IMPACT OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION INITIATED PROJECTS ON DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN NEEDS IN NAIROBI

BY FLORICA MIJTURI

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DECLARATION

The projeci is my onginal work and has not been presented for an award in any other University

FLORICA MUTURl   DATE

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

MR JOHN WAKAJUMAH   DATE

DEDICATION

To

My loving family

The inspiration of my life

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My sincere gratitude goes lo my supervisor. Mr J Wakajumah. whose guidance and constructive criticism were instrumental in developing this proposal

I wish to thank all the people who have in one way or another contributed to the success of this research project

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ABSTRACT

Millions of children across the globe are victims of exploitation, abuse and violence each year and the physical and psychological consequences on their lives are devastating   Different players have offered solutions, permanent or temporary but these interventions often come too late and are mainly responsive and not preventive in nature

In Kenya, urbanization brought about a radical reorganization of the social structure and a weakening of social ties resulting in mushrooming of informal settlements symbolic of urban poverty Children born and raised in an environment where food, clothing, education, proper shelter and even emotional support are very limited are most disadvantaged In addition, the spread of lUV/AIDS and subsequent loss of both parents are detrimental to the overall wellbeing and development of children In response to children's problems, many NGOs have sprung up to offer wide ranging solutions

The main objective of this study was to investigate the extent to which children focused NGOs have identified and addressed the needs of disadvantaged children in society Using a sample of ten children focused NGOs and fifty beneficiaries in selected slums of Nairobi, data was collected using questionnaires and analysis done by SPSS to make inferences and draw conclusions on the findings of the study

I he study found out that children focused projects are numerous and varied, and are mostly concentrated in Nairobi's slum areas   The programs address physical and psychological needs of children with a majority focusing on education

According to ihc study, NGOs generally felt satisfied with the progress made in their projects They admitted that the resources were a constraint liven in their success, the N(K)s had to contend with the complaints and dissatisfaction arising mostly from the community expectations.

Of interest in the study were the factors contributing to the needy status of the children Loss of parents exacerbated by the spread of HIV/AIDS was the main cause of children's problems

The majority of the beneficiaries testified that the NGO's help was irregular and could not be relied upon A large proportion of NGOs. however, rated their programs to be sustainable The study found out that the NGOs carrying out projects that targeted disadvantaged children in Nairobi were actually changing the lives of those they touched The intensity of the projects was. however, found to be low compared to the levels of need

The study also revealed that NGOs used reliable means to identify beneficiaries of their projects, which included involving churches and the provincial administration The community members themselves played a major pan in ensuring that only the needy get assisted.

The study was carried out in Nairobi slums only due to resource constraints and limited time Other researches should be carried out elsewhere in the country to facilitate the formulation of a well-informed policy that can level the playground for the all NGOs assisting disadvantaged children

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS   - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

CNCP   - Categories of Children in Need of Care and Protection

HIV   - Human Immune-Deficiency Virus

1LO   - International Labour Organization

KIPPRA   - Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis

NARC   - National Rainbow Coalition

NGOs   • Non-Governmental Organization

UN   - United Nations

UNESCO   - United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNICEF   - United Nations Children Fund

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background to the Study

Hundreds of millions of children across the globe are victims of exploitation, abuse and violence each year UNICEF (1991) This can have devastating consequences, physically and psychologically, on the lives of the young souls. Violence and abuse can kill and more often they result in poor physical and mental health, denial of education, homclcssness, vagrancy, or a sense of hopelessness More depressing is the fact that when such children beget children of their own, they arc more likely to subject them to some form of abuse

The below listed have been identified by UNICFF as different circumstances for priority attention

    i.   Children in forced and bonded labour

  ii.   Children without primary caregivers

 iii.   Children who are trafficked

 lv.   Children who are sexually exploited

  v.   Children who are used as soldiers

 vf.   Children subjected to violence outside of armed conflict

In the countries now hardest hit by HIV/AIDS, the extended family has traditionally been the source of support and care for orphans and other children needing special protection In country after country, it has bccomc clear that the extended family is now overextended and unable to provide its traditional level of protection and care for children deprived of a family environment

In the body. HIV gels into the defensive system and knocks it out It does that sociologically too.

It nets into the extended family support system and decimates it (Irvine and Foster 2000)

1.1.1   Canes of children's disadvantaged statu*

The world at large has made great strides in civilization and development However, there arc

children especially in the developing countries that arc exposed to challenges of getting basic

needs and attention This defect in the children's upbringing poses a great danger to the prospect

of a future satisfied generation and is the root cause of evils such as crime, prostitution and drug

abuse in the society

Moreover, such problems in a child's life tend to be cyclic as they will not be able to give propei

attention to their own children This leads to a generation characterized by poverty and low

standards of living

It is not easy for any child/person to free him/herself from the resultant vicious cycle Increased

competition for the world's decreasing resources and opportunities only helps to confirm the

victims in their unfortunate positions

1.1.2   Government services

Many interventions have been put in place by different players, all attempting to offer solutions,

permanent or temporary to the undesirable conditions afflicting children Many a times, these

interventions come late and are mainly responsive and not preventive in nature

Governments that arc supposed to be at the forefront of presiding over and championing for their citizens' well being, arc at times embarrassed to reveal the true picturc of the situation to the rest of the world and ask for help Many a times, these governments arc slow in acting and this further aggravates the situation

The Department of Children's Services of the Ministry of Home Affairs is in chargc of coordination of protection services for children in special need However, the AIDS crisis is overwhelming existing services The main professional staff members of the Children's Department are the district-level children's officers whose duties are to identify and arrange services for children in difficult circumstances

According to Human Rights Watch (2001) the Department of Children's Services budget had increased substantially over the years, but resources were still too thin on the ground The Children's Department budget is well less than I percent of the national budget (CJOK. 2000) For a country in which there are an estimated I million orphans and these are only a fraction of the children in need of special protection, there are currently 150 children's officers In Kenya, the shortage of field officers is a serious problem Huge areas still remain without appropriate services, according lo a Children's Department document A 19V7 UNICEF-supponcd government survey of children in need of special protection found that 28 percent of these children did not even have an idea where to turn for help (Human Rights Watch, 2001)

In Kenya, urbanization has characterized the last two decades of the country's existence There has been a radical reorganization of the social structure and weakening social ties Rural -urban migration has peaked having been fueled by the huge disparity between urban and rural income

levels The resultant phenomenon has been mushrooming of informal settlements that arc a symbol of urban poverty Most disadvantaged are children born and raised in such difficult conditions These children lack almost everything adequate food, clothing, education, proper shelter, and even emotional support

The spread of HIV/AIDS has also greatly contributed to the plight of children UNICEF puts the number of AIDS orphans in Kenya to be over I 2 million and the number keeps growing by the day Many of them are thus deprived of the primary caregiver The lengthy hospitalization of the parents diverts the resources that wxiuld have otherwise been used to offer the children a better quality life The resulting early loss of both parents is usually detrimental to the overall well being and development of the children

Another phenomenon that has risen in Kenya is single motherhood Childien undei the care of a single parent, more often do not get sufficient care and usually face an unnatural upbringing Besides, the single parent is under pressure to make ends meet alone and will therefore not be able to spend sufficient time with the children

C hildren are at times called upon to assist the parent's work to earn the family extra income rhere was a reported case where a class three daughter of a single mother who attended school with her two-year-old sister, as the mother struggled to fend for the family There arc parents who arc kept away from their children because of work or other bad habits like alcoholism Such parents do not get to preside over their children's upbringing as a result they (children) are exposed to violence, dnig and physical abuse

Many eases have been reported of ehild defilement in the country The victims arc usually the very young, innocent and helpless at the hands of stronger and perverted defilcrs Often the parents of such children arc poor and can't afTord to pursue justice for their children or are threatened or 'silenced' with monetary offers

1.1.3   NCO participation

In response to the pronounced children problems many NGOs have sprung up all with intentions of alleviating the problem   These are numerous and together offer wide ranging solutions using different approaches   Some of the services offered are

-   Health and nutrition

-   Shelter and clothing

-   Education

-   Legal services

-   Comfort and counseling

The NGOs draw their own programs and independently source for resources and funds The multiplicity and uncoordinated nature of the efforts of NGOs often leads to duplication of duties and biased implementation of projects

