# FACTORS INFLUENCING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND OWNERSHIP OF GOVERNMENT SPONSORED PROJECTS: THE CASE OF CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUND IN NYARIBARI CHACHE CONSTITUENCY PROJECTS, KISII COUNTY, KENYA.

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## DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has not been presented for any award in this or any other university.

_____ Date _____

**Obare Moraa Agnes**
L50/61056/2013

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

_____ Date _____

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## DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my dear husband, Mr. Joseph Obare, my lovely children, Michelle Nyabonyi, Tony Osuku and Mike Masese and colleagues for their support, love and understanding they offered me throughout my study period and especially during the research of this project.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

# TABLE OF CONTENT

## CHAPTER ONE
## INTRODUCTION

## CHAPTER TWO
## LITERATURE REVIEW

## CHAPTER THREE
## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

## CHAPTER FOUR

## DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

## CHAPTER FIVE

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

# LIST OF TABLES

# LIST OF FIGURES

**Page**

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

**CDF:**       Constituency Development Fund

**CID:**       Centre for International Development

**CIDP:**      County Integrated Development Plan

**CRC:**       Citizen Report Card

**DFRD:**      District Focus for Rural Development

**FGDs:**      Focused Group Discussions

**FY:**        Financial Year

**GK:**        Government of Kenya

**IDP:**       Integrated Development Plan

**IEA:**       Institute for Economic affaires

**IEBC:**      Independent Electoral and Boundaries' Commission

**KHRC:**      Kenya Human Rights Commission

**Km:**        Kilometer

**Kshs:**      Kenya Shillings

**LASDAP:**    Local Authorities' Development Programme

**LATF:**      Local Authority Transfer Fund

**LRF:**       Legal Resources Foundation Trust

**MP:**        Member of Parliament

**NARC:**      National Alliance Rainbow Coalition

**NCST:**       National Council of Science and Technology.

**NRA:**       National Resistance Army

**NRM:**       National Resistance Movement

**NTA:**       National Taxpayers Association

**PFM:**       Public Financial Management Act 2012

**PMC:**       Project Management Committee

**QRR:**       Questionnaire return rate

**SDFRD:**     Special District Focus for Rural Development

**SPAN:**      Social and Public Accountability Network

**SPSS**        Statistical Package for Social Sciences

**TISA:**      The Institute of Social Accountability

**TQM:**       Total Quality Management

**UK:**        United Kingdom

**UoN:**       University of Nairobi

**USA:**       United States of America

**USD:**       United States of America Dollars

## ABSTRACT

Community participation means an open process in which the rights of the community to be informed, to provide comments to the government and to receive a response from the government are met through expression of needs and goals. Effective community participation ensures that government decisions and policies reflect the public interest. It enhances transparency and accountability, project ownership and proper utilization of resources. Despite the Government of Kenya's (GK) efforts to come up with legislations that provide for people's participation, there has been challenges in terms of informing the populace on these provisions and creating platforms and enabling environment for involvement. The purpose of this study was to establish factors that influence community participation and ownership of government sponsored projects, with the case study of Constituency Development Fund (CDF) projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, Kisii County, Kenya. Among the objectives that were studied include; establishing how demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, examining the extent to which culture influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects, assessing the level at which structural shortcomings influence community participation and establishing alternative structural models that could enhance community participation and ownership of CDF program in Kenya. The anticipated significance of this study was to inform policy on CDFs, the structures of decision making on the use of the devolved funds at all stages of implementation to help improve effectiveness and value for money. The target population was 13,102 residents (IEBC, 2013) of Kiogoro Ward, which was inclusive of ordinary residents, 220 Projects' Management Committees (PMC) members from 20 CDF projects supported in Financial Year (FY) 2013/2014, 15 CDF committee members and the CDF manager. The sample size was determined by use of Krejcie and Morgan (1970) sampling table which made a sample size of 375 respondents. Purposeful censuring method was used to select the CDF manager, 5 CDF committee members' top officials, and 60 (chair person, secretary and treasurer) PMC members from 20 CDF projects. Further a stratified random sampling method was used to select the 309 respondents from the three sub - locations in proportionate to their population sizes. Data was collected using questionnaires with the help of 4 research assistants. The rate of questionnaire return was 96.27% which was acceptable as it was within the range of adequacy. The result of the study was analyzed using a descriptive statistics where descriptive summaries like frequencies and percentages were used, and later presented using frequency distribution tables. The findings of the study revealed that demographic characteristics had insignificant influence in community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, culture of silence, corruption and impunity had a negative influence of respondents to community participation and ownership of projects, equality, structural shortcomings had an influence in community participation ownership of CDF program in Kenya. In conclusion, demographic characteristics is not a major factor in community participation, the people' involvement in public affairs is influenced by the existing structures, perceptions, attitudes, ignorance and apathy among the populace. Recommendations drawn from this study is that the GK should embark in massive civil awareness and restore confidence of the electorates in the CDF systems and structures. Suggested areas for further studies include, a similar study be conducted in an urban setting, two with a larger population and with an elite society.

**CHAPTER ONE**

**INTRODUCTION**

## 1.1 Background of the Study

Democracy is a political system based on representative government; community participation in the political process; freedom (in the wide sense; basic freedoms of citizens); transparency of political acts and process in general. The emerging literature on collaborative governance in public administration has emphasized that citizens should be considered as collaborative partners in a governance era for building democratic and effective governance (O'Leary and Bingham 2008; O'Leary, Van Slyke, and Kim 2010). Community participation means an open process in which the rights of the community to be informed, to provide comments to the government and to receive a response from the government are met through a full opportunity to be involved and to express needs and goals. It is the process which provides private individuals an opportunity to influence public decisions and is a component of democratic decision making process. It can as well be viewed from the perspective of benefits to be gained and costs to be borne. Implicit in this "penchant for getting involved" is the notion of the relationship between self and society (Bellah et al., 1985).

According to Katorobo (2007) service delivery to citizens may be considered from the standpoint of two types of decentralization – that guided by the principle of subsidiarity; and that guided by the principle of management by results. Some services are best delivered at the national level; others at the regional level; and many at the grass-roots level where the consumers of those services are located. It is therefore notable that for the service to be delivered citizen must participate as consumers of those services.

Effective community participation ensures that government decisions and policies reflect the public interest. It enhances transparency and accountability, project ownership, proper utilization of resources, and also necessary in decreasing citizens' doubts and mistrust towards the government. Cogan and Sharpe (1986) identifies five benefits of citizen participation in the planning process which include: Information and ideas on public

issues, public support for planning decisions, avoidance of protracted conflicts and costly delays, reservoir of good will which can carry over to future decisions and spirit of cooperation and trust between the government and the public.

During the last decade, the winds of democratic movements and reforms have blown around the world, and democratic decentralization has spread globally. In every continent, most governments have embraced decentralization programmes. "Some 95 percent of democracies now have elected sub national governments, and countries everywhere – large and small, rich and poor – are devolving political, fiscal, and administrative powers to sub national tiers of government" (United Nations, 2007).

Globally, many countries have made efforts through legislations to foster citizen participation or public involvement in state affairs; that is in policy formulation and implementation of projects.

For instance in the ancient Greece and Colonial New England, the term community participation can be traced back to the 1960s when governmental processes and procedures were designed to facilitate "external" participation. Citizen participation was institutionalized in the mid-1960s with President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programmes (Cogan & Sharpe, 1986).

In the United Kingdom (U.K) and United States of America (USA), for example, the current debate has been focusing on parental participation in terms of choice of schools and school governance, while in developing countries the debate centres on community participation in school construction, financing and management (Bray, 1996; Suzuki, 2000).

In Switzerland, direct participatory democracy has thrived through the communities; larger regional units have been formed for achieving economies of scale. The critical point is that the communities remain the foundations on which the larger units are based for effective service delivery (Katorobo, 2007).

Equally many Latin American countries have undergone democratic reforms and most of them have carried out democratic decentralization programmes, from large countries such as Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, to smaller states such as Bolivia and Venezuela (United Nations, 2007).

Regionally, Africa has not been left behind; democratic decentralization has been undertaken in Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Togo, South Africa, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, among other countries (United Nations, 2007).

In South Africa for instance, the Municipal Systems Act (2000) and the Municipal Structures Act (1998) stipulates that all the municipalities should develop an Integrated Development Plan (IDP) in consultation with local people, that is, there should be full and active participation of the people in each ward in the development of an IDP(United Nations, 2007).

In Tanzania, participatory development has had a long history. Since independence the focus of the government has been in enhancing people participation in various development projects. Effort to promote citizen participation was reflected in various policies and projects that were adopted during that time. These include establishment of Local Government system and abolition of the non - elected native authorities in 1972; a situation which at one stage turned people to passive recipients of government orders instead of key players in social-economic development.  (United Nations, 2007).

In Uganda, its current decentralization was born from both the exigencies of a guerrilla war and ideological conviction. First, in Luwero District which was the initial area occupied by Museveni's guerrilla force, a political local people-based infrastructure, named the Resistance Councils, which aimed at cultivating and sustaining support for the National Resistance Army (NRA) was secretly organized in the areas which the guerrillas captured and occupied (United Nations, 2007).

In Rwanda, after the 1994 genocide the leadership sought to decentralize governance and let people have a strong say in determining their socio-politico-economic destiny. The leadership had a legal basis on this in the Arusha agreements which, without mentioning

decentralization, had committed government to creating a governance system that passes power to the people. In the decentralization document it is stated that one of the legal foundations of decentralization in the country is the "principle of power sharing as expressed in the Accord *de Paix d'Arusha entre le Gouvernment de la République Rwandaise et le Front Patriotique Rwandais*. Up to now power sharing has only been seen among the political elite at parliament and executive levels. The decentralization policy was to reinforce power sharing by ensuring that the Rwandese people themselves are empowered to shape their political, economic, and social destiny" (Government of Rwanda, 2000).

Locally, the Kenyan government has made many efforts over the years to enhance community participation right from the constitution of District Focus for Rural Development (DFRD), Special District Focus for Rural Development (SDFRD), Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF) and finally the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) which was founded with a very clear mission: to encourage development and ensure community participation in development at the constituency level. In other words, the constituents are to be involved in project identification, designing, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (CDF Act, 2003).

Further, the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and a number of legislations such as the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act 2012, County Government Act and Devolution Act clearly provides for people's involvement at all levels of governance and management of public resources. Despite this legislative requirement, most people including the leaders "do not have the knowledge and information of the options and the implications of the options they can use to participate meaningfully in local government affairs" (Brynard, 1996). More so, in the recent county budget making processes in the country, formulation of county legislations such as the finance bills among many other bills, and the development of County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) clearly demonstrated non involvement of the people; a situation that has left electorates with mixed fillings and disappointment. The researcher therefore sees it useful to consider and investigate factors that influence community participation and ownership of government sponsored projects: A case study of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency in Kisii County, Kenya.

**1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Scholars who have been studying public participation in local political processes contends that the concept of community participation involves moving from the usual regular elections and taking further steps in strengthening citizenship and democratizing the state. Community participation in government business should be the process of transforming residents from passive subjects in dependent relationships with particular politicians or parties into active citizens, who know that they have political rights, can legitimately make demands on the government for public services, and can make their voices heard in political debates (O'Leary, Van Slyke, and Kim 2010).

Over the years, Kenya has progressively shifted from a centralized to a decentralized form of governance through a number of policies and legislations in an effort of enhancing effective community participation in the country. The establishment of CDF through an Act of parliament "Constituencies Development Fund Act, 2003" was meant to facilitate development which is people responsive. In other words, the constituents are to be involved in project identification, designing, planning and implementation and at the same time in monitoring and evaluation of their development (CDF Act, 2003).

Since its inception, the CDF has received both national and international recognition for its attempt to address growing citizen legitimacy concerns and to remedy the deeply rooted patronage in governing African states. To date, the Kenyan government has disbursed to a tune of 956 USD million as CDF to constituencies (National Taxpayers Association [NTA], 2013). CDF was a noble idea whose effects have been felt at the grassroots level in every corner of Kenya but has been be deviled by myriad problems largely due to weak legislation, institutional and oversight mechanisms coupled with lack of information by citizens (NTA, 2013).

There has been a lot of criticism, from various quarters, on the way the CDF is managed and implemented. The shortfalls include administrative bureaucracies and inefficiencies, misappropriation of public resources and the marginalization of local communities in development processes (Legal Resources Foundation Trust [LRF], 2009). The systems and structures have lacked a coherent or coordinating framework. They have thus been

marred by overlaps, duplication, and despite their multiplicity, there has been low citizen involvement (Kenya Human Rights Commission [KHRC] and Social and Public Accountability Network [SPAN], 2010). Equally the process has been marred by repeated accusation of abuse of funds, putting up projects that are not of priority to the members of the community and patronage due to excessive powers of the Member of Parliament (MP) (TISA, 2009).

A citizen's report card (CRC); a research in 149 constituencies done by the NTA in 2013, rated Nyaribari Chache Constituency as one of the poorly performed constituency in terms of fund utilization in Financial Year (FY) 2010 / 2011. The key points were: Out of the Kshs. 52,437,055 that was allocated to the constituency, Kshs. 3,100,000 was wasted on badly implemented projects which is 5.8% of the amount allocated during that period (NTA, 2013), and Kshs. 850,000 was unaccounted for i.e. 1.6%. The report further classified the projects into three categories; completed and in use projects which were rated at 75% in terms of technical performance, ongoing projects rated at 63% and incomplete projects at 48% (NTA, 2013).

From the above analysis, it is clear that CDF projects' performance in FY 2010 / 2011was 62%. That means 38% of the money meant to benefit the people of Nyaribari Chache Constituency was wasted in terms of technical performance, 5.8% on badly implemented projects, 1.6% unaccounted for totaling to 45.4% which translates to Kshs. 23,806,423. This is only one constituency in one financial year. If this was replicated in the 290 constituencies and all avenues of devolution like the counties, then Kenya will lose billions and billions of shillings; a situation that might lead to apathy among the electorates, community unrests, lack of development, and poor infrastructure with no investors, increased levels poverty coupled with unemployment, emerging culture of militia and high crime rates.

This mixed result clearly prompted the need to study to find out the factors that influence meaningful participation by local communities in government sponsored projects and thereafter ownership of the same projects. And this was done through the devolved CDF in Nyaribari Chache Constituency of Kisii County, Kenya.

**1.3 Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to establish the factors influencing citizen participation and ownership of government sponsored projects. The study focused on CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency.

**1.4 Objectives of the Study**

The study was guided by the following objectives:

1. To establish how demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency.

2. To examine the extent to which culture influences community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency.

3. To assess the level at which structural shortcomings influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency.

4. To establish alternative structural models that can enhance community participation and ownership of CDF program in Kenya.

**1.5 Research Questions**

1. How does demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency?

2. To what extent does culture influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency?

3. What is the level at which structural shortcomings influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency?

4. What are the alternative structural models that can enhance community participation and ownership of CDF program in Kenya?

**1.6 Significance of the Study**

This research was expected to establish factors influencing community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. As a result, identify challenges facing community participation in the implementation process of the CDF projects; hence come up with some workable solutions to overcome those challenges.

The research is anticipated to inform policy on CDFs, the structure of decision making on the use of the funds at all stages of implementation; oversight of CDF operations; and the relative influence of different individuals and groups in making policy. The study also documented effectiveness of CDFs as tools of decentralized development, including pitfalls in implementation; the relationship between operations of CDFs and other local development projects and administration; and reporting, transparency and accountability of CDF-initiated projects. The study also investigated the sustainability of CDFs as instruments of development, including the manner in which CDFs inform representative-constituent relations; the electoral effect of CDFs and the viability of CDFs in different types of electoral systems.

Results of this study might not only be resourceful to the leaders and constituents of Nyaribari Chache, but also to other constituencies in the republic of Kenya, whose constituents face similar challenges. I hope that the study will also be useful to institutions and structures that call for people's input, involvement and participation especially in county governance. This study may as well trigger further discussions and research on how we as Kenyan citizens can take part right from the grassroots level to a national stage, in improving and developing our country for the good of all of us.

**1.7 Basic Assumptions of the Study**

This study was based on the assumption that respondents would give truthful responses and the CDF management team would as well avail necessary information about the programme. At the same time it was believed the findings of the research would be generalized to bring to light and address similar concerns in the rest of the other constituencies in Kenya as well as county governments.

**1.8 Limitations of the Study**

The main limitation of this study was resource constraints such as time, and due to this the study was conducted in one constituency in Kisii County. The findings might therefore not be perfectly be generalized to the whole country. However, the findings of this study may be useful to any researcher interested in people's participation in public affairs. Also securing appointments with study respondents especially the CDF manager, the CDF committee members and the PMC members was another challenge since majority of them had busy schedules and some were committed elsewhere. However the researcher booked appointments in time and in some cases dropped the questionnaires at the CDF office and picked them up after two days. Equally the researcher faced difficulties in respondents opening up on the subject matter, and in getting honest and impartial responses due to fear of victimization. Though, efforts were made to ensure that respondents' confidentiality was assured.

**1.9 Delimitations of the Study**

The study covered CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, one because of the limited resources and time. Secondly, the constituency is mescopolitan in nature and had both urban and rural setting which gave a wide scope of input into the study. Also the variables that influence community participation in government sponsored projects are vast since human resource management and leadership is a socially complex process which is intertwined with an array of organizational factors. But, the study focused only on demographic characteristics, culture and structural CDF shortcomings as factors influencing citizen participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency in Kisii County, which for the purpose of this study is about 500 square kilometers and alternative structural models in enhancing community participation in CDF programme in Kenya. The study targeted adult residents, PMC members, CDF committee members and the CDF manger in Nyaribari Chache Constituency for data.

