PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION AND THE MANAGEMENT OF DEVOLVED FUNDS: A CASE OF CDF, BARINGO CENTRAL CONSTITUENCY

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NOVEMBER 2013
DECLARATION

I, Raphael Kiptoo Kimosop, do hereby declare that this is my original work and has not been presented to any other university for the award of a degree.

…………………………………………..  ………………………………
Raphael Kiptoo Kimosop                                    Date

This project report has been presented for examination with my approval as the university supervisor.

…………………………………………..  ………………………………
Mr. Samuel Ngigi                                    Date
DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my family for their patience and sacrifice especially when I was away at times they needed me most. To my supervisor and his peers for being patient enough to take me through the motions of practical research and their faith in my potential as a scholar and to all the good people out there who believe in the dream of a just, peaceful, prosperous and united society. Without you, and without God, I would never have come this far. May God bless you abundantly.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank all my lecturers for a job well done during coursework and after as well as departmental and library staff who were very helpful throughout my study period. May God bless you for your selfless service and sacrifice to this great nation. All would have been impossible without my loyal and understanding family. May God continue to bless you with more wisdom, the strength to serve humanity and the courage to face life with truth, fidelity and honesty.
ABSTRACT

This study sought to establish the role of participatory communication in the management of devolved funds with special focus on the CDF in Baringo Central Constituency. Governments the world over spend millions of dollars every year in efforts to develop their countries like combating poverty and mitigate its effects among the affected communities but challenges continue to hinder those noble initiatives to raise the living standards of citizens.

KIPPRA in its baseline survey of 2006 on the impact of the seven devolved funds in Kenya (the CDF included) found that there were serious challenges preventing them from reaching their full potential. Over 90% of the respondents indicated that they were not involved in setting the development agenda for their areas “Awareness and information must by nature be a precursor to effective public participation” KIPPRA (2006).

This study is an endeavor to bring to light the role of participatory communication in the management of devolved funds (including CDF) with an aim of proposing new and innovative participatory communication strategies. Respondents in this study were sampled using a ratio that mimicked a proportion of number of registered voters in the respective wards of Baringo Central Constituency. Questionnaires and focused group discussions were the instruments used in data collection.

Both quantitative and qualitative research methods were used in this study in order to ensure that empirical evidence is available to guarantee the validity and reliability of the inferences that were made from the data collected as well as to ensure that the study was holistic. The study found that participatory communication as a strategy was not adopted in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency and that there are still many challenges and legal obstacles that hinder participatory communication in the management of CDF.

The study recommends corrective measures in a number of strategies to cure these challenges. Among these raft of measures, the study proposes that the citizen’s right to participate in the management of CDF is protected by the CDF Act and that roles of each person, actor, entity and stakeholder are clearly spelt out by relevant laws and regulations governing CDF. The study also proposes that citizens should be given all the information necessary for them to make informed choices on what projects best benefit the majority and are best value for their money.
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<tr>
<td>ACCE</td>
<td>African Council for Communication Education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBF</td>
<td>Constituency Bursary Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBOs</td>
<td>Community-Based Organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Constituency Development Committee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDF</td>
<td>Constituency Development Fund.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFC</td>
<td>Constituency Development Fund Committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDTF</td>
<td>Community Development Trust Fund.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEDGG</td>
<td>Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRCE</td>
<td>Centre for Human Rights and Civic Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIPAC</td>
<td>Cities in Partnership with Communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA</td>
<td>Commission on Revenue Allocation (of Kenya).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFID</td>
<td>Department for International Development of the United Kingdom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DGSP</td>
<td>Democratic Governance Support Programme.</td>
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<td>DSC</td>
<td>Development Support Communication.</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agricultural Organization (of the United Nations).</td>
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<tr>
<td>FGDs</td>
<td>Focused Group Discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Free Primary Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY</td>
<td>Financial Year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immunodeficiency Syndrome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBP</td>
<td>International Budget Partnerships.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICTs</td>
<td>Information and Communication Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEA-K</td>
<td>Institute of Economic Affairs – Kenya.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEBC</td>
<td>Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPAR</td>
<td>Institute of Policy Analysis and Research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANU</td>
<td>Kenya African National Union (Party).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KES</td>
<td>Kenya Shillings.</td>
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DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baringo Central</th>
<th>Baringo Central Constituency.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chiefs Baraza</td>
<td>Meeting convened by a chief to explain government policies to citizens or explain government plans to them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizen Respondent</td>
<td>Registered voter of Baringo Central who participated in this study who has never been a CDF manager at any one time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens</td>
<td>Baringo Central constituents and citizens of Kenya in general.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FM</td>
<td>Frequency Modulation. A term used to describe a clear radio signal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>Stands for the pronouns He or She. It refers to both the female and male gender wherever and whenever it’s used in this report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kokile</td>
<td>Tugen (a Kalenjin Sub-Tribe) for hearsay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwacha</td>
<td>Zambian currency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live-wire</td>
<td>Slang for a very sensitive, controversial and potentially explosive matter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manager Respondent</td>
<td>Registered voter of Baringo Central who participated in this study who has been a CDF manager at one time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCA</td>
<td>Members of County Assembly Elected By the Participatory Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A communication approach adopted in which there is constant dialogue in the management of the development project / process. people of their respective wards or nominated to the County Assembly by their parties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Baraza</td>
<td>Meeting convened by person or entity other than chiefs to explain a matter to citizens about issue that concerns them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents</td>
<td>Registered voters of Baringo Central who participated in this study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swahili</strong></td>
<td>A language of the inhabitants of Coastal Kenya resulting from intermingling of Arab and native cultures at the coast now an official language in Kenya.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Act</strong></td>
<td>The CDF 2013 Act (of 2003, 2007 or 2013) singly or collectively or a future amendment of the CDF Act.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Board</strong></td>
<td>The National CDF Board.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Constituency</strong></td>
<td>Baringo Central Constituency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Constituency</strong></td>
<td>The area under study, (Baringo Central Constituency).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Fund</strong></td>
<td>Constituency Development Fund(s).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Kitty</strong></td>
<td>Constituency Development Fund(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Public</strong></td>
<td>People of Kenya. type of radio signal compared to other types such as SW (Shot Wave) or AM (Medium Wave).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voters</strong></td>
<td>Voters of Baringo Central Constituency and in extension Kenyan Voters in general.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wards</strong></td>
<td>Wards of Baringo Central Constituency (area under study).</td>
</tr>
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CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This chapter gives the background of the study, explains the problem of the study, states the study objectives and the study questions. It also gives the justification of the study, describes its scope, states its limitations and explains the study gap.

1.1.1 Background of the Study

The study sought to establish the place of participatory communication in the management of CDF. It attempted to identify the role of each actor, pinpoint the gaps (in participatory communication) between policy and implementation of planned development projects, explain the reasons for these gaps with an ultimate aim of seeking innovative, appropriate, homegrown solutions to the unique problems so discovered as the major setbacks to participatory communication in the management of CDF.

*The New Roget’s Thesaurus in Dictionary Form* describes Communication as a report, statement, communiqué (INFORMATION); missive, letter, note (EPISTLE) and Develop as mature, maturate, ripen (MATURITY, ENFOLDMENT); ensue, follow, result (OCCURANCE); extend, spread, stretch, amplify, dilate on, enlarge on (INCREASE).

Moemeka (1996) in his attempt to specify the component of development communication describes Development as “a change for the better in human, cultural, socio-economic and political conditions of the individual and consequently of society” and Communication (according to him or his so called Humanized Democracy Interactive Model) as “genuine dialogue, free and proportioned opportunity to exert mutual influence by the sender/receiver of the message”.

He sums up Development Communication therefore broadly as “the art and science of human communication applied to speedy transformation of a country and the mass of
its people through the identification and utilization of appropriate expertise (in the
development process) that will assist in increasing participation of intended
beneficiaries at the grassroots level”.

Comparatively little is known about CDFs given the absence of research on their long
term impact in countries like Pakistan, the Philippines and India which have well
established CDF schemes. Other countries that have CDF schemes around the world
are Bhutan, Solomon Islands, Jamaica and Malaysia. Around Africa, they will be
found in the Sudan, Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda among others. In all, at least 23
countries around the world including the ones already mentioned have adopted or are
considering adopting CDFs (Van Zyl, 2010).

Examples of success in Development Communication around the world include
Philippines (Masagana 99 programme), (Rural Satellite Programmes) in West Indies,
Indonesia and Peru and Tunisia’s (Dr Hakim Nutrition Programme) among others.
(Vijay, 1996). Kenya’s Human Development Index between 1980 and 2010 stands at
5.3 slightly above Nigeria at 4.7 and Malawi at 4.3 respectively but way below Ghana
at 6.6, Cuba at 7.9, UK at 8.8 and Norway at 9.7 respectively, UNDP. In 2012, 43.4%
of Kenyans lived below the poverty line or less than 1.25 $ PPP, per day fairing
slightly better than Tanzania at 67.9% but fairing badly against Namibia at 31.9%,
Cameroon at 9.6%, Slovakia at 0.1%, Malaysia and Turkey at 0.0% respectively.
(World Bank, 2012a).

Devolved funds were first budgeted, disbursed and used in Kenya in the 2003/2004
financial year by the Narc government (2003-2007) starting with the Free Primary
Education or FPE funds which was a great success and has been one of the enduring
legacies of former 3rd president of Kenya H.E. Hon Emilio Mwai Kibaki. Other funds
to be disbursed using the same model include the (HIV/AIDS Fund), Roads
Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF), the Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF), Rural
Electrification Programme Levy Fund (REPLF). The National Fund for Persons with
Disabilities (NFfPwDs) and most recently The Fund for Elderly Persons (above 65
years of age) usually referred to as “senior citizens”. (KIPPRA, 2006).

In excess of KES 100 Billion in CDF have already disbursed in Kenya between 2003
and 2011 according to the CDF website yet the overall impact of CDF at the national
level is yet to be documented. A number of constituencies including Gatanga, Butere, Galoleni, Baringo Central, Kibwezi, Kipkelion and Kaiti (in no particular order) are reported to have used CDF well with 28 other constituencies reported to have misused 422 Million of CDF in 2008/2009 FY (Daily Nation, Monday March 2011). The EACC Annual Report, (2011/2012) details allegations of embezzlement of CDF in Malava, Ganze and Rongo Constituencies respectively amounting to KES 15.6 Million signifying the enormous problems in CDF implementation around the country.

The successful implementation of the Yikivumbu Water Catchment Self Help Group proposal of a dam after the intervention of NTA among other such interventions is living testimony that there are great opportunities for the success of CDF going forward. (NTA Year 4 Annual Report, 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2012) Debate continues to rage on the national scene however on the role of MPs in the management of CDF and whether the fund should be managed by the counties or not. (TISA, April 2013 and Mzalendo May 2013).

The CDF office in Baringo Central Constituency estimates the receipt of over 580 Million Kenya Shillings in Baringo Central Constituency between 2003 and 2012 yet little is known about the impact on the quality of life of Kenyans in Baringo Central Constituency resulting from the disbursement of such a colossal sum of money. So far two MPs with their respective CDF Committees have managed the CDF funds with varying degrees of success and yet to be documented challenges and opportunities.

The Constituency Development Fund was established through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) Act 2003 and commenced on 9th January 2004 after being assented to by the president on 31st December 2003. The CDF committee in Baringo Central was established in 2004 in conformity with the CDF Act following guidelines of the CDF National Management Committee (later the National Management Fund Board) and received KES 6 million being disbursement for the 2003/2004 FY.

The first Patron/Chairman of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency was Hon. Gideon Moi who was elected in 2002 on a KANU ticket. By 2007 when his term as MP ended, his committee had received KES 228.6 million, established at least 92 projects and completed some of them. His committee had also disbursed KES
12,321,171.50 million worth of bursaries to needy students, in secondary schools, universities and other tertiary institutions. Hon. Gideon Moi was succeeded by Hon. Sammy S.K Mwai Ta of ODM who went on to form a new CDF Committee.

It was complete with a chairman since he opted to only act as its patron in the middle of the year 2008 (all having government programmes having been delayed by problems emanating from the 2007/2008 PEV that had virtually brought all life to a standstill in the country). By 2012 at the end of his first term as MP, his committee received a total KES 351.6 million, established at least 207 projects and completed some of them. His committee had also disbursed KES 51,905,232 million worth of bursary to needy students in secondary schools, universities and other tertiary institutions. This study targeted mainly Baringo Central constituents who are the intended CDF beneficiaries. They were the main respondents in this study which sought to establish whether they actually benefited from the various CDF interventions meant to raise their standards of living; or improve the quality of their lives. In seeking to identify existing gaps between the CDF policy and implementation, the study involved all the major stakeholders taking part in the administration and implementation of CDF who included the CD FC (Constituency Development Fund Committee), some of many PMCs, local NGOs, CBOs, SHGs, Youth and Women Groups, local administrative, religious and political leadership purposely to get the complete picture.

