INFLUENCE OF BENEFICIARY PARTICIPATION ON EFFECTIVE MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF COMMUNITY BASED WATER PROJECTS IN KENYA: THE CASE OF KIABAIBATE-NCHURA IN TIGANIA WEST SUB-COUNTY

BY

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DECLARATION

This research project report is my original work and has not been presented for degree in any other University

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DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to my dad, Alexander Karuti and my loving mum Mrs Esther Karuti for their unstoppable and undying love they have always shown me. Also to my two very best friends: my wife Doris and my daughter Shanice for their immeasurable love, motivation, level of knowledge and support they always give me to go an extra mile in my endeavours.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CBO	Community Based Organization
CBWP	Community Based Water Project
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CP	Community Participation
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply
KNWP	Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NWP	Netherlands Water Partnerships
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UNESCO	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WSPs	Water Service Providers

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ABSTRACT

Rural areas are faced with difficulty of water accessibility than in urban areas especially in Africa, where water collection may a great deal of physical effort, contaminated water sources posing health problems. Communities in these rural areas have sought to come together and initiate water projects to alleviate this menace. Tigania west Sub-County which is the scope of this study is part of the rural Kenya and therefore is faced by the problem of insufficient access of safe water to a majority of the population. The main objective is to investigate the effect of beneficiary participation in projects' monitoring and evaluation with a view to seeing how best they contribute to the sustainability of the project. The main concern here is to ascertain whether beneficiary involvement in M&E activities contributes to the effective monitoring and evaluation which equates to sustainability of Community Based water projects. In trying to unravel this issue the researcher employed to use descriptive survey design and where sample included respondents from both the members of the water project and the management team. The sampling method will be random sampling method of 30% members and the management of Kiabaibate-Nchura water Project. The instruments of data collection used were questionnaires (both structured and open) that were administered directly by the researcher as guided. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics: Frequency distributions and measures of central tendencies and in particular Likert scale analysis, the results of the survey are presented using tables.

The variable that seemed to affect monitoring and evaluation in the project most was beneficiary participation in project activities, with beneficiaries demonstrating very poor participation in project activities, which are, sadly, the very building blocks The research recommends that reasons be sought for such poor and low participation in project activities, yet the beneficiaries indicate that the project is beneficial to them. The management should, on regular basis, expose the beneficiaries to the financial reports for increased transparency and accountability. It is anticipated that information gathered will enable communities understand the nature of CBWPs and further support Management committees, Government and donors in the adding value in the way in which they engage with the CBWPs. It will also put in a voice to many other academic opinions that makes project execution a learning process.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Project management is the discipline of planning, organizing and managing resources to bring about successful completion of specific project goals and objectives. One can, however, hardly have a conversation about agile project management without introducing the term collaboration. (Kimberley, 1998). The word collaboration has become watered down to mean just about any level of customer participation, from simply being on the tap to answer questions from time to time, to mutual accountability as a member of core project team.

In a large sense, anyone who participates in the project or is impacted by its results is a stakeholder and (Martinussen, 1999) every project has a set of stakeholders associated with it. Stakeholders have different roles and contribution and some project stakeholders include the project leader, the project team members, the sponsor, the functional managers and the project customers or the beneficiaries, who receive the final outputs that the project produces (Claud, 2006). A project is successful (Burton, 2003) when it achieves its objectives and meets or exceeds the expectations of the stakeholders.

There exists a wide range of definitions and interpretations of participation. It is (Chambers, 2006) the involvement of a significant number of persons in situations or actions which enhance their well being, for example their income, security or self-esteem. People's participation has become an increasingly important (UNESCO) component in FAO's Programmes and projects for agriculture, fisheries, forestry and human resource development and beneficiary involvement (Burton, 2007) should be from concept to delivery on the project. It helps them get better visibility of the development process and its problems, and a better idea about the progress being made.

Criticism of development projects is widespread, and blame for disappointing results is cast in many directions. One of the criticisms which have been quite strong in the recent development literature is that (Peskett, 2011) projects are top-down and need to be bottom-up, while real development must involve beneficiaries in their own improvement. Some

constraints to incorporating beneficiary participation, in the design and implementation of development projects include increased planning costs, conflict between local community priorities and the objectives of government and aid agencies; private versus public and community benefits (David, Joseph, 2001), although it has been established that community participation has favorable impact on the outcomes of a project. In for example, construction projects, delegation of power to the grassroots reveals that the rural communities are fully capable of handling construction of simple rural -, infrastructure. Many projects are not sustainable after completion due to lack of community involvement in the project design and implementation (David, Joseph, 2001).

According to the latest estimates of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), released in early 2013, 36 per cent of the world's population – 2.5 billion people – lack improved sanitation facilities, and 768 million people still use unsafe drinking water sources. Inadequate access to safe water and sanitation services, coupled with poor hygiene practices, kills and sickens thousands of children every day, and leads to impoverishment and diminished opportunities for thousands more. Poor sanitation, water and hygiene have many other serious repercussions. Children – and particularly girls – are denied their right to education because their schools lack private and decent sanitation facilities. Women are forced to spend large parts of their day fetching water. Poor farmers and wage earners are less productive due to illness, health systems are overwhelmed and national economies suffer. Without water, sanitation and hygiene, sustainable development is impossible (WHO, 2013).

UNICEF Kenya statistics (2008) reveals that 41% of 39.8 million Kenyans do not have access to clean water. This implies that Millions of Kenyans are currently underserved and too many citizens continue to drink unsafe water, or are forced to use minimal quantities of water as distance, waiting times, and cost make water inaccessible. This situation has made the United Nations (2008) to term Kenya as a chronically water-scarce country, and currently ranks 21st for the worst levels of access to potable water in the world.

The problem of water accessibility is particularly acute in rural areas and small communities, where water collection may require hours of physical effort, water sources may be contaminated, or must be purchased at rates too expensive to allow for proper health and

hygiene. It has been observed that the rural areas perform consistently worse than urban areas inaccessibility of clean water. In rural areas, where 78% of the national population lives, only 38% to 52% have easy access to safe water; in urban areas 59% to 83% have easy access to safe water (World Bank 2009). Tigania west district which is the scope of this study is part of the rural Kenya and therefore is faced by the problem of insufficient access of safe water to a majority of the population.

According to an end term review report for safe water provision and sustainable water management options in arid & semi-arid land project, Tigania West District falls within the rain shadow of Mt. Kenya and has unreliable and low rainfall and is poorly endowed with permanent surface water resources. Most parts of this district have low lying ground water resources that require drilling and mechanized means to lift the water for at least 150M to the ground surface. At times this water is saline and even though wind pumps have been tried they have not proven to be successful due to the depths. However large catchment seasonal water courses carry huge water volumes during the wet seasons that go to waste into the Indian Ocean (Njurai, 2010).

Despite statements and policies promising quality service from water service institutions, the level of service to citizens is still wanting. Many households, both poor and non-poor, experience water scarcity even when they are within areas that are well covered through mains connections and water kiosks (World Bank 2010). The present study therefore attempts to find out from the community water project members if their participation in the water projects lead to sustainability of the water projects.

Kiabaibate-Nchura water project was started in the year 1975 as a self help project by the local community to provide piped water for the domestic, livestock and small scale farming targeting a population of 1000 households in the Nkomo location which is part of Uringu division, Tigania West Sub-County. To date the project has been able to put up the intake, laid the mainline and connected about 400 households.

1.2 Statement of the problem

In developing countries, projects are the backbone of local development. Development projects are undertaken to improve the livelihood of the community. Effective management

of development projects depends primarily on proper project selection, project design, project implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, values, norms, social belief and opinions of the local people which are affected directly or indirectly by development interventions should also be considered. (Andrews, et al. 2006).

There is unmistakable evidence that community participation has a favorable impact on the outcomes of a project and this linkage gets established through better aggregation of preferences, better design, through use of local knowledge and pressure by community on bureaucracies to perform and better sustainability through ownership (Richard, 1999). In rural areas, a significant number of community based project fail to full meet the expectations of the people because they either become unsustainable or fail altogether.

Many researchers have asserted that the rural communities have not been encouraged to do much in terms of their development; they have been made to wait for donors and the government to do things. Mansuri and Rao (2004) argue that there isn't much study to illustrate the effects of participation to community development. The participatory practice has not yet been cultured properly. Project information is hardly disseminated to the community people.

An effective evaluation system has not been fully institutionalized to capture the opinions of the real project beneficiaries in rural community based projects (Andrews, etal. 2006). In the past, weaknesses within the projects have been discovered only when projects are over and concluded with, and hence a lot of resources have already been expended and finally the project is declared a failure. The research problem, therefore, is: Influence of beneficiary participation on the effectiveness projects' monitoring and evaluation, and the project under investigation is Kiabaibate –Nchura Water Project in Tigania West sub county, Meru County, Kenya.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study is to investigate the influence of beneficiary participation in projects' monitoring and evaluation of community based water projects in Kenya with specific reference to Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project of Tigania West Sub County. The concept of community participation is understood as the involvement of the people in a

community in development projects. It implies action by the people to solve their own problems; it can be understood in terms of activities performed by the communities in development projects. In particular the research focused on how the water project is maintained for its sustainability through monitoring and evaluation.

1.4 Objective of the study

The objective of the study was to include the following;

1) To establish how level of knowledge in goals and objectives by beneficiaries influence effective monitoring and evaluation.
2) To assess to what extent beneficiaries participation in identification of project activities influence effective project monitoring and evaluation.
3) To determine how beneficiary involvement in identifying measurements influence effective project monitoring and evaluation.
4) To assess in what ways beneficiaries participation in reporting of results influence project monitoring and evaluation effectiveness.

