

**COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS' ACTIVITIES AND
POVERTY REDUCTION in SEMBABULE
DISTRICT: UGANDA**

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Masters of Arts in Development Studies

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DECLARATION A

"This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree or any other academic award in any university or high institution of learning".

Rachelle D wilson

Name and signature of candidate

Jan 25 2013

Date

DECLARATION B

"I confirm that the work presented in this thesis is the candidates' original work under my supervision."

Name and signature of supervisor

Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to my parents who have been there for me. May the good Lord reward them abundantly!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to thank the Almighty God for giving me strength, grace, Opportunity and mercy in accomplishing this work. All that we know is a sum total of what we have learned from all who have taught us, either directly or indirectly.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CBOA:	Community Based Organization Activities
PLCC:	Pearson Linear Correlation Coefficient
SPSS:	Scientific Packages for Social Sciences

ABSTRACT

The general objective of this study was to determine the correlation between the level of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction in selected parishes among the local community in Sembabule District basing on the following specific objectives; to identify the profile of the respondents in terms of gender, age, marital status, educational levels and number of years in Sembabule District, to examine the nature of community based organizations' activities in selected parishes of Sembabule District, to access poverty reduction among the local community in selected parishes of Sembabule District, and to determine the relationship between the level of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District.

The study was, quantitative and took a descriptive correlational research design. It was quantitative because the variables are measured in numerical form. Purposive sampling was used to select respondents. A sample size of 135 was selected comprising of 55 males and 80 females. Questionnaires were used to collect information from respondents. The frequency and percentages were used to determine the profile of the respondents. The means and ranks were applied for the levels of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction.

Findings revealed that the level of poverty reduction to some respondents had no skills in entrepreneurship & small business management, as well as low access to medical care, and basic every day food hence being poor. On the other hand the level of community based organisation had low participation on cleaning school compounds, laying bricks, digging roads as an activity in the community, and recreation centres that is slashing play grounds. From the findings and the conclusions of the study, the researcher recommends that there should be some needs to uplift the competencies of members of CBOs of selected parishes in Sembabule district since most of them were found to be certificate holders.

There is a need to sensitize the members of the community to participate in Community Based Organization activities in selected parishes of Sembabule district, since it was found to be generally low.

Members of the CBOs should be trained with skills in entrepreneurship & small business management hence reducing poverty.

There is a need to sensitize people on how to fight poverty in selected parishes of Sembabule District, and also to train them on how to improve their standards of living.

There is a need to encourage males also to participate in community based organization activities not letting only women to participate.

The management of the CBOs to improve on their bureaucratic system because a good bureaucracy system will raise the standard of members which will make them do their work effectively.

Despite of all these challenges, members should also involve in vocational activities like brick laying, slashing, and cleaning toilets so that they can improve on their living standards

CHAPTER ONE

THE PROBLEM AND ITS SCOPE

Background of the Study

Community Based Organizations (CBOs) lies way back during the American Civil War, whereby charity groups were designed to offer assistance to those who were displaced, disabled, or impoverished by the war. It was during the period between 1980s and 1990s, when CBOs expanded to a point that they were being referred to as a movement, and the process of community organizing expanded into many community organizations. The main difficulty that emerged during this period was the shifting of power from local communities to regions, nations, and international corporations. Community based organizations are most often non-profit agencies organizations, particularly service that are located in, and provide services to, neighbourhoods and communities. Community based organizations include parent-teacher organizations, sports clubs, church groups, block or neighbourhood associations, Health clubs, and many others (Bragger, 2007).

Poor performance of government in meeting the socioeconomic quests of citizens has also been identified as one of the reasons behind the proliferation of community based organizations (CBOs) in the new millennium. Along this line, Wahab (2000) observed that people in developing nations have until recently looked up to their governments to meet their basic socio-economic demands. Of a truth, governments in African nations have evolved both top-down and bottom-up approaches to achieve sustainable development of their people. These include establishment of lead industries at key centres so as to create job opportunities, provide basic infrastructure and utilize regional natural and man-made resources to stimulate growth and economic development through community organizations that would spread to lagging regions (Abegunde, 2003).

In Uganda, CBOs began as self-help groups in the years of 1960s when the first president began to encourage grassroots growth through coming together in spirit. This spirit was based on the understanding that one could not be able to carry out plans or actions by him/herself but would require a certain contribution from the other members of the society (Adejumobi, 2001).

Poverty is one living below 1 dollar (Kolawole, 2002). Poverty is defined by poor people as more than just the lack of incomes; it is also the lack of the means to satisfy basic, social needs, as well as a feeling of powerlessness to break out of the cycle of poverty and insecurity of person and property. Common features of a poor household include few assets for production; insufficient food; inadequate income to meet health care and education costs and to obtain basic household necessities; many dependants; vulnerability; poor health; or a lack of social support (Bahiigwa and Bonger, 2008).

Poverty is a global problem that is shared by every country developed or underdeveloped. Even though the eighties and the nineties were periods of increasing wealth because of the development of new technologies, the gap between rich and poor has grown wider, and the actual numbers of people living in poverty increased (The PANOS Institute, 2002). The number of people living in poverty is alarming, for instance in 1998, statistics show that 1.2 billion people still lived on less than a dollar a day, and 2.8 billion on less than two (The PANOS Institute, 2002). The poverty situation in developed countries is almost as worse as that of the underdeveloped countries. In the United States alone, the number of Americans living in poverty increased by 1.1 million to 37 million in 2004, up from 35.9 million in 2003 (Reed, 2005). In Australia the rates were significantly lower, but nonetheless still high.

If the rates are high in developed countries, just imagine the situation in underdeveloped countries. One of the worst examples of poverty is the situation in Uganda. The Poverty Status Report produced by the Ministry of Finance indicates that Ugandans living below the poverty line fell to 24.5% (7.5 million) in 2009/2010 from 31.1% (8.5 million) in 2005/06.

About one million Ugandans (6.6%) moved out of the absolute poverty bracket (living beyond \$1.25 a day) between 2006 and 2010 as a result of the diversified economic activities, a new report indicates. Rather than constantly struggling to meet their most basic needs, many more Ugandans are now striving for new opportunities to improve their lives.(new vision,2012)

The local government of Sembabule has evolved poverty alleviation programmes to help stir development simultaneously at the grassroots. Communities seek solace in indigenous institutions, which pressurize government for attention to development problems in their communities and/or undertake development programmes and projects that they observe that are very needful in their immediate communities. Despite this, the lives of most people in Sembabule district are accompanied with non-rewarding work, insufficient money ,poor health , poor diet/Nutrition although Sembabule has long rich history of community organizations created through the cooperative effort of the people to cope with economic needs and the delivery of basic social services. It was upon this that the researcher based to examine community based organisations activities on poverty reduction in Sembabule district.

Statement of the Problem

Most of the people in Sembabule district are associated with backwardness and underdevelopment which goes hand in hand with low incomes, unemployment, poor health standards and poor nutrition. . Sembabule district is faced with limited market for produce, and lack of extension services (Ali, 2010). These discourage people to work and remain dependants

accompanied with poverty. Up until now, not enough attention has been paid to this situation. If the community based organizations of selected parishes of Sembabule district put corrective measures in place, the economy is most likely to increase solving the above problem hence the implementation of community base organization activities will uplift their economy therefore eliminating poverty.

While many factors contribute to the slow growth of poverty reduction, this study investigates the extent to which community base organizations' activities and poverty reduction as well as the correlation between community base organization activities and poverty in Sembabule district.

Purpose of the Study:

The purposes of this study were:

1. To identify the strength and weakness of respondents in terms of community based activities and poverty reduction.
2. To validate the bureaucracy theory of Max Weber 1964-1820
3. To test the null hypothesis of no significant relationship between community based organization activities and poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District.
4. To identify existing gaps and contribute to existing knowledge by filling the gaps identified.

Research Objectives

General: This study was to determine the correlation between the level of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction in selected parishes among the local community in Sembabule District.

Specific: To sought further in this study were as follows:

1. To identify the profile of the respondents in terms of gender, age, marital status, educational levels and Number of years for staying in Sembabule District.
2. To examine the level of participation in community based organizations activities in selected parishes of Sembabule District.
3. To determine the level of poverty reduction among the local community in selected parishes of Sembabule District.

4. To establish whether there is significant relationship between the level participation of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District.