1.2 Problem Statement

One of the objectives of CDF is to ensure citizen participation through decision-making in project identification, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. However, the DGSP was able to identify a number of challenges in the implementation of decentralized funds (CDF included) that have prevented them from reaching their full potential. Key among the challenges was low community involvement, problems in identification and implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects.

A paltry 5% of the respondents felt that they were involved in decision making. (KIPPRA, 2006).
The problem is that there exists a gap between one of the CDF core values which is “to advocate for participatory approaches” and the actual implementation of CDF projects and programmes which has been found to be wanting in a number of cases. The CDF Act (2003) only mentions community interests in Part 6 (at 6.9) in passing that “should a community request, they shall be given chance to nominate representatives to represent them in a project being undertaken within their area.”

This means that if they don’t make the request, in all likelihood they shall have no one representing their interests in such a project. Surprisingly, even “the New CDF Act (2013)” maintains a complex, ambiguous and bureaucratic structure that limits citizen participation to attending rare meetings to indirectly elect CDFC members and prioritize projects that will still be subjected to “ranking in order of priority” by the CDFC.

In his paper, Ogolo (2009) cites a CIPAC study of 2009 “to determine public participation in CDF among other devolved funds” which discovered that many people were not aware of the devolved funds, let alone the various aspects of their right to participate in local democratic structures, monitoring and evaluation of projects, civic engagements, political and economic development. Based on the challenges stated above inter-alia, this study was aimed at addressing the fundamental question of how best to enhance stakeholder participation in the management of CDF, particularly the citizen.

1.3 Objectives

The main objective of the study was to establish the place of participatory communication in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency.

1.3.1 Specific Objectives

1. To establish the extent of participatory communication in CDF, Baringo Central Constituency.
2. To identify the major challenges to participatory communication in the Management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency.
3. To identify the legal discrepancies that get in the way of participatory communication in the Management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency.

1.4 Research Questions

What is the place of participatory communication in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency?

1.4.1 Specific questions

1. What is the extent of participatory communication in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency?

2. What are the major challenges to participatory communication in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency?

3. What are the legal discrepancies that hinder participatory communication in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency?

1.5 Justification

There are many challenges faced by developing nations in their quest to make progress. This study is necessary as part of the many efforts to understand some of these challenges from a participatory communication perspective. This research is important as a basis of future studies in communication for development. It ultimately seeks to add new perspectives, concepts and ideas to the existing body of knowledge on the importance of participatory communication to a country’s development process. According to Van Zyl (2010), not much research has been done on the long term impact of CDFs in the world.

It is necessary as scientific proof that participatory communication and development are indeed inseparable and that effective participatory communication is the critical ingredient needed for development efforts to yield the expected outcome(s). Through its propositions, suggestions, recommendations, proposals and findings; this study will act as a reliable guide to policymakers on areas that need improvement, fine-tuning,
change of strategy/tact and reform in order to ensure the smooth implementation, better management and proper administration of CDF.

This study will act as an eye-opener to policy makers concerning legal issues pertaining to participatory communication that need legal reform in order to bridge the existing gap(s) between policy and implementation with regard to CDF in particular and devolved funds in general. In extension, it will assist each CDF stakeholder and intended beneficiary to better understand their specific roles in the management of CDF to improve their involvement in CDF activities with a view to achieving the CDF vision and reap the benefits intended respectively.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The study covered Baringo Central Constituency and involved a sample of respondents from within the constituency. For the purpose of getting a holistic picture, the main respondents in this study were the registered voters of Baringo Central Constituency in general but in addition to them, this study also involved major CDF stakeholders including some CDFC members, some CDF managers, former and current Area MPs (or their representatives), some members of the Provincial Administration, Government Heads of Department, Officials and Officers of government, some of many PMCs, local NGOs, CBOs, SHGs, Youth and Women Groups, local administrative, religious and political leadership.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

1. Time to conduct the research was not enough considering the scope.
2. Lack of adequate financing for the study.

1.8 Study Gap

From literature review it is evident that the aspect of participatory communication as a strategy for grass root development is perhaps the least studied especially in developing countries. The World Bank recognized the importance of this strategy as a
viable tool to ensure success of development projects as early as the 1970s following the failure of the top down approaches in the 1960s, Manyozo (2006).

This approach has enjoyed relative success around the world hence the need for more research on it especially in Africa countries and other parts of the developing world. Further proof that participatory communication is viable as a development strategy is that the World Bank has dedicated a whole division to development communication.
CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter will critically examine available literature and studies that have previously been carried out and are relevant to this research. The study focuses on the role of participatory communication in the management of CDF (a devolved fund) with a view to making one aware of the achievements in this field of study and the challenges that still remain. An analysis of the information gathered reveals the gaps that need attention and shows how existing literature ties in with the objectives of the study.

2.1.1 Development Communication

Among the various definitions of development communication, the following two provide a consistent understanding of the boundaries that define this field of study and work.

The Development Communication Division of the World Bank (DevComm) considers development communication as “an interdisciplinary field based on empirical research that helps to build consensus while it facilitates the sharing of knowledge to achieve positive change in development initiatives. It is not only about effective dissemination of information but also about using empirical research and two-way communication among stakeholders” and describes it as also a key management tool as well that helps assess sociopolitical risks and opportunities.

The second definition emerged at the First World Congress of Communication for Development, held in Rome in October 2006. It is included in the document known as “The Rome Consensus”. More than 900 participants of the Congress agreed to conceive it as “a social process based on dialog using a broad range of tools and methods. It is also about seeking change at different levels, including listening, building trust, sharing knowledge and skills, building policies, debating, and learning...
for sustained and meaningful change”. “It is not public relations or corporate communication”. (Mefalopulos, 2008).

Awareness of the different purposes and functions of various types of communication is the first step toward a better understanding of the field of development communication and an effective way to enhance necessary quality standards. Being familiar with the origin of this particular discipline and the major theoretical frameworks underpinning it can help achieve a much better understanding. The field of development communication can also be referred to as “communication for development,” “development support communication,” and more recently, “communication for social change.” (Rogers E., 2008).

Development communications is recognizing the power of communication as catalyst for social development. It's also the utilization of existing communication tools and applicable theories for result driven strategies for advancement of society. It can also be defined as purposive communication intended for a specific target audience that allows for the translation of information into action resulting into a higher quality social, political, economic, moral, environmental etc) through an effective exchange of pertinent information in order to induce people to action.

It is greatly linked to the concept of sustainable development which can be defined as the improvement of a community using information and technology and the communities’ ability to maintain the created real estate without compromising its environment and resources. Development communications is envisaged as a response to particular historical, social, and economic factors that characteristics freedom of access to information and citizen participation. This includes socio-economic problems such as high levels of poverty and unemployment, low standards of living, poor access to basic services, remote of information, poor health services, lack of education and skills and lack of infrastructure.

Development Communication is also defined as “the utilization of existing communication tools and applicable theories for result driven strategies for advancement of society”. Development for Social Change (DSC) can be described as “development planning and implementation in which adequate action is taken of human behavioral factors in the design of the development project and their
objectives”. Communication for Social Change can be referred to as “communication for sustainable social change and development involving the use of a variety of communication techniques to address inefficient systems, processes, modes of production within a specific location that has not incurred major technological advances” (Wikipedia, 2103).

### 2.1.2 Communication for Social Change

Communication for social change, referred to as communication for sustainable social change and development involves the use of variety of communication techniques to access inefficient systems, processes, or modes of production within a specific location that has not incurred major technological advances. Different mediums and approaches are used to help individuals among the targeted society to acquire new knowledge and skills. This will allow communities to not only experience change but to guide it as well.

### 2.1.3 The Participatory Approach

A possible strategy in achieving sustainability and development places the people of the community in the centre of the communication process. This technique is also known as the participatory approach. Where interpersonal communication is exercised through community media, the members of the culture are agents of change as opposed to the outsiders who may provide any necessary tools. Technology then becomes implemented by people in their social and economic contexts and results in a major shaping process. The participatory approach can be combined with three other types of communicative methods to effectively invoke social change. These include: Behavior change communication, mass communication and advocacy communication. (Wikipedia, 2013)

Melkote (1991), holds that while participatory approaches hold great promise for more equitable and relevant development, the idea of participatory development is still only an approach(no fully blown theory of participation because the definitions of participatory communication vary and development contexts differ.

Different types of mediums can be used in achieving governance, health and sustainable development. Old media can be combined with new media to educate
specific populations. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) in addition to multi-media are able to address auditory and kinesthetic learners and prove to be important contribution to economic growth.

Questions need to be raised about who the stakeholders’ policy makers, partners and practitioners are and what their goals might be for the community seeking sustainable development. Often times, those who set the agenda are the ones doing the funding for the project and may include international agencies, bilateral agencies national authorities, NGOs and local organizations.

Prior to the project, decision makers consider if introducing new technologies will disrupt religion, language, political organization, economy, familiar relations and social complexity of the targeted society. Other factors have to be acknowledged as well and may include already present, service provisions, institutional and organizational construction (in the forms of corruption, bureaucracy e.t.c), socio–demographic and economic aspects and the physical environment.

2.1.4 Development Support Communication (DSC)

Development support communication (DSC) can be described as development planning and implementation in which adequate action is taken of human behavior factors in the design of the development project and their objectives DSC stands for linking communication are both vertical and horizontal. (Wikipedia, 2013)

2.1.5 Decentralizing Development: Allocating Public Goods via Competition

By Larry Chavis, Kenan-Flagler Business School. University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. August 2006

Decentralizing public goods by giving funds directly to communities takes advantage of local information concerning needs, but decreases the accountability over how funds are used leaving funds open to misuse or capture by local elites. In Indonesia, World Bank attempts to overcome this downside of decentralized allocation by having communities compete locally for block grants. Competition weeds out less efficient projects.

Increasing the number of villages bidding by 10% leads to a 1.8% decline in road construction costs. Microcredit gives a measure of the diversion of funds since in the
initial phase of this programme microcredit involved little monitoring and low repayment rates. Competition reduces the funds allocated to microcredit. Hence competition between localities for development funds has a significant impact on efficiency. Similarly, increased community participation in project planning and in the allocation of funding leads to better outcomes.

Through this model, 20,000 villages have benefited from a 1Billion dollar lending from the World Bank accounting for almost half of World Bank’s total lending to Indonesia within the same period. The trend saw the World Bank double its lending for CDD (Community Driven Development) programmes between 1996 and 2003 to $7 Billion, almost 40% of its total lending in 2003. (Mansuri and Rao, 2004).

2.1.6 A Brief History of Development Communication

Communication research began in the early 1920s but it was only into the 1930s that it began gaining acceptance as a science. In the 1940s, the initial schools of development communication began to emerge based on the simultaneous growth in contexts of theories and practices facing development institutions around the world. These were the Bretton Woods, Latin America, African, Indian, Los Banos and Participatory Development Communication respectively. The Participatory Communication School focuses on the involvement of the target community in development efforts. It is a product of the collaboration between First World Countries and Third World development communication organizations.

World Bank actively promotes participatory communication through its Development Communication Division as evidenced by the publication of the Development Communication Sourcebook in 2008. Some of the countries that have adopted this school of development are: Canada “Radio Farm Forums” to increase food production, 1941-1965, El Salvador “Instructional Television” to improve primary education, 1970s and Bolivia “Social Marketing to get women use soybean recipes” to deal with chronic malnourishment of children Cochachamba Valley in the 1980s. (Wikipedia, 2013). Others include the US “Distribution of 600,000 comic books to children affected by the Kosovo war” to teach them what to do when they find unexploded landmines, 1999, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Liberia where “Journalists for
Human Rights (a Canadian NGO) works with journalists” to defend human rights from 2002.


Figure 2.1 Models of Development

**Persuasion Model**

| Persuasive Extension Communication | Adoption of Technological Innovations | Individual and National Development |

**Change-Agency Communication & Mass Media Model**

| Literary and Mass Media Exposure Plus Change-Agency Interpersonal Communication | Adoption of Technological Innovations | Individual and National Development |


Adopted from Palo Freire’s Traditional Pedagogy
The Ruling Discourses


With ICT access defining a new form of social underclass as demarcated by the digital divide between developed and developing countries, the central issue has become the need for ICT to serve economic, political and social justice. Participatory communication is a term that denotes the theory and practices of communication used to involve people in decision making of the development process.