## 1.10 Definitions of Significant Terms used in the Study

**Community participation:** People's involvement in choosing their leadership at all levels of governance in a fair playing ground, in identification of most preferred projects, designing, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as policy formulation and legislations.

**Ownership:** Sense or feeling of belonging and having a say and control over one's development.

**Government sponsored projects:** All ventures, activities, projects, initiatives and processes that are supported by public resources.

**Target:** The intended beneficiaries of a given government intervention; can be individuals, groups of a community.

**Constituents:** The people who reside in Nyaribari Chache Constituency.

**Demographic Characteristics:** Basic information about a person and it includes age, gender, marital status, education and level of exposure.

**Culture:** Believes, practices and way of life over a period of time, for instance, perception to marital status by society, the culture of silence, impunity and corruption.

**Structural CDF Shortcomings:** All institutional challenges facing CDF processes, procedures and working mechanism such as reinforcement of the law.

**Alternative Structural Models:** Other options that can be put in place in enhancing effective citizen participation, for instance formal & statutory procedures, policy framework, legislations and penalties.

**1.11 Organization of the Study**

This study has five chapters and has been organized as follows; introduction, literature review, methodology, data analysis, presentation, interpretation, and discussion and finally a summary of the findings, conclusion and recommendations of the report.

Chapter one is the introduction and it entails: the background to the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, study objectives, research questions, significance of the study, basic assumptions of the study, limitations of the study, delimitations of the study, definition of significant terms as used in the study and the organization of the study.

Chapter two is the Literature Review and it looks at related literatures on citizen participation and ownership of projects; demographic character and citizen participation in government projects; civic culture and participation in government sponsored projects; structural shortcomings that hinder citizen participation in government development projects; alternative models that can enhance citizen in government development projects; and knowledge gaps in the research area.

Chapter three presents the Methodology and Research Design. It explains the various philosophies, approaches, techniques and strategies employed and their rationale. It also focuses on the different methodologies used in the study including the research design, the target population, sample size and sampling procedure, the research instruments, data collection and analysis techniques and ethical considerations to ensure that reliable data is collected to achieve the desired results at the end of the study.

Chapter four highlights on data analysis, presentation and interpretation of the study findings.

Finally chapter five gives a summary of the findings, discussion, conclusion and recommendations of the report.

**CHAPTER TWO**

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

## 2.1 Introduction

This chapter introduces the concept of community participation and ownership of government sponsored projects as viewed by different scholars with a view to have an in-depth understanding of the concept. The literature on how demographic characteristics, culture and structural CDF shortcomings and their influences on participation and ownership of government sponsored projects and alternative models that can enhance community involvement have been explored. The theoretical and conceptual framework that forms the basis of the study has equally been discussed.

## 2.2 The Concept of Community Participation and Ownership of Government Sponsored Projects

The concept of democratic ownership and participation gained extensive attention among political scientists, psychologists and sociologists, working at national or cross-national level. In this respect many studies that focused on civic engagement, citizenship, political and social participation, community involvement, social service, non-governmental organizations have been carried out up to date. There is an abundant literature on local democratization experiments in Latin America, where interesting community participation in political processes began in the 1980s with the rise of Left leaning governments. Scholars who have been studying citizen participation in local political processes in Latin America refer to the phenomenon as 'deepening democracy' (Goldfrank, 2011). Goldfrank contends that the concept of deepening democracy involves moving from the usual regular elections and taking further steps in strengthening citizenship and democratizing the state. He defines "strengthening citizenship" as the process of transforming residents from passive subjects in dependent relationships with particular politicians or parties into active citizens who know that they have political rights, that they can legitimately make demands on the government for public services and that they can make their voices heard in political debates (Goldfrank, 2011).

Goldfrank's conceptualization of deepening democracy and strengthening citizenship reflects the thoughts of this research on factors influencing citizen participation and ownership of government sponsored projects; in particular by the Constituency Development Fund.

It is believed that participation ensures success as people get involved when they have a sense of ownership of project and feels that the project meets their needs. This makes them willingly oversee implementation and then take care of the facilities to ensure their sustainability (Tacconi and Tisdell, 1992; Narayan, 1995). In addition it is suggested that participation can lead to greater community empowerment in the form of strengthened local organisations, a greater sense of pride and the undertaking of new activities (Oakley, 1991). Community participation creates an enabling environment for sustainability by allowing users not only to select the level of services for which they are willing to pay, but also to make choices and commit resources in support of the choices made by the community (Sara and Katz, 1998).

Community involvement ranges from participation in activities defined by outsiders to the management and ownership of activities developed primarily by community members themselves (Aubel and Samba, 1996). The cornerstone of community-based development initiatives is the active involvement of members of a defined community in at least some aspects of project design and implementation (Mansuri and Rao, 2004). Colletta and Perkins (1995) illustrate various forms of community participation as research and data collection, dialogue with policymakers, school management, curriculum design, development of learning materials and school construction.

A study carried out by Theresia Leonard Mnaranara in Tanzania in 2010 on the roles of local community participation in ongoing construction of primary schools reviled that participation for material contribution was observed when communities in Mzumbe and Mlali wards in Mvomero Districts were required to contribute labour in terms of fetching water, collecting stones and sand, assisting masonry during the construction of classrooms, teachers' houses and school toilets. The advantage of material contribution as a form of participation is that it incorporates local knowledge regarding quality of

materials needed for the construction of primary schools (Mnaranara, 2010).

Mnaranara found out that in the sample of 150 villagers the overall findings shows that 30 (20%) of the villagers contributed in cash, 90(60%) did not contribute in cash but rather they contributed in terms of materials and 30 (20%) respondents did not respond to the questions. The findings indicate that participation of communities in terms of contribution in cash was not encouraging because many villagers did not contribute in cash. The majority of the villagers were economically poor, but they were strong and had different skills through which they could participate in the building of schools.

The form of participation demonstrated here contained elements of collaborative participation; in this case both parties participated in the same manner in diagnosing the problem, analyzing data, designing solution and implementing. Basing on Pretty's (1995) this form of participation is regarded as highly active. Collaborative participation contributes to commitment on the part of the villagers in the implementation of ongoing primary school construction.

It is now widely accepted that community participation contributes a lot to the development of projects. Specifically, community participation in government sponsored projects can improve the quality of service delivery and enhance sustainability. Extensive literature search has identified the importance of community participation and 12 Lancaster (2002) points out the importance of community participation as follows: the approach helps the project to be sustainable as communities themselves learn how to adopt and correct changes resulting from the project; partnership or participation helps to protect interest of the people concerned; it enhances dignity and self reliance among people, that is, they are enabled to obtain and do things by themselves; communities become aware of the project implementation as they have a great store of wisdom and skills. They understand their local needs and the nature of their environment better than outsiders; participation makes local people to act as multiplier of new project which they achieve. They can easily transmit the new knowledge they acquired to other communities, thus cause a rapid increase in growth of the new idea; participation promotes a sense of ownership among the community of equipment used in the project,

and even projects itself. For example, they will protect and maintain the project through their own means e.g. school buildings; it also enhances empowerment to community members by building their capacity to identify, define, solve and implement various social an economic issues that affect their lives; and participation creates sense and attitude of self reliance; this especially happens when the project developer leaves the project to the indigenous community.

Community participation in project initiation, implementation and management, apart from creating a sense of ownership and responsibility within communities, is an important factor in developing an effective and long-lasting project (Kaliba, 2002). As a means to an end, community participation in education is seen as way to increase resources, improve accountability of schools to the community they serve, ensure the most cost-effective use of resources and importantly be responsive to local needs (Rose, 2003).

## 2.3 Demographic Characteristics and Citizen Participation in Government Sponsored Projects

It is widely documented that community participation depends on many factors amongst them being their demographic characteristics which include level of education and exposure on the subject matter, gender and age.

Education has been promoted as a tool for the creation of social outcomes, such as social cohesion and democracy, ever since compulsory education was first developed (Dewey, 1916). Over the years the role of education as a contributory factor in the development and sustainability of democracy has been underlined by political sciences (Lipset, 1959; Putnam, 2000). Nevertheless, recently, several papers have put into question the relationship between education and participation without being able to conclude in favour of a strong positive effect (Milligan et al, 2004; Dee, 2004).

Previous research over the last forty years has shown a positive effect from formal education and different forms of Active Citizenship mostly in the domain of Representative Democracy, in particular voting (Dee, 2004; Milligan, et al. 2003;

Campbell, 2006), some research in the domain of civic competence including attitudes (Almond and Verba, 1989) and political knowledge (Milligan et al., 2003), some in the domain of community life on associational involvement and volunteering (Putnam, 2000; Campbell, 2006; Dee, 2004) and in the domain of Protest and Social Change (Campbell, 2006).

The conclusions from those studies are mixed. On one hand, Dee (2004) shows that in the USA educational attainment has a large and significant causal effect on voter participation and attitudes towards free speech. In order to control for any possible unobservable variables that affect both schooling and civic attitudes, Dee (2004) uses supply-side sources of variation in schooling - geographic availability of colleges and teen exposure to the variation in child labour laws - to instrument the level of education of the respondent. Similarly, Milligan et al (2003), using changes in compulsory schooling legislation and child labour laws across states as exogenous variations in schooling confirms that education has a positive and significant effect on the probability to vote in USA. On the other hand, using 14 waves of the German Social General Survey, Siedler (2007) examines in West Germany the impact of education on a wide set of civic engagement indicators. His results suggest that education is positively associated with all political outcomes.

Education and level of exposure influences attitude, personal attributes and leadership qualities. The term attitude is frequently used in describing people and explaining their behaviour. More precisely according to Luthans (2005), an attitude can be defined as a persistent tendency to feel and behave in a particular way toward some object. Attitudes are evaluative statements either favorable or unfavorable concerning objects, people or events (Robbins, 2005). Luthans (2005) provides three components of attitude as emotional, informational and behavioural. The emotional component involves the persons' feelings or affect- positive, neutral, or negative about an object. The informational component consists of beliefs and information an individual has about the object. It makes no difference whether or not this information is empirically real or correct. He proceeds by saying that the third component of attitude is behavioural, which consists of persons' tendencies to behave in a particular way toward an object. Of the

three components of attitude, only the behavioural component can be directly observed. It is assumed that if you want to know someone's beliefs, feelings, and behavioural tendencies toward an object, all you need to do is measure his or her attitude. In this study, therefore, the third component of attitude which is behavioural component was studied specifically on the individual attitude towards community participation.

Jain and Saakshi (2005) define leadership as a process of influencing subordinates so that they cooperate enthusiastically in the achievement of group goals. Yet another definition says leadership is the ability to influence through communication, the activities of others, individually or as a group toward the accomplishment of worthwhile meaningful and challenging goals (Ivancevich *et al.,* 2003). It is further said that leadership occurs whenever one person attempts to influence the behaviour of an individual or group. Holt (1993) sees leadership as a process whereby other people are influenced to behave in preferred ways to accomplish organizational objectives. According to Chandan (2003) leadership can be formal or informal. Formal leadership occurs when a person is appointed or elected as an authority figure while informal leadership emerges when a person uses interpersonal influence in a group without designated authority or power. These leaders emerge in certain situations, because of their charm, intelligence, skills or other people turn for advice, direction and guidance.

On the basis of the above definitions of leadership, it shows that leadership has features of influence process, presence of followers and having common goals. In this study, the concept of leadership is used to refer to the influence of village leaders on the behaviour of villagers so that village objectives are achieved. This study refers to formal rather than informal leadership in the sampled villages.Effective and efficient leaders are always endowed with good leadership qualities. Without having the qualities of a good leader he/she may find difficulty to direct the activities of subordinates for achieving organizational goals. Jain and Saakshi (2005) emphasize that the success or failure of an organisation to a great extent depends on the quality of leadership.

Nirmal (2002) asserts that there are three broad categories of the qualities of successful leadership namely personality traits, knowledge and ability and lastly skills. Personality

traits cover issues of good character, intelligence, will power, judgment, fellow feeling, faith mental and physical energy, enthusiasm and drive, emotional stability and tact, and humour. Knowledge and ability is the second category which covers aspects of good educational background, technical competence i.e. ability to plan, organize, delegate, analyze, make decisions and capacity to control and coordinate the group efforts; ability to appraise and evaluate employees' performance as well as self appraisement. Leaders' possession of skills is the third category of leadership qualities that focus on the following skills: problem-solving and decision making skills, communication skills, human relations skills, conceptual skills, social skills and administrative skills. The above literature review shows that there are several qualities which need to be possessed by leaders.

It is widely accepted that households' participation depends on the characteristics of the household. Education has been reported to influence farmers' participation and stimulates social participation (Lise, 2001). Education is a significant instrument to stimulate local participation in a variety of development management initiatives. Heads of households with primary education are more willing to participate in economic activities than illiterate farmers (Dolisca *et al.,* 2006). However, Godquin and Quisumbing (2006) have different views regarding relationship between level of education and community participation. They argue that people with less education are less likely to participate in community projects.

Age of a head of household is another attribute influencing participation in the participatory projects. Age has a negative impact in explaining the level of participation (Dolisca *et al.,* 2006). This means that younger people are more willing to participate than older ones. Thatcher *et al.* (1997) found that age has no influence on participation of households. A study done by Batwel (2008) showed that there was relationship between age of the people and their participation in communal projects whereby younger people participated more than older ones.

Gender of the head of household can also influence participation of the households. A study done in Malawi indicated that there were gender inequalities in community contribution within households especially in providing non-monetary contributions whereby females provided most of the labour than males (Rose, 2003). Salami and Kpamegan (2002) cited in Rose (2003) argue that women have been found to be involved in providing human contributions, while men contribute more in financial and material terms. On the other hand, Agrawal *et al.* (2006) found that females participate more in participatory projects than men regardless of their triple role they perform in community. Dresbach (1992) argues that occupation is one of the factors which can influence individual□s propensity towards participating in any communal projects.

Although it is now generally accepted that gender inequalities can undermine the effectiveness of development policies in fundamental ways, this fact has often been downplayed or ignored, and continues to be addressed only at the periphery of policy dialogue and decision-making (World Bank, 2001). This section examines the concepts of gender inequality and role in participating in government development project.

The concept of 'gender', by definition, counters the notion of biologically determined roles for males and females. Such roles are now understood to be created by a given society at a given time, and reinforced by the society's religious, cultural and legal institutions as well as ethnic and class-based structures (Moser, 1993). The roles do not necessarily define the power relations between the genders, but rather the identities that attach to them, conferring certain acceptable behaviours upon each. Acceptable feminine behaviour, on the one hand, has tended to be defined by nurturance, interdependence, sensitivity and emotionality. Acceptable masculine behaviour, on the other hand, has been described as controlling, non-emotional, assertive and individual. These behaviours have served to reinforce the roles that males and females have played, as well as the power dynamics between the genders. Gender hierarchies are manifested in the gendered division of labour (Society for International Development, 2007). Girls and will be women, for example, expected to be responsible for the domestic chores in the house such as fetching water, collecting firewood, cooking, cleaning and taking care of the children and relatives. Men and boys, on the other hand, are perceived to be responsible

for providing leadership and security, and generally providing for the household. The differential engagement of males and females in domestic work and the differences in the values that have attached to their different roles have translated into inequalities in the distribution of resources and opportunities. 'Gender equality' is, therefore, defined in this study as, "equality under the law, equality of opportunity (including rewards for work and access to human capital resources and other productive resources that enable opportunity), and equality of voice (the ability to influence and contribute to development processes) (World Bank, 2001).

## 2.4 Civic Culture and Citizen Participation

The importance of citizen participation, especially the poor who oftentimes are disproportionately disadvantaged in terms of access to political power, cannot be understated. Valenzuela (2002) argues that if given the opportunity, the poor and marginalized people can build strong and sustainable organizations, build enormous generosity and solidarity, successfully improve their quality of life, generate participation and accountability mechanisms, and stimulate the emergence of democratic leadership. Diamond (1999) underscores the crucial role of meaningful, representative, local government to democratic vitality in five broad overlapping ways. First, it helps foster democratic values and skills among citizens. Second, it increases accountability and responsiveness to local interests and concerns. Third, it provides additional channels of access to power for historically marginalized groups and thus improves the representativeness of democracy. Fourth, it enhances checks and balances vis-à-vis power at the centre. Fifth, it provides opportunities for parties and factions in opposition at the centre to exercise some measure of political power. Diamond further argues that each of these functions enhance the legitimacy and stability of democracy.

Valenzuela's and Diamond's assertions about the potential of the poor and marginalized and importance of participation can be further bolstered by the argument advanced by sociologists on the concept of social capital. Evolving from Marx's conceptualization of capital within economic realms and later into human capital (skills, education, talents etc.) social capital has become a central focus of political analysis today. Lin (2001)

defines social capital as a resource that individuals could gain by working with others. It essentially implies involvement beyond the self. Through working with others, Lin observes, human beings develop social networks and resources which the networks bring to individuals (personal connections, enhanced knowledge and wherewithal etc.) Social capital includes economic goods too. This research is interested in the concept of social capital as a contribution of a deepened democracy to a polity.