1.5 Research questions

1) How does level of knowledge in goals and objectives by beneficiaries influence effective monitoring and evaluation?
2) What extent does beneficiaries participation in identification of project activities influence effective project monitoring and evaluation?
3) How does beneficiaries' involvement in identifying measurements of results influence effective project monitoring and evaluation?
4) What ways does beneficiaries' participation in reporting of results influence project monitoring and evaluation effectiveness?

1.6 Limitations of the study

Respondents' availability

Not all respondents were available for the interviews due to other responsibilities. Some respondents engaged in. cases of unavailability were dealt with each case on its own merit,

and the researcher made arrangements to visit later when the respondent was available. However, respondents out of a possible 165, 17 did not return the questionnaires.

Weather and topography

The weather at the time of the investigation was not very favorable, noting that the country and indeed the district were going through a period of heavy rains and hence some areas were rendered impassable by the rains. The topography of the area was challenging too for this kind of exercise. Again the researcher made adjustments and visited when was appropriate.

1.7 Significance of the study

The research will benefit; individual members, donors and Governments in policy making. Individual members or beneficiaries being the consumers of the project outputs, the investigation will reveal the extent to which the beneficiaries are involved in the project monitoring and evaluation activities. They will be trained on ways and means of incorporating more participative monitoring and evaluation. This way they will have greater ownership of the projects, reap higher returns to the investments from the same and adopt greater ownership and hence greater sustainability.

Project donors will be able to set a guideline on the beneficiary project monitoring and evaluation participation baselines.

The research unearthed some of the practices to enable communities learn from the influence of community participation on M&E of water projects so as to perfect the practice. Involving communities in the planning, implementation and evaluation of projects implies that a new closer relationship will have to be established between the government /donors and the people benefitting from the projects. It is important to note that CBOs, and not of exception CBWP, are gradually forming an important part of development paradigm in Kenya.

1.8 Delimitation of the study

The study examined beneficiary participation on monitoring and Evaluation practices employed by Community Based Water Projects in Tigania West Sub-County and their effects on overall performance. Tigania West Sub-County falls within the rain shadow of Mt. Kenya

and has unreliable and low rainfall and is poorly endowed with permanent surface water resources. Most water projects have their intakes deep in the forest which take require a lot of resources in getting the target of piped water to households.

1.9 Assumptions of the study

This study takes the following assumptions; that the experiences of community participation of the sampled project are representative of other community based water projects in Kenya; that the sampled population will represent the general population of membership of the community water projects; that the chosen respondents will be truthful to themselves and give correct information; that the respondents will be willing to give the required information freely and that the methods of data collection used shall be accurate and valid to enhance acquisition of the required data.

1.10 Definition of terms

a) Monitoring

The act of continuous and systematic collection of information, use of this information to analyze project progress, make decisions on implementation change using this information and making records of any information collected and decisions made.

b) Evaluation

It is a step-by-step process of collecting, recording and organizing information about project results, including short term outputs or project deliverables and immediate and long term project outcomes.

c) Participation

This is process during which individuals, groups and organizations are consulted about or have an opportunity to become actively involved in a project or a program of activity.

d) Beneficiary

It means the persons or the communities that utilize the project outputs. They are the persons that the project aims at empowering by giving development assistance.

e) Livelihoods

It means 'means of support or subsistence' or the quality of, state and being lively

f) Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product is also known as Gross domestic income. It is a basic measure of a country's overall economic output. It is the market value of all goods and services made within the borders of a country in a year. It's also often correlated with the standard of living.

g) Project performance management

Performance management provides the feedback to highlight achievements and identify issues interfering with the achievement from a financial, technical, functional, issue management and client satisfaction viewpoints.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This section will explore existing information, on the independent variable, beneficiary participation, not only in community based water projects, but other development projects too. It is also addressing issues on participatory monitoring and evaluation, since the investigation aims at analyzing beneficiary participation in projects' monitoring and evaluation. It will first explore existing information on participation and beneficiary participation, and the monitoring and evaluation activities in the community based water projects.

2.2 Participation

Participation is the process through which stakeholders influence and share -control over (WB, 2010) priority setting, policy making, resource allocations and access to public goods and services. Stakeholder participation in World Bank-funded projects ensures long-term sustainability and promoting participation helps build ownership and enhances transparency and accountability so that doing so enhances effectiveness of development projects and -policies, Participation m projects IS often in different levels. In major physical infrastructure projects, for example, 'self-management' may not be a relevant goal. But in full participation projects where the goal is to promote local capacities and build the skills of self management, projects need to focus on development of participatory organization. In broad terms, people's participation develops along a continuum. Central to the use of participation is the level of knowledge that the beneficiary is the decision maker and that he or , she takes the risk associated with hange, not the advisor or the researcher (Dorward, Shepherd, 2007). According to the United Nations Development Program, participation can be broken down into the following levels;

1) Passive participation

In passive participation, beneficiaries basically welcome the project proposals and support them but are generally cautious (and even suspicious) in relation to project management. The

beneficiaries participate by being told what is going on or has already happened. Announcement (Mochama, 2005) is made by project management without listening to people's responses.

2) Increasing involvement

In this level of participation the beneficiaries begin to develop more trust in the project and more contact with its activities and staff: they may also begin to take on some responsibilities.

3) Active participation

The beneficiaries here play the role of the active partner in the projects implementation and develop and assume increasing responsibility.

4) Ownership/Empowerment

Here beneficiaries are both willing and able to sustain and further develop the initiatives began by the project.

2.2.1 Beneficiary participation

Various arguments exist for beneficiary participation. Some foregoing points highlight that the participatory approach gives advantages to the rural poor as well as to the agencies which implement or support a project. The main reasons cited for this include project, coverage, efficiency, effectiveness of the project, adoption of innovations successive results and self reliance (Paul, 1987).

The main benefit of beneficiary participation appears to be the building of community capacity, and beneficiary organization appeared to increase the amount of participation, build community capacity and lead to more local control and hence ownership. There's unmistakable evidence that community participation has a favorable impact on the outcomes of a project and this linkage gets established through better aggregation of preferences, better design through use of local knowledge, pressure by community on bureaucracies to perform and better sustainability through ownership (Paul, 1987).

The international organizations and non-governmental agencies realized more and more that the main reason of many unsuccessful development projects was (and still is) the lack of active, effective and lasting participation of intended beneficiaries. Projects should involve more participation by beneficiaries while without participation; people may benefit but not develop from a project. Community participation therefore has a favorable impact on project outcomes (Paramenswaran, 1999).

2.3 Participatory monitoring and evaluation

2.3.1 Monitoring

This is a form of evaluation. It is performed while the project is being implemented, with the aim of improving the project design and functioning, while in action. It is an internal project activity designed to provide constant feedback on progress of a project, the problems it is facing, and the efficiency with which it is being implemented. Participatory monitoring and evaluation is a process through which stakeholders at various levels engage in monitoring and evaluating a particular project/program or policy, share control over the content, the process and the results of monitoring and evaluation activity and engage in taking or identifying corrective actions. Participatory monitoring and evaluation focus on the active engagement of all project stakeholders. It is geared towards not only measuring the effectiveness of a project, but also towards building ownership and empowering beneficiaries, building accountability and transparency and taking corrective actions to improve performance and outcomes (Mulwa, 2008).

According to Narayan (1995), participatory project monitoring and evaluation brings together both researchers and stakeholders, such as farmers, government officials and extension workers, to monitor and assess development activities. Participatory monitoring and evaluation are extremely important for learning about the achievement /deviation from the original concerns and problems faced by local development projects/programs being implemented so that corrective measures can be taken in time. Monitoring assumes that inputs are ready in time, work plans are followed closely and adjustments can be made and corrective action taken as and when necessary. It also entails that people who need to know

the progress are kept informed, constraints and bottlenecks are found and the project resources are used efficiently.

Baiya, 2005 states that monitoring is being aware of the state of the system. It is a process of collecting, processing and sharing data to assist project participants in decision making and learning. Monitoring should be extended to all individuals and institutions which have an interest in the project. To efficiently implement a project, the people planning and implementing it should plan for all the interrelated stages from the beginning. He also asserts that properly informed participatory project monitoring helps donors, governments and implementing agencies to identify project constraints and beneficiary needs, to monitor progress towards project objectives and evaluate results. It is not only what is being assessed but also who is doing the assessment and for whom the assessment is intended that is important in the project monitoring and evaluation and local people need integration in the process because they take the whole risk .

2.3.2 Evaluation

According to Kaliba (2002) Project evaluation is a step-by-step process of collecting, recording and organizing information about project results, including short term outputs or project deliverables, and longer-term project outcomes. Common rationales for conducting an evaluation are for example; response to demands for accountability, demonstration of effectiveness, efficient and equitable use of financial and other resources, recognition of the actual changes of progress made and among other issues, validation for project staff and partners that desire outcomes being achieved.

Narayan (1995) argues that performance should captures the extent to which project objectives are consistent with the priorities of the rural poor and other stakeholders(relevance), how well the project performed in delivering against objectives(effectiveness) and how economically resources have been converted into results (efficiency). Evaluation is often carried out by donor agencies, beneficiaries and policy makers.

2.4 The concept of community participation in CBWPs

UNDP defines a community as a group of people living in a geographical defined area, or a group that interacts because of common social, economic, or political interests. Midgley (1986), shares a similar view as he defines a community in terms of geographic locality, of shared interests and needs, or in terms of deprivation and disadvantage. "If sliced finely with analytical razor, a community may look like the sum of individuals who make it up, yet to suggest that community does not exist is completely counter –intuitive to anyone who has experienced a rural community. Community does contain interest groups and they are made up of individuals, but they are more than interest groups and are more than the sum up of the individuals who make them up. The individual men, women and children, some rich, some poor, do not just co- exist in a shared space. They interact in many different ways, some visible, some invisible. The existence of community is not something that can be demonstrated, it is a philosophical point of departure that is shared, albeit implicitly, by most of the key players'' (Schouten and Moriarty, 2003).