The six phases of participatory communication planning are: Preliminary situation assessment, communication strategy design, participatory design of messages and discussion themes, communication methods and materials development, implementation and evaluation. Types of participatory communication include: Passive participation, participation by consultation, participation by collaboration and empowerment participation. (Wikipedia, 2013)

2.1.7 What Is Wrong With The Constituency Development Funds? Brief No. 10 of 2010 of the International Budget Partnership. Authored by Albert Van Zyl

It argues that CDFs have a negative impact on accountability and service delivery that most poor counties can ill-afford. It cites three major deficiencies to support this argument.

Breaching the Separation of Powers

Separation of powers is a system of governance of democratic states that divides the state into a number of branches usually the executive, the legislature and the judiciary each with separate and independent powers and areas of responsibility. It is meant to
reduce the risk of poor governance by limiting the authority of each branch of government

As a Kenyan court put it “any outfit that is composed of members of parliament and is charged with the expenditure of public funds is commingling of roles of the different organs of state in a manner that is unacceptable… it would be against the constitution principle of the separation of powers for members of parliament to take part in actual estimates to themselves in parliament through the public accountants committee” (Ongonya et al, 2005).

According to Ongonya et al (2005), “involving the members of parliament who are at the national level, in the control and management of the CDF, which targets and is for the benefit at the local level is a violation of the ……ideal of devolution”

Reducing Government Capacity

The capacity of the executive to find and manage service delivery is already weak in CDF may weaken what little capacity that does exist. Where CDF is divided equally between constituencies, it has a regressive effect of redistribution across constituencies; the amounts that are actually transferred or spent may not follow these rules. The major reason is that political party allegiances planning and service delivery.

Journalist in the Philippines have reported, for example that politicians tend to hold back or save the PADF (Philippine CDF) funds until just prior to an election; “a few months before 2004 elections. A publicist of several members of the house estimated that more than half of all congressmen had not touched their pork for projects, saving it instead for reelection purposes.” (Chua and Cruz, 2004).

In some countries like India, Pakistan, Zambia, Malawi, Uganda and Southern Sudan, equal amounts are allocated to each constituency. Other countries like Kenya and Tanzania have a more progressive allocation structure that includes an equity redistribution objective that favours poorer areas in the overall distributions of funds. In a recent study in Kenya, a large majority 78% of respondents reported funding of low priority projects that do not benefit the neediest citizens (NACCSC 2008). Critics (in Kenya) argue that projects do not reach all community members rather projects selection is often driven by political factors.
In principle, the more “neutral” orientation of the executive means that funding by allocated and managed though other government channels are less likely to be biased to the local MP allegiances and more likely to conform to local or national development plans. Also spending by the executive is overseen by the legislature but in most CDF schemes, no one provides oversight because separation of powers has been breached. Even where MPs do not blatantly skew projects to their followers, CDF processes doe not adequately protect against duplicating of development projects funded by other decentralization schemes because of lack of coordination planning.

Most developing countries have been the target of internally and externally driven local government reforms over the lasted 20 years. The benefits of these reforms have been often limited because of low capacity, insufficient transfer of funds or bureaucratic disorganization CDFs run the risk of diverting even more funds from embattled local burden on them. For example in 2008 more than one billion Kwachawas transferred to each constituency in Zambia while local council salaries had not been paid for almost two years.

The administration of CDFs at the constituency level can be problematic duplicating structures and overtaking the available capacity. The experience and skills base of such CDF monitoring structures are often compromised even further when nepotism and political allegiance influence who is appointed to project committees.

**Weakening the Oversight Capacity of the Legislature**

CDFs compromise the independence required by legislatures to oversee the executive effectively, for example in 2008 presidential campaign in Zambia, the incumbent president promised to raise CDF per constituency to 1 billion kwacha, while the opposition candidate promised 4 billion kwacha per constituency if elected.

In the Philippines, for example, the view of more and more voters is that MPs should be evaluated on their ability to bring in Benefits to their constituency, not to make laws and constitute to the legislative debate (Chua and Cruz, 2004) when their role narrows to once of delivering direct benefits on exchange of elector supported, important parts of their legislative of electoral roles may fall by the wayside.

The above examples show how CDFs could contribute to clientelism and to the perceived role of MPs being “automatic teller machines” rather than being
representatives of the people in the governance process. Enough evidence exists to suggest that they (CDFs) put unwelcome pressure on service delivery and accountability systems in countries where these systems are already weak. In countries where CDFs are established and unlikely to be scrapped their weakness should be mitigated through: Increasing citizen participation. Progressive distribution of funds. Implementing rigorous reporting and third party oversight of CDF activities. Developing sufficient project management capacity.

Given the absence of research on the long term impact in counties like Philippines and India which have well established CDFs they are spreading rapidly. To date 23 countries at least have adopted or are considering adopting CDFs Bhutan, Ghana, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Rwanda, Solomon islands, Southern Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

2.1.8 Findings of the Survey on Kenya’s Seven Operational Decentralized Funds (Including CDF) Conducted by KIPPRA in 2006 Through the Democratic Governance Support Programme (DGSP). Special Report No. 12 of 2006

On accountability and performance there are generally low levels of awareness about these funds unending the CDF. 30% of the respondents recorded did not trust the fund managers for lack of accountability. Around 15% of the respondents agree that decisions of CDF, HIV/AIDS and secondary school bursary funds are sufficiently justified. 46% of the respondents indicated that CDF decisions are not justified.

On levels of awareness of the decentralized funds, FPE was the only fund that recorded consistently high levels of awareness at 90%. These were no significant variations between the different districts on issue of awareness. FPE fund recorded the highest. Rating for impact with over 90% reporting a positive impact. About 50% of the respondents rated the remaining funds (CDFs included) as having no impact.

The survey found generally public participation is very low in the various funds. Particularly in decision making processes while 32.8% were involved in receiving information or listening at barazas, less than 10% attended meetings to discuss specific issues, whereas less than 5% felt that they were involved in decision making.
Over 90% felt respondents indicated that they were not involved in setting of the development agenda of their areas.

This underlines the appropriateness for efforts aimed at increasing public participation. More than half of the respondents described their quality of life as either bed (41.2.%) or very bad (10.5%). Just less than 36% rated their quality of life as average. Worth 11.7 % rating at as good and less than 1% as very good.Significantly the vast majority of respondents reporting that their quality of life was worse than three years ago.

**Conclusion**

Community awareness and involvement has been low and the funds are seen to have little impact on the quality of life of the population. Communities have questioned the versions process in identification and implementation as well as the monitoring and evaluation of projects and funds and have expressed concerns about transparency and accountability.

There is need to educate communities on their roles and that of the version funds. This is needed to train the fund managers and community organizations on the procedures for the utilization of the funds. New regulations and restructuring of the current funds are necessary to ensure that the funds meets the needs of the targeted beneficiaries .developments is necessary for improved administration of decentralized funds. These is need to mitigate berries to effective implementations of projects such as the interruptions that may occur with changes in government or the privatization of funds by certain fund managers.

**2.1.9Best practices in CDF. Prepared by Praxides**

Nekesa, Francis Kimani and Bernad Njogu for the Collaboration Centre for Gender and Development, 2009

In its executive summary, the book noted that concerns have been raised regarding CDF processes and structures and community participation in decision making, administration, management, monitoring and evaluation in versions constituencies. As such some constituencies have been termed as good constituencies and other bad constituencies.

It explains that the research project on the best practices on the management, structures and processes of CDF sought to establish what the good constituencies had done differently and could be replicated in other constituencies. The research covered 10 constituencies namely: Kitui Central, Butula, South Imenti, Kabete, Bahari, Dagorretti, Mbita, Kajiado South, Samburu West and Rongai where case studies of successful projects were done in some of these constituencies.

The research identified a number of weaknesses which could seriously undermine the success of the fund: Low level of public participation. Poor compliance with CDF
regulations and procedures. The powerful role of the MP in the CDF committee which has in several cases been abused. Low representation of special interest groups for example, women and people with disabilities “phenomenon of elite capture”. Lack of transparency and accountability especially on the tendering process. Bureaucracy which delays disbursement of CDF funds. Lack of clear guidelines in bursary allocations. Lack of access to information which hampers the ability of the public to effectively monitor CDF usage. Poor feedback mechanisms between the national level organs and the local communities.

The following are the practices that have improved services directly delivery which the study identified that merit to be called best practices due to their creativity, innovativeness, success and sustainability. Enhanced awareness on CDF among local communities deliberate measures were used to give people information on CDF in “good” constituencies. People friendly dissemination of information mechanisms on CDF. 54% of the respondents felt that channels used by CDF members were effective. Enhanced publicity on CDF projects. This enables the people to know which projects are funded by CDF for purposes of monitoring and evaluation.

Disclosure of CDF financial status to the members of the public, this promotes public trust, enhances transparency and accountability in CDF activities. Deliberate measures for gender equality. (In CDC) and CDF communities at all levels. In constituencies with high number of women in CDF structures, the CDF was very successful. Inclusivity of all categories of people in CDF. This ensures that the views of all people are integrated on CDF implementation. Promoting accountability for CDF funds. Project communities are closely monitored by the CDC and their transparency and accountability strictly enforced. Mobilizing resources in cash and in kind from communities. This has led to CDF resources doing a lot of work and created ownership of projects by the target community.

Integrating other policies into CDF such as incorporating MYWO representative in the CDC (a presidential directive). Monitoring of CDF activities by marginalized groups. It’s crucial for all categories of people in society to be involved on monitoring CDF activities. Transparent tendering procedures and award of tender by merit (quality and price). Participation and involvement of communities in identification and prioritization of CDF projects. People understands their problems matters and are better placed to come up with lasting solutions. Democratic selection of CDC members. This enhanced accountability by the CDC members to Constituency. Capacity building of CDC and projects committee members. This contributes significantly to efficiency. Effectiveness and successful corruption of CDF funded projects.

Co-ordination and harmonization of CDF funded projects with similar projects supported by other devolve funds and other alternative sources of funds. This has reduced duplication and wastefulness. Social building supported by CDF. This has
helped co constituents come up with sustainable projects that have greater impact on poverty reduction. Active Location Development Committees. This enhances people’s participation in identification and prioritization of projects. Utilizing existing structures in CDF implementation South Imenti development Association SIDA for example existed before CDF come but has significantly hastened CDF implementation and completion of projects. Construction of CDF office. Where they have been constructed, they have become the focal points and hubs for constituents operations in terms of information generation and dissemination very crucial in supporting CDF ideals.

Some of the recommendations based on the studies include: The Act should be amended to entrench affirmative action. None of the constituencies sampled by the study had PWDS in their CDCs. The number of women and youth representatives in CDF organs should be increased to reflect their proportion to the population. There is need to increase citizen participation on identification and prioritization of projects. The CDF act should outline specific guidelines for members to be appointed to the CDC to ensure that qualified transparent and accountable people steer it. Their is need to strengthen collaboration between CDF structures and hire ministry officers in order to gain from the officers technical know-how thus avoiding wastage of public funds from poorly planned projects and poor workmanship among others.

On the way forward the study proposed that the identified best practices and proposed recommendation be taken up and implemented for level. It stressed the importance of undertaking a comprehensive study to identify and document best practices on other constituencies and widespread dissemination and sharing programmed initiated. It also proposed that a similar study be carried out for other dissolved funds to establish what is working and share it so that funds can benefit the people. It noted that the guideline laws and policies guiding these funds be strengthened to ensure that implementation of these funds are tendered with the people needs.

2.1.10 What Next for CDF? The Story of 5 Counties. A Report by the Institute of Social Accountability TISA in 2011 in Conjunction with CEDGG, CHRCE and VESH Initiative in its Area

In its executive summery explains that this report details the findings and recommendations of the social audit programmed implemented by the four organizations. On CDF although it lauds the roles of CDF in the overall socio-economic development of Kenya concern about the utilization of the funds under CDF have emerged.

The first among them is its weak institutional framework the other one is lack of transparency and the other one is that CDF does sufficient address political imperfections that course the failure of CDF to serve all the poor equally. the report recommends the immediate release of the CDF task force review report, removal
of Mps from CDF and the consolidation of into the county development structure already in place as well as the minding up of CDF through a final disbursement on the 20011/2012 FT to complete all pending but viable projects and repeal of they CDF law.