Research Questions

This study sought to answer the following research questions:-

1. What is the profile of respondents' gender, age, education levels ,marital status and number of years in Sembabule District?
2. What is the level of participation in Community Based Organizations activities in Sembabule District?
3. What is the level of poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule district?
4. Is there significant relationship between effectiveness community based organisations and poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District?

Null Hypothesis

H₀: There is no significant relationship between effectiveness of community based organisations and poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District.

Significance of the Study

The study is significant in the way that it will add wide understanding of the development and welfare role played by Community Based Organizations in Uganda. This is because most community based organizations facilitate development in their activities such as school visits sensitizations about health and Nutrition, their engagement in income generating activities among others that are not recognized for the role they play toward socio- economic development in Uganda.

It will provide a basis on which **Community Based Organizations** can promote and strengthen processes like public speaking, financial strength, communal support among others which can empower women to become advocates of their own rights for example in cases where women are denied

rights to own land and property, merchandise among others that are mostly rampant in the rural areas of Sembabule.

It will help the **members** to fully participate in community activities hence improving the standards of living in Sembabule District.

It will provide knowledge to development **planners and policy makers** on the alternative means through which grassroots women can become advocates of their own rights and needs and gives a concrete foundation to the basis of how to best reach the grassroots especially the vulnerable.

It will also add to the **gender emphasis** on rural development process; how and why women and men should too be included in development planning and processes through grass root organizations and also provides an analysis of the relationship between policy advocacy and the real life experiences of rural people especially in Sembabule district.

The **Government** will be able to help to sensitize people in Sembabule to know the importance of participation in community based organization activities hence reducing poverty.

Scope of the Study

Geographical Scope

The study was carried out in four CBOs namely Sembabule AIDS Counselling service , Sembabule District Farmers Association , sembabule paralegal Association and Sembabule District Association of women with Disabilities within three selected parishes of Sembabule District namely Dispensary ward, market ward parish ward. The area is chosen for mainly because Sembabule District is one of the districts in Uganda with high number of people living below poverty line.

Content Scope

The study focused on community based organizations activities that are cleaning of recreation centres, maintenance of water bodies, and involvement of Saccos and infrastructures as the independent variable and poverty reduction in terms of access to food, medical care services, shelter, and income generating activities as the dependent variable, then the relationship between the independent variable and dependent variable.

Theoretical scope

This study was based on the bureaucratic theory. The scholar most closely associated with Bureaucratic theory is Max Weber(1864-1920). Weber articulates the necessary conditions and descriptive features of bureaucracy. An organization governed under Weber's conception of bureaucracy is characterized by the presence of impersonal positions that are earned and not inherited, rule-governed decision-making, professionalism, chain of command, defined responsibility, and bounded authority. Weber begins his discussion of bureaucracy by introducing the concept of 'jurisdictional areas': institutions governed by a specific set of rules or laws. In a 'jurisdictional area' regular activities are assigned as official duties, the authority to assign these duties is distributed through a set of rules, and duties are fulfilled continuously by qualified individuals. These elements make up a bureaucratic agency in the case of the state and a bureaucratic enterprise in the Private Economy (Agbola, 2002).

Time scope

In August 2012, the research proposal was written, data collection started in October

December 2012. The same month data processing began, followed by data analysis and interpretation. In January 2013, the final copy was printed and presented to the College of Higher Degrees and Research.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Concepts, Ideas, Opinions from Experts/Authors

The nature of Community Based Organizations Activities

Community Based Organization (CBO) is an organization that provides social services at the local level (Adebisi, 2009). It is a non-profit organization whose activities are based primarily on volunteer efforts. This means that CBOs depend heavily on voluntary contributions for labor, material and financial support. It is non-profit, it relies on voluntary contributions, it acts at the local level, and it is service-oriented.

According to Racher (2007) "community based organization activities as an organization, institutions or congregation of people, which have local area/village-based presence, maturity and structural arrangements so that local people work in order to improve on their standards of living. These are owned and managed by members. They are formal, legal entity or informal registered organizations maintaining separate books of accounts, systems & ways of working. They have group identity- membership. They should not be affiliated to any religious, political or separatist's parties/ groups.

Over the past decades a group of active volunteers assisted some Community Based Organizations to raise funds by organizing events such as dinners and golf tournaments. New initiatives such as creating second hand clothes shops are being reviewed for possible implementation to raise funds to support vulnerable children around the globe. Most voluntary organizations dealing with children offer financial support to partner organization with similar

objectives. Other services offered include education, medical care, food aid, infrastructural development among others (Racher, 2007). This can be in form of families, schools churches and various interest groups with the common interests. Community can be formal and are normally bound together by people and by interests. They also interact with one another in various ways that suit those interests (Swanepoel, 2003). Women Community Based Organizations are popular organizations where women act on issues which can best be solved through the collective action. This includes collective learning from sharing experiences and confidence building (Bhatnagar , 2002)

The Level of Poverty Reduction among the Local Community

Poverty reduction (or poverty alleviation) is any process which seeks to reduce the level of poverty in a community, or amongst a group of people or countries. Poverty reduction programs may be aimed at economic or non-economic poverty. Some of the popular methods used are education, economic development, and income redistribution (Hunter, 1999). Poverty reduction efforts may also be aimed at removing social and legal barriers to income growth among the poor.

Poverty is the state of one who lacks a certain amount of material possessions or money (Monk, 2000). Absolute poverty or destitution refers to the deprivation of basic human needs, which commonly includes food, water, sanitation, clothing, shelter, health care and education. Relative poverty is defined contextually as economic inequality in the location or society in which people live. Poverty reduction" is often used as a short-hand for promoting economic growth that will permanently lift as many people as possible over a poverty line

Poor children and their families are confronted with severe threats in regard to their well being including isolation, loss of income, educational access,

shelter, nutrition, and other essentials. When families and children are forced to focus on basic daily needs to decrease their suffering, attention is diverted from factors that contribute to long-term health and well-being (Sengendo and Nambi, 2000).

Adopting families often have problems of their own, such as their own large families to care for, and therefore, severe economic strains. Hunter (1999) observed that sometimes the adopting parents are too young or too old to properly care for poor children. UNICEF (2006) noted pathetic situations, where grandparents who expected to be supported by their children suddenly had to care for their poor grandchildren. These grandparents were found to be less able to provide discipline and adequate socialization, and even to address the basic needs for food, clothing, shelter and health care (Hunter 1999).

Adopted or fostered children often receive worse treatment than the biological children in the same family found that the education, nutrition and health status of children adopted into impoverished families suffered from lack of resources necessary for their basic needs (Nalwanga-Sebina and Sengendo, 1987). Children are not simply a passive, powerless target group to be aided, but capable actors and important resources to engage in a community response to HIV/AIDS. Actively involving children in care initiatives can build their sense of self-esteem and efficacy and cultivate skills they can use in the future (Donahue and Williamson, 1999). Habitat for Humanity found that the extended family networks and orphanages that have thus far taken in bereaved and poor children are at saturation point. Many vulnerable children are now heading family units with no place to live and therefore they often end up as street children (Creswell, 2002).

Many of the poor children continue to experience emotional problems and little is being done in this area of emotional support. There are several reasons. First, there is a lack of adequate information on the nature and magnitude of the problem; secondly, there is a cultural belief that children do not have emotional problems and therefore there is a lack of attention from adults. Thirdly, since psychological problems are not always obvious, many adults in charge of poor children are not able to identify them (UNAIDS, 2002).

Responses have largely come from outside government, and target small and specific groups, rather than their communities. No earmarked budgets exist within government for women and children in difficult circumstances, no policy exists for the aged, and few efforts have been made which address Programs, such as those set up to supply credit to poor women, have been poorly targeted (Ryan-Nicholls and Racher, 2004).

Long-term institutionalization of poor children in their families and other facilities is not a desirable solution to the impacts of HIV/AIDS. Resources extended to fund institutional care for a single child can assist a big number of children if used effectively to support a community-based initiative. The institutionalization of children separates them from families and communities and often delays healthy childhood development (Williamson, 2000).

Besides increased risk of death, children whose parents have died due to HIV/AIDS also face stigmatization and rejection, and often suffer from emotional distress, malnutrition, a lack of health care, poor or no access to education, and most importantly, a lack of love and care. They are also at high risk for labor exploitation, sex trafficking, homelessness, and exposure to HIV. Extended families and communities in highly affected areas are often hard-pressed to care for all the children (Williamson, 2000).

Even where the problem may have been identified, there is a lack of knowledge of how to handle it appropriately. In many cases children are punished for showing their negative emotions, thereby adding to their pain. In schools, there is an obvious lack of appropriate training of teachers in identifying psychological and social problems and therefore offering individual or group attention (Burman, 2001).

