

**FACTORS INFLUENCING THE LEVEL OF WOMEN
PARTICIPATION, IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
IN NAROK SOUTH DISTRICT, KENYA.**

BY

ARTHUR KIRIINYA MBOGORI

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DECLARATION

This research project report is my original work and has not been submitted for an award of a degree in any other university.

ARTHUR MBOGORI

REG. NO: L50/69688/2011

DATE

This research project report has been submitted for examination with my approval as University supervisor.

DR. PETER A.M. MWAURA

(Lecturer, University of Nairobi)

Department of Extra Mural Studies

DATE

DEDICATION

To Almighty God and my parents, Solomon Mbogori and Monicah Mbogori

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

- ASALS** - Arid and semi arid areas
- CBOS** - Community based organizations
- CDTF** – Community Development Trust Fund
- SPSS** - Statistical Package for Social Sciences
- FGM** - Female genital mutilation
- UNCCD** - United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- NGO** - Non-governmental organization
- NTFP** - None timber forest product
- GOK** - Government of Kenya
- DLAO** - District land adjudicating officer
- DAO** - District agricultural officer
- WID** - Women in development

ABSTRACT

Women and development issues have been on the world agenda since the United Nations organized the first women's conference in Mexico in 1975. Based on the report done, women are generally not able to participate fully in the development process. Thus, more women are poor, illiterate, do not enjoy proper healthcare, victims of violence such as rape, abuse as well as neglected, denied basic rights, discriminated against and suffer other forms of inequality as though their status is below that of men and their situation is far worse than the men's. The development of the pastoral regions is faced with a number of challenges. Therefore, the main purpose of the study was to establish the factors that influence the level of participation of women in community development projects. A descriptive survey design was adopted in order to analyze the multiple variables involved. Simple stratified random sampling technique was used to capture the objective of the study population of 21 Community Based Organizations (CBOs) with a total of 441 members. The sample of 43% of the total population was used, which reflects to 189 respondents. Data was collected using structured questionnaires. Pilot test of the measures was conducted against prospective sample population in order to measure validity and reliability. Half-split method was used to measure the validity of the research instruments. A sample size of ten was chosen to form the pilot study, in order to measure the validity and reliability of data collection instruments. Data was presented using tables to make them reader friendly. There were ethical issues related to the study and they were addressed by maintaining high level confidentiality of the information volunteered by the respondents. The data targeted a sample of 189 respondents from which only 181 completed and returned the questionnaires making a response rate of 96.7%. From the study it can be concluded that socio cultural factors, economic challenges, infrastructure and capacity building a major role on low participation of women in community development projects. The government should partner with other organizations to organize more workshops to sensitize the community on the importance of allowing women to participate on development of the community. The community infrastructure needs a major facelift since the world has changed and old means of transport should be replaced with the fast and modern. The water points should also be constructed within the reach of many residents to avoid scenarios of women walking for almost a day in search of water thus impacting negatively on their participation in community development. However there might be other factors that affect/influence women participation in community development project and further study should be done on this.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1: Background of the study

Women and development issues have been on the world agenda since the United Nations organized the first women's conference in Mexico in 1975. Based on report done, women are generally unable to participate fully in the development process. Thus, more women are poor, illiterate, do not enjoy proper healthcare, are victims of violence such as rape, abuse as well as neglect, denied basic rights, discriminated against and suffer other forms of inequality as though their status is below that of men and their situation is far worse than the men's. The reality is that there is an obvious disparity between men and women in the aspects of education, health, employment, legal matters, leadership, acquiring power and ownership of resources. Women in this country are luckier as their position and status have improved over time as a result of the national development policy that has brought blessings to all citizens regardless of sex (Boserup, Fei and Toulmin, 2013). Nevertheless, there are still a lot more initiatives that need to be taken to ensure that women are placed in their rightful position, and strategies that need to be formulated to ensure that women are able to contribute fully to the development process (World bank report, 2009).

Colonization and commercialization have had a rapid and irreversible impact on pastoralists' societies. Agricultural expansion, environmental conservation, bio-fuel production, population pressure, climate change and conflict have all contributed to the increasing exclusion and vulnerability of pastoralists in Eastern Africa. But this process has not been experienced evenly throughout pastoralist society and it is often women who have suffered the greatest losses. (Hodgson: 2000).

Pastoralist women endure harmful customs such as female genital mutilation (FGM) and continue to have less access to public services in areas that already lag far behind the provisions available in other parts of their countries. Few options are available to control productive assets, as livestock, land and women are often unable to inherit property.

They are excluded implicitly or explicitly from community decision making which is firmly in the hands of the male elders (Connell, 2001). However, although they are marginalized, these

women not only run their homes and raise their children, but are also livestock managers, peacemakers and on rare occasions, have managed to be elected into the national and regional government (Ngunjiri, 2010).

Women, who have been elected, reveal individual determination and innovation. They also show that structural causes of pastoralist women's marginalization have yet to be addressed. Although multi-party democracy has provided an arena for pastoralists to represent themselves in political arena, as well as an opportunity to be consulted over the planning and implementation of development projects, pastoralist women are almost entirely absent from decision making process and the effectiveness of pastoralist parliamentarians in general is far from clear (Frances, 1999).

Pastoralism in Sub-Saharan Africa involves highly fluid production systems. Pastoralists need to respond flexibly to variable semi arid rangeland environment. Furthermore household wealth is typically subject to stochastic events and most pastoralist groups have a history of entire families shifting in and out of the system depending on how their fortunes change. Pastoralist production systems all over the world are characterized by endogenously and exogenously driven change and can be best described as systems in transition. Nomadic pastoralists in Southwestern Iran have adapted to pressure from expanding settlements and agro ran activity by modifying their land use and mobility patterns. (Back, 1998, Wangui 2003)

1.2: Statement of the problem

Women play a pivotal role in the pastoralist way of life, assuming diverse responsibilities with regard to the livestock, the land and the household support. In the course of their daily tasks, they have developed an intimate knowledge of natural resource management, which they put into practice for the benefit of both their communities and their environment. In time of scarcity of natural resources, while stress and hardship rise for everyone, it is women who are most burdened with the increased workload as they struggle to compensate. The problem is exacerbated by the migration of men to urban areas to look for paid work in large industrialized firms. Women remain in the village, taking over the main responsibilities within their family as well as cultivating the land.

They, nevertheless, occupy a weak social and economic position in traditional pastoral societies (UNCCD 2007). However, despite this accumulated knowledge and capabilities they have not

been fully recognized and they are often excluded from the decision making process not only at homes but also within the general community projects. Therefore, there is knowledge gap in the management of community development project because the decision making is left to men who do not have vast knowledge on the community need.

The exclusion of women may lead to compromised quality of the project, or biased objective of the project due to lack of practical knowhow.

This study therefore will be to identify the factors influencing the level of participation of women in of community development projects.

1.3. Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to present exploratory factors that influence the level of participation of women in community development projects.

1.4. Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To investigate socio-cultural factors influencing women participation in community development projects.
2. To investigate how the economic factors influence women participation in community development projects.
3. To establish how the infrastructural factors influence women participation in community development projects.
4. To establish the extent to which capacity building influence women participation in community development projects.

1.5. Research questions

1. To what extent do socio-cultural factors influence women participation in community development projects?
2. How economic factors hinder women's participation in community development project?
3. How does the infrastructure affect women's participation in community development projects?
4. What are the effects of capacity building in women's participation in community development projects?

1.6. Significance of the study

The study would be useful to pastoralist especially women pastoralists. The entire pastoral communities may use the findings of this study and this will change their attitude towards pastoral women and their role in community development projects. The pastoral men will see the need of incorporating women in socio-economic activities and hence improve the living standard of pastoral community.

The donor agency might use the study to fund some projects in pastoral areas. This will generally improve the infrastructure and capacity building and hence benefits the whole nation at large.

The Central and County government might also use the study to set a budget to come up with development activities in pastoral areas. The government might organize for sensitization workshops to improve the capacity building and at the same time encourage women to assume leadership roles in the society.

NGO might use the findings to assist in building schools, health facilities and other infrastructures. The NGOs will also sensitize women through various organized seminars. They will empower women economically and socially.

1.7: Delimitation of the study

The scope of the study was on the level of women participation in community development projects in Kenya. However, the main focus will be factors influencing the level of participation of women in management of community development projects in Narok South District. Due to time and other resources the study will focus on women running community development projects mainly dairy, bore holes, beading and charcoal business among others. The study will be conducted through questionnaires distribution and survey on the target group.