The report gives the background of CDF detailing its legal framework and structure and gives a chronology of disbursements of CDF from its inception in 2003/2004 Ft to 2010/2011 for totaling 70,956 billions shillings. It gives the objectives of CDF as:

- To control the imbalances in regional development brought about by party politics.
- To offload fund raising burden from Member of Parliament.
- To ensure citizen participation through decision making in project identification, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and to change development focus from district to constituency.

The report identifies the following as milestones in the CDF. Passing of the CDF Act in 2003 to law. Amendment to the CDF Act in 2007 vide Kenya Gazette Supplement Number 112 (Act No16) of 22nd October 2007. 2009 Minister of State for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 Wycliffe Oparanya sets up a task force to review the CDF Act in April CDF board launches its 2010-2014 strategic plan.

The report lists the various challenges that the CDF has faced since its inception in 2003 as detailed by various studies conducted by the following bodies: NACCSC, IPAR, KIPPRA, IEA-K, Hans Siedel Foundation, IBP, MUHURI, ICJ Kenya, TISA, SPAN and KHRC, some of the challenges found in these reports include the following: The overbearing power of the MP in compromising transparency and accountability. Corruption cases which ended up reducing CDF efficiency and effectiveness. Gender bias. Tribalism and nepotism in the award of tenders. Lack of transparency and accountability in allocation of and use of disbursed funds. Lack of serious monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Bribes to secure contracts. Location of CDF office at MPs home or premises at exorbitant and unrealistic monthly rates. Glaring management deficiencies. Insufficiency of technical staff. Poor community participation. Low awareness levels.

According to KIPPRA survey of 35 constituency in 2006 half of the respondents believe that CDF money have been mismanaged and CDF is viewed as the worst managed among all the devolved funds. Reasons given for this state of affairs are: The immenseness powers of the mps which are misused, political loyalties have led to the unfair sharing of the resources across the constituency and wards and lack of transparency and accountability due to blending of supervising and implementing roles.

The IEA survey on 25 constituency in 2005 found extremely low levels of participation among residents in CDF activities, weak mechanism for residents to have a say in the project to be implemented and that the biggest challenge facing CDF was how to be well managed. A study conducted by IPAR in constituencies in
2006 found that the CDF lacks directions transparency and has followed legal foundations and that although people are aware that there are resources for the constituencies, people do not have enough knowledge in how exactly the CDF operates. Less than 2% participated in the selection of CDF committees.

The Hans Siedel Foundation (2006) argues that the current Kenyan decentralization policy is characterized by an umbrella of funds with overlaps of areas and responsibilities. In addition to this lack of coordination among funds, there is lack of clarity on the total amount of resources being allocated to each local authority and constituency.

Access to information remains difficult; preventing the ability of the public to monitor how the government uses their tax money. TISA (2008) KIPPRA (2006). Citizen participation in local development funds remains poor due to the absence of an effective citizen engagement culture. SPAN – KRHC study. NACCSC study revealed that 40% of the population may be involved in project implementation, management monitoring and evaluation at any time, the majority (60%) are not.

Some communities often did not know members of management communities, when and how much money had been allocated and what it was being used for and therefore could not be in a position to know who to question on issues of accountability and corruption. A NACCSC study had 88% of respondents feeling that transparency in CDF management was poor or lacking entirely.

**On the Role of PMCs**

The CDF implementation guidelines expressly recognized PMC as procurement units in total disregard of the public procurement and disposal Act section 143. Contrary to section 24(2) of CDF Act, most CDF projects take too long to complete and some projects are stalled with no signs of completion. The CDF Act is silent on professional skills and competence of CDC members, which complies a significant lack of structure for sound management including planning implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development projects. Reports from the EACC and the offered the auditor general reveals that project. Completion rates dropped from 45% in 2003/2004 to only 17% in 2007/2008 FY greatly undermining projects.

**Completion Rates**

In Kenya discussions have intensified recently over the role of civil society in bringing about greater government accountability to its citizens, particularly with regard to the flow of public resources. Through the lessons of civil engagement, participation and civil ownership, citizen groups in Kenya are now beginning to hail a
growing number of public officials and service providers accountable for their actions and behaviors.

2.1.11 CDF (Constituency Development Fund)

According to Van Zyl,(2010), Constituency Development Funds CDFs are funding arrangements that channel money from central government directly to electoral constituencies for local infrastructure projects. Decisions about how these funds are allocated and spent are heavily influenced by elected members of parliament MPs. The degree to which these funds are controlled by parliamentarians, and the degree to which local citizens participate in them, vary from country to country.

According to his hard-hitting paper, the defining feature of CDFs is that MPs have substantial control over the distribution and application of centrally allocated funds, a significant break from their primary lawmaking and oversight roles. It has been argued that CDFs can address a number of development and governance challenges that many countries face. This brief argues that CDFs purport to: ensure project delivery in the face of ineffective and corrupt local government structures, bypass local bureaucracies and channel funding directly to community level, enable the participation of the local population in the choice of which local infrastructure is delivered, empower the legislature by allowing them to allocate and spend money independently of the executive, and allow MPs to respond directly to concrete demands from their constituents, something that they may not be powerful enough to make the executive do. None of which they do according to him.

The CDF Act of 2003, in Kenya defines the CDF as a decentralized or devolved fund aimed at controlling the imbalances in regional development brought about by partisan politics. It targets all constituency level development projects particularly those aiming to combat poverty at the grassroots. It was also created to off-load fundraising burden from MPs, ensure citizen participation through decision making in project identification, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and to change development focus from district to constituency. (TISA, 2011)
2.2 Theoretical Framework

The main purpose of theory is to describe, explain and predict relationships between variables. This research will be anchored on Decentralization Theory and Participatory Communication Theory respectively.

2.2.1 Decentralization Theory

It adopted Rohit Khare’s definition of decentralization: "A decentralized system is one which requires multiple parties to make their own independent decisions” In a decentralized system, there is no single centralized authority that makes decisions on behalf of all the parties. Instead each party, also called a peer, makes local autonomous decisions towards its individual goals which may possibly conflict with those of other peers. Peers directly interact with each other and share information or provide service to other peers. Decentralization in any area is a response to the problems of centralized systems. In decentralization the principle of subsidiarity often is invoked. It holds that the lowest or least centralized authority which is capable of addressing an issue effectively should do so.

Advocates of political decentralization hold that greater participation by better informed diverse interests in society will lead to more relevant decisions than those made only by authorities on the national level. Decentralization leads to a “Management by Results" philosophy which focuses on definite objectives to be achieved by unit results.(Wikipedia, 2013).
2.2.2 Participatory Communication Theory

Mefalopulos (2003) defines Participatory communication as “a term that denotes the theory and practices of communication used to involve people in the decision-making of the development process.” The term community originates from the Latin word ‘communis’ that is, ‘common’ (Mody, 1991). Mefalopulos argues that the purpose of communication should therefore be “to make something common, or to share meanings, perceptions, worldviews or knowledge”. In this context, sharing implies an equitable division of what is being shared, which is why according to him, communication should almost be naturally associated with a balanced, two-way flow of information.

“Participatory communication is an approach based on dialogue, which allows the sharing of information, perceptions and opinions among the various stakeholders and thereby facilitates their empowerment, especially for those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Participatory communication is not just the exchange of information and experiences: it is also the exploration and generation of new knowledge aimed at addressing situations that need to be improved. To be genuinely participatory and truly effective, communication should occur among all parties.
CHAPTER THREE
METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter contains a description of the methodology that was used in this study. It also includes the procedure that was used for collecting data and how the data was analyzed.

3.2 Research Design

The study involved both qualitative and quantitative research methods for the following reasons: This being a scientific study, it should be possible to generate similar results if a replica study on the same subject was undertaken even in another setting, time and place. Some of the variables in the study like attitudes, perceptions, tastes and preferences were necessary to establish from selected respondents in the course of the study in order to give it the necessary completeness and validity.

3.3 Site Selection

The research was limited to Baringo Central Constituency because it is representative of a typical constituency in Kenya. The investigation was about aspects of the Constituency Development Fund hence a case study of Baringo Central Constituency was appropriate. Baringo Central Constituency has been a regular recipient of CDF resources since the inception of CDF in Kenya in 2003. It is an area well known to the researcher who is a local.

3.4 Site Description

Baringo Central Constituency is found in Baringo County 297 Kilometres to the North-West of the Kenyan capital Nairobi. It lies 138 Kilometres North-West of Nakuru Town, the provincial capital of the Rift Valley Province of Kenya. It’s located
along the Tugen Hills, a ridge at the heart of the Kerio Valley located right in the middle of the Great Rift Valley. It is bordered by Baringo North Constituency to the North, Baringo South Constituency to the East, Keiyo South Constituency to the West, Eldama Ravine and Mogotio constituencies to the South respectively. It hosts Kabarnet Town which is also the Baringo County Headquarters and Sacho, home of retired second President of Kenya and former KANU President H.E Hon. Daniel T. Arap Moi who was the local MP for 47 yrs (1955-2002). The current MP is Hon. Sammy SK Mwaita of URP who is in his second term as MP.

Figure 3.1 Map of Baringo Central Constituency
**Figure 3.2  Baringo Central Bio Data**

**Baringo Central Constituency**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituency No:</th>
<th>0159</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County:</td>
<td>Baringo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population:</td>
<td>81,480 (National 2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area:</td>
<td>588.52 Sq. Km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of County Assembly Wards:</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**County Assembly Wards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Population (2009 National Census)</th>
<th>Area (Sq. Km)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Kabarnet</td>
<td>23,430</td>
<td>165.68</td>
<td>Lelmen, Kapyemit, Salawa, Kimo, Sironoi, Kibo, Moloi, Seguton, Kewano and Kapchepet Sub–Locations of Baringo County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sacho</td>
<td>15,230</td>
<td>105.98</td>
<td>Kaptuno, Saimet, Kapkelelwa, Kaptiriony, Kaplel, Kasetan, Kabarak, Timboiywo and Kabasis Sub–Locations of Baringo County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tenges</td>
<td>9,567</td>
<td>123.94</td>
<td>Eitui, Cheplambus, Koibarak, Ochii, Tabarin, Kisonoi, Kibi, Tenges and Sorok Sub–Locations of Baringo County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ewalel/ Chapchap</td>
<td>17,021</td>
<td>96.57</td>
<td>Kituro, Kaptumo, Kipkaech, Kaptorokkwi/Kitumbe, Seretunin, Kapkiai, Chebuynur, Tiriony and Morop Sub–Locations of Baringo County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kapropita</td>
<td>16,232</td>
<td>96.35</td>
<td>Riwo, Chebano, Kinyo, Kapso/Borowonin, Kapcherebet/Turkoo, Kaprogonya, Kurbumpsoo and Sagasak Sub–Locations of Baringo County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC website.)
According to statistics available at the IEBC in Baringo Central Constituency, the total population of registered voters in the 2013 General Election for Baringo Central was 29,229. The distribution of voters per ward was as follows: Kabarnet Ward 9,500 voters, Ewalel Chapchap voters 6,359 voters, Kapropita 5,638 voters, Sacho 3,884 voters and Tenges Ward 3,848 voters respectively.

### 3.5 Sampling Technique and Sample Size

The target population for this study was the registered voters of Baringo Central Constituency. The study included sampled voters from Baringo Central Constituency. This study focused on Baringo Central Constituency because it is representative of a typical rural Kenyan constituency expected to develop rapidly courtesy CDF intervention(s). A sample of 2,923 registered voters representing 10% of the voting population going by the current voter register in Baringo Central Constituency which stands at 29,229 (twenty nine thousand, two hundred and twenty nine) voters was selected at random. For descriptive statistics, ten percent of the accessible population is enough. (Mugenda A. G. & Mugenda O. M., 1999).

A sample of 2,923 (two thousand, nine hundred and twenty three) voters were captured in the study using a self administered questionnaire. 41 (forty one) organized groups comprising voters were also used in the study through focused group discussions. A further sample of 6 (six) voters were selected conveniently by virtue of their being managers of CDF (past and present) to respond to CDF management questions. A ratio of registered voters in every ward was used to get the sample for that ward depending on the voter population in that particular ward and it was (1:1:1.5:1.6:2) (Tenges:Sacho:Kapropita:Ewalel / Chapchap:Kabarnet) wards respectively.

Stratified Random Sampling was employed in the sampling frame because respondents varied from each other and differed in rank. The purpose of using the method of sampling proposed was to ensure that the respondent’s demographics were well captured and that the sample was representative of the targeted population. This was not be the rule however because the convenient / purposive sampling had to be employed to meet practical situations in the field or for logistical and convenience
purposes such as was the case in order to get the CDF managers. The sampling methods mimicked the geographical voter population patterns as they are currently spread across the constituency to avoid the risk of leaving out a section of voters in the study.