In most parts of Sembabule district, extended families and communities have a tradition of caring for orphaned children. However, in a society where grandparents lost their lives in the war and many parents, aunts, uncles and other family members are dead or dying from AIDS, this structure collapses. Children are often left with no one to teach them how to behave and make decisions. This results in children acting outside the socially and culturally accepted norms, sometimes violently and irresponsibly. They lack protection and guidance, and only have themselves to rely on to meet their basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. Many of them are forced to live on the streets (Kooze, 2004).

Like adults, children are grieved by the loss of their parents. However, unlike adults children often do not feel the full impact of the loss simply because they may not immediately understand the finality of death. This prevents them from going through the grieving process which is necessary to recover from the loss. Death of parents introduces a major change in the life of a vulnerable child. This change may involve moving from a middle or upper-class urban home to a poor rural relative's home. It may involve separation from siblings, which is often done arbitrarily when orphaned children are divided among relatives without due considerations of their needs (Family Health International, 2001).

Poor people are faced with stress that may be shown in symptoms of confusion, anxiety, depression, and behavioural disorders such as disobedience. The same symptoms may cause learning problems. Children who are frustrated, fearful, and depressed may fail to concentrate in class and therefore perform badly. Failure by the school and the home systems to recognize these symptoms and address them will aggravate the child's psychological problems (Williamson, 2000).

Because children develop at varying rates as they age, they can differ greatly in their needs, capacities, and individual vulnerabilities. It is important to address child-development issues through age-specific, child-focused programming that also aims to preserve family structures as much as possible. While there is some variation in how different organizations define these age categories (Burman, 2001). A multi - sectoral approach is necessary to address comprehensively the complex needs of vulnerable children and other vulnerable children. The core interventions children need for their current well-being and for their development are food/nutrition, shelter, protection, health care, psychosocial support, and education. A community-based response to these needs that preserves and supports families as much as possible is the primary Emergency Plan strategy (Williamson, 2000). The family is generally the optimal environment for a child to develop. Assistance programs should enable poor people to remain in a loving family situation in which they can maintain stability, care, predictability, and protection. Supporting family capacity, whether the head of household is an ill or widowed parent, an elderly grandparent, or a young person, helps build a protective environment for vulnerable children. Institutional care is not optimal for child development, sustainability, or cost-effectiveness (Whiteside, 2002).

The relationship between the Community Based Organizations' activities and poverty reduction

The organizations that are part of a community have been termed as mediating structures. Local community organizations provide a common ground for residents to share problems and resources. Organizations thus serve to mediate between seemingly powerless individuals or families and the large institutions of mass society. They include PTAs, school-community partnerships, churches, and voluntary associations. Mediating structures are people-sized; that is, they are small enough to reflect the values and realities of individual life, yet large enough to empower individuals to influence the broader social structures (large schools or school systems, government bureaucracies, large local corporations or chain enterprises, mass media) that may be the target of social-change efforts. Additionally, mediating structures represent contexts through which an empowerment process unfolds for individuals, organizations, and communities. Community organizations are one type of mediating structure. They function as mechanisms through which individuals can express their collective self-interests, particularly regarding the issues and problems affecting their families and communities (Agbola, 2002).

Social capital is a concept that has become very popular in discussions about community organization. Social capital is most commonly understood as the accumulation of trust embedded in the norms and networks that exist in a community. Some authors have emphasized informal networks, whether inside or outside organizations. Others have emphasized formally organized networks, or both formal and informal ones. Yet community organizations are, by definition, networks of civic engagement. Agencies that serve residents without developing relationships or building enduring activity and participation are not accumulating social capital (Agbola, 2002). Community organizations, however, such as block groups, neighbourhood associations, sports clubs, and school-

based organizations, often embody the associational glue that creates social capital. When the norms and dynamics of these organizations include trust and reciprocity, the capacity for individuals within such groups to act for mutual benefit is great. Social capital may therefore be understood as the norms of trust and reciprocity that exist both within and between the organizations, agencies, and groups that form the social ecology of a community (Bratton, 2000).

According to Neema (2003), most poor people in Sembabule district have a unique problem of unmarried or separated Women. There are cases where wives have left the homes because they could not cope with the hard conditions. Community-based organizations (CBOs) play an important and relevant role in providing services at the local level. They work in a variety of different fields, such as education, health, the rights of the disabled, gender issues. Wise management of the organization can contribute significantly to ensuring the effectiveness of the work that it does (Monk, 2000).

At the community level, women groups have been important in offering support in aspects such as health, poverty reduction water and sanitation and capacity building. For the case of Sembabule district women groups at the grassroots level are mainly engaged in income generating activities with major emphasis on agricultural projects and handcrafts according to Nabacwa (1997). From a lot of experience, Uganda provides a show piece of work on gender issues especially through Non-Government Organizations (Hunter and Williamson, 2000). The level of political and financial support to the national society has grown over the last years. Public relations functions are well attended, and the national society has been able to build a solid image in view of donor funding. The updating of the procedures manual for finance, logistics and human resources is ongoing. Experiences obtained through this process are shared with other national societies in the region (Racher, 2007).

Community Based Organizations implement activities to improve access, production and utilization of food among vulnerable families in Nakaseke. Through this program, Key Farmer Coordinators (KFC's) mobilize groups of 15 to 30 farmers to work at demonstration sites that serve as a source for improved seeds and agricultural practices. In addition, interested KFC's will establish marketing and processing groups to focus on issues such as post-harvest crop loss and new seed varieties. Working with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Save the Children identified three KFC groups to participate in a program to develop the production, processing and marketing of cassava. Food for Work program enables families to receive food during the "hungry season" while rehabilitating roads (Burman, 2001). However save the children has tried to provide services to the vulnerable children but the services seem to be inadequate.

Some Community Based Organizations also train the food aid beneficiaries and other willing persons in Eastern, Western and Central Uganda on the importance of nutrition, food hygiene, water and sanitation, environmental and personal hygiene. As a part of the training, demonstrations are done to impart skills such as cooking with CSB, using simple hand washing facilities (tippy tap), cup/plate racks, hanging baskets, CSB stands, energy saving stoves and hay basket cookers. Each beneficiary is also given a calendar with messages reinforcing the disseminated information so as to ensure sustainable behavioural change (Hunter, 2000).

The Nutrition component focuses on education of rural communities on how to improve dietary practices. It also promotes production and consumption of vitamin A foods such as fruits, vegetables, poultry and protein rich soybean. Solar drying is encouraged in communities where the farmers grow plenty of

vegetables. Other food preparation methods are also taught to the farmers (Barasa, 2005).

One of Community Based Organizations' roles is to improve the nutritional status of all children under age five by increasing their food intake and adopting and supporting key health practices and services. They have established a community-based Growth Monitoring Program (GMP), where malnourished children are referred to Save the Children's supplementary feeding program to regain weight. Their caretakers are then provided with nutritional education and counselling on good practices, as well as education on prevention, control and care-seeking behaviours for malaria and diarrhea diseases, the importance of immunizations, hygiene/sanitation and appropriate breastfeeding and weaning practices (Adejumobi , 2001).

Appropriate government policies are essential to protect vulnerable children and their families. These policies must contain clauses to prohibit discrimination in access to medical services, education, employment, and housing, and protect the inheritance rights of widows and vulnerable children (Hunter and Williamson, 2000). The psychological needs of children continue to be one of the most neglected areas of support. But the AIDS pandemic has increased the urgency to address the psychological problems of children on a par with other interventions (Hunter and Williamson, 2000).

Community Based Organizations have implemented a number of programs in Sembabule District: to improve the protection, health, education, food security and livelihood status of marginalized children and their families by building the capacity of communities and local authorities. At the national level, save the children have some programs include health, education, food security,

hunger prevention, economic opportunities and emergency response (Kooze, 2004).

Human rights-based approaches have been increasingly recognized as essential to the success of HIV prevention and care programs, including those working with children and adolescents. Especially important are those tenets outlined in the convention of the rights of the child (UNAIDS, 2002).

There is agreement on the components of community-based programs for vulnerable children. Prioritizing program activities will depend upon community needs, abilities, and preferences, as well as on the nature of sponsoring or partner organizations. The community is best able to identify target groups for interventions, although the government may wish to select target regions or communities for program implementation (Hunter, 2000).