It is notable from some experience of citizen participation in liberal societies that not all participatory processes work successfully. Each usually experiences its own challenges. What then should help a successful or working participatory program? An effective participatory process has certain prerequisites, such as pre-existing strong civic organizations or culture that favours participation. Where they are absent, it takes time to build them (Abers, 1998). According to Abers there can be initial conflicts in the process of establishing a functioning local participatory citizenship, which can take up to 4-5 years for strong civic groups to emerge. Abers' research examined the transition from clientelism to cooperation in Porto Alegre, Brazil, specifically how participatory policy led to the emergence of a culture of civic organizing. The research observed initial skepticism among residents, which changed gradually due to encouragement from the government and because of noticeable benefits to groups which participated. Neighbourhood associations started holding large and regular meetings and thereafter started to promote activities that went beyond the budget discussion. Abers observed that the motive of obtaining localized benefits broadened and the people started thinking about the whole district and about how neighbourhood groups could work together to realize their potential. Abers sums up the civic organizing as having reflected not only in the way people voted but also the way they perceived the process of deliberation.

The presence of local organizing groups at the launch and promotion of a participatory process also matters (Font & Galais, 2011). The authors' research sought to examine how ideology, external support and civil society influence the quality of local participation. Regarding civil society their study points to three positive effects of the presence of civil society at the launch and promotion of local participatory programs. The first is the partnership effect in which the presence of two or more promoters results in scrupulous

procedures due to increased scrutiny. Second, the presence of local organizing groups will normally mean a greater degree of cooperation from organized civil society. Finally, the same presence also acts as a guarantee of the significance of the experience because local groups usually will not waste time in poorly planned processes with uncertain effects. If Font & Galais' findings are anything to go by, then genuine participation needs the role of local organizing civil groups.

The quality of deliberation also matters. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions. Savini (2011) identifies the nature of participants, the political environment, previous experiences of local participation and individual preferences of participants as contextual factors on which outcomes of deliberations depend. Participants should have some degree of readiness to engage authorities; such prerequisites basically are found in civic skills, political consciousness, and education. Participation can only thrive where some political goodwill for it exists, so the political environment is crucial.

Savini further discusses the concepts of empowerment and endowment as central elements of participation. Empowerment is a measure of the significance of the role of the citizen in public decision making. The term is used to assess the functioning of democratic institutions by determining citizens' access to social power, political power and psychological power. Social power refers to access to social organizations, financial resources and information. Political power is defined in terms of access to decision making while psychological power has to do with an individual's sense of effective potency. Citizens are considered empowered if they have the effective capacity to access political arenas and to influence decisions that affect them. Savini, however, faults the empowerment perspective in assessing citizen participation on three grounds. First, calculating empowerment does not say much on modalities under which it is created (Savini, 2011).

Second, the concept is multidimensional thus there is a need for a rigorous examination of the various indicators of empowerment. Finally, the empowerment approach may mislead especially due to its focus on decisions and not processes.

Perhaps another important question to worry about while discussing the possibility of deepening democracy through local citizen participation is how the process (of deepening democracy) really works. For citizen participation to be feasible, some level of civic consciousness about the citizens' political environment is necessary. Does democracy make citizens acquire civic virtues or is it the other way round? Earlier researches largely acknowledged existence of competing explanations to this question; Inglehart (1988) for example terms the relationship between civic culture and the presence or absence of modern social structures as chicken-versus-egg question.

My point of departure, which is citizen participation gradually, creating a civic culture that deepens democracy, is aware of the chicken-egg conundrum. Almond and Verba's work of 1963 is perhaps the starting point in grasping the concept of civic culture in relation to participation. Traditional understanding of civic culture (Almond and Verba, 1963), social capital (Putnam, 1993) and an autonomous civic sphere (Tocqueville, 1988) assumes civics as independent of, not caused by, and usually existing prior to the state. The prior existence of civil characteristics thus becomes an anchor upon which the state may establish a democratic society.

Clearly, these scholars' position conflicts with the general belief among political sociologists, who do not see much participation among regular citizens, especially those of the lower socioeconomic status. My broad aim is to understand how citizen participation can nurture a civic culture, which favours democracy.

Almond and Verba (1963) were concerned with the question of "the political culture of democracy and the social structures and processes that sustain it" (p.3). The authors had predicted a pattern in which large groups of people, who have been marginalized politically, would increasingly demand their involvement and the political elite would commit to include these groups. They term this phenomenon as "participation explosion". It is against this background that their work opens with the contention that a democratic form of participatory political system entails a political culture consistent with it. In an attempt to analyze the spread of Western democracy elsewhere, the authors identify two obstacles faced by the process. The first factor was the nature of the democratic culture itself and, second, the "archaic" technologies and social systems in the receiving polities.

The second obstacle implies the importance of preconditions, a favourable cultural orientation in the recipient polities which sustain democracy.

The argument of a political culture consistent with a democratic form of participation is not clear on cause-effect mechanism. Perhaps one interpretation is that the culture is required both as a prerequisite and as a concomitant condition. Almond and Verba therefore define political culture as "the specifically political orientations- attitudes toward the political system and its various parts, and attitudes toward the role of the self in the system" (p.13). Almond and Verba then sum civic culture as, "a participant political culture in which the political culture and political structure are congruent." (p.17). This definition of civic culture introduces another important term-- political structure.

By political structure, Almond and Verba refer to legislative bodies, executive and government bureaucracies. The structural functioning involves inputs and outputs in which the former means the flow of demands from the society to the polity while the latter implies the conversion of these demands into authoritative policies. When citizens are involved in both the input and the output stages within a political structure, Almond and Verba terms the culture a participant political culture. Although the term "involved" here is rather vague and needs operationalization, my study on community participation in the CDF programme clearly aims at creating a participant political culture as defined by these authors. The CDF program creates the opportunity for local citizens to develop certain attitudes about the political system and how they view their roles within that system.

## 2.5 Structural Shortcomings and Community Participation and Ownership of Projects

The inadequacies of the empowerment approach to citizen participation forced Savini to rethink his interpretation. He brings up the concept of endowment which emphasizes an assessment based on structures, procedures and the rights to access decision making. Such an institutional design, Savini argues, provides participants with the rules of the game. Savini further identifies three dimensions of endowment: type of participant, procedures of participation and the way deliberative arenas are connected to formal

decision making bodies. The type of participant deals with the socio-political character of participants, their affiliations to community groups, and the nature of their entitlement to participate in the process. Procedures of participation dimension refers to the structure and procedure of participation, paying particular attention to the formal arenas where discussions take place, the internal organization roles and the type of expertise that mediates the process. The final dimension of endowment refers to the procedures and devices that establish the links between the forums of discussion and the local government actors as well as those rules that guide their interaction.

A study carried out by Karin Axelsson, Ulf Melin and Ida Lindgren exploring the importance of citizen participation and involvement in e-government projects in 2010 reveled that in the public e-service project there was no citizen participation at all. Participation was a non-issue when initiating the project, which had a clear agency perspective aiming at increased internal efficiency. No end-user (citizen) participation makes the quality of end-user participation low (or even non-existing). Instead, users of internal solutions, administrative officials, the project manager, and (internal) managers participated in the project. They tried to figure out what users wanted based on their own experience of contact with citizens from more traditional communication channels (e.g. telephone contacts) as well as their general impressions of what future e-service users would like to have in terms of services, functions, etc. The external consultants also based their decisions on experiences from other design projects.

Fundi, 2005 give Tanzania as an example that has a long history in participatory development and trying to put structures in place. Since independence the focus of the government has been in enhancing people participation in various development projects. Effort to promote community participation was reflected in various policies and projects that were adopted during that time. These include establishment of Local Government system and abolition of the non - elected native authorities in 1972.

The Arusha Declaration of 1967 introduced socialism and self-reliance and laid down general principles to be followed in all spheres of social economic development in Tanzania. In 1972 the government introduced major changes in local governance. The

changes were stipulated in the decentralization policy of 1972 (Fundi 2005). Under these changes the central government resumed full responsibility in implementation of all policies. Fundi argues that this situation hindered effective participation because people were turned to passive recipients of government orders instead of key players in social-economic development.

Local authorities are envisaged to facilitate the participation of the people in deciding on matters affecting their lives, planning and executing their development programmes and fosters partnership with civic groups (Policy paper on Local Government Reform, 1998). To enhance the role of Local Authorities and people participation in development activities the government adopted comprehensive reform in local government system since the year 2000 (Fundi, 2005).

Fundi further observed that despite the long-lived intention by the government to enhance participation, in many parts of Tanzania participation is still inadequate. Non - involvement of people in the development process usually results in lack of ownership and sustainability of development programmes. He further says that this often causes the communities to lose interest in these programmes, which in turn increases dependency on government resources. A number of questions need to be addressed to make participation effective, among them include the capacity of people to participate and their preferences in participation. With the ongoing local government reform, there is an indication that, people's participation in all planning and implementation might become a reality. Nevertheless, the local authorities and people are not capacitated in this effort.

Therefore the depth (extent) of the participation can be described in terms of that most assumptions about citizens were made by the project group based on previous client contacts.

Over the years, Kenya has progressively shifted from a centralized to a decentralized form of governance. This paradigm shift was precipitated by the shortfalls that are often characteristic of highly centralized systems. The shortfalls include administrative bureaucracies and inefficiencies, misappropriation of public resources and the marginalization of local communities in development processes. Consequently in the late

1990s, the government began the devolvement of specific funds and decision making authority to the districts, local authority and constituency levels (Legal Resources Foundation Trust, 2009). However, devolution systems and structures have lacked a coherent or coordinating framework. They have thus been marred by overlaps, duplication, and despite their multiplicity, low citizen involvement (Kenya Human Rights Commission [KHRC] and Social and Public Accountability Network [SPAN], 2010).

In terms of accountability of the CDF, most of the studies have tended to focus on how the structures are accountable to the central government which devolves the funds and on efficiency of the program's projects (Mwangi, 2005; Nyamori, 2009; Sangori, 2010). Nyamori's work actually concludes that the systems of accountability within the CDF are skewed towards the needs of a centralized national planning, neglecting the aspect of citizen participation and development. In cases where participation has been covered, participation takes the perspective of citizens as rational choice actors within an economic space rather than participation within a democratic space provided by the program. For instance, numerous participatory examples are given where local businessmen win road, schools and health centre tenders (IEA—Kenya, 2006, Gituto, 2007). Clearly this is not the kind of participation in which this study is interested. One can concur with Gutièrrez-Romeru (2009) that the use of CDF funds intensified nearer to the elections and the probability of MPs being re-elected was not affected by the amount of the reported funds spent but partly by how the CDF funds were spent. The first conclusion points towards the future role of the CDF in local politics while the second one suggests the potential of the CDF program to elevate the quality of citizen participation.

Also a study by KHRC & SPAN in 2010 identified the weakness in the CDF Act that lack clear mechanisms for the community to participate in decision making as another shortfall in the system. Whereas these exist under the very elaborate LASDAP framework revised in 2009, empirical studies have established that there exists a gap between policy and practice. The weak articulation of mechanisms of engagement has significantly affected the success of the LASDAP and CDF. In order to enhance participation as the country implements devolution at county level, there is need for clear mechanisms for

engagement and articulation of community interests (KHRC and SPAN, 2010).

The existence of several funds has been another key impediment to effective citizen engagement in devolved governance (KHRC and SPAN, 2010). A study on the harmonization of decentralized development in Kenya, examined the effects of the existence of multiple funds and the duplication of implementation jurisdictions. The study established that these have largely deterred citizen engagement in local governance. Citizens have been confused by the existing overlaps between administrative boundaries which have made it difficult for them to understand or recall the processes involved in fund administration. The overlaps have also made it difficult to conduct monitoring and evaluation (KHRC and SPAN, 2010).

According to The Institute of Social Accountability- TISA (2009), the implementation of CDF has been marred by repeated accusation of abuse of funds, patronage due to excessive powers of the Member of Parliament (MP). TISA (2012) for effective citizen participation to be realized there must be harmonization of the funds into a single basket under the county government.

## 2.6 Alternative Structural Models that can Enhance Community Participation in CDF Program in Kenya

According to the Centre for International Development (CID) (2010), the sustainability of CDFs as tools of decentralized and effective development rests both on the efficiency and the effectiveness of its implementation and on its political acceptability to stakeholders throughout the political system. The current popularity of CDFs appears to rest mainly on the generally held political calculus in which centrally placed politicians bring home development resources to local communities and groups in exchange for political support. The institutionalization of CDFs as a mechanism of resource allocation across party lines can help to nurture a loyal opposition even over the objections of executives. At the same time, many MPs believe that CDFs have contributed to a system of political competition in where candidates are measured, in part, on their effective employment of CDF allocations (CID, 2010). This section therefore explores alternative mechanism that can promote citizen participation in CDF projects.

A study carried out by the United Nations, 2007 on decentralized funds in Eastern African countries indicate that, Uganda's current decentralization was born from both the exigencies of a guerrilla war and ideological conviction. First, in Luwero District which was the initial area occupied by Museveni's guerrilla force, a political local people-based infrastructure, named the Resistance Councils, which aimed at cultivating and sustaining support for the National Resistance Army (NRA) was secretly organized in the areas which the guerrillas captured and occupied. Second, the first point of the Ten Point Program of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) which was elaborated during the guerrilla war and which was Museveni's manifesto around which he galvanized national support for taking over power emphasized democracy, especially participatory local democracy. Political decentralization was therefore a practical step taken to actualize this ideological conviction. Whether one considers the exigencies of the guerrilla war or the ideological conviction, the most visible political aim of the NRM in pursuing decentralization right from the beginning was to widen its support by increasing people's participation in decision making processes through the Resistance Councils system. So the struggle was double edged. On one side the NRM wanted political support from the grass-roots people. On the other it wanted to plant seeds of participatory democracy for empowering the people. After the NRA captured state power, the rhetoric of war had to be curtailed and new methods of galvanizing support for and reaching consensus on decentralized governance (Resistance Councils) had to be deployed.

The study also observed that two methodologies were used to gauge and galvanize support for the decentralization policy of the National Resistance Movement: survey and enquiry and piloting. First a commission of enquiry was established in 1987 to conduct survey, enquiry and consultations at all levels to establish what form of local government should be operated in the country. The Commission of Enquiry recommended the Resistance Councils System as democratic organs of the people (The Republic of Uganda, 1987). Second, in 1993 implementation of decentralization started in 13 districts. Officially this was known as the first phase of decentralization but technically it was viewed as pilot exercise in decentralization. The experiences and lessons learned in the first thirteen districts to be decentralized were used to finally decentralize the rest of the districts in the country. In 1993 the Local Government (Resistance Councils) Statue,

1993 was passed firmly providing a legal basis for Resistance Councils in the country. These two methods, the Commission of Enquiry and the piloting provided sufficient time for consultations, discussions, negotiations, to reach consensus on devolution in the country. In 1995 a new National Constitution was promulgated after nation-wide consultations. Chapter 11 of the Constitution gives a clear constitutional base for decentralized governance in the country. Following the constitution the Local Government Act of 1997 was enacted cementing devolution (United Nations, 2007).

In South Africa for instance, the Municipal Systems Act (2000) and the Municipal Structures Act (1998) stipulates that all the municipalities should develop an Integrated Development Plan (IDP) in consultation with local people, that is, there should be full and active participation of the people in each ward in the development of an IDP(United Nations, 2007).

Further the study indicated that, after 1994 genocide in Rwanda, the leadership sought to decentralize governance and let people have a strong say in determining their socio-politico-economic destiny. The leadership had a legal basis on this in the Arusha agreements which, without mentioning decentralization, had committed government to creating a governance system that passes power to the people. In the decentralization document it is stated that one of the legal foundations of decentralization in the country is the "principle of power sharing as expressed in the Accord *de Paix d'Arusha entre le Gouvernement de la République Rwandaise et le Front Patriotique Rwandais*. Up to now power sharing has only been seen among the political elite at parliament and executive levels. The decentralization policy was to reinforce power sharing by ensuring that the Rwandese people themselves are empowered to shape their political, economic, and social destiny" (Government of Rwanda, 2000).

The Kenyan situation is not different. Since the establishment of CDF in 2003 through an Act of Parliament the government of Kenya has cumulatively allocated a whopping KSh.107 Billion to CDF (CDF Management Board, 2012). When President Mwai Kibaki first became President in 2002, the National Alliance Rainbow Coalition (NARC) government promised to devolve power away from the centre and to share political

power among Kenya's diverse groups. With this hope, the CDF was established to fight poverty at the grassroots level. To achieve this goal the CDF was structured to ensure that constituencies receive 2.5% of the Government annual ordinary revenue, besides monies to be received from other sources by the CDF Board (CDF Act, 2003). Over the years, it has emerged that the core problem with CDF is directly attributable to a weak legal framework and near absent oversight mechanisms that limit citizen participation in decision making and project implementation (TISA, 2012). Members of Parliament, the de-facto patrons of CDF, had taken advantage of the legal loopholes to use CDF as a political tool.

As alternative structural models that can enhance effective community participation in Kenya, the government should come up with statutory legislations that will help hold the duty bearers accountable to mwananchi (NTA, 2013). Modalities should be put in place with stan measures to trace and fully account for all missing funds or take the necessary legal action to ensure recovery of the same by the duty bearers, equally CDF projects' records plus Bills of Quantities should be made available as provided for Article 35(a) and (b) of the constitution (NTA, 2013). Deliberate efforts by the government to formulate clear policy framework to involve citizens in the selection and implementation of CDF projects is paramount. This will enhance ownership of the projects by the community and be in line with the spirit of the new constitution that encourages citizen participation as provided in Articles 201(a), 10(2) (a), 118(b), Article 174(c) and Article 196(1)(b) [NTA, 2013].