For the purpose of getting a holistic picture, the main respondents in this study were voters in Baringo Central Constituency but other stakeholders were also involved to complete the picture. These will included, some CDFC members, some CDF managers, other major stakeholders like the former and current Area MP (or their representatives), some members of the Provincial Administration, Government Heads of Department, Officials and Officers of government, some of many PMC members, local NGOs, CBOs, SHGs, Youth and Women Groups, local administrative, religious and political leadership.

3.6 Research Instruments

This study involved the use of a questionnaire to capture some of the data meant to answer some of the research questions out of: The variety of answers required of a single respondent. The convenience of the questionnaire method to the respondent and / or to the researcher / research assistant. The need to reduce study time. Using questionnaires, it was possible for many respondents to give their answers simultaneously and within a short time. The need to drastically cut on costs such as traveling and accommodation expenses for the researcher and his team.

Focused Group Discussions was employed in the course of this investigation because: Some respondents talk and contribute their true feelings and expectations better and more freely in the comfort and company of their peers. FGDs makes it possible to collect a lot of information and data important to the research question(s) / objective(s) in one sitting hence making optimal use of resources (time and money) spent in the field collecting data so that time saved can be dedicated to a more thorough analysis and interpretation of the findings.

Use of one-on-one interviews was employed in this study because: It was necessary to establish a rapport with some of the respondents because some questions were be
personal or required personal views / interpretations. Some of the expected responses required to be told in total anonymity to protect the source(s). There was certain information some of the respondents preferred to voice rather than write / fill on a questionnaire. There were some questions that required tact on the part of the researcher in order to elicit the desired response. In order to fill some gaps where respondents needed more explanations about the research questions or how to fill the questionnaire. Capturing the sentiments of illiterate voters using the citizen questionnaire was one such reason.

However, this study only limited the use of this type of instrument to selected cases such as when the researcher came across an illiterate respondent who needed assistance to fill the questionnaire or an enthusiastic one who was very willing to volunteer more information relevant to the study.

3.7 Data Validity and Reliability

Testing the validity and reliability of instruments was done using friends of the researcher for each instrument employed in data collection. It was ascertained that the instruments were effective and relevant corrections made to the study instruments that were found defective.

3.8 Ethical Issues

The researcher sought a letter from the University of Nairobi to School of Journalism. The letter helped the researcher for introduction. The researcher sought the informants consent and maintained a high level of confidentiality based on the sensitivity of the information given. They were also informed of the purpose of the study and promised to be debriefed on the study findings.

3.9 Data Analysis

The data was analyzed using various techniques of descriptive statistics and inferences made from described data.
CHAPTER FOUR
FINDINGS, DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

4.1 Introduction

This Chapter describes the findings as well as respondent’s demographic characteristics and where they are drawn from within Baringo Central Constituency using descriptive statistics.

4.1.1 Distribution of Respondents by Age

Table 4.1 Distribution of Respondents by Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Kabarnet Ward</th>
<th>Ewalel/Chapchap Ward</th>
<th>Kapropita Ward</th>
<th>Sacho Ward</th>
<th>Tenges Ward</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-44</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-49</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-54</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 &amp; Above</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Response</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>2,923</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More than half of the respondents were below 45 yrs which is encouraging because this was the enthusiastic group. More than 70% of them were below 50 yrs. Those of retirement age and beyond did not appear very keen to respond to the research questions.
4.1.2 Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Men were slightly more than women but they were the keener in the study offering detailed answers and more explanations than their male counterparts. They made perfect candidates for focused group discussions a strategy that is advisable for future researchers who wish to study a similar topic.

Table 4.2 Distribution of Respondents by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Kabarnet Ward</th>
<th>Ewalel/Chapchap Ward</th>
<th>Kapropita Ward</th>
<th>Sacho Ward</th>
<th>Tenges Ward</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>1,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>615</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>1,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1054</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>2,923</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1.3 Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status

Table 4.3 Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Kabarnet Ward</th>
<th>Ewalel/Chapchap Ward</th>
<th>Kapropita Ward</th>
<th>Sacho Ward</th>
<th>Tenges Ward</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>1,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>1,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Response</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>2,923</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Majority of the respondents were married. This is explained by the local culture that frowns upon bachelors. The people of Baringo Central hold the institution of marriage in high esteem. Many of the respondents were young and this explains the high number of the unmarried. A significant number of respondents were reluctant to reveal their marital status.
4.1.4 Distribution of Respondents by Level of Education

Table 4.4 Distribution of Respondents by Level of Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
<th>Kabarnet Ward</th>
<th>Ewalel/Chapchap Ward</th>
<th>Kapropita Ward</th>
<th>Sacho Ward</th>
<th>Tenges Ward</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>1011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Response</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>854</strong></td>
<td><strong>627</strong></td>
<td><strong>523</strong></td>
<td><strong>483</strong></td>
<td><strong>436</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,923</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It’s apparent from the distribution of respondents by age that the literacy levels of respondents are generally high. More than half of them were of secondary level of education and above with quite a number of them being degree holders. It was noted during the study that the illiterate voters were generally wary of the questionnaire perhaps because they found it embarrassing that they were unable to fill them in person.

4.1.5 Distribution of Respondents by Occupation

Table 4.5 Distribution of Respondents by Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Employed</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>1,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>942</strong></td>
<td><strong>568</strong></td>
<td><strong>514</strong></td>
<td><strong>501</strong></td>
<td><strong>398</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,923</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A majority of the respondents were self-employed with quite a good number of the remaining being employed. A few of them were unemployed. This may be explained by their youthful ages as it appears many have opted for self employment rather than idle job seeking.

### 4.1.6 Distribution of Respondents by Religion

Table 4.6 Distribution of Respondents by Religion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Kabarnet Ward</th>
<th>Ewalel/Chapchap Ward</th>
<th>Kapropita Ward</th>
<th>Sacho Ward</th>
<th>Tenges Ward</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Catholic</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>1,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Protestant</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>1,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>712</strong></td>
<td><strong>595</strong></td>
<td><strong>637</strong></td>
<td><strong>505</strong></td>
<td><strong>474</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,923</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Baringo Central is predominantly a Christian Community with a sprinkling of the Muslim community who are mainly resident in Kabarnet town. Other religions are insignificant in number and the study has perfectly illustrated that truth.

### 4.1.7 Characteristics of Manager Respondents Covered in Study

Of the six manager respondents captured in the study, two of them were female and four were male. Two of them had masters, two of them had at least a first degree and three of them had at least a diploma. One of them at has been a member of the CDFC, two them have been at least a CDF official and two of them have at least worked as the MPs representative.

One of them has been a PMC member at one time. Two of them come from Kabarnet Ward and the others come from the other four remaining wards namely: Sacho,
Tenges, Ewalel / Chapchap and Kapropita wards of the constituency respectively. They were unanimous that public barazas is the most appropriate medium of reaching out to citizens for effective participatory communication in the management of CDF.

4.1.8 Characteristics of Citizen Respondents Covered in FGDs

The 41 groups covered in the study within the study period can be broadly categorized into nine categories. The first category is that of female youth approximately aged between 18 and 35 years of age. The second category is that of the male youth aged approximately between 18 and 35 years of age. The third category is that of the old men of approximately over 35 years of age. The fourth category is the old women aged approximately over 35 years of age. The fifth category is that of men of mixed ages. The sixth category is that of women of mixed ages.

The seventh category is that of a mixture of youthful males and females. The eighth category is that of a mixture of old men and women of approximately 35 years and above. The ninth category is that of persons who cannot be categorized into any of the groups described above. The researcher used convenient sampling as a strategy in the study by mixing with the target groups in informal settings and broaching the study subject once he had established a rapport with them. However, some of the groups which were organized such as women groups, youth groups, CBOs and self-help groups were aware of the research objectives and organized a meeting with the researcher well in advance.

4.2 Extent of Participatory Communication in the Management of CDF

A majority of the citizen respondents 78% said that they were aware that they should participate in the management of CDF. However, many of them 76% felt discouraged that they were not invited to participate in the management of CDF by CDF managers. According to the respondents, the lack of invitation posed a serious challenge to their enthusiasm to participate in the management of CDF because it made them feel unwanted. It emerged during focused discussions that CDF was viewed as an exclusive members club and the phrase “Hiyo kitu iko na wenyewe” “That thing has its owners” came up on many occasions.
Another major challenge to participatory communication that emerged is the issue of lack of sufficient communication from the managers of CDF about its activities. 70% of citizen respondents said that they have never received any form of direct communication from CDF managers about CDF activities. Asked about the frequency of receipt of CDF communication, few of them admitted to having ever received any form of direct communication from CDF managers. “We are totally in the dark about what is going on in these devolved funds!” volunteered one of the respondents during a focused group discussion. “Sisi ni kushangiliatu!” “We have been reduced to mere spectators and cheering squads!” he quipped.

When asked about which strategies they had laid out to ensure citizen participation in the management of CDF, the manager respondents cited devolution of decision making powers to the location as one of those strategies. They cited chiefs barazas convened in the locations for citizens to prioritize and manage their own projects. A majority of the manager’s respondents agreed that they were aware that citizens should be involved in the management of CDF.

CDF managers who responded to the question of direct communication said that they usually involve opinion leaders through phone whenever there was need to convey a message to the people and that way they managed to reach all citizens. All the manager respondents in the study supported the idea that the best channel of communication to employ in order to reach a majority if not all the citizens with their communication on CDF activities was through the use of public barazas. However, none of them specified how many times or how frequently the messages should be relayed to the citizens or how many meetings organized for them per month to create a forum for citizen engagement on issues concerning CDF.

The CDF manager who responded also cited the use of CDF notice boards mounted in every location to which they posted regular updates of their activities as another strategy for reaching citizens with CDF information but this was refuted by the citizen respondents many of whom claimed never to have seen even a single notice board in their locations. Those who admitted to having seen them claimed that there was only one CDF notice board at the chief’s office and suggested that the CDF managers ought to have gone a step further and mounted some at the sub-location or village level in order for more people to access CDF information. A majority of the
citizens respondents expressed their reservations about the role of chiefs whom they accused of personalizing the CDF programmes and projects at the expense of the intended CDF beneficiaries. They were also blamed for the rampant corruption in CDF.

“Hawa machief watolewe kabisa katika CDF, kazi yao iwe ni kudumisha amani tu kwa mikutano ya CDF” “Let these chief’s be removed from CDF administration, their role during CDF meetings should be confined to providing security only” one of the citizen’s suggested during one of the focused group discussion. Some of the strategies employed by the CDF managers in their communication to citizens about CDF activities is the use of informal public gatherings and meetings to pass information. Paul Lazarsfeld in *The Peoples Choice Study* of 1940 on *Two-Step Flow of Information* found that the use of opinion leaders to convey information to an intended audience was not as effective as earlier imagined because the message got more and more distorted as it was passed down from one person to another.

The strategy to use local radio stations according to some of the manager respondents had the short coming of reaching only radio audiences leaving those who seldom tuned radio out. It also had the disadvantage of reaching those who tuned in to particular radio stations (usually vernacular or *Swahili* FM stations) leaving those who listened to alternative radio stations unaware of what is happening in CDF.

Another strategy used by CDF managers to communicate to citizens is the use of political rallies. However, this has the major disadvantages of being a partisan affair hence those who may be of a different political affiliation may not attend the rally of a rival party or be privy to the proceedings of such a rally. Whereas citizen and manager respondents were unanimous that public barazas were the most viable channel of communication to disseminate, discuss and agree on CDF issues, the study reveals that the CDF managers do not have a structured approach to organizing, planning and executing such barazas and only take advantage of informal public gatherings such as a political rallies, fund raising (harambee) functions and chiefs barazas to pass on important CDF information.

This means that the managers wait upon a chance in order to pass on critical information about CDF to the citizens thus denying them the right to make informed choices based on reliable, timely and factual information and communication from
CDF managers, who are the sole custodians of CDF the same. Based on these findings from the study, it is clear that the extent of participation communication in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency is still quite low.

Based on the fact that each of the strategies employed by CDF managers on Baringo central namely: public barazas, chiefs barazas, political rallies, informal public gatherings and CDF location notice boards are all inherently defective and suffer from overwhelming weaknesses, the study concludes that the level of participatory communication has been greatly compromised and its extent remains very low as a result.

76% of the citizen respondents said that they have never been invited to participate in the management of CDF. 24% of them admitted to having been invited at least once. 70 % of citizen respondents said that they have never received any form of direct communication with only 30% admitting to having received such communication at least once. 78% of the citizen respondents said that they were aware that they should be involved in the management of CDF and only 22% admitted that they were not aware about their role in the management of CDF.

