

**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF POVERTY
REDUCTION PROJECTS IN SOMALIA, A CASE STUDY OF HIRAN
COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND YOUTH SUPPORT PROJECTS IN
BELEDWEYNE SOMALIA**

BY

ALI MOHAMUD AFRAH

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
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DECLARATION

I Ali Mohamud Afrah, hereby declare that the research submitted to Kampala International University by me is my own original work. I am aware of the fact that in case my work is found to be plagiarized or not genuine, Kampala International University has the full authority to cancel my research work and I am liable to penal action.

Signature: 

Date: 12/05/2022

APPROVAL

I certify that this dissertation has been done under my supervision and is been submitted for examination with approval as a university supervisor.

Signature:



Date:



Dr. Mbabazi Mbabazize

DEDICATION

This research dissertation is dedicated to my parents for their parental guidance and education they gave me, my brothers, my supervisor for his guidance and directions in writing this report and not forgetting my friends; for giving their love and ideas during my studies.

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First, I would like to acknowledge the divine presence of my Almighty Allah to whom this research study would not have been successful without his guidance, love, care and protection. All the Glory belongs to Him.

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ABSTRACT

The study was to examine the impact of community participation on poverty reduction projects in Somalia, looking at Hiran community awareness and youth Support projects in Beledweyne, Somalia as the study case study, this study focused on addressing the following Specific Objectives, (i) to illustrate the influence of the involvement of community in decision making on poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia, (ii) to ascertain the influence of involvement of community in information sharing on poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia and (iii) to find out the influence of involvement of community in project governance on sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia. The study was guided by the Stakeholder theory and the Treseder's Degree of Participation theory. The study employed a Correlational research design. Correlational research design was used to determine whether and to what extent the relationship between two or more variables exists. The study targeted a population of 174 respondents both from within the selected projects and the external stakeholders including the community members of Baladwyne district. However the sample size of the study was 120 of target population (174) was determined through purposive and random sampling methods. The study used self-Administered Questionnaire and Interview Guide as the main Data Collection instruments. From the study findings showed that there is a small positive correlation of (0.063), which means that it does not have statistically significant contribution to sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects given that the significance level is (0.513) which is greater than P-Value of 0.05. It further indicates that one unit change in Community participation in project planning, results to -0.014 changes in sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. The study concludes that even though it's important to involve the stakeholders in project planning, their involvement does not contribute a lot to sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. Hence, there is need to encourage Community participation in the implementation of the project. From the study findings and conclusion made the research recommends that before any project starts operating, there is need to carry out a feasibility study in order to establish the actual problem on the ground. The National NGO bureau needs to ensure that they follow up on NGOs operating in the country to ensure that projects are started the right way. As the research has established, selected poverty reduction projects has been implementing projects basing on ideas, and not from the reality on the ground.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the background to the study, statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study, and the operational definitions of terms and concepts as applied to suit the context of the study.

1.1 Background to the study

1.1.1 Historical background

Globally, Community participation in community development activity is as old as man himself. Prior to the onset of colonial administration, communities engaged in communal efforts as a mechanism for mobilizing community resource to provide physical improvement and functional facilities in the socio, political and economic aspects of their lives. There was a para-scientific response of a community lacking all relevant trappings of modern technology, capital and management resources to the media and exigencies of development. These complaints therefore re-awakened interest in the local management of resources and decisions (Mansuri & Rao, 2014).

While, Sustainability has advanced into a significant challenge today. (Silvius, 2017). Hans Carl von Carlowitz, a German forester, devised the phrase "sustainability" in the 1950s. 1712 to refer to ways in which forest resources needed to be managed sustainably. (Komalawati, 2018). In the 1960s & 1970s, Sustainability became broadly known through the world of the member of the club of Rome that made the two related concepts of sustainable development and Inter-generational equity known (Garcia & Staples, 2020) as cited in (Komalawati, 2018). The concept and analysis of sustainable development were additionally advanced by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) which was founded in the 1980s, they presented modern description of development that is long-term known today "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generation to meet their own needs" (WCED,1987), as cited in (Scoones, 2017) who is cited by (Komalawati, 2018). In recent times, since sustainability necessitates change, and projects are undergoing change,

Project management has been linked to sustainability. (A. J. G. Silvius & Schipper, 2016). Concern with subject of project sustainability came because of many pressures from internal constituencies to slightly lessen or probably end foreign aid and programs (Brown, 2018) as cited in (Komalawati, 2018). More than ever, the environment of many organizations faces too many changes and has become very competitive. (Silvius, et al., 2016.). The ability to come up with accurate changes that are organized and managed effectively and efficiently, is considered as a serious success factor for projects agility and continuous success, these changes are being accomplished as projects. (Silvius et al., 2016). Organizations are now required to present accountability to all stakeholders in regards to sustainability strategy instead of the previous reliance on economic performances to shareholders (Visser 2012) as cited by (Silvius & Schipper, 2016). Tom Taylor, former Chairman of the Association for Project Management (APM), acknowledges that "Planet Earth is in jeopardy due to a number of fundamental environmental issues," and program managers are in a unique position to help improve management activities that are long-term. (Association for Project Management 2016) as cited by (Komalawati, 2018). Concerns about sustainability prompted the donors to consider their options whether it would be preferable for donors to provide assistance that would allow recipients to become self-sufficient rather than offering them charity in the future, this is inefficient and leads to a reliance on international assistance. (Bossert,2020) as cited by (Komalawati, 2018). Post-development theorists see beneficiaries as conceiving and capable of implementing projects completely on their own (e.g. Escobar 1995) as cited in (Wiek, 2014). Projects have also been recognized as being important in the adoption of more sustainable business practices, as well as the connection between projects and long-term sustainability is becoming a hot research subject in project management. (Silvius, 2017).

In Africa, citizen or Community participation continues to capture a centre-stage position in many policies of nation-states and international development agencies in recent years. In post-apartheid South Africa, the role of community participation became very important, and communities given opportunity to identify and define their problems through the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) which states that development should be people driven to improve the quality of life of the poor and marginalised communities through development empowerment (African National Congress, 2014).

In Somalia, it is essentially understood across the community development field that communities are an integral part of development within their localities and that their continuous involvement is paramount to their own success. For that matter, communities in

Somalia are no longer seen as recipients of development programmes; rather, they have become critical stakeholders that have an important role to play in the management of programmes and projects in their areas (Burke, 1979). It is clear that community participation is now a national concern particularly in the less developed corners of the country. In Somalia however, the concept of community participation is not as simple to implement, because the communities are traditionally not ready to take on this responsibility. It is opined that, development programmes are more likely to succeed if a well-planned strategy to enhance participation is also incorporated into the programme planning (Thomas & Thomas, 1999). The problem lack of effective participation by community has caused poor project performance and is seen to be a major bottles reach in projects delivery. For this reason the researcher sought to carry out a study to investigate the influence of community participation on development project performance.

In Beledweyne Somalia, community participation has been for many decades synonymous with political participation. Most scholars notably Jean-Philippe Platteau, (2004) traces political participation from the pre-colonial era decentralized societies of Southern and Eastern Somalia. These societies through established simple political systems provided grounds for people's involvement in the affairs that affected them.

Somalia is one of the poorest countries in the world with 31% of the population lives below the poverty line, lowest 20% described as chronically poor. Whereas citizen participation in Somalia has indeed enhanced representation in local government decision making, planning, and implementation among others, this has not necessarily translated into poverty alleviation for rural areas (Namukasaand Atwijukire, 2018). In the perspective of Beledweyne district, poverty has risen and this has been accompanied by a marked increase in inequality, which has been rising since 1997. The rise in poverty is attributed to low level of community participation in the activities of Beledweyne district local government. Community members are often left out during decision making, planning, project implantation and evaluation which has consequently affected the effectiveness of services delivered thus increase in poverty in the district (Namukasa & Atwijukire, 2018). Thus, this justifies the need for the study in Beledweyne district to examine the association between citizens participation and poverty eradication.

1.1.2 Theoretical perspective

The study was guided by the Stakeholder theory and the Treseder's Degree of Participation theory.

1.1.2.1. Stakeholder theory

Stakeholder theory directed the research, the concept of this theory according to Megan Blackburn, 2019 was originally laid out by Ian Mitroff (1983), he wrote about it in his publication "Stakeholders of the Organizational Mind," The theory was later advanced by a Professor of business management and philosopher R. Edward Freeman (1984), who said Stakeholder theory was developed as a result of discussions at the Stanford Research Institute, rather than citing Mitroff as a source whose use of the word was coined to describe & broaden the idea of stockholders as the only party to which management must react. Therefore, originally the term "stakeholder" was described as "those groups without whose support the organization would cease to exist." Shareholders, staff, clients, vendors, lenders, and the community were all on their initial list of stakeholders (By Megan Blackburn, 2019).

Stakeholder theory stresses the interconnectedness of businesses and organizations with all those that have an interest in them, including workers, consumers, vendors, financiers, communities, public agencies, political parties, labor associations, trade unions, and even rivals (R. Edward Freeman, Jeffrey S. Harrison, Andrew C. Wicks, Bidman L Parmar, 2020). According to the theory, company should represent interests of all stakeholders, not only the shareholders.

According to Freeman, it is better to represent the needs of stakeholders because increasing shareholder capital is not a long-term target for companies. He also drew six principles that he said were important to control the stakeholders' relationship and the corporation. The first was the theory of entry and departure, which states that specific guidelines must be in place to establish the relationship, such as when recruiting workers and terminating their jobs. The second concept was governance, which is concerned with how the laws regulating the stakeholder-firm partnership can be complicated changed.

The theory of externalities was the third principle which is interested in how a community that does not profit from a corporation's activities will express itself and face certain difficulties as a result of the corporation's actions.

According to the principle, anyone who bears the costs of other stakeholders and is affected by a business has the right to become a participant. Contract costs was the fourth concept; this means that each contracting party should either bear equal costs or costs proportional to their benefit in the company. The fifth principle was the Agency principle, which states that a company's management is its representative and thus has obligations to all clients and shareholders.

The sixth principle was selective immortality, which is concerned with a company's survival. It implies that the organization's survival, as well as the success of its owners, is contingent on the organization's existence for an extended duration. If the business only lasted for a limited period, it would be advantageous to some stakeholders but detrimental to others. (R. Edward Freeman, Jeffrey S. Harrison, Andrew C. Wicks, Bidman L Parmar, 2020).

The theory was relevant to this study because it guided it in terms of comprehension of how the stakeholders' partnership ought to be treated to guarantee the DSP Project's long-term viability. The first principle which was entry and exit helped the study to understand how the different DSP stakeholders were brought on board or let go, whether any rules are governed their relationship, and its effect on the sustainability of the project. The second principle was governance; this principle aided the analysis in determining if the terms of amending the rules that regulate the stakeholder relationship affect the project's long-term viability. The third theory was externalities, which aided the analysis in determining if all groups that bear the burden of the project's operations were included among the project's stakeholders, and if not, how this was affecting the project's long-term viability.

The fourth principle which was contract costs, it helped the study to understand whether all the stakeholders involved in the DSP play the roles that are expected of them for ensuring plan long-term viability. The fifth principle was the theory of agency, which stated that a company's manager was an employee of the company, with obligations to both owners and shareholders. This concept aided the investigation into whether the manager treats all customers and participants in a manner that guarantees the project's long-term viability. The sixth principle, minimal immortality, was concerned with a company's sustainability. This concept directed the investigation into whether there were policies in place to ensure that the project was sustainable so that all stakeholders profit from it achieving its objective.

1.1.2.2 Treseder's Degree of Participation theory

The study was based on Treseder's Degree of Participation. The proponent of this theory was Phil Treseder in (2017). The theory uses five degrees of participation that have no hierarchy of involvement. The type of involvement is dependent on the wishes of stakeholders, the context, stakeholder's developmental stages and the nature of the organization among others. Under this model, stakeholders are informed; sponsors decide the project and stakeholders volunteer for it. The stakeholders not only understand project but also know who decided to involve them and why. In this case sponsors respect the stakeholder's views. The other degree of participation is one of sponsor-initiated, shared decisions with stakeholders whereby sponsors have the initial idea but stakeholders are involved in every step of the planning and success. Here stakeholder's views are considered and they are involved in making decisions.

Treseder's other degree of involvement is where stakeholders are consulted and informed. This is where the project is designed and run by sponsors but stakeholders are consulted. Treseder (2017) believes that the stakeholders have a full understanding of the processes and their opinions are taken into account in the running of the project. Next are projects that are stakeholder-initiated and directed whereby stakeholders have the initial idea and decide on how the project is to be implemented. Though available, sponsors do not take charge but let the stakeholders run the project.

1.1.3 Conceptual Perspective

A project is defined as a unique and transient endeavor undertaken to achieve a desired outcome and a unique set individual or organization to meet specific performance objectives with defined schedule, performance and cost parameters (PMI, 2020). Projects must be seen as temporary organizations created to generate benefits for an organization.

Participation is a process through which stakeholders influence and share control over development initiatives and the decision and resources which affect them. Unless the poor are given an opportunity to participate in the development of interventions designed to improve their livelihood, they will continue to miss the benefits of any intervention. Ekong (2013), defined participation as playing active though not necessarily direct, roles in community decisions, knowledge of local issues, attendance at public meetings, related attempts to

influence proposed measures through individual and groups actions, belonging to groups and committees and financial contributions towards communities programmes.

Community participation is an active process by which beneficiary influence the direction and execution of development project with a view to enhance their wellbeing for personal growth and self-reliance (World Bank, 1987). It has emerged as a strategy, which promises greater results for effective allocating and channelling of resources to particular communities. It is essential in the sustainability of the projects (Besette, 2014). It therefore considers the active involvement of beneficiaries in development interventions.