Participation to development have been proliferating in third world countries since 1980`s, and they are now accepted components of projects design among mainstream donor agencies. The advocates and practitioners of the concept proclaim that people's empowerment, local knowledge and community ownership are indispensable ingredients of project success and sustainability. Under label such as `people's participation`, public involvement `, community participation`, social mobilization`, self help development`, and `grassroots development`, projects have been initiated on smallholder crop and livestock development, irrigation and water supply alike (Bastian, 1996).

In assessing participation, it is argued that the adoption of participatory orientation in contemporary mainstream development is a somewhat peculiar turn of events. Demand for participation has their origin in radical politics. The democratization in development has been a long standing objective of radicals in both the developed and the developing world. The aim of this is to prevent adverse impact of normal development on disempowered actors and to generate receptiveness to the interests of the people. In the third world countries there is widespread resistance to development projects that serve the interests of national elites and

donor nations or foreign policy. This has precipitated grassroots movements demanding participation in project planning and decision making (Bastian and Bastian, 1996).

Kasiaka, (2004) asserts that, "Participation is an approach through which beneficiaries and other stakeholders are able to influence project planning, decision-making, implementation and monitoring phases. On the other hand, participation is considered to be a prerequisite for project ownership, successful implementation and sustainability of the projects in question. Participation does not mean acceptance of all ideas from diverse groups. In participation, there is a need to combine indigenous and intellectual knowledge. However, care must be taken so that intellectual knowledge does not influence that of the indigenous''

If we accept that communities exist, then it becomes meaningful to talk of them owning and sharing things and then to speak of the equity with which these are owned or shared. Equity includes both a sense of equality and a sense of being entitled to a share in ownership. Equity is crucial to community management. It implies that, although communities are diverse, everyone in the community should profit in the same manner from a water supply system. It accepts that communities must mean more than rich getting together to buy themselves an expensive water supply system. To deal with this view of community means to acknowledge diversity (Schouten and Moriarty, 2003).

Figuere, (2003) argues that those projects which involve the widest possible participation of people whose needs are addressed are mostly likely to be effective. CP is taken to mean that community plays an active role in its own affairs by sharing and exercising political and economic power. The term community participation is sometimes used interchangeably with community management to refer to community involvement in development projects (McCommon, 1990)

The objectives of CP in the context of Community water project and for the purpose of this study includes; sharing project cost, increasing projects efficiency, increasing project effectiveness, and ensuring sustainability of the project.

2.4.1 The influence of beneficiary participation on M&E of community based water projects

An effective monitoring and evaluation in this study refers to the ability of project beneficiaries to maintain and sustain project activities, services and any measure initiated by a project so as to last long after the expiring of the funding period. In water projects, we cannot talk of sustainability without mentioning operation and maintenance issues" (Kasiaka, 2004). Safe and clean drinking water supply is sustainable only if, the water consumed is not overexploited but naturally replenished, facilities maintained in a condition that ensures reliable and adequate portable water supply. The benefits for the water supply should continue to be realized over a prolonged period of time (David and Brikke, 1995).

Richard (1999) defined sustainability as a continued delivery of a particular service. Richard emphasized on the need to involve all stakeholders in consumption and cost recovery strategies to ensure delivery of high quality services and sustainable development projects. Abraham (1998) on the other hand, views sustainability of water projects as a continued flow of water at the same rate and quality, as when the supply system was designed. To him if water flows, then all elements of sustainability would be in place.

Kimberly (1998) maintains that monitoring brings sustainability in water projects which means, ensuring water supply services and interventions continue to operate satisfactorily and they generate benefits over time as expected. He further pointed out that, sustainability is all about ability to operate and maintain initial project service standards. However, to achieve this it has to be planned from the very beginning of the project, so as to ensure prerequisites for long-term sustainability and strategies are aimed at seeing that sustainable projects are in place and are in good working order.

On Factors Affecting Community Participation and Sustainability of Projects, Parameswaran (1999) argues that a range of characteristics such as technology used to implement project activities can be effective to M&E. The more complex technology is the less participation. The question of technology has direct link with sustainability of project services especially when operational and maintenance costs are to be met by the beneficiary communities.

Another factor according to Parameswaran is on human and financial resources, as they are vital when it comes to meeting operational and maintenance costs.

2.5 Review of beneficiary participation influence on M&E community based projects

Participatory project monitoring and evaluation brings together both researchers and stakeholders, such as farmers, government officials and extension workers, to monitor and assess development activities. Participatory monitoring and evaluation are extremely important for learning about the achievement /deviation from the original concerns and problems faced by local development projects/programs being implemented so that corrective measures can be taken in time. Monitoring assumes that inputs are ready in time, work plans are followed closely and adjustments can be made and corrective action taken as and when necessary. It also entails that people who need to know the progress are kept informed, constraints and bottlenecks are found and the project resources are used efficiently (Narayan, 1995).

The principles of participation are rooted in Paulo Freire's psychosocial method in which people discussed their own life situation, identified their problems and planned for transformation, (Mulwa, 2008) and the Mahatma Gandhi's principles of self help (Mansuri and Rao, 2004) The principles requires developers to focus on creating critical awareness through experience based learning, reflection on the peoples' own life situations and finding out what to do with its inadequacies, planning for collective action to transform whatever is undesirable, acting to change the situation and finally identifying failures and successes from actions taken so that it informs the next plan of action (Ibid,2008) It is a reversal from centralized standardization to local, diversity, and blue print to learning process, (Chambers, 1994).

2.5.1 Level of knowledge the project's goals and objectives

Beneficiary level of knowledge of the project's goals and objectives majorly emphasizes on attention to detail. Experience has shown that great care at the time of planning leads to more successful implementation of projects. Therefore, there should be explicit statements in the national plans regarding who is to make decisions on issues that are not already dealt at the national level. It is also important to ensure that there is consistency between decisions made

at the community/project level and those made at the higher level so that unrealizable expectations are not generated and impossible demands are not placed on either communities or agency officials (WHO 1986).

According Narayan (1995), M&E is a systematic way of learning from the past events and drawing lessons to correct and improve ongoing and future activities. Evaluation allows for necessary adjustment to fit people's needs within the framework of established and agreed upon goals (Narayan, 1995).

2.5.2 Participation in project activities

Beneficiary Participation in the project activities is essential for the sustainability of the project, critics have been quick to point out that there is often is a limited number of members of the community participating in project activities. In addition, their participation is generally restricted to simple matters, such as provision of labour and cost sharing, and not with the important issues faced during the process of decision making as it relates to project initiation and execution and monitoring and evaluation (Park, 1996).

Kaliba 2002 argues that there is often lack of competent voluntary leaders. Indigenous leaders cannot afford to devote enough time and energy to the task. Community-based activities, therefore, tend to lose momentum in many small sized community units. This has hampered monitoring and evaluation of community based projects.

Women's involvement in project activities and capacity building are also essential to sustain project-initiated services. This is because in water projects women are the main stakeholders . Therefore, women participation and leadership positions in Water Committee are inevitable for sustainable water projects (Mbugua et al, 1993).

2.5.3 Identification of measurements to show extent of progress achieved

Measurement of progress is an integral part of an M&E system. The major objective of participatory evaluation is establishing whether the project is delivering anticipated goods and services in a sustainable manner and assessing the contribution of different levels of community participation and management for the sustainability of the projects. The aim is to identify positive factors that can be enhanced and to overcome identified/current weaknesses

in order to strengthen the project. At the project level, scoring techniques are commonly used to quantify these indicators of community participation and management, and sustainability (Kaliba 2002).

Baiya, 2005 articulates that monitoring is being aware of the state of the system and this requires measurement of results. It is a process of collecting, processing and sharing data to assist project participants in decision making and learning. Monitoring should be extended to all individuals and institutions which have an interest in the project. To efficiently implement a project, the people planning and implementing it should plan for all the interrelated stages from the beginning. He also asserts that properly informed participatory project monitoring helps donors, governments and implementing agencies to identify project constraints and beneficiary needs, to monitor progress towards project objectives and evaluate results. It is not only what is being assessed but also who is doing the assessment and for whom the assessment is intended that is important in the project monitoring and evaluation and local people need integration in the process because they take the whole risk and thus the should be in a position to realize the milestones.

2.5.4 Participation in reporting of results

Proper reporting gives transparency accounts for the degree of Community Participation. For this matter community members will actively participate if benefits are clearly articulated and obtained immediately at the beginning of the project design. For the case of the water project, people expect to see domestic water points installed or boreholes drilled and in operation. Moreover, administration structure is equally important. Thus, if projects allow users' contribution and if they are flexible, well coordinated and managed well at the local level, with free flow of information then people will automatically participate in reporting of results (Mbugua et al, 1993).

According to Claud (1998) consultation occurs when beneficiaries are not only informed, but also consulted on key issues at some or all stages in a project cycle. There is an opportunity here for beneficiaries to interact and provide feedback to the project agency, which the latter could take into account in the design and implementation stages. If, for instance, farmers are

consulted on extension practices and arrangements, project outcomes are likely to be better than if they were merely informed.

Ngowi and Mselle (1998) argue that at the planning stage, four levels of intensity in community participation may be distinguished: Information sharing where project designers and managers may share information with beneficiaries in order to facilitate collective or individual action. Though it reflects a low level of intensity, it can have a positive impact on project outcomes to the extent it equips beneficiaries to understand and perform their tasks better.