The study reveals that the main reason for their lack of involvement is the fact that they were not invited into the deliberations of CDF and the general treatment they have received from CDF managers is that of alienation rather than inclusion in a culture of “them against us”. There is a lot of suspicion about what could be going on in CDF according to one of the citizen respondents in one of the focused group discussions “This has been fueled by the high level of secrecy maintained by CDF managers in Baringo central” he explained. This is the plausible explanation behind the pro-MP and Pro-CDF Officials’ respondents who viewed the study objectives with a lot of suspicion. It also explains why those respondents perceived to be anti-establishment embraced the study objectives without any reservations.
4.2.1 Respondents Answer to the Question of Participation in CDF Management

Figure 4.1 Respondents Answer to the Question of Participation in CDF Management.

Respondents were asked whether they had ever been invited by CDF managers to participate in the management of CDF and 24% of them said that they had been invited to participate in the management of CDF. 76% of them said they have never been invited to participate in the management of CDF. This calls for a follow up study to establish why because public participation is an integral part of the CDF Act.
4.2.2 Respondents Answer to the Question of Participatory Communication in CDF

Respondents were then asked whether they had ever received any form of communication from the CDF managers. 70% of the respondents said they had never received any communication from CDF management and only 30% replied in the affirmative. The ones who replied in the negative were disappointed that the CDF managers had ignored them, their needs and wishes by not bothering to reach out to them using any direct communication.
4.2.3 Respondents Answer to the Question of Awareness of Their Management Role in CDF

Figure 4.3 Respondents Answer to the Question of Awareness of Their Management Role in CDF.

On the issue of CDF management, respondents were further asked whether they were aware that they should be involved in the management of CDF. 78% replied in the affirmative while 22% replied that they were not aware that they were supposed to be involved in the management of CDF. This raises the question as to why they are not involved yet many of them are indeed aware of this crucial role that they should be playing. Policy makers should not assume that everyone knows their role and laws should specifically target citizens with sufficient information on their role.

4.3 Major Challenges to Participatory Communication in the Management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency

When asked what they thought made it difficult for CDF managers to communicate to them. The citizen respondents cited political interference by powerful politicians particularly the area MP who controlled the message(s), pieces of information and types of communication being transmitted to the citizens. Use of inappropriate or
unpopular channels of communication such as “kokile” or “Hearsay” to reach the citizens. Some CDF managers lack the requisite communication skills and technologies that are popular with the citizens such as the mobile phone, internet and social media and they’re yet to adopt them for official use. This is according to one of the tech savvy citizen respondents in one the focused group discussions. “These managers are so ‘analogue’ and are still steeped in the old ways of doing things” he said.

Other challenges to participatory communication in the management of CDF identified by citizen respondents include lack of a mobile network signal at their place of work or where they live hence their inability to makes calls and get to know what is happening or access messages, facebook or twitter updates and other forms of communications through channels available to them or those they can afford to use. CDF managers were also said to be reluctant to involve citizens in CDF affairs.

The perception of citizens as trouble makers and rabble rousers by the CDF management is also another challenge. They would rather make decisions without involving citizens for fear of being reported, exposed for their corrupt activities. Claims of fraud were also cited by one of the citizen respondents as a challenge to free and interactive communications between CDF managers and citizens. “Most projects funded by CDF are conduits for siphoning public resources therefore citizens are avoided during planning” he alleged. Many citizen respondents were unanimous that lack of official communications from the managers of CDF was a main challenge to participatory communication in the management of CDF.

Other challenges according to citizen respondents include the lack of proper organization by the CDF managers who do not have a budget, plan or any communication strategy in place to ensure a constant flow of information amongst CDF stakeholders leading to needles speculations about what is going on at the CDF. Lack of decentralized structures of CDF within the constituency where citizens can easily access information and communication was cited as another of the challenge. “Sio kila mtu anaweza kufika Kabarnet” “not everyone can reach the CDF office located in Kabarnet town.” cautioned one citizen respondent during a focused discussion.

Notices of CDF meetings are not given in good time causing many citizens to proceed with other activities they had earlier planned leading to poor turnouts for such
meetings which should ideally have been used to directly engage a maximum number of citizens. Some CDF managers are not known, not available or accessible to citizens causing major barriers to stakeholder communication and engagement with CDF management.

Ineffective communication from the CDF managers or communication that appears to have been given in a half-hearted manner or one which seems directed at no one in particular or one whose primary objective is vague or not clear enough ends up discouraging citizens from participating or committing themselves to such meetings to logical conclusion. “Why would the CDF managers opt to drop hints instead of hitting the nail on the head? What is there to hide?” posed a respondent in one of the focused group discussions.

Inadequate staffing at the CDF office was cited as another serious challenge to participatory communication because the few employees are then forced to constantly resort to multi-tasking hence, none of them is available to handle communication issues whenever they arise. Communication to and with stakeholders also suffers because the employees are always pressed for time since they have many things to do at a go which require their attention simultaneously.

“The fact that there is no Communication Officer, Liaison Officer or Public Relations Officer or Public Relations / Communications office within the CDF arrangement is in itself clear testimony that no one takes stakeholders engagement seriously in CDF.” explained one of the citizen respondents. Quite a good number of the citizen respondents were at a loss as to what makes it difficult for CDF managers to communicate effectively to them given that they are ever ready to engage them constructively over CDF issues. In fact they (the citizen respondents) seemed to be seeking answers as to why the managers appear reluctant to talk to them.

“Hata sisi tanushangaa kwa nini hawataki kuutoongeleisha, CDF ni pesa ya umma na sisi ndio umma!” “Even us we are wondering why CDF managers don’t want to talk to us, CDF is public money and we are the people” replied one of the citizen respondents when pressed to answer the study questions. “Hawataki ukweli” “They don’t want transparency” offered another one. Poor leadership skills were also cited as a major challenge to participatory communication. “There is no chain of command or unity of command at the CDF office” claimed one of the respondents “Kila mtu ni
shagala pagala huko na kila mtu ni mkubwa kivyake!” “There is no semblance of order there (at the CDF office) and everyone is a boss in his or her own small turf” she explained.

“There seems to be a policy of secrecy as no one at the CDF office appears willing to provide citizens and other stakeholders with the information or communication they require” lamented a citizen respondent. “Kama hata MCAna chiefs hawajui ni nini inaendelea kwa CDF, wewe ni nani ndio uambiwe?” “If the MCA and chiefs have no idea what is happening at the CDF, who are you to be told?” asked a respondent in one of the focused group discussions. “It’s like they have taken an oath to see no evil, hear no evil and say no evil” volunteered another one.

Job insecurity at the CDF office was also cited as a major barrier to participatory communication at the CDF. “Boss ukirobokwa ovyo ovyo kwa hiyo ofisi ya CDF utamwaga unga!” “If you volunteer information freely in the CDF office you will lose your job” explained a citizen respondent. The study revealed that lack of political good will by the MP, his allies and supporters forces the CDF managers to always seek directions and cues from him before communicating to CDF stakeholders and citizens hence delaying urgent business or giving mixed signals when clear cut answers are needed. “In CDF what the mp says is law but what the law says is nothing!” commented a respondent in one of the focused group discussions. “CDF is totally controlled by the MP” he concluded.

The study revealed that CDF managers are only preoccupied with protecting their vested political and personal interests at the expense of the citizens’ interests hence their reluctance to involve citizens in the management of CDF through effective information and communication. The study revealed that the constituency is characterized by a vast expansive terrain and its roads are some of the worst roads in the countrymaking communication a major challenge to execute successfully.

Lack of coordination between the CDF managers and the citizens was cited as another challenge to participatory communication. Some CDF managers are from outside the constituency hence they do not understand local contexts of things and people. Vis – a - Vis established local traditions, rituals, precedents and culture. CDF managers must submit and literally kowtow to the sitting MP for fear of contradicting him which automatically leads to an eventual fallout with him inviting dire consequences.
The CDF does not have structures and mechanisms in place purposely created to facilitate a constant supply of truthful, consistent and reliable information and communication such as a regular in-house journal or a regularly updated website. There is no literature on Baringo Central CDF such as its own brochures, booklets or pamphlets giving its history, current activities or future plans, “Eng’ CDF ko kukuk kiy age tugul” “At the CDF office, everything is hide and seek. If you’re looking for something, you’re not sure of where you are going to get it” declared one of the citizen respondents.

The study revealed that there exists no officially known and approved feedback mechanism apart from the MPs mobile number which ironically could go unanswered when one needs attention most according to one of the citizen respondents. “Hii number ya mbunge ni mteja kwa miaka tano kwa sababu inaisha na kura” “The MPs mobile number is not available for the entire 5 years term because communication ends immediately after election” declared one of the citizen respondents in a focused group discussion. “The only other available option of responding to ones queries when one fails to get a satisfactory answer is to complain to the EACC or express ones issuesthrough the press” shared another citizen respondent.

The study revealed that there is open bias by CDF managers when issuing, receiving or processing official communication concerning the fund due to political considerations. Failure to toe the MPs party line and party position on any issue leads to one being automatically targeted for sidelining and being turned into an object of derision and ridicule.“Unakosea mkubwa ndio uende wapi nayeye ndio kusema?” “If you mess with the boss where do you plan to go yet the MP is the Alpha and Omega!” posed one of the citizen respondents in a focused group discussion. “Yeye ndio baba na mama!” “He is everything!” offered another one.

“Kuna shida kibao!” “There are a myriad problems” declared a citizen respondent. “Kuguza mambo ya CDF ni kukanyaga live-wire ya mheshimiwa!” “To discuss CDF issues is to step on the sensitive toes of the MP” said another citizen respondent. Their insinuation was that all the CDF communication issues emanated from one source and would be cured by the same source which happened to be the MP. “CDF and the area MP are like conjoined twins!” explained one of the citizen respondents. You cannot
separate one of them without threatening the survival of both of them, “they are one and the same thing!” she concluded.

Nepotism and favoritism were cited by one of the citizen respondents as some of the challenges to participatory communication. “If you’re not a friend or relative of the CDF managers then you’re unlikely to get the communication or information you’re seeking from the CDF office” he said. The CDF managers are not willing to inform or educate the citizens about their role in the management of the kitty. Lack of tolerance to accommodate the inquiries of citizens about the progress of CDF projects and programmes was cited as a major hindrance to participatory communication in the management of CDF by one of the citizen respondents.

Failure to hold regular public forums to inform, educate and communicate the CDF vision, mission and activities has often led to lack of inclusion of citizens in the management of CDF” said one of the citizen respondents. “The only thing I get to hear about CDF is when they’re disbursing bursaries. Issues of project prioritization, implementation, monitoring and evaluation are as silent as the letter “K” in the word KNOW” he added.

“All CDF communication appears classified and some information cannot be released even when requested for without the express permission of the area MP.” Volunteered a citizen respondent “CDF managers only provide information and communication to citizens upon request but not as a right,” claimed another. “Lack of professionalism in the management of CDF has greatly hampered participatory communication because CDF managers lack etiquette and decorum when answering the calls of citizens or when addressing their needs” said one of the citizen respondents.

“Stakeholders show little interest in the CDF projects and some stakeholders do not take their time to read and understand written communication directed at them” said one of the manager respondents. “Some stakeholders fail to attend CDF meetings hence missing the opportunity to receive reports on the progress of CDF projects, and a chance to communicate their concerns to CDF managers” she added.

One of the manager respondents blamed political interference, ignorance by the constituents about the CDF, what he termed as the “I don’t care attitude” among the constituents, illiteracy, inferiority complex, and high levels of poverty as reasons for
the lack of meaningful participatory communication by citizens in CDF activities. “Most constituents have no idea of CDF activities because they’re not concerned with what is happening in the CDF office with many of them too preoccupied with struggling to meet their basic wants, needs and necessities to bother about CDF affairs” he explained.

“Most citizens are not aware of their role in the management of CDF” added another manager respondent. “Lack of transparency and accountability in the management of CDF affairs greatly undermines participatory communication in the management of CDF” volunteered another manager respondent. “This is the primary cause of lack of openness in the conduct of CDF and PMC members with regard to CDF projects and activities” he elaborated. “There is no money set aside for the sole purpose of ensuring effective communication between the CDF managers, stakeholders in general and citizens in particular” shared one of the manager respondents.