Many people can give testimony of the positive impact the NGOs* efforts have had on their lives or society. Such encouraging reports create a longing for the spread and intensification of NGO activities to benefit more people and especially the disadvantaged children

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However, there have also been allegations of corruption in some N(K)s and misappropriation of the resources advanced to them for projects This is morally wrong and it amounts to stealing from the needy orphans and street children

1.2   Statement of the Problem

There has been an overwhelming emergence of children focused N(K)s in Nairobi in recent years These have a potential to create a positive impact in alleviating the suffering of children and shaping them into responsible and humane adults This can only happen if their activities are harmonious The scarcity of resources calls for well thought out implementation plans through which maximum benefits can be reaped

It was, therefore, imperative to gather information about the suitability and timeliness of the projects implemented Feedback from the communities where implementation has taken place is , crucial for an assessment of the general impact of such programs

The fact that problems afflicting children persist implies the need for a continuous re-evaluation I of the programs put in place These would be instrumental in improving on them or developing new approaches for assisting the children

1.3   Study Objectives

1.3.1   Broad objective

I he main objective of this study was to investigate the extent to which children focused NGO projects have identified and addressed physical and psychological needs of children

1.3.2   Specific objectives

More specifically the study sought to

1   Find out the kind of projects that NGOs have initiated to benefit children

2   Establish the criteria used by the NGOs to identify bcneficiaries

3   Assess the impact NGO projects have had in the communities they intended to serve

4   Assess the root cause of the children's disadvantaged position and the sustainability of the NGO projects initiated

5   Seek suggestions to enhancing the effectiveness of children focused NGO projects

1.4   Research questions

The study was guided by the following research questions

1   What is the kind and scope of children focused NGO projects[7]

2   What criteria do NGOs use to select area of operation and beneficiaries[9]

3   What arc the NGOs own view about the success of their programs[9]

4   Are the children's needs satisfied by the NGO projects[7]

5   What are the major causes of the children's needy status[9]

(>   Are the children focused projects sustainable[9]

1.5   Significance of the study

There are many NGOs in Nairobi that have initiated projects meant to benefit the children Their wcll-intcndcd initiatives are, however, uncoordinated and therefore likely to be repetitive It is also true that not much evaluation has been done to measure the accuracy and effectiveness of the already implemented projects

It is on this basis that this research sought to gather information from the NGOs themselves and the beneficiaries of the NCiOs projects The information gathered helped compare the objectives and achievements of these projects thereby observe check for discrepancies

The study also offered an opportunity for the people on the ground to express their needs and how best the NGOs could help them

The findings of the study therefore will be a source of information for the NCiOs that can be a basis for repackaging their programs for maximum impact Such information would as well put to light the needs, achievements and expectations of the communities

1.6   Scope of the study

The studv will be confincd to Nairobi province Nairobi, which has the highest slum population in the country, is ground for more pronounced children problems These attract the interventions I hence is the base for most of the children focused NCK) activities

The areas to be included in this survey were Kibera slums, Kangemi slums, Soweto slums, Kiambiu slums and Mathare A4 slums In all these places a list of target points with projects running were obtained from the NGOs running the projects The study focused on the NGOs that provided support in education, food, medical attention, shelter and clothing

1.7   Limitation*

a)   Given that some of the NGOs might not be doing satisfactory work, it was not easy to get information from them Caution was exercised to assure the organizations that the research was purely for academic purposes

h)   Since the beneficiaries were needy, there was a danger of exaggeration with the hope of getting immediate assistance This may have led to misrepresentation of information, which in turn may have distorted the research findings

c)   The needy in Nairobi were based in the slum areas where security for the interviewers was not guaranteed This posed a danger and may have affected the research work

1.8   Definition of key terms

Care gi»en An adult with the responsibility of looking after the welfare of child without a parent

Child: A person under the age of IK years ax defined by the Children Act NO 8 2001

Orphan: A child that has lost one or both parents

Project: An initiative by an NGO targeting to help a certain group of disadvantaged children, example a home for orphaned children

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0   Introduction

This chapter contains literature on children focused NGO projects in general, covering areas like, plight of children in urban areas, the causes of such problems, interventions to the ptoblems. government policy and evaluation of NGO projects It also touches on approaches that have been employed in solving similar problems in other countries

According to Children Act (2001), a child is any person under the age of IK years This is the definition of the child and is the primary requirement for recognition and protection of children's rights It amounts to express acknowledgement of childhood and willingness to accord children special treatment necessary for their protection, survival, development and participation in social a flairs

2.1   The Plight of Children

2.1.1   IIIV/ AIDS

Primarily, the responsibility of giving care and protection lies with the parents. In the event of loss of one or both parents, the children are likely go without basic needs including access to education According to UNA1DS (2004), more than one in nine children in Sub-Saharan Africa has lost a parent, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic is the leading cause

UNICEF (2002) estimated the number of orphaned children in Kenya to be I 2 million and the mimbcr was expected to double by the end of the decade This reveals the magnitude of the IIIV

pandemic had had in robbing children of their primary caregivers   The report further reveals that almost every Kenyan was either looking after an AIDS orphan or knows someone who is taking care of an orphaned child   This implies that the problem had readied crisis proportions that therefore callcd for formulation of urgent policies to deal with it

The impact of HIV/AIDS permeates all aspects of life at household level   A study conducted by Rechu (1908), revealed that income in HIV-alTected households was half that of the average household income   This was often the result not only of the loss of income due to illness among household members, but also because other members had to divert more time and effort away from income-generating activities   This indicates that HIV affected households will have fewer disposable income and hence a lower standard of living   Most disadvantaged therefore arc the children therein

Worldwide, children affected by HIV/AIDS arc forced to bear unimaginable trauma and hardship   Not only does HIV/AIDS mean children lose their parents or guardians, but sometimes it means they lose their childhood as well (Avert org 2004)   The report states that as parents and family members become ill, children take on more responsibility to earn an income, produce food and care for family members   It is therefore hardet for these children to access adequate nutrition, basic health care, housing and clothing

A decline in school enrolment is one of the most visible effects of the epidemic   This would in Itself have an effect on HIV prevention, as a good basic education ranks among the most effective and cost-effective means of preventing HIV (World Bank 2002)   It follows that without

education AIDS will continue in its tampant spread and with AIDS out of control, education will be out of reach

Avert org (2004) identifies factors that contribute to fewer children attending school in the face of HIV/AIDS as

- The removal of children from school to care for parents and family members

- An inability to afford school fees and other expenses

- AIDS-related infertility and a decline in birth rate, leading to fewer children

- More children arc themselves infected and arc cither not living long enough to start school or not surviving the years of schooling

As the death of parents rises, there is a growing number of children dropping out of school Children enroll in school but then drop out when a family member, especially a parent, becomes infected with IIIV They drop out or forego attending school to support family members and help with medical expenses Lven if children attend school while a parent is infected with HIV/AIDS, they are sometimes abused or stigmatized (www hcc.ohio-state edu/kenya, 2004).

The education of children is equally negatively impacted when 1UV/AIDS affects leathers as well (allafrica com 2004) This is because teacher absenteeism is increased by HIV/AIDS as the illness itself causes increasing periods of absence from class Further, teachers with sick families also take time off to attend funerals or to care for sick or dying relatives

Cohen (2000) posits that there are increasing numbers of children infected with HIV through prenatal traasmission (from mother to child) This reflects the large numbers of pregnant women who are HIV positive, He notes that although prenatal transmission is largely preventable through appropriate access to drugs (AZT), these drugs and the necessary infrastructure for their delivery are more or less unattainable for most African women Many children are thus infected with the virus at delivery or breastfeeding stages It is therefore crucial to prevent children from becoming infected with HIV at birth as well as later in life Further, if efforts are made to prevent adults becoming infected with HIV, and to care for those already infected, then fewer children will be orphaned by AIDS in the future

Data from sub-Saharan Africa indicate that girls are especially affected by HIV/AIDS Six times as many young girls as young boys are infected with HIV. reflecting not only the increased susceptibility of young girls to IIIV infection but also a deliberate selection of young girls as safer sexual partners (Human Rights Watch 2002) The biggest reason young girls are more affected by HIV/AIDS, according to http hec ohio-statc edu/Kcnya 2004 is that they have sex. usually by force with older men The global epidemic has already shifted to equal representation ot HIV infected men and women If the trend toward more HIV infected young girls continues, foreseeable would be a dramatic acceleration in the number of HIV infected pregnancies and HIV orphans

[1] 'if government of Kenya has been overwhelmed in taking care for millions of children who have been orphaned by AIDS or whose family members suffer from the disease. (Human Rights Watch 2001) According to the report the Kenyan government has failed to take responsibility

for children who arc at higher risk of human rights abuse when the disease ravages their families

This has been the basis for other agencies stepping in to help Several NGOs have initiated

programmes around the city targeting to cater for the welfare of children affected by HIV/AIDS

This study sought out to assess the effectiveness of such initiatives

2.1.2   Children on the Streets

Many cities in Africa are grappling with the problem of children on streets This predicament has

been related to being out of school and without property   The phenomenon of AIDS orphans

swelling the numbers of homeless children in Africa has been noted in the popular press and

expert reports alike. In Lusaka, the Zambian capital, the population of street children more than

doubled from 1991 to 1999, an increase the U N agencies in the country attribute largely to

AIDS (UNAIDS and UNICEF, 2000)   According to *Time* magazine *(20(H)* 350.000 children

across the globe had been made homeless because they have been orphaned by AIDS. Non

governmental organizations have documented many risks to street children.