2.6 Theoretical framework

The beneficiaries of any facility in a community need to have a say in the decisions concerning the facility, and where possible to take part in its development and manage it on completion (Ngowi and Mselle 1998). This can be achieved through community participation, which according to Cernea (1985) is defined as an active process by which beneficiary client groups influence the direction and execution of a development project with a view to enhancing their well-being in terms of income, personal growth, self-reliance or other values they cherish. This definition implies that the context of participation is the development project; that the focus is on the participation of beneficiaries, and not that of government personnel; that the joint or collaborative involvement of beneficiaries in groups is a hallmark of community participation; and that community participation refers to a process and not a product in the sense of sharing project benefits. In other words, community participation can be said to occur only when people act in concert to advise, decide or act on issues which can best be solved through such joint action (Ngowi and Mselle 1998).

Community Participation is also defined as a process by which individuals, families or communities assume responsibility for local problems and develop a capacity to contribute to their own community development (Singh, 2005). World Bank experience with CP has given rise to the following definition: an active process whereby beneficiaries influences the direction and execution of development projects rather than merely receive a share of a project's benefits. This definition places participation by beneficiaries rather than external personnel, stressing the involvement of beneficiaries in groups, and refers to a process rather

than a product. Recent reports of World Bank and US Agency for International Development (USAID) and WASH point out that CP may have considerable potential for improving development planning and sustainability (Schouten and Moriarty, 2003).

2.6.1 The partnership model

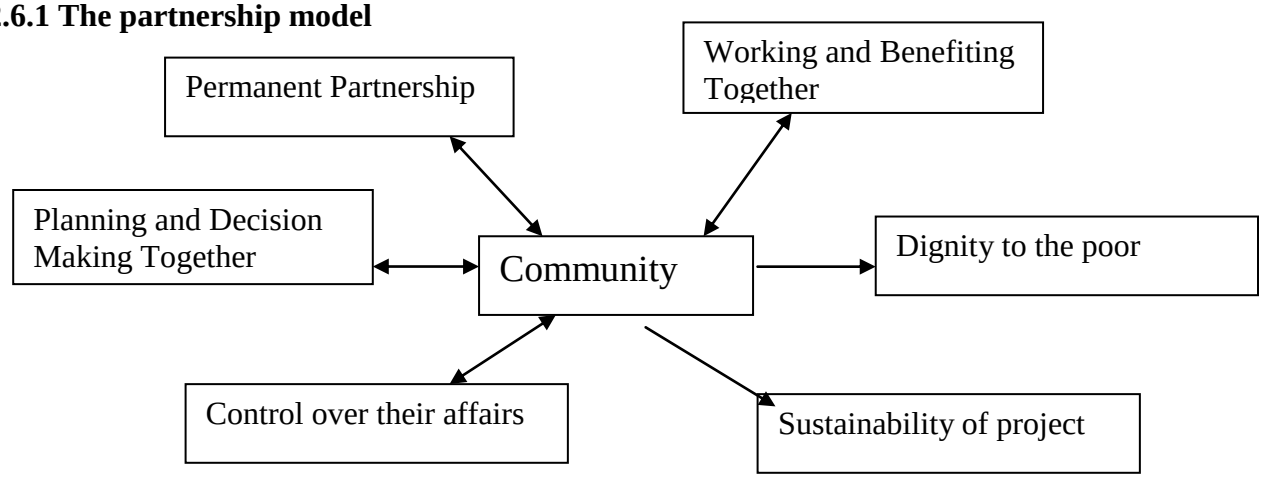

Figure 1: Partnership Model from Narayana Reddy, 2002

Narayana Reddy in his book Empowering Communities through Participatory Methods, explains that in the top-down model of participation, the governments decide and provide for the communities which develops a sense of dependency and lethargy among the people. He presents an alternative to the top-down model in the form of a "partnership model" where the governments and communities work together in planning and decision-making with long-lasting results.

2.6.2 Top-down versus bottom-up approach

Community participation can be of two types; in the form of top-down programs or bottom-up initiatives (Moser 1991). These two processes are the exact opposites of each other and differ on the basis of whether governments/implementing agencies or the communities have the overall control of the program.

Turner (1977) elaborates the top-down and bottom-up approaches by comparing them with the 'heteronomous housing systems' and the 'autonomous housing systems' respectively. The difference between the two systems is in the decision-making power of different actors at different stages of the housing process. In the case of the heteronomous system, Turner, (1977) explains that the government decides and provides housing for the people in a top-

down process while the autonomous system follows a bottom-up approach and has different networks of actors working alongside in different relationships.

Johnson (1983) in his book, Development in South Asia, explains the top-down and bottom-up developmental approaches using a simple example of the construction of a dam and the improved agricultural production as a result. In most cases, the dam construction is a top-down development process where all the decisions are made by the government or other agencies without seeking the consent of the people. Johnson explains that there can be a bottom-up development as well where the people may decide to adopt modern agricultural technologies to improve the overall production. Now these are two different kinds of developments, one is imposed while the other is self-chosen by the people.

2.7 Conceptual framework

Figure 2.3 below indicates that the effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation of community based water projects is dependent to the beneficiaries' participation in M&E activities. There is also a moderating variable, Government policies which equally manipulate the environment in which the project is operating thus influencing the sustainability of the project hence effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation.

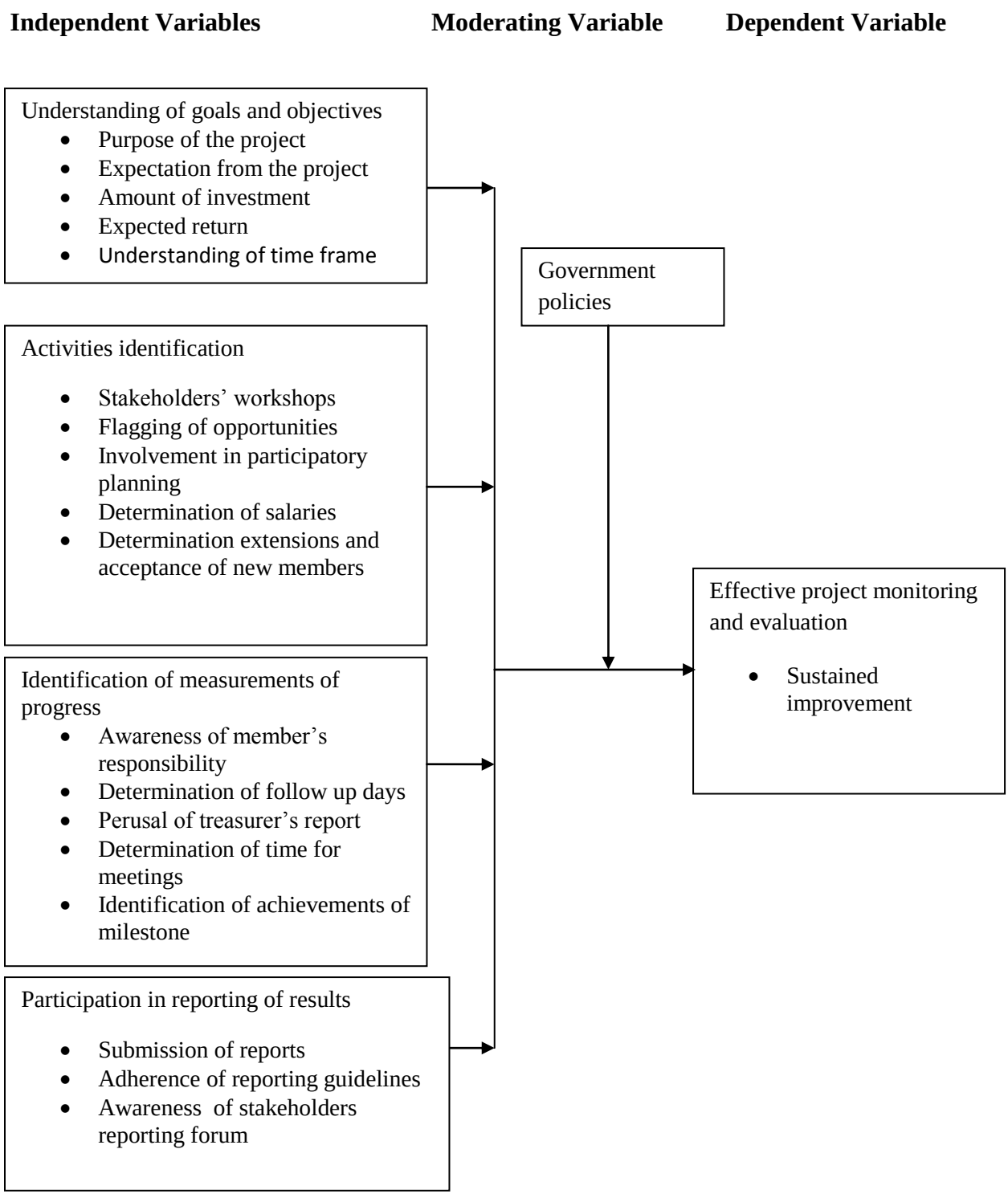

Figure 2: Conceptual framework

2.8 Summary of the literature review

This chapter has analyzed the opinion of scholars in this field and developed the conceptual framework, the next chapter will entirely deal with how data will be collected and analyzed. It will concern itself with the process and methodology of getting the content with which to support the framework in this chapter

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter the specific methodology of research as well the procedure in data analysis were dealt with. It includes the research design, target population, sampling procedure, data collection methods, methods of data analysis, the validity and reliability, operational definition of variables and ethical issues.