4.4 Discrepancies That Hinder Participatory Communication in the Management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency

“The CDF is still under the control of the MP who is a politician hence the danger that he can sideline some citizens because they are not in the same party or of the same shade of political opinion with him.” said one of the citizen respondents. “The MP is too powerful (going by the current CDF ACT, 2013) hence he can influence which area(s) of the constituency to allocate more resources and which area(s) he can deny CDF support leaving some of the citizens feeling estranged, left out and frustrated” explained one citizen respondent.

“The provision that allows an elected MP to manage CDF violates the Constitution of Kenya which clearly mandates county governments to manage all devolved funds through the County Governments Act, Commission on Revenue Allocation Act and other relevant acts of parliament and articles of the constitution” claimed a citizen respondent. “The law does not mandate or direct the CDF managers to convey the CDF progress reports to the citizens, yet they are the main stakeholders and primary target of the fund” added another one.
4.4.1 Respondents Answer to the Question of CDF Laws

Figure 4.4 Respondents Answer to the Question of CDF Laws.

“‘There is no law that mandates or directs the CDF managers to release information and communication to citizens hence the reluctance and laxity by the CDF managers to release the information and communication requested by citizens’ offered one of the citizen respondents in the study. ‘The law does not provide for an elaborate monitoring and evaluation mechanism to empower citizens interrogate, monitor and evaluate CDF priorities, projects, programmes and activities’ volunteered a citizen respondent.

“There is no part in the CDF Act 2013 that expressly mandates CDF managers to release CDF progress reports, CDF audit reports or any other CDF information for that matter to citizens. This greatly undermines their monitoring role” said a citizen respondent. “The part that grants the MP powers to appoint the eight member CDFC...
from the forwarded list of five persons each from each of the respective wards of the
county has ensured that the MP can pick his cronies to the committee who more
often than not do not have the public good at heart because they owe their
appointment to the MP even though they may otherwise have not qualified for such an
appointment” added another one.

Though only two out of the six CDF managers interviewed by the study admitted that
they have never read the CDF Act 2003, its amended version (the CDF Act of 2007)
or the latest CDF Act 2013, it was surprising that none of them was ready to volunteer
their opinions on the laws they considered as obstacles to effective participatory
communication in the management of the fund in Baringo central. This appeared to
lend credence to the claim by some of the citizen respondents that any information
released without the blessing of the area MP would result in the concerned CDF
manager being victimized through punitive transfers or being falsely accused of
“gross misconduct” and the resultant disciplinary measures being taken against them
that could even result in loss of their jobs.

**Role of Citizens in CDF**

According to the CDF Act 2013, the role of citizens is to turn up and participate in
public forums convened by the CDFC, the area MP and the Sub County
Administrator to deliberate on development matters in ward and constituency to come
up with a list of priority project(s) for the financial year to be submitted to the CDFC,
to participate in project implementation through provision of locally available
resources (land, materials, labour or skills), voluntarily or for pay, to provide feedback
to The Board and law enforcement agencies on matters concerning the fund.

Monitor implementation of projects the citizen will limited to making complaints, and
giving feedback to the board law enforcement agencies concerning the fund and to
make complaints while the work of the CDFC is “to monitor the implementation of
projects.” This means that the citizens are reduced to mere spectators only waiting to
make complaints while the CDFC monitors itself.

**Grey areas in CDF ACT 2013**

The citizen is not recognized as a part of CDFs organizational structure (only being
mentioned as key players in CDF). The act ought to have placed the citizen at the
center of its structure but it hasn’t. Furthermore, the role of citizens in CDF is limited to what “the show runners” will prompt them to do or wish them to do but largely the action will be limited to the named “show runners” in the CDF structure.

The immense powers under which its precursor (the CDF Act 2003), amended 2007 placed upon the area MP are still intact, hidden under rhetoric’s and semantics such as “the MP shall appoint in consultation with.” It still allows the MP to make the law (legislate), implement it, oversee his own implementation of it, monitor and evaluate himself through structures he has full, or near absolute control of.

The Ward Administrator or Ward Representative has no role in the management of CDF (much as the ward is recognized as a unit for the purpose of project identification, planning, prioritization, implementation and appraisal.) The person preferred by the citizen to be part of the CDF committee may not make it to the list of eight members to be appointed to the CDFC due to the political wishes, whims and designs of the MP as citizens only choose indirectly and have no control whatsoever of who the MP ultimately appoints to join the CDFC making the election of the prospective 5 persons a sham of no practical use.

The act says nothing about the fate of the remaining four who will not make it to the committee bringing to question the purpose of electing them in the first place. It doesn’t specify where the eight members of the CDF shall come from, leaving room for abuse of the appointment process that may result in poor representation of parts of the constituency based on politics. The act does not specify the criteria for electing PMC$s which are trusted with the use of virtually all the CDF monies giving room to manipulation in electing or appointing them and abuse of the resultant legal, policy and regulatory vacuums respectively by vested interests and its attendant perils key among them (corruption loopholes).

The penalties for theft, embezzlement or misappropriation of CDF funds remains as lenient as ever, setting the fund up for total misuse and abuse and hence defeating the purpose of its creation. The complex CDF structure and ambiguous legislation, devolves bureaucracy to the constituency and discourages citizen participation. The immense power wielded by the MP in the whole set up perpetuates The Messiah or Big Man “Dependency Syndrome” as the MP is still able to manipulate any aspect of CDF. He is still in full control of every operation within the CDF.
Unconstitutionality of CDF

In pursuance of its constitutional mandate, the CIC reviewed the CDF Act 2013 before it was passed into law by parliament and found that it was unconstitutional based on the following premises: Any projects that relate to functions within the exclusive competence of the County Government cannot be undertaken by an entity created and managed through the National Government as this is contrary to Article 6 of the Constitution which creates two levels of government. The Act does not respect the principle of separation of powers between the legislature and the executive.

The role of the National Assembly is to legislate and play an oversight role, it should not be engaged in implementation of projects as suggested by the CDF Act. The Act offends Article 202 (2) of the constitution which clearly stipulates that grants from the National Government can only be made to County Governments and not entities created in a Sub-County framework. The Act does not respect the provisions of Division of Revenue under Article 202 and 218 of the Constitution. Section 4 (a) of the CDF Act 2013 implies that the monies accruing to the Fund will be deducted from the revenue raised nationally before distribution of funds to the two levels of government. This is unconstitutional.

The Act ignores the Planning and Budgeting for Functions by each level of government required under Article 220 of the constitution, the PFM Act and the County Government Act which require an inclusive process of integrated planning from which a budget is formulated. The CDF Act runs counter to this process and that can lead to duplication of projects, misuse and misapplication of public resources.

In conclusion, the CIC noted that the CDF Act 2013 contained provisions that fundamentally undermined the Constitution of Kenya 2010 an in particular the devolved government system. It recommended that the CDF Act be halted to pave way for its review to ensure that it respects and facilitates devolution, the principle of separation of powers and other provisions of the constitution failing which the CIC feared would lead to wastage of public funds and disharmony in the process of implementation of the constitution. These concerns were raised by the CIC in a press release dated Wednesday the 17th of April 2013.
The conflict with the county government is ever present because CDF is not envisaged under the current constitution hence the citizen will unwittingly join a conflict in which he is the ultimate loser. The powers vested on the CDFFC to rank prioritized projects is quite mischievous and is open to political manipulation to delay funds for some projects as “the politically correct ones” are funded sufficiently and in time while the opposite prevails for projects targeted for political alienation. Part-funding is a perfect corruption loophole based on past experiences of collusion by agencies of individuals to defraud the fund.

The role of The Controller and Auditor General in auditing CDF appears only keen to hide the fraud and keep it far away from the public eye. The Auditor Generals reports are traditionally written in a superfluous language and heavily loaded with professional jargon that common folk will take ages to comprehend. Furthermore, they are never released to the public upon request. The part that grants the area MP powers to appoint the eight members of CDFFC from the forwarded list of five persons elected from each ward has ensured that the MP can only pick his cronies. “If the citizens were allowed to elect one person each from the five wards who would automatically be CDF members then public participation would be greatly enhanced” suggested a citizen respondent.

The MP has immense powers in virtually every aspect of CDF. The law should be changed to ensure that citizens control their money. Checks and balances are missing in this law making CDF open to abuse, mismanagement and corruption through lack of transparency and accountability. The CDF Act 2013 leaves out citizens who are the intended beneficiaries as it does not provide for citizen access to information held by the CDF managers for purposes of management, planning, implementation and evaluation of the kitty. It does not provide room for adequate participation hence it does not mandate the citizen to monitor and evaluate CDF managers.

On legal issues concerning CDF, respondents were asked whether they had ever read and understood the CDF Act 2003, its amended version (the CDF Act of 2007) or the latest CDF Act 2013. 35% affirmed to having read either the original CDF Act 2003 or its amended version of 2007 with the remaining 65% saying they have never read the Act but only 16% admitted to having read the CDF Act 2013; 84% admitted that they have never read the CDF Act 2013. This means that a majority of people do not
know or understand the laws and regulations governing CDF at all. It calls for further investigation in order to establish exactly why. Citizens have an important role especially project prioritization, monitoring and evaluation and but the revelation from the study that a majority do not have an idea about laws governing this fund is indeed worrying.
5.1 Introduction

This chapter gives a summary of the salient points of the study; lessons learned as well suggestions on the way forward regarding each of the three aspectsthis study which are: the extent of participatory communication, challenges to participatory communication and legal discrepancies that hinder participatory communication in the management CDF in Baringo Central in form of summary of the findings, conclusion and recommendations.

5.2 Summary of the Findings

5.2.1 The Extent of and Challenges to Participatory Communication in the Management of CDF in Baringo Central

The study found out that 78 % of the citizens who responded in the questionnaire survey are aware that they should participate in the management of CDF but according to the study only 24% of them have ever been invited to participate in the same with only 30% of them having received any form of direct communication at all from the CDF management. This means that the extent of participatory communication in the management of CDF in Baringo Central Constituency is quite low (at less than 30%). The respondents gave many and varied reasons as the challenges to participatory communication in the management of CDF while many wondered why CDF managers found it difficult to communicate to them about CDF activities.

Some of the challenges to participatory communication includepolitical interference by the MP who controls every aspect of CDF and retains sweeping powers in the management of CDF,political patronage and discrimination based on political considerations. Others arelack of inclusion by CDF management hence the citizens do not feel that they own the process,political vested interests getting in the way andlack
of official information and communication to members of the public regarding CDF issues.

Ignorance by the citizens about their roles, duties and responsibilities with regard to CDF, poor communication such as being in a remote area without mobile network signal or bad roads and residing far from the CDF office with no devolved CDF structures to the grassroots. Other challenges include poverty, which forces citizens to eke out a living at the expense of attending to CDF matters and disorganized and haphazard organization of CDF meetings by CDF management.

CDF managers who responded cited inadequate resources set aside for the sensitization of citizens, lack of transparency and accountability of some PMCs, lack of interest in CDF matters by some stakeholders, lack of commitment by those entrusted in supervising projects, lack of progress reporting mechanisms within CDF structures, politics, ignorance, illiteracy and poverty issues, lack of awareness by citizens on various aspects of CDF and the fact that most citizens do not attend public barazas meant to address CDF issues as some of the factors that hindered participatory communication in the management of CDF.

Many of the respondents preferred public barazas to other channels of communication as their preferred medium of communication with CDF managers because of its interactive nature that affords everyone a direct question and answer environment. They explained that public barazas was the best mode of communication as it would reach them at their locations rather than them seeking information from the CDF office which is far from where they normally live and work. They generally shunned the other channels because of issues of cost and unreliability.
5.2.2 Distribution of Respondents by Preferred Channel of Communication

Figure 4.5 Distribution of Respondents by Preferred channel of communication.

Many of the respondents preferred public barazas to other channels of communication as their preferred mode of communication with CDF managers because of its interactive nature that affords them a direct question and answer environment. They explained that public barazas were the best form of communication as it would reach them at their locations rather than them having to seek information from the CDF office which is far from where they live and work.
5.2.3 Legal Discrepancies That Hinder Participatory Communication in the Management of CDF in Baringo Central

35% of the respondents affirmed to having read and understood the original CDF Act 2003 or its amended version (the CDF Act 2007); 65% admitted not to having never read The Act. Only 16% of them affirmed to having read the CDF Act 2013; 84% admitted that they have never read the CDF Act 2013 hence many could not respond to the question of legal discrepancies that hindered participatory communication in the management of CDF. Of those who had read the CDF Act 2013, the following were some of the factors they cited as hindering participatory communication in the management of the fund: Lack of a legal provision giving CDF managers express powers to ensure public participation.