The rapid increase in the numbers of street children in Kenya can also be attributed to economic

depression, wide-spread poverty, natural and human-made disasters and diseases such as AIDS.

According to a KIPPRA (2003), orphans who lost their parents to AIDS or natural disasters and

runaway children escaping violence or abuse in their homes, as well as abandoned children

constitute a large percentage of street children in Nairobi Many are children of single mothers

who were oncc street children themselves

The city of Nairobi has had to deal with an ever surging numbers of street children By the year

1993. there were an estimated 25.000 street children in the city, having risen from 16.000, four

vears before By the year 1998, the figure was estimated to be close to 60,(XX) (Habitat, 1999).

This represented a challenge to all stakeholders Government needed to nib the problem in the

bud to prevent a further rise in the numbers At the same time, someone had to provide for these

children who lacked almost everything

Once on the streets, children form gangs and groups, which are strictly hierarchical Girls and

boys hang out in separate gangs, except at night "llic girls tend to have a "boyfriend" who

protects them from other boys In the boys' gang, smaller boys may be sexually abused by the

older ones In spite of all this, the children prefer to stick to their chosen "families" as the

affection and care they receive from each other is often more than what they ever received from

their own parents. This makes rehabilitation very difficult (http.aveH.com 20()4 It further notes

that children aie mostly addicted to drugs and sexual abuse is a norm

2.1.3   Child Labour

ILO Convention (1999) defined child labour as work undertaken by children aged 6-14 years and

which prevents them from attending school, work that is exploitative and hazardous or

inappropriate for their age This includes the worst forms of child labour such as child slavery,

and debt bondage, use of children in armed conflicts and in commercial immoral activities such

as prostitution, production of pornography or pornographic performances, and hazardous work

The International Labour Organization approximates that about 250 million children worldwide

are involved in child labour, with most children working under harmful conditions, that is in

circumstances that are detrimental to their physical, moral, and intellectual development In

Kenya it is estimated that 2.3 million children (29%) of the 7 9 million children aged 6-14 years in 1999 did not attend school (GoK. 2001) while 1.2 million children in the same age group were involved in child labour However, some children work and attend school at the same time Therefore not all work done by children constitutes child labour

The working children are employed in the tourism and service sectors, on plantations, in manufacturing, domestic services and in urban informal sector occupations They are at risk from commercial sex exploitation, hazardous chemicals, physical injuries and sexual and psycho-social abuse The number of Nairobi's street children, for example, is more than 50,000 and these children are often involved in theft, drug trafficking, assault, trespass, and property damage (Globalmarch. 2001)

According to KfPPRA (2003), the Kenya Government is a signatory to UN charter on the rights of children, which was adopted by the UN Assembly in 1989 The same is stated in various Government policy documents, national legislations and international conventions protecting children All this shows a commitment by the Kenyan government to eliminate child labour The report decrics the fact that child labour still persists and is prevalent in the country despite these efforts

I he main causes of child labour in Kenya include family violence, HIV/AIDS pandemic, a declining economy, and rapid rural-to-urban migration Others arc the declining gross primary school enrolment rate, intra-cthmc violence, cattle rustling, banditry and severe poverty in some regions of the country (KIPPRA, 2003)

2.1.4   Child Abuse

Amman (2002) highlights the exploitation of orphans that takes place and how this is likely to increase The vast numbers of orphaned children, including those who are not IIIV infected, is highly vulnerable and children arc already targets of the sex industry Orphans who arc-abandoned become street children and arc likely to succumb to a new round of HIV infection

Sexual exploitation of children continues unabated in a number of societies Because of their immaturity, vulnerability and inability to fight back, children have been targeted for various forms of abuse and neglect Both boys and girls in their infancy have fallen prey to child abusers I he Coalition On Violence Against Women (COVAW) found out that most reported cases of sexual abuse involved child neglect, child labour, assault by employers and physical and sexual abuse by parents

Children are exploited sexually for commercial purposes, although this exploitation is non-commercial in cases of domestic violence and incest Child sexual exploitation in Kenya exists in many forms but the main form is child prostitution Child prostitution is an emerging phenomenon in Kenya There are an increasing number of young children entering prostitution as a means of survival Many of the children in Kenya are exposed to sex at an early age. especially children from the slums

Mwangj (2003) notes that sexual exploitation of children is especially rampant in the streets, where an overwhelming majority fall victims Most of these children are either orphaned, destitute or from families facing conflicts or too poor to offer children the necessities of life She

further notes that in Nairobi, brothels arc covertly registered as 'Bar and Restaurant", and deal mainly with female children

According to UNICEF (2001) reports. IIIV/AIDS epidemic lias also contributed to early marriages Many adult males seek out young girls for sex or marriage in the mistaken belief that they are free from HIV. that they are easy to please and control and on the basis that they lack the means to cause trouble in case the relationship does not work out

Children in the slum areas arc especially vulnerable to sexual exploitation owing to widespread poverty It is worth noting that large numbers of the population in these areas arc chronically disadvantaged economically and have little access to alternative sources of livelihoods It is with due demand for survival that children find themselves trapped into sex trade Further, poverty stneken families send their children to towns to look for employment but since they are illiterate, they arc unable to sccure well paid employment, which in turn leads to incidences of sexual abuse and exploitation

While sexual exploitation of children continues unabated, its consequences on the affected children cannot be gainsaid Besides suffering physical injuries, the psychological trauma visited on the children lingers for a long time Such children may develop juvenile delinquency and truancy resulting in poor performance in school and eventual drop-out to seek solace in the streets.

2.2   Interventions

Categoric* of Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) arc children who live in difficult circumstances because their rights to survival, development, protection and participation have been violated CNCP includes street children, child labourers, child prostitutes, children with disabilities, adolcsccnt mothers, child brides, neglected and abandoned children, children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS including Aids orphans, battered children, children of imprisoned mothers, child soldiers and refuges There arc 600.000 children in Kenya in need of cure and protection, only about 45,000 (7 5%) are receiving institutional care in governmental and privately run institutions (ANNPCAN, 2003) This indicates that there is a lot that still requires to be done in extending help to more of these disadvantaged children

According to Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children (K A AC), there are 3 levels of causes of the proliferation of CNCP in Kenya

1) Structural causes- Legal and economic policy frameworks as well as social cultural values and beliefs that hampci the full realization of the needs

2) Underlying causes- Economic, environmental and climatic factors that lead to household food security ethnic conflict and gender discrimination

3) Immediate causes - Conditions that render families and commuters incapablc of performing survival development and protective roles such as poverty, IIIV/AIDS, physical abuse, physiological stress and family disintegration

Poverty and HIV/AIDS arc addressed separately as crosscutting causes of CNCP

•) Poverty-52% of Kenyans are categorized as poor mainly women and children

•) HJV/Aids -2.2 million Kenyans have HIV/AIDS orphans who are in need of care and **protection**