1.8 Assumptions of the study

The assumptions include: the data collection instrument has validity and is measuring the desired constructs; the respondents will answer questions correctly and truthfully.

1.9 Limitation of the Study

The study has been carried out in a sparsely nomadic populated district and therefore to locate where the population was at times was a challenge and also some women were not willing to fill the questionnaires as they value their traditions which regard a man as the only one who can respond to any issue pertaining to them.

1.10 Definition of Significant Terms as used in the study.

Socio-cultural factors – they are strong forces that are linked to culture and society that affects ones behavior and way of thinking.

Economic factors - they are fundamental factors that affect livelihood in a society.

Capacity building - focuses on appreciating the impediments that reside in people and providing positive solutions by strengthening skills and competences, to handle the obstacles.

Infrastructure – they are physical structures that facilitate day to day activities (for instant roads, hospitals, schools, housing).

Community development project – it is an activity carried out by more than ten members of the community with an aim of improving their livelihood.

Participation – the process during which individuals have opportunity to become actively involved in a project

1.11 Organization of the study

The study is organized into five chapters. Chapter one, which is the introductory part, contains the background of the study, the statement of the problem, purpose of the study, limitation of the study, basic assumptions, definition of significant terms and organization of the study. In chapter two, literature review is given. Chapter three encompasses the research methodology under which, research design, target population, sampling procedure, research instrument in data collection, validity and reliability of the instruments, data collection procedures and data analysis techniques are discussed. Chapter four presents the data analysis and interpretation. Lastly chapter five presents the summary of findings, conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Introduction

This chapter is concerned with the review of literature related to the study. It incorporates literature on social cultural, economic, infrastructural factors and capacity building. In addition this chapter contains the conceptual framework.

2.2 Level of women participation in community development projects

Women and development issues have been on the world agenda since the United Nations Organized the first women's conference in Mexico in 1975. Based on report done, women are generally unable to participate fully in the development process. Thus, more women are poor, illiterate, do not enjoy proper healthcare, are victims of violence such as rape, abuse as well as neglect, denied basic rights, discriminated against and suffer other forms of inequality as though their status is below that of men and their situation is far worse than the men's. The reality is that there is an obvious disparity between men and women in the aspects of education, health, employment, legal matters, leadership, acquiring power and ownership of resources. Women, who have been elected, reveal individual determination and innovation. They also show that structural causes of pastoralist women's marginalization have yet to be addressed. Although multi-party democracy has provided an arena for pastoralists to represent themselves in political arena, as well as an opportunity to be consulted over the planning and implementation of development projects, pastoralist women are almost entirely absent from decision making process, meaning the effectiveness of pastoralist parliamentarians in general is far from clear (Frances, 1999).

Currently, the development of pastoral production in Kenya and Eastern Africa faces many challenges. One of the major challenges is the rapid growth of pastoral populations, exacerbated by the loss of prime grazing land and other land uses, cultivation, wildlife parks and reserves among others. Among other factors, over population and encroachment of non-pastoralists on range lands have caused overgrazing, which has, in turn, brought degradation.

Through the lowering of productivity and ecological resilience, the range lands are no-longer able to offer adequate support for the pastoralists. As a consequence, the number of

impoverished pastoralists has increased. They have been forced to move out and seek other forms of livelihood, such as farming, wage employment and welfare-dependency (Nyariki, 2000).

There has been shrinking land and a concomitant decline in the pastoralist welfare and long term survival as a result of the invasion of the ASALs by agricultural communities and failure of development projects meant to support the pastoralists. There is, therefore, a need to closely assess development strategies that have been introduced in the past and compare them with community initiatives with respect to the long-term survival of pastoral people (Nyariki, 2000).

Sustainable livestock production in pastoral areas is yet to be achieved in Kenya partly owing to poor institutional governance and unproductive development policies. Factors attesting to institutional failure in pastoral areas include social and political marginalization, economic stagnation, destitution and persistent social conflict (Vorley, 2002).

Customary domains of power within pastoralist societies have tended to formally segregate men and women. It seems that in the past there were often complementary institutions, that today only those belonging to men tend to survive. While most pastoralist women have informal authority over the actions and decisions of their husbands, this does not amount to an institutionalized space for women. The wife may not well influence what a man says or does an event. Even among pastoralist associations that have been established through intervention of NGOs, women continue to be largely absent although even inclusion and participation of a single woman can be seen as notable success. While government has made provision to include greater female and minority representation, there will be little change if this inequality is not addressed (Vorley, 2002).

2.3 Socio cultural factors influencing women participation

Many times women are left to play secondary supportive roles in livestock production and hold subordinate roles to fathers, husbands and sons. They are always excluded from public life and other economic activities while their identities as pastoralist gender relations as well as the dynamism within pastoralist societies are limited (Hodgson, 2000).

Women pastoralist today are more vulnerable than they were in the past and are unable to directly voice their concerns to those who make decisions over their lives. Women and girls are regarded as the custodians of cultural values and beliefs more than men and boys.

Abella, 2006). Some women view this as a source of authority, but culture is not only defined by men, it is also imposed by them. Women and girls become much more susceptible to gender discrimination. Their health and social status is affected as well as their ability to participate fully in their community development. Limited access to health care education, high mobility rates, low life expectancies and lack of knowledge about family planning and reproductive health all indicate that women pastoralists continue to be disproportionately excluded from the public services, which are already extremely limited.(Kipuri and Ridgewell 2003).

Social norms enforced by male and female community elders continue to be observed irrespective of the growing body of legislation enacted to protect and promote women's rights. Among pastoralists in Eastern Africa, girls are socialized early to accept their role as helpers to their mothers, who are subordinate to their husbands. As the girls grow older and enter marriage, they too occupy the same position as their mothers in a household that her husband heads. Girls are cast as the weaker sex and are taught to obey, respect and submit to the leadership of men, while young men gain prestige for trekking livestock to distant camps and protecting the community. Among the Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania, girls respond to greetings from men with shrill voices as a sign of deference to the caller and continue to do this until they enter adulthood. "Maasai women and girls are expected to have two voices, one for the normal talk and another little voice used to demonstrate respect for men. Boys and men are not required to change their voices at any time", Clementia Mateyain, a Tanzanian woman explains (Kipuri and Ridgewell 2003).

The advent of colonialism and the independence tended to reinforce the status of men and undermined that of women. Although women appear to have contributed heavily to herd management throughout this time, they were not recognized as livestock owners and taxes were demanded from men based on the number of animals they held. When missionary and government schools were introduced in the first half of the twentieth century, only the boy child

was enrolled. Developments such as dairy cooperatives have also tended to assume that they own and control resources. Among the Maasai's, this resulted in daily herds being formally registered to male household heads, which in turn collected payment from collection points, irrespective of the fact that it was largely women who managed milk and milk products (Kipur and Ridgewell, 2003). Women's diminishing control over livestock products such as milk has led to their growing vulnerability. In many cases the identity of pastoralist men is being undermined, as they cling to remnants of livestock herds. As a result, pastoralist men are turning increasingly to alcohol which is often brewed and sold by pastoralist women as a distraction (Hesse and MacGregor, 2006).

Pastoralist production is entirely dependent on the complementary roles of men and women. Today, women's tasks may be comprised of activities such as constructing houses, milking, managing sheep and goats, small scale-trading, producing butter, cheese and ghee, cultivating crops, producing handcrafts and collecting water, firewood, fodder, wild fruits and non timber forest products (NTFP). Until recently, men's roles have tended to remain much more restricted to livestock production and often include caring for and migrating with herds, managing grazing and water resources, livestock trading, controlling predators, ensuring security among others (Hesse and MacGregor, 2006).

2.4: Economic factors influencing women participation in community development

Without sufficient social capital, pastoralist women find it difficult to build an independent economic status and hence have limited development projects. Although ownership and access to livestock is complex, women are generally not able to benefit from the principal output from the pastoralist economy, despite playing varied and often unacknowledged roles in livestock production. The commercialization of livestock products land and (NTFPs) has also occurred at the expense of women, who have been marginalized from the domains of power they were previously associated with. Male inheritance remains the norm despite national legislation enforcing equitable inheritance of property. In addition, conflict and environmental degradation has eroded the pastoralist economy and because of the existing marginal status of women, they have also increased the vulnerability of women disproportionately to that of men.