Based on the literatures reviewed by this study, a rights based approach to citizen participation requires that modalities be built into all decision making processes, including budgeting, environmental management, development project management and others in order to enable citizens not only to enjoy the accruing benefits but, more importantly, to own the whole gamut of social development agenda and process.

Whereas some of the modalities will require formal and statutory procedures at both the County and sub-County (constituency) levels others will require broad policy frameworks or organic legislations by parliament that provide broad guidelines on citizen participation as per the Constitution of Kenya (2010).

## 2.7 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework that guides this study is heavily borrowed from the self-efficacy theory by Albert Bandura (1994), and according to him, self-efficacy is "the belief in one's capabilities to organize and execute the courses of action required in managing prospective situations", it is a person's belief in his or her ability to succeed in a particular situation. Bandura described these beliefs as determinants of how people think, behave, and feel. He points out that self-efficacy plays a major role in how goals, tasks, and challenges are approached.

Albert Bandura's concept of self-efficacy was developed as part of a larger theory, the social learning theory (Ashford & LeCroy, 2010), which has progressed into the social cognitive theory (Levin, Culkin, & Perrotto, 2001). Social cognitive theory was presented by Bandura in response to his dissatisfaction with the principles of behaviorism and psychoanalysis. In these two theories, the role of cognition in motivation and the role of the situation are largely ignored (Bandura, 1977; as cited in Redmond, 2010). Nevid (2009) explains that social cognitive theory illustrates the fact that individuals do not simply respond to environmental influences, but rather they actively seek and interpret information. Individuals "function as contributors to their own motivation, behavior, and development within a network of reciprocally interacting influences" (Bandura, 1999). According to Bandura (2005), social cognitive theory takes on an agentic perspective to change, development and adaptation. "In this view, people are self organizing, proactive, self-regulating, and self reflecting. They are contributors to their life circumstances not just products of them" (Bandura, 2005). The self-efficacy theory lies at the center of Bandura's social cognitive theory, which emphasizes the role of observational learning and social experience in the development of personality.

Self-efficacy has a number of strengths; when faced with a difficult task, people who have high self-efficacy will face the challenge as something to be learned and mastered. Their interest and motivation in mastering the task will drive them to succeed in their difficult, yet approachable goal (Pajares & Schunk, 2001). Equally, high levels of self-efficacy enhance one's accomplishments and feelings of personal well being, it helps one

to remain calm when approaching challenging tasks (Pajares, 1996), it increases one's confidence in mastering new domains, increases one's willingness to experiment with new ideas, encourages one to set higher expectations for future performances and lastly it increases one's persistence and focus on a given task beyond previous levels (Ormrod, 2008).

As weaknesses, high self-efficacy can sometimes lead to an individual applying less effort to a particular task. This is because high self-efficacy can sometimes lead to overconfidence in one's attitude, which creates a false sense of ability. The result is that they think they know more about the task than they really do and fail to apply the needed effort (Redmond, 2009). Equally high self-efficacy beliefs do not always guarantee positive outcome expectations and sometimes beliefs vary greatly between individuals, which makes them very difficult for researchers to assess (Pajares, 1996). Also basing one's self-efficacy for a new task on results of previous tasks may be misleading (Bandura, 1986). Personal factors and distorted memories of previous performance can distort one's self-efficacy (Bandura, 1986).

Despite the challenges discussed above, this research is still based on self-efficacy theory because it has had important implications for other agents in the instructional process (Ashton, 1984; Ashton & Webb, 1986). For example, Gibson and Dembo (1984) have found that teachers who have a high sense of instructional efficacy devote more instructional time to academic learning, give students more and better help. Likewise, Woolfolk and Hoy (1990) have found that teachers with higher self-efficacy are more likely to employ strategies that support their students' intrinsic motivation and encourage the students to direct their own learning. Finally, Bandura (1997) points out that those staff members in a school who collectively judge themselves as having high self-efficacy are likely to provide an environment that will promote similar feelings and high levels of productivity among their students. Hence by engaging the public in management of their affairs, by involving them in needs identification and coming up with solutions and by treating them as valued partners in government ventures will increase their self-efficacy thus, effective participation and ownership of state initiatives and processes.

## 2.8 Conceptual Framework

In government sponsored projects especially CDF, failure of citizen participation and ownership depends on the size of investment on awareness creation, transparency and accountability in an all inclusive process. Demographic characteristics, culture, structural CDF shortcomings with no alternative structural models directly influence ownership of projects, utilization of resources, people's living conditions and quality of life.
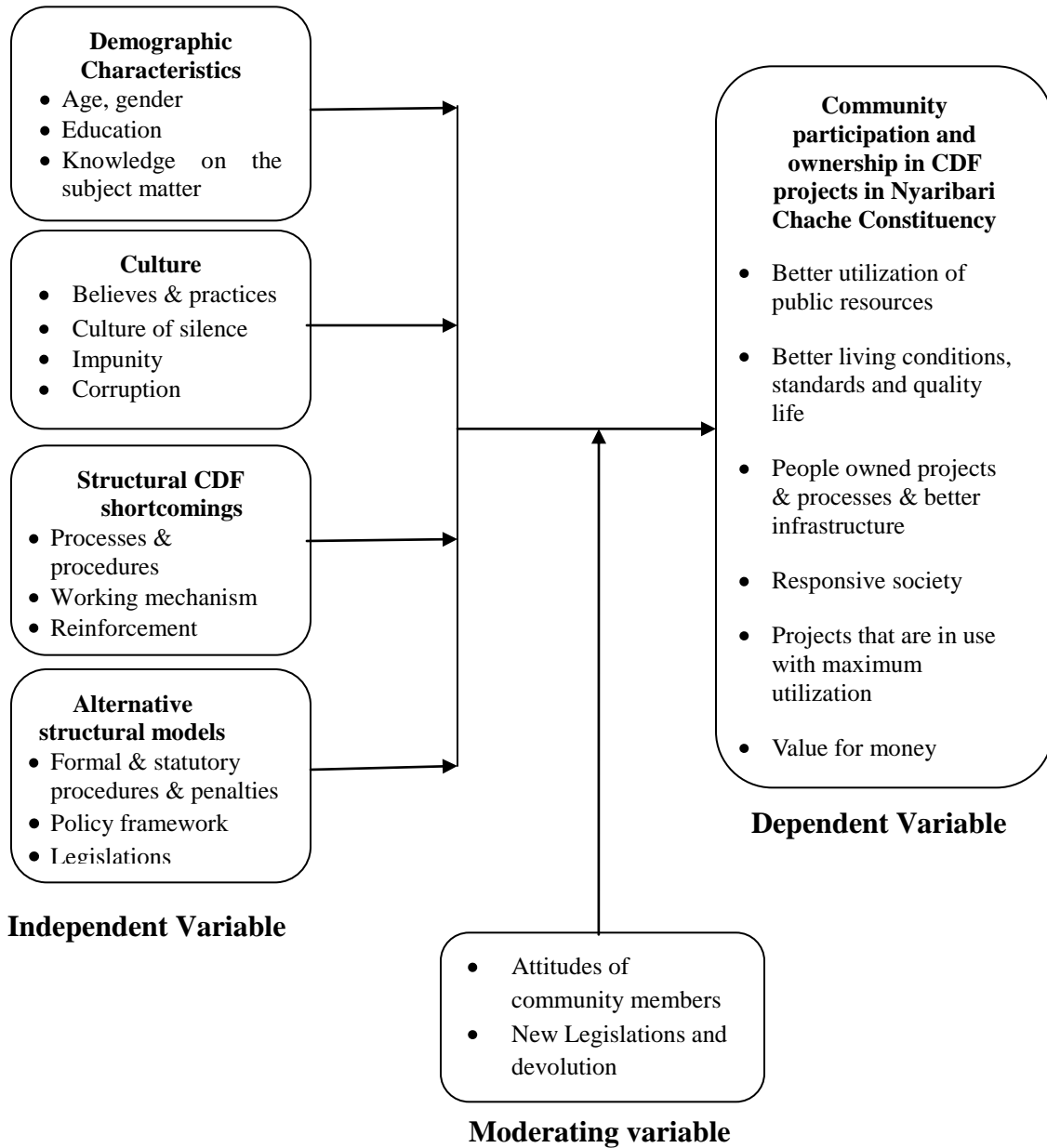


**Figure 1: Conceptual framework**
**Source: Own Conceptualization (2014)**

## 2.9 Knowledge Gaps Identified in Literature Review

### Table 1.1: Knowledge Gaps Identified in Literature Review

| Specific variable | Source of Literature | Title of the Study | Findings | Actual knowledge gap |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Demographic data | Siedler, 2007 | Schooling and Citizenship: Evidence from compulsory Schooling Reforms, IZA Discussion papers 2573. | Education is positively associated with all political outcomes. | Education and public participation in CDF projects in Kenya. |
| | Thatcher et al., 1997 | Farmer participation in reforestation incentive programs in Costa Rica. | The studies showed that there was relationship between age of the people and their participation in communal projects whereby younger people participated more than older ones. | Age and public participation in Kenya. |
| | Batwel, 2008 | Factors affecting community participation in primary education development projects in Makete District of Tanzania. | | |
| Culture | Tocqueville 1988 | Democracy in America. | Traditional understanding of civic culture, social capital and an autonomous civic sphere assumes civics as independent of, not caused by, and usually existing prior to the state. The prior existence of civil characteristics thus becomes an anchor upon which the state may establish a democratic society. | Understand how citizen participation can nurture a civic culture, which favours democracy. |
| | Putnam, 1993 | Bowling Alone:the collapse and revival of American Community. | | |
| Structural shortcomings | Fundi, 2005 | Community Participation and the Role of School Committees. | Because of inadequate structures, in most cases people are turned into passive recipient of government orders | Asses how people's & authorities' capacities contribute to |

| | | | instead of being key players in social-economic development. | community participation. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | KHRC & SPAN, 2010 | A study on the harmonization of decentralized development in Kenya. | | |
| | TISA, 2009 | CDF Social Audit Guidelines. | | |
| Alternative structural models | United Nations, 2007 | Public Administration ad Democratic Governance: Governments Serving Citizens. 7th Global Forum on Reinventing Government Building Trust In Government 26 - 29 June 2007. | A rights based approach to citizen participation requires that modalities be built into all decision making processes, including budgeting, environmental management, development project management and others in order to enable citizens not only to enjoy the accruing benefits but, more importantly, to own the whole gamut of social development agenda and process. | Workable modalities with formal and statutory procedures, policy frameworks or organic legislations. |
| | TISA, 2010 & 2012 | A study on effective citizen participation. | | |
| | KHRC & SPAN, 2010 | A study on the harmonization of decentralized development in Kenya. | | |
| | NTA, 2013 | A report on Citizen's Constituency Development Fund Report Card. | | |

## 2.10 Summary of the Reviewed Literature

Education is positively associated with all political outcomes (Siedler, 2007). This was reviled in a study carried out in West Germany on the impact of education on civic on engagement. Equally, Tocqueville (1988) and Putnam (1993) came to a conclusion that, there was relationship between gender and age of the people and their participation in communal projects whereby younger people participated more than older ones.

Traditional understanding of civic culture, social capital and an autonomous civic sphere assumes civics as independent of, not caused by, and usually existing prior to the state. The prior existence of civil characteristics thus becomes an anchor upon which the state may establish a democratic society (Almond and Verba, 1963), (Tocqueville, 1988) and (Putnam, 1993). Also, people's traditions, way of life, customs, believes, religion and language heavily influence political life of society. Past experiences and practices such as impunity, corruption among others inform people's decisions and judgments.

Fundi (2005), KHRC & SPAN (2010) and TISA (2012) came up with a conclusion that, because of inadequate structures, in most cases people are turned into passive recipient of government orders instead of being key players in social-economic development; poor systems, policy framework and procedures have adversely affected the level at which people are involved in CDF programmes. The weakness in the CDF Act, the existence of multiple funds and the duplication of implementation jurisdictions have equally left communities more confused with no clear mechanisms for engagement (TISA, 2012).

Based on the literatures reviewed by this study, a rights based approach to citizen participation requires that modalities be built into all decision making processes, including budgeting, environmental management, development project management and others in order to enable citizens not only to enjoy the accruing benefits but, more importantly, to own the whole gamut of social development agenda and process (TISA, 2010 & 2012), (KHRC & SPAN, 2010). The quality of deliberation also matters. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions.

## CHAPTER THREE

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the methodology that was used in conducting the study. And it is divided in the following sections; research design, target population, sample size and sampling procedure, research instruments, data collection procedure, data analysis techniques, ethical considerations in research and operational definitions of variables.

### 3.2 Research Design

Research design is an arrangement of conditions for collection and analysis of data in such a way that it aims to combine relevance with the research purpose with economy, or is a plan for doing a research Chamwali (2007). On the other hand Orodho (2003) defined a research design as the, outline or plan that is used to generate answers to research problem. Research design is also defined by Kothari (1990) as the detailed blue print used to guide a research study towards its objectives. It is a detailed plan of work to be done to achieve the research objectives.

In this study the research adopted descriptive survey design. Kothari, (2003) describes descriptive survey design as a method used to collect detailed description of existing phenomena with the view of employing data to justify current conditions and practices or to make more intelligent plans for improving them. It is concerned with finding out the who, what, where and how of a phenomenon which is the concern of the study (Orodho, 2003). The survey design is well suited to studies in which individuals are used as a unit of analysis in order to measure generalizations (Borg and Gall, 1999), and also the survey design was best suited for this study because the data that was required for analysis was collected from a large population, in which it would be hard to observe the features of each individual. The participants were given questions administered through questionnaires with closed ended questions using a likert scale for easy statistical analysis (Jackson, 2009). This made it possible for the researcher to generate statistical information because it allowed the researcher to gather numerical and descriptive data to assess the relationship between the variables, at the same time provided a systematic way

of looking at events, collecting data, analyzing information, and reporting the results. Data was collected by use of questionnaires and interviews.

## 3.3 Target Population

Target population is all the members of a real or hypothetical set of people, events or objects to which a researcher wishes to generalize the results of the research study (Borg & Gall, 1989). It is a target group to be studied; the total collection of elements about which we wish to make inferences. This study's target population was 13,746 adult residents (National census, 2009) of 4 wards (Nyaura, Nyansira, Kegati and Kanga Hill) in Nyaribari Chache Constituency which were randomly picked. This includes 220 PMC members from 20 CDF projects supported in FY 2013/2014 who manage development projects at community level, 15 CDF committee members who are responsible for fund allocations and the CDF manager from which a sample was drawn. This helped in getting unbiased information from all the stakeholders.

## 3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999), sampling refers to the process of selecting a number of individuals for a study in such a way that the individuals selected represent a large group from which they are selected. Sample size is the process of selecting a sufficient number of elements from a population. And sampling procedure are the steps followed when picking elements or subjects which will be involved in the study. The chief aim of sampling is to make an inference about unknown parameters from a measurable sample statistics (Krishnaswami, 2002). Its main purpose is to obtain fairly accurately the characteristic of the population.

### 3.4.1 Sample Size

Sampling means selecting a given number of subjects from a defined population as representative of that population. Any statements made about the sample should also be true of the population (Orodho, 2002). Salant and Dillman (1994) states four factors to consider before determining the size of the sample as; how much sampling error can be tolerated, population size, how varied the population is with respect to the characteristics of interest and the smallest subgroup within the sample for which estimates are needed.

According to Krejcie and Morgan (1970), the size of the population and the amount of error the researcher is willing to tolerate is what determines the size of the sample. This study targets 13,102 residents of Kiogoro Ward which comprises of Boronyi, Nyaguta and Matunwa sub – Locations in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. This target population is an inclusion of residents, 220 PMC members, 15 CDF committee members and the CDF manager. In order to get the sample size, the researcher used Krejcie and Morgan (1970) table which translated to a sample size of 375 respondents.

### 3.4.2 Sampling Procedure

The research purposively censured the CDF manager, 5 top officials in the CDF committee and three officials (chair person, secretary and treasurer) from PMCs of 20 CDF projects that were supported in the FY 2013/2014. Further, the researcher employed stratified random sampling technique to ensure that the 309 adult residents of Boronyi, Nyaguta and Matunwa sub – Locations were represented in the sample in proportion to their number in the population.

With the help of four research assistants, the respondents were selected randomly from within a radius of 1 Km of the 20 CDF projects supported in the FY 2013/2014, where at least 15 adults from each project were identified, given the questionnaires, had them filled and collected on the same day. *(The table 2.1 presents sampling matrix).*

**Table 2.1: Sampling Matrix.**

| Target population | Total population | Sample population | % of the sample |
|---|---|---|---|
| CDF Manager | 1 | 1 | 0.27 |
| CDF Committee | 15 | 5 | 1.33 |
| PMC members | 220 | 60 | 16 |
| Boronyi sub - Location | 4,147 | 94 | 25.06 |
| Nyaguta sub - Location | 5,801 | 130 | 34.67 |
| Matunwa sub - Location | 3,798 | 85 | 22.67 |
| **Total** | **13,746** | **375** | **100** |

*Source of sample size method: Krejcie and Morgan (1970) table.*

## 3.5 Data Collection Instruments

The study involved questionnaires scheduled with closed questions for data collection because they were relatively easy to administer and provide the investigator with easy accumulation of data. The researcher personally with assistance of four research assistants collected primary data by administering the structural questionnaires to the sampled respondents. There were questionnaires for the Nyaribari Chache residents who were the CDF beneficiaries, PMCs, CDF committee members and the CDF manager. The questionnaires were divided into seven sections. Section A and B gave background information about the respondent; more on demographic characteristics, section C and D, solicited information related to the factors influencing community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, E tried to explore alternative structural models that could enhance people's participation, F captured what could be done locally to improve the situation, while section G looked at the benefits associated with people's involvement in CDF programme in Kenya.