The above mentioned two problems i e poverty and IIIV/AIDS arc the major causes of children problems in the world and more especially in the developing countries The countries affected have failed in one way or the other to address the problem fully. Considering that children arc important in the family and community setups since they ensure there is continuity in life and so anything touching on their life should be addressed by all the stake holders Because of the limited resources of the governments of third world countries developing countries) the problem has gone out of control, and these has made it necessary for the NGOs, church organisations, the private sector and the donor community to come in and assist Some of these NGOs and church organizations which are involved in fighting children's problems include UNDP. USA1D, JICA. Action Aid. World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, Christian Children's lund, Care Kenya etc The problem is long term projections estimates based on current trends show that in many countries children will remain tragically high until 2020 or 2030 The HIV/AIDS pandemic is producing orphans on a scale unrivaled in world history Our experience with orphaning is limited HIV/AIDS has transformed orphaning into a long-term chronic problem that will extend at least through the first third of this century

In the face of the myriad of problems disadvantaged children face, all stakeholders need to jointly initiate interventions to ameliorate the situation Cohen ct al (2005) recommend that National, provincial, and local governments do the following:

enact and enforce protections against both direct and de facto discrimination in access to education

. fulfill the right to free primary education

. provide alternate parental care for all children who need it

• strengthen the capacity of community-based organizations

• protect parents and other caregivers from abuse

. review school policies and practices

The authors similarly propose the following for international agencies and donors

• advocate for legal and policy reform

. support education for all

• support programs that strengthen extended families and community-based organizations

In Nairobi, several non-governmental organizations (NCjOs) have mushroomed over the last decade and a half Many of these organizations try to help the children with their immediate needs and problems, mainly food and medical care Street workers seek out the children and find out who is sick or has been assaulted In serious cases, they will try to refer the children to a hospital

The next step is to talk to the children and find out how ready and willing they are for rehabilitation The street workers get to know the children, and a relationship is established This can lead to the children accepting help beyond the basic needs Eventually, if the children arc fe,dy,or   ,hcy W'H be taken into the refuge homes where they receive care, food and primary

jon Even so. many of them run away, and the rehabilitation success rate is low only 10 per cent of all street children in Nair«>bi get rehabilitated

Traditionally, many NGOs tried to help with food, handouts and maybe shelter, but this was found to be a counterproductive approach to reintegration into society The children would take the food that is offered to them, and then disappear onto the streets again This teaches the children that they can get by with taking handouts and begging

Some religious organizations lure children into their shelters by offering food, only to impose fundamentalist religious views on them without giving them the tools they need for surviving in this society These organizations breed dependency in children However, many NGOs are run by priests and nuns who do a genuinely good job In addition to school, most refuge or drop-in centers, offer practical education and training in mechanics, electronics, crafts, carpentry, sewing etc These vocational skills are extremely important and give authority and confidence to the older children and youth Practical skills arc a direct step out of a life of begging, stealing or prostitution Again, however, these only help those who are lucky enough to get enrolled in one of these programmes

lo be more effective, many organizations have started to cooperate and coordinate their activities, instead of competing with each other Many NGOs now meet on a regular basis to exchange views, experience and expertise The Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children <KAA( ) played a key-role in organizing these meetings and bringing different NGOs together Some NGOs know more about street work, others are experts in other issues such as income-

ion. legal mailers or shelter They become much more effective by putting our expertise

t and also by learning from each other

Many NGOs have also realized that they have to involve the community from which the children came in order to rehabilitate them more successfully In many slum areas, women's groups have organized themselves and support each other Self-help as well as formally-organized programmes involve mothers and support them through income-generating projects These businesses have come to replace activities such as prostitution, hawking or brewing illicit liquor, leading to a more stable family life, and helping mothers to pay for basic supplies and to send their children to school.

2.3   Other Interventions

i)   Strengthen the capacity or families to cope with their problems.

It   an attribute to strength of families worldwide that the extended family has not collapsed in **the face** of the pandemic Although AIDS puts families under incredible stress, the majority of **families** arc still providing some care for affected children In some of the world families arc **extended** networks linked by expectations and obligations of sharing and support

Despite the pressures of AIDS, migration from rural to urban areas and severe poverty, the overwhelming majority of orphans and other children affected by AIDS are living with immediate or extended families The ability of households to care for the children or take in orphans depends largely on their economic resources Research has shown that it is critically important to help households share up their economic capacity. Since AIDS has undermined

their capacity to support themselves, arranging access to savings and credit mcchanisms is therefore crucial

Program* that support home care of HIV/AIDS patients further strengthen the ability of a family **to cope** Children's problems start long before a parent dies of the disease and these programs **help** identify the needs of the children Parents can be encouraged to write wills, make arrangements for their children's care once they are too sick to do so and talk to their children **,bout the** future

ii)   Mobilize and strengthen community based responses

For the children whose families cannot provide adequate support, the community becomes the safety net The most vulnerable children arc those least to make their needs known An active effort is needed to identify them and mobilize local resources to respond There are already numerous examples of systematic efforts to do just that Community mobilization efforts can encmiragc local leaders to protect the property and inheritance rights of widows and children, organize orphan visitation programs and provide financial support

iii)   Increase the capacity of children and young people to meet their own needs.

I he illness or death of a parent oflcn catapults a child into a harsh world Frequently, children **drop out** of school, imperiling their long term- futures, to work at home or on the farm to replace **lost income** and support their families Their nutrition and health frequently decline They may **be under** pressure to exchange sex for money or goods increasing their risk of HIV/Aids **inlection** and causing a great psychological hem Often it is female children who suffer the most

lirst line defense is to enable children to stay in schools so that they may learn the skills to C l r B   themselves Interventions to help them remain in schools must address the specific

24

factors that cause the drop out These include schools expenses, vocational training fees, the need to care for parents or young siblings and the need to compensate for lost income

Some of the interventions, which the Government can put in place to increase the capacity of **young** people to meet their own needs, includes changing policies regarding fees or requirements for uniforms (or providing the necessary uniforms or school suppliers)

jv)   Ensure that governments protect the most vulnerable children and provide essential services

Many children especially those who have lost both parents fail to receive help from their families or community As signatories of the IJN Convention on the Rights of the Child, national governments have the ultimate responsibility to ensure that children arc protected and cared for To do this, they need adequate resources Actions essential to program development for orphans include political will, strategic readdress and safety nets for children and families

v)   Create an enabling environment for affectcd children and families

In addition to the strategics for direct intervention enumerated above, all parties must work **together** towards the overarching goal of creating an enabling environment for those afl'ccted **This means** changing public recognition of HIV/Aids from their problem to our problem by **providing** information, challenging myths and ensuring basic legal protection Reduction of **stigma reduces** the stress of people living with HIV/Aids and creates opportunities for affected **children Uws** should be changed to reduce the vulnerability of children and families Women's **"ghts to own** land and hold jobs must be supported Men must be encouraged to take economic **responsibility** for their families

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3 o   Introduction

The survey aimed to get basic socio-economic data on the status of families with children

receiving NGO aid and assess the level to which the needs have been met It also profiled some

the NGOs giving assistance to these children and endeavored to obtain an evaluation of the

effectiveness the programmes initiated

This chapter focuses on the description of the area of study, the target population, the procedure

to be used in data collection, sampling techniques and the instruments to be used for the study

together with data analysis techniques

3.1   Study Location

This study relied on primary data This was obtained from beneficiaries of children focused

programmes by NGOs as well as NGOs targeting to uplift children's interests Beneficiary data

was obtained from Kibera slum's Lindi village. Kangemi's slum. Ktambiu, Mukuru-Kayaba and

Sowctto in Kayole Additional primary data was collected from NGOs with children focused

projects in Nairobi

M.l   Kibera

According to the last population census. Kibera location had 83.687 people Of these 48.492

    c male and 35,195 were female There were 28,707 households in Kibera with a density of

49,228. 95% of the residents are tenants Kibera slum is composed of twelve villages namely.

KI>nda, Soweto West, Raila, Gatwekera. Kisumu Ndogo, Kambi Muru, Makina. Mashimoni.