In Uganda, about 107 homes, providing shelter for 417 vulnerable children and vulnerable children were built. For each house built, at least one orphan or vulnerable child received training in house construction. The young people acting as head of household were also given, training on inheritance planning and training on income generation (Wakhweya, 2002). The first line of response to the needs of children affected by HIV/AIDS comes from extended families. Strengthening the capacity of communities to fill the widening gaps in the safety net traditionally provided by the extended family may be the most efficient, cost-effective, and sustainable way of assisting vulnerable children and other vulnerable children. Families and communities also play a crucial role in identifying children who are most in need, both those affected by HIV/AIDS and other vulnerable children (Wakhweya, 2002).

Since the problems experienced by vulnerable children and other vulnerable children begin well before the death of their parents, care for children affected by HIV/AIDS should start at the earliest possible point. Services for vulnerable children and other vulnerable children should be integrated with the elements of comprehensive care such as voluntary counselling and testing for HIV, prevention of mother-to-child-transmission of HIV, and others (Smart, 2000).

Wakhweya et al., (2002), noted that the quality of health and educational services in Uganda is poor, and these services are unable to adequately address key issues of high infant and child mortality, a basic education system that has been successfully reformed but that is stretched to its limits by a massive influx of pupils, and persistent high fertility. Over half of the population is under the age of 15, vulnerable to a new wave of HIV/AIDS infection, and population growth is high at 3% per year, eroding social service gains and adding 300,000 job seekers to the economy every year.

Meeting the basic needs of children and youth is not only vital for ensuring their current well-being, but is also critical to their future. Basic or "core" needs include food/nutrition, shelter and care, protection, health care, psychosocial support, and education. Illness in the family or the loss of a parent or parents is extremely disruptive to children, and places them at a distinct disadvantage in obtaining the support necessary for their welfare and even at risk to life. Financial and material resources are often required to meet most of these needs, so economic strengthening is also often essential (Smart, 2000).

The HIV/AIDS epidemic overloads impoverished communities to the point where many children are left without suitable shelter or care. Those children who find themselves without a caregiver become highly vulnerable to abuse and

stunted development. While institutional care might seem like a logical response to this situation, in some cases it can impede the development of sustainable solutions and often does not meet the complex needs of children (Okemo, 2002). Vulnerable children programs must take active measures to meet the general health needs of children at every age level. Programs must disaggregate health requirements and interventions by the age groupings (infant, toddler, child and adolescent), as the health needs and recommended interventions differ significantly among these groups, and programs should facilitate access to primary health care for vulnerable children (Monk, 2000).

Programs should provide children with support that is appropriate for their age and situation, and recognize that children often respond differently to trauma and loss. Vulnerable children sometimes turn to drugs and alcohol as a means of coping with this trauma. Programs must provide support to avoid these counterproductive activities (Williamson, 2000). Countries and communities must identify the barriers to education (e.g., requiring a father to register a child, mandatory payments for uniforms, book or tuition fees) and define locally-appropriate strategies for attracting and keeping children, especially girls, in school (Smart, 2000).

Programs must give special attention to the vulnerability of girls, by addressing the disproportionate levels of risk they face when leaving school at an early age. Schools must also be made safe for children, especially girls. In addition, vocational training is an important component of life preparation. Conversely, the lack of opportunity to learn a trade or the lack of a sponsor to enter vocational networks can threaten adolescents' long-term economic prospects. Partnerships with the education sector provide an important opportunity to ensure that children affected by HIV/AIDS have access to education (Monk, 2000).

According to Khan (not dated), in her study: Knowledge, Approaches and Practices in Poverty Alleviation in Islamabad, Pakistan, she found out that people do not confine poverty to income or consumption only, but consider all its dimensions. Common perceptions of poverty are based on core economic and social issues such as unemployment, low income and high indebtedness, non-availability of water, no access to education and health services and no recourse to justice. Environmental degradation is also considered a manifestation of poverty in communities dependent on natural resources for survival. The implication of such a notion is that the incidence of poverty is far greater than generally depicted.

Adebisi (2009), in his study "Effects of Community Based Organizations Activities on Poverty Alleviation in Yewa South Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria," found out that (1) there is a positive relationship between socio-economic characteristics and membership of community based organizations. (2) He also found that there is a significant relation between the demographic/socio-economic characteristics and membership of community based organizations. (3) There is a positive relationship between the 2 variables, effect of the projects executed and the poverty level. (4) There is no significant relationship between projects executed and poverty alleviation. The conclusion is that the development/poverty alleviation projects by the community based organizations have no significant effect on the poverty level.

Nanna et al (2002) in their "Report of the study on the civil society in Uganda for the Royal Norwegian embassy in Uganda" found out that the character and role of the majority of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Uganda is influenced by four major factors namely; the availability of funds and interests of funders/donors; the political history and contemporary political environment and the space(s) available for civil society actors; socio-economic

conditions prevalent in the country, as well as, the character and objectives of the founding personalities.

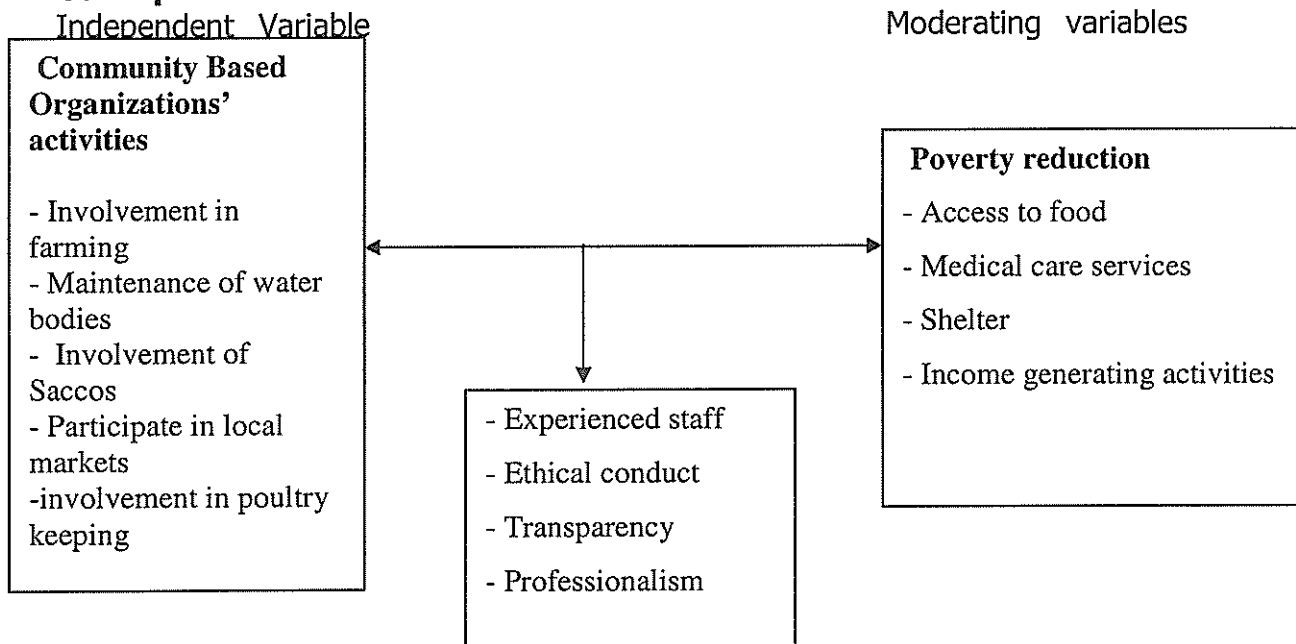
Uganda Land Alliance (ULA) undertook a poverty and social impact assessment of 600 households in Irriri Sub County. Their main findings were as follows: 1) approximately 78 per cent of respondents had never attended school; 2) 85 per cent lived in houses made from grass (including roofs) or mud; 62) per cent of people collected water from boreholes with an average walking distance of 2 km to a borehole; 3) sanitation and sewerage facilities were practically non-existent for 98 per cent of the population; 4) 90 per cent were dependent on wood for generating light and cooking; 5) in terms of access to government services, average distances were calculated to measure how easy or difficult it would be for people to take advantage of these – the average distance to the nearest school was calculated at 2.3 km while that to a health centre was 6.8 km; and 6) average distances to the nearest clean water source, market, main access road and courts of law were computed and found to be 1.7, 7.1, 4.2 and 41.6 km respectively (Samia et al, 2010).