Female-headed households have become entirely dependent on activities such as firewood and grass collection in order to out subsistence living standards. With few assets or savings and with little or no access to financial services, these households succumb more quickly to crises and take longer to recover economically. For those who have lost their entire livestock herd, abandoning the pastoralist economy is often the only option and they are forced to settle on the outskirts of urban areas (Kipuri and Ridgewell 2007).

When it comes to describing pastoralist gender relations, many assert that women are unable to own and dispose of livestock, which represents not only the principal economic output of the pastoralist economic but also serves as a sign of prestige and social status. But a man often needs his wife or mother to access particular livestock and the ownership of and access rights to her households' are complex and poorly understood in many cases. However, women tend to have far greater rights to access and dispose of livestock products like milk, butter, cheese, gee, hides and skins than they do over livestock (Hodgson 2000). *“Women own no livestock and the value of their work is not appreciated. Even to sell a cow, permission has to be sought in fact even to sell a bag of maize that I have planted myself, I have to do it secretly”* says Paulina Tipap, Maasai woman from Tanzania (Kipuri and Ridgewell 2003).

A great deal of women's time is spent tending animals such as goats and sheep around the homestead and also at the same time collecting water and fodder for sick animals and have extensive knowledge concerning animal health. In some cases, girls accompany boys and men when trekking livestock in order to cook and clean for them (Hodgson, 2000).

But while it appears that pastoralist women have rarely been able to dispose of livestock independently of their male kin, what is troubling is their loss of control over livestock products. Women have by custom maintained full authority over the production, distribution and disposal of livestock products, which has represented one of their few economic outlets. But a combination of commercialization and greater sedentarisation often association with the adoption of agro-pastoralist or as a result of government policy has began removing women's control over milk, butter, cheese and ghee and this has affected the community development (Ogachi, 2011).

Commercialization, whether of meat or milk production, tends to be realized by men. Women are incapable of being engaged in this process because of their heavy workloads and lack of mobility. Men also have authority over the location of the household. Since livestock can be trekked to market, but livestock products cannot, men can re-establish full control over the commercial activities of all household members (Doss C and MC Peak, 2005). As a result, among the settled Maasai, men have taken over nearly all the activities previously associated with dairying by women which have been aided by the tendency of development interventions to recognize men as herd owners (Kipuri, 2008). The consistent undervaluing of the pastoralist economy has led government to allocate pastoralist rangelands for alternative uses and promote private land holding in an attempt to increase productivity.

While the impact on women should not be overlooked, there are adverse long-term social, economical and environment effects of sedentary lifestyles. Economic gains can be made in a more appropriate way only when pastoralists are included in development planning. More inclusive development will serve to protect lifestyles and livelihoods that are tailored to the environment while at the same time not denying pastoralists the benefits of national development to increase productivity. Customary, rangelands, forests and water resources were held as communal property, with access and use rights determined by group affiliation. Pastoralist women, for instance Boran women from Southern Ethiopia, were excluded from customary management regimes and relied on men to access natural resources (Watson, 2003)

Although colonial authorities began the alienation of pastoral resources the process was actually intensified after independence (Ogachi, 2011). The pastoralists are not recognized as the owners of their own lands, which are inevitably declared as belonging to the state. Agricultural biasness on the part of planners have in turn promoted the expansion of settled crop cultivation in pastoralist regions, despite its incompatibility with arid and semi –arid lands. Although resources are endured collectively, women are often less able to negotiate with private or group land holding systems, which are emerging among pastoralists as a response to increasingly insecure tenure. For instance, the Samburu were initially encouraged to form group ranches by the (GOK), and the membership was granted exclusively to male household heads. The subsequent establishment of individual holdings has continued this trend, although a small

number of women have been granted land by the District Land Adjudication Officer (DLAO), despite opposition from the local land committee (Little, 1992)

2.5: How infrastructural factors affects women participation in community development

The Narok South District lacks access roads, adequate health facilities, water and communication systems among other infrastructures. Pastoralists have continued to suffer due to poor infrastructure particularly rural women and development workers in Kenya. There is a challenge of reducing time and effort women spend on domestic transport tasks so as to reallocate their time to more remunerative activities. A study was carried in the South District and revealed that roads infrastructure needs to be improved and hence women have been trained to use donkeys as means of transport. Very few vehicles operate in the interior and the cost of hiring such vehicles is prohibitive. Using donkeys, the women were able to half the number of trips normally taken for the task.

In 1994, a collaborative study (IT Kenya and District Agricultural Officer, DAO) was carried out to assess the transport problem. The study was carried out using rural appraisal techniques and the study revealed that pastoralists travel long distances and lack adequate transport services to reach health centers, grinding mills and livestock markets. Access to water is a major problem, with many women traveling (10 – 20) km round trip to collect it. Women are responsible for collecting water, but men cited water collection as a major problem (Jo.Leyland <http://www.atresa.org>, 2009)

The key challenges to improving market access in dry lands areas include high level of poverty, lack of markets and industries that are accessible, little or no private sector investment, limited or no public sector infrastructure development, limited business skills among dry lands communities and policies that are not responsive to the marketing challenges facing them. These challenges have led to a situation where many dry land areas are becoming poorer due to perceptions that there are no commercially viable commodities available. Governments and the private sector do not invest in those areas due to a perception that there are low returns on investment.

The drought in Kenya has continuously worsened in the past years. By mid 2005 drought affects had reached devastating proportions especially in Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASAL) where up to 45 million people were severely affected by lack of food, water and means of livelihood (Watson, Marufu and Richard, 2008). There is need for building dams, drilling boreholes, schools and building health facilities.

As representation is limited, enduring perceptions of pastoralist continue to shape the view of government throughout the region. Overgrazing, drought and desertification are believed to be the inevitable consequences of the pastoralist way of life and for decades, livestock herders have been seen as a constraint to rural development. As a result, decentralization has been consistently and continually promoted across the region, often against the will of pastoralist communities. In addition, development including displacement remains a common occurrence as pastoralists are relocated, sometimes by force, to make way for national interest (Ogachi, 2011).

Government and NGOs interventions among these communities must acknowledge and address gender imbalances, as changes that exclude women will quickly increase vulnerability, inequality and indecency. Pastoralist women are already more vulnerable than men and failing to understand how and why this is the case may well result in more harm than good. Working with pastoralist women to tackle the specific constrains on their participation will provide these women with opportunity to attain greater powers, prestige and ultimately representation in political office.

As pastoralist women, they are victims of social, economic and political marginalization and as women they suffer inequality in accessing resources and participation in decision making. This study will identify the challenges pastoralists women are facing with a view to come up with the recommendations to improve their standard of living. Given the chance, they have proven highly capable of finding alternative sources of income, particularly during periods of intense drought in the dry lands, and for acquiring the necessary skills to do so.

The Narok South District is faced with an acute shortage arising from low rainfall, few permanent water resources and high cost of exploration of under-ground water sources. The

problem of poor access to adequate and safe water came out of the community consultative forum as a major cause of poverty in the district. Shortage of water has been an impediment to economic growth particularly in the livestock sector, which is the main stay of the pastoralists. Women and children bear the highest burden of water scarcity. As earlier stated they walk long distances to fetch water sometimes covering up to 15 km, consequently they spend substantial time on this activity as a result they are left with inadequate time for socio-economic activities, such as education and participating in community development.

A study conducted before intervention revealed that over 60% of the more than 400 community owned boreholes in the South District were not operational due to lack of ownership, technical and management skills. There was also poor personal hygiene and sanitation in the community and the schools mainly due to lack of adequate and safe water. So there is need to have boreholes rehabilitated and have more to save women and children in these pastoralists' areas. (Brown, 2006)

2.6 Role of Capacity building in women participation in community development projects

Capacity is the essential lubricant of development more important even than finance. One weakness of capacity within a multi-stakeholders project will often condemn the whole project to failure. The term capacity building describes the task of developing levels of human and institutional capacity. Capacity building remains one of the most challenging functions of development (One World Capacity Building Guide 2003). Capacity building is relevant to the highest level of government as well as to the most humble village. The tools of its trade range from women's leadership courses to diagrams explaining water pump maintenance. Individual organizations such as local community groups are crucial providers of capacity building programs whilst themselves often lacking capacity to sustain their mission. However the pastoralist women have been left out during these sessions.