1 m d l,   Saba. Soweto East and Silanga laini Saba. Mashimoni and Kambi Muru are the

    chosen for the research

|.,j«urc 3.1: kihrru Informal Settlement

Sourer   *Amos M Kimunya. EGH. Ml', Minister for lands atul Housing*
              Rcpuhhc   of Kenya

3.1.2   World Vision

World Vision. Kenya, is a Christian humanitarian organization serving needy children, their

families and communities through programmes of transformational development, emergency

relief and promotion of justice World Vision began its operations in Kenya in 1974 and it is

registered as a Kenyan NGO under the NGO Coordination Act A member of World Vision

International partnership, it was founded in 1950 and is currently serving 94 countries

World Vision focuses on vulnerable children, addressing their educational, health and spiritual

     In HIV related interventions. World Vision focuses on nutritional and psychological needs

°f children with HIV. monitoring through child management standards how the children are

doing at school It supports children's educational needs through learning materials and

expansion of classrooms In health, the preventive approach is used such as distribution of
mosquito nets to fight malaria

3_2   Research design

This study used a descriptive survey design to investigate the impact of NGO projects on
disadvantaged children needs in Nairobi   This allowed the researcher to gather information,
summarize, present and interpret the data collected   According to Gay (1981). descriptive
research design is a process of collecting data in order to test hypotheses or to answer questions
concerning the current status of the subjects in the study.

Hie purpose of descriptive research is to determine and report the way things are   According to
Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) this type of research attempts to describe such things as possible
behaviour, attitudes, values and characteristics

Descriptive research design was used in this study because it can be adopted in a situation where
an accurate account of a particular phenomenon or situation is required   A two   point approach
was used to investigate the subject under study with a two tier sample namely

    i   NGOs carrying out projects that target to benefit disadvantaged children   The scope of
        the project was unlimited   The project's aim was to address the needs of children, be
        they educational, shelter, medical or psychological

    »   The other category of respondents was the beneficiaries of such NGO projects   Due to
        the fact that the children beneficiaries were tot) young to participate in the survey, their
        caretakers (parents, guardians etc) were the respondents.

fl* interviewing method was face-to-face interviews by use of structured questionnaires This enabled generalization and prediction Besides this, this survey research method allowed the collection of data by use of interview schedules

3.3   Target Population

The study population was the residents of Nairobi with a bias to low incomc areas (slums) where most of the disadvantaged children projects by N(K)s are implemented Some of these slums included Kibera. Kangemi, Mathare. Mukuru, Kawangare and Korogocho The study population was chosen because of the high population in Nairobi and an overwhelming emergence of children focused NGOs in Nairobi In addition, a high increase in unemployment and harsh economic conditions in Nairobi lias led to the emergence of single parent families, a rise in the number of street children and consequently street families. The above arc the known factors that contributed to the numerous children problems

The information collcctcd was used in advising the government authorities and the development partners by giving them possible recommendations It identified areas that had not been addressed to see how NGOs and the church could come up and assist

3.4   Sampling Techniques

Non-probability/purposive sampling design was used to select World Vision-Kenya, Lea Toto, Fatuma Homeless, African Child Network, Goal Kenya, Islamic Foundation, Sister Mary. Future Kings and Fatuma Homeless The purposive sampling design was used because these were the NGOs identified to have initiated projects in the study locations of Kibera, Mukuru, Soweto •Kayole). Kangemi and Kiambiu areas of Nairobi

I he caretakers/guardians of the disadvantaged children were the respondents because children, by virtue of their tender age, could not themselves be informants Snowball sampling technique vvas used to select the respondents This is because the families benefiting from NGO projects knew each other well This also made it possible to exclude respondents that did not meet the jaict criteria of being beneficiaries The caretakers were household heads or their spouses above 18 years of age

3.5   Sample size

NGOs: Ten children focused NGOs with projects in the study locations

Kibcra   fen bencficiaries

Mukuru   Ten beneficiaries

Soweto (Kayole) Ten beneficiaries

Kangcmi   Ten bencficiaries

Kiambiu   Ten beneficiaries

3.6   Data collection tools

One of the foreseen limitations of this study was that most of the respondents from the category of caretaker^ beneficiaries were from slum areas and were illiterate For this reason and in order to collect much and detailed information, face-to-face interviews were administered using a tfructured questionnaire Some of the items on the questionnaire were close-ended requiring respondents to rank given factors while others were open-ended to enable them to describe the Wuation The questionnaire was served on the respondents through drop and pick later method A copy of the questionnaire is attached (see appendixes one and two) The advantage of using unstructured questionnaire is that the researcher was able to collect all completed responses

within a short time and made any resulting clarifications on the spot The face-face interviews enabled the interviewer to probe, make observations and record answers to various questions

3.7   Data analysis

The data collected was cleaned, coded then captured in SPSS package where it was analyzed accordingly Descriptive statistics allowed the generalization of the data for effective interpretations and drawing of inferences and enabled the researcher to make conclusions and recommendations on the findings of this study   The output was presented in frequency tables for easy and quick comprehension of the data, and cross tabulations and charts

CHAPTER FOUR

STUDY FINDINGS, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

4.0   Introduction

|n this chapter. the results of the study arc presented and discussed The sample of this study was made up of 10 children focused NGOs and 50 beneficiaries in projects selected from Kibcra. Mukuru, Soweto (Kayolc), Kangemi and Kiambiu areas of Nairobi

The response rate was good because the targeted sample size was achieved in both categories of respondents The data collected was cleaned, codcd and captured into SPSS package where it was analyzed A descriptive approach was used in the analysis to make inferences and conclusions to the study findings Frequency tables, charts and cross tabulations are extensively used to present the findings

4.1   Characteristics of the Study Population

Table 4.1: Respondents l-evel of Education

	Frequency	Percent
None	X	16
Primary	20	40
Secondary	17	34
College	5	10
Total	**50**	**100.0**

Hie study revealed that the majority of the caretakers of needy children had primary level education or none at all Those that had secondary education were 34% and those with college kvel education were 10%

Table 4.2: Respondents **Age** group

Age group	Frequency	Percent
18-24	6	12
25-34	22	44
35-44	17	34
45 and above	5	10
Total	50	100.0

It was found out that most (44%) caretakers were aged between 25-34 years Those below

25years were 12% and 34% were in the 35-44 age group Only 10% were aged above 45 years

The findings indicate that 56% of the caretakers were youthful (aged below 35 years) This

implies that another way of assisting them would be organizing jobs so as to boost their

household income

 fable 4.3: Number of Children

No. of children	Frequency	Percent
1	14	28
2	15	30
3	9	18
4	6	12
5	3	6
7	1	2
8	2	4
Total	52	100.0

Table 4 3 above indicates that 58% of the respondents had up to two children under their care

The highest number of children encountered was 8 on 4% of the respondents   The average

"umber of children per household was found to be 2 55 with a standard deviation of 1.75.

(able 4.4: Respondents Relationship with the Children

Relationship with child	Frequency	Percent
Uncle/Aunt	27	54
Parent	II	22
Cousin	6	12
Brother/sister	3	0
Total	50	100.0

According to Table 4 4 above, the majority of children getting NGO assistance were under the care of the unclc/aunt. while 22% were under the care of parents Cousins took care of 12% and 6% were had brother/sister as the guardian

4.2   Kind and Scope of Children Focused NGO Projects and criteria used by the .NGOs to identify beneficiaries

This study objective sought to establish the kind of needs NGO piojects attempted to address It also sought to unravel the procedures for identifying potential beneficiaries Table 4 5 shows the beneficiary responses regarding the type of assistance received from NGOs

Table 4.5: Type of assistance received

Type of assistance	Frequency	Percent
Clothing or uniform	13	26
School fees	12	24
Food	9	18
Guidance and counseling	7	14
Medical services and drugs	3	6
Vocational training	3	6
Religious guidance	2	4
F.ntertainmcnt and refreshment	1	2
Total	50	100

Tabic 4 5 above indicates that 26% of the respondents had received assistance in form of clothing/uniform and a similar proportion got school Ices for the children Another proportion of 18% had got food while those that got guidance and counseling services from the NGOs were 13%

The findings show that NGOs mostly stepped in to facilitate the needy children's education by paying for the school fees, which includes provision of education materials like books, stationary and uniform

This approach is favorable since it ensures the children get access to education and hence a chance to break away from the cycle of poverty. The same is the goal for other NGOs that offered vocational training to the youth

Another observed motive of NGO assistance was survival. The NGOs provided food, either ordinary or nutritious especially for those children alllicted by AIDS Some NGOs were found to offer medical services and drugs

Psychological needs of children were as well addressed by the NGOs through guidance and counseling services as well as religious guidance These were meant to give the children the hope and balance to stay alive and soldier on amidst the difficult circumstances they found themselves in

