The participants rated their answers on a likert scale of 1-5 where: 5= Strongly Agree; 4= Agree; 3= Undecided; 2= Disagree; 1=Strongly Disagree. The analysis in table 4.4below shows that the majority 19(61%) agreed that the allocated resources are used optimally to achieve effective

project completion. This was closely followed by women organizations have several sources of funds for environmental conservation 17(55%). Gender ministry motivates its women to enhance performance environmental conservation project completion 15(46%), same as the human resource personnel at the organization are qualified to enhance resource mobilization. Women organizations has the desired financial strength to complete projects 17(55%). The women organizations have enough resources to facilitate environmental projects 13(52). The analysis indicates that women organizations have several sources of funds for environmental conservation, however the ministry of gender has not adequately motivated women towards environmental conservation.

The degree of the community to contribute project resources has bearing on its performance. This observation is supported by a study by (Haysom (2006) who examined the productivity of rural water supplies within 38 villages in Tanzania on local financing and cost recovery. It revealed a direct nexus between community assistance and its sustainability. The analysis revealed over 85% of projects where the neighborhood accrued savings in single water account showed regular operation as well as infrastructural repairs. Further, communities with failed systems were indicated by lack of a singular account. As a result, avoiding local contribution promised future system failures, maintaining the relevance of the critical role of local contributions in the sustenance of local initiatives.

The respondents were requested to list some sources of funds for environmental conservation in Nandi County. In response some (54%) respondents indicated that sources of environmental

conservation funds included donors, others (46%) said that funding came from National government and County government of Nandi.

These findings agree with Community project control and ownership may motivate the project members to take project responsibilities that may enhance sustainability. However, a study conducted by Harvey and Reed (2007) on studies of local water initiatives in some African countries (Ghana, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia) found that despite the common notion that community principle inspired initiative beneficiaries to manage current project responsibilities that secure sustainability, the analysis established that local administration does not promise willingness to promote water supply long-term since installations were poorly managed.

4.5 Chapter Summary and Conclusion

This chapter presented response rate, demographic data of the respondents, and analysis of data, discussion and presentation of the findings. Chapter five discusses the study results, deductions and recommended proposals based on the study findings.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

Chapter five discusses the study results, deductions and recommended proposals based on the study findings. The recommendations and conclusions are guided by the study goals which included; establishing the degree to which culture influence environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya; to determine how the gender policies by women's organizations influence environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya; to determine the influence of socio-economic activities by women's organizations on environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya; to establish the extent to which women's organizations mobilize resources to conserve environment in Nandi County, Kenya..

5.2 Summary of Findings

This section presents summary of study findings based on the study objectives that included culture, socio-economic factors, resource mobilization and gender policy.

5.2.1 Influence of Culture on Environmental Conservation

The first objective of the research aimed at investigating the influence of culture on environmental conservation. This research established that cultural practices influence environmental conservation activities. However, religious leaders have not taken central role in championing environmental conservation in Nandi County. Majority of the respondents stated

that faiths, taboos and traditions on natural resource management promote environmental conservation.

The respondents indicated that the larger population demands increased utilities and in turn releasing more waste, thereby causing environmental pollution. Agricultural practices also interfere with the natural ecosystems, with agricultural intensive farming and industrial processes additionally increasing the human degradation of the natural environment.

5.2.2 Influence of Gender Policy on Environmental Conservation

The second objective of the research aimed at investigating the degree gender policy has influenced environmental conservation in Nandi County. Gender policy has played a significant role in environmental conservation. Majority of the respondents indicated that promotion of shared power and control over resources and gender equality for environmental conservation. Some indicated gender equality and women's empowerment are some of the policies that have contributed to environmental conservation.

5.2.3 Influence of Socio-Economic Factors on Environmental Conservation

The third objective of this analysis aimed at determining the impact of socio-economic activities by women's organizations on environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya. The study findings reveal that socio-economic factors influence environmental conservation in particular, household size ($M=3.83$, $SD=1.33$). Education level also influences environmental conservation effort since the society gains knowledge on the relationship between their hygiene and wellbeing upon seeing significant gains in sanitation.

5.2.4 Influence of Resource Mobilization Factors on Environmental Conservation

The fourth objective of this analysis aimed at determining whether resource mobilisation has influenced environmental conservation in Nandi County. Majority of the respondents indicated resource mobilization influence environmental conservation. The women organizations have enough resources to facilitate environmental projects ($M=2.43, SD= 0.69$). However the ministry of gender has not adequately motivated women towards environmental conservation. The respondents mainly indicated that sources of environmental conservation funds include donors, national government and County government of Nandi.

5.3 Conclusions

5.3.1 Influence of Culture on Environmental Conservation

The first objective of this research aimed at investigating the influence of culture on environmental conservation. This research concludes that, culture enhances and complements socio-economic activities and environmental management. This is illustrated by economic sustainability which entails assessment of managing and operating expenses of infrastructure in certain cultures at the same time attaining environmental sustainability goals. Adapting cultural sustainability has the effect of reducing utilization of natural capital through environmental conservation; enhancing physical social infrastructures like public amenities; and stabilizing financial capital by proper utilization of renewable resources.