A recurrent frustration for international donors in their pursuit of effective aid spending has been lacking in capacity of the government to deliver the intended programs. For instance, ending user fees for health and education is an attractive policy option for African governments stimulated by aid and debt relief. In practice, waving fees for primary education has been problematic as neither teacher numbers nor classroom facilities have been able to cope up with

the influx of new pupils. Political pressure to allocate generous aid budgets to post-conflict environment invariably hits the buffers of capacity as illustrated by the disappointing development returns achieved for donors in Afghanistan Aid, can be the antithesis capacity the drift into and dependency snuffing out the growth of government institutions (One World Capacity and Building Guide 2008).

Similar capacity needs to apply even more at local government levels, which are notoriously bureaucratic and ineffective in developing countries. As decentralization has entered the mainstream of development models over recent years, there is constant search for successful capacity building templates, which can be replicated over multiple locations. Limitations of local government units create the space frequently occupied by community- based organizations (CBOS) which may be supported by regional or national or international (NGOS). The CBOS typically possess expert understanding of the needs of local people and are best placed to create the sense of community ownership and a feedback mechanism so important to development projects.

Unfortunately, no amount of this valuable expertise can protect these grassroots CBOS and NGOS from their own Achilles heel of incapacity to sustain them. Invariably they are dependent on donor project finance, which by definition has a beginning and an end the fickle availability, and timing of such funds leaves small organizations highly vulnerable. In their strategies for internal capacity NGO managers often find themselves torn between their non-financial mission and generating earned income. The challenge of diversified financial models is particularly acute for southern based civil society, poorly equipped with relevant fundraising knowledge and cut off from an affluent corporate sector.

Capacity building programs for civil society therefore focus on sustainability as their outcome. Tools will include strategic engagement of volunteers, training in organizations management, use of online peer groups networking and building alliances and improvement of fundraising and donor relationship skills. Relationships can also break down over strategic disagreements and cross cultural misunderstanding. New theories for effective community development and its evaluation hatched in western conference centers do not chime in with equally innovative ideas generated at village level.

This faultiness in the current mainstream structure for development projects may create openings for the new breed of social entrepreneurs whose ideas of capacity building are likely to be more tuned to success of an organization rather than success of an individual project. Unfortunately, top-down perception of what constitute "better lives" does not always coincide with real needs. Benefits given, rather than asked for, to the wrong people on the wrong skills etc will prolong rather than alleviate poverty environment. A key dimension of capacity building for communities is therefore the "needs assessment" involving techniques such as "participatory rural appraisal" to understand what interventions will trigger the most positive response and impact (Swanepoel, 2006).

2.8 Theoretical framework

This study was guided by gender and development theory, as the study intended to find out the factors influencing the low participation of women in management of community development projects in Narok South District.

2.8.1 Gender and Development theory

Early approaches to women in development recognized that development had ignored the important role played by women in their communities and, as a result, largely excluded them from the design and implementation of development projects. The women in development (WID) approach recognize that more efficient and effective development requires the active participation of women as well as men. Seeking to remedy women's exclusion from the development process, the WID approach focuses mainly upon women.

Since mid 1980's there has been a growing consensus that sustainable development requires an understanding of women's roles and responsibilities within the community and their relationship to each other. Improving the status of women is no longer seen as just a women's issue but as a goal that requires the active participation of men and women. This has come to be known as the gender and development (GAD) approach. The GAD approach, through gender analysis, seeks to understand the roles, responsibilities, resources and priorities of women and men within a specific context, examining the social, economic and environmental factors which influence their roles and decision-making capacity.

Gender and Development is therefore an analytical approach which considers both women's and men's roles and responsibilities within the community and their relationship to each other in order to ensure that women's concerns and needs are addressed in design and implementation of activities. It is thus an approach that looks at women as an integral part of the family, community and the larger society. Through gender analysis techniques, the roles and rights of both women and men are studied to help planners and project managers design how development interventions may be made more effectively. Gender analysis helps in establishing more sustainable and effective development.

Moderating: The rising gender equality has identified various factors that hinder female participation in development (Inglehart & Norris 2003; Inglehart, Norris, & Welzel 2002; Inglehart & Welzel 2005; Welzel 2003). Of the theories explored, research finds the following four factors to be particularly important: (1) socioeconomic development; (2) rising gender-egalitarian attitudes that transform economic development into a cultural process of human development; (3) historical legacies stemming from a society's cultural and political traditions; and (4) institutional design factors.

2.9 Conceptual framework

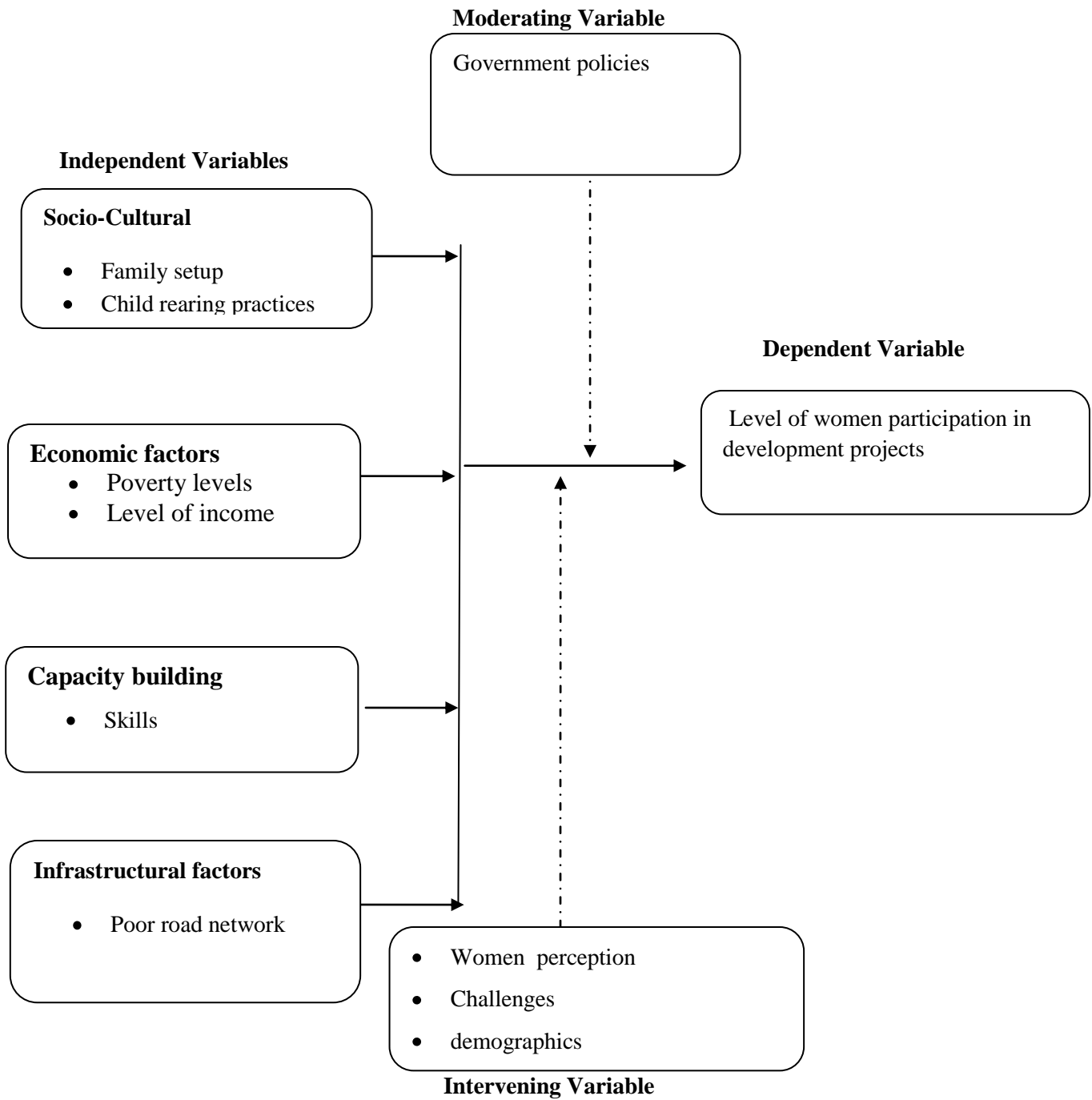


Figure 1: Conceptual framework

2.10 Research Gap

Various studies have been carried out on the view of factors influencing gender sensitivity. Many researchers have looked at unequal opportunities between women and men which continue to hamper women's ability to lift them from poverty and gain more options to improve their lives. The various researches carried out were based on various areas in Kenya. (Vorley, 2002) has talked about what the government is doing to ensure gender equality by introducing the third ratio. The various studies that have been done have talked of the challenges of a girl child, traditions that hinder the girl child from education and early marriages. However this research aims at finding the factors that influence the level of women participation in community development specifically in Narok South district.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The chapter describes the research design used, the targeted population, sampling design, data collection instruments and procedures, and the techniques on how the data was analyzed.