### 3.5.1 Pilot Testing

Pilot testing is the process of subjecting the research instruments to a trial to determine its suitability in a given study area. This is done by administering the research instruments to a sample population with a characteristic similar to the study population so as to elicit desired responses. This helps the researcher to adjust the instruments in order to yield the desired response in the actual research.

Pilot testing of the research instruments was carried out to check on their validity and reliability. The pre-testing was carried out on randomly sampled adult residents in one location other than the once under study in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, where 38 respondents who are 10% of the study sample size were identified and had the questionnaires filled on that same day. The researcher carried out pilot testing so as to identify areas and questions in the instruments that needed modification. This also helped correct terminologies that were difficult for the respondents to understand. In addition, the pilot test also helped assess the appropriateness of the methods used for data analysis, and revealed adjustments that were necessary. According to Mugenda and Mugenda

(1999), pilot testing ensures that research instruments are stated clearly and have the same meaning to all respondents. It helps refine the instruments so that respondents can have no problem in answering the questions.

### 3.5.2 Validity of the Research Instruments

Validity refers to the degree to which an instrument measures what it purports to measure (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). This illustrates the degree to which results obtained from the analysis of data actually represent the phenomena under study. A content validity test was used to measure instrument validity. This type of validity measures the degree to which data collected using a particular instrument represented a specific domain of indicators or content of a particular concept (Mugenda and Mugenda, 1999). Expert assistance from my supervisor was handy in assessing the degree to which the questionnaire would measure and determine the content of the particular concept being measured. A pilot study was carried out to improve the validity of the instrument

For this research all the assessments of validity were subjective opinions based on the judgment of the researcher (Wiersman, 1995).

### 3.5.3 Reliability of Research Instruments

Reliability refers to the consistency of data arising from the use of a particular research instrument. Mugenda (2003) states that reliability is the measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results after repeated trials over a period of time. This view is shared by Gay and Airasian (2000), who describe reliability as the degree to which a test consistently measures what it is measuring. The split – half technique was used, where the same data collection instrument was administered twice to the same respondents. The subjects were selected using simple random sampling method and interview guides and questionnaires administered to them. The same procedure was repeated after two weeks and scores obtained from both tests had a coefficient of reliability above 0.5 therefore, the instrument was reliable as Spearman's correlation coefficient of 0.65 is preferable. The pre-test enabled the researcher to improve the quality of the research instrument thus increasing its reliability.

## 3.6 Data Collection Procedure

The researcher sort permission from the relevant authorities including an authorization letter from the University of Nairobi and approval from Nyaribari Chache CDF office. The researcher also sort for a letter of permit from the National Council of Science and Technology (NCST). This was followed by the researcher arranging meetings with the key informants on how to reach the target population. The interviews schedules and the questionnaire sessions were set and the target groups mobilized and informed about the interviews and the questionnaire sessions.

The questionnaires were issued to the respondents at random and then collect them after one day. The participants were given questions administered through questionnaires with closed ended questions using a five point Likert scale for easy statistical analysis (Jackson, 2009).

The researcher collected both primary and secondary data for purpose of making conclusion and recommendations. The researcher liaised with the CDF manager, CDF committees and PMCs to know when they could be available to have the questionnaires administered. Secondary data were collected from text books, economic surveys, Government reports, journal and periodicals.

## 3.7 Data Analysis Techniques

Data analysis refers to separation of data into constituent elements. Before processing the responses, the completed questionnaires were edited for completeness and consistency. The collected data was coded by the researcher for efficiency in order to reduce the replies given by the respondents to a small number of classes. After coding, the data was classified on the basis of common characteristics and attributes.

The raw data was then assembled and tabulated inform of statistical tables to allow for further analysis. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the data by examining the general trend in data sets and of each variable at a time. Descriptive summaries like frequencies, mean, and percentages were determined. Content analysis was applied for the qualitative data in order to identify patterns, themes and biases. The results was

presented using tables and in narrative form. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20 was used to aid the statistical analysis of the data. Data presentation was done by use of frequency distribution tables.

## 3.8 Ethical considerations

The study respected ethical requirements in data collection and processing. Permission to do carry out the study was obtained from UoN among other relevant authorities including the Kisii County Government. The study was conducted with an assurance of keeping the information from the respondents confidential. The research team visited potential respondents in their workplaces and homes to ensure little or no time wasted. In the write-up, anonymity was guaranteed pseudonyms. At completion, the findings will be shared with stakeholders through feedback sessions and through publications in journals for wider academic sharing.

### 3.9 Operational definition of Variables

This is a specification of the process by which a concept is measured. The researcher chose indicators and specific observations that were made in order to measure a particular concept.

**Table 3: Operationalisation Table**

| Objectives | Variable Indicators | Measure | Measure scale | Tools of analysis | Type of analysis |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| To establish how demographic characteristics influence citizen participation and ownership in CDF projects in Nyaribari | › Age, gender<br>› Marital status<br>› Education<br>› Knowledge on subject matter | › Birth certificates<br>› Identification cards<br>› School leaving certificates | Ordinal & Nominal | Percentages and frequencies | Descriptive |
| To examine the extent to which culture influences citizen participation and ownership in CDF projects in Nyaribari | Believes Corruption Impunity | Degree of Believes, altitude Customs | Ordinal & Nominal | Percentages and frequencies | Descriptive |
| To assess the level to which structural shortcomings influence citizen participation and ownership in CDF projects in Nyaribari | Processes & procedures in place | Adequacy of processes & procedures in place | Ordinal & Nominal | Percentages and frequencies | Descriptive |
| To establish alternative structural models that can enhance citizen participation and ownership in CDF program in Kenya | › Statutory guidelines<br>› Policy framework<br>› Legislations | › Functionalization of Statutory guidelines<br>› Policy framework<br>› Legislations | Ordinal & Nominal | Percentages and frequencies | Descriptive |
| Citizen participation and ownership in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency | Better utilization of public resources People owned projects & processes | Standards of living & conditions<br><br>Levels of responsivity of society | Ratio & Nominal | Percentages and frequencies | |

# CHAPTER FOUR

## DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter includes data analysis, presentation and discussion on an investigation on factors influencing community participation and ownership of government sponsored projects, with a case study of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency of Kisii County. The study looked at how demographic characteristics, culture and structural CDF shortcomings influence people's participation and tried to explore alternative structural models that can be adopted to improve community involvement in their own development.

### 4.2 Questionnaire Rate of Return (QRR)

A total of 375 questionnaires were administered to the CDF manager, a sample of CDF committee, PMC members and Nyaribari Chache residents. The table 4.1 gives an analysis on the questionnaire return rate:

**Table 4.1: Questionnaire Return Rate**

| Target population | Number of questionnaires given out | Number of questionnaires returned | Percentage: Rate of return |
|---|---|---|---|
| CDF Manager | 1 | 1 | 100.00 |
| CDF Committee | 5 | 4 | 80.00 |
| PMC members | 60 | 55 | 91.67 |
| Kanga Hill Ward | 65 | 64 | 98.46 |
| Nyaura Ward | 130 | 125 | 96.15 |
| Kegati Ward | 85 | 83 | 97.64 |
| Nyansira Ward | 29 | 29 | 100.00 |
| **Total** | **375** | **361** | **96.27** |

The table shows that 361 copies (96.27%) of the questionnaires were returned with a few gaps where one or two questions were not responded to. Guided by Bailey (1987) who set the adequacy bar at 75% of questionnaire rate of return and Schutt (1999) at 60%, the study continued as it was within the acceptable range of adequacy.

## 4.3 Demographic Information about the Respondents

The first objective of the study was to establish how demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. The research sought to find out how demographic characteristics (gender, age, education and marital status) of the respondents influence their involvement in public affairs. And this was done by comparing relationships between the gender of the respondents and their knowledge on the subject matter, age and level of education versus knowledge on the subject matter, and gender, age, education and marital status and the participation in CDF projects.

### 4.3.1 Distribution of Respondents by Gender

The researcher asked the respondents to indicate there gender in the questionnaires. This was key as it was going to assist the study understand community participation in terms of their gender, cultural practices and in decision making. The table 4.2 shows gender distribution of the respondents.

**Table 4.2: Distribution of respondents by gender**

| Questionnaire | Male | Female | Non-response | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Residents | 188 | 110 | 3 | 301 |
| PMC members | 27 | 28 | 0 | 55 |
| CDF Committee & Manager | 2 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| **Total** | **217 (60.1%)** | **141 (39.1%)** | **3** | **361** |

Out of a total of 361 respondents, 217 (60.1%) were male and 141 (39.1%) were female. Further the analysis shows that of the 298 residents, 188 (63.08%) were male while 36.9% were female. Of the 55 PMC members 27 (49.1%) were male and 28 (50.1%) were female. And of the 5 CDF committee 2 (40%) were male and 3 (60%) female. Three respondents did not indicate their gender. This show that the male gender dominated in the study.

**4.3.2 Distribution of Respondents by Age**

Respondents were asked to indicate their ages in the given age brackets. This was important to the study as it was going to show clearly the participation of various age groups in public matters, help get to understand why different age groups act the way they do and assist in coming up with suitable measures for various age sets to enhance community participation by all. Field data revealed the information presented in the table 4.3.

**Table 4.3: Distribution of respondents by age**

| Age bracket / Category | CDF Committee | PMC Members | Residents | Total | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18 - 27 | 1 | 10 | 107 | 118 | 32.69 |
| 28 - 37 | 1 | 7 | 74 | 82 | 22.72 |
| 38 - 47 | 2 | 7 | 38 | 47 | 13.01 |
| 48 - 57 | 0 | 15 | 37 | 52 | 14.40 |
| 58 - 67 | 1 | 14 | 23 | 38 | 10.54 |
| 68 and over | 0 | 2 | 13 | 15 | 4.15 |
| Non – response | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 2.49 |
| **Total** | **5** | **55** | **301** | **361** | **100** |

Table 4.3 reflects that of the 361 respondents who were contacted, 118 (32.69%) fell under the age of 18 – 27 years, 82 (22.72%) under 28 – 37 years, 47 (13.01%) fell between 38 – 47 years, 52 (14.4%) 48 – 57, 38 (10.54%) between 58 - 67 and 15 (4.15%) had 68 years and above. This implies that majority of respondents were youthful (as per the Kenyan Constitution) that is fell between the ages of 18 – 37 years which comprised of 55.41% of total respondents. And this means that the study will reflect majorly the minds of youth people who are future leaders.

**4.3.3 Distribution of Respondents by Highest Level of Education**

Education impacts skills and knowledge to the persons enabling them to perform better in their reasoning and duties. The researcher hence asked the respondents to indicate their highest level of education. This is presented in table 4.4.

**Table 4.4 Highest education level of respondents**

| Highest level of education | CDF Committee | PMC Members | Residents | Total | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Primary | 1 | 22 | 31 | 54 | 14.96 |
| Secondary | 2 | 15 | 116 | 133 | 36.84 |
| College | 2 | 8 | 98 | 108 | 29.92 |
| University | 0 | 9 | 46 | 55 | 15.23 |
| Non – response | 0 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 3.05 |
| **Total** | **5** | **55** | **301** | **361** | **100** |

As reflected in the table 4.4, quit a number of the respondents 54 (14.96%) with a big number being PMC members 22 (40.7%) were primary school leavers, 133 (36.84%) had attended up to secondary level, 108 (29.92%) have attained middle level college and 55 (15.23%) had gone to university. The table also reflects that 1 (20%) of the CDF committee and 22 (40%) of PMC members were primary school leavers, while 2 (40%) of the CDF committee and 15 (27.27%) of the PMC members did not proceed after secondary education. This means that majority of the leadership in CDFs do not have any professional training as 60% of the CDF committee and 67.27% of PMC members are either standard eight or form four leavers. This is likely to impact negatively on project performance; right from project identification, decision making processes to quality of work done.

## 4.4 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents and Community Participation and Ownership of CDF Projects

The study sought to establish how demographic characteristics (gender, age, education and marital status) of the respondents influence their involvement in public affairs. And this was done by comparing relationships between the gender of the respondents and their knowledge on the subject matter, age and level of education versus knowledge on the subject matter, gender and their participation in CDF projects, age, education and marital status and the participation in CDF projects.

### 4.4.1 Knowledge on the Subject Matter

An analysis on demographic characteristics of the respondents in relation to knowledge on the subject matter was done, this sought to know how much the respondent were conversant with CDF and the laws regulating the fund.

### 4.4.1.1 Gender in Relation to Knowledge on the Subject Matter

This analysis was meant to establish how gender influenced levels of knowledge on the subject matter in Nyaribari Chache Constituency; that is in terms of having copies of the CDF Act, reading it and understanding its content. Table 4.5 shows a tabulation of the analysis.

**Table 4.5: Gender in relation to knowledge on the subject matter**

|  |  | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Male | Count | 91 | 61 | 10 | 14 | 8 | 184 |
|  | % within read the CDF Act | 67.9 | 56.0 | 76.9 | 60.9 | 66.7 | 63.2 |
| Female | Count | 43 | 48 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 107 |
|  | % within read the CDF Act | 32.1 | 44.0 | 23.1 | 39.1 | 33.3 | 36.8 |
| **Total** | **Count** | **134** | **109** | **13** | **23** | **12** | **291** |
|  | **% of Total** | **46.0** | **37.5** | **4.5** | **7.9** | **4.1** | **100.0** |

The analysis shows that 91 (49.45%) of the male and 43 (40.18%) of the female strongly disagreed to have read the CDF Act, while 61(33.15%) male and 48 (44.86%) disagreed. This shows that almost the same percentage of either gender disagree that they have read and understood the CDF Act. A greater percentage of either gender did not have copies of the CDF Act, had not read and understood its content. This means that the majority of the respondents were ignorant of the laws governing CDF, hence high chances of affecting their participation in the CDF projects.

### 4.4.1.2 Age and Knowledge on the Subject Matter

Age is key in development in any society; there is a productive age and a dependant age. In this study the analysis of age of respondents in relation on knowledge on the subject matter was done. This was meant to help the researched to understand different age groups and their levels of knowledge which is crucial in effective and meaningful community participation. Table 4.6 analyzes the respondents' ages in relation to their knowledge on the subject matter.

**Table 4.6: Age and knowledge on the subject matter**

| Age Bracket | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18-27 | 44 | 42 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 107 |
| 28-37 | 40 | 22 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 74 |
| 38-47 | 14 | 16 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 38 |
| 48-57 | 16 | 15 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 37 |
| 58-67 | 11 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23 |
| 68 and over | 9 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| **Total** | **134** | **109** | **13** | **24** | **12** | **292** |
| **% of total** | **45.9** | **37.3** | **4.5** | **8.2** | **4.1** | **100** |

The analysis indicates that 44 (41.12%) of the age bracket of 18 – 27 years, 40 (54.05%) of age bracket of 28 – 37 years, 14 (36.84%) of 38 – 47, 16 (43.24%) of 48 – 57 age bracket, 11 (47.82%) of 58 – 67) and 9 (69.23%) of 68 years and over strongly disagreed to neither have in possession of the CDF Act nor read it. Equally, 42 (39.25%) of the age bracket of 18 – 27 years, 22 (29.73%) of age bracket of 28 – 37 years, 16 (42.1%) of 38 – 47, 15 (40.54%) of 48 – 57 age bracket, 12 (52.18%) of 58 – 67) and 2 (15.38%) of 68 years and over disagreed on the same. This shows that across all age brackets, the respondents have not read and understood the CDF Act. 45.9% of the respondents strongly disagreed, 37.3% disagreed and 4.5% remained neutral. This means that only 12.3% were sure to have read the CDF Act. The highest in the age bracket that have not read and understood the CDF Act are within the brackets of 18 – 27 years which stood out at 35.39% of the group that either disagreed of strongly disagrees to have read the CDF Act and 28 – 37 years which as well stood at 25.51%.

These are the most productive age brackets that comprise of majority of the CDFs leadership. Then it means that the rate of output in CDF projects is likely to be low due to inadequate knowledge on the subject matter among the leadership.

**4.4.1.3 Highest Level of Education of Residents versus Knowledge on the Subject Matter**.

It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions. Savini (2011) identifies the nature of participants, the political environment, previous experiences of local participation and individual preferences of participants as contextual factors on which outcomes of deliberations depend. Participants should have some degree of readiness to engage authorities; such prerequisites basically are found in civic skills, political consciousness, and education. People expect education to go hand in hand with levels of exposure and participation in public affairs. Thus the study did an analysis of the relationship between levels of education and knowledge on the subject matter as shown in table 4.7.