Theoretical perspectives

This study was based on the bureaucratic theory. The scholar most closely associated with Bureaucratic theory is Max Weber. Weber articulates the necessary conditions and descriptive features of bureaucracy. An organization governed under Weber's conception of bureaucracy is characterized by the presence of impersonal positions that are earned and not inherited, rule-governed decision-making, professionalism, chain of command, defined responsibility, and bounded authority. Weber begins his discussion of bureaucracy by introducing the concept of 'jurisdictional areas': institutions governed by a specific set of rules or laws. In a 'jurisdictional area' regular activities are assigned as official duties, the authority to assign these duties is distributed through a set of rules, and duties are fulfilled continuously by

qualified individuals. These elements make up a bureaucratic agency in the case of the state and a bureaucratic enterprise in the Private Economy (Agbola, 2002).). This study relates to the theory in the way that most of the of CBOs in Uganda do not emphasize bureaucracy, because of the limited resources, the directors are forced to do almost all the work in the organisation which limits the CBOs from performing effectively thus failing to fight poverty among its members.

Conceptual Frame Work



The conceptual framework illustrates the relationship between community based organisations' activities and poverty reduction. It has poverty reduction as the Dependent Variable (DV) linking community based organisations' activities as the Independent Variables (IV). The Moderating Variables (MV) are factors that influence the effectiveness of community based organisations' activities.

Community Based Organisations' activities are seen to reduce on poverty. When Community Based Organisations' activities are done effectively poverty is expected to reduce because the process acts as a motivator.

Community Based Organisations' activities comprising of Cleaning of recreation centres, Maintenance of water bodies, Involvement of Saccos and infrastructures, and Participate in local markets impact on poverty reduction such as, Access to food, Medical care services, Shelter, Income generating activities. Moderating variables such as experienced staff, Ethical conduct, transparency, and professionalism factors may influence the effectiveness of Community Based Organisations' activities.

Conclusion

Several researchers and scholars have come up with various conclusions regarding the effect of community based organisations activities on poverty reduction and this tends to be in the same direction. The researcher will focus on the effect of CBOs activities on poverty eradication in Sembabule District. Even though some researchers might have done some researches in Sembabule District, the area continues to be a researchable zone for the current researcher. This is mainly because most research is done on a case study basis and hence, there is always a feeling that the findings were based on inadequate information.

CHAPTER THREE METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The research design was descriptive and quantitative approach was used because the variables are measured in numerical form. Statistical applications involved computation of frequencies, percentage frequencies and mean of community base organization activities and poverty reduction. It took a correlational dimension because of the levels of community base organization activities and Poverty Reduction of selected parishes in Sembabule District.

Research Population

The target population was two hundred and three (203) respondents they are the register members of the selected CBOs of selected parishes of Sembabule district.

Sampling Procedures

Purposive sampling was used to select respondents based on the following inclusion criteria; the respondents had to be (1) a Ugandan by origin and birth; (2) they were either male or female residents of Sembabule District (3) at least 18 years of age and (4) had stayed in Sembabule District at least 1year and above.

Sample Size

The Slovine's formula was used to determine the minimum sample size.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N \alpha^2}$$

N= Target population

n = Sample size

$\alpha=0.05$ (level of significance)

Where **n** is the sample size, **N** stands for population and **a** is the level of significance which is 0.05.

$$n = \frac{203}{1 + 203 (0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{203}{1 + 203 (0.0025)}$$

$$n = \frac{203}{1 + 0.5075}$$

$$n = \frac{203}{1.5075}$$

$$n = 135$$

The sample size was selected from the study categories. Table 3.1 shows the distribution of population and sample size.

Table 1: Category of respondents

category	Target population	Sample size
Males	101	55
Females	102	80
Total	203	135

(members of selected CBOs of selected parishes of Sembabule District)

Table 2: Category of respondents by CBOs

CBO	Target population	Sample size
Sembabulee Aids counselling services	30	20
Sembabule District Association with women with disabilities	36	24
Sembabule paralegals Association.	47	31
Sembabule District farmers Association	90	60
Total	203	135

Register members of selected CBOs of selected parishes of Sembabule District)

Research Instruments

The research tool that was used in this study included the following: (1) *face sheet* to gather data on the respondents' profile; - (Gender, age, education qualification, marital status and how long you have stayed in Sembabule District); (2) *researcher devised questionnaires* to determine the level of community based organization activities and poverty reduction. The response modes and scoring are as follows: community based organization activities and poverty reduction - 1) strongly disagree (2); disagree (3); agree (4); strongly agree.

Validity and Reliability of the Instruments

Content validity of the instruments was ensured through use of valid concepts and / or words which measure the study variables. The instruments were given to content experts to evaluate the relevance, wording and clarity of questions or items in the instrument, after which a content validity index was computed. A content validity index of 0.83 was greater than 0.7 which is the minimum CVI used to declare an instrument content validity, as per Amin (2005). The Cronbach alpha coefficient was used to ensure reliability of the instrument, using SPSS. A Cronbach Alpha of 0.8 was got, which is greater than 0.70 (Amin, 2005) and so the instrument was declared reliable.

Data Gathering Procedures

Before administration of the questionnaires

The following were done before data gathering:

1. The completion of research proposal and submission for approval to the College of Higher Degrees and Research of Kampala International University.

2. An introduction letter was obtained from the College of Higher Degrees and Research of Kampala International University, seeking for permission to carry out research in Sembabule District and in those CBOs.
3. Selected research assistants who assisted in the data collection; brief and orient.

During administration of the questionnaires

1. The respondents were requested to answer completely and not to leave any part of the questionnaires unanswered.
2. The researcher and assistants were emphasized getting back of the questionnaires within fourteen (14) days from the date of distribution.
3. On retrieval, all returned questionnaires were checked if all are answered.

After the administration of the questionnaires

The data gathered was collated, encoded into the computer and statistically treated using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

Data Analysis

The frequency and percentages were used to determine the profile of the respondents. The means and ranks were applied for the levels of community based organizations’ activities and poverty reduction. The following mean ranges were used to derive the interpretations

A. For the levels of community based organization activities and poverty reduction

Mean Range	Response Mode	Interpretation
3.26-4.00	strongly agree	Very high
2.51-3.25	Agree	High
1.76-2.50	Disagree	Low
1.00-1.75	strongly disagree	Very low

To determine whether there is a significant relationship between the levels of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction, Pearson linear correlation coefficient (PLCC) was used

Also the regression analysis R^2 (coefficient of determination) computed to determine the influence of the independent variable on the dependent variable.

Ethical Considerations

To ensure confidentiality of the information provided by the respondents and to ascertain the practice of ethics in this study, the following activities were implemented by the researcher:

1. Sought permission to adopt the standardized questionnaire on social adaptation and compliance through a written communication to the author.
2. The respondents were coded instead of reflecting the names.
3. Solicited permission through a written request to the concerned officials of the parishes included in the study.
4. Requested the respondents to sign in the *Informed Consent Form* (Appendix 3)
5. Acknowledged the authors quoted in this study and the author of the standardized instrument through citations and referencing.
6. Presented the findings in a generalized manner.

CHAPTER FOUR DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Introduction

This chapter shows the profile of respondents, level of community based organizations activities, the level of poverty reduction and significant relationship between of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District. The presentation here is based on data as collected from the field and as analyzed by the researcher. Respondents were asked to provide their gender, age, marital status, educational level and Numbers of years in Sembabule District. In each case, register members of the CBOs were asked to provide their profile characteristics, using a closed ended questionnaire. Their responses were analyzed using frequencies and percentage distributions as indicated in table 2 below;

The Profile of Respondents

The Profile of Respondents was captured and results are evidenced below

Table 3 The Profile of Respondents

Profile of Respondents	Frequency	Percent
Gender		
Male	54	40.0
Female	81	60.0
Total	135	100.0
Age		
Below 30	95	70.4
31-49	39	28.9
50 and above	1	.7
Total	135	100.0
Marital status		
Single	37	27.4
Married	88	65.2
Divorced	9	6.7
Widowed	1	.7
Total	135	100.0

Educational level		
Primary	28	20.7
Secondary	28	20.7
Certificate	68	50.4
Diploma	8	5.9
Degree	2	1.5
Masters	1	.7
Total	135	100.0
Years in Sembabule District		
Below 5 years	23	17.0
6-10 years	38	28.1
10 and above	74	54.8
Total	135	100.0

Source: Primary data, 2013

Results in Table2 indicated that female respondents (over 60%) were higher than male respondents (over 40%). This indicates a big gender gap in selected parishes of Sembabule District. This big gap may be due to women's participation in CBOs activities.