3.2 Research design

In this research descriptive survey design was use. This is because the research was based on the views and opinion of the respondents who are members of a community water project. Descriptive research design is used (Kothari, 2004) when the problem has been defined specifically and where the research has certain issues to be described by the respondents about the problem (Kothari, 2002). Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) define research design as an attempt to collect information from members of a population in order to determine the current status of the population with respect to one or more variables. Descriptive research design is used (Kothari, 2004) when the problem has been defined specifically and where the research has certain issues to be described by the respondents about the problem. This is because the method is appropriate for collecting both descriptive and explanatory data on the topic of the study.

3.3 Target population

A target population is the total collection of element along which researcher wishes to make some inferences (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). Therefore my research target population is all the Community Water Projects in Tigania West Sub-county. The accessible populations of the study are all the members and project management committee of Kiabaibate Water Project. The project is supplying water to a population of about 401 members.

3.4 Sampling procedure and sample size

3.4.1 Sample size

According to the table 3.1, it is proposed that the sample size was ultimately be determined by the population size. Thus the smaller the population, the bigger the percentage of the population is required for sampling and vice versa. It has been observed that after a certain sample percentage (usually 20%); the effect of the sample size on a research outcome remains constant, or normalises. By these standards, the minimum survey sample is recommended at 10% where large population is involved (Casley and Kumar 1988). Based on the observation of Casley and Kumar (1988) the research adopted a sample size of 30% members and project management committee of Kiabaibate Water Project.

3.4.2 Sampling procedure

The study assumed a simple random sampling procedure as it allows a known probability that each elementary unit of the population will be chosen hence increasing the possibility of collective representation and greater objective and variety of opinion based on gender. Assuming even distribution of membership, this gave about 160 members because the project had 523 members and 5 project management team from the 14members.

Table 3.1: Sampling table

The total project population was as shown in table 3.1 as per project records in 2015

Sample Category		**Population**	**Percentage**	**sample**
Members	Active with water connection	401	30%	120
	Inactive members	122	30%	40
Management		14	30%	5
Total		**537**		**165**

3.5 Research instruments

A questionnaire was administered to the sample chosen for the study. The researcher opted for the primary data collection technique in the form of questionnaires which was researcher assisted as all respondents were not literate enough for the purpose of the questionnaire items. The questionnaires was conveyed to the respondents by use of the drop and pick later method. An introductory letter from the University authorizing the research to be undertaken was used by the researcher to assure the authenticity of the study. The researcher chose to use a questionnaire because of the following benefits. First, the questionnaire enables the researcher to ask structured or closed-ended questions which are easier to analyze as well as to administer since each question is followed by alternative answers. Secondly, the questionnaire also enables the researcher to use open-ended questions thus permitting a greater in-depth response from the respondents. These particular responses enabled the researcher to get greater insight into the feelings, decisions and thinking of the respondents (Fraenkel & Wallen, 2000).

3.5.1 Pilot testing

The questionnaire was validated through a pilot with a sample of respondents from Twajai-Kinyaritha CBO Water project of Imenti North Sub County. This confirmed the reliability of the structure, question sequence and the meaning of questions. The population samples from the two water projects shall be used in the pilot to avoid irregular skewing of the results and ensure uniformity of meaning and clarity of instruments to all respondents.

3.5.2 Validity of instruments

Validity is the extent to which a test measure, measures what it is supposed to measure (Gay 1987), Validity of a test instrument therefore is defined as the accuracy and meaningfulness of the inferences, which are based on the research results. The population samples from the two water projects shall be used in the pilot to avoid irregular skewing of the results and ensure uniformity of meaning and clarity of instruments to all respondents. The archival data collected shall be specific to the focus of research. In consideration of this, validity of the instruments in this study was assured through the use of two strategies: (i) Expert opinions. The research project supervisor was requested to evaluate the research instruments to ensure

their validity. (ii) Member-check. Respondents were asked to read through the questionnaire, and interviews records. The questions that will be found ambiguous will be reframed and those that will be found irrelevant to the study will be reconstructed.

3.5.3 Reliability of instruments

The test-retest method was applied where a part of the sample was used to test reliability, while content validity was used to test validity. Reliability according to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) refers to the consistency of a measure. A test is considered reliable if the same results are achieved repeatedly. The questionnaire was validated through a pilot with a sample of respondents from Twajai-Kinyaritha CBO Water project of Imenti North Sub County. This helped to confirm the reliability of the structure, question sequence and the meaning of questions where the reliability index was 85%.

3.6 Methods of data analysis

The collected Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics: - Frequency Distributions and measures of central tendencies and Likert scale analysis, the results of the survey have been presented using tables. The data is organized to answer the set objectives in the study. Data organization started with coding of the question items, then coded data was tabulated in excel and computer program statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). Multiple Regression analysis was done based on the following model $EPME = a + b_1 U + b_2 A + b_3 M + b_4 R$

Where EPME = Effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation

U =Level of knowledge of goals and objectives

A = Activities identification

M =Identification of measurements of progress

R= Participation in reporting of results

a s a constant

b_1, b_2, b_3 and **b_4 are beta coefficient**

3.7 Ethical issues

While collecting the data the respondents were handled carefully and the information they offered was treated confidentially protecting the identity of the respondents. Any data collected from respondents must be handled carefully and the respondents must be handled confidentially safeguarding the identity of the respondent is a requirement by the UN Declaration of Human Rights 1948. When collecting the data the respondents were not forced to give information in favor of the researcher, the respondents were expected to give information freely and willingly. More so, the researcher did not bribe the respondents so that they provide data as this introduces bias in the research.

3.8 Operational definition of variables

OBJECTIVE	TYPE OF VARIABLE	INDICATORS	MEASURE	LEVEL OF SCALE	APPROACH OF ANALYSIS	TYPE OF ANALYSIS	LEVEL OF ANALYSIS
To determine if the beneficiaries' level knowledge the project goals and objectives for effective monitoring and evaluation	Independent Variable: Beneficiaries level of knowledge the project goals and objectives	Purpose of the project Expectation from the project Amount of investment Expected return Level of knowledge of time frame	Members Knowledge on project design Involvement of members in decision making	Ordinal	Quantitative Quantitative Quantitative	Non-Parametric	Descriptive
To find out if beneficiaries participated in identification of project activities for effective monitoring and evaluation	Independent Variable: Beneficiaries participated in identification of project activities for effective monitoring and evaluation	Stakeholders' workshops Flagging of opportunities Involvement in participatory planning Determination of salaries Determination extensions and acceptance of new members	Proportion of cost shared between the Members of the Project and the Donors Type of labour provided by the members of the project during implementation	Ordinal	Quantitative Quantitative Quantitative	Non-Parametric	Descriptive

			Resources provided by the members of the project during implementation				
To find out how beneficiary involvement in identifying measurements to show the extent of progress achieved affected project monitoring and evaluation	Independent Variable: Beneficiary involvement in identifying measurements to show the extent of progress achieved	Awareness of member's responsibility Determination of follow up days Perusal of treasurer's report Determination of time for meetings Identification of achievements of milestone	Proportion of cost shared between the Members of the Project and the Donors for maintenance Type of labour provided by the members of the project for maintenance Resources provided by the members of the project for maintenance	Ordinal	Quantitative Quantitative Quantitative	Non-Parametric	Descriptive
To analyze beneficiaries participation in selecting formats and visual tools for presenting the information for projects' monitoring and evaluation effectiveness	Independent Variable: Beneficiaries participation in selecting formats and visual tools for presenting the information	Submission of reports Adherence of reporting guidelines Awareness of stakeholders reporting forum	Level of Members involvement in setting of evaluation objectives Members involvement in setting the project indicators Members involvement in setting control measures	Ordinal	Quantitative Quantitative Quantitative	Non-Parametric	Descriptive
	Dependent Variable: Effective project monitoring and evaluation	Sustained improvement	Effectiveness of set systems and reporting mechanisms	Ordinal	Quantitative	Non-Parametric	Descriptive

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter provides the findings of the research. The main aim of this study was to analyze the effects of beneficiary participation in projects monitoring and evaluation with reference to the Kiabaibate-Nchura water project. During the research, the researcher was guided by specific objectives which included, investigating if the beneficiaries of the project understood the project goals and objectives, to determine if they participated in identification of project activities, if they were involved in identification of measurements to show the extent of the progress achieved in the implementation, and if the beneficiaries participated in selecting formats and visual tools for presenting the information obtained. Categories of data collected included the bio-data, which related specifically to the respondent and data relating to the research and the guiding objectives. Both categories of data are important since they relate to each other. Statistics, particularly frequencies and the means.-tables, graphs and pie charts were used to present the data.

4.2 Response rate

The study, focused on a sample of 165 respondents. The 165 respondents were pulled from different project sites according to the sample frame. All the respondents were reached and given the questionnaire. The researcher obtained back 158 responses from the respondents from different project areas. 10 questionnaires were not returned, while out of the returned, 7 were rejected for lack of completeness and information that indicated illiteracy.

Table: 4.1: **Response rate**

The response rate from 165 respondents issued with questionnaires is shown in table 4.1

Activity	No.	Percentage
Questionnaires accepted	148	89.7
Questionnaires rejected	7	4.24
Questionnaires not returned	10	6.06
Totals	**165**	**100**

From table 4.l above, the response rate was 93.94 %. Out of 155 responses, 7 or 4.24% were rejected due to being incomplete or having irrelevant information. Those rejected questionnaires were from all the different areas, and not necessarily from one particular area. The rest, 148 questionnaires, or 89.70% were useful to the researcher, the data from which has been used in the analysis. All respondents were beneficiaries of the Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project, in the different project areas of the Uringu region. My view is that the respondents who failed to respond were too busy to do so. As for the rejected questionnaires, it's possible that though the respondents had indicated that they were literate and could understand the questionnaire actually were not.