**Table 4.7: Level of education of residents versus knowledge on the subject matter**

| Highest level of education | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Primary | 10 | 16 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 31 |
| Secondary | 51 | 52 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 116 |
| College | 50 | 31 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 98 |
| University | 22 | 10 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 46 |
| **Total** | **133** | **109** | **13** | **24** | **12** | **291** |
| **% of total** | **45.7** | **37.5** | **4.5** | **8.2** | **4.1** | **100.0** |

The table indicates that 26 (83.87%) of those who attained primary school education, 103 (88.79%) of the ones who reached secondary, 81 (82.65%) of the respondents who attained tertiary education and 32 (69.57%) of the university graduates had neither a copy of the CDF Act nor read it. The analysis shows that, generally across all the education levels the respondents have not read and understood the CDF Act; 45.7% of the respondents strongly disagreed to have read the CDF Act, while 37.5% disagreed. The highest is among those who have attained primary and secondary. This is likely to impact negatively in peoples' participation in the CDF projects as they are ignorant of the law and its provisions.

**4.4.1.4 Level of Education of Leadership versus Knowledge on the Subject Matter**

This was to assess the levels of knowledge on the on CDF and laws governing the Act. The table 4.8 shows a tabulation of responses from CDF committee and PMC members on the knowledge on the CDF Act.

**Table 4.8: Level of education of leadership versus knowledge on the subject matter**

| | CDF Committee | PMC members | Total | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Strongly disagree | 0 | 5 | 5 | 8.33 |
| Disagree | 0 | 6 | 6 | 10.00 |
| Neutral | 1 | 5 | 6 | 10.00 |
| Agree | 2 | 9 | 11 | 18.33 |
| Strongly agree | 2 | 29 | 31 | 51.67 |
| Non - response | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1.67 |

The highest percentage 51.67% (42) reflected that the respondents have read and understood the content of the CDF Act. This means the CDFs leadership has knowledge on the laws governing the fund. This means that CDF leadership in Nyaribari Chache is conversant with the laws governing the fund, and are likely to perform better in prioritization of projects and overseeing that the law is duly followed.

## 4.4.2 Participation in CDF Projects

Analysis on the respondents' participation in CDFs either as committee member or as a beneficiary, or in identification of projects, implementation or monitoring and evaluation, and even questioning expenditure or MP's actions was done. That is in terms of gender, age, education level of the respondents and marital status and the tabulations in table 4.9 were the results.

### 4.4.2.1 Gender and Participation in CDF Projects

The study sought to analyze the relationship between gender and participation in community projects. This was to find out whether one's gender had an influence in any way in community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. Table 4.9 shows the analysis.

**Table 4.9 Gender and participation in CDF projects**

| Gender | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Male | 92 | 43 | 15 | 23 | 8 | 181 |
| Female | 44 | 32 | 15 | 6 | 9 | 106 |
| **Total** | **136** | **75** | **30** | **29** | **17** | **287** |
| **% of total** | **47.4** | **26.1** | **10.5** | **10.1** | **5.9** | **100.0** |

From the analysis it reflects that 135 (74.58%) of male and 76 (71.7%) of female do not participate in CDF projects. This means most people do not participate in CDF projects more especially male residents. And that most CDF projects might not reflect or respond to the needs of majority of the electorates in Nyaribari Chache.

### 4.4.2.2 Age and Participation in CDF Projects

The study needed to analyze the relationship between the age of the respondents and their participation in CDF projects. This was important as it could guide the researcher to understand the age group that participates more in relation to their levels of production. Table 4.10 shows the analysis.

**Table 4.10 Age and participation in CDF projects**

|  | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18-27 | 49 | 29 | 11 | 12 | 5 | 106 |
| 28-37 | 41 | 15 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 72 |
| 38-47 | 15 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 37 |
| 48-57 | 15 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 37 |
| 58-67 | 12 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 23 |
| 68 and over | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| **Total** | **136** | **75** | **30** | **30** | **17** | **288** |
| **% of Total** | **47.2** | **26.0** | **10.4** | **10.4** | **5.9** | **100.0** |

The analysis shows that 78 (73.58%) of the age bracket of 18 − 27 years, 56 (77.78%) of age bracket of 28 − 37 years, 24 (64.86%) of 38 − 47, 24 (64.86%) of 48 − 57 age bracket, 11 (91.3%) of 58 − 67 and 8 (61.54%) of 68 years and over either strongly disagreed or disagreed to have participated in CDF projects. The analysis further indicates that 136 (47.2%) of the respondents strongly disagreed to have participated in CDF projects, 75 (26.0%) disagreed, 30 (10.4%) were neutral, another 30 (10.4%) agreed while 17 (5.9%) strongly agreed to have taken part in CDF programmes. This means that generally residents in the various age groups do not participate in CDF projects in the constituency, and hence not actively participating to their development.

### 4.4.2.3 Highest Level of Education and Participation in CDF Projects

The study needed to establish whether levels of education of the respondents had an influence in their participation in CDF projects. Table 4.11 shows analysis of the tabulation done.

**Table 4.11: Level of education and participation in CDF Projects**

| Highest level of education | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Primary | 10 | 13 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 31 |
| Secondary | 49 | 32 | 13 | 11 | 8 | 113 |
| College | 55 | 19 | 11 | 7 | 5 | 97 |
| University | 21 | 11 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 46 |
| **Total** | **135** | **75** | **30** | **30** | **17** | **287** |
| **% of Total** | **47.0** | **26.1** | **10.5** | **10.5** | **5.9** | **100.0** |

The analysis shows that 23 (74.19%) of the respondents who have primary education do not participate in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache, 81 (71.68%) of the group with secondary education, 74 (76.28%) of tertiary education and 32 (69.57%) of university education do not participate either. This means that residents of various education levels do not participate in CDF projects; this is likely to impact negatively in project identification as projects implemented might not be popular projects in the community hence white elephants.

### 4.4.2.4 Marital and Participation in CDF Projects

As one of the demographic characteristics of the respondents, the study did an analysis of the relationship of marital status and community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. This was meant to help the researcher understand how family responsibilities affected people's involvement in the management of their affairs, or those who are single were perceived by society when involved in public activities. Table 4.12 shows the analysis.

**Table 4.12: Marital status and the participation in CDF projects**

| Marital status | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Married | 87 | 41 | 20 | 18 | 7 | 173 |
| Not Married | 46 | 25 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 99 |
| Divorced | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Widow/widower | 0 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| **Total** | **134** | **75** | **30** | **29** | **17** | **285** |
| **% of Total** | **47.0** | **26.3** | **10.5** | **10.2** | **6.0** | **100.0** |

The analysis indicates that 128 (73.98%) of married residents do not participate in CDF projects, 71 (71.71%) of the not married category, 4 (80%) of divorced and 6 (75%) of the widow / widower residents equally disagreed to have participated in CDF projects. This shows that residents of various marital statuses do not participate in CDF projects in the constituency; and this means that the status of one in terms of marriage does not have much influence in their participation in CDFs.

## 4.5 How Culture Influences Community Participation and Ownership of CDF Projects

The analysis of this objective was based customs, believes and practices over a period of time. These included the Kisii traditions and customs, one's faith, the culture of silence, impunity and corruption.

### 4.5.1 Kisii Culture and Traditions versus Women Participation

An analysis on the relationship between Kisii culture, tradition and faith and women participation in CDF was done. This was meant to inform the study on the extent to which culture and one's faith hindered women's participation and involvement in decision making processes. This could help especially when coming up modalities and strategies of addressing challenges related to people's participation in community projects.

**Table 4.13: Kisii culture and traditions versus women participation by residents**

| | Mean | 1: Strongly disagree | 2: Disagree | 3: Neutral | 4: Agree | 5: Strongly agree | Non-response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Customs & faith hinder women from contesting for elective seats | 3 | 86 <br> 28.6% | 75 <br> 24.9% | 34 <br> 11.3% | 65 <br> 21.6% | 21 <br> 7.0% | 20 <br> 6.6% |
| Culture hinder women from taking part in decision making processes | 3 | 61 <br> 20.3% | 100 <br> 33.2% | 43 <br> 14.3% | 64 <br> 21.3% | 20 <br> 6.6% | 13 <br> 4.3% |

28.6% of the respondents strongly disagreed Kisii customs hinder women from contesting for elective seats, 24.9% disagreed, and 11.3% remained neutral while 28.6% agreed. Equally 20.3% of the respondents strongly disagreed that culture hinder women from taking part in decision making processes, 33.2% disagreed while 14.3% were neutral. An analysis with 60 leaders; that is the CDF committee and PMC members gave a mean of 3 in both cases. That mean the residents and leadership disagreed that Kisii culture and faith hinder women from participation in the CDF projects and decision making processes.

**4.5.2 Believes about CDF**

An analysis was done on the extent to which people believe that CDF committee members were semi illiterate, CDF projects was associated with MP's cronies, CDF was the MP's monies, CDF meetings were meetings for the MP's allies and supporters and the MP had the powers to appoint the CDF committee and the constituency officials. The table 4.14 shows the results.

**Table 4.14: Believes about CDF**

| | Mean | 1:strongly disagree | 2: disagree | 3:neutral | 4: agree | 5: strongly agree | Non-response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CDF members are semi illiterate | 3 | 40 13.3% | 83 27.6% | 49 16.3% | 76 25.2% | 30 10.0% | 23 7.6% |
| CDF projects is associated with cronies of the MP | 3 | 53 17.6% | 60 19.9% | 50 16.6% | 85 28.2% | 39 13.00% | 14 4.7% |
| CDF is the MP's monies | 3 | 55 18.3% | 62 20.6% | 56 18.6% | 77 25.6% | 35 11.6% | 16 5.3% |
| The MP appoint the CDF and other officials | 3 | 43 14.3% | 57 18.9% | 73 24.3% | 67 22.3% | 45 15.0% | 16 5.3% |
| CDF meetings are meetings for the MP's | 3 | 50 16.6% | 55 18.3% | 59 19.6% | 66 21.9% | 54 17.9% | 17 5.6% |

Most Residents disagreed that the CDF committee members were semi illiterate with 40.9% disagreeing and 35.2% agreeing. And an analysis with leadership also reflected that 28.3% disagreed that CDF members were semi illiterate, 50.2% strongly agreed while 21.5% remained neutral. This means that most of the CDF committee members were semi illiterate.

Most Residents agreed that many people were not involved in CDF projects because it is associated with cronies of the MP with a mean of 3. 14.3% of the respondents strongly disagreed that the MP had powers to appoint the CDF committee members and other constituency officials, 18.9% disagreed, 24.3% were neutral, 22.3% agreed while 15.0% strongly agreed. An analysis with the CDF leadership showed that a high percentage (49.2%) of leadership agreed that the MP had powers to appoint CDF committees and other constituency officials, 15.9% were neutral while 33.3% disagreed. This means that there is a general believe that the MP has appointing powers.

### 4.5.3 The Culture of Impunity and Participation in CDF Projects

The study analyzed how the culture of impunity in the country discourages many people from participating in community projects. This included things like an MP not being arrested in cases of law violation, disappearance of public funds without holding any one accountable and warding communities projects without a clear criteria. Table 4.18 shows the tabulation.

**Table 4.15: The culture of impunity in the country discourages many people from participating in CDF projects**

|        |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative % |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------|
| Valid  | Strongly Disagree | 45        | 15.0    | 15.8          | 15.8         |
|        | Disagree          | 61        | 20.3    | 21.5          | 37.3         |
|        | Neutral           | 71        | 23.6    | 25.0          | 62.3         |
|        | Agree             | 72        | 23.9    | 25.4          | 87.7         |
|        | Strongly Agree    | 35        | 11.6    | 12.3          | 100.0        |
|        | Total             | 284       | 94.4    | 100.0         |              |
| Missing| System            | 17        | 5.6     |               |              |
| **Total** |                | **301**   | **100.0** |             |              |

The analysis of the above table shows that 45 (15.0 %) of the respondents strongly disagree that the culture of impunity in the country discourages many people from participating in CDF projects, 61 (20.3%) disagreed, 71 (23,6%) remained neutral, 72 (23.9%) agreed while 35 (11.6%) strongly agreed. This means that the culture of impunity is something one should worry of because 35.3% of the respondents disagreed while 35.5% agreed.

### 4.5.4 Corruption versus Participation in CDF Projects

This analysis was to assess the extent to which Nyaribari Chache residents believed that there were high levels of corruption in CDF, and how this influenced their participation in constituency projects. Table 4.16 shows the analysis.

**Table 4.16: People do not want to be associated with CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector**

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Valid | Strongly Disagree | 29 | 9.6 | 10.2 | 10.2 |
| | Disagree | 63 | 20.9 | 22.2 | 32.4 |
| | Neutral | 68 | 22.6 | 23.9 | 56.3 |
| | Agree | 78 | 25.9 | 27.5 | 83.8 |
| | Strongly Agree | 46 | 15.3 | 16.2 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 284 | 94.4 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 17 | 5.6 | | |
| **Total** | | **301** | **100.0** | | |

From the above analysis, it reflects that 30.9% of the respondents disagree that people do not want to be associated with CDF because of high levels of corruption in th**e** sector, 22.6% were neutral while 41.2% agreed. This means that most residents agree that they believe that CDF is a corrupt sector.

### 4.6 How CDF Structural Shortcomings Influence Community Participation

An analysis was done to assess how CDF structural shortcomings influenced community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache constituency. The assessed the processes & procedures; in terms of weakness of the CDF Act, popularity of processes & procedures, working structures to the ground, CDF working procedures and duplication of work. At the same time looked at the working mechanism; that is the platforms for mwananchi to participate, electing CDF committees and complaint mechanism. Also the reinforcement mechanisms were assessed plus the gaps between policy and practice.

**Table 4.17: Structural shortcomings that influence community participation**

| | Mean | 1:strongly disagree | 2: disagree | 3:neutral | 4: agree | 5: strongly agree | Non-response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No clear working structures to the ground | 3 | 51 16.9% | 54 7.90% | 42 14.0% | 92 30.6% | 46 15.3% | 16 5.3% |
| Lack of reinforcement mechanism | 3 | 29 9.6% | 63 20.9% | 49 16.3% | 82 27.2% | 59 19.6% | 19 6.3% |
| No clear working procedures | 3 | 28 9.3% | 36 12.0% | 61 20.3% | 97 32.2% | 62 20.6% | 17 5.6% |
| Lack of complaint mechanism | 3 | 30 10.0% | 42 14.0% | 45 15.0% | 106 35.2% | 60 19.9% | 18 6.0% |
| No adequate participation platforms | 4 | 22 7.3% | 45 15.0% | 35 11.6% | 109 36.2% | 75 24.9% | 15 5.0% |
| Duplication of work / funds | 3 | 56 18.6% | 64 21.3% | 32 10.6% | 81 26.90% | 48 15.9% | 19 6.3% |
| Weak CDF Act | 3 | 67 22.3% | 42 14.0% | 52 17.3% | 73 24.3% | 48 15.9% | 19 6.3% |
| Poor coordinating framework | 3 | 50 16.6% | 52 17.3% | 53 17.6% | 82 27.20% | 40 13.3% | 24 8.0% |

The table above indicates that 105 (24.8%) of the respondents disagree that there are no clear CDF working structures to the ground, while 138 (45.9%) agree. 92 (30.5%) disagree to lack of CDF reinforcement mechanism, while 141 (46.8%) agree. 64 (21.3%)

disagree to lack clear working procedures and 159 (52.8%) agree. 67 (22.3%) disagree to unavailability of adequate participation platforms,   while 184 (61.1%0 agree. This means that there is a challenge with the CDF structures and working mechanism as it's also reflected in the coordination framework where 102 (33.9%) of the respondents disagreed to existence of poor CDF coordinating framework while 122 (40.5%) agreed. This for sure it's likely to impact negatively on the Operationalisation of the CDFs and people's involvement.

## 4.7 Alternative Structural Models that can Enhance Community Participation in Kenya.

The study also did an analysis on the exploration of alternative structural models that could enhance community participation in the country. The formal & statutory procedures & penalties: in terms of, institutionalization of CDFs were analyzed, policy framework that is all inclusive with severe penalties for those who do not comply and harmonization of the funds into a single basket under the county governments. Statutory procedures were equally explored with models like supporting non- state actors, adaption of rights based approach and considering citizen participation as a basic Human Right. Table 4.18 shows the results.

**Table 4.18: Alternative models that can enhance community participation**

| | Mean | 1:strongly disagree | 2: disagree | 3:neutral | 4: agree | 5: strongly agree | Non-response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Institutionalization of CDFs through clear legislations | 3 | 51 16.9% | 57 18.9% | 58 19.3% | 64 21.3% | 49 16.3% | 22 7.3% |
| An all inclusive policy framework | 3 | 34 11.3% | 64 21.3% | 43 14.3% | 83 27.6% | 56 18.6% | 21 7.0% |
| proper statutory procedures | 3 | 45 15.0% | 45 15.0% | 66 21.9% | 84 27.9% | 39 13.0% | 22 7.3% |
| Bottom – up model of decision making | 3 | 38 12.6% | 53 17.6% | 62 20.6% | 85 28.2% | 41 13.6% | 22 7.3% |
| Support non- state actors | 3 | 27 9.0% | 58 19.3% | 63 20.9% | 84 27.9% | 40 13.3% | 29 9.6% |
| Harmonization of the funds | 3 | 28 9.3% | 71 23.6% | 75 24.9% | 75 24.9% | 30 10.0% | 22 7.3% |
| A rights based approach | 3 | 22 7.3% | 53 17.6% | 88 29.2% | 74 24.6% | 43 14.3% | 21 7.0% |
| Citizen participation as a basic Human Right | 4 | 20 6.6% | 43 14.3% | 57 18.9% | 86 28.6% | 75 24.9% | 20 6.6% |

From the proposed alternative CDF structural models, citizen participation as a basic Human Right had the highest frequency of 161 (53.5%) with most respondents agreeing with the model. An all inclusive policy framework was ranked second with a frequency of 139 (46.2%), followed by bottom – up model of decision making with 216 (41.8%), support of non- state actors with 124 (41.2%) and putting proper statutory procedures in place with 123 (40.9%). Lastly we have the rights based approach with a frequency of

117 (38.9%), institutionalization of CDFs through clear legislations with 113 (37.6%) and then harmonization of devolved funds at county level with 105 (34.9%).