Regarding age group, respondents in this sample were dominated by those below 30 years (over 70%), suggesting that most of the respondents in selected CBOs of selected parishes Sembabule District are youths.

About marital status, the biggest portions of the respondents (over 65%) were married, followed by singles with (27%) and others were divorced and widowed.

With respect to educational level, majority of the respondents (50%) were certificate holders, indicating that respondents are relatively qualified, followed by those in primary and secondary with (20%), diploma were (6%), degree (2%) and 1% with masters.

Pertaining the numbers of years they have stayed in Sembabule District, most of the respondents have stayed for over 10 and above years with over (55%), followed by those who have stayed for a period of 6-10 years and below 5 years were the fewest. Those who have stayed for over 10 and above years dominated in the sample hence showing how the information they were giving was relevant because they know most of the activities that take place in selected parishes in Sembabule District

The level of Community Based Organizations’ Activities

The independent variable in this study was community based organizations’ activities and the second objective was to determine the level of community based organizations activities in selected CBOs of selected parishes of Sembabule district. To achieve this objective, ten qualitative questions were asked in the questionnaire and each had four possible responses ranging from 1= strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3= agree and 4=strongly agree. Register Members of the COBs were asked to rate the level of community based organizations activities by indicating the extent to which they agree or disagree with each item.

Their responses were analyzed using SPSS and summarized using means as indicated in table 3 for interpretation of responses, the following numerical values were used:

Key for interpretation of means

Mean range	Response mode	Interpretation
3.26-4.00	strongly agree	Very high
2.51-3.25	Agree	High
1.76-2.50	Disagree	Low
1.00-1.75	Strongly disagree	Very low

Table 4: The level of Community Based Organizations' Activities
(Items Analysis n=135)

Items on Community Based Organizations' Activities	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
You participate in keeping the water bodies clean like bore holes, water springs e.t.c.	2.89	High	1
You participate in poultry keeping like birds e.g hens, turkeys, ducks e.t.c	2.83	High	2
You involve in farming as an activity in your community	2.81	High	3
You involve in Saccos in your community	2.81	High	4
You participate in local markets like a business women or man	2.75	High	5
You clean health centres in your community as an activity	2.74	High	6
You clean school compounds e.g cleaning toilets, sweeping the school	1.90	Low	7
You involve yourself in brick laying in your community	1.90	Low	8
You dig roads as an activity in the community	1.69	Very low	9
You participate in community activity like recreation centres that is slashing play grounds	1.64	Very low	10
Average Mean	2.39	Low	

(Source, Primary Data, 2013)

The means in Table 3 indicated that register members of the CBOs rated the level of community based organizations activities higher on only six items namely you participate in keeping the water bodies clean like bore holes, water springs e.t.c, You participate in poultry keeping like birds e.g hens, turkeys, ducks e.t.c, You involve in farming as an activity in your community, You involve in Saccos in your community, You are able to participate in local markets like a business women or man and You clean health centres in your community as an activity with (means 2.89-2.74). And for the two namely You are able to dig roads as an activity in the community and You participate in community activity like recreation centres that is slashing play grounds was rated lowest with (means 1.69-1.4). The total mean (2.39) indicates that on average, the

level of community based organizations activities in selected CBOs of selected parishes of Sembabule district is generally low. These results suggest that there are low levels of community based organizations' activities due to the fact that registered members of the selected CBOs do not take community based organizations activities as serious that they should engage in them (Ali,2010).

Level of Poverty Reduction

The dependent variable in this study was poverty reduction and the third objective was to determine the level of poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule district. To achieve this objective, eleven qualitative questions were asked in the questionnaire, each with four response scales ranging from 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3= agree and 4=strongly agree. In each question, registered members of the selected CBOs were asked to rate their level of poverty reduction by indicating the extent to which they agree or disagree with each item. Their responses were summarized using means as indicated in table 4 To interpret their responses, the following numerical values were used;

Key for interpretation of means

Mean range	Response mode	Interpretation
3.26-4.00	Strongly Agree	Very high
2.51-3.25	Agree	High
1.76-2.50	Disagree	Low
1.00-1.75	Strongly disagree	Very low

Table 5: Level of Poverty Reduction
(Items Analysis n=135)

Items on Poverty Reduction	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
You and your family have an income generating activity.	2.90	High	1
You and your family have access to formal education.	2.53	High	2
As a result of poverty reduction, you now have a space for a business	2.47	Low	3
You and your family can easily access the basic every day food.	2.44	Low	4
As a result of poverty reduction, you have some business capital.	2.42	Low	5
You and your family have easy & adequate access to medical care services.	2.39	Low	6
You are able to lay bricks and also to make hand crafts like weaving baskets, making of table clothes e.t.c.	2.22	Low	7
You have acquired adequate skills in electricity and electronics repairs, driving and mechanics, tailoring, welding, masonry, etc	2.09	Low	8
Your living conditions are generally good.	2.07	Low	9
As a result of poverty reduction, you now have a good house	1.99	Low	10
You have acquired skills in entrepreneurship & small business management	1.65	Very low	11
Average Mean	2.29	Low	

(Source: Primary data, 2013)

The results in Table 4 revealed that concerning poverty reduction, most of the respondents disagreed whereby they were rated low over eight aspects namely , having space for a business with 2.47, having easy access to the basic food everyday with (2.44), having some business capital (2.42), having easy access to medical care services (2.39), ability to lay bricks and also to make hand crafts like weaving baskets, making of table clothes e.t.c (2.22), acquiring of adequate skills in electricity and electronics repairs, driving and

mechanics, tailoring, welding, masonry, etc, (2.09), living conditions being generally good (2.09) and having good house (1.99). The average mean indicated that the poverty reduction is generally low with 2.29 because registered members of the selected CBOs have not been given chance to participate fully in the project activities.

The findings indicate that poverty reduction is high since most people agreed in terms of having an income generating activity and having access to formal education (means 2.90-2.53). This low level of poverty reduction is partly attributed to the lower level of community based organization activities as displayed in Table 4 above.

Relationship between Community Based Organizations' activities and poverty reduction in Sembabule District

The fourth objective was to establish whether there is a significant relationship between the levels of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction in Sembabule District. The researcher tested a null hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction in Sembabule District. To test this null hypothesis, the Pearson's Linear Correlation Coefficient (PLCC) and the results are indicated in table 5

Table 6: Relationship between Community Based Organizations' activities and poverty reduction

Variables correlated	r-value	Sig	Interpretation	Decision on Ho
Community Based Organizations' Activities Vs Poverty Reduction	.300	0.000	Significant correlation	Rejected

The results in the Table indicate a significant relationship between Level of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction ($r=0.300$, $\text{sig.} =0.000$). The findings also indicate that Level of community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction are positively correlated. This means that an improvement in community based organizations activities will reduce on poverty among registered CBOs members of selected parishes of Sembabule District. The r coefficient of 0.300 and a sig of .000 indicate that community activities will also help in reduction of poverty. Basing on these results, the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative was accepted. A conclusion was made that an improvement or increase in community based organizations' activities will reduce on poverty among members at 0.05 level of significance.

To get a picture on how community based organization activities have influence poverty reduction, the two variables were and results are indicated in table 5

**Table 7: Regression Analysis between Community Based Organization Activities and Poverty Reduction
(Item analysis n=135)**

Variables regressed	Adjusted R2	F-value	sig	Interpretation	Decision on Ho
Community Based Organizations' Activity Vs Poverty Reduction	0.83	12.946	.000	Significant effect	Rejected

The linear regression results in Table 6 above indicate that community based organization activities have a significant effect on poverty reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District (F=12.946, sig=.000). The results indicated that community based organization activities in the regression model contribute of 0.83% towards variations in poverty reduction among members with (Adjusted R²=0.83). This means that community based organization activities will reduce on poverty in selected parishes of Sembabule District.

CHAPTER FIVE DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of the major findings, conclusions and recommendations based on the study objectives and study hypothesis. The researcher also suggests areas for further research here.

Discussion of Findings level of Community Based Organizations' Activities

Findings revealed that community based organizations participate in keeping the water bodies clean like bore holes, water springs and participate in saccos and local market like business women or men . This is in line with the findings of Koote (2004) who noted that Community Based Organizations have implemented a number of programs in Sembabule District: to improve the protection, health, education, food security and livelihood status of marginalized children and their families by building the capacity of communities and local authorities.