The human notion towards the natural environment is greatly derived from their distinct traditions and cultural beliefs. From time, recent environmental management has adopted a scientific approach or conservation principle, which has at times birthed conflict between culture and environmental conservation. Recently though, there has been an increasing awareness that

effective environmental management is better attained by having proper knowledge and positive relations between communities and the environment..

5.3.2 Influence of Gender Policy on Environmental Conservation

The second objective of the research aimed at investigating the degree gender policy has influenced environmental conservation in Nandi County. Promoting gender fairness, by reversing the various socio-economic obstacles making humanity and marginalized sects voiceless and powerless, remains a better manner of conserving the environment.

5.3.3 Influence of Socio-Economic Factors on Environmental Conservation

The third objective of the research aimed at determining the influence of socio-economic activities by women's organizations on environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya. The study concludes that the conflict between environmental management and growth socio-economically remains the main cause for the unregulated environment as well as lack of growth within these settings. Whenever economic growth is stagnated as result of the demands of environmental management, the resultant effect may be inflation and may impact inspiration on conserving the environment.

5.3.4 Influence of Resource Mobilization Factors on Environmental Conservation

The fourth objective of the research aimed at examining whether resource mobilization has influenced environmental conservation in Nandi County. The research identified community involvement in donor funded initiatives being high at the execution phase but declines gradually. It further concludes that gender ministry in Nandi County government needs to support

women organizations in Nandi County in-order to implement environmental conservation projects adequately.

5.4 Recommendations

From these developments, the richness of culture and environmental heritage of communities within Nandi County is evident, with the capacity to nurture tourism (both domestic and international) that in turn would alleviate poverty and enable wealth creation of individuals within the locality. Despite this, the environmental heritage face threats from different quarters like unproductive economic activities and fixed minds or perceptions. In order to ensure cultural preservation and secure effective environmental conservation, these interventions were advanced to be essential.

5.4.1 Government Support

Local leadership has encountered opposition towards undertaking traditional religious activities and monitoring from government laws and justice system. In enabling them to enhance their engagement in environmental concerns, they ought to be backed legally to enable conservation of historical and holy grounds. Municipalities and other lower state departments ought to complement the interventions by of traditional leadership by punishing unlawful logging, hunting activities, and other human activities targeting the natural ecosystem. An efficient justice system has the ability to scare criminals and motivate extra vigilance from communities in conserving local utilities.

5.4.2 Capacity Building and Support for Traditional Leaders

In improving the efficiency of local administration and traditional leadership of the locality in securing their natural heritage, there are proposals that capacity building services be extended to the traditional leadership. The activities should entail training needs assessment and training of local administration on their courts and the junior staff as well.

5.4.3 Eco-Conscious Agencies and NGOs

Environmental advocacy bodies and non-government organizations (NGOs) can promote and enable this conversation. Different religious denominations ought to be motivated to develop common policies on environmental values benefiting every denomination; even including deeply-preserved traditions and respect for sacred sites of every denomination even the indigenous ones. The advanced proposals ought to be attached to relevant state department's policy program concerning environmental growth.

5.3.4 Training in Sustainable Alternative Livelihoods

Insufficient sources of daily livelihood not relying on land and natural forests dominated localities of the traditional area during the study. Frontiers within the traditional area promising development of livelihood activities not relying on trees and forest land ought to be evaluated. Educational training to the immediate community ought to be offered, awareness and loan facilities to create other economic activities with the effect of reducing pressure on land and forested areas and in turn improving the quality of life.

In this regard, embracing global eco-tourism efforts in preserving sacred sites and other natural utilities in the traditional area could offer viable opportunities for the immediate community,

environmentalists and the individual investors to collaboratively work as a unit so as to mutually gain.

5.5 Future Research

This study recommends that future studies should consider establishing the influence of County Gender ministries influence on environmental conservation. Moreover, future studies should be replicated in other counties in Kenya.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Participant,

RE: QUESTIONNAIRE FILLING

My name is EvaChebetSawe, a student undertaking Master of Women Studies at University of Nairobi. This questionnaire has been developed to gather information on “**The role of women’s organizations in environmental conservation in Nandi County, Kenya**”. The purpose is purely academic research and not for financial or material gain whatsoever. You have been selected to voluntarily participate in this study. Confidentiality will be kept regarding the information gathered.

Thank you for your time.

Instructions

When responding to the survey, please be honest and relate the questions to your own experience on role of women organizations in environmental conservation. All your responses will be treated with confidentiality.

Indicate your response by ticking (√) within the check boxes provided.

Section A: Demographic Information

This questionnaire is meant to acquire information on role of women organizations in environmental conservation.