Project sustainability is characterized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), African Development Bank (ADB), and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), as well as probability of such profits being sustained once monetary backing has terminated. (ADB 2020) cited in (Salla & Salla, 2014). According to the research, the word "project sustainability" is interpreted to include words like "stability," "resilience," in addition to "risk" to be able to indicate the need to handle the project's sustainability foundations constructively while mitigating project vulnerability and - resiliency. (Gachie, 2019).

Project implementation (or project execution) is the phase where visions and plans become reality (Jody & Rist, 2019). This is the logical conclusion, after evaluating, deciding, visioning, planning, applying for funds and finding the financial resources of a project (Jody & Rist, 2019). Technical implementation is one part of executing a project. Executing a project in the education sector is a very complex mission, as it requires the coordination of a wide range of activities, the overseeing of a team, the management of budget, the communication to the public, among other issues (Howlett and Nagu, 2021). Independent of whether it is a social project to raise the awareness and promote hygiene or it is a construction project for poverty reduction, there is a certain process that has to be followed and taken into account for a successful implementation (Howlett and Nagu, 2021).

1.1.4 Contextual Perspective

The outbreak of civil war had a devastating effect on community development and service provision in Somalia. By 1994, many public facilities like schools, hospitals etc had been destroyed making life measurable especially at the hands of the poor. However, after the formation of a transitional government and acquisition of peace, in some parts of the country, the government of Somalia has embarked on decentralization (top bottom approach) where

citizens get fully engaged in decision making as a unique policy to cause efficient poverty reduction (Howlett & Nagu, 2021).

Though, just like other most African countries, in Somalia, community participation in government development programmes and community ownership of these projects is still very lacking. The rationale for participation at local level systems form a recognition that involve people in government projects which makes everyone accountable for the budget and service deliveries in their area (Blair, 2012; Sirker and Cosic, 2017).

These obligations are enshrined in most of the African constitutions, like in Somalia constitution but they are not followed when implementing these projects. The constitution of Somalia and reforms which have been carried out in the previous post war era have concentrated on decentralization of economic activities without even fiscal decentralization for example the finances of the Districts still remain with central Governments controlled by the Ministry of Finance: Even most of the money that come from the Central government is conditional grant and does what the Central government commands. This is the most similar to the colonial period when citizens were not given chance to participate in their economic activities.

However, the common belief is that involving citizens in rural programmes and empowering them have the potential to boost their livelihoods and foster development. As such, many projects in poor countries will hardly receive any donor funding without a component on integrating the community in their proposals (Kakumba & Nsingo, 2018). It is therefore important that participatory ideas be applied to small scale development in ways that would allow the poor to be informed participants in development with external agents acting mainly as facilitator and sources of funds (Chambers, 2017). Arguments for participatory development as advocated by Chambers (2017) and others have led to the inclusion of participation as a crucial means of allowing the poor to have control over decisions.

Manikutty (2018) argues that one of the most common methods of measuring community participation has been the degree of cooperation of the people with in the community. For instance in Beledweyne, there is increased cooperation of local people in community developmental programmes where by the local people work together with outsiders to determine realities; responsibility remains with outsiders for directing the process thus achieve the set goals and objectives such as improved poverty reduction within the community.

The degree of compliance of the local people can also be used as a measure of community participation. Here the tasks are assigned with incentives, but outsiders decide the agenda and direct the process. This has been evidenced in Somalia particularly Beledweyne where by the majority of the community members comply with the rules and regulations set by the government. Samanta (2020) further cites that another method of community participation measurement is the degree of collective action where by the local people set their own agenda and mobilize to carry it out, in the absence of outside initiators and facilitators. An increased level of collective action with in Beledweyne has enabled the local people to work hand in hand to improve on their poverty reduction.

Many scholars argue that the level of consultation can as well be used as a measure of community participation. For instance increased level of consultation in Somalia where by the local opinions are asked for, and outsiders analyse and decide on a course of action has led to delivery of improved and timely services to the people. (Almond & Verba 1980).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In recent years, there have been increasing interests in participatory approaches in Somalia, which have been developed to improve the well-being of communities and to make the development programs more effective, more successful and sustainable. In addition, there is evidence that development efforts which involve beneficiaries (communities) in the development projects at the beginning of the programmes make these programmes more successful than those which do not (Chambers, 2012).

However, despite efforts made by the government and other development actors to improve social, political and economic welfare in Somalia through development projects, recent welfare monitoring survey indicate that poverty is on the increase due to poor performance of the already initiated development projects and also short lifetime of projects upon completion (Government of Somalia, 2017). Regardless of vibrant community actions over the past years in Somalia, lack of clear legislation of stakeholders' participation in community development projects is enough evidence that community participation in project for better project performance cannot be realized. For example, some legislators have taken it upon themselves to decide on the projects to be implemented in their areas without any community input and this has led to implementation of projects that do not respond to the needs of the community.

Most authors and researchers have done a lot of studies and research on participation. However, so far, there is scanty information of any organization that has studied and analysed community participation on poverty reduction projects in the context of Somalia community development projects in County. The researcher therefore seeks to investigate what then is the influence of community participation on poverty reduction projects in Somalia. And hence the present study.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to examine the impact of community participation on poverty reduction projects in Somalia, looking at Hiran community awareness and youth Support projects in Beledweyne, Somalia as the study cases.

1.4 Specific Objectives

- i. To examine the effect of the involvement of community in decision making on poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia.
- ii. To ascertain how the involvement of community in information sharing influences poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia.
- iii. To find out the how does the involvement of community in project governance influences sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia.

1.5 Research Questions

- i. What is the effect of the involvement of community in decision making on sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia?
- ii. How the involvement of community in information sharing influences poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia?
- iii. How the involvement of community in project governance does influences sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia?

1.6 Scope of the Study

1.6.1 Geographical Scope

The study was carried out in Beledweyne district of Somalia specifically at the selected poverty reduction projects of Hiran community awareness project and Baledwyne youth Support project. This was because poverty reduction has become a focal lens in Somalia in the post conflict period from both the government and the Non-government agencies (Manikutty, 2018). This has been done through initiation of varying poverty reduction projects of Hiran community awareness project and Baledwyne youth Support project nature.

1.6.2. Content Scope

The study was limited to illustrating the effect of community participation on poverty reduction projects in Somalia, considering Hiran community awareness project and Youth Support project in Beledweyne, Somalia, as the study case. However, this was achieved through a thorough examination of the influence of the involvement of community in decision making, information sharing and project governance on the selected poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia.

1.6.3 Time Scope

The study considered reviewing the available data in a period of 10 years from 2010 to 2020. This is because; this is the post conflict period where Somalia has registered some reliable peace in most areas with the help of AMISOM forces, which has enabled private organizations, NGOs and government to embark on poverty reduction projects in Somalia as a means of improving on the standards of living in marginalized communities of Beledweyne Somalia.

1.7. Significance of the study

The findings and recommendations of the study would be useful to the communities in Baladwyne district of Somalia and all other citizens to be aware and appreciate their contribution and participation in enhancing poverty reduction projects performance.

To researchers and academicians, they would benefit from this study through availing the information that may be used in literature reviewing.

In addition to contributing to existing knowledge, the study would also provide background information to researchers and scholars who would be interested in studying a similar subject in future. The study also is a key source of information for researchers and stakeholders who may be interested in assessing the sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Balydwyne Somalia.

To the policy makers, the study would provide information on the influence of community participation on project monitoring and implementation in varying education projects, which may be used as a basis upon which policies and regulations can be formulated.

Findings of the study may be useful to Baladwyne district and all other governance units of Somalia to make appraisal structures on benefits of involving community to develop development programs.

It was expected that the research may provide information to policy makers that would guide strategies towards primacy areas of community participation to focus on strategies that will quickly address the affected areas of community or citizen involvement on development programmes.

On the other hand, NGOs such as WFP, WVK, GAA, ADS & KRCS may use the findings and recommendations to evaluate the performance and sustainability of its projects vis a vis the community participation at all stages of the project cycle.

Other researcher scholars may use the findings as a point of reference for further research. It is also additional literature on influence of community participation on development project performance which is currently very scanty.

The study will act as a source of reference to future researchers regarding project risk management and project performance

This study will benefit the researcher by helping him acquire practical research skills and will also serve as a partial requirement for the award of a degree; Master of Project Planning and Management of Kampala International University.

1.8. Operational Definition of key terms

Community participation refers to everyone in the community regardless of gender or socio-economic status is encouraged to provide opinions, make decisions and assist in the implementation of actions in Baladwyne district.

Community refers to people with common background or with shared interests within society.

Decision Making refers to cognitive process resulting in the selection of a belief or a course of action among several alternative possibilities.

Development Project refers to all projects financed by poverty reduction and completed in Balydwyne Somalia.

Development refers to any positive change or an incident that causes a situation to change or progress.

Information Sharing refers to talking to key people in the community in order to discuss their knowledge, experience and understanding of the issue.

Project Governance refers to the management frame work in the community projects within which project decisions are made.

Project Performance refers to measures that can be tied to a team or a cluster of teams working closely together for a common purpose of implementing poverty reduction projects in Balydwyne Somalia.

Sustainability of poverty reduction. This is when sustainably managed environment is a prerequisite for socio-economic development and poverty reduction. The natural environment supplies ecosystem goods and services that provide income, support job creation, poverty alleviation, contribute to safety nets and reduce inequity.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This section tailors on related writing by different writers or analysts identifying with the point and other significant writing identifying with effective stakeholders participation in poverty reduction project success. It therefore provides an analysis of the observations made by the various authors and scholars on similar related work and research gaps available.

2.1 Theoretical review

The theoretical framework used in this study was according to R. Edward Freeman's Stakeholder Theory, which he developed as a philosopher and professor of business administration (1984).

2.1.1. Stakeholder theory

Stakeholder theory stresses the interconnectedness of businesses and organizations with all those that have an interest in them, including workers, consumers, vendors, financiers, communities, public agencies, political parties, labour associations, trade unions, and even rivals. Knowing how these relationships operate is essential to comprehending a company. And it is the executive's or entrepreneur's role to handle and form these relationships to help the project build value (Edward et al., 2010).

Stakeholder theory is useful because it leads to more than just gains and productivity; it also has ethical implications. Companies discover that as employee job satisfaction rises; their mental wellbeing improves, elevating the social-economic status of the business standing in society. As one organization employs stakeholder theory, it fosters healthy competition among others, allowing both prospering and benefiting their stakeholders (Pernille et al., 2006).

Stakeholder theory, according to its critics like political philosopher Charles Blattberg, since the needs of different are impossible to match stakeholders against one another, and stakeholders are a wide and varied community of individuals, it is difficult to satisfy everybody. One or more stakeholders would have to take a backseat to other, more powerful

stakeholders, causing long-term discord and disrupting the benefits of theory of stakeholders (Pernille et al., 2006).

According to Khazaei, et al., (2005), (as cited in Roloff 2008) noted that the customary say “organization focused” taking a proactive Stakeholder management strategy results in “overlooking stakeholders who are affected by the organization in favor of those who can affect it.” also suggested “issue-focused” stakeholder management, which emphasizes a joint effort to deal with a particular problem through a coalition of equally relevant stakeholders. The characteristics described above make the theory important to the study's goal of figuring out how the different variables are linked.

The study used this theory because several studies that have similar topics had used stakeholder theory, these include; (Pernille et al., 2006) they discover theoretical origins of stakeholder participation definition the industry's current situation in the study "Project Stakeholder Management History and Present" in Vienna, Austria.

The other study that used stakeholder theory was (Mok, et al., 2005) in Melbourne, Australia, in a thesis titled "Stakeholder Management Research in Mega Building Projects." By reviewing selected papers published between 2007 and 2004, the thesis examined the most recent research developments in that domain. Stakeholder priorities and factors, management of stakeholder mechanism, investigation of stakeholder approaches, plus stakeholder participation are the four major research topics listed.

2.1.2 Treseder's Degree of Participation theory

The study was based on Treseder's Degree of Participation. The proponent of this theory was Phil Treseder in (2017). The theory uses five degrees of participation that have no hierarchy of involvement. The type of involvement is dependent on the wishes of stakeholders, the context, stakeholder's developmental stages and the nature of the organization among others. Under this model, stakeholders are informed; sponsors decide the project and stakeholders volunteer for it. The stakeholders not only understand project but also know who decided to involve them and why. In this case sponsors respect the stakeholder's views. The other degree of participation is one of sponsor-initiated, shared decisions with stakeholders whereby sponsors have the initial idea but stakeholders are involved in every step of the planning and success. Here stakeholder's views are considered and they are involved in making decisions.