Figure 4. 1   Type of Projects Initiated by the NGOs

Type of Projects Initiated
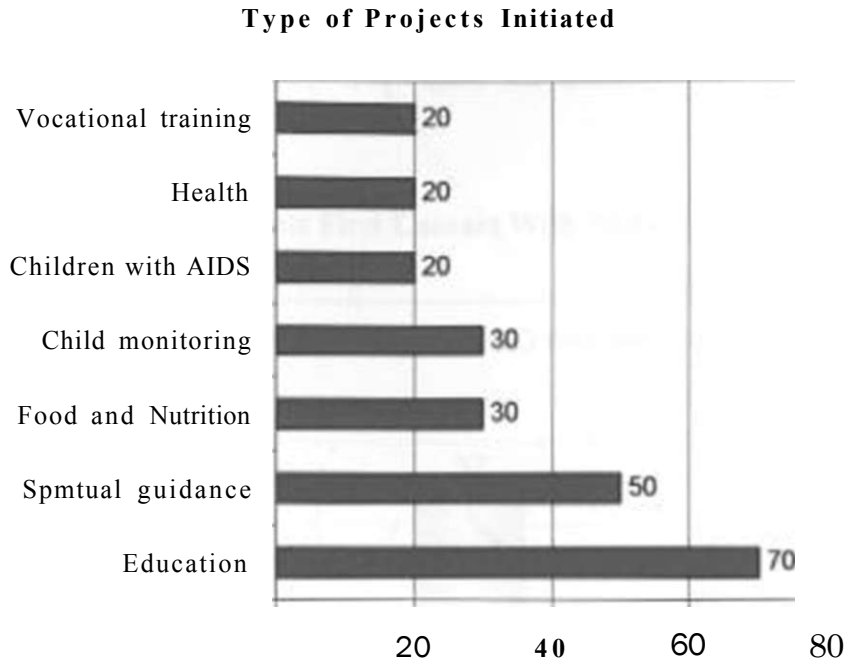
Figure 4 1 above illustrates that different NGOs address different needs in various ways The majority (70%) of the NGOs touched on education whereby they focused on enabling the children to attend school Spiritual guidance was offered by 50% of the NGOs This was mainly offered alongside tangible services 30% of the NGOs assisted in food and nutrition

Vocational training offered by 20% of the NGOs mainly targeted primary school dropouts and the physically challenged

The findings generally show that the N(K)s in the communities arc playing a positive role in improving the lives of disadvantaged childicn The objectives are clearly positive and the implication is the communities stand to gain a lot if only the cfibns can be magnified

4.3   Criteria for Beneficiary Selection

For initiated projects to be effective in helping needy children, the selection of beneficiaries has to be accurate and foolproof Figure 4 2 illustrates the criterion used by NGOs to select beneficiaries

Figure 4.2: Respondents First Contnct With NGO Assistance
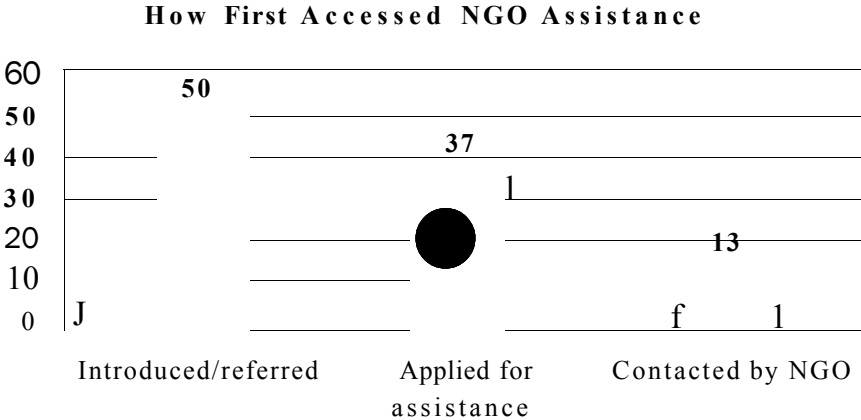
Figure 4.2 above demonstrates that 50% of the respondents accessed the NCiO assistance by being introduced or referred Those that applied for the help were 37% while 13% were contacted by the NGOs

Table 4.6: Respondents' rating other Beneficiaries

	Frequency	Percent
Very deserving	21	4 2 9
Deserving	18	36 7
Undeserving	5	1 0 2
Can't tell	5	1 0 2
Total	**49**	100.0

The respondents were asked to rate other beneficiaries around them As shown in Table 4 6 above. 80% of the respondents rated the other children receiving the assistance to be very deserving or deserving, while 10% thought they were undeserving Those that could not tell were 10%

The results above indicate that to a large extent. NGOs are accurate* in determining those in the society that most need the help that they provide

Figure 4.3   Criteria for Location Selection

Creteria For Location Selection

60

30

2 0 -   20

Appeals   Focus on a   Slum areas   GOK
from   particular   poverty
community   area   indicators
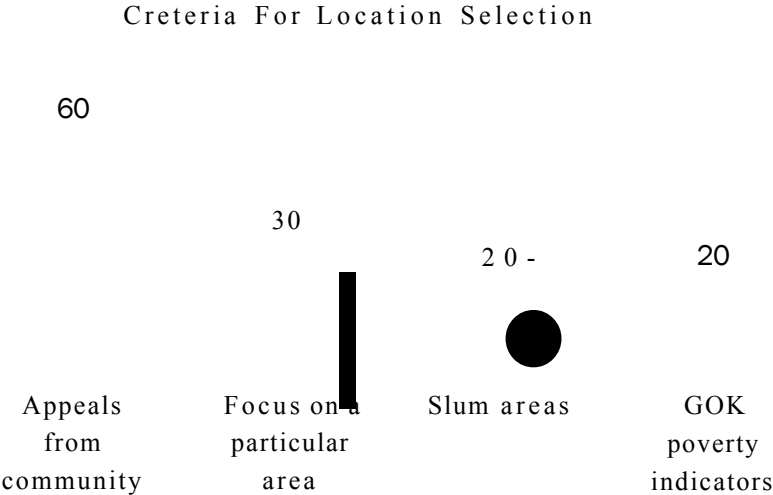
As illustrated in Figure 4.3 above, most (60%) NGO projects are initiated as a response to appeals from the communities Those that focused on a particular area were 30% while 20% majored their projects in the slum areas. A similar proportion of 20% used government poverty indicators to select the areas of project implementation

4.4   ImpHct NGO projects have had in the communities

This study objective sought out to asses the impact NGO projects have had in the communities they intended to serve Table 4 7 shows beneficiary response regarding the amount of assistance given

Table 4.7: **Assistance given is Adequate**

	Frequency	**Percent**
Yes	12	2 4 0
No	38	76.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

Table 4 7 shows that most recipients of NGO assistance perceive the help received to be inadequate Only 24% said they were satisfied with what they got

The findings above suggest a possible dependency syndrome on the part of the respondents It is likely that the aid recipients had developed the mentality that they had been certified as poor and arc therefore entitled to all the possible assistance The NGOs need to be careful to discourage such attitudes   Possible ways of achieving this is gearing their projects to community empowerment and discouraging the recipients from the dependency attitudes through sensitization

The NGOs were required to state whether they had received any sort of complaints from the society regarding their operations The findings are shown l able 4.8.