1. Kindly indicate your gender (Tick one) Male [] Female []

2. By use of a tick (✓), please indicate the age category that applies for you.

a) Below 18 years []

b) 18 – 35years []

c) 36 – 45years []

d) 45 – 55 years []

e) 56 years and above []

3. Highest level of education

Secondary []

Post-secondary []

Bachelors Degree []

Masters Degree []

Others []

Section B: Culture

4. This section is meant to provide information to establish the influence of culture on environmental conservation. To what extent do you agree with the following statements on culture and environmental conservation? Key: 5 Strongly Agree, 4 Agree, 3 Undecided, 2 Disagree, 1 Strongly Disagree (please put an X as appropriate).

Culture	1	2	3	4	5
Community based natural resource management recognizes the inherent role					

of culture in environmental conservation.					
There is a close interdependence of biological and social systems which is basically a relationship between the environment and the culture of people					
Culture defines the perception of nature by a society and determines how a society interacts with environment					
Religion provides communities with codes of conduct and ethics that guide their relationship and even use of environment.					

5. In your own view list some of cultural aspects that promote environmental conservation?

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6. In what ways does culture affect environmental conservation?

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7. How does hunting culture affect environmental conservation?

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8. Does incorporation of culture in environmental management improve sustainability of environmental conservation? YES[] NO[]

Please explain your answer.

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Section C: Gender Policy

9. This section is meant to provide information to establish the influence of gender policy on environmental conservation. To what extent do you agree with the following statements on gender policy and environmental conservation? Key: 5 Strongly Agree, 4 Agree, 3 Undecided, 2 Disagree, 1 Strongly Disagree (please put an X as appropriate).

Gender Policy	1	2	3	4	5
There is sufficient participation by women in decision making concerning environmental conservation.					
The county government of Nandi has put sufficient gender policies to support environmental conservation.					
Environmental security is mediated by gender relations					
Advancing gender equality, through reversing the various socio-economic handicaps environmental conservation.					
There is sufficient interventions for women to voice environmental conservation concerns					

10. In your own view list some of gender policies you are aware of that promote environmental conservation?

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11. In what ways can environmental security be improved in Nandi County?

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12. How can gender policies be improved to enhance environmental conservation?

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13. Does roles and responsibilities of women affect the environmental conservation? YES[]

NO[]

Please explain your answer.

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Section D: Socio-economic factors

14. This section is meant to provide information to establish the influence of socio-economic factors on environmental conservation. To what extent do you agree with the following statements on socio-economic factors and environmental conservation? Key: 5 Strongly Agree, 4 Agree, 3 Undecided, 2 Disagree, 1 Strongly Disagree (please put an X as appropriate).

Socio-economic factors	1	2	3	4	5
My household size has contributed to effective environmental conservation.					
In order to participate in environmental conservation, my income level is a determinant					
My housework activities affect my effectiveness in environmental conservation activities					
The family members influences my decision making to run the environmental conservation projects.					
Age is a major determinant in environmental conservation activities					
Gender department officers have influenced me to participate in environmental activities.					
My level of education affect my participation in environmental conservation activities					
Our families do not support us in environmental conservation activities.					

15. What is other ways does education level influence environmental conservation activities?

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16.Has your family size influenced environmental conservation activities? YES[] NO[]

Please explain your answer.

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17. How can you persuade/convince your family members to support environmental conservation activities?

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Section E: Resource Mobilization

15. This section is meant to provide information to establish the influence of resource mobilization on environmental conservation. To what extent do you agree with the following statements on resource mobilization and environmental conservation? Key: 5 Strongly Agree, 4 Agree, 3 Undecided, 2 Disagree, 1 Strongly Disagree (please put an X as appropriate).

Resource Mobilization	1	2	3	4	5
The women organizations have enough resources to facilitate environmental projects.					
Women organizations has the desired financial strength to complete projects					
Gender ministry motivates its women to enhance performance environmental conservation project completion					
Women organizations have several sources of funds for environmental conservation					
The allocated resources are used optimally to achieve effective project completion					
The human resource personnel at the organization are qualified to enhance resource mobilization					

18. In what ways do women organizations mobilize resources for environmental conservation?

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19. How does resource mobilization contributes environmental conservation?

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20. List some sources of funds for environmental conservation in Nandi County?

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Section F: Environmental Conservation

21. What are some of the ways the ministry of gender in Nandi County has improved on environmental conservation.

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22. In the last five years list initiatives that have been taken by women to conserve the environment.

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23. Kindly state how women organizations have engaged the County government of Nandi in conserving the environment

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24. Has the office of women representative and gender ministry have come up with environmental conservation activities in Nandi County? YES[] NO[]

Please explain your answer.

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25. Is there collaboration between National and County government of Nandi in environmental conservation initiatives. YES[] NO[]

Please explain your answer.

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THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE STUDY.

APPENDIX II: MAP OF NANDI COUNTY