Conflict with other legal provisions such as the constitution which does not envision any other devolved fund to the counties apart from those disbursed to the counties through the Commission on Revenue Allocation. The role of citizens is not clearly defined by law hence there is no remedy for them being denied their right to participate in the management of the fund. The CDF Act has given absolute powers of management and control to the MP to the disadvantage of citizens or persons he or she may be out of favour with in the constituency. There are still too many loopholes that may easily lead to loss of funds through embezzlement, siphoning or corruption. The penalties for theft, misappropriation or mismanagement of the fund are still too lenient.

5.3 Conclusion

There is still need for follow-up studies on the aspect of participatory communication in the management of CDF. This study confirms the fear that citizens are not involved in the management of CDF as much as they should hence the risk of losing out in terms of their needs being correctly prioritized is very real.

The whole purpose of devolving this fund is being lost through the overbearing powers of the MP in the management and administration of CDF as well as the many existing loopholes in the CDF Act. The study also confirms that in the absence of
participatory communication, the opportunity for rapid development in the grassroots through the CDF concept is lost as are time and colossal sums of money set aside to address various needs of citizens.

5.4 Recommendations

5.4.1 Extent of Participatory Communication,
Challenges to Participatory Communication and the Way Forward

Asked about how they would ensure effective stakeholder and citizen participation in the management of CDF, the following are the recommendations of the manager respondents in summary. Build capacity for the constituents on their roles in the management of CDF. Involve the citizens fully in all the activities, projects and programmes of CDF.

Invite them to be part and parcel of the decisions guiding the CDF process. Involve leaders in the management of the CDF projects and programmes (in the implementation stage). Involve all stakeholders in the management of CDF. Ensure that citizens are supplied with all the information necessary for them to make viable decisions about CDF.

Asked about what they thought was the best strategy for CDF managers to adopt in order ensure effective stakeholder participation in the management of CDF, the following are the recommendations of the citizen respondents in summary. Direct, democratic, free and fair election of CDF officials should be held. The CDF managers should be vetted in a process open to members of the public. They should then be made accountable to the public but not the sitting MP. CDF managers should invite citizens to participate in CDF activities through the media, local leaders, public barazas, chief’s barazas, location development committees and their mobiles phones.

CDF managers need to be creative and seek innovative ways of motivating citizens (a majority of whom are too poor and busy eking out a life) to participate in the management of CDF through the adoption of pro-poor strategies especially at the
planning stage. The CDF should employ social workers at the sub-location level. CDF managers should educate and inform citizens and all stakeholders about their duties and responsibilities in the management of the fund (through various IEC strategies). Inform and invite citizens to be involved monitoring and evaluation of the CDF projects and programmes in the constituency.

CDF managers should allow adequate citizen participation in project identification and implementation. CDF managers should enhance transparency and accountability and citizen participation by regularly sharing reports budgets, project types, projects funded, amounts allocated and funds disbursed to various projects. CDF managers should have strategically placed notice boards, regularly updated websites, Twitter and Facebook accounts for proper communication and robust engagement with citizens. Hold regular social accountability forums at the Sub-Location level to assess impacts of funded projects in the community.

Give notice to citizens about CDF meetings, events and activities that require their involvement, well in advance. Ensure adequate participation of citizens in projects identification, prioritization and implementation. Hold regular and consistent stakeholder forums so as to facilitate full inclusion and incorporation of citizen’s ideas in the management of CDF because no one has monopoly of ideas. Provide for adequate funding for the public information and communication component of CDF during budgeting.

Adopt an open door policy by inviting and encouraging citizens to freely seek information at CDF offices which should be devolved to every sub-location where the people and projects are for effectiveness and convenience. Build citizens capacities to ensure sustainable best practices in the management and ownership of CDF projects and programmes. CDF managers should provide clear, educative, timely and informative communication to citizens about CDF plans, budgets, proposals projects, programmes and activities as a right but not a privilege to ensure their full participation.

CDF managers need to be more open and transparent regarding their activities, operations and plans making serious efforts to reach out to the majority of
constituents. Citizens should be allowed to control their funds by involving them more in CDF issues. Massive civic education should be done to make citizens aware of the CDF process in a serious effort to reach a majority of the constituents with information on CDF. Citizens should be allowed to control their funds by being facilitated to get more involved in CDF issues.

5.4.2 On Legal Discrepancies Hindering Participatory Communication and the Way Forward

The following are some of the recommendations on legal mitigation for the discrepancies in the CDF laws as made by the citizen respondents: The (CDF) Act should provide for proper training of all CDF stakeholders on financial management to ensure that beneficiaries get the best value for their money. Only persons who fulfill the requirements of Chapter Six of the constitution on Leadership and Integrity should be allowed to manage CDF at any level to protect the fund from unscrupulous, corrupt and criminal elements. The CDF Act should therefore provide for proper vetting of any person to be involved in the CDF. Only persons of integrity should be elected or appointed to manage CDF in any capacity.

The right to information should be included in the CDF Act. It should clearly be spelt out who among CDF managers is responsible for dissemination of CDF information to citizens and heavy penalties set for that particular manager for failure to provide regular, timely and accurate information about CDF to citizens. The (CDF) Act should provide for reasonable and adequate compensation for CDF project and programme managers to ensure that they give their undivided attention during CDF deliberations and activities in pursuit of excellence in project / programme implementation; this will be a great motivator for them.

The Act should make it mandatory for CDF information and communication to reach all the CDF stakeholders in the most timely, cost effective and convenient way to them. The act should enforce openness, transparency and accountability on the part of CDF manager and should exact heavy penalties in default. The Act should make it mandatory that adequate public education forums on the role of the citizens in the management of CDF are held regularly in the constituency. The law should make it
mandatory that persons managing CDF are appointed by merit and elected in a free and fair process to guarantee competence and fairness as they discharge their duties.

Further, their terms of reference should protect them so that they can work without fear of intimidation by clearly stating that they are accountable to the citizens of Kenya for their actions but not the local MP who is an individual with vested political interests or any other manager for that matter. They (the CDF managers) should only be disciplined if they become incompetent, abscond from their duties, violate the law or for gross misconduct or any other reason or criteria set in the terms and conditions for service of public officers or public servants in Kenya.

The Act should make provision for a massive civic education programme which citizens need in order to make them aware of this fund as well as their responsibilities regarding it. The CDF should not be scrapped to ensure that no constituency is marginalized by the county government due to politics. The CDF Act should provide for a mechanism to ensure that citizens have unfettered access to the CDF Act and any other relevant law or regulation guiding it and any subsequent changes to CDF laws to ensure that citizens are constantly informed and up to date.

CDF funds should be channeled through the county executive. The CDF Act should give more powers to the citizens. The CDF should be scrapped as it is in contravention and violation of the constitution which vests executive functions at the county level on the county executive committee headed by the governor. The CDF Act should expressly provide for citizen / stakeholder participation in its management including election and appointment of CDF officials and prioritization of projects. Chiefs should be left out of CDF management and an independent committee be formed at the Sub-Location level to replace the Location Development Committee in overseeing CDF project prioritization and implementation. The role of chiefs should be to provide security only.

The MCA and the MP to be part of CDF management as co-opted ex-officio members (with no voting powers) to ensure neutrality and impartiality in CDF management. Citizens should be involved at every stage of the CDF process from planning, prioritization, implementation to monitoring and evaluation in an inclusive and non-discriminative approach in order to achieve full participation and ownership of CDF
projects and programmes. The CDF act should limit the powers of the MP purely oversight and leave all executive functions to the CDFC and PMCs. The CDF managers interviewed reserved their comments about legal issues concerning CDF preferring to be non-committal about the same.

There were strong opposing views on whether CDF should be scrapped or not. The study proposes that should the fund be retained, several amendments to the CDF Act are imperative. The role of MPs ought to remain supervisory rather than executive as is the case now. They are the public watchdogs and cannot pretend to allocate themselves funds, oversee the expenditure of the same funds, supervise themselves, query and punish themselves for their own errors of omission and commission.

The study also proposes that citizens should be given all the information necessary for them to make informed choices on what projects best benefit the majority and are the best value for their money. Public information on CDF laws, administration, management and activities should be made mandatory by law but should not be an option or depend merely on the good will of the sitting MP or CDF officials as is the case today.

The study also proposes that the citizen’s right to participate in the management of CDF is protected by the CDF Act and that roles of each person, actor, entity and stakeholder are clearly spelt out by relevant laws and regulations governing CDF. In a nutshell the study proposes a radical policy shift in the CDF Act to facilitate participatory communication in the management of CDF.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX I  Questionnaire for CDF Managers

1. Are you a registered voter in Baringo Central Constituency? Yes ☐ No ☐

2. What is the name of your polling Station? ____________________

3. Age: _____ yrs

4. Gender: Female ☐ Male ☐

5. Marital Status: Married ☐ Single ☐

6. Region: Christian Protestant ☐ Christian Catholic ☐ Muslim ☐
   Hindu ☐ Other, Specify __________

7. What is the highest level of education you have attained? Primary ☐
   Secondary ☐ Tertiary/Diploma ☐ Tertiary/Undergraduate Degree ☐
   Tertiary/Post Graduate Degree ☐ Tertiary/PhD ☐

8. Employment Status: Employed ☐ Self Employed ☐ Unemployed ☐

9. Have you ever been invited to participate in the management of CDF? Yes ☐ No ☐

10. Have you ever received any form of communication from the CDF managers? Yes ☐ No ☐

11. Are you aware that citizens should be involved in the management of CDF? Yes ☐ No ☐

12. For effective communication; how best should you as a CDF manager communicate to citizens?
   Through: TV ☐ Radio ☐ Newspapers ☐ Mobile ☐
   Public Baraza ☐ Word of mouth ☐
   Other, please specify ____________

13. What makes it difficult for you as a CDF manager to communicate to citizens effectively?
    Please explain briefly. ____________
14. What makes it difficult for you as a CDF manager to ensure effective stakeholder and citizen participation in the management of CDF? Please explain briefly. 

15. How best can you as a CDF manager ensure effective stakeholder participation in the management of CDF? Please explain briefly. 

16. Have you read and understood the CDF Act 2003, CDF Act (Amended version) of 2007 and the latest CDF Act 2013? Please tick as appropriate.

17. If not, why? Please explain briefly. 

18. If yes, what specific part of the CDF Act 2013 hinders you from participating fully in the management of CDF? Please explain briefly.
APPENDIX II  Questionnaire for Members of the General Public (Citizens)

1. Are you a registered voter in Baringo Central Constituency? Yes □ No □

2. What is the name of your polling Station? ______________________

3. Age: _____ yrs

4. Gender: Female □ Male □

5. Marital Status: Married  Single

6. Religion:  Christian Protestant □ Christian Catholic □ Muslim □

7. Hindu □, Specify __________

8. What is the highest level of education you have attained? Primary □

   Secondary □iary/Diploma □ertiary/Undergraduate Degree □

   Tertiary/Post Graduate Degree □ Tertiary/PhD □


   Unemployed □

10. Have you ever been invited to participate in the management of CDF? Yes □ No □

11. Have you ever received any form of communication from the CDF managers? Yes □ No □

12. Are you aware that you should be involved in the management of CDF? Yes □ No □

13. For effective communication; how best should the CDF managers communicate to you?

   Through: TV □ Radio □ Newspapers □ Mobile □

   Public Baraza □ Word of mouth □

   Other, please specify __________
14. What makes it difficult for CDF managers to communicate to you effectively? Please explain briefly. __________

15. What makes it difficult for you to participate in the management of CDF? Please explain briefly. __________

16. How best can CDF managers ensure effective stakeholder participation in the management of CDF? Please explain briefly. __________

17. Have you read and understood the CDF Act 2003 □, CDF Act (Amended version) of 2007 □ and the latest CDF Act 2013? □

   Please tick as appropriate.

18. If not, why? Please explain briefly. __________

19. If yes, what specific part of the CDF Act 2013 hinders you from participating fully in the management of CDF? Please explain briefly. __________
APPENDIX III  Guide for Focused Group Discussions

1. How often do you receive communication from the managers of CDF inviting you to participate in CDF activities?

2. How best should CDF managers communicate to you (as an organized group) and a key stakeholder to enable you participate fully in the management of CDF? Please briefly explain.

3. Are you aware (as an organized group) that you should participate in the management of CDF?

4. Have you (as an organized group) read and understood the CDF Act 2003, its amended version the CDF Act 2007 or the latest CDF Act 2013?

5. If not, why?

6. If yes, what specific part of the CDF Act 2013 hinders you (as an organized group) and a key stakeholder from participating in the management of CDF?

7. How best can CDF managers ensure effective stakeholder participation in the management of CDF?