3.1: Research Design

This study adopted a descriptive survey, Kothari, (2005) describes descriptive research as including survey and facts finding enquiries adding that the major purpose of descriptive research is description of affairs as it exists at present. A descriptive research determines and reports the way things are and attempts to describe such things as possible behavior, attitudes, values and characteristics, Mugenda & Mugenda, (2003). The method of data collection was tested for validity and reliability, conditions which according to Kothari, (2005) must be present in descriptive studies.

3.2: Targeted Population

This consisted of 21 registered community based organizations. (National Council for community based organizations in Narok south district offices) The population of interest was broken down as follows:

Table 3.1: Breakdown of the targeted population

category	Population frequency			%of the total population
	Men	Women	Total	
Officials	79	26	105	24
Members	115	221	336	76
Totals	194	249	441	100

3.3. Sample design

The researcher used systematic random sampling, in systematic random sampling; the researcher first randomly picked the first person from the population group register. Then, the researcher selected prime numbers from the list. This method was considered because of its simplicity and assurance that the sample was evenly distributed. It allows the researcher to add a degree of system or process into the random selection of subjects. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) a sample of 10% is considered representative. Therefore as the table 3.2 43% of population was considered representative. This approach was considered appropriate since the use of judgment ensured a survey of a representative sample of factors influencing the low participation of women in community development projects in Narok South District. In addition, considering the time and budget constraints, it is considered an appropriate sampling strategy that will yield representative results.

Table 3.2: Breakdown of the sampled population

Category	Population frequency	Proportion Sample	Sample Proportion in %
officials	105	63	60
members	336	126	38
Total	441	189	43

3.4 Sampling procedure

Sampling procedure may be defined as a systematic process of identifying individuals for a study to represent the larger group from which they are selected (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). A sample is a small group obtained from accessible population (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). Sampling is the procedure a researcher uses to gather people, places or things to study. It is the process of selecting a number of individuals or objects from a population such that the selected group contains elements representative of characteristics found in the entire group, (Newman, 1998). Systematic random sampling was applied in carrying out the study as per the two groups officials and members a sample of 43% of the total population was used therefore 189 respondents constituted the sample population for the study.

3.5. Data Collection procedures

Questionnaires were designed as per the objectives of the study. With the assistance of a research assistant, the study used primary data; these were collected through self-administered questionnaires. Structured questionnaires were used to collect data on respondent's perception on factors that influence low participation of women in community development projects in Narok South District. A questionnaire is a useful tool for collecting data from respondents because of the need to provide a means of expressing their views more openly and clearly. These questionnaires were administered through "drop and pick later" method, and structured interview.

3.6 Data Collection Instrument

The research adopted a questionnaire as the instrument for data collection. The questionnaires were both closed and open-ended questions on various factors affecting the level of women participation in development project. These questionnaires were structured to elicit specific responses for qualitative and quantitative analysis. Questionnaires were hand-delivered to the respondents.

3.7 Pilot study

The questionnaires were tried out. A sample size of ten was chosen to form the pilot study, in order to measure the validity and reliability of data collection instruments. A pilot study is a small scale preliminary study before the main research in order to measure the validity and reliability of data collection instruments, (Kothari, 2005).

3.8 Validity of the Research Instrument

Validity may be defined as the ability of a test to measure what it purports to measure. Validation of the research instrument will be done by use of a pilot study. Prior to the actual study, pilot test of the measures was conducted against prospective sample population in order to measure validity. The subject to be approached during piloting was marked so that they cannot be applied in the final study. The wording of items was carefully modified based on the pilot test outcomes and reviews. Pre-testing the questionnaire is of great significance in this survey. The questions were re-examined to ensure that they are not ambiguous, confusing, or potentially offensive to the respondents leading to biased responses. This enhanced validity of the research instruments.

3.9 Reliability of the Research Instrument

A pilot study was carried out whereby ten questionnaires were pre-test respondents outside the sample population. The researcher administered the instruments personally to the respondents. The feedback was used to validate the instruments in readiness for the study. After administering the instruments to the selected respondents, the data obtained was a true reflection of the variables under study. To test the reliability of the instruments, the researcher used the split-half technique. The instrument was split into two sub sets (the sets which have odd numbers and even numbers). All even numbered items and odd numbered responses in the pilot study were computed separately. The main aim was to determine the co-efficient of internal consistency and the reliability co-efficient whose value should vary between 0.00 (indicating no reliability) and +1.00 (indicating perfect reliability). The odd numbered scores for all items were correlated with even numbered scores using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient of the entire test, where the co-efficient was 0.06 which was perfect reliability.

The researcher used Spearman Brown Prophecy formula:

$$\text{—————}Re = \text{——}$$

3.10. Data Analysis and presentation

Data obtained from the field in raw form is difficult to interpret and should be cleaned, coded, key punched into a computer and analyzed (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). Data was collected, tabulated and analyzed for purpose of clarity, using SPSS version 20 software and excel. Data was presented using tables to make them reader friendly.

3.9 Ethical Issues

There was ethical issues related to the study and they were addressed by maintaining high level confidentiality of the information volunteered by the respondents and never intending to use the information for other purposes other than drawing the conclusion of the study. The names of the respondents were optional and not to be disclosed to protect their rights. All the personal details were limited to general information.

3.11 Operational Definition of Variables

Table 3.3: Operationalization of variables

Objective	Variables	Indicators	Specific indicators	Data collection method	Type of Analysis
To identify socio-cultural factors affecting women participation in community development projects	Independent variable Socio-cultural factors	Family setup Perception about women	Family size Selection of leaders	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics
To find out the economic factors affecting women participation in community development project	Independent variable Economic factors	Income levels	Income levels Education level	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics
To find out the infrastructural factors affecting women participation in community projects	Independent variable Infrastructural factors	Number of schools Number of hospitals Roads network	Number of schools Number of hospitals Type of roads	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics
To establish the extent to which capacity building affects women participation in community development projects	Independent variable Capacity building	Skills	Number of skills acquired	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics
	Dependent variable Level of women participation in development projects	Number of women in developmental project. Number of women leaders in projects	Number of women in developmental project. Number of women leaders in projects	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1: Introduction

The chapter presents data analysis, findings and discussion of the study in line with the research objective. The general objective of the study was to investigate the factors affecting participation of women in community development projects. To achieve the general objective the research used a number of specific objectives as follows: to identify socio-cultural barriers to women participation in community development projects, to determine the economical challenges of women' participation in community development projects, to establish the level of capacity building of women in community development projects, to assess the infrastructure and their impact in community development projects at Narok South District.

4.2: Characteristics of the respondent firms

A total of 189 questionnaires were issued out. The completed questionnaires were edited for completeness and consistency, of the 189 questionnaires issued, only 181 were returned. This represented a response rate of 96.7%, which the study considered adequate for analysis

4.3: Demographic and respondents' profile information

The demographic information considered in this study for the respondents included the gender of the respondents, marital status, age and level of education.

4.3.1: Gender of the respondents

As can be observed, in table 4.1, the respondents were made up of 46.0 % male and 54.0% female which represents almost equal proportion. The male respondent were involved in the study in order to seek their views on women participation in community development and also some women respondent spoke through their male counterparts as their tradition recognizes the male as the head of the family and thus were the ones speaking on their behalf.

Table 4.1: Gender of the respondents

	Frequency	Percentage
Female	98	54
Male	83	46
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.3.2: Marital status of the respondents

The study revealed that (24%) respondents were still single, while 76% were married. This shows that the respondents had a chance to express what affects the community since they have substantial experience in cultural practices associated with those who are married.