4.3 Bio Data analysis

Bio-data information collected included information on respondent's position in the project, that is, whether the respondent was a member or an official, age and gender, marital status and age bracket.

4.3.1 Respondents' age bracket

The respondents were grouped it five age categories: those that are 30 years and below, 31years to 40 years, 41-50 years and those above 50years.

Table 4.2: Respondents' age bracket

The results of respondents' age structure are shown in the table 4.2.

S/NO.	Age Bracket (Yrs)	Frequency	Percentage
1	30 and below	16	10.81
2	31-40	44	29.73
3	41-50	64	43.24
4	Above 50	24	16.22
	Total	**148**	**100**

From the above table, it would appear that majority of the members in the age bracket 31-40 and 41-50 years, an age bracket that is also very engaged in raising young families, whose availability in active participation in projects monitoring and evaluation may also be affected.

4.3.2 Respondents' gender

Respondents were required to indicate their gender.

Table 4.3: **Respondents' gender structure**

The results of respondents gender structure is shown in table 4.3.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	98	66.22
Female	50	33.78
Totals	**148**	**100**

The survey data indicates that the participation of women in project activities is low, a mere 33.78% compared to 66.22% male participation. This is an indication of gender imbalance in the Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project monitoring and evaluation activities by the beneficiaries.

4.3.3 Respondents' marital status

Respondents were required to choose either they are married or single.

Table 4.4: Respondents' marital status

The respondents' result of the marriage status structure of the sample is shown in table 4.4.

S/NO.	Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage
1	Married	131	88.51
2	Single	17	11.49
	Total	**148**	**100**

The survey data reveals that majority (88.5%) of the respondents interviewed were actually married and the single respondents being the minority (11.49%). Though this may reflect the normal scenario in real life, it may also reveal that married persons, due to availability of another partner who can look into the other responsibilities, are more available to participate in the Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project monitoring and evaluation activities.

4.3.4 Respondents' academic qualification

Respondents were given four options of the highest academic qualification one had.

Table 4.5: Respondents' academic qualifications

Table 4.5 represents respondents' highest academic qualification ranging from below O level to first degree level.

S/NO.	Highest Academic Qualification	Frequency	Percentage
1	Below O Level	45	30.41
2	O Level	42	28.38
3	Diploma	39	26.35
4	Degree	22	14.86
	Total	**148**	**100**

The findings also indicate that the majority of the respondents, 69.59%, are literate, that is, they have O level qualifications and above. This distribution reveals a balance, because the survey brings an all levels inclusion, so that there is no level bias in determining the beneficiary participation in project monitoring and evaluation.

4.4 Analysis of beneficiary participation in project monitoring and evaluation

Common to all the respondents also were questions by the researcher on various factors affecting project monitoring and evaluation. The questions broadly included analysis of the extent to which the beneficiaries understood the projects goals and objectives, beneficiaries participation in project activities, whether the beneficiaries participated in identification of

measurements to show the extent of the progress achieved in implementation and whether they participated in the reporting of results. In addition, the researcher wanted the beneficiaries to explain in their own words what they felt about the project.

Table 4.6: **Level of knowledge in project's goals and objectives**

In all the questions in table 4.6, a Likert scale of 1-5 was used with the following scales: 1-No extent, 2- to a small extent, 3-To some extent, 4-To a large extent, 5-To a very large extent.

The researcher analyzed the data obtained from the respondents against entries on each scale, indicating the frequency of the respondents. The frequencies were then multiplied with the number of the scale to get the weighted frequency. The sum total of every variable was calculated and a mean of every variable determined. This helped the researcher to categorize the various variables into either major or minor variables.

		Likert Scale, weighted frequency					
	VARIABLES	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**Mean**
1	Purpose of Kiabaibate–Nchura water project	7	24	150	228	110	**3.5**
2	Expectation from Kiabaibate–Nchura water project	7	34	103	305	65	**3.5**
3	Level of knowledge ofKiabaibate–Nchura water project investment	39	66	86	40	187	**2.8**
4	Expected returns	24	69	108	126	108	**2.9**
5	Level of knowledge of the time frame	42	95	99	52	65	**2.4**

(148 Questionnaires were analyzed)

The analysis of table 4.6 above indicates that though it was important for beneficiaries to clearly understand the goals and objectives of the project, they only partially did so.

Majority of the respondents did understand the purpose of the project and its expectations, but were not aware how much investment had been made to their individual groups and how much returns were expected from the same investment. The beneficiaries did not also seem to understand the timeframe within which they were expected to realize those returns owing to the nature of the project.

Table 4.7: **Participation in project activities**

In table 4.7, a Likert scale of 1-5 was used with the following scales: 1-No extent, 2- to a small extent, 3-To some extent, 4-To a large extent, 5-To a very large extent.

The researcher analyzed the data obtained from the respondents against entries on each scale, indicating the frequency of the respondents. The frequencies were then multiplied with the number of the scale to get the weighted frequency. The sum total of every variable was calculated and a mean of every variable determined. This helped the researcher to categorize the various variables into either major or minor variables.

		Likert Scale, weighted frequency					
	VARIABLES	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**Mean**
1	Project's stakeholders' workshops	22	46	69	224	122	**3.2**
2	Project's flagging of opportunities	43	106	43	29	151	**2.6**
3	Involvement in participatory Planning meetings or seminars and workshops	39	95	86	57	93	**2.5**
4	Determination of the service Providers salary	55	46	82	86	108	**2.5**
5	Mode of payment of the service provider	14	32	86	201	194	**3.7**
6	Determination of extensions and acceptance of new members	53	83	39	29	165	**2.9**

(148 Questionnaires were analyzed)

The researcher wanted to find out from table 4.7 how much the beneficiaries were involved in particular project activities for effective beneficiary monitoring and evaluation.

The analysis indicated that the beneficiaries participated well in only three activities out of the nine. However, Participation in flagging of opportunities, the participatory planning workshops and the choice of the project to get involved in was rather low, the building blocks for future monitoring and evaluation activities. In their own words, more that 50% of the beneficiaries indicated that they participated in only a few activities, or came on board the project when it had already started.

Table 4.8: **Identification of measurements to show extent of progress achieved**

A Likert scale of 1-5 was used in table 4.8 with the following scales: 1-No extent, 2- to a small extent, 3-To some extent, 4-To a large extent, 5-To a very large extent.

The researcher analyzed the data obtained from the respondents against entries on each scale, indicating the frequency of the respondents. The frequencies were then multiplied with the number of the scale to get the weighted frequency. The sum total of every variable was calculated and a mean of every variable determined. This helped the researcher to categorize the various variables into either major or minor variables.

		Likert Scale, weighted frequency					
	VARIABLES	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**Mean**
1	Awareness of responsibility as a Kiabaibate–Nchura water project member	7	17	78	224	251	**3.9**
2	Awareness of learning through action as a member	33	98	39	103	137	**2.8**
3	Determination of days of follow-up	39	66	91	109	93	**2.7**
4	Requesting for treasurer's report	56	78	39	52	137	**2.4**
5	Determination of time for the meetings	11	26	86	155	280	**3.7**
6	Identification of measures of success in the project(milestones)	46	60	86	80	115	**2.6**

Table 4.8 indicates that the beneficiaries understood well their responsibility as the water project members. This is evident from a mean of 3.9 on the likert scale. They also were aware of the meeting time. However, majority never requested for the treasurer's report, they did not participate in the determination of the follow up days by the service provider and were vaguely aware of the learning through action in their respective groups. This is clear from the means against the activities, which are less than 3. Of serious effect to the success of beneficiary monitoring and evaluation were the indication that a majority of them were not aware how much money was invested and the balances from the treasurer of the project.

Table 4.9: Participation in reporting of results

Table 4.9 presents beneficiary participation in reporting in for of frequencies and percentages

	Yes		No	
Variable	**Frequency**	**Percentage**	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Submission of reports	84	56.76%	64	43.24%
Adherence to any particular guidelines	65	43.92%	83	56.08%
Awareness of stakeholder forum	99	66.89%	49	33.11%

Participation in reporting of results is an important independent variable for effective monitoring and evaluation. Only 56.76% of the respondents, however, indicated that they submitted any reports of the project. 43.24% indicated that they did not. Of the beneficiaries, 43.92% indicated adherence to particular reporting guidelines while 56.08% indicated they did not adhere to any guidelines. On the stakeholder forum, 66.89% were aware it existed while the rest (33.11%) were not aware of the forum's existence. On the development of reporting guidelines, the majority of respondents indicated that they were not involved as this was the work of the officials.

Table 4.10: **Level of knowledge financing and reporting format**

A Likert scale of 1-5 was used in table 4.8 with the following scales: 1-No extent, 2- to a small extent, 3-To some extent, 4-To a large extent, 5-To a very large extent.

The researcher analyzed the data obtained from the respondents against entries on each scale, indicating the frequency of the respondents. The frequencies were then multiplied with the number of the scale to get the weighted frequency. The sum total of every variable was calculated and a mean of every variable determined. This helped the researcher to categorize the various variables into either major or minor variables.

		Likert Scale, weighted frequency					
	VARIABLES	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**Mean**
1	Awareness of financing model	7	20	30	121	453	**4.2**
2	Interaction with financing model	33	3	65	109	323	**3.6**
3	Reporting format	62	69	34	40	151	**2.4**

From table 4.10, a high number of beneficiaries, evidenced by the mean of 4.2 indicated that they were aware of the financing model that released finances in terms of materials to them from the project office. They also indicated an above average level of interaction with the financing model, demonstrated by the mean of 3.6. However, a below average number indicated that they did not understand the reporting format they used to write reports.