Tabic 4.8   **Ever Received Complaints**

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	60
No	4	40
Total	**10**	**100**

Most of the NGOs had received some complaints from the community about their projects However, 40% had not received any The complaints received mainly centered around dissatisfaction with the amount of aid received Other complaints aired touched on the criteria used to select the beneficiaries

The NGOs were also asked to give a self evaluation of the perceived success rating of the implemented programmes Figure **4 4** illustrates the findings

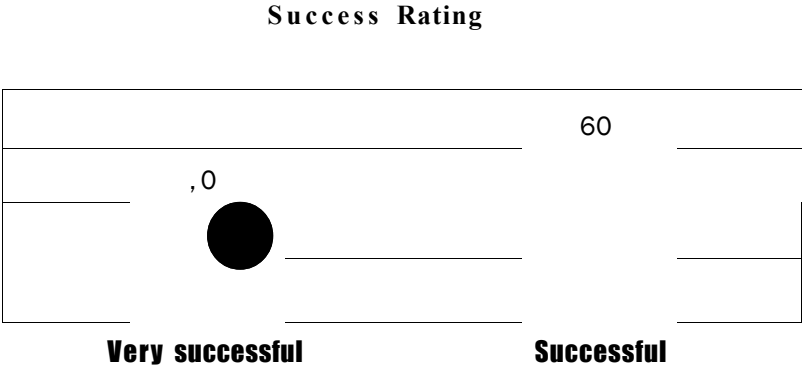**Figure 4.4**   **Success Rating**

Success Rating

Figure 4 4 above illustrates that 60% of the NGOs rated their projects as successful while 40% rated them to be very successful The findings indicate that all NGOs were generally satisfied with the implementation of their projects

4.5   Major Causes of C hildren's disadvantaged status and (lie suslainahility of the NGO projects initiated.

This study objective intended to create an understanding of the common situations that led children to be disadvantaged It was hoped that this information could assist to tackle the problem from its roots Figure 4.5 shows beneficiary's response regarding the cause of the needy status exhibited by the children under their care

Figure 4.5: **Causes of needy status**

Causes of Children's Needy Status
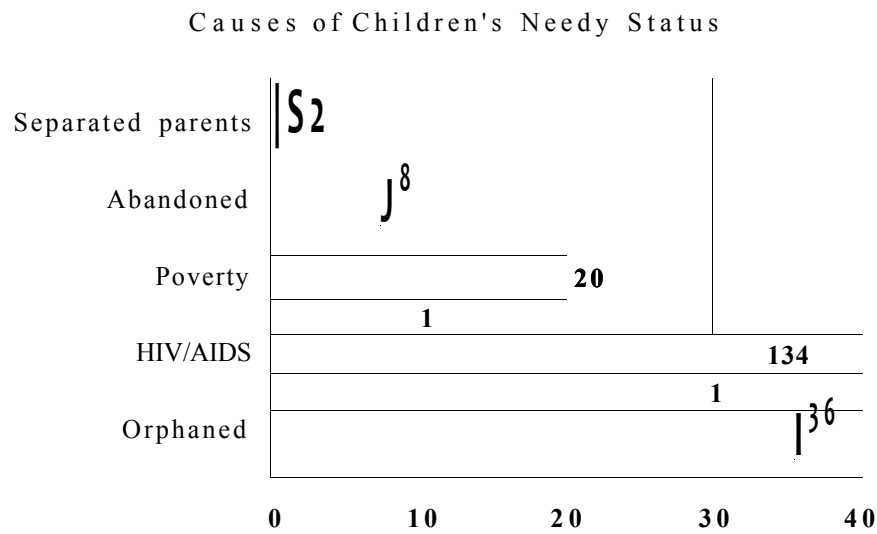
Figure 4.5 clearly shows that most of the causes of children's disadvantaged status is of the primary caregivers i e parents, as was the case for 36% of the respondents Children disadvantaged due to HIV/AIDS made up 14% In this category, the efTects of HIV/AIDS found were that the children themselves were infected, or one or both parents were sickly or had passed on due to the scourge Poverty caused 20% of the children to be disadvantaged while 8% of the children were abandoned

4.5.1   Sustainahility of Children Torused NGO Projects

Table 4.9: |)o you always get the Aid when you need il?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	12	2 4 0
No	38	76 0
Total	50	100.0

Of interest in the study was the sustainahility of NGO piojccts initiated The aspects of continuity and regularity of the aid given were used as a measure of sustainahility Table 4.9 above indicates that the majority (76%) of the respondents could not access the aid every time it was needed Only 24% could bank on the NGO assistance

This suggests that to most beneficiaries, the assistance was mainly obtained by chance, and indication of the need for NGOs to structure their aid distribution, especially school fees so that the selected cases are helped to the highest possible level

Figure 4.6: **Regularity** of **the Assistance**

Regularity of the Aid
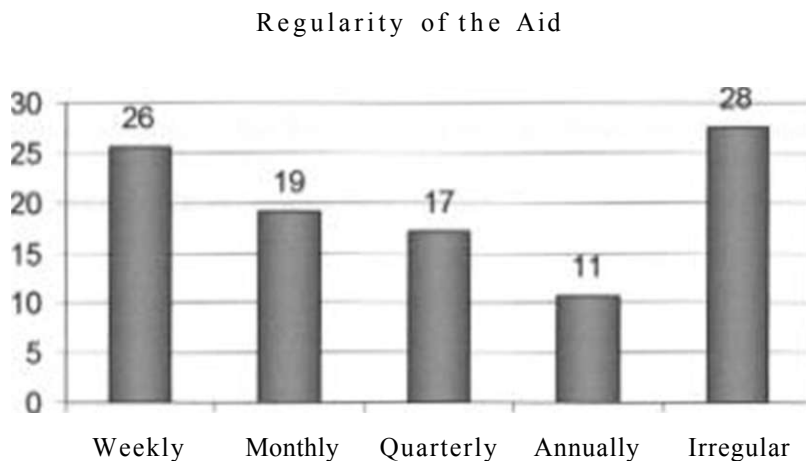
The regularity of the aid given was largely found to depend on the nature of assistance To a large extent the beneficiaries acknowledged that it was periodic, most of it being weekly. However, 28% of the respondents could not tell when the next aid could be forthcoming

Figure 4.7   **Sustainability of N'CO Projects**

Sustainability of NGO Projects
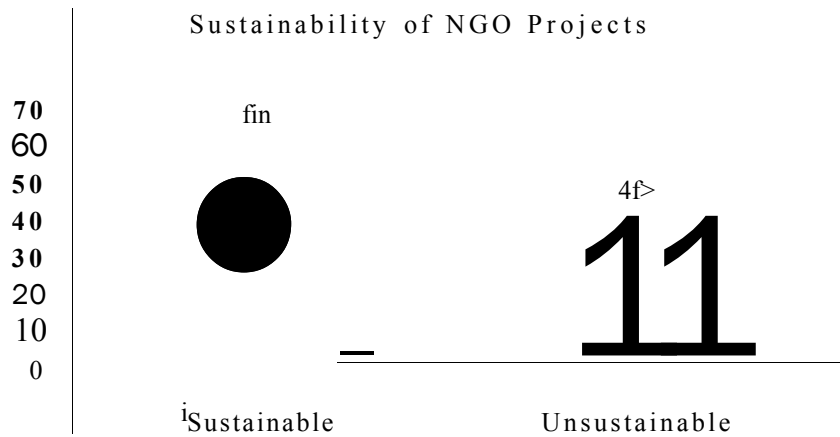
A question was put to the NGOs on the sustainability of their programs 60% claimed that their projects were sustainable while 40% said otherwise   The key factor that was found to influence sustainability was availability of regular funds While some NGOs had secured long-term financing from donors, others carried out the projects subject to availability of donor funds The implication is that the NGOs must plan ahead and continuously marshal funds to guarantee completion of the programs they initiate

4.6   **Suggestions to Improve NGO services**

The respondents were asked to give suggestions on what they thought needed to be done to better

address the needs of disadvantaged children The suggestions elicited from beneficiaries arc

shown in Table 10

Table 4.10: Beneficiaries suggestions

Suggestions	Frequency	Percent
Extend their services to every needy child	16	32
1 lave an accessible office	7	14
Involve the government and church in service provision	7	14
Build a school/ home for the needy children	7	14
Provide food/mcdical services to children	4	8
Be more transparent	3	6
Sensitize the people on the role of NGOs	3	6
l-ollow-up on the children supported	1	2
Give guidance and counseling to the children	1	2
Involve the local people in their projects	2	4
Total	50	100