Findings revealed that community based organizations participate in poultry keeping like birds for example hens, turkeys, and ducks, and also involve in farming as an activity in the community. This is in line with the findings of Community Based Organizations implement activities to improve access, production and utilization of food among vulnerable families in Sembabule District. Through this program, Key Farmer Coordinators (KFC's) mobilize groups of 15 to 30 farmers to work at demonstration sites that serve as a source for improved seeds and agricultural practices.

Findings revealed that community based organizations does not participate in community activity like recreation centres that is slashing play grounds. This is in line with the findings of Hunter (2000) who noted that there

is agreement on the components of community-based programs for vulnerable children. Prioritizing program activities will depend upon community needs, abilities, and preferences, as well as on the nature of sponsoring or partner organizations. The community is best able to identify target groups for interventions, although the government may wish to select target regions or communities for program implementation

Level of Poverty Reduction

Findings revealed that most of the respondents disagreed having space for a business. This agrees with the findings of Sengendo and Nambi (2000) who noted that Poor children and their families are confronted with severe threats in regard to their well being including isolation, loss of income, educational access, shelter, nutrition, and other essentials. When families and children are forced to focus on basic daily needs to decrease their suffering, attention is diverted from factors that contribute to long-term health and well-being.

Findings revealed that most of the respondents disagreed having easy access to the basic food everyday. This agrees with the findings of UNAIDS (2002) that asserted that many of the poor children continue to experience emotional problems and little is being done in this area of emotional support. There are several reasons. First, there is a lack of adequate information on the nature and magnitude of the problem; secondly, there is a cultural belief that children do not have emotional problems and therefore there is a lack of attention from adults.

Findings revealed that most of the respondents disagreed having easy access to medical care services, ability to lay bricks and also to make hand crafts like weaving baskets, making of table clothes. This is in line with the findings of Williamson (2000) who noted that the core interventions children

need for their current well-being and for their development are food/nutrition, shelter, protection, health care, psychosocial support, and education. A community-based response to these needs that preserves and supports families as much as possible is the primary.

The findings indicate that poverty reduction is high in terms of having an income generating activity and having access to formal education. This relates with the findings of Whiteside (2002) who noted that Assistance programs should enable poor people to remain in a loving family situation in which they can maintain stability, care, predictability, and protection. Supporting family capacity, whether the head of household is an ill or widowed parent, an elderly grandparent, or a young person, helps build a protective environment for vulnerable children

Relationship between Community Based Organizations' activities and poverty reduction in Sembabule District

Findings revealed that there is a significant relationship between community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction ($r=0.300$, sig. =0.000). this is in line with the findings of Smart (2000) who noted that meeting the basic needs of children and youth is not only vital for ensuring their current well-being, but is also critical to their future. Basic or "core" needs include food/nutrition, shelter and care, protection, health care, psychosocial support, and education. Illness in the family or the loss of a parent or parents is extremely disruptive to children, and places them at a distinct disadvantage in obtaining the support necessary for their welfare and even at risk to life.

Conclusions

From the purpose of the study, the researcher generated the following conclusions

Strengths

community based organizations' activities were high on six aspects that are you participate in keeping the water bodies clean like bore holes, water springs e.t.c, they participate in poultry keeping like birds e.g hens, turkeys, ducks e.t.c, they involve in farming , they involve in Saccos , they participate in local markets like a business women or man and cleaning health centres in selected parishes of Sembabule District is high where most of respondents agreed with it hence participate.

Weaknesses

On the level of poverty reduction some respondents had no skills in entrepreneurship & small business management, as well as low access to medical care, and basic every day food hence being poor. On the other hand the level of community based organisation had low participation on cleaning school compounds, laying bricks, digging roads as an activity in the community, and recreation centres that is slashing play grounds.

Testing the null hypotheses

The null hypothesis of no significant relationship between the level of community based activities and poverty reduction was rejected. A conclusion was made that, an improvement in community based organizations activities, will reduce on poverty among register members of CBOs at 95% level of significance.

Existing gap and contribute to existing knowledge by filling the gaps identified.

The researcher identified the gap by finding out that community based organizations' activities and poverty reduction are positively and significantly correlated and it has never been carried out in Sembabule district, and this was the first time for the study to be carried out in Sembabule.

Contextually, the study was carried out from Nigeria in 2009 of community based organization activities and poverty alleviation/reduction and was carried out again in 2013 in Uganda.

Recommendations

From the findings and the conclusions of the study, the researcher recommends that there should be some needs to uplift the competencies of members of CBOs of selected parishes in Sembabule district since most of them were found to be certificate holders.

There is a need to sensitize the members of the community to participate in Community Based Organization activities in selected parishes of Sembabule district, since it was found to be generally low.

Members of the CBOs should be trained with skills in entrepreneurship & small business management hence reducing poverty.

There is a need to sensitize people on how to fight poverty in selected parishes of Sembabule District, and also to train them on how to improve their standards of living.

There is a need to encourage males also to participate in community based organization activities not letting only women to participate.

The management of the CBOs need to improve on their bureaucratic system.

Despite of all these challenges, members should also involve in vocational activities like brick laying, slashing, and cleaning toilets so that they can improve on their living standards

Areas for Further Research

The research does not and cannot guarantee that the study was completely exhausted. In any case, the scope of the study was limited in accordance with the space, and objectives. It is therefore, suggested that a national research covering the whole country be undertaken. Also, prospective researchers and even students should be encouraged to research into the following areas:

1. The Relationship between women's participation and effective decentralization of service delivery systems in Sembabule district.
2. Effects of Community based activities and Poverty alleviation in Sembabule District.

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APPENDIX A: TRANSMITTAL LETTER



Ggaba Road - Kansanga
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Tel: +256 - 414 - 266813 / +256 - 772 - 322563
Fax: +256 - 414 - 501 974
E-mail: admin@kiu.ac.ug
Website: www.kiu.ac.ug

**OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT, ECONOMICS AND
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
COLLEGE OF HIGHER DEGREES AND RESEARCH (CHDR)**

Date: 17th dec. 2012

**RE: REQUEST Rachelle D.WilsonMDS/34743/113/DF
TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN YOUR ORGANIZATION**

The above mentioned is a bonafide student of Kampala International University pursuing Masters of Development Studies. She is currently conducting a research entitled "Community Based Organisation Activities and Poverty Reduction in Sembabule District ,Uganda. "

Your organization has been identified as a valuable source of information pertaining to her research project. The purpose of this letter is to request you avall her with the pertinent information she may need.

Any information shared with her from your organization shall be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Any assistance rendered to her will be highly appreciated.

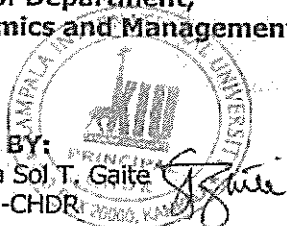
Yours truly,

M. Ramadhan

Dr. Malinga Ramadhan
Head of Department,
Economics and Management Sciences, (CHDR)

NOTED BY:

Dr. Sofia Sol. T. Gaita
Principal-CHDR



APPENDIX B: TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR THE RESPONDENTS

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Greetings!

I am a master student of Development studies of Kampala International University. My study is entitled, **Community Based Organisations Activities and Poverty Reduction of selected parishes of Sembabule- District, Uganda**. Within this context, may I request you to participate in this study by answering the questionnaires. Kindly do not leave any option unanswered. Any data you will provide shall be for academic purposes only and no information of such kind shall be disclosed to others.

May I retrieve the questionnaire within fourteen (14) days

Thank you very much in advance.

Yours faithfully,

Ms. Rachelle D. Wilson

APPENDIX C: CLEARANCE FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE

Date _____

Candidate's Data

Name _____

Reg.# _____

Course _____

Title of Study _____

Ethical Review Checklist

The study reviewed considered the following:

- Physical Safety of Human Subjects
- Psychological Safety
- Emotional Security
- Privacy
- Written Request for Author of Standardized Instrument
- Coding of Questionnaires/Anonymity/Confidentiality
- Permission to Conduct the Study
- Informed Consent
- Citations/Authors Recognized

Results of Ethical Review

- Approved
- Conditional (to provide the Ethics Committee with corrections)
- Disapproved/ Resubmit Proposal

Ethics Committee (Name and Signature)

Chairperson _____

Members _____

APPENDIX D: INFORMED CONSENT

I am giving my consent to be part of the research study of Miss. Rachelle D. Wilson that will focus on Community Based Organizations Activities and Poverty Reduction in selected parishes of Sembabule District: Uganda

I shall be assured of privacy, anonymity and confidentiality and that I will be given the option to refuse participation and right to withdraw my participation anytime.