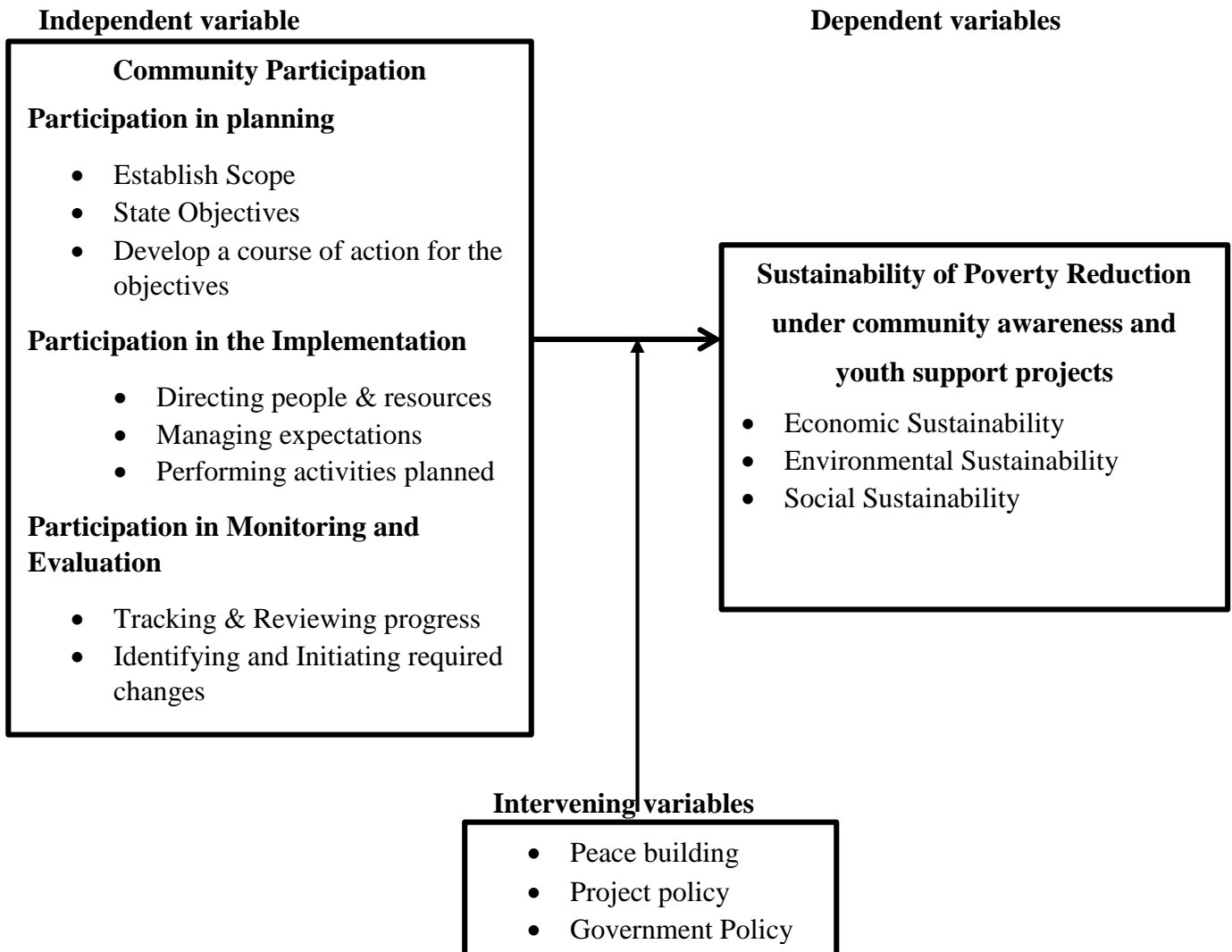
Treseder's other degree of involvement is where stakeholders are consulted and informed. This is where the project is designed and run by sponsors but stakeholders are consulted. Treseder (2017) believes that the stakeholders have a full understanding of the processes and their opinions are taken into account in the running of the project. Next are projects that are stakeholder-initiated and directed whereby stakeholders have the initial idea and decide on how the project is to be implemented. Though available, sponsors do not take charge but let the stakeholders run the project.

Finally, projects that are stakeholder-initiated have shared decisions. In these projects, stakeholders come up with the initial idea, set up projects and come to sponsors for advice, discussion and support. The sponsors in this case do not direct but offer expertise for the stakeholders to consider. This model applies to the compassion assisted projects in that stakeholders can have varied participation in the success of the projects depending on interests. For example, with the high rate of project failures in Somalia, the central government of Somalia, introduced strategic mechanisms such as the stakeholders approach to improve their projects' capacities and enhance effective poverty reduction.

2.2 Conceptual framework

The conceptual framework below illustrates the relationship between the study variables of; community participation and success of poverty reduction projects as below;

Figure 2.1: Conceptual framework



Source: Adopted from: Bennaars, et al., (2019), and modified by the researcher, (2021).

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

From the above Conceptual framework, it was clear that community participation as an Independent variable (as measured by Participation in planning, Participation in the Implementation, and Participation in Monitoring and Evaluation) influences the Sustainability of Poverty Reduction under community awareness and youth support projects as the Dependent Variable, which is operationalized as; Economic Sustainability,

Environmental Sustainability and Social Sustainability. However, there were also intervening factors like; peace building, project policy and government policy.

2.3. Review of related literature

2.3.1. Community participation in planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

Magassouba et al, (2019), state that community participation in project planning stage, which includes activities such as defining the project's job specifications, standard, and goal, specifying the required resources and their distribution, defining the schedule, assessing various risks, and determining delivery methods, give project managers the ability to improve the method or result of the project's implementation. This is critical since the initiation processes are critical definitions and determinants of the project's scope and nature. (Magassouba et al., 2019)

The study further cited Magassouba et al., (2019) who stresses that if this process is not carried out properly, the project's progress and long-term viability would most likely be jeopardized in terms of achieving community standards, project goals, and overall viability.

Many studies for instance (Nyabera, 2015; Orimba, et al., 2018; Peenstra & Silvius, 2017) agree with Magassouba et al, (2019) that including stakeholders in the team that sets the vision, identifies criteria for programs, excellence, and mission, specify resources required plus their allocation, defines the timeline, evaluates different risks, and determines delivery methods in the planning is critical to the project's success and overall sustainability.

Bagire & Nalweyiso, (2016) and Pacagnella et al., (2015) stressed that community participation in planning facilitates consensus building and ownership of project findings, and enhances Stakeholder commitment towards the achievement of the project goals. This is since stakeholders are thought to be in a two-way alliance with project showmanship, in that their actions may influence the project while the project's outcomes can affect their interests. As a result, they must be a member of a team that has complete control over goal-setting, preparation, and policy formulation, among other things (Bagire & Nalweyiso, 2016; Pacagnella et al., 2015).

According to Minkler et al., (2018a), as cited for Orimba et al., (2018), Stakeholder engagement in project start-up is important because it increases Stakeholder capacity, which improves the overall health of Beneficiaries and improves their capacity to recognize issues, engage when making a decision, and convert transforming issues into solutions or actions, increasing the project's chances of becoming sustainable. The study goes on to say that a lack of stakeholder interest hinders the engagement of the beneficiaries, undermining the capability to impact the project's outcome, affecting project's performance in the long run.

For Nyandemo and Kongere (2020), project planning means an endeavour in which human, material, financial resources are organized in such a way as to undertake a unique scope of work of a given specification within constraints of time, cost and quality so as to achieve some intended objectives. It is an institutionalized activity comprising of a series of predetermined and coordinated actions and processes for carrying out the identification, preparation, appraisal and success of projects.

Gitonga, (2020) describes project planning as a process of developing and maintaining a project plan that provides supporting details to the project definitions in terms of resources, time, cost, and scope and quality plan schedules. He further indicates that reasons for project planning includes developing a strategy that would deliver the project goals and that the critical dimensions of time, cost, quality and scope can never be attained if a project plan is not in place.

For Hopkins (2012) and Mare (2012) programmes and projects are guided by planning principles and operational concepts with key participants playing a role in effecting the entire process. The respective principles define what programmes and projects are; indicate the importance of a quality programme and project team in overcoming technical problems; emphasize the importance of vertical communication between programme and project managers on clear objectives and constraints; stress the need to involve key stakeholders and programme participants in the decision making process and the essence of funding and staffing.

Programme planning operational concepts deal with organizational system designs and give the programme organization structure to ensure a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities through the use of the Work Breakdown Schedule (WBS) which is a product-oriented, hierarchical list of the work to be done. Project planning operational concepts emphasize assignment of work elements from the WBS to an individual on the organization

chart to ensure a clear definition of responsibilities as well as organization structure to ensure a clear understanding of individual roles and relationships.

Burreteau et al., (2017) make an interesting contribution by affirming that including stakeholders in planning allows for the consideration of problem boundaries that can be cooperatively identified, thus increasing the model or project's consistency potential. They go on to say that stakeholders are rooted in social networks that cross over into physical and environmental networks, bringing the connections to life and allowing them to act and be updated.

According to (Nyabera, 2015), According to an analysis carried out in Kenya to ascertain impact of project community participation execution, the majority of stakeholders are not involved throughout the project's life cycle. As a consequence, project operations are irrelevant to their needs, and the beneficiaries have no control of the projects, posing a long-term threat to their viability.

According to GOK (2019), the overall ESP planning was done centrally under the coordination of the Ministry of Finance with each line ministry carrying out its design of projects under its docket in collaboration with other key technical ministries. For the education sector the Ministry of education formulated policy for the project planning and design process in consultation with key technical ministries such as the Ministry of Public Works. Technical designs for centers of excellence to be implemented countrywide were a collaborative initiative between these two government ministries. The projects were to be rolled out simultaneously in all constituencies across the country with key stakeholders on the ground implementing them. Funds for the selected ESP education projects were channelled from the treasury directly to the individual beneficiary schools. The project stakeholders comprised BOG members, PTA members, contractors as well as project managers drawn from technical departments of government.

2.3.2 Community participation in Implementation and Project Sustainability.

Interested parties Participation in development execution is one of the most crucial features of control of projects. Because, during the implementation period, project managers assist in the people's organization, the resourceful resources management, and the accurate risk assessment to put the project plan into action. For instance, Bagire & Nalweyiso (2016), emphasized the importance of stakeholder involvement at implementation the project's

lifecycle stage leads to efficiency, effectiveness capacity building of stakeholders or beneficiaries, self-reliance, empowerment, commitment, and project sustainability (Bagire & Nalweyiso, 2016).

Usadolo & Caldwell (2016) emphasize fact that the Participation of stakeholders during the implementation stage Projects creates a mutual relationship between stakeholders. A partnership that enhances their involvement in rural development projects in the long run because it provides a forum they learn to respect each other's experiences and in addition to existing ones, create new ones. This cooperation of stakeholders is indispensable for sustainability and makes it effective and easy to address the implementation of decisions. (Richards, et al., 2014) as cited in (Usadolo & Caldwell, 2016). As a result, better communication between businesses and customers, as well as between businesses and government agencies, is needed, resulting in increased cooperation (Huemann & Silvius, 2017). The study found a strong link between stakeholder engagement and project sustainability. When stakeholders collaborate, they own the projects long after they are completed.

Orimba et al, (2018) Stakeholder engagement are emphasized to be very critical in the carrying out process of project since the situation necessitates variety a party of individuals dedicated towards achieving project's goals, based on a training manual written in the Transportation Department of Edmonton (2016). It's also important to remember that involving a variety of stakeholders raises stakeholder conflict during the implementation phase; to mitigate this conflict, the project manager must ensure that the group is involved in monitoring the project schedule and implementation.

According to Stringer, et al., (2017), as cited in (Usadolo & Caldwell, 2016), Participation of stakeholders in as well as decision-making mechanisms deployment essential, according to report, and Stakeholder interest in decision-making is a democratic right for all who will be plan operations have a positive or negative effect.

According to the Nguni Cattle Projects operational framework, a Participatory Rural Approach, a project should aim to bring stakeholders the project should seek to bring together stakeholders to recognize popular development issues, as well as an emphasis that will help or contribute to achievement a collection of mutually agreed-upon objectives, achieve a common understanding of the development problem, and incorporate perspectives, various

stakeholders, comprehend the challenge's wider sense, and state the necessary changes that must take place (Hawkins, n.d., 2017).

According to Devente et al, (2016), respondents who took part in a survey to have a deeper understanding of difficulties and the possibilities that come with it participating in specific initiatives in Spain and Portugal argued that policymakers with decision-making authority should be used in mechanism for quick implementation and effect since they possess the capacity of enforcing policies and provide incentives for their adoption on a larger scale. Despite the responses being in support of the study's objectives, the power disparity could restrict participation and the constructive development of fresh suggestions from other participants. The solution is ensuring that contact is tailored to each stakeholder group's language, format, and place (Devente, et al., 2016).

Kaufmann, et al., 2013 identifies six dimensions of good governance indicators such as voice and accountability, political stability and absence of violence, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, the rule of law, and control of corruption. The UNDP identifies seven features of sound (good) governance, namely legitimacy established through rule-based opportunities for changing government in an orderly and predictable manner, freedom of association and participation, fair and effective legal frameworks, accountability of public office and service and transparent processes, availability of valid and reliable information, efficient and effective public sector management and cooperation between government and civil society (Nsibambi, 2018).

According to Dignus, (2019), the pillars of project governance include: Structure which refers to the governance committee structure. As well as there being a project Board or project Steering Committee, the broader governance environment may include various stakeholders groups and perhaps user groups. Additionally, there may be a programme Board, governing a group of related projects of which this is one, and possibly some form of portfolio decision making group. The decision rights of all these committees and how they relate must be laid down in policy and procedural documentation. In this way, the project's governance can be integrated within the wider governance arena. People where the effectiveness of the committee structure is dependent upon the people that populate the various governance committees. Committee membership is determined by the nature of the project. Other factors come into play when determining membership of programme and

portfolio boards which in turn determine which organizational roles should be represented on the committee.

Oakley (2020) identifies two views of community empowerment. The first view is that empowerment is the development of skills and abilities which enable people to interact more effectively with the development system and process. The second view is that empowerment is a process which is aimed at equipping people to make decisions and implement these decisions regarding development. Empowerment, as Narayan (2012) contends, requires a process through which peoples' freedom of choice and actions are expanded to enable them to have more control over resources and decisions that affect them. For empowerment to happen, participation must therefore be effective, in a way that enforces accountability and changes in behaviour within relevant government bureaucracies and ensure changes that make participation more inclusive of the poor and the underprivileged (Crook, 2013).