The analysis with the CDF leadership (60 CDF committee members and PMC members) revealed that all the above proposed models were important as they measured a mean of 3. This means that all the models are key in enhancing effective community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency.

## 4.8 How to Enhance Effective Community Participation in CDF Projects

An analysis on how the situation could be improved locally was done. And it looked at civic awareness and community empowerment, an all inclusive process by local leaders, putting in place workable feedback mechanism and communication systems, clear rules, guidelines and mechanism with a working judiciary, setting up oversight committees and minimum requirements such as educational qualifications and moral conduct for members of CDF committees. Table 4.19 shows the results.

**Table 4.19: How to enhance community participation in CDFs**

| | Mean | 1:strongly disagree | 2: disagree | 3:neutral | 4:Agree | 5: strongly agree | Non-response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Civic awareness and community empowerment | 4 | 23 7.6% | 45 15.0% | 53 17.6% | 61 20.3% | 96 31.9% | 23 7.6% |
| Improvement and proper communication systems and processes | 3 | 55 18.3% | 42 14.0% | 31 10.3% | 61 20.3% | 93 30.9% | 19 6.3% |
| Clear rules, guidelines and mechanism for engagement with citizens | 3 | 38 12.6% | 61 20.3% | 31 10.3% | 62 20.6% | 89 29.6% | 20 6.6% |
| In an all inclusive process | 3 | 58 19.3% | 35 11.6% | 43 14.3% | 68 22.6% | 76 25.2% | 21 7.0% |
| A working judiciary that will restore the confidence of mwananchi | 3 | 43 14.3% | 46 15.3% | 47 15.6% | 68 22.6% | 77 25.6% | 20 6.6% |
| Setting up oversight committees that can challenge poor structures and system | 3 | 33 11.0% | 57 18.9% | 39 13.0% | 71 23.6% | 81 26.9% | 20 6.6% |
| Develop workable feedback mechanism right from ward level | 3 | 31 10.3% | 50 16.6% | 43 14.3% | 70 23.3% | 85 28.2% | 22 7.3% |
| Put in place minimum requirements for members of CDF committees | 3 | 29 9.6% | 53 17.6% | 57 18.9% | 69 22.9% | 73 24.3% | 20 6.6% |

The analysis indicates that 157 (52.2%) of the respondents agreed to civic awareness and community empowerment as one of the things to do to improve the situation locally ranking it highest, followed by the development of workable feedback mechanism right

from ward level at 155 (51.5%), improvement and proper communication systems and processes scored 154 (51.2%), setting up oversight committees that can challenge poor structures and system had 50.5% agreeing to it, clear rules, guidelines and mechanism for engagement with citizens 152 (50.2%), a working judiciary that will restore the confidence of mwananchi 145 (48.2%), an all inclusive process at 144 (47.8%), and finally putting in place minimum requirements for members of CDF committees 142 (47.2%).

An analysis for the CDF leadership reflected a mean ranging between 3.08 and 3.4. This means that it was one of the components that was highly supported, hence a community need.

## 4.9 Community Participation & Ownership CDF Projects

The study as well analyzed the relationship between the independent and dependent variables: How effective community participation would enhance better utilization of public resources, demand driven projects, those that respond to the needs of society hence improve living conditions, standards and quality  life, project ownership, project sustainability, maximum utilization and use of projects and not white elephants, peace and prosperity, better infrastructure and attraction of investors, a more responsive society that manages its own affairs with less difficulties and patriotism in the country. Table 4.20 show the analysis.

**Table 4.20: Community participation & ownership CDF projects**

| | Mean | 1:strongly disagree | 2: disagree | 3:neutral | 4: agree | 5: strongly agree | Non-response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Better utilization of public resources | 3 | 46 15.3% | 40 13.3% | 39 13.0% | 66 21.9% | 89 29.6% | 21 7.0% |
| Better living conditions, standards and quality life | 3 | 28 9.30% | 59 19.6% | 38 12.6% | 69 22.9% | 87 28.9% | 20 6.6% |
| Enhanced project ownership, hence project sustainability | 3 | 37 12.3% | 40 13.3% | 57 18.9% | 64 21.3% | 83 27.6% | 20 6.6% |
| Maximally utilized projects and not white elephants | 3 | 45 15.0% | 45 15.0% | 58 19.3% | 65 21.6% | 68 22.6% | 20 6.6% |
| Peace and prosperity | 3 | 32 10.6% | 48 15.9% | 59 19.6% | 69 22.9% | 67 22.3% | 26 8.6% |
| Attract investors | 3 | 29 9.60% | 50 16.6% | 49 16.3% | 67 22.3% | 84 27.9% | 22 7.3% |
| A more responsive society | 3 | 29 9.60% | 49 16.3% | 58 19.3% | 59 19.6% | 84 27.9 | 22 7.3% |
| Value for money | 3 | 27 9.00% | 54 17.9% | 54 17.9% | 75 24.9% | 70 23.3% | 21 7.0% |
| Strong patriots | 4 | 19 6.30% | 46 15.3% | 57 18.9% | 70 23.3% | 88 29.2% | 21 7.0% |

The analysis shows that most people agreed that effective community participation can enhance project ownership and hence sustainability. The table reflects that 155 (48.5%) of the respondents agreed that effective community participation would lead to better utilization of public resources,    156 (51.8%) agreed to better living conditions,

standards and quality life,   147 (48.9%) to enhanced project ownership and sustainability, maximally  utilized projects and not white elephants with a frequency of 133 (44.2%), peace and prosperity with 136 (45.2%), attracting investors 151(50.2%), a more responsive society 143 (47.5%), value for money 145 (50.2%) and finally building strong patriots at 158 (52.6%).

An analysis with the CDF leadership gave a mean of 4. All combined it means that for sure effective community participation enhances project ownership and sustainability.

# CHAPTER FIVE

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter contains discussion of findings, summary of the findings, conclusion, recommendations and suggestions for further study. The findings are summaries in line with the objectives of the study which was to establish the factors influencing community participation and ownership of government sponsored projects: CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, Kisii County in Kenya.

### 5.2 Summary of the Findings

The study established factors influencing community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, Kisii County by looking at the effect of demographic characteristics, culture and structural CDF shortcomings on people's participation and tried to explore alternative structural models that could be adopted to improve community involvement in Kenya.

**Table 5.21: Summary of the findings**

| Objective | Findings |
|---|---|
| To establish how demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. | The findings were that there was more male participation as compared to female gender. 55.41% were of the age bracket of 18 − 37 years; were youthful and 63.64% of the leadership in CDF in Nyaribari Chache do not have any professional training. |
| | Secondary it was discovered that gender had no influence on knowledge on the subject matter. 83.2% of the residents of Nyaribari Chache Constituency were ignorant of the CDF laws with majority being the youth. |
| | The level of education did not matter; even those who have attained tertiary and university education were equally |

| | ignorant. Although 51.67% of the CDF leadership of the constituency has knowledge on the laws governing the fund. |
| --- | --- |
| | At the same time it was realized that 63.98% of the male gender and 44.9% of the married population in Nyaribari Chache do not participate in CDF projects. Age and levels of education were not major factors of participation in CDF projects. |
| To examine the extent to which culture influences community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency | Kisii culture and faith have minimal negative impact on community participation; instead there are cultural values that promote participation, such as communal labour.<br><br>There are high levels of ignorance among the Nyaribari Chache populace. People strongly believe that an MP cannot be arrested, CDF is the MP's monies and the MP has the powers to appoint the CDF committee and the constituency officials. Equally people believe that CDF is a corrupt sector and thus do not want to associated with it. |
| To assess the level at which structural shortcomings influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. | There was a general feeling that there were no clear CDF working structures to the ground, lack of CDF reinforcement mechanism, no clear working procedures and inadequate participation platforms for mwananchi. This means that there are a lot of challenges with the CDF structures and working mechanism. |
| To establish alternative structural models that can enhance community participation and ownership of CDF program in Kenya. | From the proposed alternative CDF structural models, Citizen Participation as a basic Human Right was ranked highest, an all inclusive policy framework followed, then the bottom – up model of decision making, support of non- state actors, putting proper statutory procedures in place, the rights based approach, institutionalization of CDFs through clear legislations and lastly the harmonization of devolved funds at county level.<br><br>There was a general feeling that all the above proposed models were important and key in enhancing effective community participation. |

## 5.3 Discussion of Research Findings

## 5. 3.1 Influence of Demographic Characteristics on Community Participation

The first objective of the study was to establish how demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. The research sought to find out how demographic characteristics (gender, age, education and marital status) of the respondents influence their involvement in public affairs. And this was done by comparing relationships between the gender of the respondents and their knowledge on the subject matter, age and level of education versus knowledge on the subject matter, gender and their participation in CDF projects, age, education and marital status and the participation in CDF projects.

The findings were that 60.1% of the respondents were male, 55.41% were of the age bracket of 18 – 37 years; were youthful and majority of the leadership in CDF in Nyaribari Chache do not have any professional training as 60% of the CDF committee and 67.27% of PMC members were either standard eight or form four school leavers.

Secondary it was discovered that gender had no influence on knowledge on the subject matter, as almost the same percentage of either gender had no copies of the CDF Act nor read it. 83.2% of the residents of Nyaribari Chache Constituency were ignorant of the CDF laws, with majority being the youths who comprised 60.9% of those who had no idea about the CDF Act.

Previous research over the last forty years has shown a positive effect from formal education and different forms of active citizenship mostly in the domain of Representative Democracy, in particular voting (Dee, 2004; Milligan, et al. 2003; Campbell, 2006), some research in the domain of civic competence including attitudes (Almond and Verba, 1989) and political knowledge (Milligan et al., 2003), some in the domain of community life on associational involvement (Putnam, 2000; Campbell, 2006; Dee, 2004) and in the domain of Protest and Social Change (Campbell, 2006).

Education has been promoted as a tool for the creation of social outcomes, such as social cohesion and democracy, ever since compulsory education was first developed (Dewey,

1916). Education and level of exposure influences attitude, personal attributes and leadership qualities (Luthans 2005). Surprisingly, this study revealed that the level of education in Nyaribari Chache did not help the situation; those who had gone to school (secondary and college) comprised 63.22% of the group that had no information about the content of the CDF Act. Nevertheless, several papers have put into question the relationship between education and participation without being able to conclude in favour of a strong positive effect (Milligan et al, 2004; Dee, 2004).

At the same time it was realized that 63.98% of the male gender and 44.9% of the married population in Nyaribari Chache do not participate in CDF projects. A finding that is similar to a study done in Malawi which indicated that there were gender inequalities in community contribution within households especially in providing non-monetary contributions whereby females provided most of the labour than males (Rose, 2003). Salami and Kpamegan (2002) cited in Rose (2003) argue that women have been found to be involved in providing human contributions, while men contribute more in financial and material terms. On the other hand, Agrawal *et al.* (2006) found that females participate more in participatory projects than men regardless of their triple role they perform in community.

This study discovered that age was not a factor as 73.2% of the people across all the age brackets did not take part in CDF projects. This is supported by Thatcher *et al.* (1997) who found that age had no influence on participation of communities. Contrary to a study done by Batwel (2008) which showed that there was relationship between age of the people and their participation in communal projects whereby younger people participated more than older ones.

In a nut shell, it was realized that demographic characteristics of the respondent did not have direct influence in their participation in public projects. The population across the sphere; both gender, all ages, all levels of education, married or not married, very few had knowledge on the subject matter and participated in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency.

## 5.3.2 Influence of Culture on Community Participation

The analysis of this objective was based on customs, believes and practices over a period of time. These included the Kisii traditions and customs, one's faith, the culture of silence, impunity and corruption in the country. The findings were that, Kisii culture and faith impact negatively on the participation of 35.2% of the respondents. On the other hand 64% of the respondents appreciated cultural values that promoted participation such as obedience to senior members of the community and communal labour.

The quality of deliberation and participation matters. It is one thing for citizens to have access to a participatory forum, yet it is another altogether for their contribution to impact final decisions. Savini (2011) identifies the nature of participants, the political environment, previous experiences of local participation and individual preferences of participants as contextual factors on which outcomes of deliberations depend. Participants should have some degree of readiness to engage authorities; such prerequisites basically are found in civic skills, political consciousness, and education.

Savini further discusses the concepts of empowerment and endowment as central elements of participation. Empowerment is a measure of the significance of the role of the citizen in public decision making. The term is used to assess the functioning of democratic institutions by determining citizens' access to social power, political power and psychological power. Social power referring to access to social organizations, financial resources and information. Political power in terms of access to decision making while psychological power has to do with an individual's sense of effective potency.

This study realized that there were high levels of ignorance among the Nyaribari Chache populace; people strongly believe that CDF projects are associated with MP's cronies, CDF is the MP's monies and the MP had the powers to appoint the CDF committee and the constituency officials. At the same time it was revealed that 50.2% of the CDF leadership in Nyaribari Chache was semi illiterate, and 49.2% of this leadership believes that the MP had powers to appoint CDF committees and other constituency officials. And that many people were not involved in CDF projects because it was associated with

cronies of the MP. Citizens are considered empowered if they have the effective capacity to access political arenas and to influence decisions that affect them (Savini, 2011).

As regarding to corruption and the culture of impunity, 41.2% of the respondents actually believe that an MP cannot be arrested at whatever cost, s/he can award CDF monies as s/he pleases and CDF is associated with very high levels of corruption, this discouraging many from participating in CDF projects and causing apathy among them.

### 5.3.3 Influence of CDF Structural Shortcomings on Community Participation and Ownership of Projects

An analysis was done to assess the extent to which CDF structural shortcomings influenced community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. The assessment on the processes & procedures; in terms of weakness of the CDF Act, popularity of processes & procedures, working structures to the ground, CDF working procedures and duplication of work was done. At the same time looked at the working mechanism; that is the platforms for mwananchi to participate, electing CDF committees and complaint mechanism. Also the reinforcement mechanisms were assessed plus the gaps between policy and practice.

The findings were that 45.9% of the respondents strongly felt that there were no clear CDF working structures to the ground, 46.8% felt that there was lack of CDF reinforcement mechanism, 52.8% that there were no clear working procedures, while 61.1% felt that there were inadequate participation platforms for mwananchi.

The shortfalls include administrative bureaucracies and inefficiencies, misappropriation of public resources and the marginalization of local communities in development processes (LRF, 2009). The systems and structures have lacked a coherent or coordinating framework. They have thus been marred by overlaps, duplication, and despite their multiplicity, there has been low citizen involvement (KHRC and SPAN, 2010).

According to TISA (2009), the implementation of CDF has been marred by repeated accusation of abuse of funds, patronage due to excessive powers of the Member of

Parliament (MP). TISA (2012) for effective citizen participation to be realized there must be harmonization of the funds into a single basket under the county government. This means that there are serious challenges with the CDF structures and working mechanism that need urgent attention.

## 5.3.4 Alternative structural models that can enhance community participation and ownership of CDF program in Kenya

The study also did an analysis on the exploration of alternative structural models that could enhance community participation in the country. The formal & statutory procedures & penalties: in terms of, institutionalization of CDFs were analyzed, policy framework that is all inclusive with severe penalties for those who do not comply and harmonization of the funds into a single basket under the county governments. Statutory procedures were equally explored with models like supporting non- state actors, adaption of rights based approach and considering citizen participation as a basic Human Right.

From the proposes alternative CDF structural models, citizen participation as a basic Human Right was ranked highest (53.5%) with most respondents agreeing with the model. An all inclusive policy framework was ranked second with 46.2%; a process that should be deliberate by the government to formulate clear policy framework to involve citizens in the selection and implementation of CDF projects. Followed by bottom – up model of decision making with 41.8%, and support of non- state actors with 41.2%.

40.9% of the respondents supported statutory procedures as alternative structural models that can enhance effective community participation in Kenya. The government should come up with statutory legislations that will help hold the duty bearers accountable to mwananchi (NTA, 2013). Modalities should be put in place with stun measures to trace and fully account for all missing funds or take the necessary legal action to ensure recovery of the same by the duty bearers, equally CDF projects' records plus Bills of Quantities should be made available as provided for Article 35(a) and (b) of the constitution (NTA, 2013).

The analysis with the CDF leadership (60 CDF committee members and PMC members)

revealed that all the above proposed models were important as they measured a mean of 3. This means that all the models are key in enhancing effective community participation and ownership government sponsored projects.

Based on the literatures reviewed by this study, a rights based approach to citizen participation requires that modalities be built into all decision making processes, including budgeting, environmental management, development project management and others in order to enable citizens not only to enjoy the accruing benefits but, more importantly, to own the whole gamut of social development agenda and process. This will enhance ownership of the projects by the community and be in line with the spirit of the new constitution that encourages citizen participation as provided in Articles 201(a), 10(2) (a), 118(b), Article 174(c) and Article 196(1)(b) [NTA, 2013].