Table 4 10 shows what bcneticianes had to say about their expectations of NGO projects

intended to benefit them   The majority 32% asked NGOs to marshal resources and reach out to

every needy child in their communities   14% advised the NGOS to have contact offices in the

areas where they operated so as to enhance communication with the communities. A similar

proportion were of the opinion that NGOs should involve the church and government in to

complement their efforts

Figure 4.8   Recommendations by NGOs

NGOs Recommendations

Be more aggessive in resource	
The approach should be empowerment	
Lay dovyn right pnonties	30
NGOs should be frugal with their spending	20
Involve children in [project	20

```
        0      5     10     15     20     25     30     35
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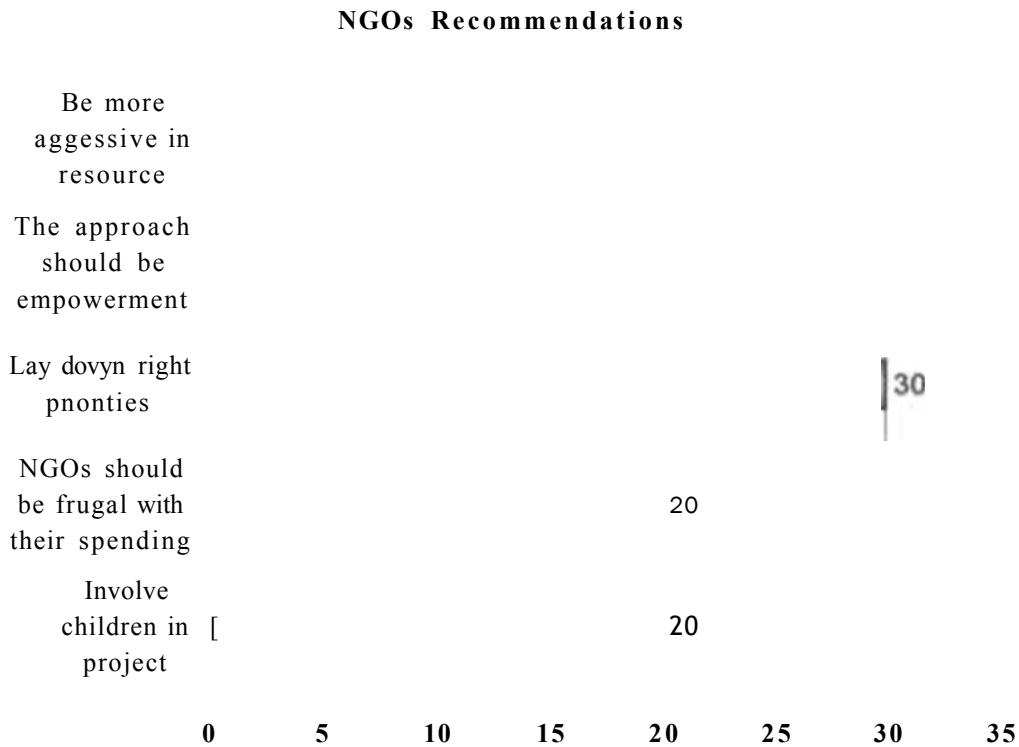
On their pan, NGOs pegged the success or failure of their projects to resource mobilization and cfTcctivc utilization, with 30% urging NGOs to be aggressive in mobilization A similar proportion of NGOs said that the projects initiated should be mainly empowerment i c the long term objective should be to help the needy stand on their own feet The other school of thought raised by the 20% of the NGOs was to include the children in the process of planning

The findings clearly show that the role of NGOs in helping the needy children in society is invaluable I'hcy have to a large extent been able to identify and tried to intervene in helping such children live a close to normal life in the face of very difficult circumstances in which they (children) find themselves in

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0   Introduction

This chaptcr gives a summary of the study findings   Also covered arc the recommendations,
conclusion and areas for further research   The purpose of the study was to investigate the role of
NGOs in identifying and solving the problems of disadvantaged children in Nairobi

5.1   Summary of findings

The study had set the mam objective to be the role of NGOs in accurately identifying and
addressing the needs of disadvantaged children in the society. The following findings were
obtained

- The children focused projects initiated arc numerous and varied They arc mostly
concentrated in Nairobi's slum areas where many such children can be found   The
programs address physical and psychological needs of the children with a majority
focusing on education In education, the projects touched on all aspects, from settling of
school fees, provision of the accompanying accessories e g stationary and school
uniform as well as monitoring progress and standards

- The NGOs mostly received applications from communities prompting them to identify
locations of their projects While on location, they accepted applications for assistance
upon which they conducted their investigations to ascertain the need The NGOs also
depended on the church and the local administration to identify the most needy in the
community The community itself helped to ensure that only the needy amongst them got
help by chiding those among them that tried to seek help they did not deserve

- The NGOs generally felt satisfied with the progress made in their projects They admitted that the resources were a constraint Even in their success, the NGOs hud to contend with the complaints and dissatisfaction by some elements This arose from the community expectations that NGOs provide them with all their needs

- Of interest in the study was to investigate what in the first place contributed to the needy status of the children l.oss of parents causing the children to be orphans was the main cause of the children problems HIV/AIDS as anticipated also contributed greatly to the plight of children

- The sustainability of the NCK) projects depended on the level of funding they were able to secure The majority of the bencficiaries testified that the NGO help was irregular and could not be relied upon A large proportion of the NCiOs however rated their programs to be sustainable

5.2   Conclusion

The study found out that there were many NGOs carrying out projects that target disadvantaged children in Nairobi Such projects were actually changing the lives of those they touched The intensity of the projects was however found to be low compared to levels of need

The NGOs used reliable means to identify bencficiaries of their projects, which included involving churches and the provincial administration The community members themselves do play a major part in ensuring that only the needy get assisted

5.3   Policy Recommendations

The study recommends the following measures to enhance the effectiveness of NGO projects targeting children

.   There should he a central office for co-coordinating ^ activjljes of N(iCs children   This would enhance the accuracy of address,ng ^ ^^ a$ wc,, as reduce duplication of efforts

.   The children focused NGOs should work hand-m-han*, ^ ^ children>s depailmcnt of the Ministry of Social Services   These would enhanc, ^^ ^^ the NG0 and (iovernment efforts to alleviate children suffering

•   There should be a clear policy framework on stakdiolfi-..   •   ,
                                                                   q cr participation and mechanisms to ensure that all stakeholders arc involved

5.4   Areas for Further Research

Due to resource constraints and time limit, the study was carr^ ^ m Nairobj ^ Qn|y ^ researches should be carried out in other parts of the country * ,, 10 ^^ ^ formuIation of a well-informed policy that can level the playground for the aI| N(jQs assisting disadvanlagcd children

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APPENDIX I

BENEFICIARIES QUESTIONNAIRE

Section A

1) Place of residence

2) Occupation

3) What is your level of education[9]

a.	None	
b	Primary	
c.	Secondary	●
d	Mid level college	
c.	University	●

4) What is your Age group''

a	18-24	C Z
b.	25-34	
c.	34-44	|____|
d.	45 and above	•

5) Number of children under your care

6) Relationship with the children

Section B

1) What kind of assistance do you get from NCiOs''

2) Is the assistance you received adequate to satisfy the children's needs?

Y « [— | No   j — |

Briefly Explain

3) For how long have you been receiving the aid from the NGO"' (Duration in years)

4) I low did you access the first assistance'

   (a) Introduced/referred

   (b) Applied for assistance

   (c) Contacted by the NGO

   (d) Other (specify)

5) Do you know of other children in the locality getting any form of NGO assistance?

   Yes •   No •

6) If yes, how deserving are these children being assisted[7]

   (a) Very deserving

   (b) Deserving

   (c) Undeserving

   (d) Can't tell

7) What are needs of the children under your care that remain unmet''

   (a) Food

   (b) Clothing

   (c) School fees

   (d) Comfort

   (e) Other (specify)

8) What was the major cause of conditions of children you take care of?

   a) Orphaned

   b) HIV/Aids

   c) Poverty

   d) Abandoned

   e) Other (specify)

9)   l)o you always get the Aid when you need it?

Y s •   N o   •

10   How tegular is the assistance?

a) Weekly   b) Monthly   c) Quarterly   d) Annually   e) Other (Specify)

11   What should the NGOs do to improve their services[0]

END

I hank you Tor answering the questions

APPENDIX 2

NGOs QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of NGO___

Area of operation___

I   What kind of children focused projects do you carry out[7]

2   In which areas of Nairobi do you implement your projects?

3   a) How do you select the location for project implementation?

      b) How do you identify the individual children beneficiaries?

4   I lave you ever received any complaints about your activities[7]

      Yes |_____| No   I

    b) If yes. briefly explain__

5   What is your view about the success of your programs"

    A) Very successful

    B) Successful

    C) Not successful

    D) Can t tell

6   Are you able to meet the needs of the children as intended?

  Yes   [1   No   1   1

  b) If not. please explain briefly.

7,   a) I low sustainable are your programs?

    A) Sustainable   B) Un-sustainablc   D) Can not tell

  b) Do you get regular funding for your programs?   Yes   No   ●

  c) If no. how do you handle the programs when there is no funding?

  d) In your opinion, what can the NGOs do to enhance their activities of helping children"

Thank you for aniwering the questions