Participation as fundamental bottom-up development approach: - "Any attempt to understand the poor and learn from, has to begin with introspection by the outsiders themselves. We have first to examine ourselves and identify and offset our preconceptions, prejudices and rationalization" (Brunner & Lynch, 2020). The bottom-up approach, designated in the 1980s in its most elaborated and ambitious form as empowerment, calls for attention to health and education, of course, but also to more effective locally based problem-solving techniques. The approach encompasses the promotion of community development through self-help, but with greater emphasis on the process itself rather than on the completion of particular projects. Emphasis has been on the sustainability of the process enabling collective decision-making and collective action as well as any labor saving or income-producing outcomes of such action (Knippers, 2021). Authentic participation is the ideal model, which seeks to empower the powerless towards assuming full responsibility over their own destiny within the framework of their cultural and socio- economic realities. Poverty is believed to be a structural product but to the structural forces of local and global society. Hence, it becomes everybody responsibility to make the world a better place and more hospital able forever single human person (Mulwa, 2013).

2.3.4 Community participation in Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and sustainability of poverty reduction projects

Participatory monitoring and evaluation has been triggered by the value and need for basing development on the views and priorities of 'the local population' which has become widely

acknowledged over the last decades, leading to a practice of working with and by communities (Hilhorst & Guijt, 2016). Initially pioneered by action research-oriented initiatives and organizations, the use of participatory approaches and methods has become increasingly mainstreamed. The use of tools such as social mapping, Venn diagrams, wealth ranking, and transects have become normal practice in much development work (Hilhorst & Guijt, 2016). This led to ministries beginning to include participatory methodologies in guidelines provided to local governments for developing municipal development plans, such as in Benin and Mali. Participatory diagnosis, priority setting, and planning have become an accepted ethic and are practiced in hundreds of Northern and Southern development initiatives. However, it became important that 'participation' should also address implementation, monitoring and evaluation. There is a rapidly growing interest in ensuring wider participation, and since the mid-2020s, participatory Monitoring & Evaluation (PM&E) has received increasing attention (Hilhorst & Guijt, 2016).

The M&E is, as its name indicates, separated into two distinguished categories: Evaluation and Monitoring. An evaluation is a systematic and objective examination concerning the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and effect of activities in the light of specified objectives (Mare, 2012). The idea in evaluating projects is to isolate errors not to repeat them and to underline and promote the successful mechanisms for current and future projects. An important goal of evaluation is to provide recommendations and lessons to the project managers and success teams that have worked on the projects and for the ones that will implement and work on similar projects. Evaluations are also indirectly a means to report to the donor about the activities implemented. It is a means to verify that the donated funds are being well managed and transparently spent. The evaluators are supposed to check and analyze the budget lines and to report the findings in their work (Al-Jibouri, 2013).

The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness in February 2015 and the follow-up meeting in Accra underlined the importance of the evaluation process and of the ownership of its conduct by the projects' hosting countries. Many developing countries now have M&E systems and the tendency is growing. The credibility of findings and assessments depends to a large extent on the manner in which monitoring and evaluation is conducted. To assess performance, it is necessary to select, before the success of the project, indicators which will permit to rate the targeted outputs and outcomes. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), an outcome indicator has two components: the baseline which is the situation before the programme or project begins, and the target which is the

expected situation at the end of the project. An output indicator that does not have any baseline as the purpose of the output is to introduce something that does not exist yet (Angus, et al., 2020).

Empirical studies that have been done include Adan, (2012) study on the effect of stakeholders' role on performance of constituencies' development fund projects a case of Isiolo North Constituency; Onchoke (2013) study on factors influencing performance of community development projects in Kenya; and Ondieki (2021) study on factors influencing stakeholders' participation in monitoring and evaluation of Local Authority transfer fund projects in Kisii.

Shafqadshehzad (2015) highlights the importance of exploring alternative resource mobilization for Pakistan's health care. The need arises because the conventional methods of health care financing through tax revenues have failed to meet the health needs of all, resulting in differential access to healthcare facilities by different income groups. The brief also shows that in Pakistan, general tax revenue is the main source of financing health care. Taxes are compulsory contributions without explicit benefit to the tax payer. Taxes reduce disposable income and wealth of those who bear them.

Monitoring and evaluation serve several purposes. In the absence of effective monitoring and evaluation, it would be difficult to know whether the intended results are being achieved as planned, what corrective action may be needed to ensure delivery of the intended results, and whether initiatives are making positive contributions towards human development (Ondieki., 2021).

Monitoring and evaluation always relate to pre-identified results in the development plan. They are driven by the need to account for the achievement of intended results and provide a fact base to inform corrective decision making. They are an essential management tool to support the UNDP commitment to accountability for results, resources entrusted to it, and organizational learning. Furthermore, both feed into the overall programme management processes and make an essential contribution to the ability to manage for development results (Best, & Langston. 2012).

Monitoring is a continuous assessment that aims at providing all stakeholders with early detailed information on the progress or delay of the ongoing assessed activities. It is an oversight of the activity's success stage. Its purpose is to determine if the outputs, deliveries

and schedules planned have been reached so that action can be taken to correct the deficiencies as quickly as possible. Although evaluations are often a retrospective, their purpose is essentially forward looking. Evaluation applies the lessons and recommendations to decisions about current and future programmes. Evaluations can also be used to promote new projects, get support from governments, raise funds from public or private institutions and inform the general public on the different activities (Ahuja, & Thiruvengadam, 2012).

Many international organizations such as the United Nations, the World Bank group and the Organization of American States have been utilizing this process for many years. The process is also growing in popularity in the developing countries where the governments have created their own national M&E systems to assess the development projects, the resource management and the government activities or administration (Gundersen & Cullinane, 2020).

The developed countries are using this process to assess their own development and cooperation agencies. The M&E is, as its name indicates, separated into two distinguished categories: Evaluation and Monitoring. An evaluation is a systematic and objective examination concerning the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and effect of activities in the light of specified objectives (Mare, 2012). The idea in evaluating projects is to isolate errors not to repeat them and to underline and promote the successful mechanisms for current and future projects. An important goal of evaluation is to provide recommendations and lessons to the project managers and success teams that have worked on the projects and for the ones that will implement and work on similar projects. Evaluations are also indirectly a means to report to the donor about the activities implemented. It is a means to verify that the donated funds are being well managed and transparently spent. The evaluators are supposed to check and analyse the budget lines and to report the findings in their work (Al-Jibouri, 2013).

Magassouba et al., (2019) remark that the Project Monitoring cycle where rigorous controlling and assessment takes place. It equates the planned works with actual results to determine the progress and performance. While Evaluation of an undertaking is the determination of real situation of a project, this process is essential to find out if the project is being operated properly or not (Magassouba et al., 2019).

Harris et al., (2016), Since the position of its owners, the general public, or service consumers, is not listed in the reporting requirements for realist reviews, it is essential to have resources for assessment that allow participation evaluations for all times during the process of the project. Academics make up the majority of realist evaluation teams, which include

specialist professionals, knowledge consumers, and politicians at the start and end of the process. (Harris, et al., 2016).

According to Allison & Kaye, (2015), the Strengths, drawbacks, opportunities, and challenges (SWOT) report, which can be performed at the organizational level or for each program, is one basic assessment process that is important for stakeholder engagement and project evaluation to ensure sustainability. This can be achieved through a survey, workshops, or a retreat; the goal is to get a lot of information. Use the SWOT system to help collect and organize information about the organizational strengths and weaknesses as well as the environment opportunities and threats (Allison & Kaye, 2015).

It is important to note that active participation matters not only as a means of improving development effectiveness but also as the key to long-term sustainability and leverage (World Bank, 2018). Participation refers to the engagement of stakeholders in the development process in order to ensure that the intended benefits of projects and programmes reach the communities in focus. Although there is no commonly agreed definition of Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation, the World Bank (2017a) indicates that it is ‘a process through which stakeholders at various levels engage in monitoring or evaluating a particular project or programme or policy, share control over the content, the process and the results of the monitoring and evaluation activity and engage in taking or identifying corrective actions’.

The Institute of Development Studies (2018) noted that providing stakeholders the chance to participate in M&E becomes an opportunity for development organizations to focus better on their ultimate goal of improving poor people’s lives and broadening involvement in identifying change of which a clearer picture can be gained of what is really happening on the ground. This can also be an empowering process since the skills of the people in charge are developed and show also that their views count (IDS, 2018). Nyaguthii and Oyugi (2018) stated that involving the local residents in monitoring of projects would increase the level of satisfaction for the beneficiaries.

Hilhorst and Guijt (2019) noted that while primary stakeholders are increasingly involved in some aspect of planning, their presence within the M&E of actions is very often lacking or inadequate. Ahenkan, et al., (2017) also observe that there are no clear structures and procedures for community involvement in the monitoring of development interventions in the districts though some structures for promoting community engagement during planning processes exist.

Hilhorst and Guijt (2019) pointed out that access to complete project information provides people with a sound basis to voice their concerns and needs, which can be incorporated into project activities. Moreover, wide public dissemination helps to place control in the hands of communities and mitigates risks of manipulation by other actors and that once the project begun it is important to ensure that the communities stay informed, receive feedback on progress at different stages.

Oreyo, et al., (2016) stated that PM&E enhanced good governance with increased accountability, responsiveness to the needs of the citizens and level of transparency. Devas and Grant (2018) argued that there are still problems of lack of transparency, with publicly displayed information often being out of date and inaccessible to the majority because of the location of display or the language used and there continue to be major problems over corruption, rent seeking, abuse of tender procedures and poor relationships between paid officials and elected representatives.

Ahenkan et al., (2017) argued that the lack of space for community participation has constrained the promotion of effective, responsive and responsible government at the local level for poverty reduction and that procedures and structures for community engagement in monitoring and evaluation of development interventions seldom exist.

Alfred (2015), also argued that there is a low level of stakeholder involvement in infrastructure project monitoring among MMDAs due to lack of public education, lack of collaboration between management and beneficiaries and poor monitoring information dissemination.

Hassan et al. (2016), also stated that the scarcity a group of stakeholders' interest in implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems obstructs proper monitoring and evaluation. He also emphasizes the importance of stakeholder involvement in the whole project since it is self-evident that the project will fail as soon as the donors agree and the technicians leave the project site (Hasan et al., 2016).

2.4 Project Sustainability

The in search of a shared ideal in terms of the climate, economy, and society interconnected the definition of sustainability in a project is defined by the pillars, cultural, technical, in addition to political subdomains (Gachie, 2019).

Sustainability has more or else lacked an exact description; however, in general, sustainability can be seen as the process of sustaining a change in a balanced manner (Neumayer, 2020). Applying the concept of sustainability in projects, a sustainable project can be defined as one that is in harmony with institutional needs and which will ultimately enhance both the current and future to fulfil the stakeholders' needs and ambitions (Kivilä, 2017; Sánchez, 2015; Hallstedt, 2017). The concept of sustainability in a project is characterized by the pursuit of a common ideal through environmental, economic and social interconnected pillars, as well as including the cultural, technological and political subdomains.

The concept of sustainability contains within it a duality of meeting current needs, while still allowing for future needs to be met, which must be comprehended as a point of compromise and regarded as being equal (Martens, et al., 2017). The participating institution's projects are therefore not exempt from sustainability considerations and should be duly included.

According to the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) as cited by (Carvalho & Rabechini, 2017), there are three dimensions of project sustainability: the steady stream of positive outcomes from project activities, the likelihood that the Institutional mechanisms and advantages realized will be preserved.

Finally, the potential of withstanding both internal and external threats. The scarcity of studies on the state of practice in project management represents sustainability. According to a survey carried out to find out the incorporation of sustainability aspect into project management, as well as connection between project sustainability in addition project performance. Research also discovered that the majority of the variables analysed were rarely included in the sample's ventures. The majority of companies are having trouble slot in sustainability concept into project management. (Martens and Carvalho, 2016, 2017a) as cited by (Martens, et al., 2017).

According to (Carvalho & Jr, 2017), In sustainable project management, there are two perspectives: an internal one that deals with project controlling processes throughout the project life cycle, and an external one that deals with sustainable development and environmental and social effects. They state that the failure to address sustainability's role in project management standards and exemplary methods, such as PMBOOK, Prince2, and ISO 21500, has been criticized, although the new IPMA ICB4 does acknowledge the connection between projects and sustainability (Silvius, 2016a), cited by (Power, et al., 2019).

According to Power, et al., (2019), Implementing sustainability from the start of the design process is considered to be the most efficient method of integrating sustainability into project management. They go on to say that product creation should consider the project's and product's entire life cycle, as well as all environmental factors in the process, a citation from (Brones, et al., 2014).

Additionally, they mention that an important stakeholder group that Peenstra & Sylvius (2017) reflect on is the supplier and his role in considering sustainability in projects. According to their findings, suppliers' willingness to incorporate sustainability into projects is strongly linked to the customer's willingness to pay for it (Power et al., 2019).

Sustainability is a vital factor that can lead to institutional performance; it ought to be taken into consideration when planning projects. Rather than leave long-term viability to chance, it is critical to connecting the idea of "project sustainability" across the entire project life-cycle. (Gardiner, 2016; Ozguler & Yilmaz, 2016) cited by (Gachie, 2019).