Table 4.2: Marital status of the respondents

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	138	76
single	43	24
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.3.3: Family set-up

The study sought to find out the family setup of the respondents. The study shows that the majority of the respondents still hold on to their traditional culture of one man marrying more than one wife.

Table 4.3 family set-up

	Frequency	Percentage
Polygamy	117	64
Monogamy	64	36
Total	181	100

4.3.4: Age Bracket (years) of the respondents

The findings presented in table 4.4 show that, 49.9% of the respondents were over 30 years old, 35.5% were of age 26-30 years and 14.6% were 20-25 years. On average the majority of the respondents were above 30 years of age. The respondents were old enough to have participated in community development projects and also they were aware of the factors which hinder their participation.

Table 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Age

Age	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
20-25	26	14.6	14.6
26-30	64	35.5	50.1
Over 30	91	49.9	100.0
Total	181	100.0	

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.3.4: Highest level of education attained by the respondents

Study findings on highest level of education attained by category presented in table 4.5 shows that 31.1% of respondents participating in the study had attained college level as their highest level of education while 28.3% had attained only the primary education as their highest education level, 20.1% had attained secondary level, 10.6% had attained university degree as their highest level of education and a small proportion of 9.9% had no basic education at all. The respondents had the basic education which enabled them to answer the research questions without any hindrance; also the respondents who were involved in community development can participate in the projects effectively since they can translate the knowledge taught in class to practicability.

Table 4.5: Highest level of education

Education level	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
None	18	9.9	9.9
Primary	51	28.3	38.2
Secondary	36	20.1	58.3
College	56	31.1	89.4
University	19	10.6	100.0
Total	181	100.0	

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.3.5 Income levels

The study sought to find out the income level of the respondents, the findings are presented in table 4.6

Table 4.6 income level

Income levels (KShs)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Below 2000	22	12	12
2001-3000	54	30	42
3001-5000	71	39	81
5001-10000	24	13	94
Above 10000	11	6	100.0
Total	181	100.0	

Source: Survey data, (2013)

The study revealed that the majority of the respondents in the Narok south district live above \$ 1 in a day. This was evidenced by 58% of the respondent earn more than Kshs 3000 in a month.

4.4: Socio-cultural

These are factors are influences personal behavior derived from the customs, traditions, perceptions and beliefs of an individual’s culture and can be a key determinant in whether or not a person even agrees to the changing times that we are in.

4.4.1: Whether still practice traditional culture

The response on whether the respondents still practice traditional culture varied from: 70.7% who said that they still practice the culture and 29.3% who said they do not practice. The community values their culture a lot and the large percentage who said they still practice culture was a confirmation of it.

Table 4.7: Practice traditional culture

	Frequency	Percentage
practice of traditional culture	128	70.7
No practice of traditional culture	53	29.3
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.4.2: Culture prevents one from playing active role in community development projects

The study findings revealed that 58.5% of the respondents said that their culture does not prevent them from playing an active role in community development projects while 41.5% said it prevented them from playing the role. The culture being practiced may restrict members of one gender from playing an active role and as much as those who said the culture does not prevent them, there was a substantial proportion of the respondents which cannot be ignored who may be affected by the culture.

4.4.3: Women in community development projects that vie for elective positions

As indicated on table 4.8 on whether there are women in the community development projects that vie for elective positions, 56.1% of the respondents said there are none while 43.9% said there were those who vie. The culture the community still adores has been the greatest impediment to women vying for elective positions as they are viewed as second in command and they should not challenge men. Those who said there are women who vie for the positions may have resulted from the enlightenment the community has undergone due to the members of the community who have gone to school.

Table 4.8: Women in community development projects that vie for elective positions

	frequency	Percentage
Women vying for elective position	79	43.9
Women not vying for elective position	102	56.1
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.4.4: How to identify community development project leaders

Majority of the respondents (36.6%) said the identification of community development projects leaders was done through consensus, 34.1% said it was done through competitive election while 29.3% said it was through appointment. The community still values the tradition that there is a family born to lead and that could have contributed to identification of project leaders.

Table 4.9: How to identify community development project leaders

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Appointment	53	29.3	29.3
Consensus	66	36.6	65.9
Competitive election	62	34.1	100.0
Total	181	100.0	

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.4.5: Women are allowed to take up positions of leadership in community

A larger proportion of respondents said that women are not allowed to take up positions of leadership in the community this was shown by a mean of 3.6188 and standard deviation of 1.4273. The difference amongst the respondents who said women were not allowed to take up leadership positions and those who thought they are allowed may partly be attributed to the undergoing change within the community brought out by the enlightenment of the youth who support equal opportunity for all while the old still wants the status quo to remain.

Table 4.10: Women are allowed to take up positions of leadership in community

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean	Standard deviation
Women are allowed to take up positions of leadership in your community	25	24	9	60	63	3.6188	1.4273
Women are recognized by men in your community	30	26	4	72	49	3.4641	1.4434

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.4.5: Women recognition by men in the community

Generally, women were not recognized by the men as they view women as an inferior gender that is to be seen only but not heard and therefore their recognition was impossible as it was also against the community traditions.

4.5: Economic Challenges

Economic forces are the factors that help to determine the competitiveness of the environment in which the CBO operates

4.5.1: Running business of their choice

The study revealed that 56.1% of the respondents said they do not run any business apart from the ones they are involved in as a community and the remaining 43.9% said they run a business. The community had no idea of any other income generating activity apart from keeping of animals, charcoal burning, bead making, bee keeping and farming.

Table 4.11: Running business of their choice

Running business	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	79	43.9
No	102	56.1
	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.5.3: Women involved in the running of projects

The study finding shows that all the CBOs are managed by the locals, some with a technical advice from CDTF. This show that the sponsors of these CBOs empower the community and this helps them own the projects. Regarding the management of the projects 53.7% of respondents said that women were not involved in the running of projects while 46.3% of the respondents said they were involved in the running of projects. There was a slight difference between those who said they were involved and those who said they were not involved implying that men have appreciated the changing times and include women in management as women have proven that they have management skills.

Table 4.12: Women involved in the running of projects

	Frequency	Percentage
Women are in management	84	46.3
No women in management	97	53.7
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.5.4: Trained in management and financial skills

As indicated on table 4.13 whether the community has been trained on management and financial skills, 78.0% of the respondents said they have been trained while 22.0% said they have not been trained. The training comes in handy to the community as they will be in a position to manage their business finance thus improving their living standards

Table 4.13: Women trained for management and financial skills

	Frequency	Percentage
Trained	141	78
Not trained	40	22
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.6: Infrastructural

Infrastructure is basic physical and organizational structures needed for the operation of a society or enterprise or the services and facilities necessary for an economy to function. It can be generally defined as the set of interconnected structural elements that provide framework supporting an entire structure of development. It is an important term for judging a region's development.

4.6.1: Means of transport

The most used mode of transport by the community was other means which included walking with 46.2% followed by use of vehicles with 31.8% while motorbikes were used by 17.1% and a small proportion of 4.9% used bicycles. The road network may not be good in the area and therefore there are other modes of transport being used.

Table 4.14: Means of transport

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Vehicles	57	31.8	31.8
Bicycles	9	4.9	36.7
Motorbikes	31	17.1	53.8
Others	84	46.2	100.0
Total	181	100.0	

4.6.2: Situation of roads for transporting community products

The study shows that the distance covered by the residents to the main road on average is between 1 to 5 kilometers; however the road network in the district was in a poor state as represented by 62.9% while 36.1% said it was in good state and 1% said they are very good. The road network determines the means of transport to be used in the district in that the poor road network made the residents to use other means of transport which included walking. This therefore calls for the improvement of the network to open up the district for easier movement.

Table 4.15: Situation of roads for transporting goods

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very good	2	1	1
Good	65	36.1	37.1
Poor	114	62.9	100.0
Total		100.0	

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.6.3: Distance of nearest water source (Kilometers)

The findings shows that 9% of the respondent access water from their homestead or less than a kilometer, 41.0% of the respondent access water point within a radius of 1-5 kilometers, 39.3% said they could get water between 6-10 kilometers while 10.7% said they access water in over 10 kilometers. The water point should be one which is easily accessible by all for any development to take place. Majority of the respondents could access the nearest water point in over 5

kilometers radius implying that the respondents spend a lot of time in search of water thus impacting negatively on their level of participation in community development.