Table 4.11: **Participation in monitoring and evaluation of project activities**

Table 4.11 presents, in general, the beneficiary feeling on the level of their involvement in monitoring and evaluation of project activities infrequencies and percentages.

S/NO.		**Frequency**	**%**	**Combined %**
1	Strongly agree	25	16.89	43.24
2	Agree	39	26.35	
3	Fairly agree	35	23.65	56.76
4	Disagree	49	33.11	
	Total	**148**	**100**	**100**

Table 4.11 above is a summary of a statement on what the beneficiaries felt about the planning, implementation and the monitoring and evaluation of the Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project. The results indicate that 43.24% of the respondents participated fairly well while 56.76% felt they did not fully participate in the project. 57.43% however, of the respondents indicated that the Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project was effective and has contributed to the alleviation of poverty, while 42.57% only fairly agreed or disagreed that the project is effective and alleviated poverty, from the table below.

Table 4.12: **KNWP project effectiveness and contribution to alleviation of poverty**

Table 4.12 presents, in general, the beneficiaries' feeling on KNWP project effectiveness and contribution to poverty alleviation in frequencies and percentages.

S/NO.		Frequency	Percentage	Combined Percentage
1	Strongly agree	37	25.00%	
2	Agree	48	32.43%	57.43%
3	Fairly agree	44	29.73%	
4	Disagree	19	12.84%	42.57%
Total		**148**	**100**	**100**

The table 4.12 reveals that greater than 50% of the project beneficiaries strongly agree that the project is effective and has contributed to alleviation of poverty in the project locations.

4.5 Correlation analysis

Correlation analysis is the statistical technique which is used to establish if there exists a relationship between two variables. In correlation analysis, the researcher is interested in computing the correlation coefficient which lies (-1) and (+1). A correlation coefficient of positive one (+1) means that there is a perfect positive relationship between the two variables and a correlation coefficient of negative one (-1) means is a strong negative relationship between the two variables. In this study, the researcher generated four variables (metric measure of effective monitoring and evaluation) using analysis in SPSS. Factor analysis is a

statistical technique of reducing the dimensionality of the data while maximizing on the variation explained the generated factor scores. The generated variables were: Level of knowledge of goals and objectives, Activities identification, Identification of measurements of progress and Participation in reporting of results. In this study, the dependent variable was quality of effective project monitoring and evaluation while the independent variables were beneficiary's level of knowledge of goals and objectives, activities identification, identification of measurements of progress and participation in reporting of results. The results of the correlations analysis are presented below:-

Table 4.13: Correlation coefficients between dependent variable and independent variables

In table 4.13, the correlation relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable is presented showing each correlation coefficient.

Variable	Correlation Coefficient (p)	p-value
Level of knowledge of goals and objectives	0.582	0
Activities identification	0.488	0.002
Identification of measurements of progress	0.679	0
Participation in reporting of results	0.514	0.001

α= (level of significance is 0.05)

The results of the correlation analysis showed that there was a positive significant relationship between the beneficiaries' level of knowledge of goals and objectives and effective project M&E ($p= 0.582p<0.05$). This implies that the correlation between the two variables is significant such that the adoption of level of knowledge of project goals and objectives enhances effectiveness project M&E. In addition, the results of the study showed that there was a significant positive relationship between activities identification by project beneficiaries and the effectiveness project M&E. The correlation coefficient between these two variables was found to be 0.488 with an associated p-value of 0.002. Further, the results showed that the correlation coefficient associated with identification of measurements of

progress is 0.679 with an associated p-value of 0.000 which implies that there is a significant relationship between identification of measurements of progress and the effectiveness project M&E. An increased beneficiary participation will project monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, the study showed that participation in reporting of results is associated with the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation. Finally, according to the results there is a strong positive relationship between participation in reporting of results and effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation. The correlations coefficient associated with these two variables is 0.514 with an associated p-value of 0.000. This according to the study implies that the increased beneficiary participation in reporting will improve the project monitoring and evaluation.

4.6 Multiple regression analysis and findings

In this subsection, multiple regression analysis was used to determine whether independent variables (U, A, M, and R) simultaneously impact the dependent variable (EPME). As a result, the subsection examines whether the multiple regression equation can be used to explain the causal theory of the four independent variables on effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation.

Table 4.14: Multiple Regression Model

Table 4.14 presents the regression model and the evaluation of this model by showing the results of its ANOVA.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficient	Std. Error	Standardized Coefficient	t	Sig.
		Beta		Beta		
1	Constant	8.831	0.936		9.436	0
	Level of knowledge of goals and objectives	0.907	0.233	0.256	3.893	0
	Activities identification	0.57	1.693	0.02	0.337	0
	Identification of measurements of progress	1.614	0.303	0.374	6.488	0
	Participation in reporting of results	1.24	0.299	0.234	4.152	0
Model Summary						
Model	R	R Squares		Adjusted R Squared		Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.780	0.608		0.598		3.385
ANOVA						
Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	2543.548	5	423.925	36.99	0
	Residual	1638.658	53	11.459		
	Total	4182.207	69			
Predictors (Constant), Understanding of goals and objectives, Activities identification, Identification of measurements of progress and Participation in reporting of results Dependent Variable: Effectiveness Project monitoring and evaluation(%)						

Effectiveness of Project Monitoring and Evaluation, EPME = 8.831+ .256U+.020A+ .374M + .234R Table 4.2 also reports the model of effectiveness of project M&E as a result of beneficiary participation. With the coefficient of determination R = 0.608 at a significant level of p = 0.0001. The coefficient of determination indicated that 60.8% of the variation in effectiveness of project M&E for the sample of 148 beneficiaries can be explained by the participation of project beneficiaries in the following metrics beneficiary's level of knowledge of goals and objectives, activities identification, identification of measurements of

progress and participation in reporting of results while 39.2% remains unexplained. In addition, Table 4.2 reports the summary ANOVA (analysis of variance) table and F statistic, which reveals the value of F (36.994), is significant at the 0.0001 level. The value of F is large enough to conclude that the set of independent variables (U, A, M, and R) as a whole was contributing to the variance in effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, a summary of the findings of the study, discussions of the findings, conclusions made from the study and recommendations for improvement and for further research have been given.

5.2 Summary of the findings

The main aim of the study was to analyze the effects of beneficiary participation on project monitoring and evaluation, with specific focus to the Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project. The following were the major and minor findings of the study, whose respondents were the project beneficiaries.

5.2.1 Level of knowledge the project's goals and objectives

On level of knowledge the goals and objectives of the project, the beneficiaries seemed to understand well the purpose and expectations of the project. They however, did not understand well the amount of the investment made in the project, and neither did they understand the returns each one of them was supposed to make from the project, implying that they seemed to globe in the dark about the business they were engaged in. Least understood, however, was the timeframe within which they were expected to make those returns, and element which would seriously affect the project evaluation, noting that projects have timeframes within which they are supposed to be completed.

5.2.2 Participation in project activities

The variable that seemed to affect monitoring and evaluation in the project most was beneficiary participation in project activities, with three out of five variables scoring below average on the likert scale. The least participated in activities in the project are the flagging of opportunities and the participatory planning workshops. The survey also revealed poor participation by beneficiaries in the payments of service providers, where, it seems,

beneficiaries left other members to do the payments. They also, sadly, did not participate in the choice of their service providers, the very building blocks, according to the Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project maintenance process documents, of the KNWP monitoring and evaluation process.

5.2.3 Identification of measurements to show extent of progress achieved

On identification of measurements to show the extent of the progress achieved, a great number, signified by a mean greater than 3, indicated that they understood their responsibility as KNWP members; they were aware of the dates for trainings. However, in financial matters a greater majority indicated that they did not receive any financial reports from the treasurer, and were not involved in decisions when projects follow up would take place. They also, according to the analysis, did not seem to quite understand the measurements for the project milestones. They did not know the indicators of whether they were still on track or not.

5.2.4 Participation in reporting of results

Whereas majority of the beneficiaries actually submitted reports on their projects, the analysis indicates that they followed no particular formats, though the formats were provided. There is an indication that no guidelines were followed too by the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries were aware of the existence of the stakeholder forum and its roles, and they were also aware of their financing models in the different project locations and apparently interacted well with these models. On the effects of beneficiary participation in project monitoring and evaluation, the beneficiaries agreed that the project had many underlying benefits to the community other than mere provision of clean water.

5.2.5 Summary of correlation analysis and multiple regression analysis

The results of the correlation analysis showed that there was a positive significant relationship between the beneficiary participation and effectiveness of project monitoring ad evaluation. Multiple regressions indicated that beneficiary participation provided a positive relationship between effectiveness of project monitoring ad evaluation and the various independent variables. The relationship between dependent variable and independent

variables, and results of testing significance of the model has been respectively interpreted. In interpreting the results of multiple regression analysis, three major elements considered were the coefficient of multiple determinations, the standard error of estimate and the regression coefficients (Lehmann, Gupta, and Steckel, 1998).

These elements and the results of multiple regression analysis were presented and interpreted in Table 4.5.1 above. Firstly, Table 4.5.1 reveals that beneficiary participation (measured by beneficiary's level of knowledge of goals and objectives, activities identification, identification of measurements of progress and participation in reporting of results) are significantly correlated with the correlation coefficient R = 0.78. The remaining step in the evaluation of the regression equation is to estimate the contribution of each independent variable in the study. Generally, all independent variables, significantly contributed in variance of the effectiveness of project monitoring ad evaluation at a significant level of 0.0001. However, the relative importance of association of each independent variable was different. This was evaluated and interpreted by the standardized coefficient of correlation (beta).