However, there appears to be a study void about sustainability, its relation to project management, which would enable wasteful activities to exist as long as there is a gap in the literature. (Labuschagne & Brent, 2015; Ullah, et al., 2013). Cited by (Gachie, 2019).

Further research shows that incorporating and extending the definition of to incorporate risk and other concepts in the concept of sustainability like resiliency is critical to ensure that risk is not left out of conversations about sustainability (King IV, 2016). As Cited by (Gachie, 2019). Including the fact that alleged differences are visible from the outside, the prominence of incorporating in project management, the idea of sustainability is acknowledged by literature. Although project management and long-term viability have been emphasized, from various perspectives and seen as competing principles that aren't ideally suitable to work harmoniously, although there are outward differences, the importance of incorporating the notion of sustainability in project management is acknowledged in the literature (Ullah et al., 2013; Carvalho & Rabechini, 2017; Hallstedt, 2017).

On the other hand, there have been few inquiries into how this integration is authentically accomplished; those who have attempted it have only adopted the concept in the tactical level, seldom considering internal and external tactical viewpoints such as organizational, initiatives, also programs (Labuschagne & Brent, 2015; Carvalho & Rabechini, 2017) cited by (Gachie, 2019).

2.5. Empirical studies

Empirical studies that have been done include Adan (2012) study on the effect of stakeholders' role on performance of constituencies' development fund projects a case of Isiolo North Constituency; Onchoke (2013) study on factors influencing performance of community development projects in Kenya; and Ondieki (2021) study on factors influencing stakeholders' participation in monitoring and evaluation of Local Authority transfer fund projects in Kisii.

Shafqadshehzad (2015), highlights the importance of exploring alternative resource mobilization for Pakistan's health care. The need arises because the conventional methods of health care financing through tax revenues have failed to meet the health needs of all, resulting in differential access to healthcare facilities by different income groups. The brief also shows that in Pakistan, general tax revenue is the main source of financing health care. Taxes are compulsory contributions without explicit benefit to the tax payer. Taxes reduce disposable income and wealth of those who bear them.

A study by Carl Bro International Consultants entitled "Support to Rural Water and Sanitation Development (2020)" consisted of reviewing key documents, consultation with stakeholders, and assessment of office capacities and formulation of work plans. The study established that many districts had gaps in staffing levels at districts and sub-counties including lack of mobilization staff. The study recommended that the consultants work with the water offices and local government to fill staffing gaps.

A study by Lagarde and Palmer (2021) that a government's revenue-raising capacity is affected by factors such as the country's economic development, institutional constraints, level of formalization of the labor market, and tax administration capacity. Where these are weak, countries rely more on revenues from private and external sources for health. Private revenue mainly user payments on fees charged by providers amounts to 62% of total health funds in low-income countries. User fees have raised concerns about the financial consequences for poor households and the negative effect on health service use. As countries grow economically, public revenue for health comes to predominate.

Recent syntheses of impact evaluations find that increasing public spending and lowering payments for patients positively affects health outcomes. Using a large panel dataset at the country level, with annual data for 14 years (2005–2018), Moreno-Serra and Smith (2021)

applied a two-step instrumental variables approach that directly estimates the reverse causal effects of mortality on coverage indicators. They found that higher public spending on health leads to better population outcomes, measured either by under-five or adult mortality rates.

Furthermore, a synthesis report of 16 impact evaluations found that introducing user fees decreases utilization of care, whereas removing them sharply increases utilization of curative services. A systematic review of 20 impact evaluations of user fees for maternal health services found that the removal of such fees contributes to increased facility delivery but has no clear impact on health outcomes (Dzakpasu *et al.*, 2013). Without mobilizing domestic resources and strategic use of development assistance, countries are unlikely to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of Universal Health Coverage, which ensures financial risk protection and access to quality essential health-care services, medicines, and vaccines.

Lin-lin, et al., (2014), understanding project stakeholders' perceptions of public participation in China's infrastructure and construction projects: Social effects, benefits, forms, and barriers" Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management. The need arises because the conventional methods of health care financing through tax revenues have failed to meet the health needs of all, resulting in differential access to healthcare facilities by different income groups. The brief also shows that in Pakistan, general tax revenue is the main source of financing health care. Taxes are compulsory contributions without explicit benefit to the tax payer. Taxes reduce disposable income and wealth of those who bear them.

Another study was by Boumann and Asebe (2021) titled Towards the Millennium Development Goals in Uganda. The method used was documentary evaluation of Budget Support Instrument (BSI)/Poverty Alleviation Facility (PAF) and visiting sample districts. The study established that in theory the sub-counties were supposed to carry out mobilization. On the contrary mobilization was very low. The requirements for PAF funding are rarely fulfilled. The bare minimum of Water User Committees (WUCs) formation was in place with gender parity. Mobilization tended only to last as long as the success phase. The study falls short of proposing recommendations.

Additionally, WHO (2012) working group 3 reported and analysed the mobilization of domestic resources for health through taxation, insurance, and other payment mechanisms. The Working Group had several goals. First, it analysed the levels and types of resources that are now being mobilized domestically within the income countries, and examined how these patterns are impacted by the stage of development of the economy other factors. The basic

conclusion in this regard is that poor countries have very limited means to pay for their own health. Low-income countries often mobilize around 4% of GNP for health, but since average incomes are in the range of a few hundred dollars per person per year, the resulting levels of health spending are inadequate to cover essential health interventions.

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2.6. Gaps in the literature

Previous studies portrays that the notion of community participation in development initiatives has spread widely. It is argued that the involvement of local people can lower the cost of achieving a given objective and can result in development initiatives that are consisted with their preferences (Klitgaard 2017, and Narayan 2018). Moreover, such participation can assist in information pooling about exchange opportunities, to improve the transmission of individual reputations, and build institutions that allow the poor to act collectively in their own interest - all features of strengthened social capital (Mansuri and Rao, 2014).

However, to date, these assertions have been weakly scrutinized from a micro econometric point of view. The literature on participation and poverty reduction is rich in case study material but not in quantitative analysis (Hoddinott et. al. 2021).

Similarly, Mansuri and Rao, (2014); in their study on the collective public participation and community development projects asserted that ‘An increasing number of development practitioners agree that participation of the intended beneficiaries improves project performance’.

Further, (Korten 2020) studied that role of community involvement and community development projects and found out that participatory development, championed since the early 1970s by mostly economic social scientists and grassroots organizations is increasingly advocated by the largest and most influential aid agencies. Though, there is not a single study

of the above reviewed studies establishes a causal relationship between any outcome and participatory elements of a community-based development project, hence a discrepancy.

Additionally, Brynard (2016) studied that citizen participation and educational project performance; he asserted that citizen participation as a process wherein the common amateurs of a community exercise power over decisions related to the general affairs of a community. He further notes that these common amateurs are the non-elite citizens; persons without paid office, wealth, special information, or other formal power source beyond their own numbers; and whose control is only gained from the participatory process. However, the study does not stress out the specific essence and the need for community participation like; provide information to citizen; get information from the citizens; improve public decisions; programmes, projects, and services; enhance acceptance of public decisions; programmes, projects, and services; supplement public agency work; alter political power patterns and resource allocation; protect individual and minority group rights and interests; and delay or avoid complicating difficult public decisions.

Additionally, the study was conducted in Malaysia a far context in regards to Somalia, thus a discrepancy calling for a study in Somalia specifically.

While, Graaff, (2021) studied community participation and performance and summarized the main principles of evolutionism: The process occurs gradually over time; all societies go through the same number of stages, irreversible and progressive, and at the end, all societies end up looking the same. He continued that societies eventually reach a maturity stage, characterized by neo-liberalism system where the economy is determined by markets, with little or no intervention from the state. However, the study did not show the mechanisms and technology strategies required to reach this stage. Hence the need for this study to close up all the gaps identified.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter consists of the procedures and methods that the researcher used to conduct research on the study area. The chapter discusses how the respondents were selected, how data was collected and analysed. The chapter also presents research design, population of study sample size, sampling techniques, research instruments, data sources, reliability and validity, data gathering procedures, data analysis and limitations of the study.

3.2 Research design

The study employed a Correlational research design. Correlational research design was used to determine whether and to what extent the relationship between two or more variables exists. This design was used because it describes in a qualitative terms the extent to which variables exists. Further, it describes in a quantitative terms the extent to which variables are related. The mixed-method approach (triangulation) i.e. qualitative and quantitative methods to data collection were used to supplement each other. Qualitative methods provide in-depth explanation while quantitative methods provide the data needed to test hypotheses.

3.3 Study population

Berg and Crall (2013), a target population as a set of the study of all members of a real hypothetical set of people, events or objects to which a researcher wishes to generate the results.

According to Hiran community awareness and Baledwyne youth Support projects, (2019) the projects directly employees over 257 employees based in Baladwyne district of Somalia. However, the researcher targeted a population of 174 respondents both from within the selected projects and the external stakeholders including the community members of Baladwyne district, home to the selected projects of Hiran community awareness and Baledwyne youth Support projects. These were selected because they were deemed to have sufficient information about the projects under study, and the topic as a whole.

Table 3.1: Category of Respondents, Study Population, Sample Size, and Sampling techniques.

Category of Respondents	Study Population	Sample size	Sampling Technique
Projects' Staffs	4	4	Purposive
Probation staff	6	6	Purposive
Community Development Officer	11	11	Purposive
Funders	10	10	Purposive
Direct Beneficiaries (Community members)	143	89	Simple Random
Total	174	120	

Source: Projects Database (2020).

Using statistical table (Krejcie & Morgan, 1970), the sample size was calculated based on total of 150 respondents; a representative sample size of 120 beneficiaries was selected. Purposive and basic random sampling methods were used to pick these. According to the researcher, the chosen areas share common social-cultural beliefs and thus reflect the rest of the population.

3.4 Sample size

The sample size of the study was 120 of target population (174) was determined through purposive and random sampling methods. This was due to the nature of data to be generated that requires different techniques for better understanding of the research problem under investigation. Besides, this the approach is also known for achieving higher degree of validity and reliability as well as elimination of biases.

The Sloven's formula (1978) was used to determine the minimum sample size.

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

n = sample size

N = the population size

e = level of significance, fixed at 0.05

Therefore

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

$$n = \frac{174}{1 + 174(0.05)^2}$$

n= 120 respondents

3.5 Sampling methods

3.5.1 Purposive sampling

This technique was used to select the purposive respondents whom included the project managers and the Project support staffs for interviews. These were selected for interviews because they are believed to have quality information on the study since they are actively in control of the selected projects (Hiran community awareness and Baledwyne youth Support projects). This method was also appropriate because the sample selected comprises of informed persons who provided data that is comprehensive enough to gain better insight into the problem.

3.5.2 Random sampling

Random sampling involved selecting respondents from the population listing by chance. This was applied to community members (external stakeholders). These were randomly selected. With this technique, every member had an equal chance of being selected. However, the method has a loophole of having which might reduce the integrity of the results. But, the researcher will ensure total compliance with the research guidelines to avoid such.

3.6 Data Sources

Both primary and secondary data collection methods were used to collect relevant data to the study. Data collection methods were considered in such a way that relevant information was collected as much as possible with little inconvenience to respondents.

Primary data means first hand data. It was collected from the respondents through interviews,

and self-administered questionnaires. Primary data was important in answering questions about the study topic. Secondary data means to second-hand data. This was obtained from recorded documents, earlier studies and some publications on the subject matter. Other information will be obtained from the internet.

3.7 Data Collection instruments

The researcher used the following instrument in this study.

3.7.1 Self-Administered Questionnaire

Self-administered questionnaire was used to collect quantitative data from middle and junior project officers. Close ended questionnaire was designed to facilitate quick response from large number of respondents. Questionnaires were distributed to the study respondents. The study employed a five–Likert scale questionnaire which was administered to the respondents and the researcher developed a questionnaire for each variable respectively. The questions involved the feelings of respondent groups regarding the study topic.

3.7.2 Interview Guide

A semi-structured interview guide was designed and administered to project managers and project support staff to enable capture in-depth qualitative data, the interview guide was used in form of face-face interaction with the project staffs selected for the study.

The researcher used interview guide to obtain data from key informants such project managers and project support staffs of selected Hiran community awareness and Baledwyne youth Support projects in Baladwyne Somalia. The researcher also used this tool because it involved persons-to-persons or face-to-face inter-action of two or more people and the researcher gathered the data through direct and or verbal interaction with participant.

3.8 Validity and reliability of the instrument

3.8.1 Validity

Validity of the instrument was ensured through expert judgment and the researcher made sure the coefficient of validity to be at least 70%. The researcher then consulted the supervisor for expert knowledge on questionnaire construction. After the assessment of the questionnaire,

the necessary adjustments were made bearing in mind, the objectives of the study. The formula that was used to calculate the validity of the instrument as:

$$CVI = \frac{\text{no of items declared valid}}{\text{total no of items}}$$

$$CVI = \frac{20}{23} * 100\% = 86.9\%$$

3.8.2 Reliability

Reliability is a measure of the degree to which research instruments yield consistent results or data after repeated trials. The Cronbach's reliability test was performed to ascertain the reliability of the instrument. Classification on quality of Cronbach's Alpha value by Stevens (2013) states that the value exceeding 0.9 is excellent, between 0.9 and 0.8 is good, 0.7 to 0.8 is acceptable, 0.6 to 0.7 is questionable and 0.5 to 0.6 is poor, and below 0.5 as unacceptable. The Cronbach's results of both risk management and school feeding program should be between 0.75 and 0.8 respectively to be interpreted as acceptable (Stevens, 2013).