Table 4.16: Distance of nearest water source (Kilometers)

	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 1 Km	16	9
1-5 Km	74	41
6-10 Km	71	39.3
More than 10 Km	19	10.7
Total	181	100

4.6.4. Existence of community health centre in the village

The study revealed that 63.4% of the respondents said that there is no health centre in the village where respondents come from while 36.6% said they have a health centre in their village. The availability of health centre within a village will save the residents from traveling long distance in search of medicine and therefore its absence in one village creates a disaster to the villagers thus impacting on their productivity.

Table 4.17: Existence of community health centre in the village

	Frequency	Percentage
Health centre in the village	115	63.4
No Health centre in the village	66	36.6
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.6.5: Whether Schools are well equipped

The number of schools varied from one village to another, however majority of the schools (73.20%) were not well equipped while 26.80% were well equipped. The schools help to mould

the students and therefore the unequipped schools will not achieve its desired objective as students will not be able to use all the facilities like classrooms, teachers and library which are found in equipped schools thus getting a raw deal in their education.

Table 4.18: Schools are well equipped

	Frequency	Percentage
Schools well equipped	49	26.8
Schools not well equipped	132	73.2
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.6.6: Enrolment of girls in schools

The study shows that the enrolment of girls in schools was demoralizing at this age where there should be equal opportunity for both boys and girls. The combined total of 58.5% (poor 36.5% and 22.0% very poor) indicates that there was low enrolment rate of girls and this may be attributed to the traditions which treat girls as house helps to their mothers, married off at early age to old men at tender age and not deserving to go to school. 41.5% said the enrolment rate was good, which was a positive sign as the community changes their perception towards the girl child.

Table 4.19: Enrolment of girls in schools

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very good	18	10	10
Good	57	31.5	41.5
Poor	66	36.5	78.0
Very poor	40	22.0	100.0
Total	41	100.0	

4.6.7 Infrastructural rating

Table 4.20 Infrastructural rating

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean	Standard deviation
Road network is in good condition in our district	0	12	16	72	81	4.2044	0.8738
There are enough health centre's in our district	0	19	13	81	68	4.0884	0.9267
There are enough schools in our district	0	34	7	76	64	3.9227	1.0669

The respondent in the rating of roads, health centers' and schools strongly showed need of roads network to be improved, this was shown by the highest mean of 4.2044 with the lowest standard deviation of 0.8738.

4.7: Capacity Building

Capacity building is an ongoing process through which individuals, groups, organizations and societies enhance their ability to identify and meet development challenges.

4.7.1: Attendance for organized workshop for building capacity

The study shows that 65.90% of the respondents had attended an organized workshop while 34.10% had not attended. The workshops have mainly been organized in order to sensitize the community on the merits and demerits of their culture and the overall impact it has on the whole community if they do not change. It gives those who attend the workshops the chance to interact with people from other parts and get an insight of how to uplift the community.

Table 4.21: Women attended organized workshop for building capacity

	Frequency	Percentage
Attended	119	65.9
Not attended	62	34.1
Total	181	100

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.7.2: Sponsors of the building capacity workshop for women

The major sponsors of the workshops have been NGOs with 46.3% followed by CBOs with 12.2% and other organizations have organized the workshops to the extent of 7.3%. Those who had said they had not attended any workshop were not aware of who organized the workshop and was represented by 34.1%. The sponsors had been trying to enlighten the community on the benefits of women participation in development projects but their male counterparts had been unwilling to accept it.

Table 4.22: Sponsors of the building capacity workshop for women

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
None	62	34.1	34.1
CBOs	22	12.2	46.3
NGO	84	46.3	92.7
Other	13	7.3	100.0
Total	181	100.0	

Source: Survey data, (2013)

4.7.3: Payment for attending building capacity workshop

The study revealed that those who had attended majority of the workshops (68.30%) have been paid for by the organizers while the remaining 31.70% of the participants paid some money to attend it. The workshops had been paid for by the organizers in order to attract them to attend the workshop as they may claim they do not have the money to pay and also to encourage majority of the residents to attend it.

4.7.4: Gains from attending capacity building workshop

As indicated above on whether those who attended the workshop gained anything, 78.0% of the respondents said they gained a lot, with the remaining 22% saying they did not gain anything. The gain from the workshop depends on the expectation of the participant since it is against the tradition and some of those who attended were still valuing the tradition. The 78% were willing to attend more capacity building workshops which shows a positive attitude towards adding knowledge.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary of the findings and also gives conclusions and recommendations of the study based on the objectives of the study. The chapter also presents discussions of the key findings, conclusions drawn based on such findings and recommendations on what can be done on women participation on community development project.

5.2 Discussion of the findings by the objectives

The objectives of this study were to investigate the factors influencing the level of participation of women in community development projects. To achieve the general objective the research used a number of specific objectives as follows: to identify socio-cultural factors affecting women participation in management of community development projects, to determine the economical factors affecting women participation in management of community development projects, to establish how capacity building affects pastoralist women in community development projects, to assess how infrastructure factors impact in community development projects at Narok south District.

5.2.1 Socio-cultural factors affecting women participation in community development projects

The respondents (70.7%) agreed that they still practice traditional culture, their culture prevent majority of the respondents from playing active role in community development projects (58.5%), there were no women participating in community development project who vied for elective positions in the area (56.1%), development project leaders were identified through consensus, women were not allowed to take leadership positions and women recognition by men was rated as poor (43.9%).

5.2.2: Economic factors (challenges) affecting women participation in community development projects

These factors include; the respondents running any business which majority does not run which was represented by (56.1%) and women not involved in the running of community projects at 53.7% confirms that women were still marginalized by the community.

5.2.3: Infrastructure factors affecting women participation in community development projects

Infrastructure enables the movement of goods and services to be delivered from one place to another. It is for these that good infrastructure will open up a remote area to become a hub of business activity. The following factors affects infrastructure; the main mode of transport was others which included walking at 46.2%, the road network in the area was poor at 63.9% and thus the reason they preferred other modes of transport, majority of the respondents could access water point within a radius of 5-10 kilometers, health care does not exist within many villages, schools were not well equipped, girls enrolment in schools was poor and women do not own community business premises.

5.2.4: Capacity building factors affecting women participation in community development projects

Amongst the capacity building factors, the respondents agreed that; they have attended Workshops, the main sponsors were NGOs, they did not pay anything for attending the workshops, gained a lot from attending the workshops and they would attend the workshop if organized again were the key factors of capacity building.

5.3 Conclusions

From the research Findings and the answers to the research questions, some conclusions can be made about the study. The general objective of the study was to establish factors affecting participation of women in community development projects in Narok south district. From the study it can be concluded that socio cultural factors, economic challenges, infrastructure and capacity building do contribute to low participation by women in community development projects.

5.3.1: Socio-cultural factors affecting women participation in community development projects

Socio- cultural activities are vital for any community to prosper. The study however showed that the community still practices its culture which prohibits women from playing an active role in community development projects and vie for elective posts which affects the development agenda of the community as the women interest are not taken into consideration due to lack of representation. It is therefore time for the government and the well-wishers to join hands in opening up the community to the rest of the world that a woman can do certain tasks which were meant for men without eroding their culture.

5.3.2: Economic factors

Economic challenges leads to the community lagging behind in development issues as they will not be able to run any development project to uplift their living standards.

The community should be empowered economically by increasing community projects in the area so that they can have some source of income, involving women in these community projects so that there can be a change of management and building markets near the residents so that they do not have to walk long distances to sell or buy goods. Training of the locals also on financial management will enable them to have the knowledge that savings can be made and can be used for future emergencies.

5.3.3: Infrastructural factors

There are certain infrastructure factors that are very crucial for any community to be developed. For instance aspects such as means of transport should be one which allows for easy access of the whole village with ease. The water point also determines the duration it takes for the residents to get the water for their domestic use and livestock. The watering points and health centers if far from the village will lead to time wastage as the residents have to travel long distance in search for water and health care at the expense of doing other chores like participating in community development projects. The number of schools also determines the number of children attending schools since if far away from the homes the young children will not be able to go to school and come back thus making only the older children to attend school which impacts on the children education.

5.3.4 Capacity Building factors

The capacity building workshops gives the respondent the opportunity to know what is expected of them and therefore equip those who attend the workshops in order to sensitize the community on the merits and demerits of their culture and the overall affect it has on the whole community if they do not change. It gives those who attend the workshops the chance to interact with people from other parts and get an insight of how to uplift the community. The organizers of the seminars help to enlighten the community on the benefits of women participation in development projects but their male counterparts have been unwilling to accept it.