I have been informed that the research is voluntary and that the results will be given to me if I ask for it.

Initials _____

Date _____

APPENDIX E: QUESTIONNAIRE

Section A: Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

1. **GENDER:** Male _____ Female _____
2. **AGE:** Below 30 _____ 31-49 _____ 50 & above _____
3. **Marital Status**
i) Single ___ ii) Married ___ iii) Divorced ___ iv) Widowed ___
4. **Highest Level of education**
i) ___ Primary ii) ___ Secondary iii) ___ Certificate iv) ___ Diploma
v) ___ Degree vi) ___ Masters
5. **For how long have you been in Sembabule district?**
i) ___ Below 5 years ii) ___ 6-10 years iii) ___ 10 and above

Section B: to examine the Level Community Based Organizations in Selected Parishes of Sembabule

Direction: Please describe the extent to which you agree or disagree your participation in community based organization activities on each item by using the scoring scale guide below. Kindly write your best rating in the space before each item. Be honest about your options as there is no right or wrong answers.

Score	Response	Description
4	strongly agree	you agree with no doubt at all
3	agree	you agree with some doubt
2	disagree	you disagree with some doubt
1	strongly disagree	you disagree with no doubt at all

___1) you participate in keeping the water bodies clean like bore holes, water springs e.t.c.

___2) you participate in poultry keeping like birds e.g. hens, turkeys, ducks e.t.c

___3) you clean school compounds e.g. cleaning toilets, sweeping the school compound, mopping them e.t.c.

- __4) You participate in community activity like recreation centers that is slashing play grounds.
- __5) you dig roads as an activity in the community.
- __6) you participate in local markets like a business women or man?
- __7) you clean health centers in your community as an activity.
- __8) you involve yourself in brick laying in your community.
- __9) you involve in farming as an activity in your community.
- __10) you involve in Saccos in your community.

Section C: To Determine the Level of Poverty Reduction in Selected Parishes of Sembabule District

Direction: please describe the level of poverty reduction by responding to each of the following items using the scoring scale guide below. Kindly write your best choice in the space before each item. Be honest about your opinions as there is no right or wrong answers.

Score	Response	Description
4	strongly agree	you agree with no doubt at all
3	agree	you agree with some doubt
2	disagree	you disagree with some doubt
1	strongly disagree	you disagree with no doubt at all

- ____11. As a result of poverty reduction, you now have a good house
- ____12. As a result of poverty reduction, you now have a space for a business
- ____13. As a result of poverty reduction, you have some business capital.
- ____14. You and your family have easy & adequate access medical care services.
- ____15. Your living conditions are generally good.

___16. You and your family have an income generating activity.

___17. You and your family can easily access the basic every day food.

___18. You and your family have access to formal education.

___19. You have acquired adequate skills in electricity and electronics repairs, driving and mechanics, tailoring, welding, masonry, etc

___20. You have acquired skills in entrepreneurship & small business management

___21. You are able to lay bricks and also to make hand crafts like weaving baskets, making of table clothes e.t.c.

APPENDIX F: CONTENT VALIDITY INDEX

Community based organizations' activities	No of Judges	No of Judges Declared item Valid	CVI
You participate in keeping the water bodies clean like bore holes, water springs e.t.c.	4	4	1
You are participating in poultry keeping like birds e.g hens, turkeys, ducks e.t.c	4	4	1
You involve in farming as an activity in your community	4	4	1
You involve in Saccos in your community	4	2	0.5
You participate in local markets like a business women or man?	4	1	0.25
You clean health centres in your community as an activity.	4	4	1
You clean school compounds e.g cleaning toilets, sweeping the school	4	4	1
You involve your self in brick laying in your community.	4	4	1
You dig roads as an activity in the community.	4	4	1
You participate in community activity like recreation centres that is slashing play grounds.	4	3	0.75
Average			.85
Poverty Reduction			
Having income generating activity like selling tomatoes, ground nuts, pancakes e.t.c	4	4	1
Having access to formal education.	4	4	1
Having space for a business	4	3	0.75
Having easy access to basic food everyday.	4	4	1
You have some business capital	4	2	0.5
Having easy access to medical care services.	4	4	1
Ability to lay bricks and also to make hand crafts like weaving baskets, making of table clothes e.t.c.	4	2	0.5
Acquisition of skills in electricity and electronics repairs, driving and mechanics, tailoring, welding, masonry, etc	4	4	1
Living conditions being generally good.	4	4	1
Having a good house	4	2	0.5
Having skills in entrepreneurship and small business management	4	4	1

average			
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Content Validity Index $CVI = \frac{\text{Independent Variables} + \text{Dependent Variables}}{2}$

$\div 2$

$$CVI = \frac{.85 + .84}{2}$$

$$CVI = .835$$

APPENDIX G: CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Information

First Name(s) : Rachelle
Last Name(s) : Wilson
Gender : Female
Date of Birth : 10/09/1981
Place of Birth : Liberia
Nationality at Birth : Liberia
Present Nationality : Liberia
Second Nationality : Liberia
Marital Status : Single
Correspondence Email Address rachelle.wilson60@yahoo.com

Driving License Yes

Address: Kampala

Bukoto

Telephone:

+256778618479

Email:

rachelle.wilson60@yahoo.com

Qualification

01/02/2008 01/02/2009 Diploma in MS word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Coral Computer Software Stella Marias Polyphonic Computer Training College Monrovia, Liberia

01/01/2006 01/09/2010 Bachelor Degree in Sociology and Demography Major in Sociology and Minor in Demography University of Liberia

Monrovia, Liberia

01/03/2001 01/12/2002 Secondary School Diploma and West African Examination Concil Certificate Secondary School Our Lady of Fatima High School Harper, City, Maryland County, Liberia

01/03/1992 01/12/2000 High School Diploma High School Studies College Modern de Tabou Tabou, Cote d'Ivoire

JOB EXPERIENCE

23/5/2011 10/6/2011 Field data collection officer in rural communities for the HEALTH, AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY (HANDS) PROGRAM.

DUTIES

- Community entry approaches
- Sampling of households
- Conducting qualitative interviews
- Conducting quantitative interviews
- Taking anthropometric measurements of children under 5years
- Recording responses
- Managing difficulties situation

01/01/2009 - 01/10/2010: Field Officer - Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development

DUTIES:

- ❖ Coordinating the provision of effective Administration and Logistical Services to

the organization.

- ❖ Control and supervise all relief items allocated to my assigned area diligently.
- ❖ Manage and control the affairs of all IDPs in the camp.
- ❖ Allocate booths and distribute seeds and tools to the IDPs in the camp.
- ❖ Collect data from distributions and prepare daily reports.
- ❖ Organize meetings with local communities and International partners.
- ❖ Take records of project progress and liaise with Head Office.
- ❖ Help in working out good relationship with the local community and staff.
- ❖ Prepare budget for Logistic matters related to my area of assignment.
- ❖ Perform any other duties as deem necessary by the Head of Office.

01/02/2007 – 01/09/2008: Census Officer = National Population Census

DUTIES:

- Prepared census awareness materials for sensitization of the Local Communities.
- Assisted in the census promotion education awareness program.
- Conducted census of the Local Population in District #2, Monrovia, Liberia.
- Conducted house to house visit to obtain household data.
- Analyzed and record data collected from the field.
- Verified and input data collected from the field into database.

01/01/2005 - 01/12/2006: Electoral Officer - District # 1 – National Electoral Commission (NEC)

DUTIES:

- ❖ Disseminate notices on bill-boards to disclose electoral requirements to the public including media announcements for the accreditation of observers and nomination of candidates.

- ❖ Assist in the setting up of polling stations.
- ❖ Assist in conducting voters' registration and voters' education process.
- ❖ Dissemination of registration requirement and information.
- ❖ Ensure that polling booths and election boxes were ready in time and due process was followed by voters and report any irregularities.
- ❖ Ensure that the public was sensitized of registration and voting process.
- ❖ Provided full support to NEC during election.
- ❖ Took statistics of votes and input data into database.
- ❖ Give support and guidance to the media Adviser during the public outreach activities.
- ❖ Performed other duties as required by the NEC Chairperson pertaining to the elections.

REFERENCE

1. George Forbgo
Consultant , HANDS
MONROVIA

2. Monrovia
Liberia
Monrovia LIR
Tel: +231 6 583306
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3. Rev. Fr. Foster Gardiner
St. Theresa Catholic Church
Harper, Maryland County
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Email: frfosgard@yahooJr