This also was another critical instrument that the researcher used as a measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results or data after repeated trials (Amin, 2015)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.926	19

Therefore, the instrument was reliable since the Cronbach Alpha's value was 0.926 which is above 0.75.

3.9 Data collection Procedures

After proposal defence and approval by the supervisors, the researcher obtained an introductory letter from Kampala International University before going to the field to collect data. Data collection instruments was developed, tested and pre-tested for validity and reliability. The researcher then proceeded to distribute questionnaires and carry out the

interviews. The researcher made vigorous follow-ups with respondents to explain the research objectives. After getting data from the field, the researcher as well proceeded to data processing and analysis under the supervisor's guidance.

3.10 Data Analysis

3.10.1 Qualitative Data Analysis

This involved examining and classifying data in terms of constructs, themes patterns, where they belong and the number of times each answer appears was counted to make up the number of responses. Data was analysed and respondents' views quoted and presented in the analysis.

3.10.2 Quantitative Data Analysis

The researcher used inferential statics for association to test hypotheses in analysing the quantitative data. SPSS version 22 was used for correlation and multiple regressions. Correlations and multiple regressions analysis was used in testing the study objectives and the significant of each independent variable tested at a confident level of 95%. The regression equation of the study was shown. Demographic characteristics analyses were presented in terms of percentages to show that the sample selected was the true representation of the population. Descriptive characteristics were presented in terms of means and standard deviation. Relationships between variables were presented in terms of correlation analysis. Regression analysis indicated the extent to which the independent variables explain the changes in the dependent variables.

3.11 Ethical Considerations

To ensure ethical considerations of the study and the safety, social and psychological well-being of the person and/or community was involved in the study; the researcher got an introductory letter from the Kampala International University.

The study also ensured the privacy and confidentiality of the information provided by the respondent which was solely used for academic purpose. On the other hand to ensure the safety of the person and/or community involved in the study, the researcher got the consent of the respondent approval by them signing before they filled the questionnaires.

Anonymity; the researcher assured the respondents that all responses were anonymous; the researcher assured the respondents that all responses were anonymous implying that all their identities were not known.

Plagiarism; the researcher had to ensure not to copy other peoples work but rather ensure proper citation and referencing. Privacy; the researcher appreciated the respondents since they had the right to keep some information from the public.

3.12 Limitations of the study

This time given was not enough to complete all aspects of the study, such as gathering information, getting other literature, to solve these tasks, the researcher was forced to delay or postpone some work plans for the timely completion of the thesis.

Some respondents were not ready for cooperation during the study, in order to solve this; the researcher briefly interviewed about the purpose of the study and told that it was only academic.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the data, analysis and interpretation. Quantitative data was analysed using SPSS and presented using tables. While the Qualitative data has analysed using thematic analysis technique. The chapter also presents the response rate, background information on the respondents, descriptive analysis and verification of research Hypotheses as well as the Research questions. The findings are presented basing on the research objectives that sought to investigate the relationship between Community participation and sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne Somalia

4.1 Response Rate

Table 4.1: Showing Response Rate

Sex	Questionnaires	Frequency	Percentage
Valid	Respondent	109	90.8
	Not responded	11	9.2
	Total	120	100.0

Source: Primary data computed by the researcher, (2021)

Of the 120 questionnaires conducted 109 were retrieved and 11 were lost. Though the response was satisfactory with 90.8% rate. According to Creswell (2019), this was above the minimum responses required for analysis revealing higher degree of awareness and participation in Poverty reduction projects by the targeted respondents

4.2 Background information on the Respondents

The profiles of the respondents described included the category of Beneficiaries (father, mother, guardians, students, social workers, staff, community members), age, Location, level of education and source of income. The profiles variable was not included in the objectives or research questions, but they helped to give the researcher to get a better understanding of

whether there is a relationship between Community participation and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects of poverty reduction projects in Baladawyne, Somalia.

4.2. Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

This section presents the Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents including, sex, age, level of education, departments to which the respondents were belonging, years to which the respondents had spent working in the organizations and category of the respondents as detailed below.

Table 4.2: Showing Background Information of Respondents

Particulars		Sub-table N %	Count
Category of respondents	Father	4.6%	5
	Guardian	4.6%	5
	Member	35.8%	39
	Mother	42.2%	46
	Social worker	1.8%	2
	Staff	8.3%	9
	Student	2.8%	3
Education Level	Bachelors	7%	8
	Complete Primary	16%	17
	Complete Secondary	18%	20
	Diploma	3%	3
	Incomplete Primary	29%	32
	Incomplete Secondary	17%	19
	None	7%	8
	Post Graduate	2%	2
Income Source	Business	25.7%	28
	Casual Worker	1.8%	2
	Farming	46.8%	51
	None	6.4%	7
	Cattle Keeping	2.8%	3
	Salary earner	16.5%	18
Age category of respondents			
	10 - 20y	2.8%	3
	21 - 30y	17.4%	19
	31 - 40y	33.0%	36
	41 - 50y	24.8%	27
	51 and Above	21.1%	23

Source: Primary Data, (2021).

Category of respondents

Results in Table 4.2 Indicates that more mothers (42.2%) and project members (35.8%) participated in the study as compared to their other counterparts like staff members (8.3%), guardian (4.6%), fathers (4.6%), students and social workers at (2.8%) and (1.8%) respectively. This suggests that there are more mothers participating and benefitting from the project than any other category of people.

Education Level of respondents

The results in Table 4.2 Shows that majority of the respondents (29.4%) and (17.4%) have not completed primary and secondary education respectively, 18.3% have completed secondary education, 15.6% have completed primary education, 7.3% are not educated. This shows that majority of the project beneficiaries and participants have not acquired a lucrative or meaningful education. The ones with higher levels of education like bachelors (7.3%), diploma (2.8%) and post graduate diploma (1.8%) are mostly project staff members.

Income Source of respondents

The results in table 4.2 indicates that majority of the respondents (46.8%) depend on farming as their income source, followed by business (25.7%), salary earner (16.5%), Cattle Keeping at (2.8%), Casual work at (1.8%), and 6.4% of the respondents have no income source.

Age category of respondents

The result in table 4.2 also indicates that majority of the respondent (33.0%) where between the age of 31 to 40years, followed by 41 to 50years (24.8%), 50 and above (21.1%), 21 to 30 years (17.4%) and lastly 10 to 20years (2.8%). The findings show that the respondents are responsible and mature to give credible data to be used in the study.

4.2.1 Background Information about the Respondents for Qualitative

The study included having face to face plus recorded interviews with the Community Development officer, Probation officer, Social worker, Project staffs that work directly in the implementation process of the selected poverty reduction projects activities.

A total of 5 participants were interviewed, 1 male and 4 females. 2 were staff at the district local government, child protection unit, 2 were staff of selected poverty reduction projects and 1 was a staff of a partner organisation working with selected poverty reduction projects.

4.3 Descriptive Analysis

The study assessed the relationship between Community participation and sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne Somalia. This was important in order to contribute knowledge that may help projects to be more sustainable. The responses and their resultant percentages to the items and meanings drawn thereafter. The results are discussed below according to the objectives.

4.3.1 Responses Showing the Understanding of Stakeholders on the Relationship between Community participation in Planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

The questions under Community participation in planning phase sought the understanding of planning process and their participation in the planning process of selected poverty reduction projects,

The responses were graded on a 5 Linkert scale with representing SD-Strongly, D-Disagree, N- Neither Agree nor Disagree, A- Agree, SA- Strongly Agree.

Mean: In the study shows the average of response

Standard Deviation: In the study shows how spread the responses are to or from the mean value.

Table 4.3: Community participation in planning phase

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Standard Deviation
I understand what Community participation in the project planning stage means.	0%	2%	9%	36%	53%	4.40	0.73
I have ever participated in the planning process of the Selected poverty reduction projects	2%	5%	7%	45%	41%	4.19	0.90
I know how Community participation is practiced in selected poverty reduction projects	2%	3%	10%	49%	37%	4.16	0.85
The project objectives are set according to the needs of the Beneficiaries.	2%	3%	6%	39%	51%	4.35	0.85
I was informed or consulted about the outcome of the planning process before it was taken for implementation.	2%	4%	13%	42%	39%	4.14	0.91
Participant Involvement in Formation process influences sustainability of projects.	0%	0%	9%	37%	54%	4.45	0.66

Source: Primary Data, (2021)

From the results in Table 4.3 that Community participation in the Planning Phase of Selected poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne Somalia is a crucial factor in the attainment of the overall sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects, majority of the respondents representing (54%) agreed to the statement, and this was rated to be high with a mean value of (4.45), plus a widely spread standard deviation at (0.66).

Majority of the respondents (53%) also strongly agree that they understand what Community participation in the project planning phase means, this is confirmed by mean of (4.40) and a standard deviation spread from the mean value at (0.73). Although (13%) of the respondents, neither agreed nor disagreed when asked whether they were informed or consulted about the outcome of the planning process before it was taken for implementation. The results also indicate a mean of (4.14), with very widely spread standard deviation of (0.91), which shows

that majority of the respondents agreed to the question. The therefore suggests that the respondents know what Community participation means and they have ever participated in the planning of the Selected Poverty Reduction Projects activities where they are engaged.

Interview responses;

Are you aware of Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation and what it means?

A Project Coordinator interviewed agreed that,

I am aware of Hiran community awareness and youth Support Implementation Program. The program aimed at integrating more youths into the income generating activities so that we fight poverty in Baladywne, especially amongst the youths.

If yes, what do you know about these Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation?

A Program Director who was interviewed, agreed that,

I am involved in the program as the program coordinator. For instance, the Hiran community awareness and youth Support Implementation Program plays an important role in enabling youths to access employment opportunities, credit to start up their business ventures and even market for their produce hence leading to poverty reduction.

Are there skills development schemes in the Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation?

Another project Coordinator was of the view that,

The presence of skills development scheme in the Hiran community awareness and youth Support Implementation program was instrumental since it aimed at equipping youths with more life sustaining skills such as entrepreneurial skills and hence be able to fight against poverty in Baladywne.

Are you involved in this program?

One of the project coordinators interviewed revealed that

I was involved in that program and I further narrated that it had benefited a number of youths within the community.

How does this program benefit youth?

One of the interviewed project coordinators revealed that

The Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation enables youths to acquire more skills, knowledge, access to market and credit and thus capable of fighting against poverty.

If yes, how does skills development help in poverty reduction?

A Program Director who was interviewed noted that

Skills development provides hands-on training for the youth in marketable trades identified by the youth and provides basic start-up tool kits for the youth who successfully complete the trainings

4.3.1.1 Testing Relationship/Hypothesis between Stakeholder’s Participation in Planning and Sustainability of poverty reduction projects.

To testing the relationship that exists between the two variables, Pearson’s correlation method was used to establish the findings below.

Table 4.4: Relationship between Community participation in Planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

Correlations			
		Community participation in _Planning	Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects
Community participation in Planning	Pearson Correlation	1	.310
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.005
	N	109	109
Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects	Pearson Correlation	.310	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.005	
	N	109	109

Table 4.4 shows that there is a strong positive correlation at (0.310) between Community participation in planning and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. The significance level is at (0.005), which means that the correlation is statistically significant because it is equal to the P-Value of (0.05).

The hypothesis of the study under investigation is, there is a significant positive relationship between Community participation in planning and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. Thus the hypothesis that stated that there is a small positive correlation between Community participation in planning and sustainability of poverty reduction projects was accepted. This means that Community participation in planning has a positive effect on sustainability of poverty reduction projects at Selected Poverty Reduction Projects. This practically implies that on sustainability of poverty reduction projects at Selected Poverty Reduction Projects improves with effective Community participation in planning phase.

This finding is in line with studies for example (Nyabera, 2015; Orimba, Mungai, Awiti, Orimba, & Mungai, 2018; Peenstra & Silviu, 2017), who stress that including stakeholders in the team that plans for the project at the begging is critical for the project success.

However, in order to determine the magnitude of the influence of Community participation in planning on the sustainability of poverty reduction projects of Selected Poverty Reduction Projects, regression analysis was conducted. The results are summarized in Table 4.5 below.

Table 4.5: Regression Analysis showing the influence of Community participation in planning on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

R Square= 0.096, P=0.005		
	Standardized Coefficients	Sig.
Beta	Beta	
Community participation in planning	0.310	0.005

Source: primary data, 2021

According to the results in the summarized Table 4.5 above, findings show that Community participation in planning significantly affects sustainability of poverty reduction projects($r = .310$). This means that Community participation in planning is a significant determinant of sustainability of poverty reduction projects of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne district, Somalia.

Since the correlation does imply causal-effect as stated in the second objective, the coefficient of determination, which is a square of the correlation coefficient ($r^2 = .096$), was computed and expressed as a percentage to determine the variance in sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne district, Somalia due to Community participation in planning. This means that 9.6% of the variation in sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects Baladwyne district, Somalia is explained by Community participation in planning.

These findings were also subjected to a test of significance (p) and it is shown that the significance of the correlation ($p = .005$) is more than the recommended critical significance at 0.01. This means that Community participation in planning has a positive significant effect on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. This 60 practically implies that

sustainability of poverty reduction projects Baladwyne district, Somalia improves with better Community participation in planning.

4.3.2 Responses Showing the Community participation in Implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

The questions under Community participation in Implementation phase sought the understanding of the implementation process and their involvement in the selected poverty reduction projects activities.

The responses were graded on a 5 Linkert scale with representing SD-Strongly, D-Disagree, N- Neither Agree nor Disagree, A- Agree, SA- Strongly Agree.

Mean: In the study shows the average of response

Standard Deviation: In the study shows how spread the responses are to or from the mean value.