5.3 Discussions

In the light of the above findings, all the variables are discussed in relation to the previous studies. These variables are discussed as under to give this research its relevance.

5.3.1 Level of knowledge the project's goals and objectives

Beneficiaries' level of knowledge of project goals and objectives provided a positive relationship between effectiveness of project monitoring and beneficiary participation with P = 0.256 at a significance level of 0.0001. This finding is also consistent with WHO (1986), epic on participatory monitoring and evaluation. This finding is also consistent with Narayan (1995) in that it beneficiaries' level of knowledge of goal and objectives is key to an effective monitoring and evaluation.

5.3.2 Participation in project activities

Enhanced involvement of beneficiaries in project activities provided a positive relationship between beneficiary participation and the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation with P = 0.020 at a significance level of 0.0001. This finding is also consistent with Park (1996) that beneficiary participation in the project activities is essential for the sustainability of the project, though there is often is a limited number of members of the community participating in project activities. This study has also affirmed Mbugua et al (1993) work that women involvement in project activities and capacity building are also essential to sustain project-initiated services. This is because in water projects women are the main stakeholders. Therefore, women participation and leadership positions in Water Committee are inevitable for sustainable water projects.

5.3.3 Identification of measurements to show extent of progress achieved

Participation of beneficiary in identification of measurements of progress (milestones) was found to influence the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation with P = 0.374 at a significance level of 0.0001. This finding is also consistent with Kaliba (2002) that measurement of progress is an integral part of an M&E system. It is not only what is being assessed but also who is doing the assessment and for whom the assessment is intended that is important in the project monitoring and evaluation and local people need integration in the process because they take the whole risk and thus the should be in a position to realize the milestones.

5.3.4 Participation in reporting of results

Beneficiary participation in reporting of results was found to influence the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation with P = 0.234 at a significance level of 0.0001. This finding is also consistent with Ngowi and Mselle (1998) that at the planning stage, four levels of intensity in community participation may be distinguished: Information sharing where project designers and managers may share information with beneficiaries in order to facilitate collective or individual action. This study also shows that beneficiary participation provided an opportunity for interaction and feedback mechanism as in the work of Claud (1998).

5.4 Conclusions

From the above, it's clear that the beneficiaries see benefits in the KNWP. In fact, they think the project is effective and can lead to alleviation of poverty. It is also clear that all the variables considered affecting projects monitoring and evaluation had factors whose absence inhibited effective project monitoring and evaluation.

Some of the factors were major while others were minor. Even among the major factors, the means were much higher above average indicating a higher beneficiary contribution to projects monitoring and evaluation. Some factors displayed extremely low means on the likert scale, indicating that this greatly hindered effective monitoring and evaluation of the project. For example, the beneficiaries reveled a below average in participation in participatory planning workshops, an activity geared to enhancing beneficiary ownership of the project. This means that if the situation is not checked, if no interventions are made to ensure beneficiary participation, then this key stakeholder in projects monitoring and evaluation can be left out in the exercise altogether.

5.5 Recommendations of the study

The researcher recommends that the major factors that inhibit effective beneficiary participation in projects monitoring an evaluation be addressed, particularly those that are within the reach and scope of the service providers and the project office. This should include ensuring that there is full participation in the participatory planning workshops. The beneficiaries should be taken through some training to understand investments and returns to the investments, so that they can fully understand the project goals and objectives. On project activities, the research recommends that reasons be sought to finds out why there such poor and low participation in project activities, yet the beneficiaries indicate that the project is beneficial to them. Service providers should make deliberate efforts to engage the beneficiaries in the process, and consult with them on follow up days. The management also should on regular basis expose the beneficiaries to the financial reports for increased transparency and accountability. The researcher also recommends more gender sensitivity in project participation, perhaps by ensuring that more women are deliberately brought on board, and more youth representation.

5.6 Recommendations for further research

While conducting this research, the researcher was faced with quite a number of challenges which included finances, time and personnel. Due to the above reasons, the researcher was limited in terms of the scope and depth of this research. Consequently, the research recommends further research, for example in factors affecting the participation of the youth, particularly community based water project projects, the reasons for gender insensitivity in the project and the factors affecting beneficiaries' full participation in particular activities in this project.

The researcher also recommends research into establishment of the actual gains the beneficiaries got from the project, and reasons as to why the beneficiaries do not adhere to any reporting guidelines, though provided. It would also be a worthy research, finding out why, indeed, a significant number of the project beneficiaries also don't agree that the project is effective and that it alleviates poverty.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Letter of Transmittal

FRANCO MUTUA KARUTI

P.O. BOX 507-60200

DATE: ……..

TO: …….

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL OF DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENTS

This is to inform you that I am carrying out a research that will lead to the award of Master of Arts Degree in Project Planning and Management of the University of Nairobi. The focus of the study is undertaking an investigation into the level of beneficiary participation in project M&E activities based water projects in Kenya with specific reference to Kiabaibate-Nchura water project.

The results will offer lessons to the implementation of community based projects and more significantly, the community based water projects. Equally, the findings will help Governments, Donors and project management teams in developing appropriate monitoring and evaluation in the light of the focus on community development approach. All information provided will be strictly handled with confidentiality.

Find a copy of the questionnaire attached which requires you to provide information by filling it in. Kindly be honest and objective and do not write your name anywhere in the questionnaire.

Kindly cooperate with my research assistance when filling in this questionnaire.

Yours Faithfully

Franco Mutua

L50/60931/2010

Appendix II: Questionnaire for Kiabaibate-Nchura Water Project 2015

Please Tick (√) Your Response

Section A: Demographic Information.

1. Gender

a. Male ☐

b. Female ☐

2. Age

a. Under 30 ☐

b. 31-40 ☐

c. 41-50 ☐

d. 50 and above ☐

3. Marital status

a. Single ☐

b. Married ☐

4. Academic qualifications

a. Below O Level ☐

b. O Level ☐

c. Diploma ☐

d. Degree ☐

Section B: Level of knowledge goals and objectives of the project.

1. To what extent do you understand the following? (Please tick (√) as appropriate.

(1- No extent 2- to a small extent 3- to some extent 4- to a large extent 5- to a very large extent)

		1	2	3	4	5
1	The purpose of Kiabaibate–Nchura water project?					
2	What you hope to achieve in Kiabaibate–Nchura water project?					
3	The amount of investment made in the project?					
4	The returns your project is expected to make?					
5	The time within which this value is expected?					

2. To what extent does beneficiary level of knowledge of goals and objectives of the project affects the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation?

1	2	3	4	5
Very High	High	Average	Low	Very Low

3. Explain in your own words what the Kiabaibate–Nchura water project is all about…….....
.....

Section C: Participation in identification of activities

1. To what extent did you participate in the following activities? (Please tick the numbers on the right side of the statement)

(1- No extent 2- To a small extent 3- To some extent 4- To alarge extent 5- To a very large extent)

		1	2	3	4	5
1	Project's stakeholders' workshops?					
2	Project's flagging of opportunities in your zone/sub-location?					
3	Involvement in participatory Planning meetings or seminars and workshops?					
4	Determination of the service Providers salary?					
5	The time within which this value is expected?					
6	Mode of payment of the service provider					
7	Determination of extensions and acceptance of new members					

2. To what extent does beneficiary participation in identification of activities affects the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation?

1	2	3	4	5
Very High	High	Average	Low	Very Low

3. Briefly give a detailed account of the mobilization activities you were involved in:

.....

.....

.....

Section D. Identification of measurements to show extent of progress achieved.

1. To what extent were you involved in the identification of measurements to show the extent of the progress achieved by the project? (Please tick (√) in the space on the right side of the statement as appropriate) (1- No extent 2- To a small extent 3- To some extent 4-To a large extent 5- To a very large extent)

		1	2	3	4	5
1	Awareness of your responsibility as a Kiabaibate–Nchura water project member					
2	Awareness of learning through action as CGW member					
3	Determination of days of follow-up?					
4	Requesting for treasurer's report?					
5	Determination of time for the next training					
6	Identification of measures of success in the project?					

2. To what extent does involvement of beneficiary in identification affects the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation?

1	2	3	4	5
Very High	High	Average	Low	Very Low

3. Give a brief account of some of the success measures in your Kiabaibate–Nchura water project(milestones)

……

……

Section E: Participation in reporting of results.

1. Did you submit any reports? (Please tick appropriately) Yes/No
2. Did you follow any particular guidelines? Yes/No
3. How were the guidelines developed? Yes/No
4. Please tick: (1-No extent 2- To a small extent 3- To some extent 4- To a large extent5- a very large extent)appropriately.

		1	2	3	4	5
a	To what extent did you understand the reporting format?					
b	To what extent were you aware of the financing model?					
c	To what extent did you interact with project's financing model?					

5. To what extent does beneficiary participation in reporting of results affects the effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation?

1	2	3	4	5
Very High	High	Average	Low	Very Low

6. How did you get feedback on financial expenditures and balances of project funds?.....
.....
7. The Kiabaibate–Nchura water project is effective and has contributed to alleviation of poverty among the beneficiaries. (Please tick (√) appropriately)
    1. Strongly agree ( )
    2. Agree ( )
    3. Fairly agree ( )
    4. Disagree ( )
8. The planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of the Kiabaibate–Nchura water project was a participative exercise and I was engaged in the process. (please tick (√) appropriately)
    a. Strongly agree -. ( ) b. Agree ( ) c. Fairly agree ( ) c. Disagree ( )

Thanks for your co-operation.