5.4 Recommendations

The study recommends the following:-

5.4.1: Socio-cultural factors

The community should be taught the importance of having the culture and at the same time giving everyone equal opportunity to participate in community development without affecting the men supremacy as the head of the family. Women should be encouraged to vie for community development leadership to provide their input and not being fence sitters and blame men for wrong decision making. The community development leadership should be conducted through competitive election so that they can be accountable to those who elected them and not serving the masters if other methods were used. The men perception towards women that they are inferior should be changed since the world has allowed for equal opportunities and they should not be left behind

5.4.2 Economic factors

There should be another source of income to the community so that they can diversify their sources thus improving on the living standards. The community projects should be increased in the area so that they can enable the community to pull their resources together and also involve women in the running of these projects so that all voices can be heard and blame game will not arise. It is also recommended that the community be taught on the benefits of management and financial skills.

5.4.3: Infrastructural factors

The community infrastructure needs a major facelift since the world has changed and old means of transport should be replaced with the fast and modern. The water points should also be constructed within the reach of many residents to avoid scenarios of women walking for almost a day in search of water thus impacting negatively on their participation in community development. From the study, it has been indicated that there is no health centre in the village, schools are not equipped and poor enrolment of girls in schools, it is therefore very crucial that the County government should petition the relevant ministries and area member of parliament to consider building a health centre to serve a village and also quipping the school to enable the children to compete with those who have access to the facilities. The community should then play its role in enrolling their girls to school to have an equal chance like their counterparts.

5.4.4: Capacity Building factors

The government should partner with other organizations to organize more workshops to sensitize the community on the importance of allowing women to participate on development of the community as this will give the participants the chance to ask questions they feel they are not comfortable with. It is recommended that the workshops should be organized and paid for to encourage many members of the community to attend as those who have attended have gained a lot and their perception may have been changed.

5.5: Recommendations for Further Research

The research sought to investigate the factors affecting participation of women in community development projects in Narok south district. The study was narrowed down to factors such as socio cultural factors, economic challenges, infrastructure and capacity building and how they contribute to low participation by women in community development projects. However, there could be other factors that influence or affect low participation of women in development projects, As a result, therefore, the researcher would suggest that further research to be done.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: INTRODUCTORY LETTER

Arthur Mbogori,
University of Nairobi,
P.o Box 30198,
Nairobi.

Date: 1st October, 2013

Narok South District,

Narok, Kenya

Dear Sir,

RE: REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH AT NAROK SOUTH DISTRICT:

My name is Arthur Kiriinya Mbogori. I am a Master of Arts student, pursuing a degree in Project Planning and Management at The University of Nairobi (UoN). The research I wish to conduct for my Master's thesis factors influencing the low participation of women in management of community development projects in Narok South District. I am hereby seeking your consent to approach a number of South District employees and habitants to provide participants for this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur K. Mbogori

APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear respondent,

The researcher is a Masters student from The University of Nairobi pursuing Masters Degree in Project Planning and Management. This study is geared towards meeting the requirements for the degree program. I therefore humbly request for your assistance and cooperation in gathering information on socio-cultural and economic factors influencing the level of women participation of community development projects in Narok South District.

Instructions to the respondent

1. Please answer all questions
2. Please note that no answer is wrong and no answer is right, all answers will be treated as equal
3. The information gathered is purely for academic purposes and will be treated with absolute confidentiality
4. Please answer all the questions by filling in the space provided and/or by ticking the appropriate answer that best suits your opinion for each question.

PART I: - SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS:

1. What is your name? (Optional) _____

2. Marital status. ((Please tick as applicable)

Married []

Single []

3. What is your family setup? (Please tick as applicable)

Monogamy []

Polygamy []

4. Your age bracket (Please tick as applicable)

(20 – 25years) []

(26 – 30 years) []

Over 30 years []

5.

	None	Primary	Secondary	College	University
What is your highest level of education?					

6. What is your income bracket? (Please tick as applicable)

Below Kshs. 2000 []

2001-5000 []

5001-10,000 []

Above 10,000 []

7. What is your current occupation? _____

PART II: SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

A. Socio - cultural

1. Do you practice your traditional culture? (Tick as applicable)

Yes [] No. []

If yes please Tick as applicable

- a) Moran's [warriors] []
- b) Polygamy []
- c) Female Genital Mutilation []
- d) Male circumcision []
- e) Early marriage []
- f) Cattle herding for younger boys. []
- g) Lamal []

2. To what extent do you agree with the following statement, 'My culture prevents me from playing active role in my community development projects? (Tick as applicable)

Strongly agree []

Agree []

Moderately agree []

Disagree []

Strongly disagree []

3. Do you belong to any community development project? (Tick as applicable)

Yes [] No. []

Give the reason for your answer _____

4. Do you have women in community development projects that vie for elective positions in your area? (Tick as applicable)

Yes [] No. []

Please state, the positions they have tried:

5. How do you identify your community development project leaders? (Tick as applicable)

Appointment []

Consensus []

Competitive election []

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Women are allowed to take up positions of leadership in your community					
Women are recognized by men in your community					

B. Economic challenges

1. Do you run any business? (Tick as applicable)

Yes []

No []

If yes, which type of business? _____

2. Are there community projects in your area (e.g. dairy, water project, tailoring etc)?

(Tick as applicable)

Yes [] No []

3. Who runs these community projects? _____

4. Name the three economic activities in your village?

5. Are women involved in the running of these projects? (Tick as applicable)

Yes []

No []

Explain your answer

6. What is your main income generating activity?

7. Have you been trained for management and financial skills? (Tick as applicable)

Yes []

No []

8. Who are your customers? _____

9. How far is the market place from your village?

C. Infrastructure

1. What is your means of transport? (Tick as applicable)

Vehicles []

Bicycles []

Motorbikes []

Other specify_____

Please, explain why such means of transport is preferred:

2. How long is the distance from your home to the main road? (Tick as applicable)

Below 1km []

1-5km []

5-10km []

Over 10km []

3. What is the situation of your roads? (Tick as applicable)

Very Good []

Good []

Poor []

4. How long is your nearest water source? (Tick as applicable)

Within homestead []

1-5km []

5-10km []

Over 10km []

5. Who manages these water sources?

6. Do you have a health center in your village? (Tick as applicable)

Yes []

No []

Please explain _____

7. How many schools do you have in your village?

8. Are these schools well equipped? (Tick as applicable)

Yes []

No []

Explain _____

9. What is the enrolment of girls in these schools? (Tick as applicable)

Very good []

Good []

Poor []

Very poor []

If very poor explain why _____

10. Name any four critical infrastructures missing in your area?

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

11. Do you have community business premises? (Tick as applicable)

Yes []

No []

Explain _____

11.12. Do women own these premises? (Tick as applicable)

Yes []

No []

Explain _____

D. Capacity Building

1. Have you attended any organized workshop? (Tick as applicable)

Yes [] No []

If yes, who were the sponsors? (Tick as applicable)

GOK []

CBOs []

NGO []

Other (specify) _____

2. Did you pay anything for attending the workshop? (Tick as applicable)

Yes [] No []

Who paid for workshop expenses if any? _____

3. To what extent did you gain from this workshop? (Tick as applicable)

Yes

No

If No, explain why _____

Very great extent []

Great extent []

Moderate extent []

Low extent []

Very low extent []

4. If organized again, will you attend? (Tick as applicable)

Yes [] No []

If yes, explain

5. Name any two capacity building seminars you have attended

i. _____

ii. _____

6. Who were the sponsors?

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

1. Together we stand development group
2. Kinyona development group
3. wondani development group
4. Matasia victory adventure self-help group
5. Tumaini self-help group
6. Noonkopir community development organisation.
7. Emakuko pastoralism group
8. Ushirika wanawake washirika AIC
9. Ematonyok women development group
10. Maisha development organisation

11. Noonkishu bee keeping group
12. Imenjooli self-help group
13. Amani women development group
14. Mzunguko women group
15. Baobab development group
16. Turing foundation.
17. Notudua Jua kali women association
18. Loita community development organization
19. Ololulunga development organization
20. Ewaso ngiro environmental conservation
21. Maa water and resources conservatives.