Table 4.6: Community participation in Implementation phase

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Standard Deviation
I understand what Community participation in project implementation means.	0%	1%	4%	41%	54%	4.49	0.62
I feel that I am part of the project through my participation in the implementation process.	0%	6%	5%	40%	50%	4.34	0.81
I know my roles and responsibility in ensuring the success of the selected poverty reduction projects Program.	0%	1%	1%	44%	53%	4.48	0.66
The Organization carries out capacity building to ensure that I play my roles well during project implementation.	0%	3%	5%	51%	41%	4.31	0.69
Does the group work together to identify issues and needs that can be addressed through the project mechanism?	1%	8%	6%	41%	43%	4.17	0.94
Community participation throughout the execution phase of project influences overall sustainability of project.	0%	2%	8%	37%	53%	4.41	0.72

Source: Primary Data, (2021).

Table 4.6. Results show that that majority of the respondents (54%) agreed that they know and participate in the implementation stage. This is confirmed by average mean of (4.49), and standard deviation which is widely spread away from the mean value at (0.62). The result from the qualitative however gave a different picture in regards to the participation of stakeholders in the implementation of the projects. A respondent noted that majority of the stakeholders do not understand the project goals and objectives, let alone their roles.

“...Parents and guardians do not understand their responsibility; we fight a lot to educate the children” (Interview respondent 3).

This therefore means that even though the stakeholders actively participate, their role does not create a significant impact on the sustainability of the selected poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne, Somalia.

Interview responses;

Is there a mechanism for effective access to credit in the Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation?

One of the Program Directors who was interviewed said:

The Hiran community awareness and youth Support Implementation program created a mechanism for youth effective access to credit. The program provided credit or small loans to the youths in form of groups and it's helped them to kick-start their business ventures.

If yes, how does this effective access to credit help in poverty reduction?

Another Program Director who was interviewed narrated:

The Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation created a mechanism for youths' effective access to credit. Providing credit or small loans to the youths in form of groups helped them to kick-start their business ventures and hence fighting against poverty within the community.

4.3.2.1 Testing Relationship/Hypothesis between stakeholders' Participation in Implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

To testing the relationship that exists between the two variables, Pearson's correlation method was used to establish the findings below.

Table 4.7: Relationship between Community participation in implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

Correlations

		Community participation in Implementation	Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects
Community participation in Implementation	Pearson Correlation	1	.048
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.667
	N	109	109
Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects	Pearson Correlation	.048	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.667	
	N	109	109

According to the Table 4.7 results shows that Community participation in Implementation and sustainability of poverty reduction projects have no significant relationship ($r = 0.048$, $p < 0.05$).

Thus, the hypothesis that stated that there is a significant positive relationship between Community participation in Implementation and sustainability of poverty reduction projects is not accepted. This means that Community participation has no effect on sustainability of poverty reduction projects at selected poverty reduction projects.

This finding was reinforced by one key informant who observed that “*regardless of various Community participation on the sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects has not had any significant impact*”. This practically implies that Community participation has not affected the sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne, Somalia.

However, in order to determine the magnitude of the influence of Community participation on the sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects, regression analysis was conducted. The results are summarized in Table 4.12 below.

Table 4.8: Regression Analysis showing the influence of Community participation in Implementation on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

R Square=0.002, P=0.667		
	Standardized Coefficients	Sig.
Beta	Beta	
Community participation in Implementation	0.002	0.667

Source: primary data, 2021

According to the results in the summarized Table 4.8 above, the coefficient of determination/ r^2 for Community participation in implementation is 0.002. This means that 0.23% of the variation in sustainability of poverty reduction projects at selected poverty reduction projects is explained by Community participation in implementation. The standardized beta coefficient of ($\beta=0.002$, $p<0.05$) means that Community participation is insignificantly related with sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne, Somalia. This means that Community participation in implementation has no significant effect on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. This practically implies that sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects cannot be improved by Community participation in implementation.

The results from this study confirm the findings by (Devente, Reed, Stringer, Valente, & Newig, 2016) who found out that it is important to tailor participation according to each stakeholder’s groups language, format and place. This believed by the literature to reduce the disparities that would be created because of the disparity in the background of the stakeholders.

4.3.3 Response Showing Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladwyne, Somalia.

The questions under Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation phase sought to investigate whether selected poverty reduction projects had the right tools to monitor the activities and whether the respondents participated in the implementation process.

The responses were graded on a 5 Linkert scale with representing SD-Strongly, D-Disagree, N- Neither Agree nor Disagree, A- Agree, SA- Strongly Agree.

Mean: In the study shows the average of response

Standard Deviation: In the study shows how spread the responses are to or from the mean value.

Table 4.9: Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation phase

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Standard Deviation
I understand what Project Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) means	0%	5%	9%	44%	42%	4.24	0.80
I have Participated in the M&E process of selected poverty reduction projects	2%	10%	10%	41%	37%	4.01	1.02
Selected poverty reduction projects have the right tools for monitoring and evaluating its project.	2%	2%	12%	38%	47%	4.26	0.88
Selected poverty reduction projects are implemented according to the planned objectives.	1%	6%	6%	42%	44%	4.22	0.90
The project activities meet my needs and expectation.	2%	4%	9%	47%	39%	4.17	0.88
Participation of Stakeholders in M&E has effect on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.	0%	1%	6%	42%	50%	4.42	0.66

Source: Primary Data, (2021).

Table 4.9 indicates that that majority of the respondents (41% with agree and 37% with strongly agree) to have Participated in the M&E process of selected poverty reduction projects, this is confirmed by mean value of (4.01) and a very widely spread standard deviation at (1.02) from the mean value.

Interview responses;

Does the Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation enable access to markets by the youth?

The Project Coordinator who was interviewed revealed that,

The Hiran community awareness and youth Support Implementation program enabled youths to access to markets. For instance, the Ministry was responsible for creating networking opportunities for youths so that they can sell their goods and services on the regional and even international market. Enabling youths' access to markets was essential in poverty reduction within Baladywne.

If yes, how does access to the market help in poverty reduction?

The project coordinator who was interviewed revealed that:

Reliable market access boosts productivity, increases incomes and strengthens youth empowerment. Access to market can contribute to reducing poverty and hunger for poor youth and their communities, if appropriate measures are taken to reduce market risks and unequal market power.

4.3.3.1 Testing Relationship/Hypothesis between stakeholders’ Participation in M&E and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

To testing the relationship that exists between the two variables, Pearson’s correlation method was used to establish the findings below.

Table 4.10: Relationship between Community participation in M&E and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

Correlations

		M&E	Project Sustainability
M&E	Pearson Correlation	1	.082
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.396
	N	109	109
Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects	Pearson Correlation	.082	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.396	
	N	109	109

Table 4.10 shows that there is a small positive correlation of (0.082) between Community participation in M&E and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. The significance value of (0.396), which means the correlation, is not statistically significant because it is above the P-Value of (0.05).

The hypothesis of the study under investigation is, there is a significant positive relationship between Community participation in M&E and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. The study therefore accepts the null hypotheses that there is a small positive correlation between Community participation in M&E and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. The study rejects the alternative hypotheses that state that there is no

positive relationship between Community participation in M&E and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

4.3.4 Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

The questions under Sustainability sought to know the understanding of stakeholders concerning the concept of Sustainability of poverty reduction projects and whether they could run the project successfully after external support has ended.

The responses were graded on a 5 Likert scale with representing SD-Strongly, D-Disagree, N- Neither Agree nor Disagree, A- Agree, SA- Strongly Agree.

Mean: In the study shows the average of response

Standard Deviation: In the study shows how spread the responses are to or from the mean value.

Table 4.11: Stakeholder understanding of Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Standard Deviation
I understand what sustainability of poverty reduction projects means.	1%	1%	10%	45%	43%	4.28	0.76
I know how the sustainability as a concept might possibly be assimilated and implemented into a project life-cycle	6%	16%	12%	37%	30%	3.71	1.21
I have other suggestions about measures that would lead to the sustainability of the Selected poverty reduction projects	4%	28%	16%	26%	27%	3.43	1.26
I will be able to lead the project if external donor funding is no longer available.	18%	16%	18%	30%	17%	3.13	1.38
I received empowerment and training to carry on project activities once funding has been terminated.	21%	16%	17%	28%	18%	3.06	1.42
The Project has a solid exit plan that includes all stakeholders.	32%	17%	20%	17%	13%	2.61	1.42

Source: Primary Data, (2021).

The results in table 4.11 reveals that that majority of the respondents (45% & 43%) agreed that they understand what sustainability of poverty reduction projects means, which is supported by mean value of (4.28) and standard deviation widespread away from the mean value at (0.76). the results also indicate that majority of the respondents (18%, 16%, 18%) have very little understanding on how to run the project in case donor funding comes to an end. This also reflects in the mean value of (3.13) and a standard deviation of (1.38) that is very close to the mean value. The study result is in line with studies done by (Martens, Julho, & Carvalho, 2017), that found out that many companies are having trouble to incorporate the idea of sustainability in their projects.

Respondents were asked to point out if they participate in development projects.

Findings shows the respondents participate in development projects in terms of cash, labour and decision making while respondents do not participate in development projects. This shows that still a large number of citizens do not participate in development projects in their wards and this being influenced by reasons like lack of trust to their leaders, lack of accountability and transparency to the side of leaders, ignorance among citizens also misuse of public funds done by leaders

It is important for citizens to participate in decision making process because together with their leaders they can plan on what projects to be established in their wards, where are the funds going to be generated also when are the projects going to start be in use.

Findings revealed that citizens are not given seminars of awareness of their roles and responsibilities. This implies that low number of citizens who have civic education, the reason behind being failure of local leaders to raise awareness to people on their roles and responsibilities lack of confidence of local leaders because citizens are not satisfied with revenue collection and expenditure reports presented to them, so by doing so would result in disclosing information before the people.

Findings also shows that other reasons that cause people not to be aware of their rights, roles and responsibilities being laziness (unwilling) and ignorance among citizens which cause people not to find information and be curious of what is going on in their societies even agree with decisions that their leaders make, miscommunication between leaders and

the local community, poor leaders who fail to find better means of educating citizens on the importance of participation, and lack of project related information to citizens.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATION

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents summary of discussions, conclusions and recommendations of the findings discussed in chapter four. The conclusions were however drawn in alignment with the objectives and research questions under study. The study sought to address some of the following questions

5.1 Summary of results

5.1.1 Community participation in Planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

The objective aimed at examining the impact of Community participation in planning on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia. Findings from the data collected and analysed using spearman's correlation analysis implies that there is a small positive correlation of (0.063) between stakeholder's participation in planning phase and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. This suggest that even though it's important to involve the stakeholders in project planning, their involvement does not contribute a lot to sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

5.1.2 Community participation in Implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects

The objective was aimed at ascertaining the effect of Community participation in implementation on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia. The findings present a Spearman's correlation coefficient results which indicate a small positive relationship of (0.159) between stakeholder's participation in implementation phase and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. This implies that there is need to encourage Community participation in the implementation of the project.

5.1.3 Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

The objective aimed at determining the degree to which Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation affect Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in

Baladywne Somalia. The findings from a Spearman's correlation showed a small positive relationship of (0.082) between stakeholder's participation in M&E phase and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. Meaning that at the moment the results from stakeholder's participation in the M&E phase has no serious effect on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

5.2 Discussion of Findings

5.2.1 Community participation in Planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia

The objective stated that there was a significant positive relationship between Community participation in planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia. The research findings showed that there is a small positive correlation of (0.063), which means that it does not have statistically significant contribution to sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects given that the significance level is (0.513) which is greater than P-Value of 0.05. It further indicates that one unit change in Community participation in project planning, results to -0.014 changes in sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

This result is in line with earlier studies that stressed that there is a relationship between stakeholder's participation in planning and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. (Magassouba et al., 2019), noted that it is vital to engage stakeholders in this process because it is in the planning stage that critical definitions and determinants of the project's scope and nature are made. Although the results showed that the majority of stakeholders (54%) agree that Community participation in the Planning Phase influences overall sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects, confirmed by mean value of (4.45), plus a widely spread standard deviation from the mean value at (0.66). The study findings show that even though stakeholders are participating in the planning process, there impact is not really having a strong influence on the sustainability of the project. This collaborates with (Magassouba et al., 2019) who cited Nijkamp et al, (2012) noted that if this process is not carried out properly, the project's progress and long-term viability would most likely be jeopardized in terms of achieving community standards, project goals, and overall viability. It is important to note that findings from the qualitative study revealed that in the past selected poverty reduction projects has tended to start projects from ideas not from feasibility studies which calls from stakeholders fully participating in the planning stage.

“...most often we implement projects starting from ideas, and not from the reality on the ground. So there is need for doing a research starting from the moment of the need of these people that we are going to support...” (Interview respondent 4).

The respondent therefore gives a clear understanding as to why even though stakeholders think they are engaged in the planning, the approach is not done the right way, this in the long run hinders the sustainability of the project being implemented. Further findings from qualitative study revealed from a respondent that most times they are not involved in all the stages of the project; they are only consulted or informed during implementation;

“.....We are however not invited at the planning level of the project activities so we are not able to give our full contributions....” (Interview respondent 1).

The respondents view shows dissatisfaction, which in the long run can impact the sustainability of the selected projects in Baladywne Somalia.