### 5.3.5 Community participation & ownership CDF projects

Community participation means an open process in which the rights of the community to be informed, to provide comments to the government and to receive a response from the government are met through a full opportunity to be involved and to express needs and goals. It is the process which provides private individuals an opportunity to influence public decisions and is a component of democratic decision making process. It can as well be viewed from the perspective of benefits to be gained and costs to be borne. Implicit in this "penchant for getting involved" is the notion of the relationship between self and society (Bellah et al., 1985).

According to Katorobo (2007) service delivery to citizens may be considered from the standpoint of two types of decentralization – that guided by the principle of subsidiarity; and that guided by the principle of management by results. Some services are best delivered at the national level; others at the regional level; and many at the grass-roots level where the consumers of those services are located. It is therefore notable that for the service to be delivered citizen must participate as consumers of those services.

The relationship between the independent and dependent variables was analyzed: How effective community participation would enhance better utilization of public resources,

demand driven projects, those that respond to the needs of society hence improve living conditions, standards and quality life, project ownership, project sustainability, maximum utilization and use of projects and not white elephants, peace and prosperity, better infrastructure and attraction of investors, a more responsive society that manages its own affairs with less difficulties and patriotism in the country.

From the study it was revealed that most people felt that effective community participation could enhance project ownership and sustainability. It ensures that government decisions and policies reflect the public interest. It enhances transparency and accountability, project ownership, proper utilization of resources, and also necessary in decreasing citizens' doubts and mistrust towards the government. Cogan and Sharpe (1986) identifies five benefits of citizen participation in the planning process which include: Information and ideas on public issues, public support for planning decisions, avoidance of protracted conflicts and costly delays, reservoir of good will which can carry over to future decisions and spirit of cooperation and trust between the government and the public.

The study also revealed that 48.5% of the respondents agreed to better utilization of public resources, 51.8% to better living conditions, standards and quality life, 48.9% enhanced project ownership, hence project sustainability, maximally utilized projects and not white elephants 44.2%, peace and prosperity 45.2%, attracting investors 50.2%, a more responsive society 47.5%, value for money 50.2% and finally building strong patriots at 52.6%. An analysis with the CDF leadership gave a mean of 4. All combined it means that for sure effective community participation can enhance project ownership and sustainability.

**5. 4 Conclusion**

The study investigated the factors influencing community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. The result show that demographic characteristics; age, gender, marital status and levels of education of citizens has no direct influence on their participation in public affairs.

There are high levels of ignorance and apathy among the electorates in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. People have wrong perception to CDFs, misinformed and misconceived ideas, for instance that the MPs are above the law and cannot be arrested, CDF is the MP's monies and the MP has the powers to appoint the CDF committee, constituency officials and even effect transfers in schools. Equally CDF has been labeled as a corrupt sector, there has been a lot of criticism, from various quarters, on the way the CDF is managed and implemented. The shortfalls include administrative bureaucracies and inefficiencies, misappropriation of public resources and the marginalization of local communities in development processes (LRF, 2009). The systems and structures have lacked a coherent or coordinating framework. They have thus been marred by overlaps, duplication, and despite their multiplicity, there has been low citizen involvement (KHRC and SPAN, 2010). Equally the process has been marred by repeated accusation of abuse of funds, putting up projects that are not of priority to the members of the community and patronage due to excessive powers of the MP (TISA, 2009).

The establishment of CDF was meant to facilitate development which is people responsive. In other words, the constituents are to be involved in project identification, designing, planning and implementation and at the same time in monitoring and evaluation of their development (CDF Act, 2003). From the study, this can be achieved through the adaption of alternative models that can enhance effective citizen participation. Some of the proposed alternative CDF structural models include: - Citizen participation be regarded as a basic Human Right, an all inclusive policy framework, the bottom – up model of decision making, support of non- state actors, putting proper statutory procedures in place, the rights based approach, institutionalization of CDFs through clear legislations and lastly the harmonization of devolved funds at county level.

## 5.5 Recommendations

As a result of the study findings the researcher put forward the following recommendations: -

1. Cultural values that participation should be integrated in projects to strengthen them while those that impact negatively on participation be eradicated tactfully.

2. The government has the responsibility to make sure that its people are well informed on the matters pertaining their daily lives which include people's rights and responsibilities, know their constitution, better life provision in terms of food, shelter, health services, education etc and democratic governance. Because of this key responsibility we recommend the government to make strategies which will enable each wards & village and sub village/street office have a copy of national constitution which will make it possible for people to read/understand the contents let alone see it. Also it could be better if those parts of the constitution which really touches the lives of people at the grassroots are in simplified as much as possible for easy comprehension and accessibility to large section of the community. The government should also promote civic education in school by reviewing the school syllabus to ensure adequate coverage of the contents.

3. The government to put in place clear CDF rules, guidelines, procedures and reinforcement mechanism with a working judiciary to restore the confidence of the common citizen.

4. The counties jointly with non – state actors to form liason desks to conduct civic education which include information on the spirit of the provisions on leadership and integrity chapters of the constitution, disseminate of information and set platforms for public participation.

5. Because direct beneficiaries of civic education are the citizens at the grassroots level, it is better for the political parties to create grounds for free and fair elections by promoting the spirit of political tolerance so as to make their supporters come together on the discussion about issues of national interest.

**5.6 Suggestions for further Research**

Suggestions for further research include: -

1. A similar research to be carried out in an urban setting to give a balanced view of factors influencing community participation in CDF projects.

2. Another study to be undertaken on a larger sample. The sample could be from a whole county or more counties.

3. A similar study on factors influencing the elite's participation in public affairs and development projects to be carried out to give a balance view on both the elite and non- elite.

## 5.7 Contribution to the Body of Knowledge

**Table 5.22: Contribution to the body of knowledge**

| Objective | New Knowledge |
|---|---|
| To establish how demographic characteristics influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. | Demographic characteristics; age, gender, marital status and levels of education of citizens of Nyaribari Chache Constituency, Kisii County, Kenya has no direct influence on their participation in public affairs. |
| To examine the extent to which culture influences community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency | Kisii culture and faith have minimal negative impact on community participation in Nyaribari Chache Constituency; instead there are cultural values that promote participation, such as communal labour and obedience to the elders.<br><br>There are high levels of ignorance and apathy among the Nyaribari Chache populace. |
| To assess the level at which structural shortcomings influence community participation and ownership of CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. | There are no clear CDF working structures to the ground, there are inadequate and poor CDF reinforcement mechanism, working procedures and participation platforms for mwananchi that impact negatively on community participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency. |
| To establish alternative structural models that can enhance community participation and ownership of CDF program in Kenya. | The alternative CDF structural models that can be tried to enhance effective citizen participation are: coming up with statutory legislation that will recognize citizen participation as a basic Human Right, provide for an all inclusive policy framework, with bottom – up model in decision making, and supporting non- state actors who empower communities. Also a rights based approach can be tried as well as harmonizing devolved funds into one basket; preferably at county level. |

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**Dear Sir / Madam**

**Introduction**

My name is Obare Agnes Moraa, a student at The University of Nairobi undertaking a Masters degree of Arts in Project Planning and Management. I am undertaking a research study on "Factors Influencing Citizen Participation and Ownership of Government Sponsored Projects: A Case Study of Constituency Development Fund Projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency in Kisii County". Please note that the information given herein is solely for academic purposes only hence will be treated with confidentiality. Your co-operation is highly appreciated.

**Section A. Background Information**

**Please tick inside the boxes or write on the spaces provided**

1. Gender:　　a) Male ☐　　　　b) Female ☐

2. Which one among these represents your age?

　　a) ☐　18 – 27 years ☐　　b) 28 – 37 years ☐

　　c) 38 – 47 years

　　d) 48 – 57 years ☐　e) 58 – 67 years ☐　　f) 68 and over ☐

3. Highest level of education:
　　a) Primary ☐　　b) Secondary ☐　　c) College ☐
　　e) University ☐　　f) Other specify _____

4. Marital status:
　　a) Married ☐　　b) Not married ☐
　　c) Divorced ☐　　d) Widow / widower ☐

5. Name of Location: _____

**Section B.  Questionnaire in relation to Knowledge on the subject matter**

Indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. Use the following scale for your responses. Kindly do it in all sections of this questionnaire.

**1** = STRONGLY DISAGREE,   **2** = DISAGREE,   **3** = NEUTRAL,   **4** = AGREE,
**5** = STRONGLY AGREE.

|    | STATEMENT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1  | I have a copy of the CDF Act | | | | | |
| 2  | I have read and understood the content of the CDF Act | | | | | |
| 3  | I have participated in the identification of CDF projects to be supported in my constituency | | | | | |
| 4  | I have been involved in the implementation process of CDF projects | | | | | |
| 5  | I have benefited from the CDF supported projects in my constituency | | | | | |
| 6  | I know how much money my constituency received as CDF in the last financial year | | | | | |
| 7  | I saw the returns made by the CDF manager to the CDF management board on how money was spent in the last financial year | | | | | |
| 8  | I have participated in questioning the expenditure of CDF in my constituency | | | | | |
| 9  | I have initiated a case on poor workmanship of CDF supported projects | | | | | |
| 10 | I am a member of the Project Management Committee in my locality | | | | | |
| 11 | I have never seen the CDF Act | | | | | |
| 12 | I have seen a copy of the CDF Act, but not taken time to read it | | | | | |
| 13 | I have read the CDF Act, but do not understand its operationalization well | | | | | |
| 14 | I have never participated in the identification processes of CDF projects in my constituency | | | | | |
| 15 | I have never participated in the implementation processes of CDF projects | | | | | |
| 16 | I have never benefited from the CDF supported projects | | | | | |
| 17 | I don't know any of the CDF supported projects in my locality | | | | | |
| 18 | I have never visited my CDF office for any inquiries | | | | | |
| 19 | I have never seen any CDF financial records of my constituency | | | | | |
| 20 | I do not know anything to do with CDF in my constituency | | | | | |

## Section C.  Questionnaire in relation to culture

| | STATEMENT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Kisii customs hinder women from contesting for elective seats | | | | | |
| 2 | Culture hinder women from taking part in decision making processes in the community | | | | | |
| 3 | Churches, Mosques and Temples do not allow its flock to be involved in CDF projects as its perceived as a dirty game | | | | | |
| 4 | Many people do not question leadership as they might be seen as opponents | | | | | |
| 5 | Most of the CDF committee members are semi illiterate | | | | | |
| 6 | People do not participate in CDF projects because they are not aware of the process and what it entails | | | | | |
| 7 | Many people are not involved in CDF projects because it is associated with cronies of the MP | | | | | |
| 8 | CDF is perceived as the MP's monies, hence disinterests many | | | | | |
| 9 | CDF is money meant to reward the MP's friends, clan and to enrich themselves | | | | | |
| 10 | The MP has the powers to appoint the CDF committee and the constituency officials | | | | | |
| 11 | CDF meetings are meetings for the MP's allies and supporters | | | | | |
| 12 | Many people do not want to be associated with CDF because of high levels of corruption in the sector | | | | | |
| 13 | The culture of impunity in the country discourages many people from participating in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache | | | | | |
| 14 | Even if the MP misappropriates funds, you cannot prosecute him / her in court | | | | | |
| 15 | The MP cannot be arrested | | | | | |
| 16 | The MP is the soul decision maker as pertains to CDF and allocations | | | | | |

## Section D. Questionnaire on CDF structures

| | STATEMENTS | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | For a long time now, CDF has not had clear working structures to the ground | | | | | |
| 2 | CDF lacks reinforcement mechanism | | | | | |
| 3 | CDF working procedures are not clear | | | | | |
| 4 | CDF complaint mechanism is lacking | | | | | |
| 5 | There are no adequate platforms for mwananchi to participate or question | | | | | |

| 6 | The processes and procedures of electing CDF committees are not clear to many | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | There are many other funds available doing similar work as CDF especially on roads, hence a lot of duplication of work | | | | | |
| 8 | The CDF Act is week as it fails to provide a clear mechanism for the community to participate in decision making | | | | | |
| 9 | There exists a gap between policy and practice resulting to weak articulation mechanisms of engagement with mwananchi | | | | | |
| 10 | Devolution systems and structures have lacked a coherent and coordinating framework, they have thus been marred by overlaps | | | | | |
| 11 | Most people do not participate in CDF projects because they do not know nor understand the processes and procedures involved | | | | | |
| 12 | The MP is so powerful and is not answerable to anybody | | | | | |

### Section E. Questionnaire on Alternative Structural Models

| | STATEMENT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The institutionalization of CDFs as a mechanism of resource allocation through clear legislations | | | | | |
| 2 | Coming up with policy framework that is all inclusive with severe penalties for those who do not comply | | | | | |
| 3 | Sustainability of CDFs as tools of decentralized and effective development rests both on the efficiency and the effectiveness of its implementation, hence need for statutory procedures | | | | | |
| 4 | Institutionalize and respect bottom – up model of decision making | | | | | |
| 5 | Legitimize and support non- state actors to empower communities | | | | | |
| 6 | Harmonization of the funds into a single basket under the county government | | | | | |
| 7 | A rights based approach to citizen participation which will enhance ownership social development agenda and process | | | | | |
| 8 | Citizen participation be regarded as a basic Human Right | | | | | |

### Section F. Questionnaire on how to improve the situation

| | STATEMENT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Civic awareness and community empowerment will enhance people's participation in CDF projects in Nyaribari Chache Constituency | | | | | |

| 2 | Improved and proper communication systems and processes by the government to its people will motivate citizens to participate in state sponsored projects | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | With clear rules, guidelines and mechanism for engagement and articulation of community interests will foster people's involvement in their affairs | | | | | |
| 4 | In an all inclusive process is the key to effective citizen participation in government sponsored projects | | | | | |
| 5 | A working judiciary that will restore the confidence of mwananchi will boost people's interest to actively take part in CDF projects | | | | | |
| 6 | Setting up oversight committees that can challenge poor structures and system and law breakers | | | | | |
| 7 | Develop workable feedback mechanism right from ward level | | | | | |
| 8 | Put minimum requirements such as educational qualifications and moral conduct for members of CDF committees | | | | | |

## Section G. Questionnaire on Community Participation & Ownership CDF Projects

| | STATEMENT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Citizen participation will enhance better utilization of public resources as the people will play an oversight role in project cycles | | | | | |
| 2 | Projects will be demand driven, those that respond to the needs of society hence improve living conditions, standards and quality life | | | | | |
| 3 | People's involvement in government sponsored projects will enhance project ownership, hence project sustainability | | | | | |
| 4 | There will be projects that are in use with maximum utilization and not white elephants | | | | | |
| 5 | An all inclusive process will enhance peace and prosperity; no one will fill left out | | | | | |
| 6 | With proper utilization of resources and improved standards of living coupled with better infrastructure will attractive investors | | | | | |
| 7 | With people's involvement in the entire project cycle, will in future see a more responsive society that manages its own affairs with less difficulties | | | | | |
| 8 | There will be value for money | | | | | |
| 9 | Will have a happy society, strong patriots, people who are proud of their country and who can stand for their country | | | | | |

**THANK YOU.**

**APPENDIX 2:        KREJCIE AND MORGAN SAMPLING TABLE**

**Table 6: Krejcie and Morgan sampling table for determining sample size from a given population**

Table for Determining Sample Size for a Given Population

| N | S | N | S | N | S | N | S | N | S |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | 10 | 100 | 80 | 280 | 162 | 800 | 260 | 2800 | 338 |
| 15 | 14 | 110 | 86 | 290 | 165 | 850 | 265 | 3000 | 341 |
| 20 | 19 | 120 | 92 | 300 | 169 | 900 | 269 | 3500 | 246 |
| 25 | 24 | 130 | 97 | 320 | 175 | 950 | 274 | 4000 | 351 |
| 30 | 28 | 140 | 103 | 340 | 181 | 1000 | 278 | 4500 | 351 |
| 35 | 32 | 150 | 108 | 360 | 186 | 1100 | 285 | 5000 | 357 |
| 40 | 36 | 160 | 113 | 380 | 181 | 1200 | 291 | 6000 | 361 |
| 45 | 40 | 180 | 118 | 400 | 196 | 1300 | 297 | 7000 | 364 |
| 50 | 44 | 190 | 123 | 420 | 201 | 1400 | 302 | 8000 | 367 |
| 55 | 48 | 200 | 127 | 440 | 205 | 1500 | 306 | 9000 | 368 |
| 60 | 52 | 210 | 132 | 460 | 210 | 1600 | 310 | 10000 | 373 |
| 65 | 56 | 220 | 136 | 480 | 214 | 1700 | 313 | 15000 | 375 |
| 70 | 59 | 230 | 140 | 500 | 217 | 1800 | 317 | 20000 | 377 |
| 75 | 63 | 240 | 144 | 550 | 225 | 1900 | 320 | 30000 | 379 |
| 80 | 66 | 250 | 148 | 600 | 234 | 2000 | 322 | 40000 | 380 |
| 85 | 70 | 260 | 152 | 650 | 242 | 2200 | 327 | 50000 | 381 |
| 90 | 73 | 270 | 155 | 700 | 248 | 2400 | 331 | 75000 | 382 |
| 95 | 76 | 270 | 159 | 750 | 256 | 2600 | 335 | 100000 | 384 |

Note:        "N" is population size
        "S" is sample size.

Source: Krejcie & Morgan, 1970