5.2.2 Community participation in Implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia

The Objective stated that there was significant positive relationship between Community participation in implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia. The findings showed that there is a small positive correlation at (0.159), where one unit change in Community participation in project implementation, contributes to 0.432 changes in sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects, at a significance level of (0.099), which is greater than the P-value of (0.05). This suggests that the more we encourage participation of stake holders in project implementation, the higher the chances of sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. Majority of stakeholders (54%) agreed that they know and participate in the implementation stage, with an average mean of (4.49), and standard deviation which is widely spread away from the mean value at (0.62).

These findings are in collaboration with previous studies that agree on similar facts, although in different contexts. Very important to note is (Usadolo & Caldwell, 2016) who asserts that participation of stakeholders in the implementation process helps to create a partnership that enhances their involvement in rural development projects in the long run. it provides a forum where they learn to respect each other's experiences and in addition to existing ones, create new ones. This is believed to create cooperation of stakeholders which is indispensable for sustainability and makes it effective and easy to address the implementation of decisions.

Another study by (Bagire & Nalweyiso, 2016) emphasized the importance of stakeholder involvement at implementation phase of the project's lifecycle. The study says that it leads to efficiency, effectiveness capacity building of stakeholders or beneficiaries, self-reliance, empowerment, commitment, and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. Therefore, although in the context of selected poverty reduction projects the relationship between Community participation in the implementation stage has a small positive relationship between Community participation and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia, other studies from different contexts have found a strong link between Community participation in the implementation stage on sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. It is important to note that result from the qualitative study suggest that although the stakeholders participate, they are not cooperative.

“.... Community members need to work together, most of them are not cooperative and as a result children are refusing to go to school and young girls are getting pregnant at a tender age....” (Interview respondent 3).

The results therefore suggest that there is a lot of work that needs to be done in order to engage the stakeholders and ensure that there is a strong contribution to sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. The findings from qualitative study further revealed that there are problems stemming from some of the stakeholders that hinders the level at which the participation translates into success and overall sustainability of the project.

“.... You find that in some areas we are involved, but there are some areas where we are left out. As a department, we are always invited to some activities but they are selected....” (Interview respondent 1)

“.... Sometimes some stakeholders do not understand the aim of the project or objectives, as a result, they are not able to contribute as they should....” (Interview respondent 4)

“.... sometimes there is risk if we give funds, you are not sure that they are used to your expectation. Because sometimes you find that the output from some implementing partners is lacking. When they plan, and then get the money, they change their plans....” (Interview respondent 5).

The respondents suggest problems in the implementation process that pose a threat to the sustainability of the projects.

5.2.3 Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

The objective stated that there existed significant positive relationship between Community participation in Monitoring and evaluation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia. The findings indicated that there is a small positive correlation at (0.082), indicating that one unit change in Community participation in project monitoring and evaluation, results to -0.111 change in sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects, at a significance level of (0.396), which is greater than the P-value of (0.05). majority of the respondents (41% and 37%) agree to having Participated in the M&E process of selected poverty reduction projects, this is confirmed by mean value of (4.01) and a very widely spread standard deviation at (1.02) from the mean value. These study findings are in agreement with previous studies that suggest that there is an important link between Community participation in the M&E process and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. For example (Hasan et al., 2016) stated that the participation stakeholders like donors, government, recipients, then citizens in the preparation, execution, as well as monitoring and evaluation stages of the project helps them to decide what will be monitored and evaluated, how it will be monitored and evaluated, including the identification of benchmarks, data analysis, and project success assessment, and they also provide instructions about how to proceed with the project. All these when done effectively results into the project being successful and sustainable in the long run. (Orimba et al., 2018) also stressed the importance of Community participation in the M&E because the process is centred on predicting difficulties that may arise with the final product, therefore having stakeholders helps to ascertain that these goals are met with limited hindrances. The discussions relate to the findings that there is a relation between Community participation in M&E and sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia, although in this context, it is very weak. The findings from qualitative study confirm that participation of stakeholders in the M&E is no being done effectively.

“.... when it comes to monitoring, there are areas where we are not involved. We feel we have to contribute to all stages...” (Interview respondent 1).

5.3 Conclusions

The researcher concludes by asserting that the study achieved its main objective of examining the relationship between Stakeholders Participation in Planning, Implementation, M&E and

sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. The literature reviewed for this study and collected data were analysed and presented. This gave the study ground to conclude that there is a relationship between Stakeholders Participation in Planning, Implementation, M&E and sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia. The study addressed all the research Objectives and Questions that were listed in section 1.3 and 1.4 of chapter one.

5.3.1 Community participation in Planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia

The study concludes that even though it's important to involve the stakeholders in project planning, their involvement does not contribute a lot to sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. Hence, there is need to encourage Community participation in the implementation of the project.

The study also concludes that there exists a significant positive relationship between Community participation in planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. That's though stakeholders participate in the planning process, their impact does not really have a strong influence on the sustainability of the project.

5.3.2 Community participation in Implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia

The study concludes that there exists a significant positive relationship between Community participation in implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. And thus, stake holder participation in implementation is believed to create cooperation of stakeholders which is indispensable for sustainability and makes it effective and easy to address the implementation of decisions.

The study further concludes that participation of stakeholders in the implementation process helps to create a partnership that enhances their involvement in rural development projects in the long run, and also provides a forum where they learn to respect each other's experiences and in addition to existing ones, create new ones.

5.3.3 Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects.

The study concludes that there exists a significant positive relationship between Community participation in Monitoring and evaluation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects. And thus, the participation of stakeholders like donors, government, recipients, then citizens in the preparation, execution, as well as monitoring and evaluation stages of the project helps them to decide what will be monitored and evaluated, how it will be monitored and evaluated, including the identification of benchmarks, data analysis, and project success assessment, and they also provide instructions about how to proceed with the project.

5.4 Recommendations

5.4.1 Community participation in Planning and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia

The research recommends that before any project starts operating, there is need to carry out a feasibility study in order to establish the actual problem on the ground. The National NGO bureau needs to ensure that they follow up on NGOs operating in the country to ensure that projects are started the right way. As the research has established, selected poverty reduction projects has been implementing projects basing on ideas, and not from the reality on the ground. This therefore means the type of planning that the beneficiaries engage in is informative and not one where they give their own suggestions basing on what is being faced on the ground and in most cases the stakeholders do not actively contribute because the project is irrelevant to their pressing needs.

The project managers need to ensure that engage all stakeholders who can impact the project both positively and negatively from the beginning of the project. The study findings have revealed that some stakeholders are only brought on board in the middle of the implementation process of the project, most times when there is a problem, which makes it difficult to solve because they were not engaged from the beginning.

It is important to project managers to incorporate the aspect on sustainability during the planning process and make ensure that all stakeholders are aware about what they have to contribute to ensure sustainability is achieved

5.4.2 Community participation in Implementation and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia

There is need for empowerment of the stakeholders, the study findings have revealed that most of the stakeholders of selected poverty reduction projects lack understanding of the project do not understand the objective and overall goal of the project and their roles. So the study suggests programs like adult literacy and financial literacy since majority of the beneficiaries are illiterate.

5.4.3 Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and Sustainability of selected poverty reduction projects in Baladywne Somalia

The study recommends that the Monitoring and Evaluation team come up with the right tools that will help to identify some of the loopholes in the implementation process like stakeholders lack of understanding of their role and the overall aim of the project.

5.5 Contribution to existing knowledge

Before the implementation of Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program, poverty levels in Baladywne were relatively high however, today the situation has changed since the program has enabled thousands to youths to access credit, markets and develop their skills therefore the study is quite helpful in supplementing the pool of knowledge and understanding regarding Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation and poverty reduction in Baladywne Somalia. According to the evidence, it has been realized that despite use of implementation of this program in Baladywne, the area still continues to grapple with high levels of poverty. Since in most developing countries there is also increased population growth rate which destabilizes the level of youth's unemployment. This study has proved that the government of Somalia should do more that implementation of Hiran community awareness and youth Support Program Implementation to avert the effects of poverty. Furthermore, the Positive Youth Development Theory posits that the focus of development should be on the capabilities, developmental potentials, and in increasing thriving behaviors of youth rather than their deficiencies and hence helps in poverty reduction within their communities.

5.6 Limitations of the study

There was a challenge in accessing the respondents because of corona virus. The process of data collection took longer because of this problem. This was however solved by working together with the social workers in the community.

There was financial constraint given the fact that the data collection was done in two different districts. The researcher was also tasked to budget for items to observe the Standard operating procedures because of Corona virus. The researcher was however able to source for funds and the exercise was done successfully.

Unwillingness of some key respondents to be interviewed, they preferred to fill the questionnaires.

Lack of knowledge of the data analysis software's. However, an expert was hired to run the data, and analysis as done by the researcher with the guidance of the expert.

5.7 Areas of further research

Although this study was done successfully. There is need for more studies in the field give a better understanding of the challenges observed. The researcher recommends further studies in the following areas

- i) The level of participation of stakeholders in a project.
- ii) Incorporation of sustainability in the project lifecycle

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APPENDENCES

Appendix I: Informed Consent Form for the Respondents

Dear Participant,

My name is ALI MOHAMUD AFRAH of **Reg No.** 2020-01-00233 a final year student at Kampala International University, Uganda pursuing Master's in Project Planning and Management.

I am carrying out an academic research on the topic of: *Community participation and poverty reduction projects in Somalia, a case study of; Hiran community awareness and youth support projects in Beledweyne Somalia.*

You are therefore, invited to be in a research study as possible participant.

Your responses and discussions regarding the questions will remain confidential and anonymous. Data from this research will be reported only as a collective combined total, never individually. If you agree to participate in this research, please respond as accurately and as honest as possible and answer the given questions.

If you have any questions about this project, feel free to contact me on:

Signature:

Appendix II: Questionnaire for Direct Beneficiaries

Section A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

BIO DATA (Please do provide the following information. Indicate appropriate code in box)

Respondent Characteristics			
01	Sex	Male1 Female2	Enter the correct code <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
02	Age	18----30 years.....1 31----45 years.....2 46----55 years.....3 56----65 years.....4 66+ years.....5	Enter the correct code <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
03	Category of respondents	Manager1 Managerial staff.....1 Junior staff.....2 Customer.....3	Enter the correct code <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
04	Highest Level of education	Postgraduate Courses.....1 Bachelors.....2 Diploma3 Certificate4	Enter the correct code <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
05	Years spent working in the organisation	0-4 years1 5-9 years2 10-14years.....3 15 and above years.....4	Enter the correct code <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>

Section B:

Use (x), Tick (√) or circle (○) the questionnaire digits to indicate your preference/choice

Strongly Agree (SA)	Agree (A)	Not Sure (NS)	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)		
The influence of the involvement of community in decision making on the selected poverty reduction projects						
	Statements	SA	A	NS	SD	D
1	Community members represent and understand the people and culture and are probably aware of community needs.					
2	The community members feel engaged and they own the on-going activities.					
3	It prevents the would be conflicts with the community and project failure					
4	It distributes power in society to determine which needs and whose needs to be met with the existing resources					
5	The process links people's felt needs with the project goals and objectives.					
6	Ensures local ownership and the sustainability of project benefits long after donor funding is withdrawn					
Strongly Agree (SA)	Agree (A)	Not Sure (NS)	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)		
The influence of involvement of community in information sharing on the selected poverty reduction projects						
	Statements	SA	A	NS	SD	D
1	Information sharing helps developers to gather information and gain greater understanding of community issues.					

2	Community mapping helps to draw the community together to tell their story together.					
3	Discover community own potential and what they can do to make a difference in their lives					
4	Builds a learning opportunity to tackle the next task better, and own self-confidence					
5	Improves coordination and collaboration in overseeing advancement programs and to pick up contributor and institutional support					
6	Engages the group individuals to perceive imperative issues and discover shared belief for activity					
7	Assembles a feeling of character and cooperation so as to execute their choices					
8	Enhance the nature of venture administration					
Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)	Not Sure (NS)	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)	
The influence of involvement of community in project governance on the selected poverty reduction projects						
	Statements	SA	A	NS	SD	D
1	Allows development of skills and abilities which enable people to interact more effectively with the development system and process					
2	Equips people to make decisions regarding development and implement them.					
3	Peoples' freedom of choice and actions are expanded to enable them to have more control over resources and decisions that affect them					

4	Enforces accountability and changes in behaviour within relevant project bureaucracies					
5	Ensure changes that make participation more inclusive of the poor and the underprivileged					
6	Promotion of community development through self-help					

THE END

**Appendix III: Interview Guide for Projects' Staffs, Probation staff, Community
Development Officer and Funders**

**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF POVERTY
REDUCTION PROJECTS IN SOMALIA, A CASE STUDY OF; HIRAN
COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND YOUTH SUPPORT PROJECTS IN
BELEDWEYNE SOMALIA**

Introduction

Dear Respondent, the questionnaire below desires to get your reaction concerning Community Participation and Sustainability of Poverty Reduction Projects in Somalia. A Case of Hiran Community Awareness and Youth Support Projects. Please respond to the questions as honestly as possible. The information you provide will be handled confidentially. Thank you

- i) What is your understanding of the term stakeholder participation?
- ii) What is your understanding of the term Project Sustainability?
- iii) According to your understanding, how does stakeholder participation influence project sustainability?
- iv) How can the idea of project sustainability be incorporated into the project life cycle?
- v) What are the approaches that can be adopted in coordinating stakeholder participation in a project?
- vi) Will you and the other beneficiaries be able to lead the project even if external donor funding is no longer available?
- vii) What is the effect of the involvement of community in decision making on sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia?
- viii) What is the influence of involvement of community in information sharing on sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia?
- ix) What is the influence of involvement of community in project governance on sustainability of poverty reduction projects in Beledweyne Somalia?